

Section Manager

East Bay Section Newsletter June, 2022

ARRL East Bay Family,

Field Day is almost upon us. So far, eight locations have registered on the ARRL Field Day Locator page for the East Bay Section. These include the Vaca Valley Radio Club (Rio Vista), North Bay Amateur Radio Association (American Canyon), Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club (Concord), KARO-ECHO & EBARC (El Cerrito), Lamorinda Area Radio Interest Group (Lafayette), Alameda County Sheriff's Communications Team (San Leandro), South Bay Amateur Radio Association (Fremont) and Livermore Amateur Radio Klub (Livermore). Thank you very much for that. I plan to visit them all. If your club will be hosting a Field Day site, but has not yet registered on the ARRL website, please do so soon at (<https://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>).

If you're a ham not involved in Field Day yet, but are curious about it, go to the above Locator web page and select one or more sites to visit. And everyone should be sure to check out the Field Day Guide special insert in this month's QST.

And just before Field Day, summer begins. The Summer Solstice is on Tuesday, June 21 at 2:14 AM Pacific Time, when the sun is in its most northern position, directly over the Tropic of Cancer. So, get your floppy hats, sunglasses and sun lotion ready.

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Section & Division News:

* Sunnyvale Electronics Flea Market

An electronics flea market "swap meet" is normally held on the second Saturday of each month, March through September. It's been held at the public library parking lot in Sunnyvale. Unfortunately, the library has rescinded its permission to use their parking lot, so the flea markets have been cancelled for the rest of 2022. The Association of Silicon Valley Amateur Radio Organizations (ASVARO) is looking for a new location and hopes to reopen later in the year. For updates and details, see the flea market web page at (<http://www.electronicfleamarket.com/>). ASVARO's web site is at (<http://www.asvaro.org/>).

[Thankx to Matthew, N4DLA, for the information.]

* Section Manager Election

Congratulations to James Armstrong, NV6W, Manager of the Santa Clara Valley Section, who faced no opposition and was declared re-elected for a new 2-year term, beginning July 1.

* USS Hornet Tour

Our local Chapter 228 of the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) is hosting a docent-led tour of the USS Hornet Museum on Tuesday, July 19 at 10:30 AM. Everyone is welcome, QCWA member or not. But you must RSVP, so they have a headcount. Cost will be approximately \$19.00 per person. This may vary somewhat, depending on the number of people attending. If you'd like to join them, send an email to Harry Styron, K6HS, at [K6HS\[at\]ARRL\[dot\]net](mailto:K6HS@ARRL.net).

[Thankx to Harry, K6HS, for the information.]

* QCWA

And if you've been a ham for 25 years or more, consider joining the QCWA. Membership in the national organization is only \$25/year, with discounts for multi-year payments. There is no additional fee for the local chapter. Go to (<https://www.qcwa.org>) and scroll to near the bottom for information on the benefits of joining and to sign up. Once

you've joined the national group, send an email to Chapter President Ron Luttringer, K6XC at [K6XC\[at\]earthlink\[dot\]net](mailto:K6XC@earthlink.net) to get on his mailing list.

[Thankx to Ron, K6XC, for the information.]

* Open Cockpit Days

As mentioned in the March newsletter, the Oakland Aviation Museum will again host an Open Cockpit Days event on Father's Day, June 19th. In addition to all the aviation history, the Mercedes Car Club will have several Mercedes autos on display, and the European Train Enthusiasts will have an impressive model railroad setup. The museum has a ham club station, KN6ABD, with Peter Krarup, KK6YGH, there as control op. Looks to be a fun day. See the museum's website for location and details at (<https://www.oaklandaviationmuseum.org/>). And check out the Mercedes Car Club website at (<https://www.mbca.org/>), along with the European Train Enthusiasts website at (<https://www.ete.org/>).

[Thankx to Peter, KK6YGH, for the information.]

