

The Heterodyne

Newsletter of the West Valley Amateur Radio Association

June Meeting

**ARES - RACES - ACS
Emergency Communications
in Santa Clara County
by Logan Zintsmaster, KZ6O**

**Wednesday, June 14
Meeting Starts at 7pm**

Meeting Location:
American Red Cross,
Silicon Valley Chapter
2731 N. First Street at Plumeria Dr
(southwest corner) in San Jose

Map at www.wvara.org/meetings.html

WVARA Repeaters (W6PIY)		
Band	Frequency	PL
6 Meters	52.580- MHz	151.4 Hz
2 Meters	147.39+ MHz	151.4 Hz
1.25 Meters	223.96- MHz	156.7 Hz
0.70 Meter	441.35+ MHz	88.5 Hz
0.23 Meter	1286.2- MHz	100 Hz

Club Net

WVARA's club net is on the W6PIY repeaters each Tuesday at 8:30 pm. All repeaters are linked together during the net. The net script can be found at www.wvara.org/net.html .

Visitors Are Welcome!

President's Letter

It's Because it's a Phone

Currently, in California, there are significant legal questions concerning the use of hand held amateur radio microphones by vehicle drivers. While there is a bill working its way through the legislature to correct this situation, it might be worth while considering why we have the problem in the first place.

We have many things in our vehicles which can distract a driver. There are several things in my new Subaru which cause me to take my eyes off the road, including: The climate control system, the entertainment system, and the "eye candy" monitoring system with 3 different readouts for gas mileage. We have people who drive reading the newspaper, putting on makeup, and eating hamburgers. We have unruly children. We have many things which distract the driver. Why are cell phones such a large problem that our legislature decided the solution was to ban any kind of remote communication involving the use of the hand.



Given all the other distracting things that use the hands -- changing climate settings, changing the entertainment system, keeping the hamburger from dripping on clothing, and quelling the children come to mind -- there's plenty of use of the hands by distracted drivers. But, there is no movement to ban these things. The problem must be associated with particular devices, and specifically, the most common remote communication device, the cell phone.

Consider that the telephone occupies a very special place in American culture. How many people have heard, "Quiet! I'm on the phone."? -- Subtext: my call is more important than what you are doing.

How many have seen a quiet dinner interrupted to answer the telephone? -- Subtext: The telephone is permitted to interrupt us at any time.

Why do marketers love to call on the telephone? Because they know that people will always try to answer quickly. Answering the phone is more important than anything else they might be doing.

Another story to illustrate this domination of our attention by the telephone: I have a friend who was sitting facing into a "T" intersection at a red light. A car came up behind him and ran into his car. A teenage girl hopped out of the driver's seat screaming, "Why didn't you move! Couldn't you see I was on an important call!" (Yes, I heard this story from him directly.)

While much fewer than 1% of drivers are as extreme as this teen, it doesn't take very many people who place the telephone as more important than driving to cause a significant accident rate. It's not because it is hard to give driving priority over communication; airplane pilots, police, fire fighters, taxi drivers, truck drivers, CBers, and hams handle the balance easily. It is because some people have been trained to treat a telephone conversation as being more important than driving.

One logical conclusion is that hands free cell phone systems won't correct this problem. Correction probably lies outside the realm of legal action. Perhaps the great increase in sales "cold calls" will cause people to reassess their attitude towards the telephone. Perhaps driver training and education programs will address safety and driver distraction in a way that teaches people how to use their cell phones safely. Perhaps some other solution will turn up.

In any case, legislatures should directly target driving behavior that shows the driver is placing other activities as being more important than driving the vehicle. Laws might encourage police to talk with people who have trouble staying in their lanes, or are not paying attention to what is happening around them.

73 Bill AE6JV

New Members

***The following new members
joined WVARA recently:***

Henry So, AI6NT

Brian Davis, KJ6WH

Cameron Christensen, KM6DAC

David Brown, WR6Z

Welcome!!!

Meeting Topic - June 14
ARES - RACES - ACS
Emergency Communications in Santa Clara County
by Logan Zintsmaster, KZ6O

This month's guest speaker will be **Logan Zintsmaster (KZ6O)** from Santa Clara County **ARES/RACES**. He will be coming to lead us through a 30 minute discussion titled "ARES - RACES - ACS - Emergency Communications in Santa Clara County". We'll get into such topics and what they do, how they are organized, and how to get involved.

