



# River City ARCS

River City Amateur Radio Communications Society

August, 2014

<http://www.n6na.org/>

Vol. 34 no. 8



Cushcraft antenna on tower  
Photo by Greg Lane KA6BID

## International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend

The annual International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend is August 16-17. The basic objective of the event is to promote public awareness of lighthouses and lightships and their need for preservation and restoration, and at the same time to promote amateur radio and to foster International goodwill. Try and contact a station set up at a lighthouse.

For more information go to: <http://illw.net>

## From the President:

At the July 1st meeting Carol KP4MD presented a slide show on modifying a low cost Jump Start as an emergency power pack. For the remainder of the meeting we reviewed this year's Field Day activity at the Dry Creek Ranch House.

This year we had five operating positions on 100% battery and solar power and completed 77 CW contacts, 18 on digital and 575 on phone, in 69 of the 83 ARRL Sections. With our power multiplier and 1,050 bonus points we submitted a total claimed score of 2,580.

## Field Day Feedback:

- Jason Lager KF6QQX reported having excellent support for erecting and tearing down the tower and antennas.
- The Ranch House staff provided use of a cherry picker to support the off center dipole and 2 meter Yagi antennas.
- The N3FJP Field Day Log program did repeatedly cause a computer at one position to freeze and require a reboot when the text message feature was used.
- The bandpass filters that we built helped reduce interference and receiver overload among positions when used.
- One capacitor failed in the 15 meter filter on Saturday afternoon--cause uncertain.
- Carol Milazzo KP4MD reported that the Flex-1500 and 40 meter Loop Skywire antenna yielded plenty of CW contacts on that band.
- 20 meter band propagation was excellent and yielded many contacts through the night and early morning hours.

Continued on Page 3



**CLUB INFORMATION**

DUES: \$20.00 Per year

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 417718,  
Sacramento CA 95841

MEETINGS: Membership meetings are generally held on the first Tuesday of each month, 7:30 P.M., at the Sacramento County Corporation Yard, corner of Don Julio and Elkhorn Blvd.'s.

Board of Directors meetings are held the fourth Tuesday at 7:00 pm. All members are welcome. Contact a board member for location.

Web Site: [www.n6na.org](http://www.n6na.org)E-mail: [n6na@arrl.net](mailto:n6na@arrl.net)Contact club through the web page at:  
<http://www.n6na.org/about>**N6NA Repeaters****145.250 MHz (-162.2)****442.600 MHz (+100)****Low Level (Orangevale)****2M Club Net - Members and Guests****Check In on 145.250 MHz****Wednesday at 8 PM****10M Club Net - Members and Guests****Check in on 28.420 MHz****following 2M net****SSTV Club net - Members and Guests****Check in on 145.51 MHz FM Simplex****Following 10M net.**<http://www.n6na.org/nets>**2014 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES****Board of Directors**

President Dr. Carol Milazzo, KP4MD

Vice President Paul McIntyre KC5JAX

Secretary Bob Woodward N6PGQ

Treasurer Paul Grose N6DRY

Membership Needed

**Board Members:**

2 year Term Chuck Freas W6FT

2 year Term Ralph Stocki KJ6PIK

2 year Term Ed Seigner WA6QYO

2 year Term Don Jackson K8GET

**Appointments:**

N6NA Trustee Steven Bird KM6YU

VE Liaison Need volunteer

Training Ed Seigner, WA6QYO

Editor Ken Martin, KE6RMN

Sales Linda Cardoza KI6OLC

Field Day Need volunteer

Picnic Chair Need volunteer

**OTHER NETS**

Noon Time Net is on the W6AK/R at 146.910 (-) 100 PL.

