



ARRL Los Angeles Section-Wide Newsletter

Volume 2 No. 6 March 2010

ARES and Contesting—What's the Connection?

Russ Keating KI6WIR

ARES stands for **Amateur Radio Emergency Service**. **ARES** members are volunteer, licensed, amateur radio operators providing communication services during emergencies or disasters. They are skilled radio operators and communicators with a desire to serve the public. They are effective in transmitting and relaying messages accurately and efficiently.

Contesters are licensed amateur radio operators who enjoy participating in contests with the goal of making as many contacts as possible under the rules of the contest and usually in a limited amount of time. They are effective in transmitting and receiving the messages or contact exchange information for the contest accurately and efficiently.

The similarities are quite obvious, but they don't end there. Contesters have to operate under a rigid set of rules for the particular contest they are in. Each contest and category within a contest has a different set of rules. The rules may define the hours of operation, total operating hours allowed, bands or frequency allowed, modes allowed, power levels, power sources, number of operators, and exchange information required.

During emergencies or drills, **ARES** members have to operate under a set of rules that may be dictated by nature, circumstances of the disaster, equipment, power levels, and power sources available. Also, the number of operators available and operating hours dictated by needs of the emergency, power sources and endurance of the operators. We don't get to set the rules, we just follow the "rules" dictated by the situation.

Skilled contesters enter many contests and are used to operating under a different set of rules for each contest. They are good at using all of the capabilities of their equipment. Good scores are obtained by using "multipliers" which multiply the value of each contact or QSO. There are different multipliers in each contest, but

they often involve using multiple modes and bands as well as different grid squares or regions.

Skilled **ARES** operators enter many operating activities and drills. Examples are the **Great California Shakeout** and hospital drills, weekly nets, net control station duties, and support for marathon races, civic events, **Baker-2-Vegas** race, **AC 100** race, **NTS, Field Day** and contests. They are skilled at using all of the capabilities of their equipment. Their duties often require the use of multiple modes and bands and making contacts in different grid squares and regions.

The skills developed in contesting translate well to **ARES** and are very useful for emergency communicators. Emergency communicators make for good contesters and vice versa. Contesting is excellent training for emergency operations. Contesting provides a great way to make a lot of QSOs in a short amount of time. It also provides great on-air experience and a chance to work different bands, try different antenna configurations, work in the field on battery power, or try different things like solar power, or operating low power, QRP. Besides, it is great fun!

There are contests going on virtually every week and weekend of the year. Check out the contest columns in *QST* and *CQ* publications, and the **ARRL** website: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/> Get out there and give it a try, and have fun!

The New Direction for ARES

Jim Porter N6AJG

We have come a long way in a short period of time. It is hard to believe that **ARES** is alive and well in all five of the Districts in the Los Angeles Section. Two-and-a-half years ago, when he started the hard work of getting the Northwest District rejuvenated, I don't think our Section Manager **David Greenhut N6HD**, ever thought **ARES** would be at the point we are today.

ARES' primary responsibility is backup emergency communication to over thirty hospitals in Los Angeles

County. There are so many people that have worked very hard to achieve this, that it would take the entire newsletter to list them all. Every **ARES** member has played their part in helping to build the solid and growing organization that **ARES** has become.

I would be remiss in not mentioning the past and present **District Emergency Coordinators (DEC)** for their leadership and guidance in helping to build the infrastructure, and the past and current **Emergency Coordinators (EC)** for working out the details and making on-the-scene decisions to support both **ARES** and the Hospitals.

Let me tell you how we are organizing the **ARES** leadership structure for the future. I report to the Section Manager, the **DECs** report to me, and the **ECs** report to the **DECs**. That part of the structure has not changed. Where we have made changes is in how the **Assistant District Emergency Coordinators (ADECs)** and **Assistant Emergency Coordinators (AECs)** are structured. This ensures we have a succession of management for **ARES** as we go forward. The new structure will have each **EC** responsible for a group of hospitals that will make up his or her area of responsibility. Each hospital will have one **AEC** that will be that hospital's primary contact for **ARES**, and will get to know the hospital personnel, layout and emergency operating plan. The **AEC** will have **ARES** members that will be assigned to the hospital based on the residential location in proximity to the hospital. It is preferable that the member will be able to get to the hospital in an emergency, even if the freeway overpasses and bridges are not passable. The other change is that the **DECs** will have one or more **ADECs** to assist them in performing their duties and providing the monthly training for their districts.

I now have two **Assistant Section Emergency Coordinators (ASEC)**. One of them, **Linda Tcimpidis W6LWT** acts as the **ARES** Liaison Officer for all of our hospitals. She will be the first to meet with a new hospital Disaster Coordinator to introduce them to **ARES** and what we can do to help the Hospital. She will generally ask me, the **DEC** and/or the **EC** to join her on the initial meeting, in order to introduce them to the personnel he or she will be working with. Linda also offers advice and suggestions on the best approach toward equipping the hospitals with the proper antennas and radio that assists **ARES** in what it does. Further, she provides a letter the hospitals can send to local **Amateur Radio** operators in the area who are not **ARES** members, asking them for assistance and inviting them to join the **ARES** team. Linda will also provide them with a mailing list of **Amateur Radio** operators within a five-mile radius of their hospital.

Linda has been invaluable, and performs her duties in a professional manner.

With the help of **Marcus Martinez KE6RHV**, **Mike Van Norman K6VN** and **Peter Gallay N6EZZ**, we now have

the ability to have a list of all **ARES** members, and their mailing information as well as Amateurs that are not **ARES** members and their mailing locations. This information can then be introduced into Google Earth and we can see where they are all located as well as where all the hospitals we service are located. This is a tremendous tool for us to be able to use. It also allows Mike to provide Linda with a list of non-**ARES** members within a five-mile radius of any hospital she would need. This will accomplish a great deal in recruiting new **ARES** members and allowing **ARES** management to better deploy resources when necessary.

Finally, if you have not visited the Section website (<http://arrllax.org>) then do so, now! Information is separated by **ARES** Districts. Sign in, or set up your user name and password so that you can stay up to date with your information and training. The most important information we need updated is your cell phone number and provider, and your email address. If you are a Skywarn Spotter, be sure that information is current in your profile. This provides us with the ability to activate you with both a text message and an email for an event or a drill.

