



Ham Shack

A PUBLICATION OF THE RIO HONDO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Founded March 8, 1976 By WA6GEV & WA6WFC

President's Message

June is behind us, and with it a great Field Day for the club. The results are still being tabulated, but we already know we exceeded last year's total contacts and earned more bonus points. But for me, the best result was the number of our club members and their guests who participated. For some, Field Day is a contest. For me, it is an experience. I do not mean for me, as I have been involved in many, but the experience for our members, whether it is working HF for the first time and seeing first hand that you can talk with people across the country. For others it is from moving out of the comfort of home and actually setting up the antennas and generators and taking care of the other important things like food and water when you are out in the open. Whatever each of us experienced, I hope it was positive.

Our meeting this month will include a demonstration and discussion of digital operations. No, I do not mean digital voice on our repeaters, but keyboard operations. Some of us have experienced NBEMS, but we will go beyond that to learn more about things like PSK31, JT9, JT65 and RTTY. As propagation is about as poor as it can get many hams are turning to these modes as one can literally work the world on five Watts with signals so low you cannot hear them but only see them on your display. Technicians can try these modes on 10 meters as well. Anyone who wishes should bring a laptop or tablet and join in the demo.

Also at the meeting we will have an update on our Field Day point total, an update on our two meter Fusion repeater and be looking for signups for the Walk and Roll activity on Sunday, July 26th. The Walk and Roll will be a club activity rather than a city activity, so all members are welcome and encouraged to participate. A flyer is included with this newsletter. We will also be providing information on the National Traffic System class mentioned at last month's meeting.

Thanks again to all who make this club great. See you Monday.

73,

Rick WM6M

Join the Rio Hondo ARC Net every Wednesday evening at 8 PM on any of our Repeaters: at 146.175 MHz (+), PL 156.7 Hz; at 223.94 MHz (-), PL 100 Hz; or at 445.560 MHz(-), PL 100 Hz. All Hams are invited!

Important Dates

July

- 4th Independence Day
- 5th RHARC NET
- 10th RHARC Meeting**
- 7PM @ 15390 Lambert RD., Whittier CA 90604**
- 12th RHARC NET
- 19th RHARC NET
- 26th RHARC NET
- 31st BOARD Meeting**
- 7PM @ 11139 Washington Blvd. Whittier, CA 90606**

August

- 2nd RHARC NET
- 9th RHARC NET
- 14th RHARC Meeting**
- 16th RHARC NET
- 22nd RHARC NET
- 26th RHARC NET
- 28th BOARD Meeting**
- 30th RHARC NET

September

- 4th Labor Day
- 6th RHARC NET
- 11th RHARC Meeting**
- 13th RHARC NET
- 20th RHARC NET
- 25th BOARD Meeting**
- 27th RHARC NET

2017 RHARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rick Norton (WM6M)
President

Josh Henderson (K6PNP)
Vice-President

Tom Calderwood (AA6TC) *Secretary*

Clay Camero (K6VMC)
Treasurer

**Paul In (KI6EL),
John Johnson (KM6EXO)**
Board Members

Dave Haring (K6CJZ)
Past-President

Dino Darling (KX6D)
Club Trustee

**Joe Provenza (W6UPN),
Dino Darling (KX6D)**
Repeater Committee

Board Meetings are held at IHOP on the last Monday of the month at the IHOP Restaurant on Washington Blvd in the Santa Fe Springs Market Place Shopping Center, at 7:00 PM.

Ham Shack is published monthly. Advertisements are welcomed.

HamShack's are brought to you by
Donald Ocampo (KJ6RXV)
Ret. Secretary



Hello to all of our members who attended the April club meeting.

As you remember Kevin from Bioenno Power mentioned he will be giving us a 15% discount of any purchase of their product. Kevin has sent the discount code for our club. The discount code is: **"RIOHONDO"** <https://www.bioenno.com>. Customers can enter the code into the checkout screen, which will provide 15% discount.

I hope everyone had a good time and learned as much as I did. Also, the club is selling Anderson Power Poles a bag of 10 for \$10. We also have the crimp tool to install them that will be loaned to those who buy the Power Poles. Those who are interested can get a hold of me through e-mail phone or clubs repeater.

73, Josh (K6PNP) V.P.

Our Treasurer is Selling his Kenwood TH-D72 dual band 2m/440 with full featured APRS built-in.

He is selling it as a package deal complete with:
2 batteries.

