

*The PERIODICAL FOR
THE HIGH DESERT
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
OF NEW MEXICO INC.*

THE HIGH DESERT DISPATCH

NM5HD

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"Celebrating over 20 years of service to the Amateur Radio Community and the General Public as a non-profit 501 (c)(3) charitable organization"



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Introduction from the President

Greetings,

We are entering a very active time of year for the High Desert Amateur Club. As you will read, we have been operating, home brewing, and doing community outreach as a club. This summer will be filled with opportunities to operate and improve your skills in the field, homebrew, educate young minds, and build camaraderie with each other and the community we live in.

I wish to welcome John KJ5KUF to the High Desert Dispatch (HDD) publishing team as an assistant editor. John has been a regular contributor to this publication. Elaine and I welcome his point of view on the publishing team.

On Saturday June 27th, HDARC will participate in ARRL Field Day at the Valle Del Oro NWR in Albuquerque from 0900 to 1600. BCARES and SCARES will be joining us. More information with in this publication, to follow in upcoming emails and at the June 2026 membership meeting.

We have been invited by the Explora Museum to provide an immersive experience about HAM Radio during two (2) of their “Near Space Balloon Camps” sponsored by Sandia Labs for middle school aged children. At the camp they will build a solar balloon with a tracker and launch it. We have been invited to their launch day to follow with an immersive HAM radio experience for the children. More information to come. Their most recent launch made it east of OKC. The first camp will start the week of June 25, 2026, with HDARC providing an immersive experience on Wednesday June 27, 2026. Launch will begin at 0700 weather permitting. Monitor email for more information.

The WHEELS Museum has requested that we present to their membership in August of 2026. My thought was to put together a 1-hour presentation that correlates the history of transportation and HAM radio over the last 100 years. We will follow with an immersive ham radio experience with their membership. V.P. Elaine has begun research for this project. Date and time to follow soon



We had a huge SK donation that stirred up a POP-UP tailgate this past weekend at the club meeting. We will report on that in the next issue of the HDD. I just want to give a BIG 73 to David N6SIK, Becky N6TYT, Rob K5NBN and their families who made this all possible. Due to their efforts and those of the club members who found a new home for this equipment we received over \$1000.00 in donations.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the HDD. We will be reporting about the recent membership meeting and the Tape Measure Antenna Workshop in the next edition.

73 Mike, KI5NBP

THE SOUNDER SECTION

“Get involved in everything you’ve ever dreamed of doing”

Club Repeater and Simplex Frequencies

The Club operates on the HDARC Repeater 443.750+ PL 100 on the Sandia Crest, dedicated to the memory of Marit Clifford KF5ZVY/SK. Echolink: NM5HD/R

The Club uses two Simplex frequencies, 146.460 and 446.025

Join the FUN, Join the Club

Are you aware that the HDARC is one of the most active Amateur Radio Clubs in New Mexico? Well, it is! Read on and find out! Tell a friend!

To become a club member go to www.nm5hd.org and click the "become a member" tab to join the ever-growing group of the coolest hams in New Mexico, you'll be glad you did!



Join the American Radio Relay League (ARRL)

The American Radio Relay League, the ARRL, a non-profit organization, is the largest membership association of amateur radio enthusiasts in the United States. The ARRL represents the interests of amateur radio operators before federal regulatory bodies, the ARRL provides technical advice and assistance to amateur radio enthusiasts, it also supports several educational programs and sponsors emergency communications services throughout the country.





HDARC is an ARRL affiliated club and an ARRL special service club. We encourage you to join. Click on this link: <https://www.arrl.org/membership>

Welcome New HDARC Members

Richard Ybarra – AB1Q
Phyllis Ybarra – KB5SXJ
Time Gebhart – KJ5PLP



New Member Orientation

Hello to all new HDARC Members! Our next Zoom orientation will be in June, so stay tuned to the Dispatch for updates and I will be sending you all email notifications about the time and date. When the time comes, please join me for a quick introduction to HDARC and all we have to offer! Just click on the link below to join.

Topic: HDARC New Member Orientation

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84816165190?pwd=1mCQStSmfAdFtR0uW4IsbtWutCRLIn.1>

Meeting ID: 848 1616 5190

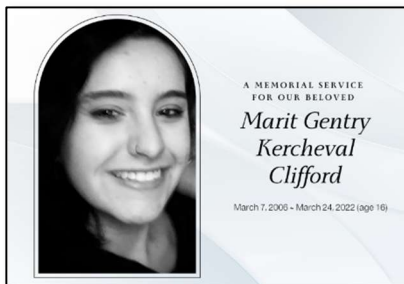
Passcode: 072886

73 Don, N9DCS

THE COUNTERPOISE SECTION

“To have an opposing and balancing effect”

A Tribute to Marit Clifford, KF5ZVY/SK



Submitted by Elaine Summerhill - HDARC Secretary and Co-Editor

The recent addition of the HDARC repeater on top of Sandia Mountain would not and could not have taken place without David Clifford WA6CCB wanting to establish a memorial for his granddaughter, Marit Clifford. Marit was the youngest person to get her ham license in this area. She captured her technician’s license at 7 years old, 2 months shy of her 8th birthday, in January 2014. She was also



a net controller and hosted her own youth net. David tells us that Marit was bright, beautiful, loving, and compassionate. She loved old movies, especially ones with Audrey Hepburn. Her life was full of potential, but sadly, it was cut short. HDARC is honored to memorialize Marit's life. Thank you Grandfather David Clifford for entrusting us with her memory, and in the months ahead the club will continue to honor her memory.