* Division Hamfest Reminders

-- The N7RCA N. Nevada Annual Hamfest will be in Minden, NV on June 4. See (<https://n7rca.com/>).

* Special Events In or Near our Division

-- The 70th anniversary of a 7.3 Earthquake in Bakersfield and Tehachapi will be commemorated on July 21 this year, between 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM, Pacific time. They'll be on multiple bands. Get details and updates at (<https://www.qrz.com/db/n6aj>)

-- The Yavapai Amateur Radio Club in Prescott, AZ will commemorate the loss 19 of the 20 members of the Granite Mountain Hotshots Wildland Firefighting Team on June 30, 2013 while fighting the Yarnell Fire in Yavapai County, Arizona. This event was dramatized (with reasonable accuracy) in the movie "Only the Brave", released in 2018. The event will be June 30, 9:00 AM-6:00 PM. Get details on this tragedy and the special event at (<https://www.qrz.com/db/n7gmh>).

Search for all Special Event Stations nationwide at (<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>)

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ARRL News:

* New Technician Class Question Pool, Exams

The current question pool for the Technician Class exam expires on June 30 this year, with the new pool becoming effective July 1. You can download the new question pool at (<http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=373>). The fifth edition of the "ARRL Ham Radio License Manual" will be available in mid-June. The ARRL will also be providing 12 new exam booklets to VE teams approximately the third week in June. They must be used beginning July 1. At that time, VE Team leaders should destroy or throw away the older versions of the Technician exams. To avoid a mix-up at the session, do not save outdated exam versions. The General Class question pool expires next year and the Extra Class pool expires in 2024.

* ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program

The ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program went into effect on April 19 and will cover the one-time \$35 application fee for new license candidates younger than 18-years old for tests administered under the ARRL VEC program. The \$35 FCC application fee will be reimbursed after the ARRL VEC receives the completed reimbursement form and the new license has been issued by the FCC. The reimbursement check will be mailed to the fee payer. Also, candidates younger than 18-years old will pay a reduced exam session fee of \$5 to the ARRL VEC VE team at the time of the exam. The \$5 fee is for all candidates under the age of 18 regardless of the exam level taken. Proof of under 18 status is required at the session. Visit the ARRL website for the program instructions and reimbursement form at (www.arrl.org/youth-licensing-grant-program).

* ARRL Club Grants Program

The Club Grants program I've talked about in previous newsletters is now active and accepting applications. There will be two rounds of application processing (assuming not all of the money available is awarded in the first round). The deadline for submitting applications in the first round is June 30 at 7:00 PM Eastern Time (4:00 PM Pacific Time). If your club is considering applying for a grant there's some things you need to do. First, watch the recording of the Club Grants Program Webinar that was held on May 4 (don't skip this step). Next, register for and attend the follow-up webinar,

scheduled for June 9 at 4:00 PM Pacific Time, where you can ask questions. Third, watch the instructional video about how to complete the application on the Ham Radio 2.0 YouTube channel. Then go to the Club Grant web page and read all the information. Finally, go to the application itself on the Kaleidoscope website and download the necessary forms, fill them out comprehensively and submit them before the deadline. It will take some effort, commitment and planning from your club to succeed, but the benefits to your club and ham radio overall will be worth it. A Club Mentor can be available if you need help during the process. If you have questions or need a mentor, send an email to:

(clubgrants@arrl.org). The links to the above videos and websites are:

--- Club Grants Program Webinar: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ix42qAFknOw>) [YouTube, 01:33:41]

[Note: The main presentation is 37 minutes, the rest is answering questions.]

-- Club Grants Program Follow-up Webinar Registration:

(https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_d8G7PlunRiGXDN0JJw5HBQ) [Zoom; est. 1 hour]

[Note: this webinar will be recorded and posted on the ARRL HQ YouTube channel the next day.]

