

Section Manager
East Bay Section Newsletter
January, 2023

ARRL East Bay Family,

* Pacific Division Meeting

Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, our Pacific Division Director, held her annual Pacific Division meeting on December 11. I noted as many as 110 people were on the meeting. Kristen discussed a number of topics, then opened the floor to questions and comments from everyone.

As a very short summary, Kristen touched on: the FCC's multi-year inaction on numerous petitions the ARRL has made (they're "still stuck on stupid"); the number of active hams seems to be in decline, along with ARRL membership; our spectrum defense efforts have some wins, despite the loss of our 3 GHz allocation; ham radio's standing in the EmComm world continues to decline; good things happening at headquarters; but the ARRL's financial situation is getting serious; the ARRL's IT situation is improving; no decision on an annual convention yet, perhaps at the January Board meeting; the EmComm & Field Services Committee is moving slower than she would like to see; and Legislature & Ethics Committee actions. In response to some attendee questions, she discussed ARES status; League feedback about Pacificon and the crossband event for Armed Forces Day. Overall, despite many issues facing us, Kristin is optimistic about the future, but it will take some hard work and will need some difficult decisions. The meeting was recorded and is available at (<https://youtu.be/LVYQ1kK-ajA>) [YouTube; 01:40:38]

[Note: Kristen's comments last until the 00:37:38 point. After that, it's Q&A; and lots of comments.]

Happy New Year, everyone.

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Section & Division News:

* EmComm Speaker for Your Club

Dan Goldstein, KJ6KEU, our Section Emergency Coordinator, has developed a presentation on an important topic: "EmComm Mutual Aid in a Digital World". Per his description, "'Mutual Aid' answers the question, 'If my team can't respond, who will help?'. It also considers local team support of served agencies and addresses the increasingly important digital component, such as Winlink, ARDEN and other technologies. Dan is happy to speak at your club. Contact him at [dgold94544\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:dgold94544[at]gmail[dot]com).

* ARDC Newsletter Includes East Bay Section Success Story

Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC) is the organization that has been giving financial grants to ham radio clubs and other organizations for worthy ham-related projects. The CERT group in Walnut Creek recently completed an ARDC-funded project to deploy Winlink systems at its command posts throughout the city. The project is one of two described in the latest ARDC newsletter in an article entitled "ARDC helps ham radio prepare for 'the big one'". See the article at (<https://www.ampr.org/ardc-helps-ham-radio-prepare-for-the-big-one/>) [scroll down about half way for the Walnut Creek story.]

* Marin County Public Works Looking for Ham Help

The Marin County Dept. of Public Works' Radio Communication Volunteer (RCV) project is looking for experienced amateur radio operators with an interest in public service and the time to support Community Based Organizations (CBOs). Those CBOs provide needed services like food, shelter, information and professional referrals to the most vulnerable Marin residents in times of need. Hams are needed for coordination and situational awareness communications. See the full story at (<http://www.arrl.org/ares-el?issue=2022-12-21#toc04>).

* Pacific Division in the News- Part 1

The amateur radio club at the veterans' home in Redding CA was highlighted in a segment on local TV station KRCR on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 2022. The story talked about how the club reached out to hams around the world to highlight the day that honors our veterans. See the segment at (<https://krcrtv.com/news/local/redding-veterans-use-ham-radio-to-connect-to-people-across-the-globe-on-veterans-day>). [text & video; 00:02:15]

* Pacific Division in the News- Part 2

The Union, a newspaper for Nevada County, CA, printed a story about ten ARES members being sworn-in as Nevada County Office of Emergency Services (OES) disaster service worker volunteers. In addition to agency support, ARES sponsors a free educational program for local neighborhoods called Neighborhood Radio Watch, helping neighbors learn the benefits of and how to use hand-held General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) radios. See the full story at: (<https://www.theunion.com/news/community/amateur-radio-operators-sworn-in-by-nevada-county-oes/>).

