



Making Waves

High Desert Amateur Ham Radio Club Newsletter - June, 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 June

President's Corner David Ham,
N6SIK

Spotlight: Bob Whittner, W5IV

Summer Field Day, June 27 and 28

VE Testing in June

Membership Committee Update

Weekly Zoom Meetings

New Coffee Coordinator Needed



President's Corner, David Ham N6SIK

Hi All, and a hearty welcome to all our new members! As the scope of the club's activities increases, so do the number of folks who want to get involved. The 10 AM Saturday net continues to be a tremendous success thanks to all of you. We average 40 check-ins per week. Ed Poccia, KC2LM did a great job with the May 2nd Simplex Contest and the results can be found in this newsletter. The 6-meter contest that Ed set up for

May 30th was great fun. The results will be in the July newsletter. I am still waiting for direction from the governor's office to determine when we can get back to meeting in person. The new WAMO program seems to be huge success. The Wednesday evening WAMO net at 7pm on the club's UHF repeater is getting more popular as folks remember it! Following the Saturday net, we also have an impromptu WAMO net. The Wednesday Lunch Chat on Zoom is a nice way to spend some time with our members. One of our members has graciously offered the use of his 190 acre ranch and RV park at no charge for our use on Field Day. This site is located near the El Vado Reservoir and the ranch has private access to the Chama River. Please RSVP with me if you'd like to attend for the day or for the weekend. Don't forget to watch my weekly VLOG and read the monthly newsletter as they are great ways to stay up to date with the club's activities.



Spotlight on Bob Witter, W5IV

Bob Witter, W5IV, is the Treasurer of High Desert Amateur Radio Club. Bob received a BSEE and a MSEE from New Mexico State University and was a licensed Professional Engineer in 5 states. He was a Certified Fire Investigator through the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI). Some of his credentials are as a Fellow of the National Society of Professional Engineers, a Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, a Charter Member, Fellow, and Past-President of the National Academy of Forensic Engineers, a Fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. Additionally, he has held numerous offices with professional and technical societies. He was a Battalion Chief, Certified Firefighter II and was formerly a licensed Emergency Medical Technician (EMT-Intermediate) in the La Cueva, New Mexico Volunteer

Fire Department (now the Sandoval County FD). Bob fully retired at the end of 2017.

During his working career, Bob served as a consultant and expert witness in numerous legal cases involving investor-owned utilities, rural electric cooperatives, electrical product failures and electrical fires throughout the country. He was also a frequent instructor of the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), having taught the NESC throughout the country.

Bob's interest in amateur radio began while growing up in Phoenix, Arizona as a teenager. His active involvement with ham radio began in 1976 after college and he ultimately got his Extra Class License in the 1990's.

Bob's main interests are HF contests, rag chewing and chasing DX via SSB, CW and digital modes. He lived in the Jemez Mountains for 17 years, where he had a great DX antenna setup on his acre lot and several times worked a "Clean Sweep" in the ARRL November Sweepstakes. Now he lives in Bernalillo and his only HF antenna is a 20-foot flagpole with a remote tuner at the base of the flagpole, which has worked very well for world-wide contacts, especially on FT8. Bob also has an Elecraft KX2 QRP rig, along with a loop antenna, which all fits in a canvas carrying bag. He calls it "Ham Radio in a Sack"! He sets up his portable station in the sticks when he takes his motorhome on an RV trip.

Bob's other "radio" interest is as a DJ for KUPR, a low power FM station based in Placitas, NM

His ham radio goal is to get his CW speed back up and chase more HF DX!

June Field Day, 2020 The Ultimate Field Day Site June 27-28

Visit a Beautiful, Private, 160 Acre Ranch and a 30 Acre RV Park near Tierra Amarilla in Rio Arriba County. This is an Open Invitation to All Members of the Albuquerque Ham Radio Clubs. A fellow club member of HDARC Club owns the properties.

Come for the Day or Come for the Weekend! Come for the Radio Fun or Just Come for Relaxing Fun. There is no Charge to Any Field Day Weekend Guests.

Lots of RV parking and tent camping available. There is also a building for indoor cot and sleeping bag space. This is located along the Continental Divide at 7,500 feet. There are BBQ Grills and electricity is available. Cell Phone Service is available. You will need to bring all your own Food, Water, Drinks and Toilet Paper. Fantastic Radio Reception, S-Zero Noise Level is NORMAL. 50' Trees for putting up antennas. Located Near Picturesque El Vado Reservoir

Great Opportunity for a Potluck and Socializing.

