

# Newsletter of the Riverside County Amateur Radio Association

## THE MONITOR

SEPTEMBER  
2016



Welcome to the Riverside County Amateur Radio Association Newsletter. Our club has been serving the Riverside area for 61 years and we have over 60 members. Monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM in the La Sierra University Church Conference Center directly behind the church located at the corner of Pierce and Sierra Vista, Riverside, CA. See our webpage for directions and more information: [www.w6tj.org](http://www.w6tj.org)

**R.C.A.R.A.  
HAM RADIO  
CLUB**



ARRL Affiliated Club #1720

Riverside Repeater: 146.880 MHz, -600 KHz offset, PL 146.2 Hz

Please submit your newsworthy articles and suggested publications by the 25th of the month to be included in the next edition of THE MONITOR to Marlene KK6CTX via email at [XMADAMXX@AOL.COM](mailto:XMADAMXX@AOL.COM)



## R.C.A.R.A. CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2016

- President: Ron Braley KE6RYX (951) 369-5149
- Vice President: Don Williams KD6UVT [kd6uvt@arrl.net](mailto:kd6uvt@arrl.net)
- Treasurer: Jim Wiley AG6EA [jameswwiley@att.net](mailto:jameswwiley@att.net)
- Secretary: Duane Allen KK6EE [d.k.allen@att.net](mailto:d.k.allen@att.net)
- Newsletter Editor: Marlene KK6CTX [xmadamxx@aol.com](mailto:xmadamxx@aol.com)
- Membership Chair: Ed Morgan KF6BNQ [edjmorg@aol.com](mailto:edjmorg@aol.com)
- Communications Director: Bob Trujillo KG6NIB [kg6nib@yahoo.com](mailto:kg6nib@yahoo.com)

### APPOINTED POSITIONS:

- Club Historian: **vacant (volunteer wanted)**
- Club Photographer: Steve Evans AF6HR - [kf6bnp@aol.com](mailto:kf6bnp@aol.com)
- Sunshine Chairman: Art Sutorus AA6CA – [aa6ca@att.net](mailto:aa6ca@att.net)
- Website Administrator: Mike Riiff KA6VPM – [mriiff2@gmail.com](mailto:mriiff2@gmail.com)
- W6TJ Trustee: Don Williams KD6UVT - [kd6uvt@arrl.net](mailto:kd6uvt@arrl.net)



Please note: Information to be disseminated to all R.C.A.R.A. Club Members via email should be forwarded to Marlene KK6CTX at [xmadamxx@aol.com](mailto:xmadamxx@aol.com) for distribution. Please make sure your information and any changes are updated by letting Membership Chairman Ed Morgan know at [edjmorgan@aol.com](mailto:edjmorgan@aol.com) or (951) 689-1917.

Riverside County Amateur Radio Association  
Business Meeting  
Riverside, California  
August 26, 2016

In attendance

Ron Braley, KE6RYX, President  
Don Williams, KD6UVT, Vice President, W6TJ Trustee  
Jim Wiley, AG6EA, Treasurer  
Duane Allen, KK6EE, Secretary  
Ed Morgan, KF6BNQ, Membership  
Marlene Odebralski, KK6CTX, Newsletter Editor, Field Day Committee  
Mike Riiff, KA6VPW, Webmaster  
Larry Junker, WA6PMY, Field Day Committee  
Mike Rankin, N6TXR

