



# River City ARCS

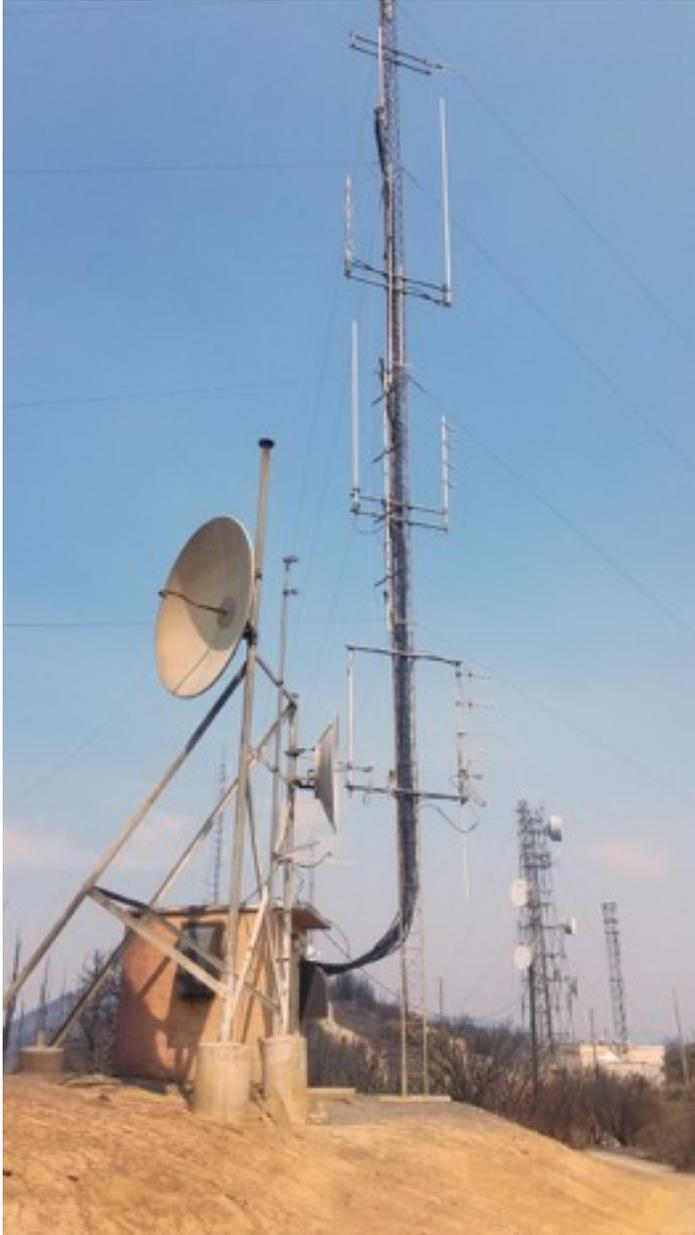
River City Amateur Radio Communications Society



September 2020

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

Vol. 40 No. 9



## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

This month's club meeting on September 1st at 7:30pm is the club's Homebrew Night, our annual event where we invite members to show a ham radio related project they've been recently working on. This year we hold the event over Zoom, and will be asking those who wish to present a homebrew project to give a 'show and tell' and tell us about your project.

If you haven't attended this event before in the past, we'll give everyone 5 to 10 minutes to tell us:

- what is the project / what does it do / what problem does it solve?
- how did you build it?
- what did you learn from building it?

Given that we're unable to meet in person, you can either hold your project up to your webcam so show us what it is, or where that's not practical you can present a couple of slides, or share a video, we'll leave it up to you how you'd like to present.

If it's easier or if you'd rather not try and do the screen share over Zoom yourself, email any photos or Powerpoint slides to myself at [kevin.hooke@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.hooke@gmail.com) and I can share the materials on screen while you talk about your project.

If you plan to present a project, please also send a quick email to [contact@n6na.org](mailto:contact@n6na.org) so we can get an idea how many presenters we're going to have and how much time we can allocate to each presenter. We'll also ask at the start of the meeting who has a project, so if you have something on the night we'll make sure everyone gets to present.

There will be prizes!

