



Making Waves

High Desert Amateur Ham Radio Club Newsletter – July, 2020

CLUB REPEATERS 442.750 + PL162.2 224.480- PL 100

Weekly net every Saturday at 10 am on 145.330 - PL 100 Monthly Meeting is the Third Saturday of the month and is cancelled until further notice.

Weekly Vlog on YouTube is found on Ham Sandwich Productions. HDARC Facebook page is found at <https://www.facebook.com/nm5hd/>.

Topics For July

President's Corner David Ham,
N6SIK

Spotlight: Gerry Jurrens, N2GJ

Summer Field Day, June 27 and 28

VE Testing Results in June

Membership Committee Update

Weekly Zoom Meetings

New Coffee Coordinator Susanne
Maturo-Jurrens



President's Corner, David Ham

N6SIK I trust that those of you who chose to participate this year had a great field day. I know that the folks who joined us at the RV Park had a memorable experience. We had 9 families that took us up on the offer. Two of the nine were just visiting for part of Saturday. We had an impromptu WAMO Net as there were exceedingly rare WAMOs in attendance. We set up the club's HF vertical antenna and we were testing it on Friday when Kenneth Ham, AG5GUY worked a strong signal from Auckland, New Zealand at 5-9+ both ways. As advertised, the base

noise level at the RV Park is S-0. What a great place for radio. In addition to the vertical, we put up a G5RV between two pine trees as well as a dual band VHF and UHF for local use. We made contacts on all three antennas. Everyone else had a wide array of antennas. I do not know what our combined contact count was, but no matter what the number might be, everyone had a great time.

You can now designate the HDARC as your charity on Amazon Smile. Please see the weekly emails for the link to accomplish this.

I thought we might get to start meeting again in July but it is not looking that way. Maybe August.

I'm looking forward to seeing you on the Wednesday Lunch Chat on Zoom, hearing you on the Wednesday evening WAMO Net and the Saturday Radio Net.

Spotlight on Gerry Jurens, N2GJ Gerry Jurens ("Gerry with a G") N2GJ, is the current Secretary of the HDARC. He is a graduate of Rutgers College (at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey), with a Master's Degree from The College of New Jersey (formerly Trenton State College Graduate School). His career was focused as a Certified Technical Trainer at Oracle University. In December, 2014 he retired as a senior principal instructor, specializing in Data Warehousing, Enterprise Data Quality, XML, Data Integration, Oracle GoldenGate and other Oracle software topics. Since leaving Oracle, he has performed IT consulting with several firms.

Gerry became a ham in New Jersey in 1965, with the Novice callsign, WN2VTT. A year later, he passed the General exam and changed his call sign to WB2VTT. In 1975, after passing the Advanced and Extra exams (including the 20 word per minute Morse code test), he changed his call sign again. The FCC had opened a new block of USA calls, beginning with "N" so he requested his initials. Living in NJ, in "2-land" he got N2GJ. He says he never looked back!

He has visited Albuquerque since the early 70's to visit family and finally moved here in 2017 when he married Susanne. He had met Susanne during his frequent visits and they are happily settled on the west side of Albuquerque. Driving around town one day he saw an antenna and knocked on the front door. It was Bill Firth's, KE5TOB place and he immediately encouraged Gerry to join HDARC.

Gerry's main interests are mentoring new and returning hams, public service nets, ham radio contests, QRP/SOTA, rag chewing and leisurely working DX via SSB, CW and digital modes. He holds a certificate from the ARRL for 40 wpm Morse code. An inveterate joiner, he supports several clubs here in NM and a couple as a remote member back East. More details about his education and interests can be found by looking up his callsign on www.qrz.com

He is a Life Member of the ARRL, AMSAT, and 10-10 International; he is also a member of SKCC #5906 ARCI #11256 and NAQCC #3437. In NJ, he served as the District Emergency Coordinator for both Northern and Southern NJ ARRL sections; as the liaison between RACES, ARES and the American Red Cross and was trustee of the state ARC ham station, N2ARC.

