

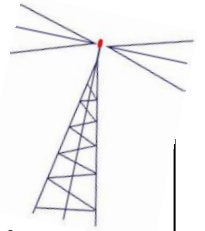
KERN COUNTY – CENTRAL VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB W6LIE

March 2023

MARCH COMMUNICATOR

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

Upcoming Events



Next Club Meeting

Please join us for the club meeting, on Thursday March 23, at the East Bakersfield Veteran's Hall, 2101 Ridge Rd. John-KG6ZBN will give a presentation on VLF (Very Low Frequency) radio along with building antennas for these bands and an update about amending the bylaws.

Refreshments and raffle drawings will follow.

Hands-On Antenna Building Class

Antenna building workshop is this coming Saturday March 25, at the home of Rick-KN6NOC. This is a great time to build your own antenna(s) great comradery, hosted by Rick and his wife. Refreshments (Nacho bar) will also be served. For more information or to let us know you are attending, please send your info to contactw6lie@gmail.com and let us know you plan to be there for a head count.

Congratulations to the new hams and license upgrades: Submitted by Larry Miller-KM6OQI V.E. Coordinator

New Technicians

Jacob Graham
Cynthia Mosley
Taylor Oliver
Scott Pohlenz

New Generals

David McMurtrey
Paul Ball
Timothy Guenther
Michael Word

Extra

Mark Ross



Also, we are short of V.E. operators to help with amateur testing. If interested, please contact Larry Miller-KM6OQI Websurfer@bak.rr.com.



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

A Message From-N6NCV

Hello friends, members of the Board,

I am glad to receive suggestions and I encourage you to make more of them. The time is running and the Board meeting is coming soon, in a week.

I just want to make a humble petition. If you send a suggestion, try to be specific. If you write the text that you would like to be included or modified, it is going to be helpful. Then, I am going to work with it and figure out how it can fit.

Amending the bylaws is not an easy task. It requires a lot of skills, comprehension, and the positive support of every member of the club.

This is what I expect from everyone in recognition for the many hours I am spending to make, not a perfect bylaws, but one that is updated and upgraded. I hope that at the end you will be thankful and satisfied.

I see you at the meeting next week.

73 Frederick-KN6NCV

2023 “Let’s Ham it up” - From Terry Godley-N6AJ

This year I will be helping the Boy Scouts with JOTA (Jamboree On The Air). It will be held on Saturday, October 21, 2023. We will be using K2BSA/6 call for the event. I am still in the planning stage. I know this is 7 months away, but I need a head count of how many may want to help with this event. The event will be from 8am-5pm (subject to change).

There will be 4 stations set up (depending on volunteers). I am looking for Digital, VHF/UHF, SSB HF operators, preferably with your own equipment, who will be able to help scouts make contacts. Also, I will need volunteers to help in and around the stations.

Lunch will be provided.

If this sounds like something you would like to help with, please contact me for more information and I will put you on the contact list.

2023 Ham It Up!

Terry Godley-N6AJ

Email: n6aj@arrl.net , Text: 661-380-0183

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

2-23-23
KCCVARC Board Meeting Minutes

Called to order 1805

Frederick Machado
Steve Holmes
Larry Bragg

Jon Stumm
Larry Griffith
Scott Royer

- Rick Simmons still sick
- Financial
 - \$6221.72 starting
 - \$485 income
 - \$297.99 expenses
 - \$6408.73 ending back balance
 - Available \$5708.73
 - Motion Bragg, 2nd Griffith
 - Carried
- Banking Issue
 - Need to have some documents so Steve Holmes can be added to the account
 - Steve Holmes needs \$20 reimbursement for fees to the state. Motion Scott, 2nd Griffith – carried
 - Physical address will be Stumm’s address
 - Larry Bragg, John Stumm, Scott Royer have access to club email account
 - Larry Bragg and Larry Griffith to reimburse \$87.80 to Scott Royer for mailing materials for election
- Old Business
 - Discussed Facebook, and current Status, which is controlled by Rob Vela
 - Discussed Website, having club member Javier build us a new site, will cost \$50 for the domain and \$336 for 3 years after
 - Frederick suggested to use WordPress to build the new website
- ByLaws
 - John and Neal volunteered to help Frederick with By-Laws
 - March, will send out email to membership asking for change suggestions
 - Will include copy of By-Laws
 - May will have 2nd draft sent out
 - June will vote on new by-laws (except no June Meeting)
 - Frederick brought up the name of the club and its length. Not like other surrounding counties
 - Recommended changing it to Kern County Amateur Radio Club
 - KM6POI will bring snacks
 - Motion to close by Larry Bragg, Griffith 2nd

1852 adjourned

[A re-print from March QST magazine](#)

The Heartbeat of the Shortwaves Shortwave station WWV has operated for over a century and has broadcast precise time and frequency information for more than 50 years.