Kenwood headset w/mic

Kenwood ear bud w/mic

Kenwood Hand speaker w/mic

2 desktop chargers

1 car charger

1 travel charger

Box and manuals

All together for \$400

If you have any questions regarding the Sale of this radio Package please contact Clay (K6VMC) through his email k6vmc@outlook.com



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR MEMBERS BORN IN THE MONTH OF JULY



7/18
Tom Calderwood (AA6TC)
AND
Clay Camero (K6VMC)



RHARC General Meeting May 8th 2017

Highlights: Disaster Emergency Presentation

- 17.67** Rick Norton, WM6M, gaveled the meeting to order at 7:01 pm, followed by the flag salute.
- 17.68 Officers Present:** Rick Norton WM6M President, Josh Henderson K6PNP V.P., Tom Calderwood AA6TC Secretary, Dave Haring K6CJZ Past President, John Johnson KM6EXO Board Member at Large, Paul In KI6EL, Board Member at Large
- 17.69** Members introduced themselves
- 17.70 Officers Presentations**
 - 17.70.1 President Report**
 - 17.70.1.1 Reminder to renew membership in the RHARC
 - 17.70.2 VP Report**
 - 17.70.2.1 General meeting in June – Field Day prep. Field Day is June 24/25. We'll use the meeting to figure out what we need to bring, signups, operator times, equipment, etc.
 - 17.70.2.2 August general meeting: Club "Picnic"/dinner.
 - 17.70.2.3 Upcoming event: Aug 5/6, Angeles Crest 100 mile run, need volunteers to staff checkpoint stations. More information will be presented in next month's meeting.
 - 17.70.2.4 Possible presentation in the June meeting about the National Traffic Service.
 - 17.70.3 Secretary Report**
 - 17.70.3.1 Nothing to report.
 - 17.70.4 Treasurer Report**
 - 17.70.4.1 Not present – but he is doing a lot better.
 - 17.70.4.2 Rick reports \$2274.28 in checking, \$2233.94 in savings (repeater fund).
- 17.71 Committee Reports and Announcements**
 - 17.71.1 Classes (Josh):**
 - 17.71.1.1 Next Technician class – June 2/3/4.
 - 17.71.1.2 Will hold a hands-on session two weeks after the class.
 - 17.71.1.3 Two weeks after the hands on, will hold a General license class.
 - 17.71.1.4 If you want to upgrade your license as test-only, contact Rick and we will be prepared on test day.
 - 17.71.2 Repeater (Dino):**
 - 17.71.2.1 Over the previous weekend, they took the second repeater (with firmware

updates) up to the repeater site and swapped out the 440 repeater.

17.71.2.2 Rick and Josh swapped some parts between the 2M/220 repeater to get the 220 repeater working. Will verify on the next net if there are any more changes necessary. (May be subject to controller issues.)

17.71.2.3 The original 440 repeater needs cleaning. It is at Dino's house for cleaning and updating.

17.71.2.4 Will also get the controller configured.

17.71.2.5 After that, the next step would be to link the 2M/440 repeaters through the controller for the nets. The 220 repeater will be replaced soon currently won't link through the controller.

17.71.3 **Public Service** (Dave):

17.71.4 Dave: There was good turnout on Founder's Day. Signed up 2 new members! There were several other people interested.

17.71.5 Next event is the radio check for the City of Whittier.

17.71.6 Rick: Next Quarterly Disaster Preparedness meeting will be on what Hams can do during emergencies, and also message handling. Rick and Dave will do the presentation.

17.71.7 **Membership** (Paul):

17.71.7.1 Two new members signed up from the Founder's Day event.

17.71.7.2 One new member signed up at the meeting.

17.72 **Wednesday Night Net:**

17.72.1 One change to the procedure: We will do the analog net first, followed by the digital net with known digital members. We will no longer call for a person on digital if they did not check in on FM.

17.72.2 **Hospitality** (James KM6GOK and Lucinda KM6EXM):

17.72.2.1 Dino brought lemonade for the meeting. Thank you!

17.73 **Old Business:**

17.73.1 The club purchased some power poles and has offered a bag of 10 for \$10 to the club. A crimper is available for loan.

17.74 **New Business:**

17.74.1 For people looking to get a handheld strap to secure their (not so cheap) handhelds to their wrists, it was suggested to go to Monte's Camera in uptown Whittier. They have a whole box full of camera wrist straps available for \$5 each. Beats the HRO price.

17.74.2 Suggestion Box: A member submitted to the board to have a suggestion box available during the class for members to use for hints, helps, and suggestions. The board

approved a 3-month trial run.