From the Elmer

Submitted by MaryAnn, NS7X

An unintended consequence of the low cost, easily available VHF/UHF radios is they make it pretty easy for unlicensed individuals to operate on our ham frequencies. Many of the offenders are simply ignorant and have no idea they are breaking federal law, and they are simply curious about what the radios are capable of.

Then there are those who intend to interfere with normal, legal operations. (Sadly, a few of these are hams think they have an axe to grind and enjoy causing malicious interference.) Intentionally causing malicious interference is, perhaps, the most serious violation of Part 97 of the FCC rules and regulations, and may result in significant fines, equipment confiscation, and even prison time.

Of course, none of this applies to the newly licensed ham who may feel confounded at all the ins & outs, and do's & don'ts of operating on VHF/UHF bands. Like most amateur operating quirks, things make more sense if you know the history and traditions of ham radio.

Two meters has been a ham band since the early days, and like all ham bands, has been experimented with over the decades. It wasn't until the late 40's, 50's, and 60's when two meters became a truly functional band. With the advent of 2-meter FM, with its "you sound like you're in the room next to me" audio, many of the standard HF practices became obsolete and fell into disuse. So much so, to this very day, the use of normal HF procedures will earn you a lesser frown if used on your local repeater.

For example, the ubiquitous HF call for a contact "CQ" is not used on VHF/UHF. Instead, you'll likely hear something like, "This is so-and-so listening. Is anybody around?" The use of "CQ" on the local repeater is a sure sign that the operator may be new to amateur radio. Other common errors you may hear are, oddly enough, committed by experienced hams who should know better. Like, for instance, Q- signals. Q-signals on the upper bands are discouraged, but are very common. If you're comfortable saying QTH instead of location, that's fine. Just make sure you know what the Q-signal means before you use it on the air. QSL, for instance, is commonly used – incorrectly. It does not mean, "Yes", "I agree", or "affirmative." It, like "roger", means, "I acknowledge receipt of your last transmission." It's also a good idea to not use CB lingo on any of the ham bands.

Then there's the abuse of the term "break." Those who say "break" in order to join a QSO in progress are usually better off inserting their call sign, but saying "break" is OKAY. Just never say



“break” three times (“BREAK, BREAK, BREAK”) as it indicates you have an emergency and require the frequency for assistance. (All calls for help in an emergency (Mayday, SOS) are repeated three times).

Hams are known for their disciplined operating practices when on the air. Our procedures have been developed over decades and have proven to be efficient and effective. (CW ops have an old saying: Speed may be nice, but accuracy is essential.) There’s a reason we do things the way we do them. The procedures used are not meant to cause difficulty for the operator. They are there to make communication clearer.

By the way, if you hear a transmission in which the operator appears to be trying to sound like a real ham, but doesn’t quite get the standard protocols right, you may be hearing an illegal transmission. This can be an important clue as to who is legal, and who is not. If you are suspicious of someone using our frequencies illegally, make a note of the time, frequency, callsign used, and any other pertinent details. If the illegal operation is malicious, it’s very important to NOT talk about it on the air. Doing so only encourages illicit activity. If your suspicions are verified, it might just be a good time for the local hams to have a fox hunt.

73 MaryAnn NS7X

Amateur Radio News on the World Wide Web

Amateur Radio Newslines at: <https://www.arnewslines.org/>.

ARRL News: <https://www.arrl.org/news>.

Amateur Radio Daily: <https://daily.hamweekly.com/>.



<https://whitehousecomms-arc.org/>

ARRL joins America250 as a supporting partner for the nation’s 250th Anniversary. Find it at: <https://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-joins-america250-as-a-supporting-partner-for-the-nation-s-250th-anniversary>.

WP2H Radio Internet Station for hams. Live DJ’s are HAM’s. Programming 24/7 classic rock and oldies with ham radio programs. Shows like “This week in HAM Radio”, “ARRL Weekly News”, and ARES Nets during storm activations. Check out: <https://W2PHRadio.com>.



THE CHAT SHACK SHEET SECTION

“Reaching out to each other through the art of verbal dialogue”

HDARC Nets

Saturday Statewide Chat Shack Net 1000 hours local Mega Link System



The Saturday 10 A.M. Statewide Chat Shack Net will use the 444.325 + PL 100 and the 145.290 - PL100 repeater on Sandia Crest, with access to the Mega Link system across the greater Albuquerque area. Other frequencies are available statewide at <http://www.nm5ml.com/>. Our net controllers are:

- 1st Saturday: *Open for Guest Net Controller.*
- 2nd Saturday: Club President Mike KI5NBP.
- 3rd Saturday: NO NET. We’re at the monthly HDARC meeting.
- 4th Saturday: Club Board Director John KJ5KUF.
- 5th Saturday (When needed): Jean KG5ZRU.

You can reach this Net from any part of NM by design. You just need to be on the right frequency, offset, and PL tone for the local repeater closest to your location, at the day and time of the net. For current mega link frequency information go to www.nm5ml.com. If you're having issues programming your radio, email hdarcpres@gmail.com, and you will be directed to someone in the club that can help you. Please [click here](#) to see the operational status of NM5ML Mega Link Repeaters. And...please, please, please consider serving as a Net Controller. We have a script ready to go, and we will provide plenty of mentoring. Contact hdarcpres@gmail.org if interested.

HDARC 2 Night



“HDARC 2 Night.” operates seven (7) nights a week at 7:30 PM local on the HDARC Repeater 443.750+ PL, 100 located on the Sandia Crest. This is a casual net. Come join local Hams and our friends from around the globe, who join nightly through Echolink (NM5HD/R) for a lively discussion on all things ham-made. The hour goes by quick and you’ll enjoy the stimulating “Question of the Night”. There are great exchanges happening. Come join the conversation and camaraderie.

