



# The MONITOR



*Keeping Riverside County Wireless Since 1955*



Newsletter for the Riverside County Amateur Radio Association — ARRL Affiliated Club #1720 — ISSN 2475-4579 — Volume 62, Issue 5/6, May/June 2017

## 2017 FIELD DAY

SATURDAY JUNE 24TH @ 11:AM—

SUNDAY JUNE 25TH @ 11:AM

**Martha McLean – Anza Narrow Park**

5759 Jurupa Avenue, City of Riverside; Pavilion #2

([Click Here](#): for directions to the venue)



“Field Day is ham radio's open house.” Every June, more than 40,000 amateur radio operators, throughout North America, set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill and service to our communities and our nation. It combines public service, emergency preparedness, community outreach, and technical skills all in a single event. Field Day has been an annual event since 1933, and remains the most popular event in ham radio.



The RCARA objective during field is to contact or work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands) and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. Field Day is open to all amateurs in the areas covered by the ARRL/RAC Field Organizations and countries within IARU Region 2. DX stations residing in other regions may be contacted for credit, but are not eligible to submit entries for contesting.

To determine the effectiveness of the exercise and of each participant's operations, there is an integrated “contesting” component, and many clubs also engage in concurrent leisure activities (camping out, cookouts, etc.); our club will operating all night, so we will definitely be camping. Operations typically last a continuous twenty-four hours, requiring scheduled relief operators to keep stations on the air. Additional contest points are awarded for experimenting with unusual modes, making contacts via satellite, and involving youth in the activity.

I think one of the exciting things about Field Day is the Get on the Air (GOTA) station. Its purpose is to introduce newcomers to HF and get those that have been off the air for a while back on the air



### Missing Person:

For those who are familiar with this section, I am trying to post stories relating to members of RCARA. It is surprising to learn the level of radio experience amongst us. It's also fascinating to discover how and why some of us became radio operators.

(continued on page 9)

### Inside this issue

Meeting Notes.....	<a href="#">1</a>
Birthday Wishes.....	<a href="#">3</a>
Officers' Message .....	<a href="#">4</a>
RACES& ARES .....	<a href="#">8</a>
Upcoming Events.....	<a href="#">10</a>
Board of Directors .....	<a href="#">13</a>

### Stories of interest

• Public Interest .....	<a href="#">4</a>
• Legislation .....	<a href="#">6</a>
• Tech Talk .....	<a href="#">7</a>
• Home Brew .....	<a href="#">9</a>
• For the Good of RCARA .....	<a href="#">11</a>
• Editorial.....	<a href="#">11</a>

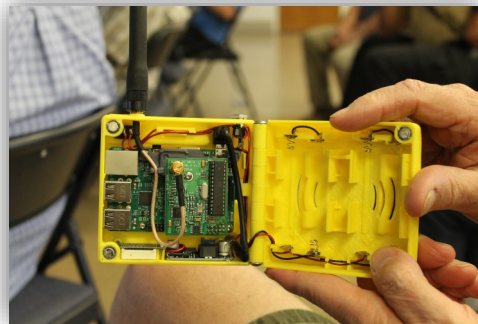
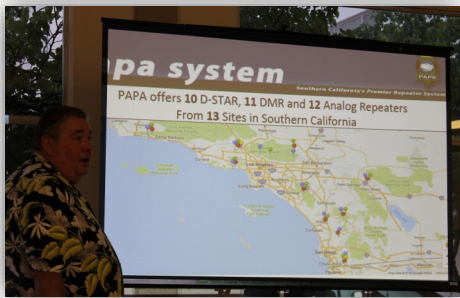
## MAY MEETING SUMMARY

### • INTRODUCTION TO THE PAPA SYSTEM

- Mike Anderson W6OSO gave a presentation on the "Papa System" of repeaters.
- The PAPA System is a community of 300+ radio amateurs enjoying the use of twenty-two (22) inter-linked analog and digital D-Star repeaters, providing extensive coverage to the Southern California region and beyond. The PAPA System provides reliable communications from the Mexican border to North of Santa Barbara, and from the Arizona border to "maritime mobile" well out into the Pacific Ocean. The System also includes access to the Hollywood IRLP Node which can link your radio to thousands of other nodes all over the world! The System is membership sponsored.



- I find the PAPA System to be extremely friendly, especially to new hams, and very active in San Diego and Los Angeles areas.



