



President: Joe Hart, [WD6FPE](#)

1st Vice President: Dustin Carpenter,

[KC0AZW](#)

Secretary: Scott Royer, [KM6RLD](#)

Treasurer: John Stumm, [KG6ZBN](#)

**Directors:**

Rob Vella, [KK9ROB](#)

Glen Del Tour, [WB8DTJ](#)

Larry Miller, [KM6OQI](#)

***KCCVARC Repeater Frequencies***

145.150	minus	100.0	Breckenridge Mt.	
146.910	minus	100.0	Grapevine Pk.	
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 Damage

## Board Changes

We are sorry to report that Larry Callahan, KF6JOQ, has resigned as club president due to personal issues. Larry has been involved in the club for a number of years and has held multiple board positions, including President.

He has also been net chief and looked after the repeater and, more recently, has been heavily involved in establishing Echo Link.

Larry is often the first person to volunteer and has helped many club members resolve problems with gear, software and antennas. He will continue to oversee the VE sessions and will continue to be active in the club.

As a result of Larry's resignation, Joe Hart, WD6FPE, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, will assume the office of president for the balance of the year. Dustin Carpenter, KC0AZW, will move up to 1<sup>st</sup> VP.

The board met on Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> in order to assign duties and chart a course for the balance of 2021.

We all wish Larry well and extend our thanks for a job well done.

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## 10 Meter DX Has Ticked Up

Sunspot activity continues in May and June, although the average daily sunspot numbers and solar flux have not really changed since last week's report. This was not expected, because according to Propagation Forecast Bulletin ARLP020 there was no sunspot activity.

Average daily sunspot number hardly changed,

from 21.1 to 20.3, and average daily solar flux went from 74.3 to 74.2. I am surprised that solar flux still remains below 80, since April 2021.

Geomagnetic indicators were quiet, but values were slightly lower.

Average daily planetary A index changed from 9.1 to 6.6, and average daily middle latitude A index went from 7.4 to 6.3.

According to information in *Gloucester County ARC* publication, located in New Jersey, there has a number of QSOs with European stations. In addition, New Jersey stations have connected with a number of U.S. stations across the country.

It would seem that the conditions are going to be good for the next couple of weeks for 10 and 15 meter contacts.

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## Field Day

This year has been one for the books. Mask mandates, lock downs and restrictions on gatherings have all taken their toll on the club, as well as all of the members. Last year we had to make some alterations in order to participate in Field Day.

This year we are slowly being released from lock downs. The board met on June 5<sup>th</sup> to discuss Field Day activities. Due to the short notice those who would like to participate may do so, gathering at College Park.

Each participant will be responsible for setting up their station and providing power. The club will provide sub sandwiches and drinks and are

asking members to bring water, ice chests and ice. More information will be available later this month.

The rules this year also provide for individual stations to include their contacts in the club total by noting the club call and information in the submission.

We are extending invitations to the Mayor's office, law enforcement and fire department officials. The board also explored the possibility of including the National Guard in the event. It would give the Guard an opportunity to show what they can do and they could possibly participate in Field Day as a GOTA station.

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## May Meeting and Swap Meet

About 30 local hams gathered at Jastro Park on May 22. Thanks to the nice weather, the club was able to meet informally giving everyone a chance to renew acquaintances and an opportunity to put a face with a name and call sign.

Several members brought items to sell at the swap meet and there was a radio or two raffled off during the gathering.

John Stumm, KG6ZBN, set up an HF station using a long wire antenna attached to a push pole leaning on a nearby tree branch. Using battery power, he was able to make a couple of contacts, to the delight of on lookers



There were a number of radios offered for sale and some were included in the raffle.



Antennas, tuners and other equipment were also up for sale.



## News From the ARRL

Fire season is getting an early start in California, including our local area. As of April of this year, there had been 2,060 fires, involving 13,922 acres.

At the time of the writing of this article the latest fire was the Pine fire in Los Angeles County. The fire impacted 450 acres and was 10% contained as of May 12.

ARES, Amateur Radio Emergency Service, an organization within ARRL, is designed to provide communications during an emergency. Western Kern County ARES operates locally and is partnered with Kern County Fire Department's Office of Emergency Services.

WKCARES conducts a net on Monday evenings at 1900 local time. During the net stations will move off to their local area simplex frequencies, testing the effectiveness of simplex communications.

The members also report their availability status as they report in to their area controllers. Part of the readiness status involves preparing and maintaining Go Kits.

The situation may call for you to bring your hand-held and some batteries as part of your Go Kit. In a disaster situation, where you may be asked to be at a shelter for several days, you might need to bring equipment necessary to put together a base station.

There might also be a time when you're called into the field where you need to help establish communication and there's no infrastructure—you'd need to have all of the appropriate equipment.

What equipment you need to bring to a specific event could come from a variety of sources, from your field leader to the served organization's team or a government official.

There may be times when, in addition to your own personal Go Kit, you may need a longer-term Deployment Kit, and/or a mobile response unit.

The mobile response units can be anything from a trailer or van to a fully-functioning mobile headquarters—complete with all the technical equipment you might need, including televisions, radios, towers and antennas.

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## From the Archives

Here are some words of wisdom forwarded by Neil Jensen, harvested from a past edition of *The Communicator*. Enjoy!

Be nice to your kids. They will be choosing your nursing home.

Here's a question: why is abbreviation such a long word?

An invention that is past due: a phoneless cord for people who like peace and quiet.

Food for thought – there are 24 hours in a day and 24 beers in a case. Coincidence? I don't think so.

I just got this memo from my staff. Please proofread carefully to see if you any words out.

A senior moment if I ever saw one. Ever stop to think and then forget to start again?

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## Looking for Stuff!



Hey! Bet you didn't know that you have an editorial staff for *The Communicator*, did ya! Currently it is a staff of one. But we have members out there that might have a topic or two that could be of interest to the membership.

So, if you have an article you would like to submit or photos from past or current events, please let me know and we can set them up for publishing. This is your newsletter. It should reflect the interests of the members.

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**73!**

**-BT-**