

Section Manager

East Bay Section Newsletter December, 2021

ARRL East Bay Family,

The observance of Veterans Day last month reminded me that a lot of veterans are also hams. According to the website of the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet), there's over 1.5 million veterans in California; many of them living in veterans homes and other assisted living facilities. For some of those, their only contact with the outside world is amateur radio. So please be sure to have a good chat when you hear them on the air. It is so very important to them. See some other related items below and in the Section & Division News section further down.

Have a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Joyful Kwanzaa, Pleasant Boxing Day, Delightful Dewey Decimal System Day, Sublime Saint Lucia's Day, Amusing Saint Stephen's Day, Beautiful Bacon Day, Wonderful Winter Solstice, Merry Monkey Day, drunken New Years; or whatever else gets you warmed up and ready for the long winter.

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Pearl Harbor Day

Pearl Harbor Day is this Tuesday, December 7th. This is the 80th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. On the same day, attacks were also carried out on Manilla, Philippines; Malaya (now Malaysia); Hong Kong; Guam; Wake Island and Midway Island; as well as multiple attacks on ships at sea. Pearl Harbor, Guam, Wake and Midway are all in the ARRL Pacific Section of the Pacific Division.

Here's a link to some radio bulletins broadcast on that day, announcing the attack:

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D-asDrt7ZMc>) (YouTube, 6:46)

Here is a C-Span video of President Roosevelt's speech the next day, formally announcing the attack:

(<https://www.c-span.org/video/?419693-1/president-roosevelts-day-infamy-address-congress>) (C-Span; 8:33).

And there's an East Bay Section connection. Dwayne Eskridge, W6LKE (SK), who would later become a very active member in the East Bay, was a young FBI radio technician recently posted to Honolulu when the attack on Pearl Harbor occurred. He was the first person to send a notice to the mainland of the attack; over radio, by CW. Here are links to some articles about Dwayne and that day. Each has some different and interesting tidbits not in the others.

This one is from the "The Intelligencer, the Journal of U.S. Intelligence Studies" from 2013.

(https://fbistudies.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/FBI-in-Honolulu-1941_Batvinis-AFIO-2013.pdf)

This one is from "The Grapevine", the journal of the Society of Former FBI Special Agents, and includes other related articles. Dwayne's story begins on page 8.

(<https://fbistudies.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/FBI-Grapevine-DEC16-History.pdf>)

Finally, an article about Dwayne and this day was in QST, December, 1991

(https://p1k.arrl.org/pubs_archive/87377)

Curing the Wasteland with the First DXpedition

You may have read that this month is the 100th anniversary of the first successful transatlantic radio test between amateur radio operators in the UK and US. A good one-page article about it is in the November/December edition of "On The Air" (available online or via your Android/iPhone app). An interesting read. There's a longer article in this month's QST, but it leans more toward the impact the test had on radio history than the test itself. The OTA article explains that the then-current thinking by so-called experts was that the frequencies above 1.5 MHz was an unusable "wasteland". This test

proved them wrong. The ARRL sent a representative to the UK to work with the local hams for the test, making his trip arguably the world's first DXpedition.

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Section & Division News:

* Division-Wide Meeting

Pacificon Division Director Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, has announced her annual Division-Wide Meeting, to be held via Zoom on this coming Saturday, December 4, at 10:30 AM. In case you didn't see her note with the Zoom link, it's below. She's asking that you add your call sign to your name before joining, so we know you're one of us.

(<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81258453985?pwd=bn9sMjF4Y3VCWmorcUlxNUMzaTA2QT09>)

* MESH Demonstration and Workshop

A MESH demonstration and workshop will be held in Clayton on Saturday, December 11, 9:00AM to Noon. If you're interested in setting up a Mesh node, have questions, or are just curious about the topic, plan to come. The location is:

Clayton Valley Presbyterian Church parking lot
1578 Kirker Pass Road,
Clayton, CA 94517

Following is a link to a file to look at before coming:

(https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1wB3RonFnHqXvx7Ea3ioXjNxxVGC8rkjzuXN2EDd_1zk/edit)

If you do plan to come, please send an email to Larry Bradley, KK6QPE at (kk6qpe@gmail.com), so they have an idea of how many to expect. He can also send you more details if you ask.

* Veterans in Amateur Radio

Mike VanCleemput, K6WK, lives in a veteran's home in Redding, up in Shasta County. He and his ham radio hobby were recently profiled in "CalVet Connect", the blog of the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet). He has a goal "to build a network of ham operators through CalVet's Veterans Homes system." But I'm sure he'd be glad to talk to anyone else, veteran or not. So see the article at (<https://calvetconnect.blog/2021/10/11/ham-it-up/>) and give him a call.

If you're a veteran, you may be aware that the American Legion has established The American Legion Amateur Radio Club (TALARC). The club established an amateur radio station at National Headquarters in Indianapolis with the call sign K9TAL (K9 The American Legion). A number of Legion posts around the nation have also established ham radio stations. One of the largest is Post 519 in Palm Springs, CA (callsign K6TAL). It operates out of the old broadcast booth that Jack Benny, Bob Hope, Frank Sinatra and many other celebrities used during the '30s, '40s and '50s and has preserved most of the original equipment.