D-RATS Winter Field Day/Hamfest

Laura Mae Brennan KA6VKF

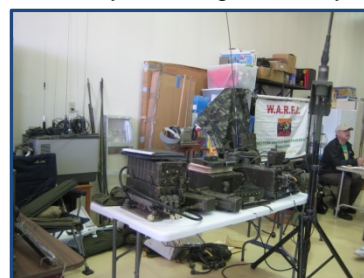
On Saturday, January 20, the Desert **RATS (Desert Radio Amateur Transmitting Society)** of Palm Springs and the Palm Springs DX Club put on a Winter Field Day. The day was perfect day for the hundreds of people that showed up at the Estate of **Gary Boskovich KD6QLT** and **Susie Boskovich KD6TVO**—also known as *The Barn*.



Travel trailers brought people from far away Nova Scotia, and North



Carolina. Others traveled from Yuma, Arizona and the Salton Sea. Over 30 vendors and tailgaters sprawled over the grounds and into the Barn. A static display of military radios gave many a first time look at World War II, Korea, Vietnam and Desert Storm radios. A GRC 9 with a hand crank generator ("The Angry 9") was set up, and a few brave souls cranked it up to learn what it was like to work radios during WWII.



Michael Brennan KA6PGN explained the advancements and improvements from year to year, and many retired military men reminisced about the days working on the radios either in the field or in repair shops back in the states.

Recent licensees enjoyed the Radio Room in the Barn, and made their first contacts on an HF rig. VE-2 airwaves reached Northeast Canada and Germany.



Leo Meyerson W0GFQ,

Mr. Ham Radio himself, joined the crowd. Leo is an inventor and manufacturer of radios, with his World Radio and Globe Radio companies. In his mid 90s, he is still going strong. The League was also in attendance, with **Dick**



Norton N6AA (ARRL Southwestern Division Director) and **Carl Gardenias WU6D (ARRL Orange County Section Manager)**.

The organizers of Quartzite Hamfest and Yuma Hamfest came, and together we are forming the "Big Three" events for the Southeast Deserts. These three events are held about two weeks apart, in January and February.

For more information about these Events and the D-Rats, see our web site forum: <http://desertrats.x.am>. Our President is **Peter Reinzuch VE7REZ**. You can contact him at ve7rez@desertrats.am.

Upcoming Communication Events

The Los Angeles Marathon

March 21, 2010. Radio operators are needed at the L.A. Marathon to provide emergency communications throughout the course. This year, the new route will go from Dodger Stadium to the Santa Monica Pier, and will include Beverly Hills, Hollywood, and major studios. Volunteer registration is online at: http://www.doitsports.com/volunteer/info.tcl?job_id=488. If you have trouble accessing the above link, see www.lamarathon.com and follow these links: Event; Volunteer; Individual; Radio Operator.

Orientation/training meetings for the L.A. Marathon Radio Amateur Volunteers will be held on Saturday, March 13, 2010 at 1:00 P.M. and Wednesday, March 17, 2010, 6:00 P.M.

Both meetings will be held at Hollywood United Methodist Church, 6817 Franklin Avenue, Hollywood, CA.

The Baker to Vegas Relay

April 17-18, 2010. See www.b2v.org for more details. To volunteer, contact **Joy Matlack KD6FJV**, Com 1 Communications Director rbvcom1@b2v.org.

18th Annual Leona Divide 50-Mile Run

The **Leona Divide Fifty Miler** and is one of the premiere Ultra Marathons in California. As a non-profit event, it is supported by generous sponsors and many volunteers.

This year's race will be held on April 17, 2010 at 6:00 A.M. in Lake Hughes, CA. Trail work, race organization, aid stations, radio communication, and finish line are all done by volunteers. For 18 years many of the same people have given their time to help make the Leona Divide what it is today.

If you have any interest in helping with **Amateur Radio** communications on race day or volunteering at an aid station, please contact the race director: Keira Henninger at (949) 322-2048 or at keirahenninger@mac.com.

Additional information can be found at www.leonadivide.com.

ARRL Southwestern Division Convention

The **2010 ARRL Southwestern Division Amateur Radio Convention** will be held **September 17, 18 and 19, 2010** at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel in San Diego. See <http://www.sandarc.net/Convention2010.htm> for further details.

2011 and 2012 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention

It is always exciting to have our Los Angeles Section host the **ARRL** Southwest Division Convention. The Los Angeles Area Council of Amateur Radio Clubs has already begun working on this event. The council has asked to remind all Los Angeles Section amateur clubs to renew their council membership and add their valuable input. The more clubs that are involved in the event, the greater the event will turn out. This is a chance to help greater ham community and most of your own club. **David Greenhut N6HD**, Los Angeles Section Manager.

Planning is also already under way for the **2012 ARRL** Southwestern Division convention to be held in Arizona. If you would like to be part of this planning, contact **David Greenhut N6HD**, **ARRL LAX** Section Manager at N6HD@arrl.org.

On December 5, 2009, the **Two Meter Spectrum Management Associations (TASMA)** released its new band plan. The band plan covers repeater, simplex, packet, crossband and other coordinated frequencies. **TASMA** is **Amateur Radio's** sole Southern California's two meters bands frequency coordination body with the stated purpose of repeater coordination and spectrum management.

National Traffic System (NTS)

The National Traffic System plan is a means for systematizing amateur traffic handling facilities by making a structure available for an integrated traffic facility designed to achieve the utmost in two principal objectives: rapid movement of traffic from origin to destination, and training amateur operators to handle written traffic and participate in directed nets. These two objectives, which sometimes conflict with each other, are the underlying foundations of the National Traffic System. NTS operates daily, even continuously with the advent of the advanced digital links of today.

The personnel consist of operators who participate for one or two periods a week, and some who are active daily. The National Traffic System is an organized effort to handle traffic in accordance with a plan which is easily understood, is basically sound, and which employs modern methods of network traffic handling in general acceptance today.

NTS is not intended as a deterrent or competition for the many independently-organized traffic networks. When necessitated by overload or lack of outlet for traffic, the facilities of such networks can function as alternate traffic routings where this is indicated in the best interest of efficient message relay and/or delivery.

One of the most important features of NTS is the "system concept." No NTS net is an independent entity which can conduct its activities without concern for or consideration of other NTS nets. Each net performs its function and only its function in the overall organization. To whatever extent nets fail to perform their functions or perform functions intended for other nets, to this extent is the overall system adversely affected.

Nets may sometimes find it necessary to adopt temporary expedients to ensure the movement of traffic, and this is considered improper operation only when no attempt is made to return to the normal schedule. Nevertheless, improper operation of any NTS net is the concern of all NTS nets, and every effort should be made to assist in returning any non-functioning or improperly functioning net to its normal operation.

ARRL Field Organizations:

Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) To become a part of ARES, use this [ARES link](#).

