

# The Kern River Voice

The Monthly Newsletter of the

Sequoia Amateur Radio Group



Volume 16 Issue 5 May 2021

N6KRV – An ARRL Affiliated Club PO Box 2446, Lake Isabella CA 93240

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#### **ARES Net**

Monday – 6:45 PM 145.450 (-) PL 156.7

## **Club Nets**

HF Net -Tue / Thu & Sat 8 PM 3.770 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 Elk's Lodge 6708 Wofford Blvd., Wofford Heights, CA 93285



# The Prez Sez:

Hi Folks:

Here we are getting ready for the May Meeting.

This time we'll meet at 11:00 in the garden behind the Elks lodge for our ice cream social. Cheri will be taking orders for hot dogs for those who want them.

The club will supply the ice cream. If you have a favorite ice cream bring it. We'll help you eat it.

Our first get together for dining was at Nelda's restaurant in the outside tent. It was quite comfortable and all who came had a good time. (see n6krv.org) for pictures.

Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Don KC6OCA

# ARRL:

# The K7RA Solar Update

04/30/2021

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: Sunspots have continued to appear every day after April 11 — the last day with no sunspots.

Average daily sunspot number rose this week from 35.1 to 47.6, and average daily solar flux also rose, from 78 to 79.2.

Geomagnetic indicators were quieter, with average daily planetary A index declining from 16.4 to 10.7. The most active day was April 25 with a planetary A index of 20.

Predicted solar flux over the next month is 77, 75, and 72 on April 30 – May 2; 70 on May 3 – 6; 72 on May 7 – 9; 73 on May 10 – 11; 74 on May 12 – 13; 77 on May 14; 79 on May 15 – 23; 78 on May 24 – 2, and 75 and 73 on May 28 – 29.

Predicted planetary A index 8 on April 30 – May 1; 15, 12, 12, and 8 on May 2 – 5; 5 on May 6 – 10; 8, 12, 20, and 30 on May 11 – 14; 15 on May 15 – 16; 12 on May 17; 5 on May 18 – 19; 15 and 10 on May 20 – 21; 5 on May 22 – 28, and 15, 12, and 10 on May 29 – 31. After that, things are quiet over the first week of June.



# **VE Exams**

Volunteer License Exams are available in the Kern River Valley on the third Saturday of each month. They are held at 11AM in the Community Center of Valley Estates, 14213 Allen Avenue, Weldon, CA 93283. They are administered through the Greater Los Angeles Amateur Radio Group (GLAARG.ORG) and the exam cost is \$10.

The FCC has enacted rules that will at some time in the near future add an additional license fee to the exam fee. Details have not been released as to the exact amount and effective date. For details on how to sign up for an exam visit <a href="http://n6krv.org/exam-info/">http://n6krv.org/exam-info/</a>.

Mike KA6IYS - Lead Examiner

Coming up this year:

Summer Ice Cream Social

ARRL Ham Radio Field Day, June 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>



## 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.....

# This month in History

May 1, 1707 - Great Britain was formed from a union between England and Scotland. The union included Wales which had already been part of England since the 1500's. The United Kingdom today consists of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

May 5th - Celebrated in Mexico as Cinco de Mayo, a national holiday in remembrance of the Battle of Puebla in 1862, in which Mexican troops under General Ignacio Zaragoza, outnumbered three to one, defeated the invading French forces of Napoleon III.

May 10, 1889 - A riot erupted outside the Astor Place Opera House in New York as British actor William Charles Macready performed inside. Angry crowds revolted against dress requirements for admission and against Macready's public statements on the vulgarity of American life. The mob then shattered theater windows. Troops were called out and ordered to fire, killing 22 and wounding 26.

May 14, Birthday - German physicist Gabriel Fahrenheit (1686-1736) was born in Danzig, Germany. He introduced the use of mercury in thermometers and greatly improved their accuracy. His name is now attached to one of the major temperature measurement scales.

May 27, 1937 - In San Francisco, 200,000 people celebrated the grand opening of the Golden Gate Bridge by strolling across it.