He was interviewed by Eric Guth 4Z1UG for Eric's "QSO Today" weekly podcast (episode 117) <http://www.qsotoday.com/podcasts/n2gj>. He highly recommends the podcast as a way to listen to experienced hams and learn how they've leveraged their amateur radio training and how they devote their time to helping others.

As an "Elmer" and Volunteer Examiner (since the program began), Gerry has devoted a lot of time and energy to ensuring that passing the ham exam is not the end, but the beginning of a lifelong learning about the hobby.

He has owned and sold dozens of transmitters, receivers, and transceivers during his life; from his original Eico 720/Lafayette Receiver, to his previous station (a Flex 6700/Maetro). He may have bought his "forever" radio last Christmas, the ICOM IC-7300, which he praises as, "This may be the best rig I've ever owned!" OK, so he also loves the Elecraft KX-3 which he has owned for over 10 years!

Living in an HOA community has placed limits on the size and type of antennas he can have, but he has subscribed to the “stealth mode” philosophy and is able to make himself heard on the air. He looks forward to meeting all the members, especially the new members of HDARC, as social distancing permits! He can be reached via his email address, n2gj@arrl.net 73 DE N2GJ



June Field Day, 2020 We had a great turnout for the Field Day at the remote site in Tierra Amarilla. The weather was beautiful and everyone enjoyed the quiet and peaceful setting at the RV park. A big thank you to Ken Ham, AG5GUY who generously opened up the opportunity to camp in the beautiful area near the El Vado Reservoir. Most everyone showed up on Friday afternoon and selected a campsite that suited their ham radio setup. Due to the Covid restrictions, we were not able to have any fun potlucks or happy hours, but everyone was friendly while observing appropriate social distancing. Here is a list of the participants that had ham radio set ups. KG6AFY Tracy Bakewell, K5LXP Mark Brueggemann, N6SIK David Ham, AG5GUY Ken Ham, KD5H Roy Neal, N5UJC, Bill Kent, KC5GPX Debbie Kent, KC5GPX, KG5ISG Don Frazier, AF5LV Bill Brennan



Others joined us for the day or just walked around looking at all the different antenna set ups that were used. KG5ZRU Jean Morse-Sanchez, WA5YUL Yul Bratcher. David, Ryan Ham, KG5MFZ and Ken Ham set up the club antenna and attached it to Ken's radio. Don Walker, K6QQT from Farmington joined us to visit with his family, Tracy Bakewell.

More pictures will be in the August newsletter. If you have pictures of your field day or stories that you would like to share, please forward them to me and I can add them to the August

newsletter. Pictures were provided by David Ham and Yul Bratcher.



Afternoon picture of location



Club antenna



VE Testing in June Jim Kajder, AF5FH has provided the results for VE testing in June. The first session on June 6th produced 8 candidates that all passed. Assisting Jim was Bill Firth, KE5TOB and John Tribou, N5UVQ. As Jim says, "It takes a team working together to do these sessions." Jim is using ARRL exam software, which generates onetime use exams. Here is a list with their names and call signs. Please be sure to welcome them to our community if you hear them on the radio.

David Fisher, upgrade to Extra, K5RFP. Mark Burton, upgrade to General, KG5LEQ.

Roy Hogan, upgrade to Extra, KD5FPP. Richard Thompson, passed Technician, General, Extra, AG5ZD. Charles L. Randle, Extra (passed Technician, was expired Extra), AG5ZE.

Andy Dow, passed Technician, General, KI5JJB. James Parish, passed Technician, KI5JJA.

Pedro Acosta, passed Technician, General, KI5JJC.

They did have to contend with the rain and lightning at 8am that morning but were able to persevere and complete the testing.

The second testing session was on Sat, June 20th and there were 13 candidates who tested. They were all successful in testing at their various levels. Thanks to Ralph Meyerhein W5EEI and Michael Rohrkemper AG6ES for volunteering as VEs for this session.

Here is their information and call signs.