Jen Glifort-KC1KNL. Every night, over 50 million devices in the US receive a signal containing time codes through their internal antennas and receivers, which then interpret the codes to ensure near-perfect synchronization. That signal has been coming from WWV in Fort Collins, Colorado, for over half a century. Among many other things, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST; www.nist.gov) is responsible for the maintenance and operation of shortwave stations WWV, WWVB, and WWVH (in Hawaii) through its Time and Frequency Division. Shortwave enthusiast Thomas Witherspoon, K4SWL, called WWV “the heartbeat of the shortwaves.” He explained, “The NIST reference signals are ever-present and easily accessible here in North America and other parts of the world.” Vintage Technology Since 1965, WWV and its companion station, WWVB (often collectively referred to as “WWV”), have broadcast Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) to the exact second to the continental US. WWV is the oldest continuously active radio station in the country (see the sidebar, “The History of WWV”). WWVH, its Hawaiian counterpart, broadcasts the same information for the island state. Using long electromagnetic waves at 60 kHz — a frequency so low it can be received through buildings — WWVB’s signal allows millions of timekeeping devices across the country to sync, usually in the middle of the night, when the signal is strongest. These devices contain small, internal antennas and receivers, which interpret the time codes sent by WWVB to maintain accurate readings of the time and the day of the year, as well as adjust for daylight saving time and leap years. WWVB signals reach all these devices via the 60 kHz longwave band, but WWV and WWVH signals leverage the shortwave bands. There’s no official definition of the “shortwave band,” but it generally extends from the high end of the medium-frequency (MF) band to the end of the high-frequency (HF) band. Radio waves in the shortwave band are reflected off the ionosphere, which means they can be directed at certain angles that allow them to travel long distances, unlike some radio waves that use line-of-sight propagation and travel in straight line of sight contact.

[For Sale by Owner](#)

Hallicrafters model S-40, General coverage "1950's vintage receiver being sold by LarryKMiller-M6OQI. He can give you more details. websurfer@bak.rr.com



From Neal Janzen–N6YGG Club historian

Captured at Wake Island

In the early morning hours of December 7, 1941 Victor Besancon, N6PV, had just gotten off the 5pm to 7am shift at the communications center on Ford Island. Vic was in charge of the night shift for Patrol Wing 2, whose mission was to scan the approaches to Pearl. That shift, as so many before, was uneventful and Vic was fast asleep well before 7:55 am.

When the infamous attack came, it didn't occur to anyone that all the noise was anything but practice until a look out the barracks window, about two blocks from battleship row, revealed low flying Japanese aircraft. Besancon, then a 28 year old veteran with seven years in the Navy, reported to the comm. center to help ensure the wings available patrol planes, about five out of a complement of 50 PBV's and handle traffic. Vic also recalled the transmissions of the message from Adm. Husband E. Kimmel, Commander in Chief of the Pacific Fleet; "Enemy air raid, Pearl Harbor. This is not a drill."

By Dec. 8, the communication center was relocated to the west side of Ford Island in the basement of a house occupied by Rear Adm. Patrick Bellinger, Patrol Wing 2's commander. The house had been constructed from what had been a concrete shore battery. Although the Japanese Fleet was long gone, Pearl was on full alert and would remain so for most of the week.

Victor was transferred to Wake Island, some 2100 miles to the west on Dec. 9. His mission was to establish a communications station to direct marine fighters protecting the island. Wake, like Pearl, had been attacked on Dec. 7. But Wake was subjected to several more attacks before it surrendered to Japanese forces on Dec. 23. The invaders, about 5,000 verses a few hundred defenders came ashore at 4 am on the 23rd. A surrender decision was made after the defense became futile.

The prisoners were sent to a small camp near Yokohama called Ofuna, where they spent the rest of the war. Prison life was difficult but not impossible and they were treated fairly in comparison to some of the more notorious camps. All prisoner lost 30 to 40 pounds and some died of pneumonia. Vic suffered from beri-beri.

From his small pay of \$2 a month for farming, he was able to buy a Japanese dictionary and was using it to learn the language. One day, while working on the new language, Vic wrote his call sign, N6PV, a guard queried him about it and indicated he was a radio operator and wrote his call sign also. Vic told the guard he recalled contacting a Japanese operator with that callsign from San Diego in 1939. The guard went home and checked his log, confirming the QSO. Life became less difficult for the remainder of his stay as he was treated regularly to magazines in English, sweets and other favors but has to admit "it's a heck of a way to eyeball a contact."

During repatriation leave in Washington D.C. Vic met his old commander, now Adm. Bellinger, who authored paperwork for his (Vic) accelerated promotion to chief warrant officer. Victor subsequently rose to the rank of lieutenant commander, retiring in 1965 at Pt. Mugu, CA. as a Navy flight officer specializing in electronic warfare.

It has been noted many times as to where amateur radio may lead one in the course of a lifetime, this story of N6PV is a good example how one contact in 1939 united two men in a