

Ham Radio in Humboldt county and *BEYOND...*



Hams in the News

Tnx aa6dx

<https://tinyurl.com/y8ztk5r4> This link contains both a transcript and audio of hams being interviewed on NPR for Porto Rico relief.

<https://tinyurl.com/y9spyxc4> This link devoted to the Dominica relief effort. The youtube link is outstanding.

PACIFICON 2017

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Friday through Sunday
Oct. 20-22, 2017

Pacificon gives you three great days of activities for one low cost: A full slate of outstanding Forum presentations about a wide range of amateur radio topics; a large Vendor Expo filled with exciting products and exhibits; an outdoor Swap Meet; QRP activities; Youth Activities; electronics kit building and soldering classes; a One Day License Prep Class to prepare you to pass the amateur radio Technician license examination and get your first amateur radio license; a Special Events Station where you can operate and contact other hams worldwide, even if you don't have a General or Extra Class

license; a wonderful Banquet; our annual Wouff Hong Initiation ceremony; a chance to hear about and discuss important national amateur radio issues with top ARRL leaders, a chance to win radios and other great prizes throughout the convention, and perhaps the best part - *a chance to interact and share information with lots of other amateur radio enthusiasts to further (or begin) your own knowledge and to advance the hobby.*

<http://www.pacificon.org/>

Humboldt Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of Meeting – October 3, 2017

Officers Present: Jim Armstrong **KW6JIM**, Pres./ Peter Esko **W6IES**. V. Pres. /

Dan Eaton **KB6DE**, Secretary /

Anthony Wiese **KG6LHW** Event Planner and Librarian /

Jaye Inabnit **KE6SLS**, Newsletter Editor Pro Tem

Jim called the meeting to order at 19:02 PDT in the Eureka Municipal Auditorium (Muni) Meeting Room @ 406 11th St. (11th and E).

Introductions were made and the log book was passed around. 23 members attended.

Health and Welfare: Marcy Campbell **KE6IAU** down with a cold tonight. We wish her well.

Secretary Report: Dan's September minutes were reviewed. Peter motioned to accept, Del Freret **W6KOZ** seconded and all voted AYE.

Treasurer's Report: No report.

New Business: Jim told us Winston Lowe **KJ6ICA** is now working for KRRCR TV and living east of us. He has access to a possible Shasta Valley repeater site (at 6700 ft.) which would communicate with our FWRA Pierce Mt. repeater as well as the greater Redding area. Don Campbell **KE6HEC** said this would go a long way toward revitalizing our repeater system. There was some discussion about cost, availability of filters and such. Jaye said much can be had on eBay for a reasonable price. He will research the possibilities of this project and report to us.

Past Event Report: Howard Lang **KB6NN** presented the **Sept. 12th Tuesday Workshop**. Howard said he had some technical difficulties, but we thought they were "teachable moments" and the meeting was very interesting. Howard plans to have a second session about FLDigi in November at Anthony's suggestion.

- The annual **FWRA Picnic** was fun, although we noted a drop off in attendance from last year. We hope attendance will improve with participation of newly licensed club members.
- Don C. announced the **Fall Technician Class** is continuing at 7:00pm each **Monday**, here at the Muni. There are five more sessions planned.

Future Events: Peter reminded us **The Sustainable Living and Preparedness Expo** will be on **Saturday, October 14th** from 10am – 5pm at the Arcata Community Center. This would be

- an EMCOMM related event and we may want to participate.
- Mark Nelson **AA6DX** told us of the annual *California QSO Party* on the first weekend in **Oct., 14th & 15th**. Refer to: cqp.org Mark likes to use N3FJP Amateur Radio Software for such events. See: N3FJP.com
 - **The Humboldt Redwoods Marathon** will be on **Sunday, October 15th in Weott**. Contact Don C., Peter or Don Nelson **WA6NBG** if you want to participate as communicators.
 - **The Great California Shakeout** event will be on **Oct. 19th** at 10:19 PDT. See: shakeout.org
 - The **NOAA National Weather Service** on Woodley Island in Eureka will host one of its "First Friday" events on **Friday and Saturday Nov. 1st & 2nd**. Its amateur radio station will be available for our use there. Contact Jim or Don C. for details.
 - The **Adorni Center** in Eureka will host an **Emergency Preparedness** event on **Saturday Nov. 4th** from 10 to 4. Our club plans to have an indoor booth. Contact Peter.
 - For the **2nd Tuesday Workshop** on **Nov. 14th**, Howard will present FLDigi, Part 2.