National Traffic System (NTS) For information on training, or to volunteer to be an **NTS** Net control station, please send an e-mail to **Chester Brown K6CRB**, NTS Net Manager, expressing your interest to K6CRB@arrl.net.

Official Observer Program (OO) To apply to become an Official Observer, use this [OO link](#).

Special Service Clubs. To designate your Amateur Radio club for Special Service status, use this [SSC link](#).

Technical Specialist. To apply to become a Technical Specialist, use this [TS link](#).



NTS News and Nets

NTS Monthly Meeting and new Yahoo! Group

The Los Angeles Section **National Traffic System (NTS)** is having its second monthly meeting on Saturday, March 6, 2010 at 11:00 A.M.. The meeting will be at the Valley Presbyterian Hospital Medical Center located at 15107 Vanowen Street, Van Nuys, California 91405.

The Los Angeles Section **NTS** group has also formed a Yahoo! Group. Visit <http://arllax.org> for more details.

If you have a chance, please join in on the **NTS** Net which meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:00 P.M. on the DARN repeater system www.DARN.org.

NTS not only has a rich history, but offers a disaster communications resource, improved operator skills and a public service. Many of our operators are also involved in disaster communications groups, such as **ARES** and **MARS** and others are interested in using their skills in a fresh way to move traffic. Beginner and experienced operators are encouraged to join this group.

The **NTS** Los Angeles Section is always looking for operators interested in becoming Net control stations. This is an opportunity to increase your **HAM** radio skills. No prior experience is required, and you do not have to be an **ARES** member. However, many of the **ARES-LAX**'s current and previous Net control stations would make excellent **NTS** operators.

For **CW** operators, **Southern California Net (SCN)** serves the purpose of a local **NTS CW** Net. **SCN** is a training Net and meets weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:00 P.M. PDST, on 3.575 MHz.

In the future, the **LAX**'s local **NTS** is anticipated to expand to HF phone, PACTOR and Winlink service.

ARES maintains a relationship with the **National Traffic System (NTS)**. **NTS** supports **ARES**' disaster missions by providing "beyond the disaster area" communications.

To volunteer to be an **NTS** Net control station, please send me an e-mail expressing your interest
73,

David Greenhut N6HD, Section Manager, ARRL Los Angeles Section. N6HD@arll.org.

National Traffic System - Schedule

Name	Time (Local)	Time (UTC)	Day	Mode	Frequency
<u>Local - National Traffic Nets - LAX Section</u>					
Los Angeles Net (LAN/V)	21:00 PST	5:00 UTC	T & Th	FM	445.28 MHz/100.0
Southern California Net (SCN)	19:00 PST	3:00 UTC	T & Th	CW	3.575 MHz
Southern California Net (SCN/V)	20:00 PST	4:00 UTC	M,W & F	FM	146.385 MHz/+146.2
<u>Regional - National Traffic Nets - LAX Section</u>					
Region Six (RN6/1)	19:45 PST	3:45 UTC	Daily	CW	3.575 MHz
Region Six (RN6/2)	21:30 PST	5:30 UTC	Daily	CW	3.575 MHz
National Traffic Syst. (NTSD)	24 Hour/7 Days			Pactor	
<u>Area - National Traffic Nets - LAX Section</u>					
PAN	20:30 PST	4:30 UTC	Daily	CW	3.552 MHz *
*or depending on propagation 7.052 MHz					
<u>Other - National Traffic Nets</u>					
Northern California Net (NCN/1)	19:00 PST	3:00 UTC	Daily	CW	3.533 MHz
Northern California Net (NCN/2)	21:00 PST	5:00 UTC	Daily	CW	3.533 MHz

ARES-LAX News and Nets**Northwest District**

ARES Northwest District holds monthly meetings the first Saturday of the month from 8:00 A.M.—10:00 A.M. at Valley Presbyterian Medical Center (Education Center) located at 15107 Vanowen Street, Van Nuys, California 91405.

For the March 6, 2010 meeting, **Duane Mariotti WB9RER** of Kaiser Permanente will speak on Hospital disaster communications and what the hospital needs.

Topics for April and May meetings include MARS and ATV.

ARES also conducts Weekly Nets on the **DARN** system:

Northwest District Weekly Net	Monday at 9:00 P.M.
Southwest District Weekly Net	Wednesday at 7:00 P.M.
Northeast District Weekly Net	Thursday 7:00 P.M.

DARN Repeater Network Frequencies:

Palos Verdes	446.740	PL 100.0
Mt. Disappointment	446.240	PL 100.0
Mt Wilson	446.940	PL 100.0
Verdugo Peak	445.280	PL 100.0
Mt. Disappointment	1283.25	PL 114.8
Mt Disappointment, Mt Wilson, and Verdugo	147.36+	PL 103.5
Echolink	Node 8722	(K6VGP-R)

Northeast District

The **ARES** Northeast District holds monthly meetings the fourth Saturday of the month from 9:00 A.M.—11:00 A.M. at Huntington Memorial Hospital (Wingate Building/East Conference Room), 100 W. California Boulevard, Pasadena, CA. Parking in the East lot is free for the meeting.

My thanks to everyone. I must say this is one "Radio Active" group. Wow! I am really, really happy with how well things are going with our **ARES** group, and with the level of involvement, participation and commitment of everyone involved. Awesome! We have great and consistent attendance at our meetings and with the check-ins on the weekly Net. We have great help with people volunteering as Net control stations, and those helping out with the Nets for the other **ARES-LAX** districts. More members are joining and signing on to the Northeast **ARES-LAX** Yahoo! group. We have great participation in other events, like the **Pasadena Marathon**, and the upcoming **Baker-2-Vegas** race, **L.A. Marathon**, and **AC-100** race events. Others helped out with the recent storm flooding in the La Canada/ Flintridge area. We have many members providing support and offering to help in many other areas within the organization. Some of these will be unsung heroes working behind the scenes. We have volunteers stepping forward to help as guest speakers, Assistant **ECs**, **Elmers**, photographers, and writers, among other things. While the rest are working on things that we will be seeing in the near future. Exciting things are happening, with plans in the works for much more down the road. Keep up the good work!

I also want to thank everyone for remembering to bring or invite a friend and help our **ARES** group continue to grow. As we grow, we have more hands helping, more participation in events, more contacts, greater ability to support more hospitals, more resources to draw upon, and as a result, a better reputation and standing in the community. This will lead to attracting more members, continuing this positive cycle. Thanks also for the support and involvement of our **ARRL** leadership—**Marty N6VI**, **David N6HD** and **Jim N6AJG**. We couldn't do it without them, and it is great to have their support. Be sure and thank these volunteers in person when you see them.