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ARRL News:

* Volunteers On the Air (VOTA)

ARRL is celebrating a major year-long operating event honoring all ARRL volunteers, beginning January 1. Participants may earn points by making contacts with special week-long activations of W1AW portable from all 50 states and most U.S. Territories. They also earn points by contacting ARRL volunteers and members. The number of points earned depends on the contact. For example, Section Managers are worth 175 points and Division Directors get you 225 points. The ARRL President sweeps up 300 points for you. See the full announcement in the January QST, page 77; and at the VOTA website: (<http://vota.arrl.org>).

* Update Your Club Information

It's a new year and many of the East Bay's clubs have new officers on board to lead them. Don't forget to update the information about your club on the ARRL's website. Even if no officers changed, it's a good idea to make sure everything is correct. Only people currently listed as a club officer or the club contact can make the changes. If you're one of them, log in and find your club's listing. Then click the tiny "Edit" button in the upper right. If no updates are made for 2 years, you run the risk of being listed as an inactive club and being removed from the club listings. If no one in your club has edit access to your data, contact our Section Affiliated Club Coordinator, Matthew Vurek, N4DLA at (n4dla_cs24[at]yahoo[dot]com).

* ARRL Board Meeting

The next ARRL Board meeting will be January 20. I'll give a link to the agenda & minutes when they're released.

* Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The agenda and minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, held on December 5, have been released. The agenda is at (http://www.arrl.org/files/file/ARRL%20Executive%20Committee%20Meeting%20Agenda%2012_05.pdf) and the minutes are at (<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/EC%20Meeting%20Final%20Draft.pdf>).

* Kids Day Reminder

A reminder that the semi-annual Kids Day is this Saturday, Jan. 7. It will run from 1800 UTC through 2359 UTC (10:00 AM to 3:59 PM Pacific Time). Get details at (<http://www.arrl.org/kids-day>).

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Government News

* Bill to Replace Symbol Rate Limit with Bandwidth Limit Introduced in Congress

Demonstrating that ham radio does have some friends in Congress, Congresswoman Debbie Lesko (AZ-08) introduced a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives (H.R. 9664) to require that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) replace the current HF digital symbol rate limit with a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit. The League's petition for this change was submitted to the FCC in 2013 (almost 10 years ago!). Three years later, the FCC issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in which it agreed that the HF symbol rate limit was outmoded, served no purpose, and hampered experimentation, but

since then has taken no other action despite persistent prodding from the League. See the full story at (<https://www.arrl.org/news/rep-lesko-introduces-bill-to-replace-symbol-rate-limit-with-bandwidth-limit>).

* Bill to Eliminate Private Land Use Restrictions Introduced in Congress

In another effort to kick the FCC into action, Congressman Bill Johnson (OH-6) introduced a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives (H.R.9670) to eliminate private land use restrictions that prohibit, restrict, or impair the ability of an Amateur Radio Operator from operating and installing amateur station antennas on property subject to the control of the Amateur Radio Operator. This essentially extends the well-known PRB-1 rules to HOAs and similar living areas. ARRL attempts to obtain these rules directly with the FCC were rejected with a statement that such relief would have to come from Congress. See the full story at (<https://www.arrl.org/news/rep-bill-johnson-introduces-bill-to-eliminate-private-land-use-restrictions-on-amateur-radio>).

* Write Your Members of Congress!

Please write your Congressional Representative (and your Senators) asking them to support and vote for both of the above bills. You can find the names of your Representative and Senators at (<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/CA>). Your contact will be much more effective by mailing them a letter in the postal mail. Second best is a phone call to their office, either local or in Washington. An email is good, but not as attention-getting as the first two.

* NIST Develops Technique to Detect When Someone is Struggling to Breathe – Using Wi-Fi

The National Institute of Science and Technology (NIST) has developed a deep learning algorithm, called “BreatheSmart”, that can analyze the way a Wi-Fi signal’s path is slightly altered by a human’s movements, even breathing. It can help determine whether someone in the room is struggling to breathe, and can do it with already available Wi-Fi routers and devices. They set up a manikin designed to train medical professionals in an anechoic chamber and simulated a number of breathing scenarios. They collected a large amount of data, then used deep learning techniques to analyze it all and recognize patterns that indicated different breathing problems. The algorithm successfully classified a variety of respiratory patterns simulated with the manikin 99.54% of the time. See the full story at: (<https://www.nist.gov/news-events/news/2022/12/wi-fi-could-help-identify-when-youre-struggling-breathe>)