--- How to Complete The Application: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ehe6DQiqTGI>) [YouTube, 00:11:51]

--- Club Grant web page: (<http://www.arrl.org/club-grant-program>)

--- Application page: (<http://apply.mykaleidoscope.com/scholarships/arrlgrantapplication>)

* Club Commission for ARRL Memberships

In the April edition of this newsletter, I talked about how affiliated clubs could get a \$15 commission for signing up new ARRL members. They could also get a small commission for handling ARRL renewals, but for many, it was too small to be worth it. There has also been confusion on just how to handle the paperwork. So, the ARRL has revised the Club Commission Program. The commission for new ARRL members is still \$15.00, but the commission for renewing memberships was raised to \$5.00. Also, the paperwork process has hopefully been made easier and less confusing, especially for those members paying by credit card, writing a check to the ARRL, etc. Now, each new/renewing member fills out an application as before and pays by check, credit card or cash. The club then sends these forms to the ARRL, along with the full amount of the payments and a single reimbursement form consolidating the number of new and renewing members. The ARRL will process the applications and send the commission to the club within two weeks. The payment can be made by check or direct deposit to the club's account. See the Affiliated Club Benefits page at (<http://www.arrl.org/affiliated-club-benefits>) and click on the "Club Commission Program" header for full details and to get the forms.

* ARRL at Dayton Hamvention

The ARRL is always very active at Hamvention, and this year was no exception. Just one of the activities they hosted was the Membership Forum, which was well attended. The Board President, Rick Rodrick, K5UR; our CEO, David Minster, NA2AA and other Board members made comments and announcements; all of them important and interesting. Among the comments are an overview and objectives of the ARRL Historical Committee; the importance of the ARRL lobbying Congress, and their substantial efforts so far (such as expanding PRB-1 to HOAs); an outline of how the ARRL leadership is organized (including almost 7,000 volunteers who are in appointed or elected positions working to help ham radio); the Emergency Communications and Field Services Committee's efforts (such as ARES & AUXCOM; club relationships; the National Traffic System; Section Managers & Field Organization liaison; and MOU creation & revisions). The meeting was recorded and is now available on the ARRL's YouTube channel. It's a little under an hour long and well worth the time for anyone that cares about ham radio. See it at:

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nl4cLVQvOIE>) [YouTube; 0:56:50]

* Kids Day

The semi-annual Kids Day will be held June 18th, designed to give on-the-air experience to young people and hopefully foster interest in getting a license of their own. It runs from 1800 UTC through 2359 UTC (11:00 AM–3:59 PM Pacific Time). For suggested frequencies, exchange content and other information, see (<http://www.arrl.org/kids-day>).

* ARRL International Digital Contest

As mentioned in the March newsletter, the ARRL's first International Digital Contest will be this weekend, June 4-5, 2022. You can use any digital mode, except RTTY, that supports the required four-digit grid square exchange. All HF bands from 160 through 10 meters (WARC bands excluded), plus 6 meters are allowed. Get details at

(<http://www.arrl.org/arrl-digital-contest>).

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Government News:

* FCC License Processing

The FCC Universal Licensing System (ULS) electronic batch filing system came back online on May 9 and is now functioning normally. As reported in last month's newsletter, the batch filing system went down on April 27, and was down for about 1-1/2 weeks. April 27 was the day that the new filing fees went into effect. The ARRL VEC submitted all of its backlog of applications on May 9. The ARRL's full notice and its previous reports on this issue are at (<https://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-has-resolved-technical-issues-and-resumes-processing-amateur-radio-license-applications>).