Special Executive Board Meeting

1. Ron Braley, KE6RYX calls the Board meeting to order at 1305. A quorum of officers is present.
2. Ron Braley reports that a fifth battery charger for maintenance of club batteries can be had for \$15.95. Jim Wiley moves that the Board approve the expenditure. Ed Morgan seconds the motion. The Board approves.
3. The Board discusses increased interference from the K6ERN repeater in Ventura County with RCARA W6TJ repeater. Both repeaters share the output frequency 146.880 MHz. Jim Wiley moves that the W6TJ Trustee contact and work informally with SMRA Emergency Repeater Network before addressing the situation with TASMA. Ed Morgan seconds the motion. The Board approves.
4. Jim Wiley reports the difficulties with the current RCARA mailing address and recommends acquiring a post office box for official RCARA correspondence. Costs is not to exceed \$200 per year. Jim Wiley moves that the Board present the recommendation to the Club for approval of the expenditure. Ed Morgan seconds the motion. The Board approves.
5. The Board discusses holding a Technician Class Licensing Review in October 2016 and a General Class Licensing Review in January 2017.
6. The Board praises the work of Donna Beveridge, KK6UDF as RCARA Grant Administrator. Jim Wiley moves that the Board directs Donna to prepare grant requests for a high frequency station (transceiver, power supply, antenna, etc.) for emergency and community service. Ed Morgan seconds the motion. The Board approves.
7. The Board discusses the need for storage of RCARA equipment and records. The Board approves bringing the discussion to the next general RCARA meeting.
8. The Board discusses need for clarification of RCARA By-Law Article 3, Section 2. It is the consensus of the Board that the original intent of Section 2 was to prevent RCARA Board members from individually having more than one vote on any one RCARA business item and not to prevent an elected Board member from also filling an appointed board office. Duane Allen moves that Article 3, Section 2 be suspended until the next revision of RCARA By-Laws. Don Willian seconds the motion. The Board approves.
9. RCARA activities include participation in the Hospital Drill on November 17 and California Shakeout on October 20 (at 10:20 a.m.).
10. Ron Braley adjourns meeting at 1535.

Duane Allen, KK6EE  
RCARA Secretary

## SEPTEMBER 8, 2016 MEETING PRESENTATION

Our September program will feature Michael Scofield N6OKG speaking on Life Without Full Duplex.

To paraphrase Michael's program description: Amateur radio emergency communications exists to support management of emergency resources. Government officials work in a specialized environment, need certain information and make decisions and direct resources and responders to manage the emergency. Amateur radio operators need to focus on being good communicators; knowing the structural and cultural context of emergency response and the information needed will make them more effective. This includes understanding the unique jargon and lexicon (I had to look it up, word meanings) of emergency service providers, what information is critical and what non-essential traffic becomes "noise". Michael's program will help put these concepts into perspective for us all.

Michael Scofield N6OKG is a retired data management professional with specialties in data visualization, data mining, and data quality assessment.

For over 10 years, while living in Orange County, he was Assistant Emergency Coordinator for the Orange County Hospital Disaster Support Communications System (an ARES group). He has responded to numerous disasters and hospital phone outages, and has taught at emergency communications workshops for that ARES group.

In the information technology field, Mr. Scofield has spoken to audiences for organizations such as Data Management Assn chapters, European Metadata Conferences, information quality conferences, The Data Warehousing Institute, Oracle User Groups, Institute of Internal Auditors, Assn. of Government Accountants, Assn. for Computing Machinery and other professional and civic audiences. His articles appear in DM Review, the B-Eye Newsletter, InformationWeek magazine, the IBI Systems Journal, and other professional journals. He also has humor published in the L.A. Times and other journals.

In his Amateur Radio hobby, Michael also speaks on Frequency Reuse Over Terrain, Interpreting Satellite Imagery for the Rest of Us and Computers, Why We Hate Them and How they Think of Us.

Join us on September 8 to hear Michael's program.

Don Williams KD6UVT  
Vice President, RCARA

## Existing telephone network



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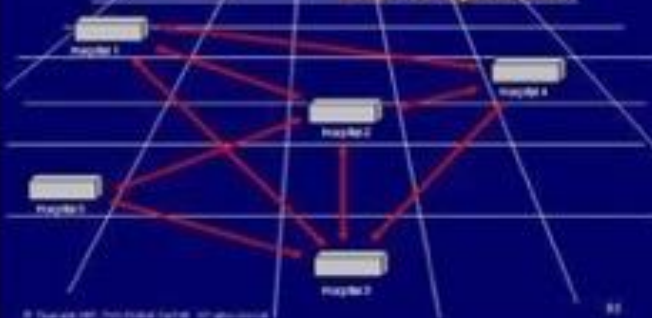
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## Example: Urgent phone call



Not all disasters have a single incident command.