Don't be afraid to volunteer or give something new a try. You will have friendly, helpful support. Enjoy being an active part of **Ham Radio** and something special. If you have ideas or suggestions that might help or improve, share them. If anyone has time and wants more opportunities to help, feel free to contact the **DECs** of the other districts and see where you can help. Several have already done this and their help is much appreciated. For something fun, give contesting a try. This can be done on your own or with a group and it will add to your operating skills. Also, consider getting involved with our **NTS** group and help with traffic handling.

Everyone should be very proud of our growing **ARES** group. Whenever you are at club meetings or other events, talk about **ARES** and offer an invitation to join us.

Final thoughts:

“Don’t let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do.” **John Wooden**

“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act, but a habit.” **Aristotle**

“Bring a friend.” **N6AJG**

Russ Keating KI6WIR, DEC-Northeast District, ARES-LAX ki6wir@arrl.net.

The Northeast District conducts a Net every Thursday at 7:00 P.M. on the **DARN** repeater system. **Dennis Oszuscik KI6UNC** acts as Net control. **ARES** members and visitors are invited to check-in.

Southwest District

The **ARES** Southwest District holds monthly meetings the third Saturday of the month at from 9:00 A.M.—11:00 A.M. at Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center in San Pedro, 1300 W. 7th Street, San Pedro, CA. The meetings are held in the DeMucci Education Center on the first floor, inside the hospital. Call (310) 832-3311 for additional information and directions.

Southeast District

The **Southeast District** conducts FCC license testing by the **Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach W6RO (ARALB)**, every third Saturday of the month at 9:00 A.M. at the California State University Long Beach Police Station. All license elements are offered for a fee of \$4.00 for each test.

Directions: Go to the South side of the campus, to Parking Lot 11, off of Palo Verde Avenue at Atherton Street, South of the 405 Freeway. Free parking on testing mornings is in Lot #9, at Palo Verde Avenue and Anaheim Road. Enter Lot 9 off Palo Verde Avenue, and it is a short walk to Lot #11. Free handicap parking is available in Lot #11.

Talk-in from 0800 to 0900 hours is available using the 449.780/MHz **K6CHE** Repeater. PL tone is 131.8/Hz.

To pre-register, contact Louise Chapman N6ELK at (562) 429-1355.

High Desert

The **ARES** High Desert conducts Weekly Nets on Wednesday evening at 7:00 P.M. The Net is structured to be informative as well as a venue to experiment with equipment and/or location(s) where the ARES High Desert group could possibly be involved in service.

The Net begins on the Hauser repeater frequency of 146.730/MHz with a minus offset and PL tone of 100. (Those listening using a scanner need only be concerned with the frequency.). After initial check-ins and announcements or net business the frequency is changed to simplex of 147.555/MHz, where participants check in a second time, and give a report on the signal strength of the Net control station. In addition, Net control makes note of their signal strength and records this data each week. The Net then returns to the Hauser repeater to conclude.

ARES District Websites:

Northwest District: www.areslax.org

Northeast District: www.lax-arrl.org

High Desert: www.avarc.av.org

Long Beach Radio Club: www.aralb.org

Southeast: www.aralb.org/ares_races

FCC Licensing and Upgrades

ARES-LAX/Southeast District

The **Southeast District** conducts FCC license testing by the **Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach W6RO (ARALB)**, every third Saturday of the month at 9:00 A.M. at the California State University Long Beach Police Station. All license elements are offered for a fee of \$4.00 for each test.

Directions: Go to the South side of the campus, to Parking Lot 11, off of Palo Verde Avenue at Atherton Street, South of the 405 Freeway. Free parking on testing mornings is in Lot #9, at Palo Verde Avenue and Anaheim Road. Enter Lot 9 off Palo Verde Avenue, and it is a short walk to Lot #11. Free handicap parking is available in Lot #11.

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Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club (AVARC)

AVARC conducts monthly **ARRL** VE testing sessions. For March sessions, check out the **AVARC** website at www.avarc.av.org.

The new location for the examinations is the **First Christian Church of the Antelope Valley**, 1702 East Ave. J., Lancaster, CA (Across the street from the Eastside Wall Mart).

Please enter parking lot off the end of the cul-de-sac 17th Street East, enter the classroom annex, and look for the "FCC Exams" sign outside the correct classroom. Monday Nights: Please do not disturb the A.A. group or other groups that may be using the facilities.

Dates/times may be subject to change.

***** PLEASE CHECK THE AVARC WEBSITE (www.avarc.av.org) THE DAY OF THE TEST, OR CALL ADRIENNE SHERWOOD WA6YEO PRIOR TO DRIVING ANY DISTANCE TO TAKE AN EXAM *****

Prices are \$15.00 for the **ARRL**, and \$4.00 for the **GLAARG** session. Administrative submission, (no test), fee is \$2.00 for **GLAARG** sessions only.

K6YH Crescent Bay VE Club

K6YH Crescent Bay VE Club conducts licensing exams at the **W6TRW Amateur Radio Association SWAPMEET** from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. on the last Saturday of every month, for all Amateur elements.

Testing is conducted at One Space Park Drive, Redondo Beach, CA, in the Building S-Cafeteria at the Northrop Grumman campus. Enter the Cafeteria on the north side, proceed down the stairs and enter the building.

Bring a Photo ID, original and photocopy of Amateur license and/or CSCE, if any. Test fee is \$14.00 CASH ONLY.

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club (PVARC)

PVARC holds licensing classes at **Hesse Park**, 29301 Hawthorne Boulevard in Rancho Palos Verdes, CA. Dates and times are below:

Please note, each course is two sessions.

April 24, 2010 from 10:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M. (Tech Class)

May 1, 2010 from 10:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M. (Tech Class)

May 8, 2010 from 10:00 A.M.—12:00 P.M. FCC Exam (Tech)

Students of High School age and below who successfully complete the Technician Course and obtain a Technician Class Radio License will be reimbursed by the **PVARC** for the cost of their license fee and study materials.

For more information contact **Walt Ordway K1DFO** at (310) 541-4007 or walt.ordway@juno.com.

PAPA System

PAPA combines its license testing with breakfast! All test sessions are at 7:00 A.M., except where noted, and precede the 8:00 A.M. breakfast meetings. All elements are offered, except as noted.

This month's breakfast will be held on **Saturday, March 13, 2010** at Home Town Buffet, 8629 South Sepulveda Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA.

Park in the parking lot, in back of the building, not on Sepulveda..

Pre-registration is required, due to limited space and the possibility of changes.

Visit the **PAPA** website www.papasys.net, for registration information and directions to the restaurant.

