



The Kern River Voice

The Monthly Newsletter of the Sequoia Amateur Radio Group



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<http://www.n6krv.org>

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2025 Leadership

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Dale KG6TBQ (661) 867-0501

Membership Chair

Torin KK6YAB (760) 379-1000

Newsletter Editor/Program Chair

Mike KA6IYS (760) 378-1028

ARES Net

Monday – 6:45PM

146.550 Simplex

Club Nets

HF Net -Tue/Thu/Sat 8PM

3813.0 MHz

VHF Net – Friday 7PM

145.450(-) PL 156.7

Prune Juice & BS Net

Daily 9AM Except Sunday

145.450(-) PL 156.7

SARG Monthly Meetings

Second Sat. (exc. Dec.)

Kern Valley Elk's Lodge

6708 Wofford Blvd

Wofford Heights, CA 93285

QST QST QST!



The Prez Sez:

June is a busy month for our club. We hold our annual Ice Cream Social (and Pizza Party) at the Elk's Lodge and Field Day is the 4th full weekend of the month.

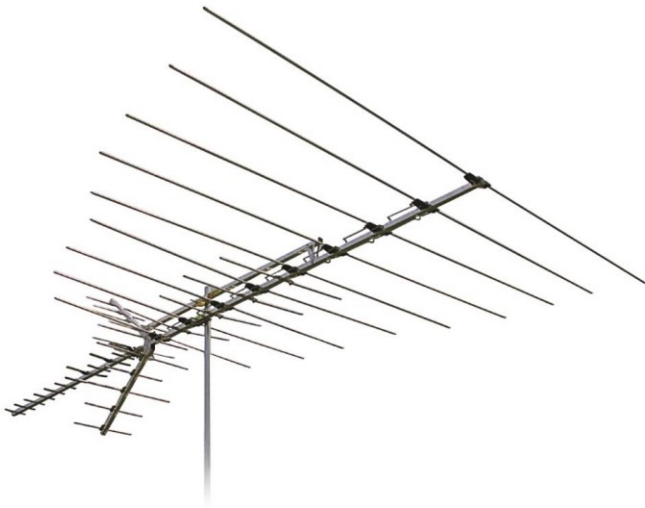
The Ice Cream Social will be on June 14, 2025 in the picnic area of the Elk's Lodge in Wofford Heights. The picnic area is to the rear of the building under the trees in the fenced in area. The party starts at 10:30. The club furnishes the ice cream, toppings, bowls, paper plates, spoons, napkins and pizza. Bring your drink of choice and your appetite.

Field day is June 28th and 29th this year. For the first time in many years the club will not do Field Day in a specific location. This year the club will encourage all members to compete from their home or mobile station and submit their entry with club name in the sponsor area. The ARRL will take all of the entries identified as sponsored by the Sequoia Amateur Radio Group and combine them for an aggregate score for the club. Look for the link to Field Day on www.n6krv.org to obtain full details on how to participate.

Ham Radio License Exams

The club provides exams for new licenses and upgrades on a monthly basis, except December, at the Valley Estates Community Center, 14213 Allen Avenue, Weldon, CA 93283. The sessions are normally held on the third Saturday of the month at 11AM. You must preregister at least one day in advance. The forms and instructions to preregister are on the club website at <https://n6krv.org/exam-info/> . The exam fee is \$10 and there are waivers available as detailed on the webpage. The Federal Communications Commission also has a fee and, in most cases, it is \$35 and is not generally waived. We do not collect the FCC fee; they will provide payment directions after they receive and process your paperwork.

You can find the question pools at <http://www.ncvec.org/> .



Get on the air! Join us every morning (except Sunday) on the Prune Juice and Baloney Sandwich Net on the Rocky Point Repeater, 145.450(-), 156.7 Tone, 9AM. We discuss the weather, recent events and anything else that may cross our minds. If you don't have anything to add, just check in and let us know you are listening.

We also have a net every Friday night at 7PM on the same repeater. Amateur Radio Newsline is played just after the net for those that desire to keep up with ham radio in the news.

And now AR Newsline . . .



Sickness and Distress

Sherman, KI6WMI, is scheduled for knee replacement surgery in early June. Torin, KK6YAB, has had additional surgery to treat his cancer. Bryan, KI6SLP, has additional surgery scheduled for the end of June for treatment of his skin cancer. Please keep them in your prayers and thoughts. If you know of someone not listed that should be, please let the editor know at editor@n6krv.org



Aprosexia is the inability to concentrate.

