

Section Manager

East Bay Section Newsletter September, 2022

ARRL East Bay Family,

The Great International ShakeOut will be October 20 this year. Everyone on the West Coast is encouraged to participate. The drills are an opportunity to practice how to be safer during earthquakes. See (<https://www.shakeout.org/>) for details.

And you can combine your ShakeOut drill with being a ham. In addition to practicing what to do during an earthquake, send a “Did You Feel It” message to the U.S. Geological Survey. Likely the easiest way to do that is via Winlink, which has a built-in DYFI form, ready to be completed and sent off. Be sure to show that this is an exercise, not an actual event. If you have questions about using Winlink, contact our Section Technical Specialist, John Trinterud, K9ONR, at (trint[at]att[dot]net)

And goodbye to Summer. Autumn begins on September 22 at 6:03 PM Pacific Time. The first day of autumn, often called fall (September equinox or autumnal equinox) is when the sun shines directly on the celestial equator passing from north to south and the length of day and night are almost the same. This is referred to as astronomical autumn or the September equinox.

Stay safe and hydrated during this extra hot weekend.

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Section & Division News:

* Pacificon

If you haven't registered for Pacificon yet, now's the time. It's only 6 weeks away. Details are coming together, and it should be a top-notch convention. The deadline for on-line registration is Oct. 2; so, this may be your last reminder from me before then. Get all the info and register at (<https://www.pacificon.org>).

* Heritage High School Amateur Radio Club Wins Club Grant

From Matthew Vurek, N4DLA, our Section Affiliated Club Coordinator:
The Heritage High School Amateur Radio Club (W6HHS) in Brentwood “was one of 24 amateur radio clubs nationwide (out of 128 applicants) that received the first ever ARRL Foundation club grants worth a combined total of \$270,000. W6HHS was the only amateur radio club in California to be awarded one of these grants.

“The Club Grant Program, introduced earlier this year, includes \$500,000 to be awarded to radio clubs with projects that will have the most impact on amateur radio, the community, and the future of radio technology. The grants will fund transformative projects that encourage the growth of active amateur radio operators and training opportunities, education programs for student groups and schools, and club revitalization. A second round of applications to award the program's remaining funding will open on September 7, 2022. For more information, go to (<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-foundation-grants-270-000-to-amateur-radio-clubs>)”

An informational webinar on September 7 at 4 PM Pacific Time will provide an orientation to the program and information on how to apply. Please register in advance to attend. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email Go to (<https://tinyurl.com/ARRL-Webinar-September-2022>)

* East Bay Section Discord Server

The EB ARRL Section has launched a Discord Server and we would like to invite everyone to come check it out, share things and ask questions. Here's what Jason Fiori, K6FAK, our Section Public Information Coordinator, says about it:

What is Discord: It's a free chat application that can run on Windows, macOS, Android, iOS, iPadOS, Linux, and in web browsers. It's similar to programs such as Skype or TeamSpeak, or professional communications platforms like Slack. Discord is by invitation only and there are no ads or fees. It supports text, picture sharing, voice and video calls, allowing users to get in touch however they please. In my opinion it's a great solution from the other platforms we've all heard of. Facebook can get messy with ads and political topics. Group emails are ok, but can quickly fill up people's mailboxes. Websites are great for info, but a lot of times a one-way conversation.

How it works: When you invite someone to the server, they get a link that lets them join, next you will need to set up a username with your email. Our usernames should include our call signs and a name you would like to go by. Each server can be broken down further into "channels," small spaces for discussions on specific topics, as opposed to one giant live forum. Channels come in text and voice versions, to further make them easier to use.

What to do with it: Share your current project with text and photos. Ask questions with text and photos. Jump on a quick voice or video chat with other Hams. A voice or video chat could be very useful for troubleshooting or radio checks as you could hear yourself come out of another Hams radio. It's also a great tool to share out local club meetings and events.

My Thoughts: We have about 14,000 Hams in our East Bay Section and most of us only know maybe 100 Hams. Think about the amount of knowledge and experience 14,000 Hams could share with each other. This can also help spread the awareness of all the cool activities on the air and events taking place. Using Discord could really shrink our Section in a lot of good ways. But this is just a tool and it will only yield what we put into it. Get an invitation to join our channel at (<https://discord.gg/DNAAfC7hax>).

* Pacific Division Election

Director Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, and Vice Director Anthony Marcin, W7XM, were up for reelection this year. Both were unopposed and have been declared elected. Congratulations, Kristen and Tony!