San Fernando Valley Amateur Radio Club (SFVARC)

The **SFVARC** will hold Technician classes at the Northridge Hospital Medical Center, Class Rooms 1 and 2—In the basement, West Side.

Classes start on **Thursday, February 11, 2010** from 7:30 P.M.—9:00 P.M. Classes will be held every Thursday thereafter for 7-10 class sessions.

The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual is the required text.

Classes are FREE, but a minimum of five students is required to hold the class.

For more information, contact **Bill Miller K6NEQ** at (818) 368-4438.

Licensing exams are held at the **Northridge Hospital**, on the first Saturday of February, April, June, August, October and December. Registration starts at 8:00 A.M., and testing starts at 9:00 A.M.

There is a \$4.00 examination fee. You do not have to be a club member to take an examination. Also, if you are upgrading your license, please bring your original license, a copy of your license, and originals and copies of any "Certificates of Completion."

For more information, call **Bill Miller K6NEQ** at (818) 368-4438. In all other months, exams are conducted by the **Santa Clarita Amateur Radio Club** (see below).

Santa Clarita Amateur Radio Club (SCARC)

SCARC conducts licensing exams on the third Saturday of every odd month of the year (January, March, May, July, September, and November) at 8:00 A.M., at the **Santa Clarita City Hall** in the Council Chambers.

The next **FCC** licensing session will be held on **Saturday, March 20, 2010**.

If you wish to take a test, please contact **Ron Klein K6VPV**, at rbklein@earthlink.net or at 661-259-0948, at least five days before the testing session. This is so that we can have the necessary forms and testing materials ready for you and so that you can be informed on what you need to bring with you.

Tri-County Amateur Radio Association K6AGF

TCARA offers testing for Technician through Extra Class, and it is held on the **last Saturday of every month** (except December) at 1:00 P.M. in the **Pilot's Lounge at Brackett Field Airport**. The location is the same place where **TCARA** has their Club meetings (see below). The fee is \$15.00.

Contact **Frank Westphal, K6FW** at (909) 628-8661 for reservations. Leave on the answering machine the class of the test you want to take, your name, address, and telephone number. Bring your current original license

and a copy; any CSCEs with copies of same, and a picture ID.

United Radio Amateur Club (URAC)

URAC conducts licensing exams for both Amateur and Commercial licenses on the second and fourth Sunday of the month, at 1:30 P.M. **Reservations are required**. Contact **Bill Carter W6AJ** at w6aj@arrl.net, **Doug Dowds W6HB** at w6hb@arrl.net or the Club email at k6aa@arrl.net. **W6AJ** is the VE in charge of exams.

See the website www.k6aa.org for more details.



Affiliated Club News and Upcoming Events

220 MHz Spectrum Management Association

The **220SMA** is a NOT FOR PROFIT Association of Amateur Radio operators dedicated to education about, and technical and operational management of, the Amateur Radio 220 MHz. Bands. The Association represents all modes of operation and develops Band Plans intended to facilitate the maximum practicable use of the spectrum. Membership in the Association is open to individual Amateur Radio Operators in an effort to allow for maximum representation from all interest segments, and minimize the influence of any one special interest area. A Coordination Board operates within the Association to perform the formal coordination activities associated with the 219 MHz. Digital Linking and 222 MHz. Repeater Coordination activities.

General meetings are held quarterly, on the third Saturday of each month. See the website for location details.

Website: www.220sma.org.

Nets: See website for details.

Education: See website for details.

HAM Exams: None listed.

Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club K6OX

The **Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club (AVARC)** is part of the High Desert District. AVARC holds monthly meetings on the last Thursday of the month at 7:30 P.M., at the **Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Lancaster City Hall**, 44933 N. Fern Avenue, Lancaster, CA.

AVARC's next monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, March 25, 2010.

Website: www.avarc.av.org.

Nets: **AVARC** conducts a weekly Net on Wednesdays at 8:00 P.M. on 146.73MHz (-) PL 100.0.

Education: See website for details.

HAM Exams: See website for details.

Arcadia Red Cross Amateur Radio Public Safety Corps KI6UJB

The **Arcadia Red Cross Amateur Radio Public Safety Corps (ARCARPSC)** is part of the Northeast District. They exist to support the community in emergency preparedness, and support the Amateur community with licensing classes and mentoring.

For more information, email scfm44o@aol.com.

Websites: None listed.

Nets: None listed.

Education: Email for details.

HAM Exams: Email for details.

Associated Radio Amateurs Of Long Beach W6RO

The **Associated Radio Amateurs Of Long Beach (ARALB)** is part of the Southeast District. **ARALB** meets the first Friday of every month at 7:00 P.M. At this time, their meeting location has been changed from one in the prior year. Be sure to visit their website: www.aralb.org for up-to-date details on meeting locations and times.

ARALB's next meeting will be held on Friday, March 5, 2010 at The Signal Hill Community Center. 1780 Hill Street, Signal Hill, CA. **Scott Bovitz N6MI** will speak on "Converting a Television News van into Ham Radio service."

ARALB also manages the **W6RO Club Station** aboard the **Ocean Liner Queen Mary** in the Wireless room, located on the Sport Deck, Queensway Bay, Long Beach Harbor, Long Beach, California.

The Wireless Room features a Ten Position Radio Station. Volunteers operate **W6RO** during three 4 hour "shifts" daily and establish communication all around the world.

We try to be there from: 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M., 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M., and 5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

ARALB hosts a weekly Club Breakfast at 8:00 A.M. every Wednesday at Spires Restaurant, 1935 E. Del Amo Boulevard in Long Beach, at the corner of Cherry Avenue and Del Amo Boulevard.

Website: www.aralb.org.

Nets: **ARALB** conducts a weekly Net on Fridays (except meeting nights) at 7:00 P.M. on 146.145 + PL 156.7.

ARALB conducts a weekly Slow CW Net on Fridays (except meeting nights) at 7:30 P.M. at 28.130 MHz.

Education: See website for details.

HAM Exams: See website for details.

Baldwin Hills Amateur Radio Club N6EW

Baldwin Hills Amateur Radio Club (BARC) is part of the Southwest District. **BARC** meets the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 P.M. at Round Table Pizza, 4330 Redondo Beach Boulevard, Torrance CA.

BARC's next monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 3, 2010.

BARC members meet informally for dinner on Saturday evenings around 6:00 P.M. Currently, members are meeting at various locations throughout Los Angeles. To attend the informal dinners, please contact **Ed Walker WA6MDJ** at (323) 295-4817.

BARC holds monthly Club dinners on the **second Saturday of every month** at **The Grinder** in Westchester or at alternate locations. Listen to the Tuesday night Nets for further information.