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Other News:

* QCWA Scholarships

The Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) has begun accepting applications for 2023 scholarships, available to young amateur radio students entering post-secondary education. The deadline for applying is April 30, 2023. In order for a student to be considered for a QCWA Scholarship, the student must contact a QCWA member in good standing to seek a recommendation letter. Since 1978, QCWA has awarded 596 individual scholarships amounting to \$765,350. The online application is available on the website for the Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR) at (<https://www.farweb.org/>).

* New General Class Question Pool Released

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators' (NCVEC) has released the 2023-2027 General Class Syllabus and Question Pool. It’s effective July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2027. The new pool incorporates some significant changes compared to the 2019 - 2023 version. Its 432 questions were modified slightly to improve wording and to replace distractors; 51 new questions were generated, and 73 questions were eliminated. This resulted in a reduction of 22 questions, bringing the total number of questions in the pool down from 454. The level of difficulty of questions is more balanced, and the techniques and practices addressed have been updated. The ARRL will supply its Volunteer Examiner teams with the new General exam booklet designs around mid-June.

If you or someone you know is studying for the General Class test using currently available materials, such as the ARRL 9th edition of the General Class License Manual, you should take the test on or before June 30, 2023. All tests administered after that date will use the new question pool. New editions of ARRL licensing publications will be available in May. Download either the new question pool or the one expiring next June at (<http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=369>). Check carefully to ensure you get the one you want.

* RAC Changes Canadian Section Organization

The Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) have realigned their Field Organization effective January 1, resulting in the addition of a new section and name changes to several others. The new field organization will have 14 sections. See the

official announcement at (<http://va7eca.ca/radio-amateurs-of-canada-making-changes-effective-jan-1-2023>); and the new map of sections at (http://www.mapability.com/ei8ic/maps/sections_2.php).

* Measuring the Tiniest Forces in the Universe

Those of you that have actually read through most of my newsletters probably know that I have an interest in metrology – the science of measuring things. I recently watched a new video on a YouTube channel I follow which visited the National Institute of Science and Technology (NIST) and interviewed an official who demonstrated some of the tiny physical standards they use to measure really small mass; down to the femtogram. I found it very interesting. Although it wasn't mentioned in the video, one thing that I noticed was that measuring mass now depends on our ability to accurately measure time. See the explanation of Planck's Constant, beginning at 00:05:14 in the video (Don't worry. It's simply and clearly explained). And I believe that all other base SI units now depend on the measurement of time; which itself depends on our ability to count the vibrations of an atom of cesium. Since measuring time is also fundamental to ham radio (frequency, wavelength, etc.), I thought I'd mention this video. See it at:

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pXoZQsZP2PY>) [YouTube; 00:15:33]

* Documentary on Ham Radio

Students at the Schools of Journalism and Visual & Media Arts at the University of Montana in Missoula produced a documentary about amateur radio appropriately titled, HAM. It includes interviews and operations with several hams, including Lance Collister, W7GJ. On Dec. 1, 1983, Lance, who was WA1JXN at the time, became the world's first ham radio contact from a human in space when he spoke with Astronaut Owen Garriott, W5LFL, aboard the Space Shuttle Columbia. See the program at (www.montanapbs.org/programs/ham) [PBS video; 00:25:42].

* Reminders:

-- Ham Radio University will be this Saturday, January 7. Registration is open at (<https://hamradiouniversity.org/>).

-- Quartzfest, scheduled for January 22-28. See (<https://quartzfest.org/>).

-- Winter Field Day will be on January 28-29. See (<https://winterfieldday.com/>).