**2014 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

For 2014 all membership meetings will be held on the 1st Tuesday of each month. Board meetings are on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

Membership meeting	Aug 5
Board Meeting	Aug 26
Labor Day	Sep 1
Membership meeting	Sep 2
Board Meeting	Sep 23



**Bob Balthrop KD6WTY**

This week Bob was moved to an assisted living type facility. I don't know how long he will be there. He seems to like it and he seems to be to be improving. He needs more attention and care than Mary Anne is able to give because her health is not good either. Twice in the last two weeks my wife and I have taken her to the ER. This whole ordeal has been very hard on her and she is exhausted. She is blessed with children that care and help. Her daughter is with her right now, but she has a family and job in Quincy. Keep the whole family in your thoughts and prayers.

Paul Grose

During their July vacation on the Caribbean island of Puerto Rico, Carol KP4MD and Roger KI6FYF enjoyed the hospitality of Tony Santiago KP4IA, Broadcast Maintenance Engineer at WAPA-TV. He gave us a VIP tour of this state of the art facility that produces live TV shows and serves as the satellite uplink for the all television stations in Puerto Rico. Tony owns several FM repeater systems and an ATV repeater in Puerto Rico that provide emergency communications specially during the hurricane season. Tony is active from his solar powered home station on CW, DX, Satellites, EME, digital modes and ATV.

Carol Milazzo

[Tony Santiago KP4IA and Carol KP4MD at the WAPA-TV Noticentro 4 news studio.](#)

**GEARS 75th ANNIVERSARY**

The Golden Empire Amateur Radio Society will celebrate their 75th anniversary with a sit down dinner at the Home Town Buffet In Chico on August 16. Call Anna Horn, KG6ZOA at 530-877-5939 for further information and let her know you are attending.

Their web site is:

<http://www.gearsw6rhc.org>

- When Ryan Toomey's G5RV antenna failed on Saturday night, he used the demo magnetic loop antenna and completed solid and strong contacts with Hawaii and the East coast. He later identified an intermittent connection in the G5RV and repaired it.
- There were no reported equipment failures due to operator error.
- Participants took time to explain our stations and operation to visitors.
- Many new hams had opportunities to observe and assist with operating and logging.
- Linda Cardoza KI6OLC treated a bee sting with her well stocked first aid kit.
- Chris Gifford KJ6LZR and Linda prepared dinner for all who attended.
- The weather was amenable and we were spared the stifling heat wave that arrived in the following days.
- Sean McCaskey KK6GMN did an excellent job in setting up the logging server. WiFi network and our various computers. Sean rapidly provided the log for our preliminary results to be posted by the next day.

Overall, our Field Day exercise once again provided a satisfying learning experience and improved our readiness for emergencies.

Upcoming events include the Sacramento Valley Hamfest at McBean Park in Lincoln on September 6, the White Elephant sale at our October 7 meeting and the ARRL Pacificon Convention in Santa Clara on October 10-12.

Our August 5 meeting program will be a Mobile Station Exposition in the parking lot. All radio amateurs are welcome to visit, demonstrate and explain the unique radio stations in their vehicles.

All are welcome to join us this coming Tuesday, August 5, 7:30 pm at the Sacramento County Corp. Yard at 5026 Don Julio Blvd. See you there!

73, Dr. Carol Milazzo, KP4MD/6  
President, River City ARCS

**JULY ARES MEET**

The July ARES meet had a major discussion of the EVERBRIGHT emergency recall system.



I was in Iowa on Field day so was unable to attend our Field day. I was able to visit two Field Day events one in Galesburg, ILL. and one in Washington, IA.

Ken Martin

Galesburg ran a 1A station with a folded dipole antenna . They were set up in a city park in a covered picnic shelter.

Club website is:

[http://www.w9gfd.com/?page\\_id=2](http://www.w9gfd.com/?page_id=2)



I got to the Washington field day site just as FD ended and they were tearing down. They ran a 2A station even though they had four radios. They had two trailer mounted 30ft crank up antennas and a couple smaller masts. They were set up in a public park covered picnic shelter. During the night they had to shut down due to a thunderstorm that went through the area.

Club web site is: <http://www.warc.net>





Washington Iowa Field day continued



PICTURES FROM RCARCS FIELD DAY.

More can be seen at:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/114457533000757442881/2014RiverCityARCSFieldDay>