Southern California Monitoring Association (SCMA) meets the second Wednesday of every month for dinner at The Grinder in Westchester, CA.

BARC has a table at the TRW SwapMeet held on the last Saturday of every month. The Club tables are located in row J-12, J-14 & J-16.

Website: www.barc.us.

Nets: **BARC** hosts a Net on Tuesdays at 7:30 P.M. on the BARC 2 meter repeater (146.925- & 224.68-).

Education: See website for details.

HAM Exams: **BARC** holds amateur radio license testing every other meeting.

Crescenta Valley Radio Club WB6ZTY

The Crescenta Valley Amateur Radio Club (CVARC) is part of the Northeast District. **CVARC** meets the second Thursday of the month (excluding August) at 7:30 P.M. at **Verdugo Hills Hospital**, Council Room D 1812 Verdugo Boulevard, Glendale, CA.

CVARC's next monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, March 11, 2010.

CVARC holds a monthly breakfast the first Saturday of each month. This month's breakfast will be held on Saturday, March 6, 2010 at 7:30 A.M. at Conrad's Restaurant in La Canada.

Website: www.gsl.net/cvrc.

Nets: **CVARC** conducts a weekly 2-Meter repeater "Transponder Net" between club members and members of the Coulsdon Amateur Transmitting Society of Surrey, England at 9:15 A.M.

CVARC conducts a weekly Net on Sundays at 8:00 P.M. on 146.025, PL +136.5

CVARC conducts G.E.A.R.S. check-ins on Mondays (except DCS Holidays) at 7:00 P.M. on the K6CCC Repeater 445.380 PL Minus 100.

CVARC conducts P.E.R.C.S. Simplex check-ins on Thursdays at 8:00 P.M. on 144.465.

Education: See website for details.

HAM Exams: See website for details.

Downey Amateur Radio Club, Inc. W6TOI

The Downey Amateur Radio Club (DARC) is part of the Southeast District. **DARC** meets the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 P.M. at the **First Baptist Church of Downey**, Room 120, 8348 E Third Street (meeting location is on the 2nd street side of the church).

DARC's next monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, March 4, 2010.

Website: www.downeyarc.org.

Nets: **DARC** conducts a weekly 440-Net on Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. on the Club 440 repeater at 445.640 (-) PL 156.7 Hz for the repeater located in Altadena. Use a PL of 88.5 for our Palos Verde repeater.

DARC conducts a weekly 2-meter simplex Net on Thursdays at 7:30 P.M. on 145.595.

Education: See website for details.

HAM Exams: See website for details.

Hollywood Hills QRP Contest Club

For information on this Club, contact **Robert E. Griffin K6YRE** at k6yr@arrl.org.

Hughes Amateur Radio Club W6HA

The **Hughes Amateur Radio Club (HARC)** is part of the Southwest District. **HARC** meets the third Tuesday of every month at 12:00 P.M. at the Hacienda Hotel Coffee Shop, 525 N. Sepulveda Boulevard, El Segundo, CA. Guests are always welcome.

Contact **Barry Colston KG6NWJ** at bmcolston@raytheon.com for further details.

Independent Radio Club (the Mountain Repeater Association) WA6IRC

The Independent Radio Club (IRC) joined forces with the **Mountain Repeater Association K6VE** in 2006, bringing 440 MHz and 902 MHz repeaters to the existing wide area 220 MHz repeater system.

Now known as **The Independent Radio Club**, our repeater system provides access on three amateur bands, 222 MHz, 440 MHz and 902 MHz. Voter receivers and links between sites provide wide area coverage to Southern California, Arizona and Nevada. Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP) and EchoLink nodes further extend system coverage literally worldwide.

IRC and the **MRA** hold combined club meetings on the last Friday of the month (except November and December) at 7:00 P.M., at the **Lamplighter Restaurant**, 5043 Van Nuys Boulevard, Van Nuys, CA.

IRC's next monthly meeting will be held on Friday, March 26, 2010.

Websites: www.mraradio.org and <http://www.ircradio.org>.

Nets: **IRC** conducts weekly Nets on Tuesdays at 6:00 P.M. and Thursdays at 8:00 P.M., and all are welcome! The frequencies are listed below:

Los Angeles (Contractor's Point)	445.3400 103.5 PL & 927.425 82.5 PL	1282.850 minus split PL 123.0.
Los Angeles & Las Vegas	224.4800 110.9 PL	
Blueridge	224.020 PL 110.9 & 446.860 82.5 PL	(Blue Ridge Link Code 747* for 446.860)
City Terrace	224.720 PL 110.9	927.9625 100.0

PL

D-STAR- Contractor's Point, WA6IRC	145.605, 447.040, 1282.650, 1299.700
D-STAR- Blue Ridge, WB6IRC	145.585 & 446.880
IRLP Contractor's Point	445.340 & 224.480 Node: 3030
IRLP Pasadena (Simplex)	927.600 Node: 3040
IRLP Palm Springs	224.480 Node: 3053
EchoLink Las Vegas	224.480 Node: 187724

Education: See website for details.

Website: www.ircradio.org.

HAM Exams: See website for details.

Kennedy High School KF6KIJ

The Kennedy High School Amateur Radio Club is part of the Northwest District. This club is for John F. Kennedy High School Students and interested faculty.

Contact: **Robert C Hazard N6NBF** at (818) 271-2900 ext. 253 or at rhazard@lausd.net.

Ladies ARA of Orange County

For information on this Club, contact **Edna A. Toll KC6TXB** at apolyglot@mindspring.com.

Los Angeles Area Council of Amateur Radio Club (Club Council)

The Los Angeles Area Council of Amateur Radio Clubs (**LAACARC**), is composed of delegates from its more than 30 member clubs and a set of officers elected by and from the delegates. **LAACARC** holds meetings on the first Tuesday of every other month at 7:30 P.M. If the meeting date falls on a Holiday, it is moved up one week.

See the website for additional meeting information.

Website: www.qsl.net/laacarc.

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club K6PV

The Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club (**PVARC**) is part of the Southwest District. **PVARC** meets the third Wednesday of every month at 7:30 P.M., at the **Hesse Park Community Room**, 29301 Hawthorne Boulevard, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA.

PVARC's next monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 17, 2010.

See the **PVARC** website for more details.

Website: www.palosverdes.com/pvarc.

Nets: **PVARC** conducts a weekly Net on Tuesdays at 7:30 P.M. on the K6PV repeater 447.120 (-) PL 100.0.

