

Section Manager
East Bay Section Newsletter
October, 2023

ARRL East Bay Family,

Pacificon is almost here! If you haven't registered yet, stop reading this and do it right now. The deadline to register online is today! After today, you can only register in person when you arrive that weekend, and the price will be \$5.00 more.

Congratulations and thank you to the North Bay Amateur Radio Association (NBARA) and the Delta Amateur Radio Club (DARC) for becoming affiliated with the ARRL on October 2, 1947 and October 14, 2020, respectively. This is NBARA's 76th anniversary of affiliation!

* Question:

Which of the following is a characteristic of using a gamma match with a Yagi antenna?

- A. It does not require the driven element to be insulated from the boom
- B. It does not require any inductors or capacitors
- C. It is useful for matching multiband antennas
- D. All these choices are correct

(See the last page for the answer.)

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Section & Division News:

* Section Manager Election

Nominations for the Pacific Section Manager are open. If you know someone in that section that's interested in being the Section Manager, they need to consult the information at (<http://www.arrl.org/section-terms-nomination-information>). Included on that page is a link to the Section Manager Nomination Form, which will need to have at least five valid signatures from ARRL members in the section. Other requirements apply. Submission deadline is 4:00 PM Eastern Time (1:00 PM Pacific), December 8, 2023. The elected manager will begin their term on April 1, 2024.

* Section Manager Election Results

The September 9 deadline passed last month with no one else submitting a nomination petition for the East Bay Section Manager. So that means you're all stuck with me for another two years. My new term will officially begin January 1, 2024.

* Pacific Division in the News

A story on ham radio was in a recent edition of The Renegade Rip, the newspaper of Bakersfield College. Entitled "Tehachapi radio club looking for new members" it's about the Tehachapi Amateur Radio Association's efforts to expand interest in ham radio in their area. Tehachapi and Bakersfield are in the San Joaquin Valley Section. See the story at (<https://www.therip.com/features/2023/09/06/tehachapi-radio-club-looking-for-new-members/>).

* Bay Area Winlink Net

I recently learned of a Bay Area Red Cross Packet Net on Winlink. It occurs on the first Monday of the month, but check-in can start as early as the Saturday before and goes through the first Monday. Net Control is rotated among frequent Net participants. The Net Control designs a check-in task(s) and designates the frequency to be used. For example, Net Control for the September Net was Brian (K0DTJ) whose station is on the Coast. The Half Moon Bay Amateur Radio Club recently changed the antenna on their Coast side packet station and Brian wanted to see if the new antenna made a

difference in the ability of other stations around the Bay to connect to their station. So, his check-in task was to connect to the Half Moon Bay Coast side packet station (WR6HMB-1) where a Bulletin To All was found with instructions to send a report back to Brian. In other words, the check-in frequency used will vary depending on the Net Control's check-in instructions. Participants around the Bay Area may then potentially need to find paths using different frequencies. To join the fun, send an email to Rik, KF6COZ, of the San Mateo Red Cross, at ([arikio\[at\]aol\[dot\]com](mailto:arikio[at]aol[dot]com)), requesting to be added to the mailing list.

* Benicia Training Class

A reminder that the Benicia ARC is planning its next ham cram one-day class for Technician and General licenses on October 7, 2023. Get registration details and more information at (<https://beniciaarc.com/hamclass/>).

* Maker Faire on Mare Island

A reminder that the Maker Faire is coming to Mare Island. The Benicia ARC & North Bay Amateur Radio Association will have a booth. Dates are October 13-15 and Oct. 20-22. Single-day tickets are \$20-\$35. "Make" your plans to go, but you'll need to do it the weekend of Oct. 13-15; because Pacificon is on Oct. 20-22. See (<https://makerfaire.com/bay-area/>) for more information and tickets.

* California QSO Party

The California QSO Party (CQP) begins on Saturday, October 7 at 1600 UTC (9:00 AM Pacific), and concludes on Sunday, October 8 at 2200 UTC (3:00 PM Pacific). There are rule changes taking effect this year that participants should familiarize themselves with. This year, the event organizers have added the CQP 2023 Video Challenge, which encourages participants to take videos of themselves and their stations to post after the event. Links to the best videos will be included as part of the CQP 2023 results. Email your video links to (cqp.chairman@gmail.com). Complete information about the event, including an updated 2023 operating guide, a county activation list, and audio and video recordings from previous events is available at (<https://cqp.org>).

* SF-HAB at Chabot for the Solar Eclipse QSO Party

The Chabot Space and Science Center will be arranging telescope setups for eclipse observation on October 14, and they will be providing complimentary telescope viewing of the eclipse. San Francisco-High Altitude Ballooning (SF-HAB) will also be there, starting at the Chabot entrance by 7:30 AM. For more information on the QSO Party, see the "Solar Eclipse QSO Party" item in the ARRL News section below.