## W6TJ MONDAY NIGHT "NET"



The club provides communications support during many Public Service Events throughout the year. A weekly RACES net is held to foster emergency preparedness every Monday evening at 7:00 PM on the W6TJ club repeater (146.88 MHz, -600 KHz offset with a PL of 146.2 Hz). This 2M Monday net provides bulletins of

upcoming club activities and events.

It is also possible to check into the Net via the W6CDF Box Springs 224.460 MHz Repeater ( - offset with a PL of 110.9 Hz) which is linked to our 2M repeater.



**MAY MEETING SUMMARY** *(Continued)*

- The feature of this meeting will be a hands on construction of pigtails (piggy project) to be donated to RACES. Attendees are also welcome to make pigtails for their own use. Materials will be available.
- June is also the time when we make final plans for Field Day. Raffle tickets are being offered for a grand prize Yaseu 8900 Mobile Radio to be awarded on Sunday, June 25. You don't need to be present to win.
- Field Day is coming up June 24-25 at Martha McLean Anza Narrows Park, 5759 Jurupa Ave., Riverside. We still need volunteers and workers at all skill levels. Please consider joining us and supporting this annual event. More information is on our web site: [www.w6tj.org](http://www.w6tj.org) - Field Day 2017 link. Bring a friend or two and help us spread the word.
- If there is enough interest, we will have a potluck BBQ on Saturday.
- A Technician Class is scheduled for the following Saturdays: June 24, July 1 and July 8. Location is the Main Library, downtown Riverside at 3581 Mission Inn Ave. Contact Duane KK6EE at [d.k.allen@att.net](mailto:d.k.allen@att.net) for reservations and more information. There is no charge for the class but the FCC collects a \$15 test fee.

★HAPPY★  
BIRTHDAY!

**JUNE BIRTHS**

**Tom Koepke KK6CXF**  
June 2

**Mike Riiff KA6VPW**  
June 4

**Arturo Pineda WW6Y**  
June 13

**David Cochran KJ6EXN**  
June

**Eric Steele KV6S**  
June 26

W ● ■ ■ 6 ● ● ● T ■ J ● ■ ■ ■

**Raffle Tickets**

Get the chance to win a Yaseu FT-8900R. This quad bander gives you incredible power and flexibility on the road. Operate 10 meters, 6 meters, 2 meters and 70 centimeters. High power output is featured with 50 watts on 10, 6 and 2 meters and 35 watts on 430 MHz.

**One Ticket = \$2.00 ea**

**Three Tickets = \$5.00 ea**



The winning ticket will be drawn during Field Day at Martha Lean—Anza Narrows Park on Sunday, June 25th. The ticket holder does not need to be present at the time of the drawing. Just make sure you write your name and contact information, so we can call you when you **WIN!!!!**

**Next Month's Meeting**

RCARA meetings are held at the "La Sierra University 7th Day Adventist Church," on the 2nd Thursday of each month beginning at 7:00 PM.

Our next meeting is Thursday, June 8th, at 7:PM.

Address: 4937 Sierra Vista Ave, Riverside

[Click Here](#) to access a map for directions.



# PRESIDENTIAL "QSO"



A shout out to ALL club members:

Field Day is a fun event and important in many ways. It is an opportunity to test your equipment and learn what works and what needs improvement.

We hope to enlighten and educate the community as to the invaluable resource ham radio is in a disaster or emergency situation. When all else fails, ham radio operators are there to "save the day" using our equipment and knowledge for communication and to lend a hand to public service entities.

Come and join us in the park, help with set up on Friday (11:00 a.m.) and meet new and previous friends for socializing. Bring a dish to share for the Saturday potluck BBQ and enjoy some camaraderie. Option B if you don't cook is to donate \$5 and we will do the shopping.

You are encouraged to bring "creature comforts" such as a chair, a hat, sun screen, bug repellent and snacks.

Consider camping overnight and setting up your equipment to make contacts with other Field Day participants across the US.

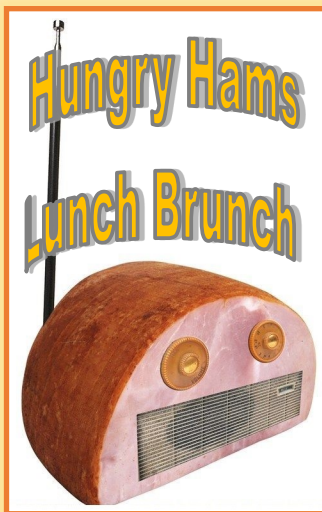
Please spread the word to friends, family, neighbors and co-workers. We have a lot to offer and need your help to make this year's FD another success.

