

KERN COUNTY – CENTRAL VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB W6LIE

February 2023

FEBRUARY COMMUNICATOR

The Communicator newsletter editor is Larry Bragg-N7LWB
assisted by Rick Simmons-KN6NOC and Dave & Reba Peterson-KM6PJE

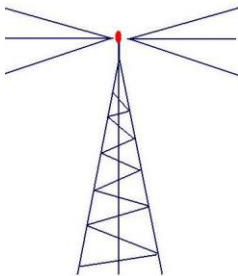
Upcoming Events

Next Club Meeting

Our next club meeting is on Thursday, February 23, 7:PM at the East Bakersfield Veterans Hall, located 2101 Ridge Rd, corner of Ridge Rd and Mt. Vernon Ave. All are invited to attend.

VE Testing

The next VE Testing Date is Friday, March 10, 6:30 PM at the East Bakersfield Veterans Hall, located 2101 Ridge Rd, corner of Ridge Rd and Mt. Vernon Ave. Please contact Larry Miller- KM6OQI for more information.



Hands-On Antenna Building Class

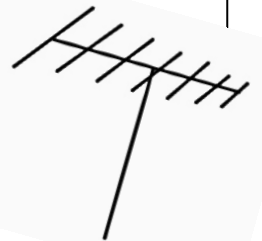
Interested in taking and building your antenna system (s) to the next level?

Tuesday 2-21-23 from 1830-2000 hrs, KG6ZBN will be presenting a hands-on class building antennas with baluns and ununs. ZBN will bring all the parts and pieces for the class. Rick-KN6NOC has volunteered the use of his residence as the meeting place. Larry-KM6ONQ and I will bring drinks and snacks.

This is a great opportunity to build an antenna for free. Please email ContactW6LIE@gmail.com if you are interested in attending.

Hope to see everyone there.

Steve-KM6POI



Club Officers & Directors

President: John Stumm-KG6ZBN
1st VP: Larry Bragg-N7LWB
2nd VP: Frederick MacHado-KN6NCV
Secretary: Scott Royer-KM6RLD
Treasurer: Steve Holmes-KM6POI

Director: Peter Chandler-KK6WLN
Director: Larry Griffith-KM6ONQ
Director: Rick Simmons-KN6NOC
Net Chief Neal Janzen-N6YGG

Upcoming Section, State, and Division Conventions

- February 10 - 12 | [Orlando HamCation](#), hosting the ARRL Southeastern Division Convention, Orlando, Florida
- February 17 - 18 | [LCARC Winter-Fest](#), ARRL Arkansas State Convention, Hoxie, Arkansas
- February 25 | [HAM-CON](#), hosting the ARRL Vermont State Convention, Colchester, Vermont
- March 3 - 4 | [BirmingHamfest](#), hosting the ARRL Alabama Section Convention, Trussville, Alabama
- March 3 - 4 | [Greater Houston HamFest](#), hosting the ARRL Texas State Convention, Rosenberg, Texas
- March 18 | [MARC St. Patricks Day Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL West Texas Section, Midland, Texas
- March 18 | [Charleston Area Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL West Virginia Section Convention, Charleston, West Virginia
- March 24 - 25 | [ARRL Maine State Convention and Hamfest](#), Lewiston, Maine
- March 25 - 26 | [QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo](#) (online)
- April 7 - 8 | [Green Country Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention, Claremore, Oklahoma
- April 8 | [Raleigh Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL North Carolina State Convention, Raleigh, North Carolina

Search the [ARRL Hamfest and Convention Database](#) to find events in your area.

Visit the [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) for more events and information on the upcoming contests.

ARRL -- Your One-Stop Resource for Amateur Radio News and Information

- **Join or Renew Today!** Eligible US-based members can elect to receive *QST* or *On the Air* magazine in print when they join ARRL or when they renew their membership. All members can access digital editions of all four ARRL magazines: *QST*, *On the Air*, *QEX*, and *NCJ*.
- Listen to [ARRL Audio News](#), available every Friday.
- *The ARRL Letter* is available in an accessible format, posted weekly to the [Blind-hams Groups.io](#) email group. The group is dedicated to discussions about amateur radio as it concerns blind hams, plus related topics including ham radio use of adaptive technology.

KCCVARC Repeater Frequencies

| | | | | |
|------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 145.15 | 146.91 | 224.06 | 443.9 | 52.78 |
| minus | minus | minus | plus | minus |
| 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 82.5 |
| Breckenridge Mtn | Grapevine Peak | Breckenridge Mtn | Low level North of Town | Grapevine Peak |
| | | | | Off the Air–Storm Damage |

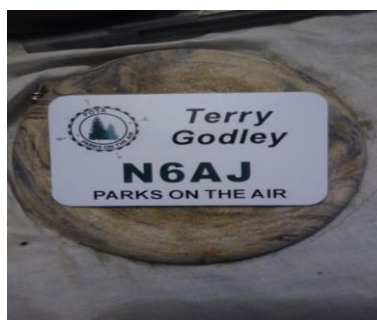
Winter Field Day - January 28th

Winter Field Day, January 28th was quite a success. We had more volunteers this time. There were quite a few spectators who drove by and were interested to see how amateur radio works and the enjoyment of this hobby. We are thankful to Christ Church of the Valley on Stockdale Hwy for allowing us to setup on their campus! Rick-KN6NOC made quite a lot of contacts along with John-KG6ZBN with his homebrew portable setup using an Icom 7300. There were many others who came out and made contacts as well.