Education: Licensing classes are held at **Hesse Park**, 29301 Hawthorne Boulevard in Rancho Palos Verdes, CA. Dates and times are below:

April 24, 2010 from 10:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M. (Tech Class)

May 1, 2010 from 10:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M. (Tech Class)

May 8, 2010 from 10:00 A.M.—12:00 P.M. FCC Exam (Tech)

Students of High School age and below who successfully complete the Technician Course and obtain a Technician Class Radio License will be reimbursed by the **PVARC** for the cost of their license fee and study materials.

For more information contact **Walt Ordway K1DFO** at (310) 541-4007 or walt.ordway@juno.com.

HAM Exams: **PVARC** will conduct a VE examination session on May 7, 2010 from 10:00 A.M.—12:00 P.M. FCC Exam (Tech).

Pasadena Radio Club W6KA

The Pasadena Radio Club (**PRC**) is part of the Northeast District. The **PRC** meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month, except in December, at 7:00 P.M. at Kaiser Permanente, Walnut Center, 393 E. Walnut Street.

PRC's next monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 23, 2010.

Website: www.qsl.net/w6ka

Nets: The **PRC** conducts a weekly Net on Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. Except on the fourth Tuesday of January through November (Club meeting night)

The 2-meter Net is conducted on the Telephone Company repeater. We use the following repeaters with the kind permission of their respective owners:

Telephone Company ARC	W6MPH	145.180 (-)	PL 156.7
JPL ARC	WR6JPL	147.150 (+)	PL 103.5
JPL ARC	WR6JPL	224.080 (-)	PL 156.7
JPL ARC	WR6JPL	445.20 (-)	PL 103.5
Mountain Repeater Assn.	K6VE	224.480 (-)	PL 110.9

Club Packet mailbox	W6KA-10	145.630	Node=MIRDOR
w/crosslink to 2M	W6KA-10	223.600	

On February 21, 2010 the **PRC** started a new slow-speed CW practice net, which will meet on 28.130 MHz on Sundays at 8:00 P.M.. On this frequency, even Techs can participate!

The Net Control Station's script will be uploaded to the PRC-club@yahoo.com files section, so you will know what to expect to hear. We will also upload a short list of Q-signals and abbreviations that you are likely to hear or want to use. We plan this to be a low-pressure net, where anyone with a minimal CW skill can learn and progress.

Education: Classes are offered once yearly. For dates and times, contact **Mark Seigel W6MES** at (818) 951-6369 or email him at ad6kp@arrl.net.

HAM Exams: Examination sessions are held at the end of each class sequence, and at other times during the year as needed.

Radio Baker Vegas Club (Regional/National) W7RBV

The Radio Baker Vegas Club is part of the Southeast District, and provides all of the official coordination for the annual Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay. This is a communications site, and the annual meeting is the actual Relay race.

We are gearing up for the **Baker to Vegas Relay on April 17-18, 2010**. See the website for more details or to sign up!

Website: www.b2v.org.

Rio Hondo Amateur Radio Club W6GNS

Rio Hondo Amateur Radio Club (RHARC) is part of the Southeast District. RHARC meets the second Monday of the month at 7:00 P.M. at the **Community Center at Parnell Park**, 15390 Lambert Road, Whittier, CA.

RHARC's next monthly meeting will be held on Monday, March 8, 2010.

Website: www.rharc.org.

Nets: **RHARC** conducts a weekly 2-meter Net on Wednesdays at 8:00 P.M. on 146.175 MHz (+) PL 156.7 Hz or on 440 repeater at 445.560 MHz (-) PL 100 Hz.

Education: See website for details.

HAM Exams: See website for details.

The San Fernando Valley Amateur Radio Club W6SD

The San Fernando Valley Amateur Radio Club (SFVARC) is part of the Northwest District. **SFVARC** meets the third Friday of every month (excluding December) at 7:30 P.M., at **Northridge Hospital**, 18300 Roscoe Boulevard, on the Fifth Floor Penthouse. However, the club may be assigned to other rooms from time to time. Signs are generally posted at the Penthouse elevator if there is such a change.

SFVARC's next monthly meeting will be on Friday, March 20, 2010.

SFVARC will host its monthly luncheon on Saturday, March 13, 2010 at 11:30 A.M. See their website for further details.

Several members of **SFVARC** gather for lunch on Thursdays at 11:00 A.M. at Denny's, 16575 Sherman Way (Sherman Way and Van Nuys Boulevard), Van Nuys. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Website: <http://www.w6sd.net>

Nets: **SFVARC** conducts a weekly 2-meter simplex Net on Tuesdays at 8:00 P.M. on 145.570 MHz.

SFVARC conducts a weekly 10-meter Net on Wednesdays at 8:00 P.M. on 28.310 MHz +/- QRM in the Upper Side Band Mode.

SFVARC conducts a weekly 2-meter repeater Net on Thursdays at 8:00 P.M. on the Magic Mountain Repeater 147.735 - MHz or Duck Mountain, 147.24 - MHz, if Magic is unavailable.

Education: The **SFVARC** will hold Technician classes at the Northridge Hospital Medical Center, Class Rooms 1 and 2—In the basement, West Side.

Classes start on **Thursday, February 11, 2010** from 7:30 P.M.—9:00 P.M. Classes will be held every Thursday thereafter for 7-10 class sessions.

The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual is the required text.

Classes are FREE, but a minimum of five students is required to hold the class.

For more information, contact **Bill Miller K6NEQ** at (818) 368-4438.

HAM Exams: Are held at the Northridge Hospital, on the first Saturday of February, April, June, August, October and December. Registration starts at 8:00 A.M., and testing starts at 9:00 A.M.

There is a \$4.00 examination fee. You do not have to be a club member to take an examination. Also, if you are upgrading your license, please bring your original license, a copy of your license, and originals and copies of any "Certificates of Completion."

For more information, call **Bill Miller K6NEQ** at (818) 368-4438. In all other months, exams are conducted by the **Santa Clarita Amateur Radio Club** (see below).

Santa Clarita Amateur Radio Club W6JW

The **Santa Clarita Amateur Radio Club (SCARC)** is part of the High Desert District. **SCARC** holds its meetings every third Wednesday of the month at the **Santa Clarita City Hall Senior Center**, 22900 Market Street, Santa Clarita, CA.

SCARC's next monthly meeting will be on Wednesday, March 17, 2010 at 7:30 P.M.

Website: www.w6jw.org.

Nets: The Santa Clarita Emergency Communications Team conducts a weekly Net on Mondays at 7:30 P.M.

