



KERN COUNTY – CENTRAL VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

August 2024 COMMUNICATOR

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Club Officers

President, Patrick Ponec KD6PAP
First Vice President, Rick Simmons KN6NOC
Second Vice Pres. Mario Aribas N6ABT

Secretary, Javier Ruiz KN6SCN
Past President, John KG6ZBN
Director, Jerry Waclawski, KB7BX
Director Keith Fields, KN6SNW

Director, Jon Wilhelm, WA6KLB
Net Chief, Neal Janzen NY6GG
Newsletter Editor, Larry Bragg N7LWB
Treasurer, Jeff Tougas KN6WEZ

Upcoming Events

- Our next club meeting is scheduled for August 22nd; Board meeting at 6:pm, Club meeting at 7: pm. The topic will be a presentation on Yagi antenna theory followed by an antenna build workshop.
- Transmitter fox hunt, date to be announced.
- VE Exam, Friday September 13, 6pm at 2101 Ridge Rd. Contact Larry KM6OQI websurfer@bak.rr.com
- September Meeting will be a picnic, swap-meet and to assemble a slate of officers running for the board 2025. More to be announced later.
- Volunteers are needed for the Spooktacular which is scheduled in October

Greetings fellow Hams,

It's hard to believe the year is almost over. Only 139 shopping days till Christmas (as of this writing). Looking back over the last several months we have done a lot of radio! Two Field Days, Two POTA Support Your Parks Events and the 75th Anniversary Party and there is more to come. At our next meeting there will be a presentation on Yagi antenna theory followed by an antenna build workshop.

We also will have a Fox Hunt, and the DX Academy will be in the upcoming months with the Autumn Support your Park event in October and don't forget the Spooktacular also we have a group learning CW. All of these are great opportunities to get together and be "Radio Active". I would like to encourage all of you to get involved in any of the upcoming events; as one of our club members stated to me "when you're with friends sometimes radio comes second". How true, our hobby makes this world a bit smaller and were ever you may travel you have a fellow Ham there to talk to.

As we get close to the end of the year, I would encourage you to consider getting more involved in the operation of the club. Maybe there is a committee you would like to serve on or maybe run for a Board position. Do you have an idea for a presentation or workshop? Please let me know, I would love to talk to you about it.

In a continuous effort to provide Club members with the best possible access to local frequencies as well as opening the doors to a world of new radio contacts; we are happy to inform you that as of today August 10, 2024; we have accomplished a big step on this effort.

We have completed the process of equipment modernization and have locally installed all the necessary EchoLink and Allstar hardware systems; as well as jumping from CAT to Fiber optic. Thus, increasing contact speeds and greatly improving system stability. For your information, the Club no longer will be using the Allstar #2029 Node number as it was also necessary to update it as a part of the modernization process, from now on we will be using the **Allstar # 603051** The updated information for the EchoLink and Allstar nodes is as follows:

Echolink #W6LIE-R 487530 / Allstar #603051

We would like to thank those involved in this process:

K6GTA, KR6DK, K6RET, KD6PAP, N6INT, KN6NOC, KB6WR, N7LWB, N6ABT and KN6SCN.

We apologize if we have missed someone, but be known that your help was invaluable

Until we meet again, 73 Patrick Ponec KD6PAP

W6LIE CLUB REPEATERS:

Frequency	Offset	PL Tone	Location	Comment
145.150	minus	100.0	Breckenridge Mt.	echolink #w6lie-r 487530/allstar #2029
146.910	minus	100.0	Grapevine Pk.	Temporary Antenna - Storm Damage
224.060	minus	100.0	Breckenridge Mt.	
443.900	plus	100.0	Low level North of Town	
52.780	minus	82.5	Grapevine Pk.	Off the Air - Storm Damaged Antenna



**Our IDXC 2025 Planning Team is working hard to make
IDXC 2025 the best ever!**

We are super excited about this event as it comes together. We want to alert you that the International DX Convention will be held at the Visalia Convention Center on April 11-13th, 2025.

