



# The Kern River Voice

## The Monthly Newsletter of the Sequoia Amateur Radio Group



Volume 15 Issue 9  
September 2020



<http://www.n6krv.org>

N6KRV – An ARRL Affiliated Club

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### 2020 S.A.R.G. Leadership

#### President

Don Jefferson KC6OCA (760) 379-5084  
(also Club Historian & The Raffle Guy)

#### Vice President / Programs Chr

Cheryl Ripley (661) 867 0501

#### Secretary

Christine Hesse KK6AZQ

#### Treasurer/ Web Master

Mike Higgins KA6IYS (760) 378-1028

#### Membership Chair

Christine Hesse KK6AZQ

#### Board Members

Charles Caudell KI6GOG (760) 223 3929

#### Newsletter Editor

Bill Hesse [editor@n6krv.org](mailto:editor@n6krv.org)

#### Past President

Bill Hesse N6TF

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#### ARES Net

Monday – 6:45 PM  
145.450 (-) PL 156.7

#### Club Nets

HF Net – Tue / Thu & Sat 8 PM  
3.813 MHz

VHF Net – Friday 7PM  
145.450 (-) PL 156.7

#### Prune Juice & BS Net

Daily (exc. Sunday) 9AM  
145.450 (-) PL 156.7

#### SARG Monthly Meetings

2nd Sat. (exc. Dec.) 9:30AM  
KRV Elks Lodge  
6708 Wofford Blvd.,  
Wofford Heights, CA 93285



### ***The Prez Sez:***

Hello again Fellas and Gals,

*I had hoped that by the September meeting the Covid 19 lock down would have eased but that doesn't seem to be the case. We still have the ever present Prune Juice Net and ARES practice going on.*

*One piece of very good news is that the new sunspot cycle is heating up and of this writing there are eleven new sunspots doing their thing.*

*We have had some pretty good flares from the sun producing several aurora events and the solar wind has produced an increase in the activity on the 3-30 MHz band keep an ear open as the new cycle opens up.*

*On the home front we're still waiting for an all clear notice that we can again hold our meetings at the Elks club. We sure are looking forward to it.*

*keep hanging in there!*

*Don, KC6OCA*

## Scouting's Jamboree on the Air Set for October 16, 17, and 18

08/31/2020

Jamboree on the Air ([JOTA](#)) and Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI) will be held this year on October 16, 17, and 18. [Register](#) online as an individual or as a group.

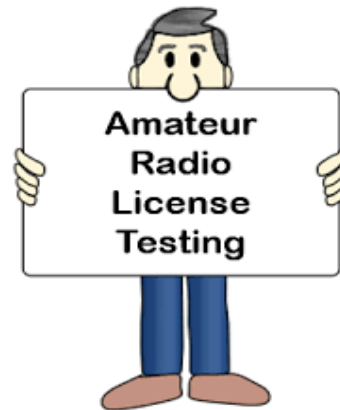
Jamboree on the Air is the largest Scouting event in the world. In a typical year, more than 1 million Scouts participate in JOTA, with over 11,000 stations operated by 20,000+ young radio amateurs from 150+ countries around the world.

[JOTA details](#) are available on the K2BSA website. The website menu will direct users to additional supporting information.

K2BSA's Jim Wilson, K5ND, says many locations are already offering virtual radio merit badge classes "and no doubt will be using similar approaches for Jamboree on the Air."



**OUR NEXT MEETING:** *Our next meeting has been canceled once again due to the current Covid-19 situation. Updates will be posted on the Club Website. (N6KRV.ORG)*  
*Please stay safe, well and at home.*



## VE Exams

The club now sponsors VE Exams on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month, except December. The exams will be held at the Valley Estates Community Center, 14213 Allen Ave., Weldon, CA 93283 at 11AM. Preregistration is required and the forms and directions are on the club website [n6krv.org](http://n6krv.org) on the exam info page. This change was made on a trial basis as the Elk's Lodge was not yet available for the May testing session. It worked so well, no distractions, good social distancing for all involved and plenty of work space for everyone that it was decided to make the change of location and date permanent.