* FCC's CORES System Being Replaced with CORES2--Action Required

The FCC released a Public Notice last Friday advising that it will retire its legacy CORES system on July 15 and replace it with CORES2. This, it says, is to enhance "security and functionality to make it easier to manage applications". CORES (Commission Registration System) is the database used to register for and maintain an FCC Registration Number (FRN), which all hams have. It appears that registration information in the legacy CORES system will not be transferred to CORES2. Prior to July 15, all hams should set up an account in CORES2 with a unique username (by providing a valid e-mail address) and password, then associate it with their FRN. This will be required for managing your FRN, changing your password, making application fee payments (such as for renewing your license) and other FCC business. While you're at it, check to make sure that all your FCC licenses (ham, GMRS, etc.) are correctly associated with your proper FRN. Individuals should only have one FRN. The Public Notice includes instructions and links, and is available at (<https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-508A1.docx>) [Docx, 2 pages) or (<https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-508A1.pdf>) [PDF, 2 pages]. The main CORES web page is at (<https://www.fcc.gov/licensing-databases/commission-registration-system-fcc>). [Thankx to Barbara, K6WHY, for the information.]

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Other News:

* Mesh Network Concept Wins IEEE Award

A community-run wireless mesh network won first place in the best overall proof-of-concept category of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) "Connecting the Unconnected Challenge". Social enterprise startup Wakoma won the competition for the Nimble, an open-source, portable, wireless mesh network system that communities can build and deploy locally. According to the article, the entire system runs on less than 100 watts of power and can handle thousands of users. See the full article at: (<https://spectrum.ieee.org/community-run-internet>).

* Getting Your License Video

Last month I told you about a YouTube channel I subscribe to, run by a guy named Lon Seidman, who reviews different technology stuff. He put out a couple of videos about his adventures exploring the capabilities of the RTL-SDR Adapter, a receive-only software defined radio adapter. He also recently passed the Technician Class ham license test (becoming KC1RGS), and released another video describing what ham radio is, why he's doing it (including his budding interest in EmComm) and how to go about getting a license. It's interesting to watch, coming from the point of view of someone just starting his trip down the road, rather than the usual ones from us old-timers. It might be good to suggest to someone else that's thinking about getting a license.

The video is at: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6IL0TkypCMU>) [YouTube; 0:15:07]

And as a reminder, his two videos on the RTL-SDR Adapter are at:

-- 1st video: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OJJRVR7zItA>) [YouTube; 0:14:14]

-- 2nd video: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JQZC52z0hIw>) [YouTube; 0:25:21]

* Nikola Tesla May Have Been Right

In the 1890s, Nickola Tesla developed a theory that large amounts of electrical power could be transmitted long distances without wires. He spent several years and a lot of other people's money building systems to test his theory. In the end, however, not much came of the effort. See (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nikola_Tesla#Wireless_power). That may be changing now. The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) is publishing in the June edition of its Spectrum magazine an article about experiments to transmit increasing amounts of power over extended distances. So far,

the record is 34 kilowatts over 1.6 kilometers, set in 1975 using microwaves. Subsequent experiments are using lasers, microwaves, millimeter-wave and optical frequencies. A major part of this work includes how to transmit the energy safely, without harming living things, such as birds or meandering humans. See the full article at (<https://spectrum.ieee.org/power-beaming>).

* Museum Ships On The Air

Remember that Museum Ships Weekend, is this weekend, June 4-5. Several Bay Area ships are participating, as listed in last month's newsletter. Get details at: (<https://www.nj2bb.org/museum/>).

* IARU HF World Championship Contest

This annual contest will be July 9-10 this year. Its purpose is to support improving amateur operating skills, conducting technical investigations, and intercommunicating with other amateurs around the world, especially IARU member society headquarters stations. The contest will use the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter bands. Get full rules and other details at (<http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-world-championship>).