You can visit the new website at <http://www.dxconvention.com>

In the coming weeks and months, we will be announcing:

- 1) Participating Hotels & Registration Dates.
- 2) Convention Registration.
- 3) Speakers and Programs.
- 4) Major Prizes.
- 5) Hourly Prizes.
- 6) Optional programs such as Contest Academy and DX Academy.
- 7) Friday Dinners.
- 8) Exhibitors displaying their latest products.

This is just a partial list of the features & benefits of attending IDXC 2025. <https://dxconvention.com/>

[Click here to visit their new website](https://dxconvention.com/)



Where is everyone? Who is Listening???

By Larry Bragg N7LWB

Listening to Jason, KC5HWB, HAM Radio 2.0, in his video cast shows the frustration of many hams in the amateur community who say one thing.... Why are the repeaters around here..DEAD?

Jason mentioned that going from town to town, not much to listen to in certain, but not all areas. Here, locally, we have about 14+ repeaters, most are analog with a few and sprouting digital.

Jason mentioned in his videocast, there are many listening, just waiting for that one person to put out a call. The problem is..... too many are doing this without putting out their call!

He suggested: When there is no activity, say .. This is N6*** your name, monitoring. If you do it enough times, you will get a response. But do not stop there. Keep doing this and you will be surprised how many repeaters will come back to life.

To listen to this podcast: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uNGHJNeB4QA>

Larry Bragg N7LWB larryb64@msn.com

Calendar of Activities

17	AUG, SAT		
18	AUG, SUN	8 – 8:45pm	NET Meeting
19	AUG, MON	7 – 7:45pm	ARES Net Meeting
20	AUG, TUE	7 – 8pm	Tech Net
22	AUG, THU	7 – 8pm	Club Mtg. 2101 Ridge Rd, Bakersfield, CA 93305, USA
25	AUG, SUN	8 – 8:45pm	NET Meeting
26	AUG, MON	7 – 7:45pm	ARES Net Meeting
27	AUG, TUE	7 – 8pm	Tech Net
1	SEP, SUN	8 – 8:45pm	NET Meeting
1	SEP, SUN	8 – 8:45pm	NET Meeting
2	SEP, MON	7 – 7:45pm	ARES Net Meeting
3	SEP, TUE	7 – 8pm	Tech Net
8	SEP, SUN	8 – 8:45pm	NET Meeting
9	SEP, MON	7 – 7:45pm	ARES Net Meeting
10	SEP, TUE	7 – 8pm	Tech Net
13	SEP, FRI	6:30 – 7:30pm	VE Testing
15	SEP, SUN	8 – 8:45pm	NET Meeting
16	SEP, MON	7 – 7:45pm	ARES Net Meeting
17	SEP, TUE	7 – 8pm	Tech Net

Recent activity for POTA

From Scott KN6ZAT

Hello all! I hope your summer has been great despite all of this hot weather we have been getting! It sure makes outdoor activities like POTA in Kern County a little more uncomfortable. Sometimes when that happens you head to other places... like Lebec in search of tall trees and that cool mountain breeze or even the top of Mt. Pinos where the views are breath taking and the temps are 10-15 degrees cooler.



On July 20th several club members traveled the short distance south to Lebec to visit Fort Tejon which is POTA park US- 3436 that also includes US-9757 the Butterfield National Overland Historical Trail to participate in the Parks on the air "Support your Park" weekend where many amateur radio operators across the world visit their local parks, set-up their stations and try and make contacts.

Patrick KD6PAP, Rick KN6NOC, Jeffrey KN6WEZ and Scott KN6ZAT made the journey, and all had success in activating both parks before noontime! Javier and Joe also made the trek but didn't get on the air. Despite lots of noise on the bands we all managed at least 10 contacts to get the job done. GREAT JOB GUYS! When lunch rolled around, we pulled out our sack lunches, talked about the morning, told a few "ham stories" and decided the heat was going to be too much to stay there in the park.