[Thankx to Mike, KB6MP, for the info.]

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ARRL News:

* New Club Level Awards

These are awards that clubs and individual members can use to recognize other hams for the certain achievements. The first certificate is the First Contact Award. This is for just what it says and can be filled out by anyone to commemorate the new hams first contact. This one is at (<https://www.arrl.org/first-contact>). The other is the new Mentor Award. Yes, many of you will say it should still be the Elmer Award, but Mentor it is. This one is at (<https://www.arrl.org/mentor-award>). Both are fillable PDF certificates, and can be printed and downloaded. More certificates are coming. We want to give the clubs and individuals a way to have fun with new hams and maybe get some fun for many of us that are not so new.

* Simulated Emergency Test (SET)

The ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is scheduled for October 7-8, 2023. The SET is ARRL's annual national emergency exercise designed to assess the skills and preparedness of ARES volunteers, as well as those affiliated with other organizations involved in emergency and disaster responses. The SET is open to all radio amateurs and partner organizations, in addition to national, state, and local officials. Besides ARES volunteers, those active in the National Traffic System (NTS), RACES, National Weather Service's SKYWARN Storm Spotter program, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), and a variety of other allied groups and public service-oriented radio amateurs are needed to fulfill important roles in this nationwide exercise. Get the SET guidelines at (<https://www.arrl.org/public-service-field-services-forms>).

* ARRL Foundation Anniversary

The ARRL Foundation was founded on September 2, 1973. Making that date last month its 50th anniversary. The Foundation was formed to provide philanthropic support for amateur radio through scholarships, club grants, and other programs to ensure a strong and vibrant future for the amateur radio avocation. Funded entirely with donations, it started out with just \$1,000 and has grown to almost \$8,000,000. See the full article about the anniversary at (<https://www.arrl.org/news/celebrating-50-years-of-the-arrl-foundation>). More information about the Foundation is on its website at (<http://www.arrl.org/the-arrl-foundation>).

* New Membership Application

A new membership application form has been prepared that reflects the current dues and adds the option for printed magazines. Anyone taking memberships at club meetings and hamfests should use this application through December 31st. A new application with the updated dues will be published in time to start using it in January. Get it at (<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Membership/2023%20ARRL%20Membership%20Application.pdf>).

* Winlink Simulated Emergency Test

South Carolina's Section Manager, John Gendron, NJ4Z, is asking all Winlink-capable amateurs to help with a Simulated Emergency Test (SET) by sending a Winlink Field Situation Report to the address "SET-EMA3" anytime on October 4, 2023. You can send by any approved Winlink method. You can find the Field Situation Report by opening Winlink Express, then the message tab, select new message, select template, select Standard templates, Select Mapping-GIS Forms, and you will find Field Situation Report.txt. Please answer all the questions listed as to your actual conditions and send to "SET-EMA3". The Map and ISC-309 form will be published on the SC-ARES Website (<http://www.sc-ares.org/>) on October 6, 2023. Contact John with any questions at (jgendron@arrl.org).

* Solar Eclipse QSO Party

ARRL is partnering with HamSCI to help promote participation in the Solar Eclipse QSO Party (SEQP). SEQPs are a series of global experiments. Solar eclipses will pass across the continental United States on October 14, 2023, and April 8, 2024. All you need to do is operate using any mode and any band for all or part of the day, then upload your logs. Participation can be from anywhere; you don't need to be near the path of the eclipse to contribute valuable data. The first SEQP is on Saturday, October 14, 2023, from 1200 - 2200 UTC, and participants may use any band or mode (except WARC bands). Researchers will take the submitted logs and work to derive meaningful observations from the data. Read all about it in "On The Air" magazine's September/October 2023 issue, "The Solar Eclipse QSO Party: A Fun Way to Support Radio Science". Contest details and rules are at (<http://www.hamsci.org/contest-info>).

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Government News

* The Great Shakeout-2023 and Winlink

A reminder that the world's largest earthquake preparedness drill will be Thursday, Oct. 19, at 10:19 a.m. local time everywhere (the day before Pacificon!). Its goal is to teach people how to protect themselves during an earthquake. In 2022, over 200 million people participated worldwide. You can participate in multiple ways:

1. Register yourself or your group at (<https://www.shakeout.org/register/index.php>).
2. Text the word "ShakeOut" to 43362 to be added to the Great ShakeOut distribution list.
3. Conduct local radio nets or functional radio exercises to test your group's preparedness.
4. Submit a Winlink Exercise "Did You Feel It?" (DYFI) report on October 19, 2023, at or after 10:19 local time. Use Exercise ID: 2023SHAKEOUT.