- 17.75 BOARD VOTE:** During the break, Lucinda asked to pursue a 501(c)(3) for the club. Jack moves to approve, Tom seconds. Passed unanimous.
- 17.76 Presentation:** “Why things didn’t Necessarily Work Out Like You Planned” by Jim Crabtree, L.A. County EMS.
 - 17.76.1 A good, thought provoking meeting on how to REALISTICALLY plan for an emergency.
 - 17.76.2 Jim Crabtree: 636-393-1784 (phone number posted with permission)
- 17.77 Final Meeting Notes:**
 - 17.77.1 Vi: NorCal DXpedition meeting: Vi was able to attend. 703 people were at the banquet. A lot of good information was presented.
 - 17.77.2 Dino: This Saturday, there is an event in Fullerton called Antennas in the Park – a tee-hunting training session. Good for people interested in tee-hunting to see what is involved. Meet at Hillcrest Park at the Isaac Walton Cabin, 10 a.m., May 13th.
- 17.78** The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Tom Calderwood

RHARC BOARD Meeting May 29th 2017

Highlights: Getting ready for Field Day. W6KAT call sign reapplication.

- 17.96** Rick called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.
- 17.97 Present:** Rick Norton WM6M President, Josh Henderson K6PNP Vice President, Tom Calderwood AA6TC Secretary, Dave Haring K6CJZ Past President, John Johnson KM6EXO Board Member at Large, Lucinda Halley KM6EXM and James Halley KM6GOK – Hospitality, Dave Olney WA6QZD, Ernie Mitchell KM6JSZ
- 17.98** Grant non-board members a voice in the meeting. Tom moves, John seconds, approved unanimous
- 17.99 President Report:** Nothing to report
- 17.100 VP Report:**
 - 17.100.1 **Future Programs:** June Meeting will have a talk about field day, equipment, etc. Priority for Field Day, and presentation on NTS (National Traffic System) by Lucinda. Nothing for July, August is the club picnic.
- 17.101 Secretary:**
 - 17.101.1 Minutes: Josh moves accept minutes as distributed. Dave seconds. Discussion: none. Accepted, no objections
- 17.102 Treasurer:**

17.102.1 Not present.

17.102.2 Rick: No further reports. No further transactions from last month, numbers are unchanged. No checks written, no deposits received.

17.103 Committee Reports:

17.103.1 **Classes:** (Josh) Tech Class this weekend, June 2-4. 2 people are currently signed up, need 5 to run the class.

17.103.1.1 Need to investigate how we publicize the classes to find the cause of the unusual 15 in one class in January vs. the possibility to cancel the next two. Will have some testing for upgrades on Sunday.

17.103.2 **Practical Workshop:** June 17th: The Whittier PD conference room is reserved from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

17.103.2.1 Following that, **General Class** is July 7-9. There are issues of scheduling classes via Whittier because they are greatly understaffed. Rick suggests an email be created, like RioHondoHamClass@gmail.com, for people to give their info and can be handed to whomever organizes the classes.

17.103.3 **Repeater update:** Dino not present, no info.

17.103.3.1 Rick suggests finding an alternate person to assist the with the upgrades.

17.103.3.2 Dino donated a very nice cabinet to the club.

17.103.3.3 Josh to contact Dino.

17.103.4 **Council:** Nothing to report.

17.103.5 **Walk-n-Roll:** (Dave) Haven't heard anything back from the city. The event is in July.

17.103.6 **Newsletter:** (Donald) Not present, nothing to present for the newsletter.

17.103.6.1 It will have information coming up concerning field day – need to get the material pushed to the board so they can be OK'd to publish.

17.103.7 **Membership:** Paul still needs to create a current roster.

17.103.8 **Wednesday Night Net:** (Rick)

17.103.8.1 Change implemented for Digital Net (not to call in the digital segment unless the person replied in the analog net).

17.103.8.2 Week and a half ago, during the 440 net, there was a roundtable that went on till 9 p.m. Rick would like to see a casual net – a chance for members to get together and chat on the 440 repeater in FM, encouraging people to use 440.

17.103.8.3 Looking to start a social net on the 440 repeater, not sure of the day/time yet. John motions to try an informal net on Sat night at 7 p.m. on 440 FM. Tom seconds. Discussion: Do we include a trial duration? It will succeed and die on its own. Rick: Maybe ask for volunteer net controls to run it. APPROVED with no objections/abstentions.

17.103.8.4 Anyone who listens to both 2m and 440, the 440 side has some folks using it as a private intercom. We need to encourage proper use. The social net would help.