New Mexico Training Net (NMTN)- CW





The New Mexico Training Net (NMTN) meets at the HDARC repeater (443.75 + 5 MHz, 100 Hz pl) at 1830 hours local (0030 Z) on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, local time. The times will change next month to accommodate the Roadrunner Net schedule. MaryAnn NS7X leads this "Training Net", which eventually will be moved to 80 meters as the NM CW section traffic net. When the NMTN picks up formal traffic, it can be fed into the Roadrunner Net.

QRPy's Smoke Shop Net

Every Thursdays at 1730 local on the HDARC repeater 443.750 +PL 100. We discuss all things QRP: radios, antennas, events, homebrews, and much more. QRP radios are a great way to get into the HF action space at minimal cost and experience. Stop into the Smoke Shop, put up your feet, and join the fun.



QRPy's Smoke Shop just had its eleven-week anniversary. We've had lots of great chats and new members join us over the weeks. We spent some time with the Scouts out at the Edgewood Camporee and were also able to sneak into the Lobo Wing for those tasty burgers. We are working on lots of future events, and we just love to talk about the newest QRP radios, antennas, POTA/SOTA adventures, and just spread the happiness. Tom AF5TT just finished a QMX+ build from a kit he got at QRPLabs. We want to turn this into a presentation for the Club in the coming months, maybe have it at a special session down at Valle de Oro. He spent this past weekend zoomed into "Four Days in May" QRP symposium at the Dayton Hamvention. Incidentally, Hans Summers "the chief cook and bottle washer" at QRPLabs spoke about some great QRP happening. Check it out at: <https://www.qrparci.org/fdim/>. You will always find at the Smoke Shop a very informal gathering, where you can speak just about anything. Join us at 5:30 PM every Thursday for an hour on the HDARC repeater.

Bravo Sierra SIMPLEX Net

Join HDARC East Mountain Group members on the Bravo Sierra Net. Every Sunday Evening at 1930 local time on Simplex 146.550 VHF. Laid back get together for chatting, telling jokes/riddles/puns and generally having fun.

Wednesday Noon-Time Virtual Zoom Chat Sessions

Join fellow Hams for a casual conversation via ZOOM every Wednesday at noon. All Hams are welcome. Click on the link below to enter the virtual room.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82410741347?pwd=kXb9i18t3bc3MATidQmEsJb31DoVnR.1>



Passcode: 737373

Other Area Nets of Interest:

Sandoval County ARES Net

The Sandoval County ARES net meets every Monday Evening at 1930 hours except for the third (3rd) Monday of the Month. Any licensed Amateur Radio operator is invited to check into this net. For frequencies click on this link <https://nmscares.org/repeaters/>

Bernalillo County ARES Net

Every Thursday, 7PM local time (NOT 1st Thursday of the month meeting night). For frequencies click on this link: [BCARES Net Info | Bernalillo County Amateur Radio Emergency Service \(BCARES\)](#)

Senior Citizens and Travelers (SCAT) Net

The Caravan Club this net Monday through Friday at 0700 hours local on their repeater 143.33 - 100 and 440.000 +100 linked. All Amateur Radio Operators are welcome to join this Net.

Rusty's Raiders Net

This net operates Monday through Friday at 0845 hours local on the Upper Rio Repeaters 146.96 -100, 146.94 - 100 and 442.450 +67 all linked. If you know of an area net not listed, please submit it to hdarcpres@gmail.com

THE REPEATER SECTION

“Receive and retransmit a communication signal, and enjoy your RF blessing”

443.750 + PL100 Repeater - Club 440 repeater NM5HD/R Upgrade

As you will recall from the last Dispatch, we received possession of the MotoTRBO XPR-8400 repeater unit, which David Clifford WA6CCB purchased and donated to the Club to replace the existing repeater. Additionally, we received the new Arcom RC-210 controller and have proceeded with integration and test activities. Since then, Richard AB1Q joined the repeater team, and we held an integration and planning session to initiate the purchase of additional cables, identify software upgrade requirements, and lay out anticipated test activities to get



these two units talking to each other. We should receive the cables in the coming month and then conduct another integration and test session.

Additionally, Mark KJ5ITL completed the build of a Raspberry Pi computer (which he donated) to host the new Echolink repeater service, which he got working with the existing repeater as NM5HD-R. That was a big hurdle for the Club, as Mike KI5NBP had been working with the ARRL and FCC for the last couple of months to recover the club's FCC callsign account and transfer its trustee designation to current leadership. Moreover, John KJ5KUF got a second RPi running with the AllStarLink service and donated the interface modules (along with the second RPI) needed to connect all RPI computers to the Arcom controller. Mark also hit another home run by getting a Windows laptop (donated by Steve KJ5KNL) running, which will support configuration and maintenance of the Arcom controller.

The end goal of all this donating and integration effort is to move up to Sandia Crest a working configuration consisting of the Motorola XPR-8400 repeater and the Arcom RC-210 controller, along with their co-resident Windows laptop and RPIs computers. HDARC members will then be able to remotely access all repeater equipment for maintenance, updates, and monitoring. Facilitating this capability is our strategic MOU with Rock Mountain Ham Radio and our access to local Internet connectivity provided by their microwave communications network in the repeater building. Sorry, if this all sounds a tad complicated, but it is. Just be assured your HDARC repeater team is working diligently to position the Club for continued growth and continued communications excellence, all while maintaining current capability.