SCARC conducts a weekly Net on Mondays at 8:00 P.M. Designated repeaters are listed below:

146.790	- 600 KHz	123.0	W6JW	Mad Mountain	Linked
51.860	- 500 KHz	82.5	N6KNW	Mad Mountain	Linked
445.300	- 5 MHz	100.0	KC6WGR	Mad Mountain	Linked
146.970	- 600 KHz	123.0	W6JW	Castaic Lake Water District HQ	Alternate Club Repeater

HAM Exams: SCARC conducts licensing exams on the third Saturday of every odd month of the year (January, March, May, July, September, and November) at 8:00 A.M., at the **Santa Clarita City Hall** in the Council Chambers.

The next **FCC** licensing session will be held on **Saturday, March 20, 2010**.

If you wish to take a test, please contact **Ron Klein K6VPV**, at rbklein@earthlink.net or at 661-259-0948, at least five days before the testing session. This is so that we can have the necessary forms and testing materials ready for you and so that you can be informed on what you need to bring with you.

Southern California Contest Club

See the website for details: <http://sccc.contesting.com>.

South Bay Amateur Radio Club W6SBA

The **South Bay Amateur Radio Club (SBARC)** is part of the Southwest District. **SBARC** meets on the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 P.M. at the **Torrance Memorial Medical Center (TMMC)**, 3330 Lomita Boulevard, Torrance, CA.

SBARC's next monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, March 18, 2010.

SBARC will host its second Saturday Social Event on March 13, 2010, at 12:00 P.M. at **Billy's Deli**, 5160 W. 190th Street, Torrance CA.

Website: www.w6sba.org.

Nets: SBARC conducts a weekly Net on Thursdays at 7:30 P.M. (except club meetings nights) on 224.38 MHz ·PL - 192.8 Hz Offset -1.6 MHz.

The **Palos Verdes Unified School District** conducts an Emergency Net the first Tuesday of the month at 9:30 A.M. 224.38 MHz ·PL - 192.8 Hz Offset -1.6 MHz.

HAM Exams: See website for details.

Southern California Amateur Transmitting Society WB6LRU

The **Southern California Amateur Transmitting Society (SCATS)** is part of the Southeast District. **SCATS** meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. at the **VFW Post 8620**, 2328 W Merced Avenue, West Covina, CA.

SCATS next monthly meeting will be on Wednesday, March 17, 2010, where **Joe Vega NE6V** will present "The Wonders of Digital Communication—Part II."

SCATS will host its monthly Ham 'N Eggz Breakfast on, Saturday, March 27, 2010 at 10:00 A.M. at Hometown Buffet, 1318 N. Azusa Avenue, Covina, CA 91723.

Website: www.SCATS.org.

Nets: SCATS conducts a weekly Net on Sundays at 7:00 P.M. on 147.765 minus PL Tone: 131.8.

Education: See website for details.

HAM Exams: See the website for details.

SS Lane Victory Amateur Radio Club W6LV

See website for details: www.lanevictory.org.

Tri-County Amateur Radio Association K6AGF

The **Tri-County Amateur Radio Association (TCARA)** is part of the **Northeast District**. **TCARA** meets the second Wednesday of every month at Brackett Field Airport in the Administration building-Pilots Lounge, 1615 McKinley Avenue, La Verne, CA.

TCARA's next meeting is on Wednesday, March 10, 2010 at 7:30 P.M. **Charlie Bashen N6DZW** will talk about "Electrical Safety in the Shack." Operating a ham radio station is a perfectly safe pastime. However, inattention and carelessness can lead to severe injury, burns or even death by electrocution. Charlie will talk to us about the very basics of electric safety for in the shack, outdoors and especially during Field Day.

You may recall that last October three family members in a Florida ham radio operator's household were killed when the antenna they were installing in the dark fell into overhead power lines. It was a tragic accident that should never have happened.

N6DZW is an Extra Class ham and the Manager of Public Safety for Southern California Edison.

Website: www.tcara.org.

Nets: **TCARA** conducts a weekly 2-meter Net on Sundays at 7:00 P.M. on 145.440 MHz FM, PL 136.5 Hz.

Education: See website for details.

HAM Exams: Testing for Technician through Extra Class is held on the last Saturday of every month (except December) at 1:00 P.M. in the Pilot's Lounge at Brackett Field Airport. The location is the same place where **TCARA** has their Club meetings.

The fee is \$15.00.

Contact **Frank Westphal K6FW** at (909) 628-8661 for reservations. Leave on the answering machine the class of the test you want to take, your name, address, and telephone number. Bring your current original license and a copy; any CSCEs with copies of same, and a picture ID.

Valley Good Guys K6VGG

The **Valley Good Guys (K6VGG)** is part of the Northwest District. **K6VGG** holds its monthly meetings on the second Friday of every Month from 6:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M., at the **Round Table Pizza** on Saticoy and Louise in the San Fernando Valley.

K6VGG's next monthly meeting will be held on Friday, March 12 2010 at 6:00 P.M.

Website: www.geocities.com/vggarc.

United Radio Amateur Club K6AA

The **United Radio Amateur Club (URAC)** is part of the Southeast District. The **URAC** meets the third Friday of every month (excluding August and December) at 7:00 P.M. at the **Los Angeles Maritime Museum**, 600 Sampson Way, San Pedro, CA.

URAC's next monthly meeting will be held on March 20, 2010 at 7:00 P.M.

URAC holds a No-host Breakfast on the first Saturday of every month at 8:00 A.M. at the **Think Café**, 302 W. 5th Street, San Pedro, CA. The next Club breakfast will be held on Saturday, March 6, 2010.

Website: www.k6aa.org.

Nets: **URAC** conducts a weekly Net on Thursdays at 8:00 P.M. on 145.380; -600; PL 100. If the repeater is unavailable, our Net will automatically be convened on 145.52 MHz simplex.

Education: See link under **Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club**.

HAM Exams: **URAC** conducts licensing exams for both Amateur and Commercial licenses on the second and fourth Sunday of the month, at 1:30 P.M. **Reservations are required.** Contact **Bill Carter W6AJ** at w6aj@arrl.net, **Doug Dowds W6HB** at w6hb@arrl.net or the Club email at k6aa@arrl.net. **W6AJ** is the VE in charge of exams.

Other Upcoming Events

Visit the **ARRL-LAX** Section website www.arrllax.org for up-to-the minute events for the month of March.

The **ARRL Los Angeles Section-Wide Newsletter** is published monthly by **ARRL Los Angeles Section**. The deadline for submission of articles, events and district information is the 20th of the month prior to publication in the following month's newsletter. Deadline for submissions for the **April 2010** issue will be March 20.

Please submit any questions, comments or submissions to the Los Angeles Section Manager or to the Newsletter Editor, Jennifer O'Connell at ki6oil@gmail.com.

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