Sharing mascara is the most common way people pass on eye infections like pinkeye.

Oysters that commercially produce pearls are NOT in the same family as edible oysters. The edible varieties of oysters can produce pearls, but it is very rare.

When the Big Mac was first sold in 1968, it cost 45 cents.

Avocados are poisonous to birds.

Dolphins shut down half of their brains when they sleep.

Fans celebrate today (May 4) as Star Wars Day. May the Fourth Be With You.

Gluten, named from the Latin gluten meaning glue, is a substance that gives elasticity to dough, helping it to rise and to keep its shape. It occurs in wheat and other grains, including barley and rye, and in foods or drinks derived from them, but not in corn, rice, or oats. Gluten is a protein composite consisting of a gliadin fraction (alcohol soluble) and a glutenin fraction (only soluble in dilute acids or alkaline).

There are seven points on the crown of the Statue of Liberty. They represent the seven continents and seven seas of the world.

In 2007, China deliberately destroyed one of their weather satellites to test a new weapon. That test contributed to over 3,000 pieces of space debris – the largest ever tracked.

In Italy, it is illegal to make coffins out of anything except nutshells or wood.

The ostrich lays the largest eggs on land, but the whale shark lays the largest eggs in the world.

Pelicans are heavy birds, but thanks to air sacs in their bones – buoyancy is not a problem. They can fly to the height of 10,000 feet using the warm wind currents.

The sentence "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter in the alphabet.

About one-third of *Spongebob Squarepants* fans are adults.

Some Malaysians protect their babies from disease by bathing them in beer.

A sneeze travels out of your mouth at more than 100 mph.

The word "escalate" did not exist until the invention of the escalator in 1944.

Sweden has 221,800 islands, 1,000 of which are populated.

Wind originally has no sound. A sound is created only when wind blows against an obstacle.

You're more likely to die on your way to buy a lottery ticket than you are to actually win the lottery.

Spoons are a millennia older than forks.

The "sixth sick sheik's sixth sheep's sick" is said to be the toughest tongue twister in the English language.

Humans actually have nine senses, not five, including thermoception, the sense of heat (or its absence) on our skin.

The ancient Celts were the first to ferment and distill grains into whiskey. They called it water of life.

Pelicans eat fish mainly. Other than that, they can also eat turtles, crustaceans and tadpoles. Very hungry pelicans will even attack and eat seagulls.

There are more head and spinal injuries from cheerleading than all other high school and college sports combined.

Antennas Available

There are 4 antennas available from the estate of David Gonzalez, W6JYD/SK. There is a Ringo Ranger II, an HF Dipole and 2 multiband HF Verticals. They are still in place and will need to be taken down prior to removal. If you are interested in them, contact Mike KA6IYS at (760) 378-1028 for more information and photos. They are free, however; a small contribution to Blanche, his widow, would be appreciated.

Marshal Alex Mills, and Bakersfield's Disincorporation of 1876

(Stolen by Al Price, from Gil Gia's 2011 article at gilbertgia.com)

Gilbert Gia is a retired schoolteacher in Bakersfield, and a past president of the Kern County Historical Society. He helped me several years ago by giving me some information regarding Peter Lebeck, so I hope he doesn't get mad that I'm stealing from him again. He told me before that I could use his stuff for educational purposes, as long as it was for educational purposes and not for profit. So, here goes! (Oh wait! I do hope YOU will PROFIT from this!)

City Marshal Alexander Mills was a cantankerous fellow. He did not disincorporate Bakersfield by himself, but he helped it along.

In 1870 Kern County's entire population was 2,900, and Bakersfield's part in that was such that burials in the town cemetery barely averaged one per month. But by the summer of 1872 Bakersfield had three saloons and a new brewery, and although Havilah remained the county seat, mining there was on the decline, and people at Bakersfield resented traveling the mountain roads to Havilah to conduct county business.

The pressures of growth caused a political tipping point when voters in Bakersfield voted against noise, vice, garbage dumping, careless fires, and indiscriminate horse races in the town's streets. In May the Kern County board of Supervisor's approved the incorporation of Bakersfield. That was followed by city ordinances to abate nuisances,

collect taxes, form a fire brigade, and hire a city marshal. An election in 1874 (soon followed by a lawsuit) eventually moved the county seat from Havilah to Bakersfield. **** Bakersfield hired a one-legged Civil War veteran named Alex Mills to serve as city marshal. He walked with a cane, but the old Kentuckian could, and often did, use a gun when the mood moved him.