Support your club!

Best regards, 73

~Marlene KK6CTX

W ● ■ ■ 6 ■ ● ● ● T ■ J ● ■ ■ ■



The Hungry Hams Lunch Bunch will meet on Tuesday, June 13th, at the "Back Street Cafe," at 11:00 a.m. Join us for some socializing and ham camaraderie.

Let Marlene KK6CTX know if you will be attending so she can make adequate reservations: [xmadamxx@aol.com](mailto:xmadamxx@aol.com)





## Public Interest



Contributed by Ray N6KZM

“What the heck is Field Day and why is it such a big thing?” This is question I hear often from those outside our hobby. What really surprised me was hearing the same question from members of the club and others who are self-professed amateur radio operators. To help educate everyone, I decided to post a story that explains the phenomenon called “Amateur Radio Field Day!”

Source: <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

**Field Day is ham radio's open house.** Every June, more than 40,000 hams throughout North America set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill and service to our communities and our nation. It combines public service, emergency preparedness, community outreach, and technical skills all in a single event. Field Day has been an annual event since 1933, and remains the most popular event in ham radio

Field Day stresses emergency preparedness. Frequently, entire radio clubs get involved and assemble a portable radio station in a field or park. Some might use quickly deployable portable antennas while other might erect more elaborate radio masts and towers supporting several antennas. Generators or solar power provide electricity to amateur radio transceivers, which may be located in tents, cars, recreational vehicles, or other portable shelters.

### Objective-

To work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands) and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. Field Day is open to all amateurs in the areas covered by the ARRL/RAC Field Organizations and countries within IARU Region 2. DX stations residing in other regions may be contacted for credit, but are not eligible to submit entries.

### GOTA—Get On The Air

You don't necessarily need a ham license to participate in Field Day operations. If there is a licensed ham present who is responsible for the signals from a transmitter, unlicensed persons can be at the microphone, telegraph key, or digital keyboard. This is called “third-party” operation. The responsible licensed operator is the first party, the responsible operator at the far end is the second party, and the person speaking or sending over the radio is the third party. This is permitted within the US and Canada, and when communicating with many other countries who have established written agreements with the US.

Not only does the third-party rule allow unlicensed persons under supervision to be at the operating point of a transmitter, it also allows licensed hams under supervision to use bands and modes that are reserved for hams above their license class. For example, with an Extra class supervisor, Technician class hams can make voice transmissions on shortwave in Extra class bands.

W ● ■ ■ ■

6 ● ● ● ●

T ■ ■ ■

J ● ■ ■ ■ ■



# Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015

High on the ARRL's legislative agenda is to continue seeking Congressional action to direct the FCC to extend PRB-1 type protections for Amateurs residing in communities that have restrictive covenants and deed-restrictions. To that end, HR 555- the "Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015" has introduced into Congress by Representative Adam Kinzinger of IL along with original co-sponsors Mr. Courtney of CT and Mr. Walden of OR.

The League is also continuing to monitor for any legislation that would threaten existing Amateur frequency allocations, and will active oppose such legislation.

Another potential threat the ARRL monitors is any cellular / mobile telecommunications legislation that would impede an Amateur's ability to utilize their privileges while mobile. The ARRL's Washington representation team also continues to monitor for any legislation that would potentially erode the protections Amateur Radio has from unlicensed emitters or legislation that might encourage the deployment of spectrum-polluting technologies

## ARRL Legislation

**The work continues  
— HR 555**

**The Amateur Radio  
Parity Act of 2017  
has been reintroduced.**

▶ [Learn More](#)



W ● ■ ■ ■

6 ■ ● ● ●

T ■ ■ ■

J ● ■ ■ ■ ■

## Federal Legislative Efforts

In keeping with the Legislative Objectives adopted by the ARRL Board of Directors, the ARRL Washington team actively works with legislators and staff in both the US House of Representatives and US Senate. This interaction with key persons in the legislative process centers upon:

- 1) Identification of specific legislation that could impact amateur radio licensees and operators.
- 2) Providing educational background materials and information to legislators and their staff.
- 3) Seeking support of or opposition to specific bills pending before Congress.

At times the ARRL may ask its membership to contact their members of Congress to express their support or opposition to specific bills. These efforts are coordinated through the ARRL [Grassroots Program](#) volunteers, working with ARRL staff and elected ARRL officials.