Field Day Final Huddle - This will be the last time we meet where we are NOT on the hill. Please come prepared with any last minute questions. We'll also spend 20 minutes going through my final checklist, which will include such favorite hits as:

- N1MM+ Version - Setup will be emailed out and live support will be provided on Friday evening and Saturday morning by Bill Fehring.
- Food - We'll need some information on when, how many people, etc. Our gracious volunteers need guidance.
- Kitchen and Social Area - All in place? Tarp?
- Equipment Pickup - There's been plenty of batteries, tents, cables, flyers, etc picked up from various houses. Has all been gotten?
- Trailers - Do we have tow vehicles and people all lined up?
- Equipment to Bring - Are each of the tent and band captains fully prepared with all they need?
- Helpers - Is everyone sure of what they will be doing? Please check with me for tasks if you aren't sure.
- Schedule - Times and dates of critical interest for all.
- Operators - Have CW and SSB teams worked out a plan?
- Site Survey - June 18 at 4pm at the site.
- Final Roles to Fill - Safety officer, Friday dinner, visitor sign and info table.

Meeting Location: Meeting Room 5 at the Silicon Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross, 2731 N. First Street at Plumeria Drive (southwest corner) in San Jose. Most of us come in through the side entrance on the southwest side of the building — look for our red WVARA sign on the side where they park all the Red Cross trucks. Cookies will be served, and of course visitors are welcome!

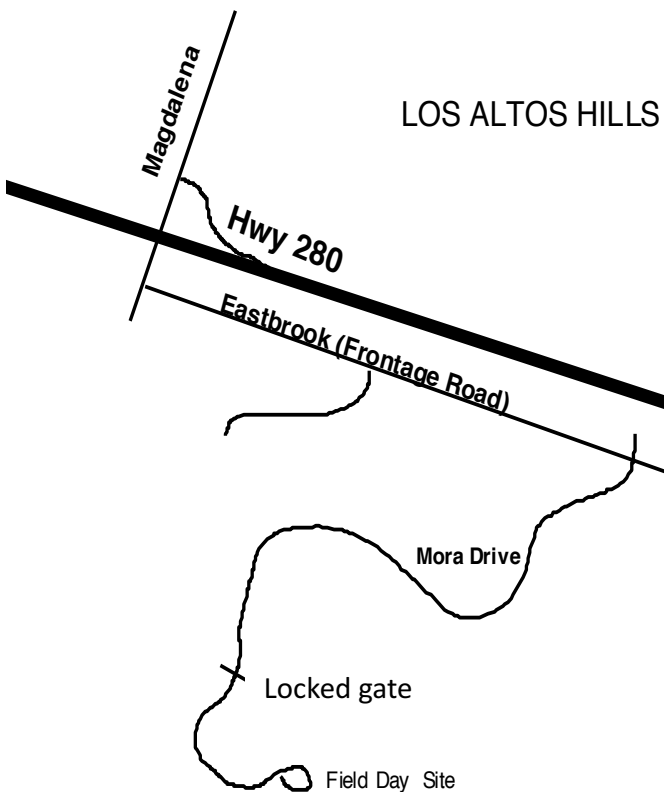
If you haven't been to the Red Cross, "talk-in" is usually available on the Association's repeaters. Best choice would be 2m/220.

And for those who are hungry, several of us will be eating dinner at 6:00pm, just prior to the meeting, at Dish-n-Dash, 2551 N 1st St, which is only a block or two from the Red Cross.

Hope to see you there!
Bobby, KA4VBF

WVARA Net Check-Ins (W6PIY)						
Tuesdays at 8:30 PM						
Call Sign	Name	05/09/17	05/16/17	05/23/17	05/30/17	06/06/17
Total		19	19	17	15	19
AA6RB	Roy		X	X	X	
AB6XS	Kevin	X			X	X
AE6JV	Bill	X	X			
AF6AE	Bill	X	X	X		
AG6YO	Kevin	X	X	X		X
K0FRG	Bob	X			X	
K6QFO	Mike			X		X
K6SCC	Brian		X			
KB6TPS	Brian		X			
KC6ZKT	Steve	X	X	X	X	X
KD6VOR	Marv			X		
KE6MT	Rex	X				
KF6EMB	Svend	X	X	X	X	X
KI6SLX	Peri	X	X			
KJ6CQJ	Dean	X				X
KJ6GMO	Sue	X				X
KJ6ZZI	Michael	X	X	X	X	X
KK6VF	Kevin	NET	NET	NET	NET	NET
KK6WRP	James	X	X			X
KM6DAC	Cameron	X	X	X	X	X
KM6GVO	Eric					X
KM6JI	Yoon				X	X
KS6PD	Steve					X
N6FYR	Matt	X	X	X	X	X
N6GD	Greg			X		
N9CU	Andy			X	X	X
NU6P	John	X				
W6DGS	Dan		X			
W6ESL	Tom			X	X	
W6IA	Mark		X	X	X	X
W6PK	Phil	X				
W6TTL	Josh					X
W9KKN	Bill		X	X	X	
WB6KHP	Dave	X	X	X	X	X
WC6YJ	Clay		X			