Local Ordinances/Laws, HOA Rules

If you become aware of any proposals to enact local ordinances, laws, HOA rules or similar actions that may negatively impact ham radio operators, contact our Section's Local Government Liaison, Bart Lee, K6VK, at (bart[dot]lee[dot]k6vk[at]gmail[dot]com). Bart is a retired attorney, so cannot officially offer legal advice, but he has a lot of experience and may be able to offer suggestions on how to respond to these proposals in the most effective way, so as to hopefully minimize any negative impact. The earlier in the process you contact him, the more likely his suggestions will be helpful. You can also look for an ARRL Volunteer Counsel on their website at (<http://www.arrl.org/volunteer-counsel-program>).

* Green Valley Ham in the News

An article in the July 3 edition of Solano County's Daily Republic newspaper talks about Don Preston, KM6INR, and his busy life in ham radio. He's a member of the Vaca Valley Radio Club; supported animal rescue teams during the LNU Lightning Complex Fire; helps test and maintain the county OES network; is a member of MARS at Travis Air Force Base; works with Fairfield-Suisun schools to set up radio operations as part of the science curriculum; and more. See the full story at (<https://www.dailyrepublic.com/projects/the-other-side-of-50/green-valley-man-has-turned-ham-radio-passion-into-a-near-lifestyle/>).

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

* Division Hamfest Reminders

-- Sacramento Valley Hamfest: Lincoln, CA on Sept. 17. See (<https://wparc.us/>).

- Reno Ham Swap: Verdi, NV on Sept. 17. See (<http://renohamswap.com/>)
- Pacificon!! San Ramon, CA on Oct. 14-16. See (<https://www.pacificon.org>)

* Special Events In or Near our Division

-- October 27-31:

Nevada Wing Conference & Change of Command. 0000Z-2359Z, N7N, Las Vegas, NV. Friends of Nevada Wing. 7.200 14.250 146.52; General portion of the bands; SSB and FT8 on HF; VHF on FM.. QSL. Bill Aceves, N6YEL, 23612 Glenmoor Dr., Parker, CO 80138-3112. To receive a QSL card, send your card and a SASE to N6YEL by 31 December 2022.

-- November 11:

Celebrating Veterans Day 1800Z-2300Z, W6VET, Redding, CA. Redding Veterans Amateur Radio Club. 14.320 21.383 146.550. QSL. Redding Veterans Amateur Radio Club, c/o Michael Vancleemput K6WK, 3400 Knighton Road, Redding, CA 96002. QSL cards appreciated, no SASE required. <https://www.qrz.com/db/w6vet>.

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

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ARRL News:

* ARRL 2021 Annual Report

The ARRL has published its 2021 Annual Report. The report summarizes ARRL's program and fiscal activity for the year. Among the many accomplishments of last year discussed are a greater emphasis and support of the Field Organization (that's us) and emergency communications; support for numerous disasters and emergencies; reopening the HQ building and W1AW to our members; the re-start of in-person conventions (including Pacificon) and other events; the success of ARRL's End-Fed Half-Wave Antenna Kit; new forays into video content; and hiring, into key roles, Field Services Manager Mike Walters, W8ZY; Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, and Education and Learning Manager Steve Goodgame, K5ATA. There's a lot, lot more in the report. Download a copy at (<http://www.arrl.org/annual-reports>) [PDF, 56 pages.].

* Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

The ARRL Board of Directors met for the second time of this year on July 15-16. Among the Board's actions are approval of a motion to make emails from all Divisions and Sections available to all members nationwide; approval of a motion to add an identifier to the list of silent keys in QST when such silent key is a veteran; congratulated the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association (PAARA) on their 85th Anniversary; and a modification of the bylaw creating the Emergency Communications and Field Services Committee. The minutes of the meeting are at (<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/ARRL%202022%20Second%20Board%20of%20Directors%20Meeting%20Minutes-Final.pdf>) [PDF, 18 pages.].