We've got more work to do, and we'll keep membership informed about the progress.

ARRL Field Day 2026

Submitted by John, KJ5KUF

This June 27th, Saturday, HDARC will participate in the ARRL Field Day 2026. Every June, more than 31,000 hams throughout North America set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio's science, skills, and service to our communities and Nation. Field Day combines public service, emergency preparedness, community outreach, and technical skills all in a single event.



HDARC will celebrate this year's Field Day at the Federal Wildlife Refuge of Valle de Oro on Saturday June 27th, 2026 from 0900 to 1600 hours. See the



Find an ARES Group

HDARC is fortunate that we exist in a metropolitan area that is served by several ARES Groups. ARES Groups typically align with counties and integrate with their respective emergency response organizations. We have the Bernalillo County ARES (BCARES) and the Sandoval Count ARES (SCARES) to assist our counties in times of emergency. Over the coming months, HDARC will host a series of events and activities that will assist membership with learning about these Groups and highlight their readiness for communications capabilities and readiness. Please take a few moments to visit one of our ARES Groups' websites and learn more about them at:

- SCARES – <https://nmscares.org>
- BCARES – <https://nmbcares.wordpress.com/bcares-net-info/>

THE CONNECTION SECTION

“A relationship in which a person, thing, or idea is linked or associated with something else”

The Wheels Museum – HDARC Grows Relationships

Submitted by Dispatch Staff

The President of the Wheels Museum, Leba Freed, reached out to HDARC leadership and asked how HDARC and the Museum could collaborate. Since that meeting, Mike K15NBP has continued to nurture what may turn out to be a HDARC strategic relationship. Both HDARC and the Wheels



Museum depend greatly on volunteers and donations. We recognize the need to “do with what you have”. Working together, we can share our resources of people, time, and treasure to mutually mature all of our capabilities and potentials. The Museum is a great place to engage the community, and offers HDARC space and opportunities for

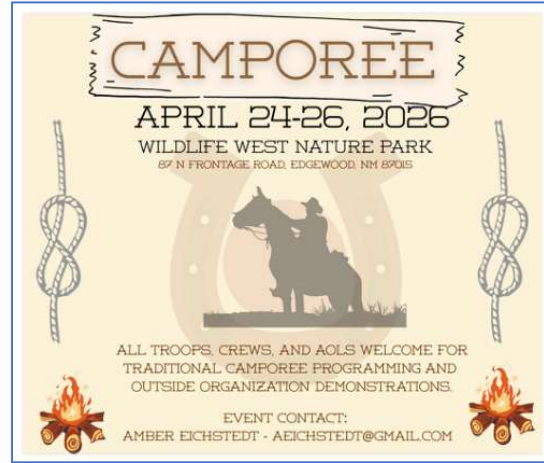
workshops, meetings, and other future activities, like CW training. With HDARC, the Museum has access to technical expertise to enhance their exhibits, like “Railroad Radio”, and spread the history of Albuquerque and New Mexico to a needing public. Who knows, the Wheels Museum located in the old Santa Fe Railroad Maintenance Yard potentially offers and great place for ham radio's growth and the services we provide. After all, if the Roadrunner can get there, so can we. More to come.



The 2026 Scout Camporee

Submitted by Tom AF5TT and John KJ5KUF

The Scouts, their leadership, and HDARC had a great outing on 25 April 2026 at the Wildlife West Nature Park in Edgewood, NM. HDARC supported the Scout's three-day Camporee event of fun and personnel development. We rallied to introduce these young men and women to the radio merit badge and to spark an interest in the Ham sporting hobby. Along with the radio demonstrations, the scouts enjoyed rock climbing, fire trucks, blacksmithing, nature walk-about and other activities. Just check out the photos and all the smiling faces!



HDARC had a super turnout of membership. Tom Tarman AF5TT lead the radio charge as Scout Troop 640's representative with QRP and CW demonstrations. Other participating members of the Club added their time and expertise.

Notably, Don N9DCS and Grace KJ5JMK provided ham radio information and fool's gold prizes to scouts who made the big HF QSO leap (with Bob K9GMA on the other end). Mike KI5NBP brought out the SCARES EmComm trailer and hosted

tours of this wheeled communicator. We even did the HDARC Chat Shack Net via the Mega Link from inside the trailer. James KF5RRW provided additional HF comms, along with a demonstration of digital modes. Other HDARCers pitching in, both on site or over the airwaves, were Tom N5ATR, Gary K5BIQ, and John KJ5JUF.



The Camporee was such a fantastic time for all involved, and everyone was pretty tired at the end of it, both humans and animals. Big kudos go out to the scouts and their leadership, especially Troop 640 Scoutmaster Amber Eichstedt, for keeping this valuable community organization going and its positive contribution to our society.

HDARC thanks everyone for their participation and we look forward to all hands joining us in future activities, like the HDARC Wings on 9 May.

Please see the *Dispatch* newsletter at <https://NM5HD.org> for all the late-breaking Club activities, news, and updates.



2026 HDARC Wings

A Saturday with the Commemorative Air Force (CAF) and the Lobo Wing
Submitted by John, KJ5KUF

HDARC members visited the CAF Lobo Wing on May 9th for some radio activities, airplane restoration, and club camaraderie. We had an amazingly fun time with over 30 folks coming out to participate in the festivities. The Lobo Wing, located in Hangar #80 on the Moriarty Airport, sponsored a burger burn and gave us an informative tour of their facility and aircraft projects. They are currently bringing back to life an N320A Beechcraft AT-11 “Kansan”, which was used to train bombardiers during WWII.



Heck, they’ve even got a Norden Bombsight zeroed in up in the rafters!