\$40 first prize

\$20 second prize

\$40 first prize for new ham (licensed in last 3 years)

If past Homebrew club nights are any indication we should have some interesting projects to see

73, Kevin KK6DCT

Club President

Chris Huber's repeater site on Mt. Vaca after the fire. This also houses a voting receiver for the clubs repeater system.

**Directions or the Zoom meeting are on page 3.**

**CLUB INFORMATION**

DUES: \$20.00 Per year  
Send to: River City ARCS

**ELMER** c/o Phil Sittner, Treasurer  
9181 Winding Oak Dr

The club Fair Oaks, CA 95628-4172  
are new hams can get help from older hams. If you need help with some of the first Tuesday of each month 7:30 PM at the Sacramento State College in Yuba, come to our club and talk to the Board. It's as simple as labor to help put of Directors. By volunteering help will help others and may make a new friend.

Contact a board member for location.

**2020 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES****Board of Directors**

President	Kevin Hooke	KK6DCT
Vice President	Tom Cutter	KK6YYF
Secretary	Gert Thompson	KK6ZGA
Treasurer	Phil Sittner	KD6RM
Membership	Phil Sittner	KD6RM
Board Members		
2 year Term	Marty Gunn	KM6MFI
2 year Term	Mike Meighan	KD6ILC
2 year Term	Dave Martin	WB6YLK
2 year Term	Sylvia Stork	KS6WTF

**Appointments:**

N6NA Trustee	Andrew Stephens	W6AWS
Hospitality	Marie Martin	
Training	Ed Seigner,	WA6QYO
Editor	Ken Martin,	KE6RMN
Sales	Need volunteer	
Field Day	Need volunteer	
Picnic Chair	Need volunteer	

Web Site: [www.n6na.org](http://www.n6na.org)

E-mail: [n6na@arll.net](mailto:n6na@arll.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)**

**441.300 MHz Member use only**

**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 441.300 MHz FM Simplex**

**Following 10M net.**

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

**2020 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

For 2020 all membership meetings will be held on the 1st Tuesday of each month.

Board meetings are on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

Club Meeting	Sep 1
Labor Day	Sep 7
Board Meeting	Sep 22
Club Meeting	Oct 6
Columbus Day	Oct 12
Board Meeting	Oct 27

**NEW MEMBERS**

Please welcome these new members:

Maj-Maj Melendres, KN6KJG

## RCARCS August 2020 General Membership club meeting on Zoom

Time: **Sep 1, 2020 07:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83845103258?pwd=RTBoc0poek5MOVJubXIVcmRhWTFtZz09>

Meeting ID: **838 4510 3258**

Passcode: **890481**

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,83845103258#,,,,,0#,,890481#  
US (San Jose)

+12532158782,,83845103258#,,,,,0#,,890481#  
US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 838 4510 3258

Passcode: 890481

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/keqG5nZ8up>

## HELP COLUMN

I am starting a new column for people who need some help with physical work. Antennas, solar panels or similar. If you need some help with outside jobs let me know and I will put it in the newsletter and maybe we can find some help.



## HOMEBREW NIGHT

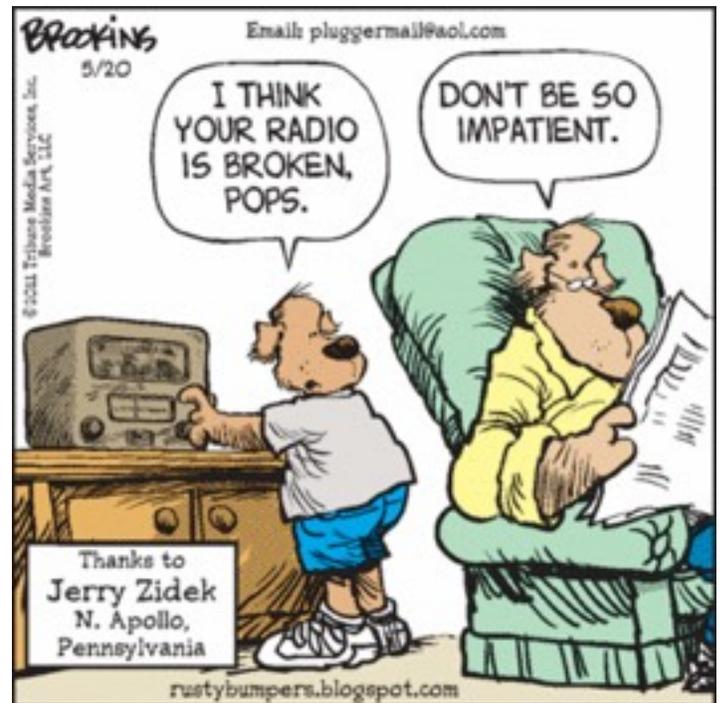
Next Tuesday we will have a Homebrew show at the meeting. this is show something you have built, you can show it either live on zoom or with pictures you have taken.