Here are a few pictures from the Winter Field Day event.



Here are a few pics from Terry Godley-N6AJ at Parks On The Air at the Elk Preserve.



Local Repeaters and Listening Fun

- **145.150** Our main local repeater uses PL 100 Minus offset
- **146.910** Grapevine Peak. PL 100 Minus offset
- **224.060** Breckenridge Mt PL 100 Minus offset
- **443.900** Bakersfield City PL 100 Plus offset
- **52.780** Grapevine Peak 82.5 Minus offset
- **440.850** ARES Mt. Adelaide PL 100 Minus Offset KC6EOC
- **145.050** Breckenridge Mtn. PACKET PBBS @KC6EOC-1, NODE: KC6EOC-7
- **147.150** ARRG KG6KKV PL 100 Plus offset ECHO LINK 56555
- **224.520** ARRG KG6KKV PL 100 Minus offset
- **444.425** Cummings Peak PL 100 Plus offset Linked with two simplex
- **51.880** PL 114.8 Minus offset
- **447.040** Frazier Pk PL 136.5 Minus offset, and digital FUSION
- **146.670** N6SMU System PL 100 Minus offset and digital FUSION
- **444.750** N6SMU System PL 141.3 IRLP 3901
- **443.000** K6RET Shirley PK DMR Plus offset using CC 1 Brandmeister
- **442.675** K6RET Tehachapi DMR Plus offset using CC 1 Brandmeister
- **441.600** K6KGE Taft FUSION Plus Offset, KERN System
- **927.0875** K6KGE Taft PL 100 Minus Offset Kern System
- **224.780** K6RET Tehachapi PL 100 Minus Offset Kern System

There are many more repeaters but couldn't list them all here. To know more visit:

<http://w6lie.org/W6LIE%20Repeaters.html>

<https://www.kernsystem.org/>

<https://www.repeaterbook.com/>

Special Event Instructions

W1AW/6

As a part of the **Year of the Volunteer celebration**, the mystical call sign W1AW will be operating from all corners of land. ARRL members in each state/territory will be approved to operate their stations during two different weeks using the call sign W1AW/x where x is one of the local regions: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, KL, KH0, KH2, KH6, KH7, KH8, KP2, KP3, or KP4.

California's first week starts February 15, 2023, at 0000z and will run through February 21, 2023, at 2359z, using the call sign W1AW/6. Each state coordinator will approve time, band, and mode slots throughout the week and hams will be able to operate their stations using W1AW/x. If you wish to be one of the official W1AW/6 authorized operators for California, you must first email the CA VOTA Coordinator: John Litz-NZ6Q at nz6q@arrl.org.

You may also call John at 209-687-0774. Once approved, you may, subject to the following conditions, select any available one-hour operating time slot for the band and mode (SSB, CW, Digital) of your choice. Once selected, it's selected - NO CLAIM JUMPING !!

Use an approved electronic logging program capable of creating an ADIF file. You will email your files to the coordinator. All approved W1AW/6 operators are expected to observe all FCC regulations, including only operating on frequencies allocated to their license class and at permitted power levels. Violators, may, unless The Old Man is merciful, be WouffHonged!

By a toss of the 2023 Toys for Tots US Marine Corp coin, it was decided that Northern CA would primarily sign-up to cover WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY, SUNDAY and Southern CA would primarily cover THURSDAY, SATURDAY, MONDAY. Tuesday is open for both North and South. Minimum station requirements: - 100W + yagi or hexbeam or better on 20-15-10M - 100W (or more up to Legal Limit) + good vertical or dipole antenna on 80-40M Be comfortable with the modes you select.

If you work a lot of FT-8 or your station may be limited then sign-up on FT-8. If you like RTTY or digital do that. If you have a solid station on all bands then sign-up for bands/modes/times following the guidelines below. Portable W1AW Rules.

- **Each operator must follow the rules for their own license class.** Stay in the sub-bands that you are legally allowed to operate.
- Operators can operate anywhere in the state. Please observe the above guidelines when choosing your time/mode slots.
- ARRL members that contact the Portable W1AW stations will receive 5 points in the VOTA event.
- Each band/mode combination can be activated simultaneously. For example, N6ACL could be working on 20M SSB, N5SML could be working on 20M FT8, NZ6Q could be working on 20 M CW, and K6WX could be on 40 M SSB, all at the same time.
- The state weekly assignments are shown in the W1AW/ Schedule area at <http://vota.arrl.org> State operations start at 0000z each Wednesday and stop at 2359z the following Tuesday.
- Operations are not allowed on the 12 M, 17 M, 30 M, 60 M, 630 M, or 2190 M bands.
- All logs for the week must be consolidated into one ADIF file and sent to the state coordinator to be uploaded to LoTW.
- **When you sign up for a one-hour slot, you are also selecting a band and a mode.** Signing up for CW on 20M is one slot, phone and digital modes are two other slots.
- One operator per band/mode at the same time. (i.e. two stations cannot be on 40CW or 20 SSB from CA at the same time)
- **You may only use the band and mode you have selected, for the time period you requested.** You may request multiple slots throughout the week. To allow for as many stations as possible to operate, please limit yourself to no more than 4 hours in a row on any band and mode.