HDARC WINGS
 HDARC Spring Radio Event
 With The CAF Lobo Wing
 Featuring
 HAM Radio Activities, Airplanes, and Burger Burn
 Where: Moriarty airport, hangar 80
 When: 9 May 2026, 0900-1600

<https://www.nm5hd.org> <https://www.lobowing.org>



“Danger” Dave Hill KI5GOQ and Wing Commander David McBride were our gracious hosts, with the Commander making a perfect “bombs-on-target” delivery of the history behind the AT-11 aircraft.



HDARC set up some 20-meter rigs (QRP and Plus-size wattage radios) in the adjacent parking lot. We made bunches of coast-to-coast contacts. This same weekend the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) was also working the amateur HF bands and mixing it up with their ham counterparts across the Nation. Rob K5NBN was able to hold a QSO with N3S, who was transmitting from the historical grounds of the Naval Academy at Annapolis, MD.



Check out all the happy faces and satisfied tummies in the adjacent picture. HDARC thanks everyone for their participation, and we look forward to another mission over the same target next year.

Please see the *Dispatch* newsletter at <https://NM5HD.org> for all the late-breaking Club activities, news, and updates.

AllStarLink Repeater Upgrade

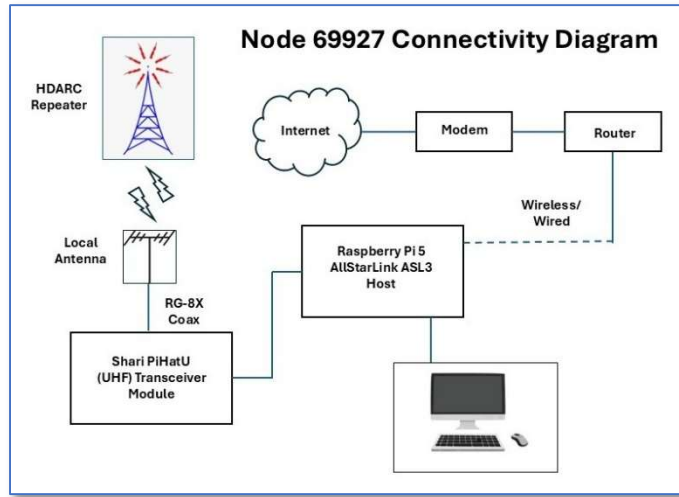
Submitted by John, KJ5KUF

Here’s a quick note to keep membership up to date on our current repeater (443.75MHz +PL 100Hz). As you know, we enjoy the use of a donated Midland radio repeater from Dave WA6CCB, and we thank him for that. Additionally, Bob KD5MHQ enabled this repeater with EchoLink capability, which allows the Club to establish radio friendships with hams across the globe, like Bruce VE6XTC in Canada and Ed VK2EDY in Australia. Well, the repeater has undergone yet another upgrade! We now have AllStarLink capability with our repeater, which provides HDARC with even farther linking capabilities (possibly galactic, just as soon as the Martians get their FCC licenses).





The technology behind the new AllStar-Link is a nodal hub that talks to our repeater via RF transmissions from a secret garage in Albuquerque. In that garage resides a Raspberry Pi computer with a Shari PiHatU transmitter. AllStarLink chatter from the Internet follows a Tx link to the repeater, and whatever happens at the repeater follows an Rx link down to the garage, and then out to the Internet. (Note, this is just the opposite of “*Whatever happens in Las Vegas, stays in Las Vegas.*”) Please check out the folks at Kits4 Hams for details about the PiHatU, <https://www.Kits4Hams.com>.



The nearby diagram tells the secret. Similar to how Bob got our Echolink going at KD5MHQ-R, we run an AllStarLink app or our cellphones by dialing node #69927 and interact with the HDARC repeater. There are lots of ways to call node 69927, but the easiest way may be with DVSwitch Mobile (for Android) or RepeaterPhone (for iOS). Of course, radio-purists can build their own RPi with AllStarLink (ASL3) and a transceiver, and then talk via an HT. Take a look at <https://allstarlink.org>, <https://dvswitch.org>, or cruise YouTube videos for more hints.

Finally, this upgrade should be just one of many to come. At some point, the current repeater will transition to a Motorola and Arcom configuration, with RPi's co-residing at the Crest that interface directly to the new repeater, for both EchoLink and AllStarLink services. In the meantime, we can practice with these network applications and have fun calling into the various repeater chat nets.

Finally, this upgrade should be just one of many to come. At some point, the current repeater will transition to a Motorola and Arcom configuration, with RPi's co-residing at the Crest that interface directly to the new repeater, for both EchoLink and AllStarLink services. In the meantime, we can practice with these network applications and have fun calling into the various repeater chat nets.

Petroglyph POTA

Submitted by, John KJ5KUF

On Tuesday 24 March, HDARC members gathered at the Petroglyph National Monument for a session of Parks on the Air (POTA). The POTA database and rules identify the Petroglyph Monument as site US-0955, which you call out to the radio airways during a site activation. Rob and Elaine Summerhill activated this 20-meter POTA Party, and the rest of us joined in passing the mic around as we called out our callsigns to distant contacts.



Rob and the HDARC crew were able to talk to at least 24 other activated parks and hunter stations, most running West to East across the USA to include: CA, ID, NV, OK, AR, IA, TX, MI, MN, AL, and FL, just to name a few. Attending the Party was:

- Rob K5NBN,
- Elaine KJ5ATL,
- Maryann NS7X,
- Mike KI5NBP,
- John KJ5KUF,
- Chris KJ5KSE,
- Jordan KJ5MUH, and
- Sky the Radio Dog W8SIT



We had a great time visiting with each other, gazed at the Three Sisters, and just enjoyed the New Mexico Spring. Check out the photo montage. Now, this is what HDARC is all about!

