



# KERN COUNTY – CENTRAL VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

## JUNE 2024 COMMUNICATOR

### 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 club meeting will be held at the Field Day site, located 13161 Eberle Rd., Bakersfield, CA 93313 this Saturday, June 22 starting 10:AM (8:am for setup) thru Sunday June 23 at 1: pm. Please see Rick's report for the full information!
- The next POTA event will be July 20 thru the 21<sup>st</sup>. For more information visit: <https://docs.pota.app/docs/events.html>
- Next VE exam is scheduled 10:AM July 13. 2101 Ridge Rd in East Bakersfield. Contact Larry KM6OQI for more information or [websurfer@bak.rr.com](mailto:websurfer@bak.rr.com)



### Amateur radio's history goes back more than a century

Ham radio can be anything you want it to be. You can communicate over the airwaves much like amateurs did decades ago. You also can take advantage of the latest digital modes and be on the cutting edge of technology, all from the comfort of your own home or vehicle.

Some may say Amateur Radio is a dying hobby, I could not disagree with that statement more, or "what do I need a radio for, I have a cell phone" to those people I ask what will you use when your cell phone doesn't have a signal and you need help? Which is what happened to me and is why I originally got into amateur radio.

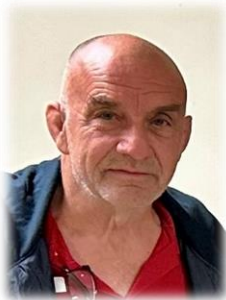
I just returned from Summer Games for Special Olympics of Southern California which was held on the campus Cal State Long Beach where over 3,000 athletes, coaches and volunteers participated. I served as Assistant Head of Delegation for Kern County. This position gave me access to several areas that the public was not allowed. At each of the sports venues I found a ham radio operator with their radio and a non-ham with a commercial radio, with net control in a radio trailer out in the parking lot covering both systems. This operation ran seamlessly. I must admit that I was a little surprised to see ham radio in use at this location but, why not. What a great way to not only serve the community but do some radio at the same time.

This is why we have Field Day. It gets us out of the Ham Shack and out into the world. Sometimes not in the best of conditions. It gives us an opportunity to test our equipment and hone our field operating skills. You will never know when you may be asked to serve our community. I invite all of you to join us for Field Day 2024

When all else fails there is Amateur Radio. 73, Patrick Ponec, KD6PAP, President KCCVARC

### 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



**Field Day is this weekend  
June 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Rick, KN6NOC.  
First Vice President:**

Currently, we have 10 operators participating. There will be different radios

and expert ELMERS to help demonstrate the different units.

- SATURDAY setup will begin at 800 hours, wrap up about 2000 hours.
- SUNDAY will start early (0400 hours) and will conclude at 1300 hours. We will have lunch at 1330 hours to celebrate Field Day, sit around and talk.

**MEALS PROVIDED:**

- SATURDAY
  - Deli sandwiches; drinks & dessert \$10.00
- SUNDAY:
  - Breakfast Burritos and drinks \$5.00
  - Lunch 1330 hours- Chicken, Tri-tip sides & dessert \$10.00

If you plan to attend, need directions or have questions, please contact me: [rickkn6noc@gmail.com](mailto:rickkn6noc@gmail.com) or by phone or text (661)203-4064. I need to know what days and times you plan to be at Field Day and what meals you're purchasing with the number for each meal. My address is 13161 Eberle Rd Bakersfield CA 93313.

**Field Day directions:**

Take Hwy 99 south to Taft Hwy 119. Go west on 119 until you reach Gosford Rd. Go South on Gosford until you see Houghton Rd. Go east on Houghton AND look for Eberle Rd. Go south on Eberle and the turn-in to the gated area is on your right.

Here are some pictures of the Field Day site, and Rick's place: The first two pictures are before entering. The third picture is when coming up to the property, you'll see these signs. (See pictures)



Please contact Rick KN6NOC. His phone number, (661)203-4064 so he can get a head count and place you at a station.



# The Technician Corner

Mario Arribas, N6ABT [n6abt@arrl.net](mailto:n6abt@arrl.net)

## QSLing

In morse code QSL means “Do you copy?” or “I copy”. Even if you don’t do CW, there are a lot of terms that we use in voice; and QSL is one of them. You can ask the other station QSL? If you want to acknowledge the correct reception of the message sent.

The traditional way to demonstrate your contact with other stations is the QSL card received from that station. The same way, the other station can demonstrate the contact showing the QSL card you have sent.

Just by browsing the internet you will find a lot of companies and individuals that can print high quality QSL cards for you for a relative low price; they can even offer you a catalog to look and decide the design of your card, in case you don’t want to design it on your own. That in case you cannot design and print your own cards at home

(That is what I used to do).

