



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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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:

Well, 2025 is more than half way over. It sure seems like time flies faster and faster.

It seemed strange not to participate in the ARRL Field Day this year. I did listen a little from home but the bands didn't sound especially busy. I hope that those of you that did participate did well and enjoyed your time.

Our program this month will be another presentation from our resident historian Al Price, N6ALP. He plans to give a short talk on what E Clampus Vitus is, and what they do (place historical plaques that usually wouldn't be plaqued by state, Federal, or local governments), then show the plaques.

The 146.805(-) DMR CC1 repeater has been relocated to Rocky Point. It shares the callsign N6SR along with the FM Analog repeater on 145.450(-) 156.7 tone. The DMR repeater will operate analog with a minus 600 offset and a tone of 156.7; however, if the DMR function comes up on the air all you will hear in analog is a buzzing pulse sound.

73 – Mike KA6IYS

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, Torin KK6YAB and Bryan KI6LSP are all recovering from the procedures they had done in June. We wish them continued and speedy recoveries. If you know of someone not listed that should be, please let the editor know at editor@n6krv.org

Continued from June....

Marshal Alex Mills, and Bakersfield's Disincorporation of 1876 (Part 2)

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

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

***** Mills was aggressive in collecting city taxes. As local historian Richard Bailey wrote, "It was said he (Mills) would enter a business, and, if money was due the town, and it wasn't handed over immediately, he would shoot holes in the floor around the proprietor's feet. The city board discussed firing Mills, but he heard about it and he said he would retaliate with his very accurate shotgun."

**** When businessmen were asked about Mills, they replied, "He just stumps around from one saloon to another, and at the end of each month, collects his \$76.00." And added, "He not only carries a large pistol and a badge but also packs a large ego." Here is one incident. We will call our "prominent citizen --- Mr. Black" Here is the *highly sanitized* conversation:

Mills: "Mr. Black, Suh, good morning."

Black: "Good morning, Mr. Mills"

Mills: Mr. Black, Suh, you're the pop-eyed progeny of a race of runts. And Nature never marks her critters wrong, Suh. A pop-eyed man will steal, a pop-eyed pup will suck eggs, and a pop-eyed woman will flirt with the hired help. Good morning, Suh."

*** The stories of Alex Mills are few, but together they draw a rather consistent picture.

*** he knew the history, sometimes unsavory, of everyone in town, and had a fondness of relating it.

*** Other stories say the merchants were so eager to get rid of Mills that they signed a petition to disincorporate the town, but the reason they left him in office was that the city could not collect taxes.

*** Three fourths of the city voters decided to disincorporate the town in 1876 after Mills said he would not run again, and there was no city marshal in Bakersfield for the next 22 years, the community was run by a citizen council.

*** The challenges of town expansion brought about an election on Jan. 4, 1898 which reincorporated the town (by a vote of 387 to 146). A few days later, the son of Col. Thomas Baker, Thomas A. Baker, was named as the new town marshal.

*** ex-Marshall Alex Mills stayed in Kern County. In 1878, after a double murder, Sheriff Bill Bower, called upon Mills to help quell an angry mob. Wrote in the Courier, "But for the firmness of the Sheriff and Alex Mills, the Yoakums could hardly have escaped lynching by the

infuriated citizens of that locality." The outspoken, cantankerous old man died in 1896.

Hope you liked our reliving some of our own local history
! --- Al

Ham Radio Reports Fire; Helicopter Crew Extinguishes Just in Time

06/16/2025

Amateur radio operators preparing for a contest sponsored by ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® used ham radio to report a forest fire just before winds picked up.

By John Ross, KD8IDJ

With the help of amateur radio operators, a potential wildfire was averted in California on June 12.

Amateur "ham" radio is a thriving technical hobby with members active all over the world. Hams often operate from remote locations, and several of them wound up in the right place at the right time while preparing to participate in the 2025 ARRL June VHF Contest.

Robert "Bobby" Debevec, W6IWN, and Jacob T. "Jake" Graham, KC7WXD, both ARRL members from the Reno, Nevada area, were hiking on the Grouse Ridge Trail in California, a section of the Tahoe National Forest. In addition to getting ready for the contest, they had hoped to also activate several Summits on the Air (SOTA) locations. Their day of using the Amateur Radio Service for recreation was going well until they saw smoke near the Black Buttes area and had to use it for its utility value.

Debevec captured the event on video, and posted it to his YouTube channel.

"I was surprised to see smoke ahead of us," said Graham. "As we got closer, it was clear there had been a lighting hit several days ago and we could also see flames."

Wireless service is spotty in portions of the eastern Sierra, and they didn't have a cell signal, so Debevec used his handheld ham radio to report the

fire on a nearby repeater. In just seconds, Dan Patterson, W6AI, responded back. He was monitoring the Nevada County Amateur Radio Club linked repeater system in Grass Valley, California, and heard the call. He took the GPS coordinates from Graham and notified the U.S. Forest Service.

"We were monitoring the U.S Forest Service and it only took about 10 minutes for them to dispatch a helicopter to the area," said Graham. "We watched four firefighters rappel down followed by a pack of equipment. The pair then walked closer to the area and started talking to the crew, who thanked them for the report.