For more information on POTA please tune to <https://pota.app>. POTA On!

Valle de Oro – Valley of Gold

Submitted by Dispatch Staff

Mike KI5NBP has been working closely with the rangers at the Federal Wildlife Refuge of Valle de Oro to find the Club another great location to hold special meetings and events. Valle de Oro features a visitor center, meeting facilities, and an extensive layout of nature trails, down in the Bosque of southwest Albuquerque. It's run by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and was recently acquired and repurposed from a once dairy farm. Mike has coordinated with the Service to use this facility for our ARRL Field Day (end of June). The members are really going to love this place. Visit <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/valle-de-oro> for more information.





CW Training- Begins June 6, 2026



Club Elmer and BOD Director will be conducting CW training for wanting to begin learning or to improve from their current level starting Saturday June 6, 2026. There will be 5 sessions meeting on Saturday morning from 0900 to 1100 hours for 6 consecutive weeks.

MaryAnn will conduct additional Saturday training sessions in the coming months at the following locations and times:

- June 6, 2026, Wheels Museum, Noon to 2 PM .
- June 16 and 23, 2026, Valle de Oro Wildlife Refuge, 9 to 11 AM .
- June 27 Valle de Oro, Noon to 2 PM .
- July 11 Valle de Oro, 9 to 11AM.

Note that Saturday, June 16 is the same day as the club meeting. The June 27th session coincides with the ARRL Field Day Event, which will also be held at Valle de Oro. Find directions to these sites and more information at:

- Wheels Museum: <https://wheelsmuseum.org>
- Valle de Oro: <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/valle-de-oro>

If you think you might be interested contact MaryAnn on HDARC 2 Night most evenings at 1930 hours on the HDARC repeater on Sandia Crest 443.750 + PL100.

THE SUPPORT SECTION

“A friend in need is a friend indeed.”

Test Equipment Loaner Program for Members

HDARC Director Harvey Dove (KI5YVY) is the lead for this program. A copy of the program outline and how to contact Harvey to request a loaner is posted on the home page of NM5hd.org. Click on this link:



https://www.nm5hd.org/files/ugd/d9cb96_5fe894d5a99c434191712575def6987b.pdf

The current inventory of loaner test equipment includes:

- MFJ -263 Dummy Loads
- MFJ - 802B Field Strength Meter
- RigExpert AA-650ZOOM Antenna Analyzer



We CURRENTLY have several donated pieces of test equipment. Please consider if you have a piece of gently used and functional test equipment you can donate for this program. The next purchase of test equipment for the program will include RF noise detectors (MFJ 805). An MFJ 259 Antenna Analyzer was donated by Roger (K5RPE).



RT Systems Programming Software Available for Use

The club has in its possession the following RT Systems programming software available for use:

- Icom-2730
- Alinco-635
- Yaesu FT-60
- Yaesu FT-2900
- Yaesu FTM-6000

Please contact Past President David Ham (N6SIK) if you wish to use them at n6sik@arrl.net

HDARC Member Name Badges/Hats/Shirts



I have been asked by members how to purchase a HDARC Membership Badge. Click on this link [High Desert Amateur Radio Club](#) to be directed to our vendor's web store.

HDARC Shirts, hats, and other Club gear can be ordered from Rio Rancho T-Shirts, 1207 Golf Course Rd SE Ste F, Rio Rancho, NM 87124. Speak with Wayne or Penny at: (505) 891-1521.





HDARC Promotional Items: You have recently seen the Promotional Items made by Shirley Godfrey for HDARC.

- Band Plan Tumbler
- Patch
- Mouse Pad

All are customizable with your call sign. Contact Shirley at sigodfrey@aol.com about your interests.



HDARC EAST MOUNTAIN GROUP

The HDARC East Mountain Group will be holding their monthly luncheon/meeting on Thursday June 18, 2026, at 11:00 AM at Chile Hills Restaurant located at 1805 U.S. Rte. 66 Moriarty, NM 87035

Club Calendar, May- June 2026: Save The Date

May 2026

- All Evenings all month from 1930 -2030 hrs.: “HDARC 2 Night” casual net, operating on the HDARC repeater 443.750+ PL 100, Echolink: NM5HD/R
- The New Mexico Training Net (NMTN)- CW meets on the HDARC repeater (443.75 + 5 MHz, 100 Hz pl) at 1830 hours (0030 Zulu) local on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, local time.
- Wednesday May 20, 2026, Noon: Club Zoom Lunchtime Chat Room. Click on the link below to enter the virtual room.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82410741347?pwd=kXb9i18t3bc3MATidQmEsJb31DoVnR.1>
Passcode: 737373
- Thursday May 21, 2026, 5:30 PM: HDARC QRPy’s Smoke Shop, HDARC repeater 443.750+ PL 100
- Saturday May 23, 2026, 10:00 AM: HDARC NM5HD Statewide Chat Shack Net on the MEGA Link NM5ML. The Net controller is John KJ5KUF
- Sunday May 24, 2026, 7:30 PM: HDARC East Mountain Group Bravo Sierra Net. Simplex 146.550 VHF.
-