See Wildlife, Rattle Snakes, Deer, Elk, Red Fox, Brown Bear, Bob Cat, Mountain Lion, River Otter, Eagles. Artifact Hunting on the Old Spanish Trail that runs right through the ranch. Go Metal Detecting. Trout and Fly Fish on the Chama River or Bask in the Hot Springs. There is a cabin right next to the River. Lots and Lots of Hiking and Off Roding on a 2000 Acre Preserve. Shooting Range. BBQ Grills. ELECTRICITY is available. Cell Phone Service. You will need to bring all your own Food, Water, Drinks and Toilet Paper. Fantastic Radio Reception, S-Zero Noise Level is NORMAL. 50' Trees for putting up antennas. Located Near Picturesque El Vado Reservoir. Use the Links to View properties:

Ranch https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/791-County-Road-303a-Tierra-Amarilla-NM-87575/2080264717_zpid/?view=public

RV Park https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/3230-Sr-112-Tierra-Amarilla-NM-87575/2095218054_zpid/?view=public

Please RSVP Your Intention As Soon As You Can. For your questions and much more info, email David Ham n6sik@arrl.net or cell 619-306-7260
SEE YOU THERE!

VE Testing in June

Jim Kajder, AF5FH organized the first VE testing since February on Sunday, May 24th. Of the seven people that tested, six passed with two of them also passing the General. One individual was able to test and pass the Extra class exam. A busy day for all the candidates and the three VE examiners helping. A big thanks to Mathias Gibbens, K0WBG and Marty Soffran, NM5MS for helping Jim with the testing. This first testing and all subsequent testing in June will comply with the State required physical distancing, including face masks and gloves. The candidates will test at staggered testing times during the day. Candidates are asked to bring their own folding table and chair. This is the first time HDARC has ever tested under these constraints. It is due to the dedication and determination of all three of them to provide an opportunity for the testing that it is taking place. It becomes especially urgent because the question pool for Extras is scheduled to change as of July 1, 2020. 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. Here are five new members that have joined in the last month.

Mark Rowley, KE5GZR Sebastian Wicklein, KM6VZZ James Lee NK7B
James Faulkner, KO5V Steven West, KI5EMQ

On an additional note, Bob Gilbert, David Ham and Gerry Jurrens, N2GJ are creating a new handout to give to Hams that pass their tests. It will include 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.

Coffee Coordinator Needed Kathey Meland, WB6JAM has graciously been taking this role for more than six years and has finally decided to resign. Unfortunately, she can no longer commit to attending the club meeting every month. We greatly appreciate all her work through the years; showing up early and ensuring that this little perk is available to everyone that needs some caffeine to get their morning started. Hopefully, there is someone in the club who loves coffee and is willing to come to the meetings a little early to start the coffee. Please contact David Ham, N6SIK@arrl.net if you are willing to volunteer for this.

[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 nm5db.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 July 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

Two Meter FM Simplex Contest Results

by Ed Poccia, KC2LM

Low Power (5 watts and a Simple Antenna)

CALL	Name	#QSOs	#Zip Codes	SCORE
KI5FGJ	Jack	10	6	60
AG5KY	Alec	8	5	40

Medium Power (5 to 15 watts with any antenna)

CALL	Name	#QSOs	#Zip Codes	SCORE
N3MRA	Seth	20	11	220
K6LIE	Jerry	20	10	200
K2RWT	Rich	14	11	154
KI5FGI	Jacob	15	9	135
KD5H	Roy	12	11	132
NM5K	Steve	10	7	70
K0WBG	Mathias	9	7	63
KC2LM	Ed	10	6	60
KE5VSE	David	—	—	56
AD5VY	Edwin	6	6	36
N5UVQ	John	4	4	16
N2VAD	Anne	2	1	2

High Power (>15 watts, and gain antenna)

CALL	Name	#QSOs	#Zip Codes	SCORE
NK5W	Bruce	33	14	462
K0DSC	Dan	27	14	378
N5TMH	Tanda	21	10	210
W5CBP	Chris	20	20	200
N6SIK	David	—	—	150
N2GJ	Gerry	17	7	119
WA5YUL	Yul	13	9	117
KF5MEF	Don	1	1	1