* Volunteer Monitor Program

The VM Program report for July has been posted to the website. It includes a Technician class operator in California being issued Advisory Notices for FT8 operation on 40 and 20 Meter frequencies outside their license privileges; and another one for unlicensed APRS operation during a high-altitude balloon operation. The FCC had cancelled his Amateur Radio license over a year before the flight. The full report is at (<https://www.arrl.org/files/file/Volunteer%20Monitor/VM%20Reports%202022/July%202022%20VM%20Program%20Report%20for%20web.pdf>) [PDF, 1 page]

* Field Day Rules

New rules are being considered for Field Day 2023. Although nothing has been decided, you should not be surprised to learn that there is concern on the ARRL Board that Class D operation from home using commercial power is thought by some as having reduced the opportunities for the public and particularly young people to see how amateur radio can deploy into the field for emergency operations. Also, there may be a return of a high-power category with power levels up to 500 watts. Concern has been expressed that operating FT8 does not capture the excitement of amateur radio when young people or prospective hams come to a Field Day site. Understand again that these potential changes are just being

considered at this time. No decisions have been made.
[Thankx to Marv, WA4NC for the information]

* NTS 2.0 – The Next Generation Traffic System

An ARRL sub-committee is developing plans to revise the National Traffic System for the future. The sub-committee includes several traffic handlers, both very experienced and relatively new, along with some ARRL officials. I don't have a lot of details yet, but the plan so far includes building on the existing system (not replacing it), in part by enhancing the types of traffic to include multi-media, video, images, etc. Also, as part of the new system, HQ will originate traffic on a monthly basis consisting of information and reports of general interest. At least once per quarter, traffic will be sent using the ICS 213 form, to get traffic handlers familiar with the form most of our served agencies want to see. Traffic will be in a range of different modes, including digital, phone & CW and will be addressed to Board, Division and Section officials. Two of the reasons are to exercise the traffic system and to benchmark its performance; percentage of messages that get delivered, how quickly, etc. Training for existing and potentially new traffic handlers is also being worked on.

Meetings around the various divisions are being scheduled to explain the plan. They're looking for 25-30 additional traffic handlers to work on implementation and provide feedback. Its intent to is to be for and by traffic handlers. If you're interested in helping with this effort, let me know.

Other News:

* Young Amateurs Radio Club

There's an international club I didn't know about before called the Young Amateurs Radio Club, with the call sign WY4RC. It was founded in 2017 with a mission of promoting adoption and innovation in amateur radio among young people. It's hosting its first special event this month, called "Worked All YARC Zones (WAYZ)", running September 1-15. Hams can get awards for contacting WY4RC stations. Find out more about the club and the special event at their website, (<https://yarc.world/>). Young people can also join their Discord server at (<https://discord.com/yarc>).
[Thankx to Tyler, N2RTS, for the information.]

* QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo

A reminder that the next QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo is this month, September 17-18. Get all the details at (<https://www.qsotodayhamexpo.com/>).

* Lewis and Clark Trail on the Air

In the June newsletter, I mentioned the Lewis and Clark Trail on the Air special event that took place in June. The organizers sent this report on how it went. I've edited it for space needs:
Our first LCTOTA event was a bigger success than we thought it would be. We were happy with the activity and the results. As you know Lewis & Clark set out for a 2-year journey from Pennsylvania to Oregon in 1804. Thomas Jefferson sent them out to explore the land west of the Mississippi which was part of the Louisiana Purchase. All of us on the committee chose to honor Lewis & Clark for their expedition which helped to lead to Oregon and Washington becoming part of the USA. We want to thank all the activating stations, the 20 stations in each of the 16 states from Pennsylvania to Oregon, that Lewis & Clark traveled though. We had 25,393 QSOs completed from June 4-19, 2022. 609 logs were uploaded and 1432 activation hours were scheduled. We see this as a big success. Expect us back again next year. Check out LCTOTA.org.

* QRZ New Ham Jumpstart Program

QRZ.com is offering newly licensed hams a free package of goods to help get on the air, including a new handheld transceiver. To be eligible you must have obtained a first ham license in the last 30 days and establish a free QRZ account. The offer is good through October 31, 2022, subject to availability. For complete info see (<https://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/announcing-the-qrz-new-ham-jumpstart-program.823607>).
[Thankx to Bob, W6RBF for the information.]

*** Route 66 On The Air Event**

A reminder from the March newsletter about this special event occurring September 10-18 to commemorate the old Route 66 highway, which ran from Chicago to Los Angeles. Amateur radio clubs using special 1×1 callsigns will operate from cities on or near the route “from coast to coast”. Get details and guidelines at (https://w6jbt.org/?page_id=19).