The only veterans' organization post in the Bay Area I'm aware of that hosts a ham station is the Legion's Willow Glen Post 318 in San Jose. Perhaps a post here in the East Bay will set up a station sometime. In the meantime, if you're a vet, consider joining the Legion's club, TALARC. Information about it is at (<https://www.legion.org/hamradio>).

* VE Honor Roll

Below is a list of ARRL Honor Roll Volunteer Examiners (VEs) in the Pacific Division. The Honor Roll recognizes the top 10 Volunteer Examiners in the Division according to the total number of ARRL exam sessions in which they've participated since their accreditations. This list is as published in QST, December edition. Names marked with an asterisk (*) are from the East Bay Section.

Morris Jones, AD6ZH
Brian Torr, N6IYY
Dieter Stussy, KD6LVW
Gordon Fuller, WB6OVH
Bill Nichols, NN7K
Robert Perlman, W6BP
* Jim Brunk, N6BHX
* Larry Loomer, KI6LNB
Dale Westerterp, WB6TMS

Kenneth Hall, WO6J

But these 10 by far aren't the only people that have contributed 10s of thousands of hours to the ARRL VE program. There's over 2,300 ARRL VEs in California, over 200 in Nevada, and over 160 on the islands of the Pacific Section. In addition to the above list, the following Pacific Division members have participated in at least 200 exam sessions since they became accredited. Again, names marked with an asterisk (*) are from the East Bay Section.

Joseph Speroni, AH0A
Robin Zinsmaster, N6PHP
* Jean Brunk, N6LGE
Dennis Simon, KB7UTV
Jane Garwood, KB7YUZ
John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ

Please be sure to sincerely thank all the VEs you see. These dedicated hams give so much to growing our hobby.

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ARRL News:

* With sadness, I must report that retired QST Technical Editor Joel Hallas, W1ZR, has become an SK at age 79. Joel was the very well-known author of the popular "The Doctor is In" column in QST and the podcast of the same name. He also authored several books and many articles for the ARRL periodicals. See the full announcement from the ARRL at (<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-author-qst-technical-editor-joel-hallas-w1zr-sk>).

* In the past, the club listings on the ARRL website have been available for anyone to go on the page, look up a particular club and edit the information listed. Unfortunately, even in the ham world there are a few folks that aren't very nice; and this led to several club entries being edited maliciously. So the ARRL has changed the access to the sites and restricted it to only the members listed as officers or as the club contact. If a club needs to make changes to their site and they are listed, they still get the "Edit" button at the top of the listing. If there have been changes and the club needs help editing it properly, HQ will be happy to work with them to make it happen. The ability to edit all clubs now rests in HQ and it is not open to the general population. Security is an inconvenience for some but essential for the good of the group.

* The 2022 edition of the "ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications" is now available in 3 formats in the ARRL Store. The traditional softcover version is \$49.95; the six-volume, shrink-wrapped book set is \$59.95; while the digital eBook is \$49.95. A number of other new books are also now available, including the second edition of "Grounding and Bonding for the Radio Amateur" by Ward Silver, N0AX; and "More Arduino for Ham Radio" by Glen Popiel, KW5GP. Check them all out at (<http://www.arrl.org/shop/Whats-New/>).

* The first edition of the new "ARRL Club News" email newsletter came out last week. If you didn't get it, check your email subscriptions in your profile on the ARRL website. If you need instructions on how to do that, see my September newsletter. The Club News has stories submitted by various clubs, including one from Oklahoma about making a short film with an amateur radio plot. There's a link to the film in the story. You can also find the Club News at (<http://www.arrl.org/club-news>). And if your club has an interesting story, send it to (<mailto:clubs@arrl.org>).

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Other News:

* Ham Radio YOTA Month

Someone who knows more about this stuff than I do has declared that December is Ham Radio YOTA Month. According to the Youth on the Air website, "The idea for this is to show the amateur radio hobby to youth and to encourage youth to be active on the ham radio waves." Awards and a QSL program are available. Get the information and join the fun at (<https://youthontheair.org/yota-month/>).

* Ham Radio University

Once again, the Ham Radio University (HRU) educational conference will be held as a virtual event. It will be Saturday, January 8, 2022 -- 8:00 am to 3:00 pm EST (12:00-- 20:00 UTC). Attendance is free, but registration is required, and will

open on December 20, 2021. Among the presentation topics will be Amateur Radio Emergency Communications; Basics of HF Operating; Ham Radio Contesting and DXing, Communicating Through Amateur Radio Earth Satellites; Software Defined Radios; HF and VHF Digital Communications; Parks on the Air, Skywarn, Cables & Connectors, and Using Raspberry Pi Computers in Amateur Radio. For more information and to register, go to (<https://hamradiouniversity.org/>).

* Where did “CQ” Come From?