"They put the out the fires but radioed for a helicopter water drop, before they left on foot, with the gear, to a nearby pickup site," added Debevec.

After the firefighters left, the winds picked up dramatically. Had that happened earlier, the outcome could have been much worse. Amateur radio serves communities before and When All Else Fails®, and having a thriving group of trained operators active in amateur radio allowed it to facilitate emergency communications that saved the day.

SPINACH WILL NOT MAKE YOU STRONG!

From: "The Dictionary of Medical Folklore," by Carol Ann Rinzler (1979)

Popeye notwithstanding, spinach will not put hair on your chest, radiate a sparkle in your eyes, or add muscles immediately to your scrawny frame. There are fair amounts of vitamins A, B, and C in it, but the element of iron, for which it has been touted, is present only in modest amounts, and even in those amounts, cannot be absorbed in the body in the form with which they exist in the vegetable. For that, you would have to eat twice your body weight in spinach each year. That's not such a good idea, even if you were so inclined, because it contains oxalic acid (which gives it its bitter taste), and that much oxalic acid can cause kidney stones. Besides," Carol says, "Who in the world said eating iron would make you strong?"

"Lack of iron," she says, "can give you iron-deficiency anemia, true, but believing merely ingesting iron will make you into a Popeye, is like thinking eating feathers will turn you into a bird!"

("Damn, and I so wanted to fly!" N6ALP --- Al Price)



Giraffes can't yawn.

If you walk and talk with someone, eventually you will synchronize your steps with each other.

There's alcohol in space, in 2006, astronomers discovered a cloud of alcohol in part of the Milky Way where stars are forming from gas and dust.

The diameter of Australia is wider than the moon.

Beer is mostly water, so the type of water used to make it can make a big difference in the taste.

Male orb-weaver spiders give back rubs to their mates so they don't get eaten!

In 2006, a guy named Chris Putnam hacked into Facebook and made thousands of profiles look like MySpace profiles. Facebook hired him.

In the shellfish family, it is the crustacean group (e.g., shrimp, lobsters, crabs) that causes the greatest number of allergic reactions. Many shellfish-allergic people can tolerate mollusks such as scallops, oysters, clams and mussels; however, anyone with shellfish allergy symptoms should consult with an allergist before eating any kind of shellfish.

Snakes can limit their resting energy consumption because they are cold blooded. This means they avoid digesting their vital stores of protein needed for survival. Some species can decrease their metabolism by up to 72%.

Queue is the only word in the English language that is still pronounced the same way when the last four letters are removed.

One tree can filter up to 60 pounds of pollutants from the air each year.

There is a theater in Russia where all the actors are cats.

Pelicans have the largest bill of all birds. It can reach 18 inches in length. Underneath the bill, pelicans have a throat pouch that can hold three gallons of water. This pouch, contrary to popular belief, does not hold food.

Crickets hear from their knees and chirp from their wings.

In 2003, there were 86 days of below-freezing weather in Hell, Michigan.

A retired California high school teacher admitted that he taught for seventeen years while being illiterate.

A man's beard grows fastest when he anticipates sex.

In Chinese, the KFC slogan "finger lickin' good" comes out as "eat your fingerd ogg" in its literal interpretation.

The Earth is approximately 6,000,000,000,000.000,000,000,000 kg or about 6,588,000,000,000,000,000,000 tons.

Archaeological evidence suggests that pigs were domesticated around 10,500 years ago in the Near East, before farmers first brought them to Europe around 8,500 years ago.

Backpfeifengesicht is a German term for a face that badly needs a punch.

Owls are the only bird that lowers the upper eyelids to blink. All other birds raise their lower lid to blink.

Currently there are approximately 752 million domestic pigs worldwide, 406 million of which can be found in China.

The world's termites outweigh the world's humans by ten to one.

As an adult, you have more than twenty square feet of skin on your body – about the same square footage as a blanket for a queen-sized bed.

Samsung uses a butt-shaped robot to make sure its phones won't break when sat upon.

The idea of painting fingernails originated in China, where the color of someone's nails indicated their social rank.

The number of possible ways playing the first four moves per side in a game of chess is 318,979,564,000.

The bumps on toads are not warts, but skin glands.

Room temperatures in a fire can be 100°F at floor level & rise to 600°F at eye level.

The math measurement pi has been accurately calculated to 1.24 trillion decimal places.

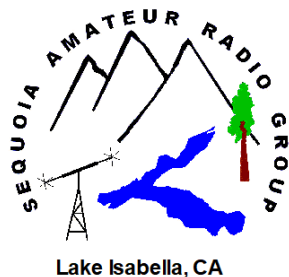
When you snap a whip, that sound you hear is the whip breaking the sound barrier.

A 150-pound adult on Earth would weigh 250 tons on the sun.

Your funny bone is not actually a bone. It's actually really sensitive nerve. And hitting that nerve isn't funny at all!

A milk allergy (not to be confused with lactose intolerance) is a reaction to whey or casein, the proteins found in cow's milk.

Bacteria can grow and divide every twenty minutes, turning one bacterial cell into sixteen million in just eight hours.



July 2025

Sequoia Amateur Radio Group



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																	
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