WVARA Field Day, June 23-25, 2017



WHAT: Field Day is a great opportunity to get outdoors, gain experience assembling equipment in the rough, and operate a station under challenging conditions. This year we will operate QRP (low power, 5 watts max) in the 13A Battery category with phone, CW, and digital HF stations as well as satellite ground station, a Get-On-the-Air station for visitors, and multiple VHF/UHF stations. To see details of our site last year, refer to: www.arrl.org/soapbox/view/9463

WHERE: This year's Field Day operation will be at the top of Mora Hill located in the San Antonio Open Space Reserve near the Magdalena exit off of Highway 280 in Los Altos Hills. This site overlooks the Silicon Valley from an elevation of 500 feet.

WHEN: We will be setting up on Friday, June 23. Field Day operations officially begin Saturday, June 24, at 11am and continue until 11am Sunday. Our goal is to keep all of the HF stations in operation the full 24 hours. Tear-down and packing activities will probably last from 11am until about 2pm Sunday afternoon.

If you have any questions, you can reach us via CQFieldDay@gmail.com or call Jim at 408 490-1185

Treasurer's Report

Here are the April & May Financial reports. As of 5/31 WVARA had assets of \$8,451.95.

The most significant event in the last month was the receipt of \$150 in donations in addition to \$173 in dues. WVARA always accepts donations. The 2017 budget anticipates receiving \$500 in donations this year, of which to date we have received \$286. Please consider helping us reach our modest goal. Donations can be given to the treasurer at meeting, or mailed to the club PO box (WVARA P.O. Box 6544 San Jose, CA 95150-6544). Note that donations may be made anonymously, and may be designated for specific uses, such as Field Day, or CQP, however it should also be noted that since we are not a 501(C) (3) donations to the club are not deductible on your income taxes. The BOD is considering becoming a 501(C) (3).

July 8, our day at the De Anza Flea Market is approaching. Greg DeBrisay, N6GD, has again offered to coordinate activities for our most significant fund raiser of the year. Plan on assisting.

If you have financial questions, direct them to me at treasurer@wvara.org.
Peri KI6SLX

(Financial reports are on the following page.)

WVARA						
Statement of Activity						06/12/17
April through May 2017						
				Apr '17	May '17	TOTAL
Income						
	4200	— Misc. Income		0.04	0.04	0.08
	4800	— Donations		0.00	153.00	153.00
	4100	— Program Income				
	4110	— Membership Dues				
		4114	— Fam. Repeater (\$18)	0.00	18.00	18.00
		4113	— Fam. Assn. (\$20)	0.00	20.00	20.00
		4112	— Individ. Repeater (12)	12.00	60.00	72.00
		4111	— Individ. Assn. (\$15)	15.00	75.00	90.00
		Total 4110 — Membership Dues		27.00	173.00	200.00
		Total 4100 — Program Income		27.00	173.00	200.00
		Total Income		27.04	326.04	353.08
Expense						
	5100	— Administrative Expenses				
		5190	— Misc. Expense	0.00	10.00	10.00
		5110	— Finance Fees Paid	1.08	1.40	2.48
		Total 5100 — Administrative Expenses		1.08	11.40	12.48
		Total Expense		1.08	11.40	12.48
		Net Income		25.96	314.64	340.60

WVARA
Statement of Position
As of May 31, 2017

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

1000 — Financial Accounts

1900 — Cash

1910 — Petty Cash

Total 1900 — Cash

1200 — Savings; BotW

1300 — Paypal

1100 — Checking; BotW

Total 1000 — Financial Accounts

Total Checking/Savings

Total Current Assets

TOTAL ASSETS

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity

3300 — Unrestricted Net Assets

3320 — Repeater Balance

3900 — Retained Earnings

3310 — Associaton Balance

Total 3300 — Unrestricted Net Assets

Net Income

Total Equity

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY

May 31, '17

	140.23
	140.23
	4,495.14
	2,152.04
	1,664.54
	8,451.95
	8,451.95
	8,451.95
	8,451.95
	2,593.70
	0.04
	7,237.13
	9,830.87
	-1,378.92
	8,451.95
	8,451.95

Antennas ...

I have 3 beam antennas that need a good home and was wondering if I can donate them to you. Wife has finally put her foot down, so the other alternative is scrap.

I have a Cushcraft 4 EL 10m and a satellite 2m/70cm pair of crossed Yagi's (see pics).

Looking forward to hearing from you...
Brian AI6MK, brian_sadler at sbcglobal dot net



2017 West Valley Amateur Radio Association Board

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