The Winlink Development Team is collaborating with the US Geological Survey to exercise "Did you feel it?" (DYFI) earthquake intensity reports via Winlink. To help with your Winlink participation, the Team has created a Winlink Shakeout Website at (<https://winlink.org/content/shakeout>).

So, when the time comes, wherever you are, remember to Drop, Cover, and Hold On! Get details at (<https://www.shakeout.org/>).

[Thankx to Oliver, K6OLI, for the Winlink information.]

* Eclipses and Ham Radio

The U.S. will be hosting two solar eclipses over the next 7 months. An annular eclipse will occur in just a couple of

weeks, October 14, and is the only one we'll be able to see any of from the East Bay. According to NASA, we'll get to see about 75% of it. During an annular solar eclipse, the moon appears slightly smaller than the sun, so it can't block the entire disk. The result is a beautiful "ring of fire" (for those in the direct path) It won't darken skies the way the total solar eclipse does. Get the straight scoop from NASA at (<https://solarsystem.nasa.gov/eclipses/2023/oct-14-annular/>).

Then on April 8, 2024, the Midwest will experience a total solar eclipse. It will enter the U.S. in Texas, passing through Arkansas, Missouri, Indiana and several other states before clipping Eastern Canada and finishing offshore. It will be the last total solar eclipse visible from the U.S. until August 23, 2044. Get details on this eclipse from NASA at (<https://solarsystem.nasa.gov/eclipses/2024/apr-8-total/overview/>).

These celestial events will be followed widely by hams because of the sudden and dynamic changes that occur in the ionosphere during an eclipse. While much is known about ionospheric propagation, much is still to be learned. And these will be the last two solar eclipses in North America for nearly 20 years. ARRL is partnering with HamSCI – the Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation to encourage amateurs to get on the air and operate as part of the “The HamSCI Festivals of Eclipse Ionospheric Science”. Propagation experiments will include the Solar Eclipse QSO Party using CW, FT4/8, SSB and other digital modes and The Gladstone Signal Spotting Challenge (GSSC) using CW, WSPR and FST4W modes. All the details are at (www.hamsci.org/eclipse). If you have any questions or your club is interested in having a presentation to learn more about the science around the events, please contact the HamSCI Public Relations Officer, Ed Efchak WX2R at (pressrelations@hamsci.org).

* Nationwide Emergency Alert Test

A reminder that FEMA and the FCC will hold a nationwide test of the Wireless Emergency Alert and the Emergency Alert Systems on October 4. At approximately 11:20 a.m. Pacific time, each cell phone in the United States should receive an alert message while the EAS message will be broadcast over all radio and tv stations and cable systems. See the full announcement at (<https://www.fema.gov/press-release/20230803/fema-and-fcc-plan-nationwide-emergency-alert-test-oct-4-2023>).

* Air Force MARS Anniversary

In recognition of the 75th anniversary of Air Force Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS), a special event will be held the week of November 5-11. The event will take place on all HF bands using common modes, including SSB, CW, and digital. Stations located in each of the ten geographical AFMARS Communications Wings will be on the air calling CQ and identifying themselves as special event stations, using special 1x1 callsigns. The callsigns are “W1A” through “W1K”, in sequential order by MARS Wing number. We're in USAF MARS Wing 9, which will use the call sign W1J (they're skipping the letter “I”). In addition, the MARS station located at the Pentagon, K4AF, will be on the air as a part of this event. Hams that receive an acknowledgment and authentication code from a MARS station will be registered in the official log. Upon completion of the event, those stations that have been officially logged in all ten Communication Wings will receive a QSL document. Stations that, in addition to the ten Communication Wings, make contact with the Pentagon MARS station, will receive a second QSL document attesting to that feat. Check into the USAF MARS website for updates at (<https://community.apan.org/wg/air-force-military-auxiliary-radio-system-afmars/>).

[Thankx to Dan. K7REX, for the tip.]

GPS Spoofing Test

The Department of Homeland Security has invited critical infrastructure owners & operators, and global positioning system (GPS) equipment manufacturers to test their equipment against GPS disruption and spoofing. This will allow them “to perform equipment evaluations in a rarely available live-sky spoofing and jamming environment. For the 2024 GET-CI event, S&T will create a live-sky GPS environment primarily for fixed infrastructure applications but will also support some ground-based mobile applications.” S&T is the Science and Technology Directorate of Homeland Security. The event is planned for this Fall, but no specific date was announced. If you happen to represent one of the above organizations, you'll need to submit an application. See the Request for Information for Participation (RFIP) announcement on (<https://sam.gov/opp/cd96399cf2f5445bbc89f348a329ae43/view>). See the full news release about the tests at (<https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/news/2023/09/19/st-invites-critical-infrastructure-owners-and-operators-gps-spoofing-test-event>).