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Significant Events in Telecomm History – September

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

- 09/1/1859 The most intense geomagnetic storm in recorded history, called the Carrington Event, began, lasting into the next day; disrupting telegraph lines worldwide, among numerous other effects.
- 09/2/1869 ARRL co-founder Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, was born in Brooklyn, New York.
- 09/02/2020 A cross band FM amateur radio repeater was activated on the International Space Station with a downlink on 437.800 MHz.
- 09/03/1928 At his laboratory in San Francisco, Philo Farnsworth held what is widely regarded as the first electronic television demonstration.
- 09/07/2006 SuitSat-1 re-entered the atmosphere after about 7 months in orbit. A repurposed decommissioned Russian spacesuit fitted with ham radio equipment; it transmitted short messages in a number of languages after being released from the International Space Station during a spacewalk.
- 09/12/1958 Jack S. Kilby demonstrated the first working integrated circuit to managers at Texas Instruments in Dallas, TX.
- 09/13/1982 Public law 97-259 was enacted, amending the Communications Act of 1934 to permit the FCC to accept the services of private individuals and organizations acting to prepare and administer examinations for applicants wishing to obtain (or upgrade) an Amateur Radio license.
- 09/22/1791 Michael Faraday was born in Newington Butts, England. He is the namesake of the unit of capacitance.
- 09/25/1807 Alfred Vail, partner of Samuel Morse during the development of the Morse Code and telegraph system, was born in Morristown, New Jersey.
- 09/25/1928 The Galvin Manufacturing Corporation was founded. The company later changed its name to Motorola.
- 09/25/1956 The first transatlantic undersea telephone system, TAT-1, went into service between Canada and Scotland.
- 09/30/2015 The Navy Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) ceased operation.

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New Hams:

KN6USS	Noah Engle	Antioch
KN6UQI	James Macaulay	Fairfield
KN6UWF	Jonathan Lundberg	Fairfield
KN6UVE	Azher Rana	Fremont
KN6UTS	Monica Tyson	Lafayette
KN6USR	Jeremy Smith	Lafayette
KN6URC	Michael Lazarakis	Livermore
KN6USJ	Juliano Montano	Livermore (General)
KN6UVQ	Robert Delarno	Fremont
KN6UNR	Giovanni Alvarez	Fremont
KN6UQL	Jim Kateley	Napa
KN6UML	Benjamin Bisconer	Napa (General)
KN6UST	Dana Ream	Orinda
KN6UTO	Frederick Noack	Pleasanton (General)
KN6UWD	Makesh Rao	San Ramon (General)
KN6U UW	Justin Clarke	Vallejo
KN6UTR	Ronnie Welch	Vallejo
KN6UMF	Martin Hamann	Walnut Creek
KN6UMM	Charles Harrison	Oakland (General)
KN6ULL	Lawrence Palmer	Oakland

KN6UQW	Barry Fischer	Piedmont
KN6USV	Stephen Glassman	Berkeley (Extra)
KN6UME	Scott Garner	Berkeley
KN6UUQ	Matthew Podolsky	Berkeley
KN6UMY	Norman Cornwell	Richmond (General)
KN6UQS	Stephen Vale	Vacaville

New Upgrades:

KG6SAH	Therese Peffer	Pleasant Hill (General)
KN6USJ	Juliano Montano	Livermore (General)
KN6SGJ	Michael Stepp	Martinez (General)
KN6TWJ	Perrin Klot	Orinda (Extra)
KM6UTV	William Harrison	Pleasanton (General)
KG6IDA	Jean-Jacques Drolet	San Ramon (Extra)
KN6SQR	Charles Lindsay	Suisun City (General)
KN6RUQ	Gregory Kiyoi	Pleasanton (General)
KK6WSA	Stephen Eberly	Walnut Creek (Extra)
KK6QNO	Annegret Van Gemenen	Walnut Creek (General)
KN6TFZ	Robin Barooah	Oakland (Extra)
KN6THT	Jean luc Watson	Berkeley (General)
KN6USV	Stephen Glassman	Berkeley (Extra)
KJ6SGZ	Robert Gill	Berkeley (General)
KN6AHJ	Kostadin Ilov	Richmond (Extra)
N6SVF	Kevin Heard	Richmond (Extra)
KN6SAZ	David Assad	Vacaville (General)

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

N6JGA@ARRL.org

<https://www.arrleb.org>

East Bay Section Discord: <https://discord.gg/DNAAfC7hax>

ARRL HQ Help Desk: 888-277-5289 or hq@arrl.org

Index of Contacts at ARRL HQ: <http://www.arrl.org/contact-arrl>