Mike KA6IYS – Lead Examiner

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### Some upcoming Events:

Annual Christmas Dinner

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## SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

If you hear of any of our members who aren't feeling so well, please let Christine Hesse KK6AZQ know so she can get a card out to them. Keep those prayers going....

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*Olympic Gold medals are actually 93%Silver, 6%copper and 1% Gold.....*

## This month in History

**September 1, 1969** - Military officers overthrew the Libyan government. The Libyan Arab Republic was then proclaimed under Colonel Muammar Gaddafi.

**Birthday** - Boxing champ Rocky Marciano (1923-1969) was born in Brockton, Massachusetts (as Rocco Francis Marchegiano). He fought Jersey Joe Walcott for the heavyweight title on September 23, 1952, and knocked him out. In 1956, he retired as the only undefeated heavyweight champion. He died in a plane crash in 1969.

**September 5, 1997** - [Mother Teresa](#) died in Calcutta at age 87, after a life of good works spent aiding the sick and poor in India through her Missionaries of Charity order.

**September 9, 1948** - Following the withdrawal of Soviet forces from North Korea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was proclaimed with Pyongyang as its capital.

**September 12, 1953** - [John F. Kennedy](#), 36, married Jacqueline Bouvier, 24, in a ceremony before 750 invited guests at St. Mary's Church in Newport, Rhode Island, conducted by Archbishop Richard Cushing of Boston.

**September 16, 1620** - The Mayflower ship departed from England, bound for America with 102 passengers and a small crew. The ship weathered dangerous Atlantic storms and reached Provincetown, Massachusetts on November 21st. The Pilgrims disembarked at Plymouth on December 26th.

**September 24, Birthday** - [John Marshall](#) (1755-1835) was born in Germantown, Virginia. He was appointed by President John Adams to the position of Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court in January 1801. He became known as "The Great Chief Justice," largely responsible for expanding the role of the Supreme Court through such cases as Marbury vs. Madison and McCulloch vs. Maryland.

**September 25, 1690** - The first American newspaper was published. A single edition of Publick Occurrences Both Foreign and Domestick appeared in Boston, Massachusetts. However, British authorities considered the newspaper offensive and ordered its immediate suppression.

**September 26, 1984** - Britain agreed to allow Hong Kong to revert to Chinese sovereignty in 1997.

**September 26 Birthday** - American folk legend Johnny Appleseed (1774-1845) was born in Leominster, Massachusetts (as John Chapman). For 40 years, he traveled through Ohio, Indiana and into Illinois, planting orchards. He was a friend to wild animals and was regarded as a "great medicine man" by Native Americans.

**September 29 Birthday** - Nuclear physicist [Enrico Fermi](#) (1901-1954) was born in Rome. While teaching at the University of Chicago, he developed a method of causing nuclear fission, producing a chain reaction releasing explosive nuclear energy which led to the development of the Atomic bombs.

**Off Topic but interesting anyway:**

THE BOOK SAID, “ANOTHER  
EPISODE OF MORE INTEREST  
THAN IMPORTANCE,”

(and I say, “*Why?*”) Al Price

In 1932, Wallace P.V. Smith already had his Master's, and submitted his dissertation for his Doctorate entitled, “*The Development of the San Joaquin Valley, 1772-1882*” at U.C. Berkeley. It was over 500 pages long, it was later expanded to the current 859 pages and retitled, “Garden of the Sun”. Much of his research came from diaries of the pioneers, and from never before revealed church documents. One story I really found interesting was in Chapter 3, “*Mission Sites and Neophytes*”, Pages 64 – 66.

*To paraphrase:* A padre and two soldiers went on a pedestrian tour from Mission San José to the San Ramón Valley, and planned to cross the hills into the San Joaquin.

While crossing Walnut Creek they were attacked by a horde of 800 Indians. Apolinario Bernal, a gigantic soldier, told the padre and other soldier to “run for your lives, and I will hold them off at the narrow crossing of the stream.” He stayed behind, but instead of just standing there waiting, he rushed towards them with his bayonet fixed, and there, on the narrow bridge he stood, broad shouldered and erect.

