

R*adio* **A***mateur* **I***nformation* & **N***ews*



Ham Radio Is Radio-active in Humboldt County, and beyond . . .

Number 497

Welcome Readers

August 2018

Far West Picnic & Swap Meet Sunday September 9th 11AM

Far West Repeater Association invites all hams and family members to join us for another riverside potluck picnic and swap meet in Scotia. Some folks arrive as early as 10AM while most of us start showing up around 11am for browsing the swap tables and sharing tall tales! We have the whole picnic area with picnic tables and BBQ pit. Coffee on tap all day. Bring a dish to share and some money or gear for the swap tables. Raffle after lunch! If you haven't been to this spot, our talk in frequency is 146.760 repeater 103.5 tone. Mark your calendar now!

Willits Potluck BBQ Honoring George k7wwa

There will be a potluck BBQ, **Saturday Sept 15th** starting at 2pm, located at the Recreation Grove on East Commercial St in Willits. This will be a great time to say thanks to George K7WWA for all he has done in the ham community and wish him well on his new adventures as he moves to Utah.

All hams, their families and anyone interested in ham radio are invited to attend. I will be asking for RSVPs so that I can purchase meat for everyone and I'll ask everyone attending to bring a side dish or beverages to add to the potluck.

Contact/RSVP Joyce kj6zvs@gmail.com

Don't forget to bring your chairs!

73

(editor note: George is the ham who tuned our duplexers for the HARC repeaters. He also helped me on several other hill top jobs. George, you will be missed and I personally wish you best wishes and success in your new home. 73 om!)

Technicians Licensing Class

Begins **September 10, 2018 at 7PM**

The fall 2018 technician class ham radio licensing classes Begin September 10, 2018. This is a 10

Week long class with test at the end to get your FCC Technicians Amateur Radio License.

Time (Mondays) 7:00-9:00pm

Location is our club house at the Municipal Auditorium 406 11th Street Eureka.

Organizer Don Cambell – KE6HEC (707) 834-0042 ke6hec@sbcglobal.net

ARRL-ARC radio work on the ground in P.R.

I'm doing Red Cross training to qualify for disaster technical work. During last night's session I ran into a guy (Joe Pistritto, N3CKF) who was deployed to Puerto Rico last September to do radio work for the ARRL-ARC disaster relief after Hurricane Maria. He gave a very detailed presentation of his experiences there from time of preparation in Atlanta, GA, through his month-long deployment in P.R. It is fascinating to hear how it all went from someone on the ground actually experiencing it. The video has a lot of images and Joe, who is an experienced HAM, is also a very good presenter. He weaves the important lessons learned throughout the presentation in a way that makes it clear why certain preparation and equipment is key while other planned equipment made no difference at all. In some ways we would be challenged similarly (although not as extremely) - remote area; very hilly terrain; lots of rivers; etc.

I encourage all to watch his presentation (January 2018) to the River City Amateur Radio Communications Society (Sacramento). <https://youtu.be/qPO6XPhwHqE>

Saroj Gilbert KM6BQD

Humboldt Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of Meeting - August 7, 2018

Officers Present: Peter Esko **W6IES**, Pres./ Anthony Wiese **KG6LHW**, Vice Pres./
Dan Eaton **KB6DE**, Secretary/ Marcy Campbell **KE6IAU**, Treasurer/
Jaye Inabnit **KE6SLS**, Newsletter Editor Pro Tem/ Carl Eggleston **KM6LIQ**, Webmaster

Peter called the meeting to order at 19:07 PDT in the Eureka Municipal Auditorium (Muni) Meeting Room @ 406 11th St. (11th and E).

The log book was passed around. 17 members 3 guests attended. Introductions were made and we welcomed guests Joe Herman **WA6CAL**, Donovan Tolman **KD6VUB** and Jim Durban **WØGV**.

Health and Welfare: We learned from Don Campbell **KE6HEC** that Dale Bridges **KF6QIB** is up and about town and feeling much better.

Secretary's Report: The July 3rd minutes were reviewed. A correction was made and Dexter Luther **AG6DA** motioned to accept with a second from Don Nelson **WA6NBG**. All said, "Aye."