September Action Items review: Anthony reported nothing new on the trailer. Carl Eggleston **KM6LIQ** has taken over responsibilities for the club web site. Access pends from John Olson **KG6MAR**, and Roy Cantu **N1FRN**. Anthony said our Facebook page was updated (by Kevin?). Thanks, Kevin.

EMCOMM Report: The next **EMCOMM** meeting is scheduled for **Oct. 19th** at 19:00 PDT at the Muni. Peter has invited Ryan Alward, Meteorologist, to speak about **SYWARN**. Peter mentioned our possible participation in Humboldt County's program called **VOAD** for Voluntary Organization Active in Disasters. Peter is the primary contact and Don N. and Anthony said they could be listed as secondary contacts. More on this later.

Misc.: Anthony has had recent success with **SCTV** satellite communication. His Slow Scan TV reception from the IRSS was acknowledged with Award Certificate N0. 342. He showed a QSL card he received from an operator in Japan. Very cool.

- Jim showed us his HARC vest prototype. He likes the radio symbol over an outline of Humboldt County. Jim mentioned JT65 was active at midnight this week. Fun.
- We now have an alternative to telephone number 211 as a non-emergency alternative to 911. **211 is the Community Resources Help Line** funded, in part by United Way.
- Jim, Don and Anthony are off to Reno this weekend for the **2017 AMSAT Space Symposium**.

Break and Raffle: Thanks to Don C for the cookies and juice.

- Raffle winners were: Jim, Forrest Schaffer **KI6GRU**, Dexter Luther **AG6DA**, Charles Gannon **KK6MPU**, and Peter. Thanks to Don N. for

running the raffle.

Presentation: Del gave an interesting presentation and video of the FIDO (Fog Investigation and Dispersal) system pioneered at our very own Arcata Airport in McKinleyville during WW II. More on this: en.m.wikipedia.org

The meeting was adjourned at 20:15 PDT.

Note to new or prospective Members:

The club has an informal lunch every Thursday, 11:30 at the Pantry Restaurant on Broadway in Eureka (next to the Motel 6). All are welcome.

Minutes submitted by Dan Eaton **KB6DE**

Hello Jaye:

Attached is a photo I took of the HARC tent at the Arcata Sustainable Living & Preparedness Expo on Oct. 14. The HAMs did a great outreach effort with the attendees and certainly put the focus on amateur radio. I thought it might be useful for your newsletter.

This was the first time the Expo has had a preparedness theme--and a timely one for us in Humboldt. There's more info at www.planitgreenhumboldt.org



Best regards,
Linda W5JXO

Lead Instructor / Humboldt **CERT** Coalition / 707.498.8132

FCC Affirms Huge Fine in New York Interference Case

The FCC has affirmed a huge fine of more than \$400,000 on Jay Peralta, a Queens, New York, man who has admitted to making unauthorized transmissions on New York City Police Department (NYPD) radio frequencies, maliciously interfering with officers' communications. The FCC had sent Peralta a *Notice of Apparent Liability* ([NAL](#)) last April 14. Peralta, 20, is alleged to have transmitted false bomb threats, false claims of criminal activity involving firearms, false distress calls from purported NYPD officers, and threats against individual NYPD officers. The unauthorized transmissions began in 2016, according to the FCC.

"Mr. Peralta has not filed a response to the *NAL*," the FCC said in an October 10 *Forfeiture Order* ([FO](#)). "Based on the information before us, we find no reason to cancel, withdraw, or reduce the proposed penalty, and we therefore assess the \$404,166 forfeiture the Commission previously proposed in the *NAL*."

The FCC has calculated the precise forfeiture at \$404,166.

The FCC said the transmissions occurred from April through August 2016. The NYPD subsequently provided the FCC with a written statement by Peralta, who is currently in custody pending trial for related charges, in which he acknowledged making nine unauthorized transmissions on the NYPD radio system, the FCC said. Read [more](#).



Ham Radio exams

Bring some money and your photo ID

Date: Oct 21 2017
Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Daniel R. Martin
(707) 768-9147
Email: Dan.AG6JW@gmail.com
VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#)
Location: Fortuna Volunteer fire Dept
320 S Fortuna Blvd
Fortuna CA 95547

Date: Nov 18 2017
Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Irma D. Ruegg
(707) 826-0767
Email: hamradio1991@hotmail.com
VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#)
Location: Fire Dept (Classrooms)
6th & C Street
Eureka CA 95501

JOTA at Redwood Park, Arcata

This Saturday, 10AM to 2PM

I got this message from an Arcata Scout leader regarding our participation in this year's Jamboree on the Air! Please call her if one or more of you can play. It would need to be a decent HF setup so you can get some scouts on the air! I will be out of town.

