

# KERN COUNTY – CENTRAL VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB W6LIE

November 2023

## NOVEMBER COMMUNICATOR

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

### Upcoming Events

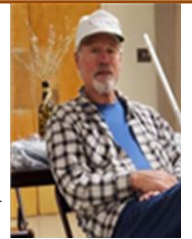
December 9 - Potluck and dinner for installation of 2024 Club officers, see page three for details.

A special board meeting for outgoing/incoming board members before Christmas dinner Dec. 9 at 5:pm 2101 Ridge Rd and another board business meeting scheduled for Dec 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:pm at Rick's home, 13161 Eberle Rd Bakersfield.

January 28<sup>th</sup> - Field Day at Yokuts Park.

Happy Thanksgiving to you all and your family

### Message from John, KG6ZBN KCCVARC President



I'm excited to announce the new board has been elected. The results will be announced next month at the Christmas dinner. It's good to see several new faces. It's going to be a promising year with ideas for new events and activities already being planned. The first of which is an organized winter field day at Yokuts Park on January 27<sup>th</sup>. Put it on your calendar. You've already received your invitation to the dinner. It's always been well received in the past with all the good food, fellowship and prizes aplenty. It's great to see members bring their friends and family. Make sure to RSVP with your numbers though.

See everyone on the 9<sup>th</sup>!

73, John, KG6ZBN



### 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  
Communicator Editor: : Larry Bragg-N7LWB

**From Rick Simmons KN6NOC**



With only one club event left on the calendar, the present board is trying to help the 2024 board get a running start.

First, we would like to verify our inventory. John has a list of what he has for inventory, but we want to make sure that he has everything accounted for. So, if you have any equipment, books, or any kind of brochures or paperwork, please let us know.

Part of the reason we need to do this is so new ham club members can try out a certain type of equipment to determine if they like it before they purchase one.

Also, if you have any equipment that you would like to put into the club's inventory, please let us know about that also. Whatever equipment is available for a new ham to work with will build experience in the ham field.

If you have club equipment, and are using it, we are not asking for it back. Let us know if you are using it and how long you plan to use it. If you do have something and would like someone to pick it up, we can arrange that also.

We are hoping that this will help the club be more proactive when we have new members come aboard.

Hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas Season. RICK KN6NOC  
RICKKN6NOC@GMAIL.COM 661 203 4064

**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



# KCCVARC

Annual Holiday Dinner and  
Installation of Officers  
Potluck Dinner 6:30pm  
Dec. 9, 2023  
Veterans Hall  
2101 Ridge Rd. at Mt. Vernon

Side dishes or desserts needed!  
Club furnishes Turkey & Ham  
with all the trimmings!

Bring canned goods for donation!  
2 cans = 1 drawing ticket  
4 or more cans = 2 tickets

Come early, 5:30 to help set-up

**\$1000 in Prizes!!**

Tickets \$1.00 or 6 for \$5.00

Dues can be paid at this time but we  
must have an application filled out!

## **10 meters is open!!!**

When I started in ham radio, I got a hold on a Radio Shack 10 meter-only radio. It was capable of 25w output, it might seem too little power, but with the proper conditions, and a good antenna it can go all the way around the globe. I built from scratch a half wave dipole using a cut-out from a plastic cutting board I “borrowed” from my mom, and some leftover speakers wire I had around the house. I could afford good quality coaxial cable, so I ended up using a hand-me-down low-quality RG-58 and a recovered PL-259.

As you can imagine, that was not by any means a good-looking set-up; but some of my most memorable QSO’s were made with that rig.

Nowadays, and thanks to Solar Cycle 25; propagation is awesome; all the bands are wide open. I’m pretty sure that if I had the rig I mentioned before, I would be logging QSL’s as crazy. With the actual propagation, it’s easy to get your signal sent thousands of miles away. Most of the modern transceivers are capable of doing 100w, and that, my friends is a lot of power with current conditions.

If you’re not on the air taking advantage of what Cycle 25 is offering, you are losing a great part of our hobby. Go out, hang a wire, and get your Callsign out. Building a dipole is very easy; in some cases, and depending on the band you plan to work, it might be only 18 feet total length (Half wave 10m dipole). If you make that dipole in an inverted Vee, the apex must be at least 10 ft high. It will fit in most backyards and balconies.

If you have no idea on how to build a dipole or what materials you need (Please don’t borrow the cutting board, your spouse will not appreciate that), just let me know, and I will be more than happy to guide you and work along with you until you’re satisfied with your own antenna. If you are a Technician, don’t let that stop you from getting into HF. Technicians have a good chunk of the 10-meter band. You are granted access 28.300 to 28.500 Mz, and that is where the fun happens.