Treasurer's Report: Marcy reported our July End Balance was \$1947.48 including \$24.00 from the

July meeting raffle.

President's Report: No report from Peter.

Vice President's Report: Anthony put fresh fuel in the club's generator and filled the two 2.5 gal. fuel jugs too. He will change out the oil soon. He plans to do an oil change yearly following field day. A receipt for fuel cost was submitted to Marcy.

- The Perseid meteor shower will be this coming weekend. Anthony suggests we try to monitor and/or make contacts on the 6m or 2m bands during the period of atmospheric ionization that will occur. Peak meteor activity will be midnight to dawn Sunday.
- Anthony mentioned Space X and the ionosphere. Here is a relevant link: <https://www.inverse.com/article/42755-spacex-falcon-9-ripped-plasma-hole-in-earth-s-ionosphere>
- Anthony drove 2hrs. to the BLM Wailaki campground then hiked 2.25miles to the SW corner of Humboldt Co. (N40 W124) on a recent Saturday. He activated CM79, made 6 contacts and plans another trip. He posted the event on YouTube (search CM79comp) and there were folks waiting to pounce on his signal. Hiking back to the trail head after dark was not as much fun as he thought it would be.
- When the Redding area fires began Hams in Red Bluff anticipated a local repeater would go offline because the generator would run out of fuel. It is important that we learn from their foresight and advance planning in case of such an event.

EMCOMM Report: Peter gave information about EmComm events as follows:

- The next EmComm meeting will be **August 16th** at the clubhouse.
- The last exercise was Saturday **July 21st**. Don N. reported the on-air exercise was sparsely attended, probably because most folks were occupied or out of town.
- With training, we "may" qualify for Workers Compensation Insurance while providing disaster aid. HARC members need to pass the 100, 200 and 700 course training available online, at no cost. Qualified persons will need to fill out an application and provide a photo slightly smaller than passport size for a photo ID badge or card. (From last month: VOAD "Volunteer Organization After Disaster" may provide local disaster service worker training soon. A date will be announced.)
- Carl plans to remove construction items and stuff from the EmComm trailer and spiff it up before winter storage. Peter told us we will not have space to park the trailer near the water towers. The city has other plans for the space. We are still looking for an alternative to the parking we share with the Bloodmobile.
- **August 11 & 12;** Don N. will be inventorying the field-day mast (AB-577) guy line assemblies in preparation for buying replacements with turnbuckle type adjustable tensioners. Dan volunteered get proper replacement stakes.

Old Business: None

New Business: Carl said all the rosters are up to date on the HARC site as of 8-7-18

- Don N. told us the Rainbow Ridge Repeater needs a new feed line and maybe a replacement for the old Hustler antenna. Don N. will donate the line. A survey at the site is planned for sometime in September.
- Jim Durbin told us a site at Greenwood Heights (near Kneeland) has a mast and building available. We can investigate to see if we could establish a repeater there.

Past Event Report: We had a booth set up for Get Out & Play Day on July 21st. Attendees were Peter, Carl, Del Freret **W6KOZ**, Jim Armstrong **KW6JIM**, Dan and Sherry Eaton **KK6MPY**.

Future Events: Don C. announced the next HAM class will start the Monday after Labor Day.

- **August 14th:** 2nd Tuesday, Anthony will talk about making SSB satellite contacts.
- **August 17, 18 and 19:** 17th 12:30 - 7:30pm, 18&19 8:30am - 5:00pm CERT training. Gene Bass **K6PCS** is our contact. Location, Pacific Union School in Arcata near Mad River Hospital.
- **August 18th:** Redwood Empire Endurance Ride (equestrian) 6am event start in Orick.

- **September 8th & 9th:** Endurance Riders Cuneo Creek.
- **September 9th:** FWRA Picnic in Scotia.
- **September 11th:** Don N., Jaye and Howard **KB6NN** will talk about Digital Communications Practices. Anthony and Don C. will assist in with the presentation.
- **September 15: Carson Park Block Party** at Carson Park in Eureka. Gene is our contact for this event. We plan to have an information booth, an antenna and a radio or two.
- **October 14th:** Humboldt Redwood Marathon.