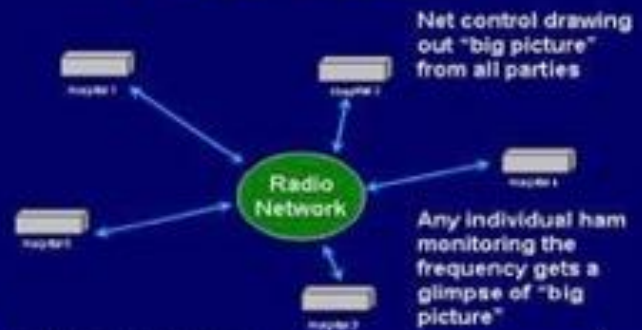
## Earthquake!



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## Ham radio network



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*President's QSO  
From the Desk of  
Ron Braley KE6RYX*



Good Day everyone:

To begin with, I would like to thank Donna KK6UDF for planning and organizing our 2016 61<sup>st</sup> Anniversary potluck dinner. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves as much as I did. Great cooks, good fun and friendship.

Looking forward to September when Michael Scofield N6OKG will be speaking on Life Without Full Duplex.

We will be accepting nominations for Board of Directors for the club. Offices are as follows: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Membership Chair and Director of Communications. Please consider running for one of these offices because we will have a few vacancies on the Board that will need to be filled.

We are also looking for nominations for the Harry Crawford and LeJo awards. Please submit your nominations for these awards in writing to any current board member.

I look forward to seeing everyone in September.

73, Ron Braley KE6RYX



## Pot Luck Update



As anticipated, the anniversary pot luck celebration of our 61<sup>st</sup> year was a success. Food was plentiful and delicious and there was a wide variety of gourmet delights. Those that attended enjoyed the socializing and an opportunity to meet spouses and partners. Many discussions ensued about the club and how grateful we are to have existed for several years as a united ham radio club. Past members were remembered and stories were related about the many accomplishments throughout the years.



**Many thanks to Donna KK6UDF for chairing the committee and for the many contributions of those who helped to make this annual event happen. The team effort of those who helped clean up and restore the room afterwards was much appreciated.**





Members and Guests (in no specific order)

Ron KE6RYX Al KA6YKT Jean (guest) Jim Weaver AG6JN Jim Wiley AG6EA  
 Bonita KD6UVTP Donna KK6UDF Marlene KK6CTX Tom WW7T Butch KI6ZKP  
 Steve AF6HR Ted KM6AYC Loreen KF6ACY Larry WA6PMY Melba (guest) Mike  
 Riiff KA6VPM Mike Anderson W6OSO Bruce WA6STA Don KD6UVT Duane KK6EE



**NEWS YOU CAN USE (OR NOT)**  
**RCARA FACE BOOK PAGE – WON'T YOU JOIN US?**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/RCARA.W6TJ/>

**Information from spaceweather.com**

**STRONGEST FLARE OF 2016:** Departing sunspot complex AR2565-AR2567 erupted on July 23rd, twice, producing two strong solar flares in quick succession. The first @ 0211 UT registered M5 on the Richter Scale of Flares. The second @ 0516 UT registered M7.6, making it the strongest flare of 2016 so far. NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory recorded the flare's extreme ultraviolet flash:

Radiation from the two flares ionized the top of Earth's atmosphere, causing a blackout of shortwave radio transmissions over the Pacific side of Earth. Blackout maps from NOAA show the frequencies and territories affected: blackout #1, blackout #2. People who might have noticed the blackouts include ham radio operators, mariners and aviators.