Ever wondered how the term “CQ” came to be used as it is? According to the ARRL’s Contest Update newsletter, “‘Calling any station’ is the general call when requesting a conversation with anyone. Like many other telegraph terms that originated on the landlines, CQ was brought over into radio and used as a general call to all ships by the Marconi Company. Other companies used ‘KA’ until the London Convention of 1912, which adopted CQ as the international general call or ‘attention’ signal. But why the letters CQ? From the French, *sécurité* (which means ‘safety’ or, as intended here, ‘pay attention’). The pronunciation of the first two syllables sounds like the English letters C and Q, which led to ‘CQ’ becoming a call to attention for all stations.”

* Strengthening the Resilience of U.S. Timekeeping

A new report by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), recommends steps to develop better back-up systems to GPS for its use in distributing accurate timekeeping. Very accurate time is a crucial underpinning of telecommunications networks, as well as the power grid and stock markets, among other users. The report is one of two created in response to a Presidential Executive Order; and recommends the use of both fiber optic and radio systems. Included are recommendations to modernize radio station WWVB and modifying GPS-dependent clocks to accept time codes broadcast via radio stations WWVB, WWV and WWVH or the Internet Time Service. See the full article at (<https://www.nist.gov/news-events/news/2021/11/nist-recommends-steps-boost-resilience-us-timekeeping>); which also has links to the reports themselves and the Executive Order. And scroll to the bottom of the web page to see the short video describing Positioning Navigation Timing (PNT). It’s less than a minute and a half long.

* First Powered Flight

And December 17th is the 118th anniversary of “the first controlled, sustained flight of a powered, heavier-than-air aircraft by Orville and Wilbur Wright near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. (A lot of stuff seems to happen in December.)

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New Hams:

Please congratulate the following new hams in the East Bay Section. If you hear them on the air, be sure to say hello and welcome them to our craft.

KN6RCU	Gerald Landl	Alameda (General)
KN6RCQ	Zacharias Landl	Alameda
KN6RLC	James Scanlan	Calistoga
KN6RAJ	Richard Chauvenne	Concord
KN6RIP	Dmitri Dobrynin	Danville
KN6RGG	Joel Julag-ay	Fairfield
KN6RGL	Joselito Belocora	Fairfield
KN6RHE	Kyle Angelo Bombasi	Fairfield
KN6RGK	Richard Bombasi	Fairfield
KN6RHF	Maria Bern	Fairfield
KN6RHG	John Sen Cagadas	Fremont
KN6RGM	Thomas Cruz-townzen	Fremont
KN6RCM	Janmeja Heir	Fremont (General)
KN6RAC	Fabiola Zuniga	Hayward
KN6RFR	Brian Broxterman	Livermore
KN6RFU	Michael Haiflich	Livermore
KN6RGH	Armando Tolentino	Livermore
KN6RFV	Colin Kaminski	Napa (General)
KN6RFS	Allen Sturm	Napa
KN6QYG	James Bingham	Orinda (General)
KN6RHK	Alexander De Dood	Pleasanton

KN6RIO	Patrick Crandall	Pleasanton
KN6RLD	Jason Leffingwell	Walnut Creek
KN6QWM	Brian Neel	Walnut Creek
KN6QZN	Marlo Longley	Oakland
KN6RAM	Nelson Dichter	Oakland
KN6RFT	Sean Treichler	Piedmont
KN6RCO	Rose Ryan	Oakland
KN6QYE	Jiajun Lu	Berkeley
KN6QYR	Nolan Mitruka	Berkeley
KN6QYV	William Halpert	Berkeley
KN6QYW	Hannah Joo	Berkeley
KN6QYF	Niayesh Nasiri	Berkeley (General)
KN6RAK	Andrew Doudna Cate	Berkeley
KN6RDN	Steven Winter	Albany
KN6QWU	Sekhar Musunuri	Berkeley
KN6QYU	Claire Beaudin	Berkeley
KN6RAL	Tomas Gonzalez	Berkeley
KN6QYO	Joseph Cutler	Sonoma
KN6RCA	David Little	Vacaville

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New Upgrades:

Please congratulate the following upgraded hams in the East Bay Section.

WB9YVM	Bill Artelt	Fremont (Extra)
KN6CNU	Joseph Kottke	Alameda (General)
KD6RDB	Donna Mcburney	Antioch (Extra)
KD6RDD	Craig Mcburney	Antioch(Extra)
KN6NKH	Michael Adams	Concord (Extra)
N6ZQB	James Larowe	Concord (Extra)
KM6NGN	Sean Donelan	Concord (Extra)
KG6NRM	Steve McCabe	Pleasant Hill (Extra)
KN6NXZ	Mark Raitz	Danville (Extra)
WB9YVM	William Artelt	Fremont (Extra)
KJ6KYT	Ed Morales	Martinez (Extra)
KK6CAZ	Arlen Abraham	Oakland (General)
KN6PRQ	Joseph Troiano	Sonoma (Extra)

Until next time, remember that the East Bay Section team is here to serve you, the hams of the East Bay. If you have a question or a problem concerning ham radio, don't hesitate to contact us.

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ARRL East Bay Section Manager

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<https://www.arrleeb.org>