Miscellaneous:

- Peter brought a club owned TenTec Omni VI, TenTec P.S., TenTec tuner and mic for sale. Asking price has not been set. Proceeds will go to the club.
- Don C. told us there is a Glen Martin steel tower for sale owned by the club. No price mentioned.
- ORCA Digital Net check-in is every Tuesday at 19:30 on 3.581MHz. Link: <http://orcadigitalnet.com/>
- Jaye successfully sent APRS email from his radio while in Montana. Internet and phone service were not available from his location. How about that!
- The UV5R Baofeng HT radio was mentioned. Here is an interesting viewpoint from N4NJJ: <http://www.n4njj.com/baofeng-policy/>

Break and Raffle:

- Thanks to Marcy and Don C. for the cookies and juice and Don N. for running the raffle.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:36 PDT.

Note to new or prospective Members:

The club has an informal lunch every Thursday, 11:30 at the Pantry Restaurant on Broadway in Eureka (next to the Motel 6). All are welcome.

Minutes submitted by Dan Eaton kb6de, Secretary

The K7RA Solar Update

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: According to Spaceweather.com reported on August 8, "Solar minimum conditions are in effect. The sun has been without sunspots for 39 of the past 42 days." Spaceweather.com said a similar stretch of blank suns has not happened since 2009, "when the sun was experiencing the deepest solar minimum in a century."

(Tnx to Gary wa6hzt for submission)

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Jaye Inabnit ke6sls, ke6sls@arrl.net

For more information, please visit our website <http://www.humboldt-arc.org> or write to:

Humboldt Amateur Radio Club
BOX 5251
Eureka, CA 95502-5251

Oh How Sweet It Is To Be A Retired Ham



Here is Dan ag6jw and blushing bride on a flight to Europe. Obviously Both very dedicated to the hard work of enjoying a European vacation! Heehee. I hope you guys have great flights and the best sea voyage. Looking forward to the full report after your return om.

The FW repeaters have been too quiet since your departure om!

73
j

APRS tricks

Need a quick **weather report**. Get it quick by sending an APRS text message to WXBOT. As soon as the text is received, you will receive a text reply with your local weather forecast based on the gps data

included in your APRS request. Pretty neat! Check out <https://sites.google.com/site/ki6wjp/wxbot>

Send VERY short **email via APRS**: <http://www.algissalys.com/amateur-radio/send-email-with-aprs>
I use the (EMAIL-2) for sending one line email when I don't have access via cell phone. Will work in both directions. I used this while I was in very remote area of Montana this past July.

Send a quick **text to a smart phone**: <http://smsgte.wixsite.com/smsgte>

Yup, you can send a short text message to anyone who texts on their smart phone. They can also reply!

FCC Proposes \$18,000 Fine in Louisiana Amateur Radio Interference Case

The FCC has issued a *Notice of Apparent Liability (NAL)* proposing to fine Jerry W. Materne, KC5CSG, of Lake Charles, Louisiana, \$18,000 "for apparently causing intentional interference and for apparently failing to provide station identification on amateur radio frequencies," the FCC said.

"Mr. Materne was previously warned regarding this behavior in writing by the Enforcement Bureau and, given his history as a repeat offender, these apparent violations warrant a significant penalty," the FCC said in the *NAL*, released on July 25.

In 2017, the FCC received numerous complaints alleging that Materne, a General-class licensee, was causing interference to the South West Louisiana Amateur Repeater Club W5BII repeater, preventing other amateur licensees from using it. In March 2017, the repeater trustee banned Materne from using the repeater.



Responding to some of the complaints, the Enforcement Bureau issued a *Letter of Inquiry (LOI)*, advising Materne of the allegations and directing him to address them. Materne denied causing interference, but admitted to operating simplex on the repeater's output frequency. In June 2017, the FCC received an additional complaint alleging that Materne had repeatedly interfered with an attempted emergency net that was called up as Tropical Storm Cindy was about to make landfall. The complaint maintained that Materne "repeatedly transmitted on the repeater's input frequency, hindering the local emergency net's ability to coordinate weather warnings and alerts on behalf of the National Weather Service," the FCC said in the *NAL*.