17.103.9 **Hospitality:** (not including Field Day), staying in the black, still finding snack preferences.

17.103.10 **Mentor Sessions:** Dave and Rick had a discussion that the Elmer session for the June general meeting will be on Field Day training.

17.104 Old Business:

17.104.1 **W6KAT license:**

17.104.1.1 We applied for a throw away call, have received it, immediately applied for W6KAT. When applied for, we used what we thought was the clubs FRN. For the W6KAT call, they rejected it because there actually, there was no FRN for the club. Many years ago, the RHARC license did not have an FRN – Tom Polly used his own. This has been resolved and reapplied.

17.104.1.2 Rick has the legally required letter signed by Don's daughters to obtain his call sign under Provision C. Letter passed to Tom.

17.105 New Business:

17.105.1 **Field Day:**

17.105.1.1 (Rick) Last years field day earned a B grade. Had a lot of A+ elements, especially attendance. But 4 things where we got D's. 1) Lack of adequate training for what to expect when a person sits down to operate. Will be resolved with the next Elmer session. 2) Food – was not coordinated very well. Has been addressed by the hospitality team. 3) Antennas – getting them installed and tested, coax run, etc. Was slow, stumbled a few times. Should be better this time around. 4) Had a tough time networking computers for logging. The goal to get 3 of the computers for HF and UHF/VHF station to be together in the same room at the same time to do a real-time test. Hope to have all 4 of the negative issues addressed.

17.105.1.2 John volunteered to assist, further work needed.

17.105.1.3 We did operate from both sides of the sidewalk last year – this year we will only operate from the east side.

17.105.1.4 Setup will be organized by Rick, Dave, and Josh. Want to encourage others to be involved.

17.105.1.5 Rick wants to organize a meeting of all the people to be involved with setup/operations and build a work project, getting people to get assigned certain projects.

17.105.2 **Tax status:** (Lucinda) Tax exempt status has been revoked but it can be renewed. Will need help from Rick, Dave, and Clay.

17.106 Josh motions to adjourn, approved.

Radio Volunteers a Key Component of Public Safety

Agencies at the local and state level recognize the importance of the ham operators.

BY YAKIMA HERALD-REPUBLIC, WASH. / JUNE 20, 2017

http://media2.govtech.com/images/940*630/radio6.jpg SHUTTERSTOCK

(TNS) - Police, fire and medical personnel immediately come to mind when the citizenry thinks of emergency responders, and for good reason. They are highly trained, highly skilled professionals who put their lives on the line in times of natural or human-caused disasters. For government agencies, an essential link consists of dispatch crews that garner information and quickly get the word out about trouble spots. That critical function gets a huge assist from a group of volunteers who perform a key role on the airwaves.

In Yakima County, the Amateur Radio Emergency Service consists of a team of 20 ham radio operators who are very much in the loop during times of emergencies. In mountainous areas where steep terrain renders cellphone service precarious, the ham operators are able to communicate with search and rescue crews that are scouring the area for missing hikers, skiers or snowmobilers.

Agencies at the local and state level recognize the importance of the ham operators, who locally have been headed by Jo Whitney for the past quarter-century or so. Yakima County Sheriff Brian Winter, an amateur radio operator, coordinates with the group, and some operators are part of the sheriff's Search and Rescue Team. The team also works with the Yakima Valley Office of Emergency Management and has a radio room at the county Emergency Operations Center in Union Gap. Both Yakima hospitals have amateur radio stations.

It doesn't stop at the county level. Last year, a number of state agencies used radio teams for communications during the massive Cascadia Rising earthquake and tsunami drill. State emergency officials have recommended that local agencies establish a "habitual relationship" with the teams.

Fortunately, disasters are few and far between, but the operators still get plenty of work. Earlier this month, they were situated along the course of the Round Mountain Half-Marathon footrace, which includes a grueling four-mile uphill — and corresponding downhill — as part of the 13.1-mile course. They also help keep track of the hundreds of runners strewn along the course of the Yakima River Canyon Marathon, in another locale where terrain makes cellphones unreliable. Next month, they will be on hand for the Grey Rock 50-kilometer trail race — again, a mountainous challenge where the operators are an essential part of safety preparations. Many other events have benefited from their presence over the decades.

The county's Amateur Radio Emergency Service is there for the public not only in times of calamity, it also to enable events that enhance the quality of life for the Yakima Valley. They may be seen — and heard — by only a few, but their presence adds a measure of safety for everybody in Yakima County.