Hamfests And Special Events:

* Division Hamfest Reminders

01/28/2023

Big Island of Hawaii International Swap Meet/Ham Fest; Kamuela, HI. Sponsored by: Kohala Hamakua Radio Club (<https://www.arrrl.org/hamfests/big-island-of-hawaii-international-swap-meet-ham-fest-1>)

03/18/2023

Loomis Hamfest; Loomis, CA. Sponsored by: Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club. (<https://www.arrrl.org/hamfests/loomis-hamfest-1>)

* Special Events In or Near our Division

-- January 14:

Commemorating last MIG shot down in the VietNam war by a Midway F-4 Jan 14, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS Midway Museum Ship. 14.320 7.250 14.070 PSK31 DSTAR on Papa system repeaters. QSL. USS Midway Museum Ship COMEDTRA, 910 N Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101. (www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw).

-- January 22-28:

QuartzFest Distance Challenge. Quartzsite, AZ. Northern Arizona DX Assn. 14.266 7.266 21.266 28.266. (https://nadxa.com/activities_qfdc.html).

-- January 28-30:

California Discovery of Gold Jan 28-Jan 30, 1700Z-0100Z, AG6AU, Coloma, CA. El Dorado County Amateur Radio Club. 7.248 14.248 21.348 28.348. QSL. El Dorado County ARC, P.O. Box 451, Placerville, CA 95667. (<http://edcarc.net/>)

-- February 11:

Commemorating first US Navy carrier air strike in WW2. 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS Midway Museum Ship. 14.320 7.250 14.070 PSK31 DSTAR on Papa system repeaters. QSL. USS Midway Museum Ship COMEDTRA, 910 N Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101. (www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw).

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

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Significant Events in Telecomm History – January

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

- 01/01/1894 Heinrich Rudolf Hertz died in Bonn, German Empire at age 36.
- 01/01/1909 Charles Herrold opened the Herrold College of Wireless and Engineering in San Jose, along with a radio transmitter, becoming the precursor to the KCBS broadcasting station.
- 01/01/1922 R. A. Heising of AT&T contributed a paper to the Journal of the Franklin Institute vol. 193, no. 1, titled "Printing Telegraph by Radio." It presented the results of AT&T experiments in 1919 transmitting between New York City and Cliffwood, New Jersey, a distance of 25 miles. This may mark the beginning of radio-teletype technology.
- 01/01/1941 An FCC authorization went into effect creating an FM broadcasting band operating on 42–50 MHz. Due to natural interference, the band was moved to 88-108 MHz in July.
- 01/01/1950 Federal radio station WWV added voice announcements of time to its frequency standard and telegraphic time announcements.
- 01/01/1954 The Tournament of Roses Parade became the first U.S. national color television broadcast.
- 01/01/1963 The American Institute of Electrical Engineers (AIEE) and the Institute of Radio Engineers (IRE) merged to form the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).
- 01/02/1909 The first meeting of the Junior Wireless Club was held at the Ansonia Hotel in New York City. In 1911, the club was renamed the Radio Club of America.
- 01/03/1962 The world's first amateur radio satellite, OSCAR 1, fell back into the atmosphere after 22 days in orbit. It was also the first privately owned satellite and the first secondary payload.
- 01/04/1643 Isaac Newton was born in Woolsthorpe-by-Colsterworth, Lincolnshire, England.
- 01/04/1958 Sputnik 1, the first artificial Earth satellite, fell back into the Earth's atmosphere after three months in orbit.
- 01/07/1943 Nikola Tesla died in New York City, New York at age 86.
- 01/09/1942 All amateur radio operations were suspended, as the U.S. entered World War II.
- 01/09/1947 The Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club was founded.
- 01/10/1946 The first radar signals were reflected off the Moon, marking the beginning of radar astronomy and space communications.
- 01/11/1838 The first telegram in the United States was sent by Samuel Morse, across two miles (3 km) of wire at Speedwell Ironworks near Morristown, New Jersey, some 6 years before his official "What Has God Wrought" message.
- 01/12/2018 A rocket launch from India's eastern coast carried a large Indian mapping satellite and dozens of secondary CubeSats from other countries, including 4 from a U.S. company called Swarm; becoming the first illegal satellite launch in history.
- 01/13/1928 The world's first television station began transmitting experimental signals as station W2XB in Schenectady, New York. It is now WRGB.
- 01/13/1946 The Dick Tracy comic strip introduced what became an immediate icon, the two-way wrist radio; possibly inspiring the invention of mobile phones and smartwatches.
- 01/17/1706 Benjamin Franklin was born in Boston, Massachusetts Bay, British America. He was the first to discover the principle of conservation of charge, among innumerable other accomplishments.
- 01/18/1859 Alfred Vail, partner of Samuel Morse during the development of the Morse Code and telegraph system, died in Morristown, New Jersey at age 51.
- 01/19/1736 James Watt was born in Greenock, Renfrewshire, Scotland.
- 01/19/1976 Hidetsugu Yagi, co-inventor of the Yagi-Uda antenna, died at age 89.