Local amateurs were able to track the interfering signal to Materne's residence and confirmed their findings to the FCC, prompting a *Warning Letter* advising Materne of the complaint and pointing out that his behavior "as described in the complaint would be a violation of Section 97.101(d) of the Commission's rules." Materne responded to the *Warning Letter* to argue that it was legal to transmit on

the repeater's output frequency, further stating that "he was tired of this trash harassing me," the FCC said.

In the wake of further complaints, FCC agents visited Lake Charles, tracked transmissions on 146.130 MHz to Materne's residence, and monitored them for up to 7 hours. The agent reported hearing Materne "playing music on 146.130 MHz and warning other amateur operators that the local Amateur Radio club would not be able to conduct their net later that day."

That evening, the agent watched as Materne drove to a location near the W5BII repeater, where, the agent said, Materne "began transmitting an amateur digital radio signal from a hand-held radio in his vehicle," disrupting the net and failing to identify. Subsequently, the agent, accompanied by a deputy from the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office, approached Materne's vehicle and confirmed that he possessed a radio capable of operating on 146.130 MHz. "Audio recordings captured by the agent demonstrate that the intentional interference ceased as the agent and the Sheriff's deputy approached Mr. Materne's vehicle," the FCC said in the *NAL*. Read [more](#).

ARRL Board Adopts Volunteer Monitoring Program; Official Observer Program to be Retired

The ARRL Board of Directors has adopted the recommendations of the Official Observer Program Study Committee, which would retire the venerable Official Observer (OO) Program and institute the Volunteer Monitoring (VM) Program. The Board took the action at its July 20 - 21 meeting in Windsor, Connecticut, instructing that the transition "be implemented as soon as practicable." Under the terms of the new program, current Official Observers will be invited to apply for appointment as Volunteer Monitors. The Board expressed its appreciation for the OOs and their dedicated volunteer service over the years.

The Board said the action is expected to re-energize enforcement efforts in the Amateur Radio bands and was undertaken at the request of the FCC in the wake of several FCC regional office closures and a reduction in field staff. Coordination of cases and evidence gathering would become the responsibility of ARRL Headquarters staff, while the FCC will retain the responsibility for final decisions regarding action in specific cases.

The study committee report spelled out the additional steps necessary to launch the Volunteer Monitoring Program. Among them would be the appointment of a dedicated Headquarters staff member or an independent contractor working under the direction of ARRL Headquarters to administer the new program



ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR (left), who moderated the Board meeting, and ARRL CEO Barry Shelley, N1VXY. [Steve Ford, WB8IMY, photo]

and interface with its participants. The Volunteer Monitoring Program administrator would, among other duties, create a vetting and accreditation process for prospective Volunteer Monitors. The authority to accredit, appoint, and dismiss Volunteer Monitors would be assigned to ARRL Headquarters staff. Section Managers will continue to be a part of the vetting process for VMs, although they will not have appointment or dismissal authority.



ARRL Chief Financial Officer Diane Middleton, W2DLM (top), and General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, at the July ARRL Board Meeting. [Steve Ford, WB8IMY, photo]

Volunteer Monitor accreditation would be limited to a 3-year term, renewable by satisfying requirements necessary to ensure competency. A new *Volunteer Monitoring Training Manual* is in the final stages of development.

The administrator will create a target for the number of geographically distributed Volunteer Monitors. Preliminary plans would include up to five Volunteer Monitors per ARRL Section and up to 250 Volunteer Monitors overall.

The administrator would also "develop a rubric or other aid for program participants to highlight offenses and other criteria that the FCC considers a priority," the motion said. The administrator also would be charged with organizing periodic webinars, highlighting technologies, techniques, and other continuing education topics that would assist, motivate, and better enable Volunteer Monitors. The FCC will be actively involved in the development and presentation of these training opportunities.

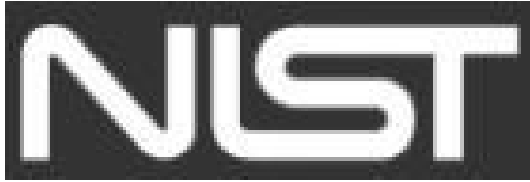
The new Volunteer Monitor Program would continue to send notices recognizing good on-the-air operating practice. Under the new program, positive or negative operator notices eventually would be sent from ARRL Headquarters, not by individual Volunteer Monitors, in part to maintain their anonymity.