Further information from today is that Don, ke6hec is leading this effort now and several hams are going to attend. So come out for some Ham and Scout fun this weekend! **Tnx Don!**

From Tenille Choi...

I've been trying to find you guys! I'm the Bear Den leader for the cub scouts in pack 95, in arcata. We need a HAM radio operator for our big jamboree on the air.

It's Oct 21st, at our scout hut in arcata. Can you get me in contact with some one to help? My cell is (707)616-8958.

scouting.org/jota

Thanks...

Jim Armstrong - KW6JIM
Humboldt Amateur Radio Club

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Jaye Inabnit ke6sls, ke6sls@arrl.net

For more information, please visit our website <http://www.humboldt-arc.org>
or write to:

Humboldt Amateur Radio Club
BOX 5251
Eureka, CA 95502-5251

From ARRL News

FCC Grants Temporary Waiver to Permit Higher Symbol Rate Data Transmissions

The FCC has granted an ARRL request to waive current Amateur Radio rules to permit data transmissions at a higher symbol rate than currently permitted, in order to facilitate hurricane relief communications between the continental US and Puerto Rico. The temporary waiver is limited to Amateur Radio operators in Puerto Rico using PACTOR 3 and PACTOR 4 emissions, and to those radio amateurs in the continental US who are directly involved with HF hurricane relief communications involving Puerto Rico or the US Virgin Islands, the Commission said.



"We conclude that granting the requested waiver is in the public interest," the FCC said in its October 5 [Order](#). "Hurricane Maria caused massive destruction in Puerto Rico, and communication services continue to be disrupted. Thus, to accommodate Amateur Radio operators assisting in the recovery efforts, we grant the ARRL's waiver request for the period of 60 days from the date of this *Order*."

ARRL explained in its waiver petition that it's shipping five PACTOR radio modems to Puerto Rico for use in connection with Hurricane Maria disaster relief communications. The League asked the FCC to temporarily allow PACTOR 3 and PACTOR 4

transmissions that exceed the current symbol rate limitations under § 97.307(f) of the Amateur Service rules.

Under the current rules, "specified digital codes" in Part 97 may be used with a symbol rate that does not exceed 300 baud for frequencies below 28 MHz, with the exception of 60 meters, and 1200 baud in the 10 meter band. The baud rate limits were adopted in 1980, when the FCC amended Part 97 to specify ASCII as a permissible digital code.

Ham Radio Bridging the Gap in Wildfire-Stricken California

More than a dozen wildfires in Northern California have damaged or destroyed cellular telephone and internet infrastructure in some areas, and Amateur Radio has helped to fill the communication gap.

Mendocino County Sheriff Thomas Allman [told news media](#) on Tuesday, October 10, that damage to cell towers and fiber optic telephone and computer lines had left officials relying on Amateur Radio operators to communicate with area hospitals.

ARRL contacted Robin Carter, a resident of the Willits area in Mendocino County, who confirmed that ham radio operators were, until midweek, stationed at all North County hospitals and large nursing homes, supplementing the county's emergency communication system. She said cell and landline telephone service had been knocked out at her home, along with the fiber optic internet connection, although the family has satellite internet. She said internet service was at least temporarily restored on Wednesday.

Her husband Mike Carter, KC6MGM, a Mendocino County Community Emergency Response Team ([CERT](#)) volunteer, had, until Wednesday, been staffing a station at Howard Memorial



Fire on the mountain: Solano County, California. [Elana Leoni photo]

Hospital in Willits for 12 hours a day.

Radio amateurs also assisted with communication at Ukiah Valley Medical Center in Ukiah; Northbrook Nursing Home in Willits; the Mendocino Coast Hospital in Fort Bragg, and Red Cross shelters at Ukiah High School and Willits High School, Robin Carter said.

The Redwood Complex Fire, the northernmost of the fires, was responsible for the Mendocino County outages. The Atlas Fire in Solano and Napa counties is the largest and most disastrous wildfire. It covers more than 42,300 acres and was only 3% contained as of October 11.

In Sonoma County, Sonoma County Radio Amateurs ([SCRA](#)) has been conducting an ARES Fire Watch Net to relay fire and emergency information on its repeater. Auxiliary Communication Service (ACS) Radio Officer Dan Ethen, WA6CRB, said a controlled [Sonoma County Fire and Emergency Services](#) RACES/ACS net is also active. In Solano County, radio amateurs are reported to be supporting shelter operations.



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Fires have damaged or destroyed telecommunications infrastructure in California.