01/19/2000 Hedy Lamarr, major movie star and co-inventor of the spread spectrum frequency hopping technology, died in Casselberry, Florida at age 85.

1/20/1775 André-Marie Ampère was born in Lyon, Kingdom of France.

01/20/1949 The second inauguration of Harry S. Truman as president of the United States became the first televised U.S. presidential inauguration.

01/23/1909 The first radio rescue at sea took place when the White Line's Republic and the Lloyd Italian liner collided in dense fog off the coast near Nantucket. The U.S. Revenue Cutter Gresham picked up a radio message from a nearby station and steamed to the collision site in time to rescue all but two passengers.

01/25/1915 A telephone call, which for marketing purposes is claimed to be the first transcontinental telephone call, occurred; timed to coincide with the Panama–Pacific International Exposition celebrations.

01/26/1926 Members of the Royal Institution of Great Britain in London witnessed the world's first public demonstration of live television.

01/27/1927 The first official transatlantic telephone call was made, using radio channels, when W. S. Gifford, president of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company, called Sir Evelyn P. Murray, secretary of the General Post Office of Great Britain.

1/28/1886 Hidetsugu Yagi, co-inventor of the Yagi-Uda antenna, was born in Osaka, Japan.

01/28/1878 The first commercial North American telephone exchange was opened in New Haven, Connecticut.

01/29/1907 Lee de Forest filed for a patent on what became known as the three-element "Audion" (triode) vacuum tube, the first practical amplification device.

01/31/1958 The U.S. launched its first artificial Earth satellite, Explorer I.

Jan., 1958 The forerunner of NASA's Deep Space Network was established when the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), deployed portable radio tracking stations in Nigeria, Singapore, and California to receive telemetry and plot the orbit of the Army-launched Explorer 1, the first successful U.S. satellite.

Jan., 1972 The first issue of "NCJ", the ARRL's National Contest Journal, was published.

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New Hams:

KN6WKO	William Judy	Alameda
KN6WQT	Schuyler Alschuler	El Cerrito
KN6WLO	Grant Miner	Fremont
KN6WTA	Wallace Doolittle	Hayward
KN6WSH	Walter Carr	Livermore
KN6WLI	Chris Cooley	Martinez
KN6WRF	Kevin Sandford	Napa
KN6WSD	Zachary Johnston	Napa
KN6WRA	Nathaniel Devries	Napa
AJ6YS	Yangchou Lin	Newark (Extra)
KN6WQY	Daniel Denton	San Lorenzo (General)
KN6WSP	Joseph Blas	Union City
KN6WSB	Erick Davidson	Piedmont
KN6WTH	Emily Xiao	Berkeley
KN6WKK	Jonah Henry	Berkeley
KN6WNT	Michael Ehrlichman	Albany (General)
KN6WPC	Susanne Weber	Berkeley
KN6WKL	Ashvin Verma	Berkeley
KN6WKX	Dominic Beard	El Sobrante

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New Upgrades:

KI6UJH	Douglas Dreger	Antioch (Extra)
KC1ACY	Paul Quimby	Hayward (Extra)
KN6WKV	Darryl Thomas	Martinez (General)
KM6RRI	Robert Henningsen	Dublin (Extra)
KN6WQY	Daniel Denton	San Lorenzo (General)

KN6WNT Michael Ehrlichman Albany (General)

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If you'd like a better-looking PDF version of this newsletter, or want to refer to previous editions, they're all available on the East Bay Section website at (https://arrleb.org/index.php/files/get_dir/Newsletter).

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

Email: N6JGA@ARRL.org
Website: <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>
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