The action further authorized ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, to terminate the standing *Amended Agreement* between ARRL and the FCC Field Bureau regarding the use of amateur volunteers and execute a new *Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)* between ARRL and the FCC Enforcement Bureau. The *MOU* is under final review.

NIST FY 2019 Budget Would Eliminate WWV and WWVH

The National Institute of Standards and Technology ([NIST](#)) FY 2019 budget request includes shutting down "NIST radio stations in Colorado and Hawaii," an apparent reference to WWV and WWVH. Radio amateurs, HF listeners, and others around the world routinely make use of the time and frequency standard signals, which also include propagation information. NIST said eliminating funding

currently "supporting fundamental measurement dissemination" would include putting WWV and WWVH off the air for a savings of \$6.3 million. The overall NIST FY 2019 budget request for efforts related to fundamental measurement, quantum science and measurement dissemination is \$127 million, which, the agency said, is a net decrease of \$49 million from FY 2018 levels.



"The proposed reductions will allow NIST to consolidate and focus on narrower core [fundamental] measurement programs while meeting budget levels," the agency said in its FY 2019 [budget summary](#). "NIST will focus on basic research while reducing funding for efforts applying some of its breakthroughs into new measurement applications.

The FY 2019 proposed budget cuts developed earlier this year came to light via Tom Witherspoon, K4SWL, who maintains [The SWLing Post](#) website, after a number of viewers called it to his attention. He posted an [article](#) on his blog.

"I've always considered WWV and WWVH to be the heartbeat of the shortwaves here in North America -- a constant, timely companion and brilliant gauge of HF propagation," Witherspoon wrote. "I assumed both stations would be some of the last to go silent on the shortwaves."

"I find this budget request *very* disappointing," Witherspoon said with respect to the proposed elimination of WWV and WWVH. "Let's hope, somehow, this does not come to fruition." He said *The SWLing Post* would be tracking and posting any new developments. Read [more](#).

The Ham Classifieds

For Sale/Want To Buy

ICOM 2300H 65w 2m Mobile/Base transceiver
Brand new in the box genuine ICOM
ICOM 1 year warranty comes with it.
Paid \$179.00 sell for \$140.00. Bill k6erq
My phone 707-786-4917, email k6erq@suddenlink.net



Many items for sale, benefit LCARS: ENDS AUGUST 26

The following Google Sheets link will take you to the spreadsheet so you can view pricing information, and the current bid for any item.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1chxQXjkkeUu2WI9KuUAILd_ws9x6H4eq6YiuT4cro38/edit?usp=sharing

The bidding will end at 5 pm on Sunday, August 26th. Contact Jay DeDontney KM6FCR jay_dedontney@yahoo.com with bids or requests for further information or pictures.

Kenwood TS 990

Like new condition, s/n B 3300300. Factory box, manuals and accessories.
\$4,300 plus shipping. Will deliver within 200 miles of Portland OR.
ron@ky6n.com



Alpha 9500.

Like new condition, factory boxes, jst back from Alpha.
All updates and mods done and new tube. About 1 hour on the new tube.
\$4,500 plus shipping. Will deliver within 200 miles of Portland OR.
ron@ky6n.com

US Tower.

MA-40 with MARB rotating, tilt over base. Includes new set of bolts for concrete base. (cost \$200) No damage, excellent condition. New cost now is about \$4,500. *Gulp!* Sell for \$1,900.
Located at Eureka CA. 95501 Pick up only.
ron@ky6n.com

FCC Exam Session Testing

Eureka CA 95501

Sponsor: Humboldt ARC
Date: Sep 15 2018
Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Irma D. Ruegg
(707) 601-7520
Email: hamradio1991@hotmail.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Fire Dept (Classrooms)
6th & C Street
Eureka CA 95501

Fortuna CA 95547

Sponsor: Un-sponsored
Date: Oct 20 2018
Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Daniel R. Martin
(707) 768-9147
Email: Dan.AG6JW@gmail.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Fortuna Volunteer fire Dept
320 S Fortuna Blvd
Fortuna CA 95547

After, Now, and BEFORE

A short ham tale

“Hello Jaye, how you doing, OM?”