## Field Day Tips and Techniques that Everyone Can Use

Many amateurs treat ARRL Field Day (June 24th & 25th) as a contest, even though it isn't one. But if your idea of Field Day fun is to go for the highest score possible, ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, offered the following suggestions at the ARRL Field Day Forum at the 2009 Dayton Hamvention.

- 1) You will get many more stations in your log by calling CQ than by tuning the dial and answering CQs; however, if you're calling CQ and not getting any replies, keep calling. Most major contesters call CQ for several minutes at a time before giving up. Giving up after three or four CQs is giving up too soon.
- 2) Keep your CQs short and to the point: "CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day, Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey, Field Day." Wait about 5 seconds between CQs -- this gives stations enough time to answer you.
- 3) Use standard phonetics. "Cute" phonetics don't always get through and they can confuse newer operators.
- 4) When working a station, you should give your exchange information only once and keep it simple. "Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey, copy three Foxtrot Connecticut, QSL?" If they didn't get all of the exchange, they will ask for a repeat.
- 5) If you are running a pileup: Once you have pulled a call out of the pileup, give your exchange information first. Here's an example: "Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey, copy 3F Connecticut, QSL?" Don't ask for the calling station's information first -- this will reduce any sense of rhythm and timing in the pileup.
- 6) If you get a pileup of stations and can't make out an entire call, listen for one letter and ask for it specifically: "The station with Delta only, go ahead."
- 7) When you get the other station's information, keep your acknowledgment simple. "QSL, thanks, QRZ Field Day from Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey."
- 8) Find a comfortable pace for you and maintain that pace. You will tire quickly if you are screaming into the microphone or trying to work stations too quickly. This leads to inefficiency.
- 9) Use a headset with a boom microphone and a foot switch -- this frees up your hands to log QSOs. Writing or typing with a mike in your hand slows you down.
- 10) Go for as many bonus points as you possibly can. Numerous opportunities exist, from copying the Field Day message to sending traffic to using natural power for QSOs.

These tips should help maximize your score on Field Day. Remember: No matter how you choose to enjoy Field Day, maximize your fun, however you define it.

## Field Day Tips and Techniques that Everyone Can Use

*(continued from page 7)*

- If you are using wire antennas such as dipoles, and they run parallel to each other there will be interference on your HF operating bands in the form of hash so arrange them at right angles to each other and at slightly different heights. If you use wire antennas such as dipoles, try to stay away from trap dipoles and use full length antennas instead. You may also wish to run your dipoles in different configurations such as have one as an “inverted V” and another as a sloper, etc. An antenna cut to the exact band you are using will decrease interference to and from other bands. Do not use compromise, trap or “all band” antennas. (The only efficient “all band antennas” are a log periodic and a “fan dipole” NOT a “folded dipole” or others that claim they use “balancing resistors” as this only wastes RF energy in the form of heat.) With others you may make a few contacts, but they are junk and will cause harmonic radiation. Dedicated operating needs the right antenna. Wasted energy on trap antennas (some of your RF energy is used up in the form of heat) and that equals an inefficient radiator, especially as you go lower in frequency. On HF, do not use vertical antennas as they receive too much man-made noise from sources such as generators, etc.
- When operating within a tight area, as required by FD rules, it also pays to use “band pass filters” such as those manufactured by ICE. I have a full set of these HF filters and they work great. They are only about \$38 per band and drastically reduce interference from your other operating posts. Make sure they are grounded as seen by the grounding lug on the photo. If your pocketbook can’t afford them, use coax “stub” filters. The lengths of these and how to build them can be found at: <http://www.k1ttt.net/technote/k2trstub.html>. They are simple to make and easy to use. Both systems have been used by the major DXpeditions all over the world with great success. On HF frequencies make sure each operating station is properly grounded. Do NOT use a common ground for all your operating posts. If you do, you will get “ground loops” with energy going where you don’t want it, including in to computer logging systems and the possibility of RF burns by operators or anyone touching the equipment.



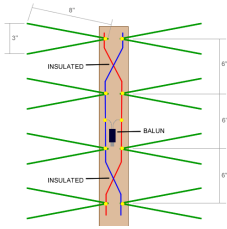
**ARRL**  
The national association for  
AMATEUR RADIO®

### Field Day Tip of the Day

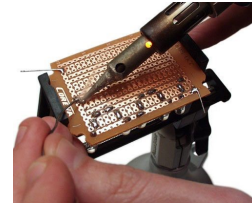
June 8: Go Social!