If you can't show them live send them to Kevin at:

[kevin.hooke@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.hooke@gmail.com)

“Creative solutions is the essence of 'home brew'. You have a need and develop a method of getting the job done without depending on a specialty manufacturer. Run with it and good luck.”

Phil Sittner



Pluggers have to wait for the tubes in their radios to warm up.



## HAM EXPO REVIEW

One of the first large Virtual HamExpo's for 2020 happened on the Weekend of August 7-9, 2020. All in person HamExpo's have been canceled for the year. Interested hams numbered in the 20,000 range who signed up to participate. The website provided the convention organization and participation can be found here: <http://qstoday.vfairs.com>. It was co-marketed via the ARRL and various Ham vendors and clubs. It was all free. The software hosting website was controlled by a company called [vfairs.com](http://vfairs.com) which hosts Online Events for Global Audiences. The company has hosted Virtual career fairs, training and large corporate events including university open houses and various industry segments.

The web Expo view starts with a large Geo Dome structure with simulated foot traffic in the front of a building. The Expo. Once visiting the site you are asked to create an account via a register link. With the common question of your identity and a email address. The Email address will be used as a login to get into the HamExpo.

There is a large agenda with many speakers who can be found here: <https://www.qsotodayhamexpo.com/speakers.html> as well as hyperlinks to ham vendors and group chats with people attending all over the world.

The content presented on the day of the events were offered in a 4-tier choice. Much like Pacifcon HamExpo, where events happen in separate rooms roughly at the same time. In fact many of the presenters have participated at Pacifcon HamExpo in the past. The lectures are still available up to 30 days after the event. Roughly till Sept 9th. So creating a login and having a look around is worth while. The main lectures are hosted (actually) from youtube recordings. After the presentation, following the scheduled day and time of the event, a second Post Q&A is offered. This would take the guest/visitor to a zoom channel with the presenter controlling, like something we've seen in the N6NA general Zoom meetings. The visitors only had the capability of using the chat function and a moderator would relay the questions provided in text to the lecture host to answer. These were always more interesting than the canned youtube lectures. Very detailed and interesting discussions resulted via zoom.

It would be worth while to look over the material and pick out what you want to view while it is still online this month August and beginning week of September.

Tom Cutter  
N6BS

I attended the Ham Expo and found some interesting things there. The clinics ranged from "I have no interest" to quite informative. Clinic start times were staggered so sometimes there was overlap of clinics I was interested in. The vendors mostly connected with their website but there were ways to connect with a person to chat with.

All in all it was an interesting event . They will be repeating it next March.

Ken Martin  
KE6RMN

## VACA FIRE

I made the trip to Vaca, Saturday after getting through a CHP road block in Vacaville. The 145.25 voting receiver site survived with no exterior damage to the building and tower, just no power.

The PG&E infrastructure is 75% destroyed on the hill and along Pleasant Valley Road. I would be surprised if PG&E has the hill turned on in 3 to 4 weeks. They have miles of wire to restring, not just to restore the hill but all surrounding area impacted by the fire.

The attached pictures are the shared site for my repeater 147.195, with 3 2 meter, 2 UHF repeaters, 927 and 1.2 GHz repeaters and various interconnecting links. We have heat damage issues with the hardline entering the building and the lower 40' of the tower.

This is going to be a slow and tedious process to get these systems back on the air. My biggest concern is the tower structural integrity.

Chris N6ICW