* ISS SSTV Transmissions

From the ISS Fan Club website:

“From October 3, 2023 to October 5, 2023, images will be transmitted from the International Space Station via the SSTV protocol as part of the “About Gagarin from Space” experiment. The topic of the program is the first artificial Earth

satellite, amateur radio satellites, school satellites. SSTV images will be transmitted on 145.800 MHz using a Kenwood TM-D710 transceiver. They are expected to use the PD-120 SSTV format. The schedule is:

Start of transmission: October 03, 2023 at ~14:40 UTC.

End of transmission: October 05, 2023 at ~18:15 UTC.”

See their website at (<https://issfanclub.eu/2023/09/29/about-gagarin-from-space-ariss-sstv-3-5-oct-2023/>) for updates.

[Thankx to Gary, KE6QR, for the info.]

Other News:

* Remote Amateur Radio Licensing Exams

The Anchorage Amateur Radio Club is offering fully-remote amateur radio license exams for all U.S. license classes to “anyone, anywhere, worldwide, if you qualify”. From the AARC:

“The AARC VEC holds two test sessions per day, Monday thru Friday (0900-1000 Alaskan Time (AKT)/1300-1400 Eastern Time (ET) and 1300-1400AKT/1700-1800ET time). AARC also offers two test sessions on Saturday (0500-0600AK/0900ET-1000ET, 0900-1000AKT/1300-1400ET and 1300-1400AKT/1700-1800ET time. Each session has three testing slots available. If you decide you'd like to test with the AARC VEC, simply visit the following web page (<https://k17aa.org/vec/remote-testing/>) to get started. Then go to the “LINK: REGISTER FOR AN EXAM” button at the bottom of the page to do the two-step registration.”

Note in the above that Alaska time is one hour earlier than Pacific time.

[Thankx to Jean, W1JD, for the information.]

* ARISS is Scheduling Contacts with the International Space Station

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) Program is seeking formal and informal education institutions and organizations, individually or working together, to host an Amateur Radio contact with a crew member on board the ISS. ARISS anticipates that the contact would be held between July 1, 2024 and December 31, 2024. Crew scheduling and ISS orbits will determine the exact contact dates. To maximize these radio contact opportunities, ARISS is looking for organizations that will draw large numbers of participants and integrate the contact into a well-developed education plan. The deadline to submit a proposal is November 10, 2023. Proposal information and more details such as expectations, proposal guidelines and the proposal form can be found at (www.ariss.org). An ARISS Proposal Webinar session will be held October 5, 2023 at 7 PM ET and the Eventbrite link to sign up is: (<https://ariss-proposal-webinar-fall-2023.eventbrite.com>).

* Youth "Dream Rig" Essay Contest

The Intrepid-DX Group, a US based 501C(3) nonprofit organization, is working to include youth in our hobby by continuing with their annual “Dream Rig” Youth Essay Contest to gather the views and ideas of young people involved in Amateur Radio. Prizes include an Icom IC-7300, an Icom ID5100AD and an Icom ID52A. Contestants participate by submitting a two-page essay answering the question, “What attracted you to amateur radio?” The deadline for submissions is November 30th, 2023, with the winners being announced on December 15th, 2023. Get all the details & rules on their website at (<https://intrepid-dx.com/news/>).

[Thankx to Dave, WD5COV, for the information.]

Hamfests And Special Events:

* 10/07/2023

San Diego Hamfest. Lakeside, CA. Sponsored by Lakeside Amateur Radio Club. Website:

<http://www.lakesidearc.org/sdhamfest/sdhamfest.php>

* 10/20-22/2023

Pacificon in San Ramon, CA. The ARRL Pacific Division Convention. Website: <https://www.pacificon.org/>

* 10/21/2023

Jamboree on The Air. 1600Z-2359Z, K2BSA/6, Bakersfield, CA. Boy Scouts of America. 14.340. Scouts of all ages around the world will be on the air. QSL Manager N2OWL n6aj@arrl.net.

* 11/18-20/2023

November 2023 Bug Roundup. 0000Z-0000Z, W6SFM, Fair Oaks, CA. Samuel F. Morse Amateur Radio Club. 14.033 7.033 3.533. Website: <https://w6sfm.org/bug-roundup>

* 01/21-27/2024

Quartzfest. Quartzsite, AZ. Website: <http://quartzfest.org>.