At that point Patrick and Scott decided to head to higher grounds in search of cooler weather and another park to activate. Rick and Jeff decided they needed to get back to town and we parted ways.

Patrick and Scott headed to park US- 0639 (both of us wish we knew that important information before we left Ft. Tejon) which is the Los Padres National Forest. We hit the Ranger station looking for a nice, safe place to set up our stations and activate yet another park. After some friendly help from the Park Ranger, we decided to head up Mt. Pinos to a place off Cuddy Vallet Rd.

Ohhh the views and the cooler air and the mountain breeze was EXACTLY what we were hoping for! We both scouted and found a few spots within maybe a quarter of a mile from each other and set up our stations. Remember earlier when I mentioned that tiny part about "knowing the park number of the park you're going to be activating" before you get to the park? Ya... you should definitely know that information because it's quite possible that when you get to your park you might not have cell service to look it up!



At almost the exact same time Patrick called me on the 2m radio asking if I knew the park number "Uhhhh... No!" I don't have cell service and was getting ready to call you and ask you the same thing"! Neither of us knew and neither of us had cell service. Patrick, being the captain that he is, decided he could drive back into cell service, look up the park and bring that information back for me! Thanks Cap! With the much-needed information we both managed to pull off an activation for UTC Day July 20th and then another one for July 21st.

All-in-all the day was filled with lots of fun, excitement, fellowship and a few "lessons learned". We look forward to having you join us for the next Support your Park weekend on October 19th.

Scott Pohlenz kn6zat@yahoo.com

Estate Sale Announced - Porterville

Richard and Ben:

A few weeks ago, I announced on one of the Bakersfield nets an upcoming estate sale.

The dates of the sale have been changed. I'm not connected or associated, merely passing on info. Could one of you inform the club members of the sale, please?

My radio station is Off the air. 😞

Estate of **W6NM** and comm shop:

Antennas, towers, test equip., some ham gear, and parts.

This Friday and possibly Saturday 16 & 17

55 East Vandalia, Porterville, CA

From hwy 190,

turn north on South Plano St.

turn *East* on East Vandalia. On the right.

Parking in that area is MINIMAL.

Sale conducted by: Tule River Estate Services.

An additional sale event, at the residence, will include much ham gear. Ask about that on Saturday or Sunday.

73, Jim King KJ6KK

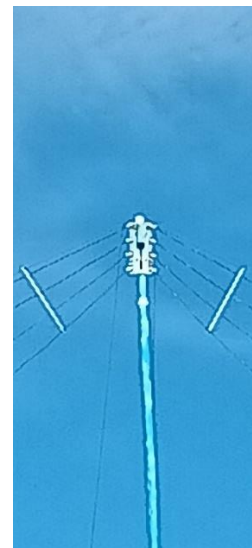
From Joseph Hart Thank you all for your help!

I would like to thank Rick, Joe, Jeff, John, Jerry and his wife Marg and my two sons for putting up my antenna on August 3rd. It was a big job.

Here are a few pictures that will show how much they did.

The antenna is a fan dipole 80, 40, 20 and 10 meters. The center pole is 30 ft. tall. I have made contacts on 80, 40 and 20 meters with good reports.

Thank you, Great job. Joseph Hart WD6FPE





Coming Soon!

- ICOM ID-52A Plus 60th Anniversary Model (Limited Edition)
- Usability Has Been Empowered.
- Multifunctional Transceiver with D-STAR DV and FM Dual Mode.

The popular ID-52A PLUS D-STAR transceiver just gets more powerful. Terminal mode and Access Point mode, which previously required a cable connection, can now connect to an Android™ device via Bluetooth® technology. In addition, dual operation of Terminal mode and Simplex/Repeater operations is now possible. Moreover, an industry standard USB Type-C™ port for convenient USB Type-C™ charging is newly adopted. Experience all the advantages with the ID-52A PLUS and enjoy stable long-distance communication using the internet connected D-STAR repeater network.