May 28, Birthday - All-around athlete Jim Thorpe (1888-1953) was born near Prague, Oklahoma. He won the pentathlon and decathlon events at the 1912 Olympic Games and also played professional baseball and football.

May 30, 1943 - During World War II in the Pacific, the Aleutian Islands off the coast of Alaska were retaken by the U.S. 7th Infantry Division. The battle began on May 12 when an American force of 11,000 landed on Attu. In three weeks of fighting U.S. casualties numbered 552 killed and 1,140 wounded. Japanese killed numbered 2,352, with only 28 taken prisoner, as 500 chose suicide rather than be captured.



# OUR NEXT MEETING: Ice Cream Time!

Our next club meeting is our annual Ice Cream Social. It will be on our usual meeting date, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, which is May 8, 2021. We will start at 11AM in the picnic area to the rear of the Elk's Lodge in Wofford Heights. The club will furnish the ice cream and toppings, bring your own drinks, pie or cookies if you wish. The Elk's will have hot dogs and hamburgers for sale.

### From the ARRL:

Bill Introduced to Designate April 18, 2022, as National Amateur Radio Operators Day

#### 04/27/2021

Arizona Congresswoman Debbie Lesko has reintroduced a resolution with bipartisan support to designate April 18, 2022, as National Amateur Radio Operators Day. Introduced on April 19, the measure recognizes the important contributions amateur radio operators have made. She introduced a similar bill in the last Congress.

"Throughout history, amateur radio operators have provided invaluable services to our communities," Lesko said in a news release. "I am proud to reintroduce this resolution to honor the important contributions amateur radio operators have made in Arizona and across our nation. Amateur radio has brought people together and has provided critical emergency communications during natural disasters. Amateur radio is a vital part of our nation's communications infrastructure."

Lesko said she was initially approached to introduce the resolution during the last Congress by then-12-year-old Raymond Anderson, N7KCB, of Peoria, Arizona.

As Lesko's resolution notes, the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) designates each April 18 as World Amateur Radio Day, to recognize the founding of the IARU in 1925. She said her resolution would recognize the amateur radio community with a national day in the US. The resolution cites the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) for providing "invaluable emergency communications services following recent natural disasters, including, but not limited to, helping coordinate disaster relief efforts following Hurricanes

Katrina, Wilma, and Maria and other extreme weather disasters."

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, praised the initiative. "The voluntary contributions of America's approximately 774,000 amateur radio operators in support of the critical communications infrastructure of the United States are rarely recognized," Roderick said. "Congresswoman Lesko's resolution is an important first step in correcting that oversight. On behalf of ARRL's members and all amateur radio operators, I commend Congresswoman Lesko for her support of amateur radio and her leadership in bringing deserved recognition of the 106+ years of amateur radio's substantial influence on the development of modern communications."

Lesko was joined by members of both parties as original cosponsors of the resolution. The list includes Representatives Robert Aderholt of Alabama; Julia Brownley of California; Kat Cammack of Florida; Paul Gosar of Arizona; Glenn Grothman, of Wisconsin; Vicky Hartzler of Missouri; Ashley Hinson of Iowa; Chris Jacobs of New York; Kaiali'i Kahele of Hawaii; Mike Kelly of Pennsylvania; Doug LaMalfa of California, and Daniel Webster of Florida.

# Did you know ants never get sick?......



anty-bodies......

# Off Topic but interesting......

# MICROWAVE OVENS, INVENTED BY MISTAKE!

(from several articles off the Internet, put together by Al Price, Ham radio call sign, N6ALP)

He grew up in the wilderness in Howland, Maine during the turn of the century, only had a third-grade education, but like Louie L'Amour said. "Not all education comes from schools". At the age of 12, Percy Spencer went to work at a "Spool Mill" one or two towns away. By 14 he had learned about electricity and was hired to install the electricity in a nearby Paper Mill. Along comes WWI and he joined the Navy and learned to become a radio operator. In the evenings, while standing watch, he "got a hold of some technical manuals and other books" and taught himself more about radio and electronics.