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- Wednesday May 27, 2026, Noon: Club Zoom Lunchtime Chat Room. Click on the link below to enter the virtual room.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82410741347?pwd=kXb9i18t3bc3MATidQmEsJb31DoVnR.1>
Passcode: 737373
- Thursday May 28, 2026, 5:30 PM: HDARC QRPy's Smoke Shop, HDARC repeater 443.750+ PL 100
- Saturday May 30, 2026, 10:00 AM: HDARC NM5HD Statewide Chat Shack Net on the MEGA Link NM5ML. The Net controller is Jean KG5ZRU.
- Sunday May 31, 2026, 7:30 PM: HDARC East Mountain Group Bravo Sierra Net. Simplex 146.550 VHF.
-

June 2026

- All Evenings all month from 1930 -2030 hrs.: "HDARC 2 Night" casual net, operating on the HDARC repeater 443.750+ PL 100, Echolink: NM5HD/R
- The New Mexico Training Net (NMTN)- CW meets on the HDARC repeater (443.75 + 5 MHz, 100 Hz pl) at 1830 hours (0030 Zulu) local on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, local time.
- Wednesday June 3, 2026, Noon: Club Zoom Lunchtime Chat Room. Click on the link below to enter the virtual room.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82410741347?pwd=kXb9i18t3bc3MATidQmEsJb31DoVnR.1>
Passcode: 737373
- Thursday June 4, 2026, 5:30 PM: HDARC QRPy's Smoke Shop, HDARC repeater 443.750+ PL 100
- Saturday June 6, 2026, 10:00 AM: HDARC NM5HD Statewide Chat Shack Net on the MEGA Link NM5ML. The Net controller is Mike KI5NBP
- Sunday June 7, 2026, 7:30 PM: HDARC East Mountain Group Bravo Sierra Net. Simplex 146.550 VHF.
- Wednesday June 10, 2026, Noon: Club Zoom Lunchtime Chat Room. Click on the link below to enter the virtual room.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82410741347?pwd=kXb9i18t3bc3MATidQmEsJb31DoVnR.1>
Passcode: 737373
- Thursday June 11, 2026, 5:30 PM: HDARC QRPy's Smoke Shop, HDARC repeater 443.750+ PL 100
- Saturday June 13, 2026, 10:00 AM: HDARC NM5HD Statewide Chat Shack Net on the MEGA Link NM5ML. The Net controller TBD



- Sunday, June 14, 2026, 7:30 PM: HDARC East Mountain Group Bravo Sierra Net. Simplex 146.550 VHF.
- Wednesday June 17, 2026, Noon: Club Zoom Lunchtime Chat Room. Click on the link below to enter the virtual room.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82410741347?pwd=kXb9i18t3bc3MATidQmEsJb31DoVnR.1>
Passcode: 737373
- Thursday June 18, 2026, 11:00 AM: East Mountain Group Luncheon at Chili Hills Restaurant ,1805 Rt. 66 WEST Moriarty, NM 505.832.5458
<https://www.chilihillsmoriarty.com/>
- Thursday June 18, 2026, 5:30 PM: HDARC QRPy's Smoke Shop, HDARC repeater 443.750+ PL 100
- Saturday June 20, 2026, 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM: HDARC In-Person General Membership Meeting and V.E.
 - 10:00 AM General Membership Meeting
 - 11:45 AM V.E. Testing
- Sunday June 21, 2026, 7:30 PM: HDARC East Mountain Group Bravo Sierra Net. Simplex 146.550 VHF.
- Wednesday June 24, 2026, Noon: Club Zoom Lunchtime Chat Room. Click on the link below to enter the virtual room.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82410741347?pwd=kXb9i18t3bc3MATidQmEsJb31DoVnR.1>
Passcode: 737373
- Wednesday June 24, 2026 7:00 A.M. to 3:00 PM: Explora "Near Space Balloon Camp" HDARC HAM Radio immersive experience.
- Thursday June 25, 2026, 5:30 PM: HDARC QRPy's Smoke Shop, HDARC repeater 443.750+ PL 100
- Saturday June 27, 2026, 10:00 AM: HDARC NM5HD Statewide Chat Shack Net on the MEGA Link NM5ML. The Net controller is John KJ5KUF
- Saturday June 27, 2026, 9:00 AM – 4 PM: ARRL Field Day, HDARC Club Event.
 - Valle de Oro NWR 7851 2nd Street, SW Albuquerque, NM 87105
- Sunday June 28, 2026, 7:30 PM: HDARC East Mountain Group Bravo Sierra Net. Simplex 146.550 VHF.

Future Scheduled Club Events (Beyond June)

- May 16, 2026, Workshop/Build: Tape Measure Antenna by Rob K5NBN.
- August 2026, Radio Presentation to Wheels Museum Staff.
- November 21, 2026, Workshop: EmComm presentation by Sandoval ARES.
- Jan. 2027 Homebrew Contest.



Club Events in the Bull Pen (Not Scheduled Yet)

- POTA - Field Days /POTA Peloza.
- HF QRP Field Days.
- CW Workshop.
- Dr Fong Antenna / QRP Zoom Webinar
- Basic Soldering Workshop.
- Hamming Around New Mexico.
- Operating FT 8 Workshop.
- Operating Winlink Workshop.
- Club Test Equipment Workshops.
- EmComm Workshop.
- Antenna Build Workshops.
- Foxhunt Field Day.
- Summer BBQ
- Spaceport USA Special Event Field Day (Upham NM).
- National Championship Air Races Field Day (Roswell NM).
- 2026 Holiday Party Dec 2026.
- Understand what Prepping really means.
- Homebrew Octopus /Spider Base for Multiple Ham Stikes.