You are encouraged to select multiple modes (i.e... 2 hours on CW, 2 hours on SSB, 2 hours on RTTY on any band is a full day - and it gives others the chance to participate. ● Check back on the sign-up sheet often & during the event. If you're operating 20M FT8 for two hours, but the next hour is open and you want to continue, then add your call into that 3rd hour and continue... If you have any questions, please contact the California State Coordinator John Litz at nz6q@arrl.org or by phone 209-687-0774. Here is the link <https://vota.arrl.org/>

BEING A GENIUS IS NOT EASY

By...ALEX - WB6ZWG

GUGLIELMO MARCONI WAS KNOWN FOR HIS DEVELOPMENT OF WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY. HOWEVER, HIS GENIUS BECAME A TARGET OF NUMEROUS SERIOUS THREATS FROM PEOPLE WHO KNEW OF HIS INVENTION. BORN IN BOLOGNA, ITALY IN 1874, MARCONI'S EARLY YEARS OF EXPERIMENTING WITH ELECTRONICS WERE MOSTLY IGNORED.

BY HIS 20 TH. BIRTHDAY, MARCONI WAS CONSIDERED AN ELECTRONIC PIONEER. HE SUCCEEDED IN GETTING HIS CRUDE EQUIPMENT TO SEND A SIGNAL A FEW FEET ACROSS HIS ROOM. THE FOLLOWING YEAR MARCONI'S SIGNAL SPANNED THE LENGTH OF HIS HOME. WHEN HE OFFERED HIS INVENTION TO THE MINISTER OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS, MARCONI WAS SNUBBED. DISAPPOINTED; HE PACKED HIS EQUIPMENT, AND WITH HIS IRISH MOTHER, SAILED TO ENGLAND. HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE WORLD'S GREATEST MARITIME POWER WOULD RECOGNIZE THE BENEFITS GAINED FROM SHIP-TO-SHORE COMMUNICATIONS. BRITISH CUSTOMS OFFICIALS NOT ONLY IGNORED MARCONI'S EFFORT TO EXPLAIN THAT HIS RADIO EQUIPMENT WAS NOT A BOMB, BUT THE FRAGILE INSTRUMENT WAS DAMAGED WHEN THEY FRANTICALLY TRIED TO OPEN, AND DIFFUSE IT.

THE FOLLOWING YEAR A FRIEND HELPED MARCONI MEET WITH THE BRITISH POSTAL AUTHORITIES. HE DEMONSTRATED THAT HE COULD SEND A SIGNAL FROM THE GENERAL POST OFFICE TO A NEARBY BUILDING. THE PRESS AND PUBLIC SHOWED NO INTEREST IN HIS FEAT.

MARCONI CONSTRUCTED A 90 FOOT TOWER OF BAMBOO AND PUT HIS TRANSMITTER AT THE TOP. HIS WIRELESS SIGNAL TRAVELED NEARLY TWO MILES. HIS TOWER WAS TOO BIG TO BE IGNORED AND THE PRESS FINALLY TOOK NOTICE. "ANY CALM THAT MARCONI HAD KNOWN IN HIS LIFE, WAS NOW GONE."

THE PUBLICITY AROUSED FEARS IN A PREVIOUSLY INDIFFERENT PUBLIC ABOUT THE POSSIBLE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF RADIO WAVES TO HUMAN AND ANIMAL ALIKE. PEOPLE THREATENED TO KILL HIM BECAUSE OF THE FEAR OF RADIO WAVES PASSING THROUGH THEIR BODIES. A WOMAN CHARGED THAT THE WAVES MADE HER FEET ITCH, A FARMER WAS CERTAIN THE RADIO WAVES WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR SOME OF HIS CATTLE DYING. A GERMAN MAN PUBLICLY PLANNED TO TRAVEL TO ENGLAND AND SHOOT MARCONI, BUT HE WAS TURNED AWAY BY THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES.

GUARDED BY POLICE, MARCONI MOVED HIS OPERATION TO WALES IN 1897, SOON HE WAS TRANSMITTING SIGNALS OUT 25 MILES, THEN 150 MILES, AND IN 1901 HAD SPANNED THE OCEAN WITH HIS WIRELESS SIGNALS. IT WAS TWO YEARS LATER THAT A FRIGHTENED PUBLIC OUTCRY DIMINISHED ENOUGH FOR SCOTLAND YARD TO WITHDRAW POLICE PROTECTION FOR THE MAN WHO DEVELOPED RADIO FOR THE WORLD. AT THE AGE OF 63, GUGLIELMO MARCONI BECAME A "SILENT KEY" IN 1937.

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