* Contest University at Hamvention

Speaking of contesting, the recent Hamvention had its annual day-long Contest University. If you really want to know what happened there but couldn't make in person, you're in luck. Most of the entire day's presentations were recorded and are now available on the DX Engineering YouTube channel. The recording is over 8 hours long, but if you don't want to spend the day bingeing out on contesting PowerPoints, scroll down below the video screen and click on "Show More" to see the topics, with approximate times. So, you can skip ahead to the topics you want to see. The video is at: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=drZCwoVzUqE>) (YouTube; 08:18:25)

* Amateur Radio Youth Outreach: The Why And How

Also at Hamvention was Steve Goodgame, K5ATA, ARRL Education and Learning Manager, giving a presentation with the above title. Steve taught middle school for a couple of decades and incorporated ham radio into his instruction plan, helping multitudes of kids get their license – and stay in the hobby. His presentation is available on the Ham Radio Crash Course YouTube channel. If you care about the future of ham radio, take a look. (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QZco6tElKbc&ab_channel=HamRadioCrashCourse) (YouTube; 00:58:10)

* Lewis and Clark Trail on the Air

The Lewis and Clark Trail on the Air special event is an on-air activity between June 4 and June 19 that commemorates the historic Lewis and Clark Trail. The trail covers 4,900 miles through 16 states. The event is sponsored by the Clark County Amateur Radio Club in Vancouver, WA, with support and participation from clubs in all 16 states along the historic trail. Get details at (<https://lctota.org/>).
[Thankx to Marilyn, AF7MM, for the information.]

* Radio Direction Finding Resource Typing

Do you love fox hunting? If so, you may want to comment on FEMA's draft update of the Radio Direction Finding Team resource typing definition. An RDF Team is responsible for conducting electronic direction-finding operations in support of search and rescue operations. Comments are due no later than 2:00 p.m. Pacific Time on June 24. See this web page for details and a link to the comment form: (<https://www.fema.gov/event/fema-seeks-public-feedback-radio-direction-finding-team-resource-typing-definition>).
[Thankx to Michael, K6MCM, via EBARC's newsletter, "Blown Fuse", for the information.]

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Significant Events in Telecomm History – June

** Note: Send me the date and location your club was founded, so I can add it to this list. **

- 06/1/1894 Oliver Lodge, a British physicist, gave the first of several lectures and demonstrations on the transmission and detection of electromagnetic radiation, at London's Royal Institution.
- 06/1/1896 Shintaro Uda, co-inventor of the Yagi-Uda antenna, was born.
- 06/13/1831 James Clerk Maxwell was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom.
- 06/10/1836 André-Marie Ampère died in Marseille, Kingdom of France at age 61.

- 06/17/1914 The first transcontinental telephone line was completed between New York and San Francisco as workers raised the final pole at Wendover, Utah. Though a telephone call, which for marketing purposes is claimed to be the first transcontinental telephone call, occurred on January 25, 1915, the line was successfully voice tested in July, 1914.
- 06/17/1946 The Bell System began operation of the Mobile Telephone Service (MTS), predecessor to cellular telephones, in St. Louis, MO. The original mobile equipment weighed 80 pounds (36 kg).
- 06/19/1934 The Communications Act of 1934 was signed into law by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, replacing the Federal Radio Commission with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).
- 06/23/1930 The Galvin Manufacturing Corporation sold its first Motorola branded radio to H.C. Wall of Fort Wayne, Indiana, for \$30 (about \$500 today). It was the first "low cost" radio receiver for mobile installation. The company later changed its name to Motorola.
- 06/30/1961 Lee de Forest, inventor of the three-element "Audion" (triode) vacuum tube, the first practical amplification device, died in Hollywood, California at age 87.
- 06/30/1985 ARRL co-founder and original editor and owner of QST Clarence Denton Tuska, 1WD, died in Cranbury, New Jersey at age 88.
- June, 1919 The first image of the dreaded Wouff Hong appeared in QST, accompanying an article from "The Old Man" entitled "Rotten Starting", about the difficulties getting equipment set up and operational after the World War I restrictions were lifted.

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New Hams:

No report this month, possibly related to the ULS shutdown discussed in the Government News section above.

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New Upgrades:

No report this month, possibly related to the ULS shutdown discussed in the Government News section above.

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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.

Mike Patterson, N6JGA
ARRL East Bay Section Manager

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<https://www.arrleb.org>

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