V.E. Testing

HDARC is the sponsor of the Institute of HAM Radio Sciences, which conducts free V.E. testing sessions on behalf of HDARC at 11:30 on the 3rd Saturday of February, April, June, August, October, and December immediately following the Monthly HDARC In-Person Club Meeting in classroom #4 at the North Domingo Baca Multigenerational Center. Look for the link FREE TESTING on the club web page. Please, pre-register on the club web page for testing www.nm5hd.org. For more information contact Yul Bratcher at his email, yul.bratcher@att.net. A big 73 to YUL and the V.E. team for volunteering their time and resources.

The next testing dates for 2026 are:

- June 20, 2026
- August 15, 2026
- October 17, 2026
- December 19, 2026



Jumpstart Program for New Hams

QRZ.com through a partnership with GigaParts, has developed a program that is designed to lower the barrier to entry into amateur radio by providing new hams with a high-quality radio for only \$17.99 (plus tax and shipping). Effective February 28, 2025, new hams will be entitled to a 70% discount on the Explorer QRZ-1 VHF/UHF handheld transceiver, as well as a variety of accessories. You must have been licensed within the last 6 months to qualify.

The eligible ham must have a QRZ user account and be able to log in and apply for the program. Certain types of identification, including a photo ID, will be required. This information is not shared or exchanged with any party and is used only to validate eligibility under this program.



This program is available exclusively to USA licensed amateur radio operators who obtained their first license from the FCC within the last 6 months. The Jumpstart program may be changed or terminated without notice based on availability and corporate sponsors.

Click here for more info: <https://www.qrz.com/jumpstart>

Classifieds

Welcome to the classifieds section. The intent is to give members and other HAMS a place to advertise any HAM related equipment they have for sale. It is also a place for members to list what HAM related equipment they are seeking to buy. This is a free service with no fees attached. This week we are featuring items from the Club SK inventory. Contact our Quartermaster Rob KI5NBN at this email, dynomutt@reagan.com, if you are interested. Feel free to haggle with Rob. We will update this inventory as needed.

Radio for sale ICOM-7200

- 100-watt HF transceiver covering 6 thru 160 meters.
- Heavy duty military grade radio. Lightly used, near new condition.
- Comes with all original packaging and content.
- Power Cable has Anderson power poles.
- Nifty manual also included along with MB-116 front handles. \$575.00.



Contact Bill Harris KE5IUN if interested at 505-710-3896, harris107@gmail.com



CONCLUSION

Check the club's website often, there are interesting things being added weekly. www.nm5hd.org. I want to thank the club's COB, Kenneth Ham, AG5UY and VP Elaine KJ5ATL for maintaining the website. 73 to my co-editor Elaine KJ5ATL and Assistant Editor John KJ5KUF. Thanks Yul, WA5YUL and V.E. team for what they do to provide free testing to the public. MaryAnn NS7X for the Elmer contribution & leading the NMTN. Thank you Rob K5NBN for providing a list of gears to offer to the club members, working on our repeater project, and hosting HDARC 2 Night. Thank you Don N9DCS for providing new members with a welcome. Thanks to those of you who provided content for this periodical. Feel free to reach out to me anytime at hdarcpres@gmail.com. If you wish to add content to "The High Desert Dispatch" the deadline for submission is Wednesday preceding the publication date. The next edition is scheduled for the 2nd week of June 2026. If you get the chance, monitor the HDARC repeater every night at 1930 hours. Check in on the Statewide CHAT SHACK NET Saturday at 1000 hours local on the Mega Link. Come talk QRP every Thursday at 1730- local on the HDARC repeater.

73 Mike R. Smith, K15NBP, President HDARC

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The 2026 Leadership Team

Executive Leadership

- Michael R. Smith, K15NBP - President 2026-2028
- Elaine Summerhill, KJ5ATL - Vice President 2026-2028
- Mike Chirin, NM5MC - Treasurer 2026-2028
- Don Shoemaker, N9DCS - Secretary 2026-2028

Board of Directors

- Ken Ham, AG5UY - Chairman 2025-2027
- John Dodd, KJ5KUF - Director 2025-2027
- MaryAnn Cornett, NS7X - Director 2026-2028
- Marc Matheson, KD6KR - Director 2026 - 2028
- Gary Surad, K5BIQ - Director 2026-2028

Committee Leaders (Appointed by President)

- Past President: David Ham, N6SIK
- Elmer: MaryAnn Cornnet, NS7X
- Test Equipment Loaner Program: Harvey Dove, K15YVY



- Quartermaster: Rob Summerhill, K5NBN
- Club Programming & Workshop Development: Mike Smith, KI5NBP
- Special Projects: Marc Matteson, KD6KR
- Canteen: Elaine Summerhill, KJ5ATL / John Dodd, KJ5KUF
- 50/50 - Raffles: Becky Ham, N6TYT
- The High Desert Dispatch Editors: Mike Smith, KI5NBP / Elaine Summerhill, KJ5ATL / John Dodd, KJ5KUF
- Website: Ken Ham, AG56UY / Elaine Summerhill KJ5ATL
- Club YouTube Channel: Elaine Summerhill, KJ5ATL
- East Mountain Group: Rob Summerhill, K5NBN
- License Testing: Yul Bratcher, WA5YUL
- Club Net's: *Your Name Here*
- Club Repeater(s): Rob Summerhill, K5NBN and an amazing team of experts.
- Field Days: *Your Name Here*
- Membership Recruitment and Retention: Don Shoemaker N9DCS
- Public Relations Outreach: *Your Name Here*
- Youth and Student Outreach: *Your Name Here*
- Safety Coordinator: *Your Name Here*
- Club Senior and Veterans Affairs Outreach: *Your Name Here*
- EmComm: *Your Name Here*