Nor was it long before the enemy swarmed the bridge. As each warrior approached, he

received the bayonet, and then became Apolinario's shield as another approached. But soon he was overwhelmed by their superior numbers. For him, the fight was done. Then as if laying down for slumber after play, he was pale as he fell into his permanent sleep. His horse was killed, his ammunition gone; this was one of those rare examples of a man, *not losing his life, but giving it up to save others.*

Strangely enough, there was never an official report of this supreme act of heroism. The padres never wrote about this brave act to any extent, but rest assured, if it were a priest who had done this, Rome would still be echoing with the story. In long-overdue reverence, we all need to remember Apolinario Bernal.

Submitted by Al Price N6ALP

**Q: You know what's hard to beat for breakfast?**

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**A: A boiled egg. ....**

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Let me hear from you if you like or don't like what you've seen in this issue of *your* “Kern River Voice”. [EDITOR@N6KRV.ORG](mailto:EDITOR@N6KRV.ORG)



## Ham Radio Glossary

**Editor's note:** Although I have run "Ham Radio Glossary" in past editions and have already covered it all "from A to Z" it is my intention to cover it all again. This is intended as a service to the new "Ham" as well as gentle reminders for the seasoned veteran.

### S-

**Sky-wave propagation** -- The method by which radio waves travel through the ionosphere and back to Earth. Sometimes called skip, sky-wave propagation has a far greater range than line-of-sight and ground-wave propagation.

**SOS** -- A Morse code call for emergency assistance.

The American delegation suggested the letters NC which were already recognized in the International Signal Code for Visual Signalling. The German delegation proposed its own SOE, which was already in use on German ships as a general inquiry signal similar to CQ (which was then used only by the Marconi system). The British delegation wanted the Marconi signal CQD.

The convention found SOE acceptable except that the final E could easily be lost in QRN so the letter S was substituted, making it SOS. The convention decided that SOS should be sent as a single code character with a sound unlike any other character, thus arresting the attention of anyone hearing it. In 1912, after the Titanic disaster, SOS became universal.

**Space station** -- An amateur station located more than 50 km above the Earth's surface.

**Specific absorption rate (SAR)** -- A term that describes the rate at which RF energy is absorbed into the human body. Maximum permissible exposure (MPE) limits are based on whole-body SAR values.

**Splatter** -- A type of interference to stations on nearby frequencies. Splatter occurs when a transmitter is overmodulated.

**Spurious emissions** -- Signals from a transmitter on frequencies other than the operating frequency.

**Standing-wave ratio (SWR)** -- Sometimes called voltage standing-wave ratio (VSWR). A measure of the impedance match between the feed line and the antenna. Also, with a Transmatch in use, a measure of the match between the feed line from the transmitter and the antenna system. The system includes the Transmatch and the line to the antenna. VSWR is the ratio of maximum voltage to minimum voltage along the feed line. Also the ratio of antenna impedance to feed-line impedance when the antenna is a purely resistive load.

**Station grounding** -- Connecting all station equipment to a good earth ground improves both safety and station performance.

**Sunspot cycle** -- The number of sunspots increases and decreases in a predictable cycle that lasts about 11 years.

**Sunspots** -- Dark spots on the surface of the sun. When there are few sunspots, long-distance radio propagation is poor on the higher-frequency bands. When there are many sunspots, long-distance HF propagation improves.

**Switch** -- A device used to connect or disconnect electrical contacts.

**SWR meter** -- A measuring instrument that can indicate when an antenna system is working well. A device used to measure SWR.



Porcupine Love....

From the ARRL:

## FCC Proposes to Reinstate Amateur Radio Service Fees

08/28/2020

Amateur radio licensees would pay a \$50 fee for each amateur radio license application if the FCC adopts rules it proposed this week. Included in the FCC's fee proposal are applications for new licenses, renewal and upgrades to existing licenses, and vanity call sign requests. Excluded are applications for administrative updates, such as changes of address, and annual regulatory fees.