* 04/12-14/2024

International DX Convention, 75th Annual. Visalia, CA. Sponsored by Southern California DX Club. Website: <http://www.dxconvention.org>.

Search for all hamfests at (<https://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar>)

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

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Significant Events in Telecomm History – October

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

- 10/01/1919 Federal frequency standard radio station WWV was launched in Washington, D.C.
- 10/01/1919 The government ban on civilian radio stations (both transmitters and receivers) during World War I was lifted.
- 10/01/1958 The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) began operations, with major advancements in radio and television technology as one of its missions.
- 10/02/1947 The North Bay Amateur Radio Association (NBARA) became an ARRL-affiliated club.
- 10/04/1957 Sputnik 1, the first artificial Earth satellite, was launched into space by the Soviet Union.
- 10/05/1947 President Harry S. Truman delivered the first-ever televised presidential address from the White House.
- 10/08/1921 Radio station KDKA transmitted the first broadcast of a live football game, between West Virginia University and the University of Pittsburgh.
- 10/9/1876 Alexander Graham Bell made the first two-way long-distance telephone call between Cambridge and Boston, Massachusetts.
- 10/14/2020 The Delta Amateur Radio Club became affiliated with the ARRL.
- 10/18/1931 Thomas Alva Edison died in West Orange, New Jersey at age 84.
- 10/20/1960 The 11th General Conference on Weights and Measures concluded, approving the International System of Units ("SI"), redefining the meter and other resolutions.
- 10/21/1911 The Junior Wireless Club was formally renamed the Radio Club of America.
- 10/21/1915 The first transmission of speech across the Atlantic Ocean by radiotelephone took place, from Arlington, Virginia to Paris, France.
- 10/24/1861 The first transcontinental telegraph line was completed by the Western Union Company between St. Joseph, Missouri, and Sacramento, California.
- 10/26/1906 Lee de Forest filed for a patent on a diode vacuum tube detector, precursor to the three-element "Audion" (triode) vacuum tube, the first practical amplification device.
- 10/29/1969 The first ARPANET message was sent from UCLA to the Stanford Research Institute, launching the Internet revolution.
- 10/30/1938 The Mercury Theatre on the Air broadcast for its Halloween episode "The War of the Worlds", directed and narrated by Orson Welles. Some claim it incited a panic by convincing some members of the listening audience that a Martian invasion was taking place, though the scale of panic is disputed, as the program had relatively few listeners. Others say the panic is a myth, perpetuated by the newspaper industry to discredit the burgeoning radio broadcast industry.

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New Hams:

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|--------|-----------------|--------------|
| KO6BAU | Ronald Catungal | Alameda |
| KO6BBA | Kirsten Bobrow | Alameda |
| KO6AYS | Scott Moskowite | American Cyn |

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|--------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| KO6ASJ | Benjamin Clark | Benicia (General) |
| KO6AUE | William Kane | Benicia |
| KO6AWY | Kellen Fox | Concord (General) |
| KO6AXA | Carl Gentry | Concord (General) |
| KO6AUV | Jonathan Pierce | Fairfield |
| KO6AVD | Alex Hsu | Fremont |
| KO6AZM | Diya Dalal | Fremont |
| KO6BAO | Fernando Ner | Fremont |
| KO6AZF | Jesse Bumanlag | Port Costa (General) |
| KO6AVH | Adriane Liness | San Lorenzo |
| KO6BCG | Arjunan Easwarachandran | San Ramon |
| KO6AWC | Christopher Wong | Union City |
| KO6AXN | Mariya Snow | Oakland |
| KO6AYF | Irwin Fule-Ver | Oakland |
| KO6AXW | Camille Wardle | Albany |
| KO6ATX | Kelsey Eppich | Vacaville |

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New Upgrades:

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|--------|-----------------|----------------------|
| KD6YSY | Ronald Catungal | Alameda (General) |
| KO6ASJ | Benjamin Clark | Benicia (General) |
| KN6VGZ | Jeffrey Morris | El Cerrito (General) |
| KG6MDW | Trevor Raty | Fairfield (Extra) |
| KO6AGM | Joseph Juan | Fremont (General) |
| KD6WCH | Rogelito Masana | Hayward (Extra) |
| KO6AHJ | Shane Lynch | Livermore (General) |
| KN6KJA | Arthur Wardle | Albany (General) |

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Question & Answer:

Which of the following is a characteristic of using a gamma match with a Yagi antenna?

A. It does not require the driven element to be insulated from the boom

[General Class question pool (2023-2027) no. G9C12 (<http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=369>).]

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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

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

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