After the war, Spencer joined a newly established company called the American Appliance Company, that was co-founded by Vannevar Bush, an engineer who later helped organize the "Manhattan Project", for development of the atomic bombs in WW II. In 1925 they changed their name to "Raytheon". During the 20's, Spencer's self-teaching studies and inquisitive mind led him to become one of Raytheon's most valuable and well-known engineers. He was the go-to person for solving problems. He didn't call them "challenges" back then, they were "A Godda\*\* problem, that needed to be solved".

His major projects involved radar magnetrons (simply explained as, "A sort of electronic whistle that creates vibrating electro-magnetic waves instead of creating the vibrating sounds" – Got it?) He was so good at it that he had earned

several of his own patents on electrical devices. On that fateful day in 1946, while testing one of his new magnetronic devices, he stuck his hand in his pocket to retrieve a candy bar, AND FOUND IT MELTED! (His grandson, Rod Spencer, also an engineer, says over the years the candy bar story has changed from the original peanut cluster bar, to a Hershey chocolate bar. But it was a peanut cluster bar. "That's what I heard from Grandpa's own telling!")

The grandson also says, "The next thing he tried, was to put an egg next to the magnetron, but it exploded. I'm pretty sure that the expression "egg on your face" came from that! Then he placed a paper bag with popcorn kernels next to it, and came away with popcorn, so he went around and supplied the whole office staff with his freshly made popcorn --- and that was the beginning of "Microwave ovens".

Of course, the first ones, called "Radar Ranges", could only be purchased and used by commercial institutions and restaurants. They weighed about 750 pounds, and cost between \$2,000 and \$3,000.00, so the sales were very limited. It took more than 20 years for them to be scaled down to today's sizes, but 9 out of 10 homes in the U.S. have a modern-day microwave oven.

"I'm going to write a book someday about my Grandpa," says Rod Spencer, "I love telling stories about him. My head is so full of them. Today we know a lot about the microwaves, even though there are still people today that think microwaves will kill you. He didn't know any of that back then, and some people thought he was a genius, while others thought he was crazy. He was smart, self-taught, and I know his favorite passion, ---- was going out for a quiet walk, and feeding the squirrels!"

Also from the ARRL:

# Amateur Radio Credited with Rescue of Back-Country Hiker in Tennessee

04/28/2021

A back-country hiker was rescued from Great Smoky Mountains National Park with assistance from amateur radio after she became exhausted on the trail and possibly dehydrated. A member of the hiking group on the park's Little River Trail, Tim Luttrell, KA9EBJ, put out a call on the evening of April 11 via the W4KEV linked VHF repeater in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, requesting assistance in extricating the injured member. No cell phone service was available at the location, and Luttrell's signal was spotty at times, owing to the mountainous terrain.

Responding was David Manuel, W5DJR, who obtained more information and called 911, which routed the call to Great Smoky Mountains National Park Emergency Medical Service (GSMNP EMS). The national park EMS relayed through Manuel a request for the group to continue down the trail as far as possible to shorten the rescue time. Parties were asked to stand by.

A medic with the Park Service search-andrescue team subsequently reached Manuel by
telephone, who served to relay questions to
Luttrell. Manuel contacted members of the
hiker's family after Luttrell provided contact
numbers. Manuel was asked to relay
information for the family to arrange to meet in
Cherokee, North Carolina, and be prepared to
transport the distressed hiker's vehicle to her
home. By this time, a couple of hours had
passed. Manuel maintained occasional contact
with Luttrell, who indicated that all was well but

his battery was low and that he would power down the radio in between contact attempts to conserve power.

Manuel continued to monitor the repeater system and got a call from Luttrell indicating "all clear" shortly after 2 AM. Manuel later received a text indicating that the family members had connected with the distressed hiker and extended their thanks to all who had helped out.