Promoting your Field Day effort on Social Media achieves several goals: you can connect with local media and elected officials, provide live updates to the community with video, photos and text, and you can earn 100 bonus points for doing so! Check out the 2017 Field Day packet for the details on the Social Media bonus.  
[www.arrl.org/field-day](http://www.arrl.org/field-day)





# Home Brew



## Home-Brew HF SDR Receiver by G0ETP

There are a lot of home brew SDR-related projects on the internet at the moment. I believe the key features of this project are:

- Small but conventional radio form-factor with tuning knob AND NO PC
- A clear graphical display with S meter and real-time band-scope/waterfall (very high update-rate makes the radio a pleasure to use)
- Smooth DDS tuning with steps down to 10Hz (optical shaft encoder)
- All mode operation with excellent SSB and CW filtering (NOT double-sideband) and a decent AGC
- There are no analogue components to adjust or align, so if built correctly the radio 'will just work'
- Based on a very low cost, commercial CPU / Display board
- Cost of major parts is about £80 (UK) assuming stuff like a case, knobs, speaker, audio amp etc can be found 'in the junk box'.

Please bear in mind that this project will require soldering of 0603-size SMD components and a couple of fine-pitched ICs.



W ● ■ ■ ■      6 ■ ■ ● ● ● ●      T ■ ■      J ● ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

## Who Are You?

### Missing Person: (Continued from page 1:)

For the "Who Are You?" to be a worthwhile venture, I need some story contributions. Tell the membership about your radio experience. We would also be interested in learning how or why you became involved our hobby amateur radio operations. The stories are not confined to current members; if you have an interesting story about a former member do share it with us. That is also to say, if you have a worthwhile story about a famous radio operator, I will gladly post it!

The idea behind this section is to stimulate membership conversations and injecting some life into to this lumbering club.

Please forward your contributions to [n6kzm@rivecg.net](mailto:n6kzm@rivecg.net)

## Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES)



The **Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES)** is a standby radio service provided for in Part 97.407 of the [Federal Communications Commission \(FCC\)](#) rules and regulations governing [amateur radio](#) in the [United States](#). The concept of a standby "Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service" to replace the conventional "Amateur Radio Service" during wartime was developed in 1952 as result of input from the [American Radio Relay League](#) and the Department of the Army's [Office of Civil Defense](#).

The Riverside County RACES is under the direction of the Riverside County Emergency Management Department, Community Readiness Division. [Click Here](#) for the web page.

**UPCOMING EVENT:** . Contact Don KD6UVT for upcoming events: [kd6uvt@mac.com](mailto:kd6uvt@mac.com)



Visit Us on Facebook

## Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES)



The **Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES)** consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment, with their local ARES leadership, for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes. Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization is eligible to apply for membership in ARES. Training may be required or desired to participate fully in ARES. Please inquire at the local level for specific information by clicking on the image to the left.

Membership is open to all licensed amateur radio operators, to register, [www.aresnwrc.org](http://www.aresnwrc.org) and click on Register with ARES. Meetings are held the Second Monday of each month, at the Riverside Red Cross Chapter , 6235 River Crest Dr., Suite A, Training Rm. 3, Riverside, CA

Weekly-on-the air net is held on Thursdays at 7 PM, on the K9KAO Box Springs repeater, 145.360 - pl 91.5. Visitors are always welcomed. Next meeting/training session is February 13th

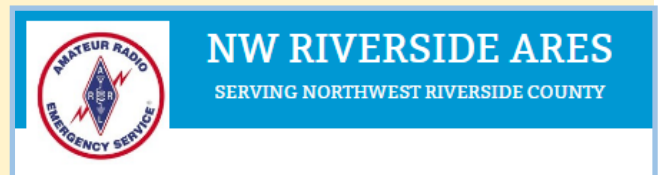
### UPCOMING EVENT:

Big Rock Marathon – Lake Perris: April 22nd (NEED YOUR HELP!)

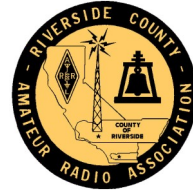
See David, KI6CXM

Regional Red Cross & ARES Exercise June 3rd

Practice Drills Next Month



# For the Good of



## VP Resignation

Submitted by: Marlene KK6CTX

The following email was received earlier today from Mike Rankin N6TXR resigning as Vice President:

*I have decided to resign my position as Vice President of the RCARA radio club effective immediately. The demands of my job are fairly time consuming and I will not be able to provide the position the attention it deserves.*

*Thank you and best regards,*

*Mike*

*N6TXR*

I have contacted Rick Schirmer KK6CTT and asked if he would consider filling in as Vice President for the remaining term of office. Fortunately he has agreed and I ask the Board Members to join me in making the appointment official immediately.