I appreciate you keeping me in the loop with the R.A.I.N. information and newsletter every month. You've probably noticed that I haven't been active for several years... Lots of "getting older" stuff has been hitting both me and Melanie.

Nick, on the other hand, is doing very well... He left his job at United Rentals over on Jacobs Avenue to go to CR, but they've been dropping classes left and right and he ran out of stuff that was of any interest to him. So now he's over at Round Table in Arcata as a shift supervisor. He splits his time doing that and delivering pizza and is ending up with a couple of hundred more dollars a month counting tips. LOL.

Oh, you'll like this: he's 25 years old. Can you believe that? And he's very careful about picking up heavy tools he finds laying around... He learned that from some guy at the duplex over at 13th and B Street in Arcata about 22 years ago! LOL.

Anyway, just wanted to stay in touch and let you know what's happening over here in McKinleyville. I still smile every time I come across the picture you sent of him getting his Mac high school diploma down at CR back in 2011.

Take care

Harry
still N6URU”

(now the BEFORE bits) Harry rented a duplex once upon a time that had a naughty bathroom. Harry also had a young son named Nick. Jaye had been summoned to remedy the naughty bathroom. The bathtub had to go, as well as the wall that separated the bath from the outside world at large. As I began, a precious little lad named Nick had to investigate! Nick was THREE! Mum and Pop both tried to stymie young Nick from his thorough investigation of EVERY tool Jaye owned!! Jaye on the other hand enjoyed the journey but still kept a good eye on Nick's work. Nick was so very careful to put each tool right back where he found it. He was almost 2 foot tall then!

Tnx Harry! Great memory. 73 om

QSL?? ? ?

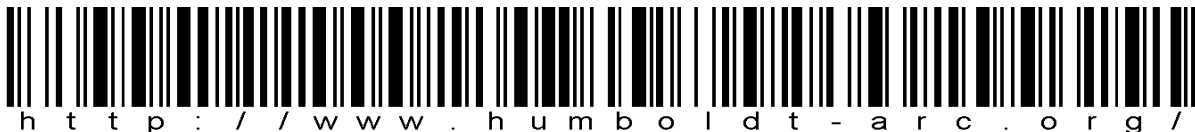
Definition: “QSL (from the Morse code Q-codes) Query: Can you acknowledge receipt? Reply: I am acknowledging receipt.”

Your over-worked, under paid editor would enjoy a QSL. Click & send me a QSL!: ke6sls@arrl.net!

RAIN
Box 5251
Eureka, California, 95502-5251

North Coast Nets

Sunday	0800	North coast emergency net	3.855 MHz LSB
Monday	1800	APRS check in, send text ke6sls	144.390 FM
Monday	1830	Humboldt County HF emergency net	3.955 MHz LSB
Monday	1845	Humboldt HF Digital emergency net	3.581 USB MFSK32
\Monday	1900	Arcata Emergency simplex net	146.430 MHz FM
Monday	1900	Eel River Emergency net	147.090 PL103.5 FM
Monday	1900	Eureka Emergency simplex net	146.460 MHz FM
Monday	1900	Southern Humboldt Emergency net	146.790 PL 103.5 FM
Monday	1915	Eureka & north UHF Emergency net	444.400 +5000 PL103.5 FM
Monday	1930	Humboldt county Emergency net (nearest FWRA repeater to you) FM	146.700 PL1031.5 147.000 PL1031.5 146.760 PL1031.5 146.610 PL1031.5
Monday	2000	California State net	3.992 MHz LSB
Tuesday	1930	ORCA digital operations net	3.581 MHz USB
Tuesday	1930	California-Mendocino net	3.915 MHz LSB
Wednesday	1000	California State net	7.230 MHz LSB
Wednesday	1900	HARC local repeater net	145.470 PL103.5 FM
Wednesday	1930	FWRA net	146.760 PL103.5 FM



[humboldt-arc.org](http://www.humboldt-arc.org)