- Wireless Connection Via Bluetooth® with an Android™ Device Even When Using Terminal Mode and Access Point Mode
- Advanced Functions and Operations with an Improved User Interface
- 2.3" Large Color Display
- The ID-52A PLUS is equipped with a color display. The display size is 2.3 inches, 320 × 280 pixels to achieve excellent viewability. The display background color is selectable from black and white.
- Efficient Operation with Waterfall Display
- Chargeable with an USB Type-C™ Cable and for programming
- V/V, U/U, V/U Dual watch Including DV/DV Mode
- Integrated GPS Receiver D-PRS mode is supported by the internal GPS receiver for sending your location and showing received station location, distance, and direction from your current location. In addition to your location, the ID-52A PLUS displays your current Grid Square information.

To find out more about the Icom 52A+ visit: https://www.hamradio.com/new_products.cfm

Free to good home: Heathkit T-3 Visual-Aural Signal Tracer. No idea if it works. I have not tried to power it up as I do not have the correct equipment to power it up.



Please email to pjc588@pm.me if interested. Thanks!

Thank you!

Pete

KK6WLN

Approved**

MEETING MINUTES FOR 05-23-2024

The meeting was initiated at 18:00 HR at the East Bakersfield Veteran's Hall at 2101 Ridge Road.

Board Members roll call:

P	A	President, Patrick Ponc KD6PAP	P	A	1st VP, Rick Simmons KN6NOC
P	A	2nd VP, Mario Aribas N6ABT	P	A	Treasurer, Jeff Tougas KN6WEZ
P	A	Secretary, Javier Ruiz A. KN6SCN	P	A	Jerry Waciawski KBRBX
P	A	Keith Fields KN6SNW	P	A	Jon Wilhelm WA6KLB
P	A	Past Pres John Stumm KG6ZBN			

QUORUM **YES** NO

Approval of Minutes 03/27/2024 and 4/25/2024 **Meetings as presented.**

Motion made by RICK SIMMONS second by JERRY WACLAWSKI

AYE ___ NAY ___ ABSTAINED ___ Unanimously X Approved X Not Approved ___

Jeff Tougas presented the financial report, announcing \$ 4,247.29 in the general fund for the club as of 5/23/2024.

Approval of Financial Report as presented.

Motion made by MARIO ARRIBAS second by JOHN STUMM

AYE ___ NAY ___ ABSTAINED ___ Unanimous X Approved X Not Approved ___

Old Business:

- All planned workshops have been suspended, until the club can be surveyed to determine areas of interest.
 - Field Day is on June 22-23, 2024. Rick Simmons and Jeff Tougas will head the planning committee. Plans are to have the event at Rick Simmons' place of residence, as of this time.
 - New nametag design – Tabled waiting for sample

New Business:

- Mario Arribas would like to make a presentation on tape measuring Yagi antennas. WE NEED TO SEUPT DATES.

- VHF Contest event details for Saturday June 8th set.
- We need to create a future calendar of events.
- DXing (Mario Arribas) Training set dates and times next Board meeting.

Motion was made to Create an online survey to collect information on whether to hold a "Club's Swap meet" September this year and whether or not to have a "Fox Hunt" Event this year.

Motion made by RICK SIMMONS second by MARIO ARRIBAS

AYE ___ NAY ___ ABSTAINED ___ Unanimously X Approved X Not Approved ___

Reports: NO REPORTS PROVIDED DURING THIS MEETING

1.-

2.-

3.-

Open Forum

- **Several topics were covered including but no limited to: Grapevine repeater repair, that may need an antenna replacement, Yagi antenna build training for members, VHF Training for new ham members, etc.**

Motion was made adjourn the meeting

Motion made by Jerry Waciawski second by MARIO ARRIBAS

Unanimously X Approved X

The meeting was adjourned at 18:56 HR.