So, go for it; don’t stand listening to the other hams talking about those rare entities they worked on the weekend, wishing you were logging them too.

Hang a wire and make some noise, enjoy the HF part of the hobby.

Mario Arribas N6ABT

## October 26 Board Meeting Minutes

### **Submitted: Scott Royer KM6RLD**

Called to order 1805

In attendance were: Larry Griffith, Pete Chandler, Larry Bragg, Jon Stumm, Rick Simmons, Scott Royer, Steven Holmes

### **Financial**

- \$6,451.20 starting
- \$16.23 income
- \$74.98 expenses
- \$6,392.45 ending back balance

**Meeting Minutes** – None from last meeting. Secretary gave an update that ballots were sent out with the proposed by-law amendments and an application. \$109.38 was the cost and Scott was reimbursed

John Stumm will coordinate the Christmas Dinner

- Jerry and Larry Griffith are going to bring a Turkey
- Need a ham
- John is going to go to HRO to buy raffle prizes
  - Larry Griffith motioned \$1,000 for limit, seconded by Larry Bragg
  - All Ayes

### **Antenna Trailer needs to be re-registered**

- Rick is handling this
- He has been doing maintenance on the trailer so it will pass inspection
- Has spent \$100 so far

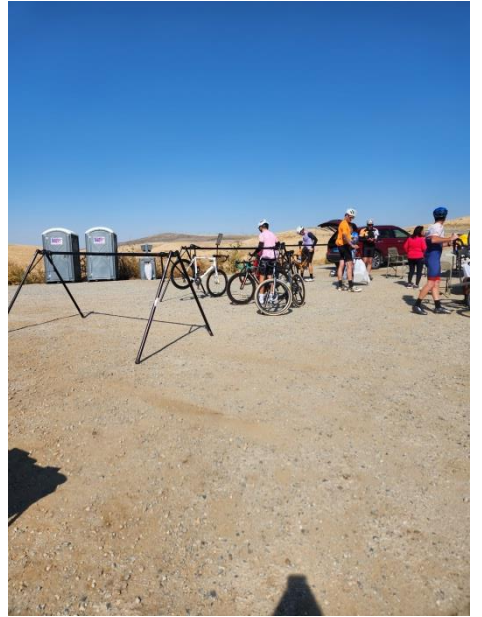
John Stumm, Steve Holmes and Scott Royer will count ballots

Jeff Tougas and Michael Word will be heading up Winter Field Day. Given a budget of \$100 plus the pavilion rental at Yokuts Park

- Motioned by Rick Simmons, seconded by Larry Griffith
- All Ayes

Adjourned 1840

**2023 Kern Wheelmen Spooktacular with Steve Holmes KM6POI, and Dustin Carpenter KC0AZW**



## Rig Pix of the Month

### RigExpert AA-35 ZOOM (Copied from HRO Catalog)



60 kHz to 35 MHz Color Display Antenna Analyzer (Continuous Coverage)

The analyzer is designed for measuring SWR (standing wave ratio), return loss, cable loss, as well as other parameters of cable and antenna systems in the range of 60 kHz to 35 MHz (Continuous Coverage).

A built-in ZOOM capability makes graphical measurements especially effective.

The following tasks are easily accomplished by using this analyzer:

- Rapid check-out of an antenna
- Tuning an antenna to resonance
- Comparing characteristics of an antenna before and after specific event (rain, hurricane, etc.)
- Making coaxial stubs or measuring their parameters
- Cable testing and fault location, measuring cable loss and characteristic impedance
- Measuring capacitance or inductance of reactive loads

Warranty: 2 years <http://www.rigexpert.com/>

### **YAESU VX-6R**

144 / 220 / 430 MHz 5 Watt / 1.5W (220) Handheld FM Transceiver - JIS7 Submersible (Copied from HRO website)

The Yaesu VX-6R is a tri band, heavy duty, submersible transceiver that has extensive receive frequency coverage.

It is a tri-band radio that can transmit on 2 meters (144MHz), 1.25 meters (220MHz), and 70 cm (430MHz). It also has a wide range of operations on UHF/VHF Ham Bands. It has a receiver range that covers 504kHz to 998.99MHz



New on the VX-6R is the One-Touch Direct Memory Recall feature, that allows you to recall ten favorite memories with a single button press, just like on your car stereo. The VX-6R comes equipped with a high-capacity 1400 mAh Lithium-Ion Battery Pack