* Members of the Yakima Herald-Republic editorial board are Bob Crider and Frank Purdy.

RHARC General Meeting June 12th 2017

Highlights: Lucinda, KM6EXM, gave a presentation about RadioGrams/National Traffic System. Rick, WM6M, gave a presentation about Field Day during the Elmer Session. Good to see Clay at the meeting!

- 17.79** Rick gave the meeting to order at 7:09 pm, followed by the flag salute.
- 17.80 Officers Present:** Rick Norton WM6M President, Josh Henderson K6PNP V.P., Tom Calderwood AA6TC Secretary, Clay Camero K6VMC Treasurer, Dave Haring K6CJZ Past President, John Johnson KM6EXO Board Member at Large, Paul In KI6EL, Board Member at Large
- 17.81** Members introduced themselves
- 17.82 Officers Presentations**
 - 17.82.1 **President Report:** Nothing to report
- 17.83 VP Report**
 - 17.83.1 July Meeting: No speaker yet. May give a presentation about NBEMS.
 - 17.83.2 August Meeting: Annual club picnic at the Sizzler in La Mirada
- 17.84 Secretary Report:** Nothing to report.
- 17.85 Treasurer Report**
 - 17.85.1 Present, and feeling good to be back!
 - 17.85.2 Formal report will be presented at the Board Meeting
 - 17.85.3 \$2340.15 in checking, \$2334.33 in savings.
- 17.86 Committee Reports and Announcements**
 - 17.86.1 **Classes** (Josh):
 - 17.86.1.1 The next practical class is scheduled for June 17th, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Whittier EOC location.
 - 17.86.1.2 The next General Class and exam scheduled for July 7-8-9. Need to notify Josh or Rick. 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. till test time (3 p.m.?) Sunday.
 - 17.86.2 **Repeater** (Dino):
 - 17.86.2.1 Yaesu is offering an upgrade for their repeaters to version DR-2X. We will have more info when Yaesu distributes it. We will get credit for our current DR-1X repeaters. Cost to upgrade is \$300 or \$500, depending if we want the LAN functionality.
 - 17.86.3 **Public Service** (Dave):

17.86.3.1 Nothing heard from the Whittier Walk and Roll folks. The event is scheduled for July. Will try to contact the main person.

17.86.4 **Membership** (Paul):

17.86.4.1 Badges are not in yet.

17.86.4.2 Roster is almost done.

17.86.5 **Saturday Social Net:**

17.86.5.1 Social net is scheduled for Saturday night at 7 p.m. on the 440 FM repeater. We may try to work in NewsLine into some timeslot as well.

17.86.6 **Hospitality** (James KM6GOK and Lucinda KM6EXM):

17.86.6.1 Remember to feed the kitty!

17.87 Old Business:

17.87.1 No updates for Old Business

17.88 New Business:

17.88.1 No new business

17.89 Vi had a few words.

17.90 Presentation: National Traffic System/Radio Grams

17.90.1 Lucinda, KM6EXM, gave a presentation about generating Radio Grams and what they look like.

17.90.2 Rick made a presentation about the upcoming Field Day and requested certain items still needed. We received great response from the Membership. All items have been secured.

17.91 The meeting was adjourned around 9 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Tom Calderwood

Well, we survived another Field Day. It was overall a very good Field Day. I believe that all who took part in the activities had a good experience. There was plenty of setup work, plenty of food, and plenty of time to “chew the rag”.

With the above being said, I had some interesting observations concerning the actual on the airtime of many of our newer hams. There is one thing that we older hams learned early in our life as a ham. That very important lesson is very simple but can be very time consuming. The lesson is called “Listening”. It is a very vital part of any aspect of communications.

When I was learning communications (Morse code) in the navy it was a lesson that was learned by having the instructor walk around the room as we were coping code and pounding on a metal waste basket. The object was to teach us to listen no matter what happened near or around us.

In the ham radio world it is said often in classes listen, listen, listen. The first thing you have to develop is an ear for signals of all kinds and to pick out call signs, and other valuable information such as “exchanges”. Exchanges are the information that is passed to insure that the contact you made is what goes in the log and can be confirmed by the contacted station.

It takes a good deal of just listening and writing down information you hear, whether you intend to contact a station or not. Sometimes you have to listen to a station over and over to get the simplest information correct.

So, remember, listen, listen, and listen. Over time you will develop an ear for what is being said on the air.

Dave Haring Past President / Public Service Comm. Co-ord.



RIO HONDO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P. O. BOX 1781 WHITTIER, CA 90609

