



President: Joe Hart, WD6FPE

1st VP: Dustin Carpenter, KC0AZW

2<sup>nd</sup> VP Joe Luque, K6JLL

Secretary: Scott Royer, KM6RLD

Treasurer: John Stumm, [KG6ZBN](#)

**Directors:**

Rob Vella, KK9ROB

Glen Del Tour, [WB8DTJ](#)

Larry Miller, [KM6OQI](#)

**Net Chief**

Neal Janzen, N6YGG

***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

## From The Board of Directors



The Board of Directors met on October 28, prior to the general meeting. Joe Hart, WD6FPE, led the meeting. Among the topics discussed were investigating advantages of 501C3 status, including allowing in kind donations to be deducted by the donor.

The board reviewed the number of potential activities that could stir interest in Amateur radio in general and increasing membership participation.

Following the amendment made to the bylaws voted on in September, the election of officers and board members were scheduled to take place during the general meeting. Joe and Scott Royer, KM6RLD, reviewed the process.

Joe Hart, Joe Luque, K6JLL, and Larry Miller, KM6OQI were selected to count the ballots, since they were not up for re-election.

The general meeting got underway following the board meeting. Joe Hart presented information regarding equipment that would be available for the “lending library” of HF equipment.

The gear would be checked out for a period of 60 days, enabling those interested in getting on the air an opportunity to evaluate possible equipment purchases.

Joe also extended thanks on behalf of the club to Jerry Waclawski, KB7BX for his efforts in repairing some of the radios donated to the club.

As a token of the club’s gratitude, Jerry was presented with a gift card to Tahoe Joe’s restaurant.

There were a number of new members at the meeting. They were welcomed by the board on behalf of the club. Some had questions related to amateur radio and specific equipment. Several members extended offers of assistance.

Plans were discussed regarding the Christmas party. The date was set for December 4. Ben Durham, N6SWR, will be overseeing the preparations. Those wishing to help should contact Ben.

The turkey will be provided by the club. Neal Janzen, N6YGG, has donated a ham. Members are requested to bring a side dish or dessert.

At the conclusion of club business, the ballots were distributed and the results tallied. The new board consists of the following members: President is vacant; Dustin Carpenter, 1<sup>st</sup> VP; Larry Bragg, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP; John Stumm, treasurer; Scott Royer, secretary; Glen Del Tour, Paul Ball and Steven Holmes, directors.

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## Spooktacular

The Kern Wheelmen's October Spooktacular is an annual event luring bike riders from all over Kern County, daring to test their mettle on an arduous 100 mile bike ride through the hills and streets of Bakersfield. This year's event was held on October 16.

If 100 miles on a bicycle is not all that enticing, they offered several shorter routes, including a 10 to 20 mile family fun ride. The theme focuses on the Halloween festivities at the end of the month.



*Dustin Carpenter, KC0AZW, one of the hams assisting with this year's Spooktacular.*

Each year KCCVARC has provided Hams posting at aid stations along the route to insure rider safety, checking riders in at each station.

This year was no exception. Larry Callahan, KF6JOQ oversaw the operation and placed Hams at strategic spots, providing communication between the stations and the event organizers.

Special thanks to those who volunteered this year: Richard, KD6IMM, and Sandi, KE6KJA, Covey, Dustin Carpenter, KC0AZW, Jerry Wacławski, KB7BX and Steve Holmes, KM6POI.

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## Earthquake

The Great California Shakeout, a drill designed to test earthquake preparedness across a broad spectrum of businesses, individuals and first responders, was scheduled for October 21 at 1021 local time.

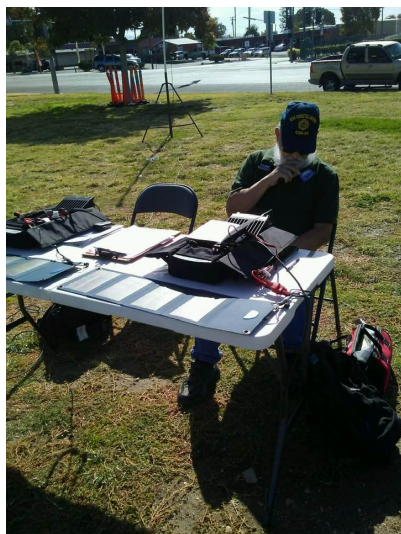
The event is traditionally held on the third Thursday of October. West Kern County ARES members set up two portable 2 meter stations on the bluffs in the green area at the intersection of River and Panorama.

The Shakeout provided an opportunity to test back pack portable stations designed for use during an emergency. The packs are self-contained, including a portable antenna.

EC Frank Wells, KD6UQZ, and AEC Glen Del Tour, WB8DTJ, set up the two portable 2 meter stations. Contacts were made with the ARES group in Tehachapi, as well as groups in Fresno.

Several individual stations checked in with the local net that was established on the W6LIE 2 meter repeater.

A number of walkers on the path stopped at the table, inquiring about the purpose of the set up. The conversations provided an opportunity to share with the public the role that amateur radio can, and has, play in the event of a catastrophic event.



If you would like to learn more about ARES please join the net on Monday evenings at 1900, on the 145.150 repeater. Or you may contact Frank or Glen.

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### From ARRL

Speaking of earthquakes, an article by Rong-Gong Lin II on the ARRL website noted that a major earthquake in California could knock out many modes of communications services for a considerable period of time. This would also include cell service, due to the possible damage to towers and lack of electrical power.

Here in the southern portion of the San Joaquin Valley, access through the major highways could be disrupted as a result of landslides and damage to over passes, as was seen in the North Ridge and Loma Prieta quakes

A widespread communications disruption could imperil the public's access to 911 operators and lead to delays in reporting fires and calls for medical help.

Cell towers are vulnerable to sustained power outages and damage can occur to cellular

equipment on power poles and buildings according to information from the USGS.

California's cellphone networks are notoriously unreliable during blackouts that may occur during an emergency like the 2019 wildfires. A large portion of the San Francisco Bay was affected.

Predictions of such wide spread damage to infrastructure underscores the importance of amateur radio as a means of supplementing and supporting communication efforts of first responders, as well as health and welfare messages.

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### ARRL CW Practice Schedule

ARRL has made practice sessions available for those for who someday has arrived. If you are interest you can find W1AW on these frequencies at 1300, 1600 and 1900 local time

**Frequencies** are 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675, 50.350, and 147.555 MHz.

**Slow Code** = practice sent at 5, 7-1/2, 10, 13 and 15 words per minute (wpm).

**Fast Code** = practice sent at 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 wpm.

**Code bulletins** are sent at 18 wpm.

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### ARES

Western Kern County ARES has a regularly scheduled net on the W6LIE repeater on 145.150 at 1900 local time. The participants will then move off to simplex frequencies in



order to test the effectiveness and range of simplex communications.

ARES is open to amateur radio operators interested in supporting their community in times of emergencies. If you are interested in participating, check in on the net. There is also an application available on the W6LIE web site.

For more information about ARES please send an email to [WKCARES@GMAIL.COM](mailto:WKCARES@GMAIL.COM)

Check it out!

## Upcoming Events

### November VE Session

For those who are planning to upgrade or those wanting to obtain a license, contact Larry, KF6JOQ for information for the next VE session on November 12.

### December Christmas Party

The Christmas Party will be Saturday December 4th at the Veteran's Hall located on Ridge Road. More information will be coming for this event. Watch your emails and check in on the Sunday evening net for more information.

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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-**