Rick is a conscientious and responsible amateur radio operator and always steps up to help out when needed. His knowledge and passion for ham radio will be an asset to the RCARA Board of Directors and in the position of Vice President.

~Thank you, 73



## EDITORIAL

Hello Fellow Members!



Well, what can I say; life and work interfered with the publishing of The Monitor. As you can see, I consolidated May & June into one issue. Let me apologize for shorting the faithful readers. On a brighter note, I will be retiring from 37+ years of public service at the end of August. I am hoping that I will be able to devote more time and effort to this periodical.

If you have any material for The MONITOR; please forward it me at [n6kzm@rivecg.net](mailto:n6kzm@rivecg.net).

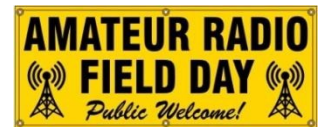
Ray N6KZM



# Don't Forget...

**FIELD DAY:** Details will be forthcoming as they develop

Last weekend of June  
Sat./Sun. June 24-25, 2017



## RECURRING EVENTS

RACES PUBLIC SERVICE NET, 3.945 MHz  
Every Sunday at 8:30 AM  
Don Williams KD6UVT kd6uvt@mac.com

RACES/ARES PUBLIC SERVICE NET,  
146.880 MHz, Neg. Offset, 146.2 PL  
Every Monday at 7:00 PM  
Marlene KK6CTX xmadamxx@aol.com

RACES/ARES "SIMPLEX" PUBLIC SERVICE NET,  
146.880 MHz, NO PL  
Last Monday of the month at 7:00 PM  
Marlene KK6CTX xmadamxx@aol.com

VE Testing, Corona TBD  
1ST Saturday of the month 1:30 PM By appointment only

RACES MEETING  
2080 Lemon St., Downtown Riverside  
1ST Monday of the month 6:00 PM  
Don Williams KD6UVT kd6uvt@mac.com

RCARA monthly meeting  
2nd Thursday of the month 7:00 PM  
Marlene KK6CTX - xmadamxx@aol.com

Riverside EmComm Group Net  
KB6OZX 445.060 MHz, Neg. Offset, PL 162.2  
Every Wednesday at 7:00 PM  
Rick KK6CTT kk6ctt@rivecg.net

Amateur Radio Swap Meet, Cable Airport, Upland  
2ND Saturday of the month 7:00 AM  
IEARC Karen KJ6HFX karen92316@yahoo.com

## 2017 Board of Directors

President: Marlene Odebralski KK6CTX — [xmadamxx@aol.com](mailto:xmadamxx@aol.com)

Vice President: Rick Schirmer—KK6CTT — [kk6ctt@rivecg.net](mailto:kk6ctt@rivecg.net)

Treasurer: Jim Wiley AG6EA — [jameswwiley@att.net](mailto:jameswwiley@att.net)

Secretary: Donna Beveridge KK6UDF — [ntlc01@charter.net](mailto:ntlc01@charter.net)

Newsletter Editor: Ray Gayton-Jacob N6KZM - [n6kzm@rivecg.net](mailto:n6kzm@rivecg.net)

Membership Chair: Mike Riiff KA6VPW — [mriiff2@gmail.com](mailto:mriiff2@gmail.com)

Communications Director: Larry Junker WA6PMY - [larryandmelba@junker-family.com](mailto:larryandmelba@junker-family.com)

## Appointed Club Positions

Club Historian: **vacant (volunteer needed)**

Club photographer: Steve Evans AF6HR — [kf6bnp@aol.com](mailto:kf6bnp@aol.com)

Sunshine Chairman: Art Sutorus AA6CA — [aa6ca@att.net](mailto:aa6ca@att.net)

Web site Administrator: Mike Riiff KA6VPW — [mriiff2@gmail.com](mailto:mriiff2@gmail.com)

W6TJ Trustee: Don Williams KD6UVT — [kd6uvt@mac.com](mailto:kd6uvt@mac.com)

Grant Administrator: Donna Beveridge KK6UDF - [ntlc01@charter.net](mailto:ntlc01@charter.net)

Repeater Maintenance & Blood Bank Chairman: Ron Braley KE6RYX

Immediate Past President: Ron Braley KE6RYX - (951) 369-5149