**** a 12' by 18', temporary county jail was built in Bakersfield in early 1874, and in May the county voted to fund a righteous courthouse and a jail "with at least six iron cells." A year later Marshal Mills proved his ability to fill the new lodgings. ***** Bakersfield's image suffered in late 1874 when the Southern Pacific bypassed the town and built its new train station two miles east at Sumner. What Mills did a few months later when asked to serve papers in an attachment suit against the Southern Pacific railroad, no doubt pleased more than a few Bakersfieldians. Mills chained a log to the railroad tracks, sat down on a railroad tie with his rifle in his hands, and announced that he had attached the track, the railroad, and the right-of-way, and nothing would move until the judgement was settled. The Southern Pacific soon settled quickly.

(To be continued next month)

From "Trail Talk" Comments and Quotes from Performers In the Saturday Matinee "B" Westerns By Bobby J. Copeland [1996]

(and "borrowed by Al Price, N6ALP)

GENE AUTRY

"I was a telegraph operator at the Chelsa, Oklahoma train station. One night a 'farmer-looking guy,' with glasses down to the tip of his nose, came into the office and gave me some messages he wanted to send. He then spotted my guitar behind the desk and asked me if I played? I told him that I did, and he said he would like to hear me. I played and sang a couple of songs for him, and he said, "Hey, you do all right. You ought to get a job on the radio." That guy turned out to be Will Rogers. A while later, when things got rough on the railroad, I thought, "If Will

Rogers thinks I'm that good, maybe I should give it a try.' The rest is history."

"I don't think I ever appreciated money until I went into the service. I learned what it was like to work for almost nothing --- and didn't like it."

"Some fellow asked me how many fight scenes I had in all my movies? Just figuring one or two fight scenes in every one of my pictures, "I said, "I've fought more rounds than Jack Dempsey."

"I don't think the country, or the world as a whole, has been in such damn turmoil as it is now --- It's a different generation than I was brought up in. They are slouchy. They don't care how they dress or anything else like that. When I was young and growing up, I always wanted my hair combed, my shoes shined, and to be wearing a good-looking outfit. Now it seems to be just the opposite."

SAMUEL F.B. MORSE

(of Morse Code Fame?) by Al Price, N6ALP

Yeah, yeah, yeah, he was known for the development of the telegraph, but he was in his forties before that invention was finished. What did he do before that? Believe it or not, a book was written by Carleton Mabee, calling him, "*The American Leonardo*" in 1943.

"For the first half of his life, he had shown little more than a casual interest in electricity and didn't begin experimenting with it until 1832. Before then he was an artist, a painter, and an extremely successful one. The author, Mabee, says, "Had Morse died in 1832, he would still be remembered today as a very influential artist, and not only because he painted many portraits of notable figures of the day, but he was founder and president of the organization which later became The National Academy of Design; he was its first president from 1826 to 1845".

Morse won numerous awards for his work, and even as a young man had been touted as an heir to the aging greats, Copley, Trumbull, and West. His landscapes were much appreciated, but not as much as his portraits of such dignitaries as Noah Webster, Benjamin Silliman, William Cullen Bryant,

and Lafayette, which will always remain his most penetrating and vivid accomplishments.

(Appropriated by me, from "Fabulous Fallacies, by Tad Tuleja (1982) ---- Al)

The feejee mermaid

From "THE MUSEUM OF HOAXES"

(A BOOK BY Alex Boese, 2002)

Story conveniently pilfered by Al Price

Everyone has heard of Phineas Taylor (P.T.) Barnum (1810-1891), who described himself as the "Prince of Humbug", and he more than earned this title during his long and illustrious career. He is best remembered from his days as a circus promoter, but for many years he was a well-known museum showman, known for his outrageous stunts and hoaxes to attract visitors to his bizarre exhibits. He said he was just "testing the limits of what the middle class was willing to accept". The phrase, "a sucker is born every minute" has been attributed to him, but he was not the person who originally said it. The editors of the Encyclopedia Britannica say they believe it came about in August of 1564, when Charles IX, changed the beginning of the new year, from Easter to January 1st, as Easter Day changes due to Lunar cycling. People who clung to the old idea of the start of the year in April were called "old fools", and April 1st then became known as "All Fool's Day", later changed to "April Fool's Day", and the saying "there is a Fool born every minute" ----- but that is off the subject.