New Technician license holders David Crawford, KI5JON, Thomas Sipf, KI5JOO,

Brian James, KI5JOP, Ryan Showers, KI5JOQ, Adam Wagner, KI5JOR, William Becher, KI5JOS,

Allen Montoya, KI5JOT, Kyle Benoit, KI5JOU.

Jacob Quintana, KI5FGI upgraded to General. Annie Cook, KI5BIQ upgraded to Extra.

James Copeland, KD0ICP upgraded to Extra. Edward Nava, K5EJN upgraded to Extra.

David Alvarado, KE5VSE upgraded to Extra. If you are interested in testing, please contact Jim Kajder at jkajder@gmail.com.

Membership Update It is nice to see that we are adding new members even without having meetings to promote and enjoy our hobby. Bob Gilbert, our membership chairperson, is continuing to update the membership list. This is the list of new members for the month of June.

Hal Radloff KI5JBV Lauren Ham KI5GOO Blaine Bachman KI5JBU

Jason Hall pending Pedro Acosta KI5JJC Andy Dow KI5JJB

Larry Randle AG5ZE Joseph Conner K5STI Ryan Ham KG5MFZ

Edwin O'Dell AD5VY Brian James KI5JOP

The new information handout was completed and Jim Kajder is currently providing it to the new Hams that pass their tests. It includes information about HDARC and the first year of free membership that the club offers. Hopefully, this will encourage more of the candidates to join the club and become active members.

Weekly Zoom Meetings The weekly Zoom meeting on Wednesday at 12pm is still ongoing and usually has about 10 to 15 people joining. If you are interested in attending, there is an email that is sent each week to members only with the secure login information. Prior to the meeting, go to Zoom.us and sign in to download the required operational software. David Ham, N6SIK is the moderator for the Wednesday lunch but there isn't a moderator for the Thursday breakfast yet. Please contact David Ham if you want to be the moderator.

WAMO WALL OF FAME

WAMO stands for Worked All Members Once or Only. One of the benefits of being an active member of the HDARC is you have a WAMO number. The purpose of WAMO is to inspire members to talk with each other on the air and exchange WAMO numbers. You should keep a log of contacts and with every 20 contacts send the log to the WAMO Coordinator to receive an achievement certificate as well as induction here on the Wall of Fame.

The WAMO Net meets every Wednesday starting with early check-ins at 6:45 PM Local Time on the Club Repeater 442.750+ 162.2 pl. Come and join us for the WAMO Net.

Cert #	WAMOs Worked	Call Sign	Name
5	20	AG5UY	Ken Ham
6	20	KD5H	Roy Neal

New Coffee Coordinator Susanne Maturo-Jurrens has volunteered to take over the responsibility for providing coffee at the meetings. This is definitely an underappreciated role that is needed at each meeting. Once we are able to resume meetings, please be sure to show your appreciation to her while you drink your hot coffee.

Please help our club maintain our ARRL club affiliation

The HDARC is an ARRL affiliated club. To maintain this status with the ARRL, we must have a minimum of 50% of our membership in the ARRL. If you are joining the ARRL for the first time, please consider joining through our club. For every new subscriber that joins through our club, we will receive a \$15 commission from the ARRL. For every member that renews their ARRL membership, the club will receive a \$2 commission. Go to nm5hd.com, click on Member Services, then Membership Information, then click ARRL Membership Application Form. Fill out the form and bring it to a meeting or email it to the Membership Chairman at jrgilb@comcast.net.

If you are interested in contributing to an article for the newsletter, please contact Becky Ham, N6TYT. I am looking articles for the August Newsletter. My email is Beckylham@aol.com.

Club Shirts can be ordered through Turbo Threads 505-999-1234

1503 Golf Course, Rio Rancho, NM

Club Badges can be ordered through The Signman of Baton Rouge

Order online: <https://thesignman.com/clubs/hdarccart.html>

Questions about the club? Contact the president at hdarcpres@gmail.com.

Newsletter editor Becky Ham, N6TYT