Usually, you can use two ways to send those cards:

- By regular mail: It takes time to write the envelope; write some information on the card about the contact, buy the stamp and mail the envelope. In some cases, the other station requires that you send a SASE (Self-addressed, self-stamp envelope, if within the US; or a self-addressed envelope and some “green stamps”-read dollar bills- inside), if you want to receive their card.

- By ARRL outgoing bureau: Gather all the cards you want to send, put them in a large envelope and mail it to the ARRL outgoing QSL service. This is a kind of complicated process that I’m not going to discuss in this article.

So, as you can see, the two most traditional ways to confirm a QSO are expensive, tedious and will not guarantee results. In many cases you spend money to print the cards, buy the envelopes and stamps, fill the card and write the envelope hopping anxiously to receive that other station card, and...nothing comes in the mail.

Somebody had the idea of doing it online. There you go, easy peasey. There are several programs that for free will do QSLing for you. Of course, you will only receive confirmation if the other part is using the same program.

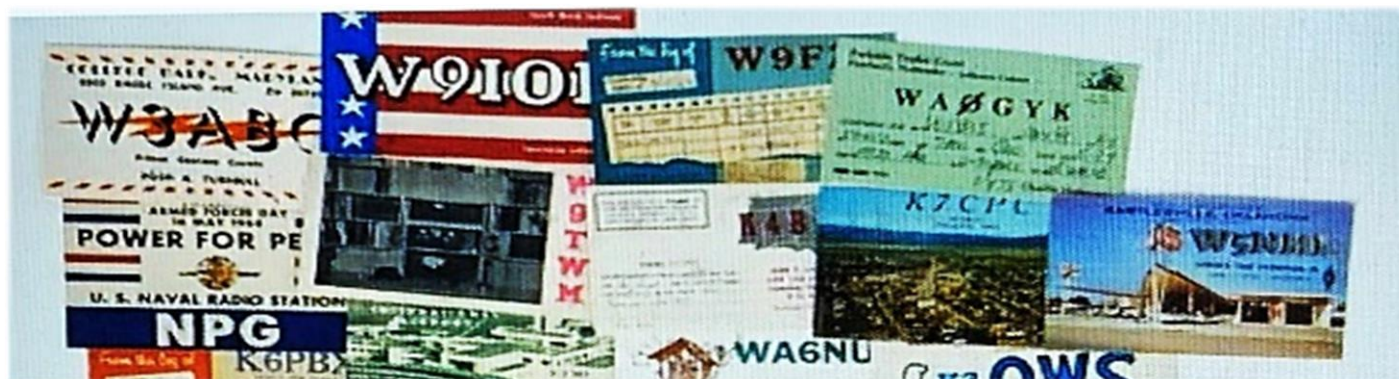
The most popular program is LoTW, Logbook of The World by ARRL. It takes a while to set it up, but once is running, is great. Another one is QRZ, is very similar to LoTW, but is friendlier.

There is a saying “...the final courtesy of a QSO is a QSL...” There are a ton of hams out there that want your QSL, so regardless of the way you decide to acknowledge the contact; please QSL.

If you want to set up an account on LoTW or QRZ, please let me know and I will be more than happy to guide you through that process.

**I uploaded it to LoTW, and you?**

Mario [N6ABT@arrl.net](mailto:N6ABT@arrl.net)



## Calendar of Activities

### **Tuesday, June 18**

7:00pm Tech Net

### **Saturday, June 22**

8:00am Summer Field Day June 22nd and 23rd

### **Sunday, June 23**

8:00am Summer Field Day June 22nd and 23rd

8:00pm NET Meeting

### **Monday, June 24**

7:00pm ARES Net Meeting

### **Tuesday, June 25**

7:00pm Tech Net

### **Thursday, June 27**

7:00pm Club Mtg.

### **Sunday, June 30**

8:00pm NET Meeting

### **Monday, July 1**

7:00pm ARES Net Meeting

### **Tuesday, July 2**

7:00pm Tech Net

### **Sunday, July 7**

8:00pm NET Meeting

### **Monday, July 8**

7:00pm ARES Net Meeting

### **Tuesday, July 9**

7:00pm Tech Net

### **Friday, July 12**

6:30pm VE Testing

**Communicator article Photos from the POTA setup, by Scott KN6ZAT.  
Article for this event is in the May 2024 Communicator.**





## 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:**

<b>P</b>	A	President, Patrick Ponec KD6PAP	<b>P</b>	A	1st VP, Rick Simmons KN6NOC
<b>P</b>	A	2nd VP, Mario Aribas N6ABT	<b>P</b>	A	Treasurer, Jeff Tougas KN6WEZ
<b>P</b>	A	Secretary, Javier Ruiz A. KN6SCN	<b>P</b>	A	Jerry Waciawski KBRBX
<b>P</b>	<b>A</b>	Keith Fields KN6SNW	<b>P</b>	A	Jon Wilhelm WA6KLB
<b>P</b>	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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 \_\_\_\_

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**Reports: NO REPORTS PROVIDED DURING THIS MEETING**

1.-

2.-

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#### **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.**

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