Barnum told the story about a traveling English naturalist, Dr. J. Griffin, who in January 1843, brought a particular curiosity with him while traveling in the U.S.; a baby mermaid, caught off the island of FeeJee, and was talked into allowing Barnum to put it on display in his circus.

Of course, Barnum added to the hype by having an artist develop a drawing that he used with his billboards, flyers, and newspaper ads to bring more of the public in, which showed a female with long, flowing hair and a bare upper body, with the lower body of a large fish and fish tail. When the public paid their money and went in to see all the oddities on display, the FeeJee mermaid turned out to be a

much smaller version, with the dried-up head and upper body of a monkey, taxdermeied/sewn onto the dried-up lower body of a fish, with the monkey's hair covering where the two parts were joined together.

Oh, what a terrible loss, when the FeeJee mermaid was lost in a fire in the circus in the early 1860's. A similar mermaid, which some claim as the original specimen, but clearly is not, is now owned by the Harvard University's Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology.

Those were the days, huh? ---- Al

You Just Think You Know What SOS Stands ForAnd Why We Use It !

From the "Dictionary of Word and Phrase Origins" Harper & Row, 1962

(Borrowed once again by Al Price, N6ALP)

Because "SOS" has for so long been recognized as a distress call for all vessels in trouble, it has been assumed as meaning "Save Our Ship", or "Save Our Souls", or even, "Stop Other Signals" ---- WRONG! These explanations are speculative and inaccurate.

The call letters SOS were adopted by International Agreement in 1908, because, in Morse Code, they were not only easy to transmit, but also easy to understand. The letter "S" is sent as three short impulses, or "dits," and the letter "O" by three long impulses, or "dahs."

This makes "SOS" a readily identifiable signal in any language: dit-dit-dit, dah-dah-dah, dit-dit-dit."

Almost no one knows that this electrical message replaced the more cumbersome signal of CQD, which had been introduced by the Marconi Company around the turn of the century. CQ was a signal for "Attention" or "Alert", followed by a D, which stood for "Distress." Which was OK, but much more difficult to send when translated into Morse code: dah-dit-dah-dit, dah-dah-dit-dah, dah-dit-dit." Just try sending that out 100 times fast as you can -- - now you can see why it was changed!

(Adapted, adopted, or just plain stolen from: "Dictionary of Word and Phrase Origins", William and Mary Morris, Harper & Row, 1962, by Al Price, N6ALP.)

TRUMP SAID "FIGHT, FIGHT, FIGHT, REAGAN SAID," HONEY, I JUST FORGOT TO DUCK," (OR DID HE?)

On March 31, 1981, President Ronald "Dutch" Reagan said to his wife, Nancy, "Honey, I just forgot to duck," after John Hinckley's bullet nearly ended his life. And, at that time it was just taken as an example of Reagan's pluck and wit. This is what the Sportswriter for the New York Times, Red Smith, pointed out in his column the following day.

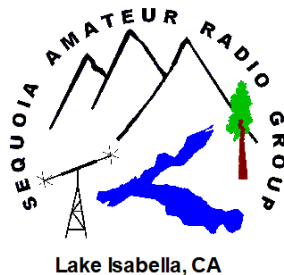
However, Reagan, a former sportswriter himself, had simply borrowed the saying from the fighter, Jack Dempsey, when describing to his wife Estelle Taylor, September 26, 1926, right after boxer Gene Tunney had taken the heavyweight crown away from him in Philadelphia. "Dutch" was 15 years old at the time of that fight.

(This is from Red Smith's sports column the following day, as reported in the N.Y. Times, and reprinted in, "Fabulous Fallacies" by Tad Tuleja, in 1982, then appropriated by me, Al Price, N6ALP.)



See the Prez Sez on page 1 for instructions on how to participate in Field Day 2025.





June 2025

Sequoia Amateur Radio Group



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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29 9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145.450 (-) 156.7 <div>Field Day</div>	30 9:00 AM Prune Juice Net 145.450 (-) 156.7 6:45 PM ARES Net 146.550S	<div>May 2025</div> <table> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </table> <div>Jul 2025</div> <table> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>					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	31	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	31		
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