Luttrell said afterward that Manuel "was calm, professional, and persistent but patient in obtaining information he needed through the challenges I was having with my radio." He allowed that without his spare battery pack and high-gain antenna, the incident may not have gone so well. A newer radio had been damaged in an earlier rescue effort, he told ARRL Tennessee Section Manager Dave Thomas, KM4NYI.

The injured hiker was hospitalized and required surgery and rehabilitation. Thomas told ARRL that he'd learned another hiker in the same group was close to hypothermia by the time they were rescued.

Thomas will recognize each of the radio amateurs involved in the rescue with a Certificate of Merit during the ARRL Tennessee State Convention in Knoxville on June 19.

And, once again: our agreement is to "reprint it <u>EXACTLY</u> as published originally" ... We did! So if you noticed any spelling errors, improper spacing, seemingly meaningless statements, punctuation errors, font, etc., etc. It ain't me! (I do all my misspelling, and seemingly meaningless statements elsewhere in this document, and 'apurpose

--- Editor---

# Humor.....

A customer walked into the post office wanting to mail a package. "Two-day shipping will cost \$12.95 to get it there by Friday," my coworker Billy told her. The customer, clearly looking to save a few bucks, said, "The package doesn't have to get there till Saturday. Is there any way to make that happen?" Billy nodded. "Sure. You can bring it back tomorrow."

I was working from home, interviewing a famous neurologist for an article, when my three-year-old announced she had to go potty and waddled into the bathroom. After some loud moans, she yelled, "I did it, Mom! I pooped in the toilet! I pooped on the floor too! But I'll clean it! Oh, I stepped in it!" There was an uncomfortable silence as I realized the doctor had heard every word. "Ha ha," I laughed nervously. "Do you have kids?" "No," he said, "and I never will."

I was trapped in an elevator for 30 minutes before the doors finally opened. Relieved, I said to a fellow hostage, "There's a first time for everything." She grumbled back, "There's a last time for everything too."

A Red Sox fan walks into a Boston pub and spots a guy wearing a New York Yankees cap. "Drinks for everyone here, bartender!" shouts the Red Sox fan. "Except for Mr. Yankees!" The Yankees fan smiles and says, "Thank you!" Infuriated, the Red Sox fan orders another round of drinks for everyone except Mr. Yankees, who, again, thanks the man. This goes on for a while, until Mr. Red Sox asks the bartender, "What's the matter with that guy? I've ordered rounds of drinks for everyone but him, and all he does is thank me. Is he nuts?" "No, he's not nuts," says the bartender. "He owns the place."

Cop: "You were going too fast"

Me: "I was just trying to keep up with traffic"

Cop: "There wasn't any traffic!"

Me: "I know, that's how far behind I am"



# MAY 2021



# Serving the Kern River Valley and Walker Basin

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 2021  S M T W T F S  4 5 6 7 8 9 10  11 12 13 14 15 16 17  18 19 20 21 22 23 24  25 26 27 28 29 30	June 2021  S M T W T F S  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	•	·	•	·	9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145:450 8:00 PM HF Net +/- 3.770.0MHz
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	6:45 PM EmComm Net 145:450 9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145:450	9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145:450 8:00 PM HF Net +/- 3:770.0MHz	9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145.450	9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145.450 8:00 PM HF Net +/- 3.770.0MHz	9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145.450 7:00 PM SARG Net 145.450	8:00 PM HF Net +/- 3.770.0MHz Ice Cream Social 11:00 AM
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	6:45 PM EmComm Net 145:450 9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145:450	9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145.450 8:00 PM HF Net +/- 3.770.0MHz	9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145.450	9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145.450 8:00 PM HF Net +/- 3.770.0MHz	9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145.450 7:00 PM SARG Net 145.450	9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145.450 8:00 PM HF Net +/- 3.770.0MHz
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	6:45 PM EmComm Net 145:450 9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145:450	9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145.450 8:00 PM HF Net +/- 3.770.0MHz	9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145.450	9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145.450 8:00 PM HF Net +/- 3.770.0MHz	9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145.450 7:00 PM SARG Net 145.450	9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145.450 8:00 PM HF Net +/- 3.770.0MHz
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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