The FCC proposal is contained in a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* ([NPRM](#)) in MD Docket 20-270, which was adopted to implement portions of the "Repack Airwaves Yielding Better Access for Users of Modern Services Act" of 2018 — the so-called "[Ray Baum's Act](#)."

The Act requires that the FCC switch from a Congressionally-mandated fee structure to a cost-based system of assessment. In its *NPRM*, the FCC proposed application fees for a broad range of services that use the FCC's Universal Licensing System (ULS), including the Amateur Radio Service that had been excluded by an earlier statute. The 2018 statute excludes the Amateur Service from annual regulatory fees, but not from application fees.

"[A]pplications for personal licenses are mostly automated and do not have individualized staff costs for data input or review," the FCC said in its *NPRM*. "For these automated processes — new/major modifications, renewal, and minor modifications — we propose a nominal application fee of \$50 due to automating the processes, routine ULS maintenance, and

limited instances where staff input is required."

The same \$50 fee would apply to all Amateur Service applications, including those for vanity call signs. "Although there is currently no fee for vanity call signs in the Amateur Radio Service, we find that such applications impose similar costs in aggregate on Commission resources as new applications and therefore propose a \$50 fee," the FCC said.

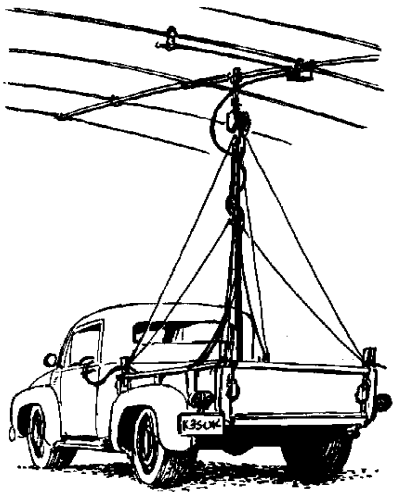
The FCC is not proposing to charge for administrative updates, such as mailing address changes for amateur applications, and amateur radio will remain exempt from annual regulatory fees. "For administrative updates [and] modifications, which also are highly automated, we find that it is in the public interest to encourage licensees to update their [own] information without a charge," the FCC said.

The FCC also proposes to assess a \$50 fee for individuals who want a printed copy of their license. "The Commission has proposed to eliminate these services — but to the extent the Commission does not do so, we propose a fee of \$50 to cover the costs of these services," the FCC said.

The Ray Baum's Act does not exempt filing fees in the Amateur Radio Service. The FCC dropped assessment of fees for vanity call signs several years ago.

Deadlines for comments and reply comments will be determined once the *NPRM* appears in the *Federal Register*. File comments by using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System ([ECFS](#)), posting to MD Docket No. 20-270. This docket is already open for accepting comments even though deadlines have not yet been set.

***Costa Rica did not issue a "Declaration of War" against Germany in World War II because it had been technically still at war since World War I...***



*When three scientists go on vacation:*

A physicist, a biologist, and a chemist were going to the ocean for the first time. The physicist saw the ocean and was fascinated by the waves. He said he wanted to do some research on the fluid dynamics of the waves and walked into the ocean. Obviously he was drowned and never returned.

The biologist said he wanted to do research on the flora and fauna inside the ocean and walked inside the ocean. He, too, never returned.

The chemist waited for a long time and afterwards, wrote the observation, "The physicist and the biologist are soluble in ocean water."

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90% of the plants in New Zealand are not found anywhere else on Earth..

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***Me: What's the Wi-Fi password?  
Bartender: You need to buy a drink first. Me: OK, I'll have a Coke.  
Bartender: Three dollars. Me: There you go. So what's the Wi-Fi password? Bartender: "You need to buy a drink first." No spaces, all lowercase.***



***One day, a fourteen-year-old weasel went down to the local dance hall. The bartender took one look at him and says, "You are under-aged. I can't serve you beer." The weasel asks, "What can I have?" The bartender replies, "I have bottled water, juice, energy drinks, and pop."***

***"Pop!" goes the weasel.***



# SEPTEMBER 2020

Serving the Kern River Valley and Walker Basin



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