The fast-moving, wind-driven blazes -- 18 large fires in all, according to FEMA -- have driven thousands from their homes, killed at least 2 dozen people, and destroyed more than 1,300 homes. FEMA said the fires cover some 150,000 acres in all.

Some towns have been virtually leveled. Most of the wildfires are clustered around Santa Rosa, north of San Francisco. According to FEMA, some 106,000 residents are under mandatory evacuation orders, more than 36,500 homes are threatened, and 59 Red Cross and independent shelters are open with 5,117 evacuees.

A state of emergency exists in Napa, Sonoma, Butte, Lake, Solano, Mendocino, Nevada, Orange, and Yuba counties. The California Emergency Operations Center is partially activated.

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection mobile communications centers (MCCs) are equipped with Amateur Radio stations, but it's not known if any hams have been deployed on any MCCs in the field for the current spate of wildfires. Read [more](#).

Pizza and Ham Radio!

TU Joyce, kj6zvs

Saturday Nov. 4th will be a [Willits Amateur Radio Society](#) meeting at Old Mission Pizza (Willits) starting at 11:30am. The club will provide pizza, you will need to provide your drink(s) or anything else.

All hams and their families and anyone interested in becoming licensed are welcome to attend. Topics of discussion will include 2018 elections, the latest fire disaster and what we can do, website and projector purchase.

<http://w6mmm.club/index.html>

Happy birthday to you, Happy birthday to you!
Happy birthday dear Bob, Happy birthday to YOU!

Hello family and friends of Bob Rocha, **wb6qpg**

You are cordially invited to our dad's 80th birthday open house

Date: Saturday, October 21, 2017

Time: 2 – 4 pm

Place: Peace Officer's Hall 2351 Freshwater Road, Eureka, Ca

NO GIFTS PLEASE

Do stop by for conversation, appetizers and cake.

Our dad would love to see you.

Kind regards,

Shirley & Sara

Second Tuesday Workshop

10 October 2017

We met up at the new HARC club house Tuesday for an introduction to Automatic Packet Reporting System—APRS. Howard, kb6nn was kind enough to prototype a new operating system on his laptop to drive the overhead projector—Thanks again Howard! With Howard's help, I gave a brief history of packet, the old AX25 system, and how it has been given a fresh breath of long life with the new APRS using new, national, user frequencies.

I expected a handful of hams to show up, so I made only 8 copies of my hand-out. Will, more than a handful of hams showed up! Anthony made quick use of the facilities copy machine!

We did a show-and-tell, all the while, I had two rigs sending GPS data. I also had two distant hams helping me, one in Ukiah, one in Morgan Hill. It took a while for me to realize that the concrete building was killing my signals, so I put one of my APRS rigs onto our 2 meter club antenna, and finally, was able to reach the world via ham radio and my gateway the links us to the Internet. Chris, kk6kfb in Morgan Hill had gone for a long ride and was sending us APRS Text messages. John, nx6dx in Ukiah was also keeping in touch with us. Thank you both for your help for this demonstration!

There were many questions—good questions. As I said, this is incredibly complicated, and amazingly simple—how you choose to approach APRS will dictate how complicated it will be. The very simplest way is simply clicking on the link aprs.fi and searching your local zip code.

Dan, kb6de was able to get his new radio with GPS and APRS on the air this week and sent me his first APRS text message! Good work Dan!

73

Jaye, ke6sls

RAIN
Box 5251
Eureka, California, 95502-5251

North Coast Nets

Sunday	0800	North coast emergency net	3.855 MHz LSB
Monday	1900	Arcata Emergency simplex net	146.430 MHz
Monday	1900	Eel River Emergency net	147.090 PL103.5
Monday	1900	Eureka Emergency simplex net	146.460 MHz
Monday	1900	Southern Humboldt Emergency net	146.790 PL 103.5
Monday	1915	Eureka & north UHF Emergency net	444.400 +5000 PL103.5
Monday	1930	Humboldt county Emergency net (nearest FWRA repeater to you)	146.700 PL1031.5 147.000 PL1031.5 146.760 PL1031.5 146.610 PL1031.5
Monday	1930	Humboldt HF Digital emergency net	3.581 USB MFSK32
Monday	1945	Humboldt County HF emergency net	3.955 MHz LSB
Monday	2000	California State net	3.992 MHz LSB
Tuesday	1930	ORCA digital operations net	3.581 MHz USB
Tuesday	1930	California-Mendocino net	3.915 MHz LSB
Wednesday	1000	California State net	7.230 MHz LSB
Wednesday	1930	FWRA net	146.760 PL103.5



[humboldt-arc.org](http://www.humboldt-arc.org)