The explosions likely hurled CMEs into space. However, we won't know for sure until coronagraph images from SOHO become available later in the day. Stay tuned for updates.

**LINKS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST**



October 14-16 -- [Pacific Division Convention](#), San Ramon, CA

**Amateur Radio Ham Radio Maidenhead Grid Square Locator Map**

Members might like to signup with Electronics Warehouse if you would like to get notices of sales and specials in their main store and outlet store. Their web site is:

<http://www.electronicwarehouse.net/>

[http://www.levinecentral.com/ham/grid\\_square.php](http://www.levinecentral.com/ham/grid_square.php)

**Interesting Ham Related Links**

<http://www.arrl.org/>

<http://www.qrz.com>

[www.hamradio.com/](http://www.hamradio.com/)

<http://www.eham.net>

<http://www.arrl.org/qst>

<http://www.manualman.com>

<http://73s.com/>

**REPEATER LIST**

<http://rprrlist.w6jpl.ampr.org/>

**ALL ABOUT BATTERIES**

<http://www.batteriesamerica.com/>

<http://nicdlady.com/>

**ECHO LINK INFO**

<http://www.echolink.org/>

**IRLP LINK INFO**

<http://www.irlp.net/>

**Clint Bradford - great informational website**

<http://www.k6lcs.com>



**Friday, Dec. 9, 2016 – 6:00 p.m.**

**Kountry Folks Restaurant**

*Details will be forthcoming*





## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

HOORAY. IT'S YOUR  
BIRTHDAY!

Art Suttorus AA6CA - Sept. 9

Don Williams KDBUVT - Sept. 9

Ed Morgan KF6BNQ - Sept. 14

Jeff Couch W6HGS - Sept. 21

Corbin Delapp KK6UVT-Sept. 25

Hope your birthday brings you a special kind of  
happiness and leaves you with the nicest kind of  
memories!

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DAY/TIME	WEEKLY NETS	INFORMATION
Every Sunday at 8:30 AM	RACES PUBLIC SERVICE NET, 3.945 MHz	Don Williams KD6UVT <a href="mailto:kd6uvt@arrl.net">kd6uvt@arrl.net</a>
Every Monday at 7:00 PM	RACES/ARES PUBLIC SERVICE NET, 146.880 MHz, Minus, 146.2 PL	Don Williams KD6UVT <a href="mailto:kd6uvt@arrl.net">kd6uvt@arrl.net</a>
Last Monday of the month at 7:00 PM	RACES/ARES PUBLIC SERVICE NET, 146.880 MHz, NO PL – <b>SIMPLEX</b>	Don Williams KD6UVT <a href="mailto:kd6uvt@arrl.net">kd6uvt@arrl.net</a>
Every Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM	Emergency Communications Group (ECG) KB6OZX 445.060 – PL 162.2	<a href="mailto:group@cert-emcomm.net">group@cert-emcomm.net</a>
DAY/TIME	MONTHLY EVENTS	INFORMATION
1 <sup>ST</sup> Monday of the month 6:00 PM	RACES MEETING <b>No meeting September 5, 2016</b> <b>Next meeting October 3, 2016</b>	Don Williams <a href="mailto:kd6uvt@arrl.net">kd6uvt@arrl.net</a>
1 <sup>ST</sup> Saturday of the month 1:30 PM By appointment only	VE Testing, Corona	TBD
UPCOMING EVENTS	DATE	INFORMATION
RCARA MEETING Board Meeting 6:00 PM General Meeting 7:00PM	Thursday, September 8, 2016	Ron Braley (951) 369-5149
RCARA CHRISTMAS PARTY DETAILS WILL BE FORTHCOMING	<b>Friday</b> , December 9, 2016 Kountry Folks Restaurant No Host Dinner 6:00 p.m.	Ron Braley (951) 369-5149



## An item from the ARES E-Letter for August 17, 2016

### California RACES/CERT Personnel Assist Seniors During Blackout

Huntington Beach (California) RACES (HBRACES) was activated on Saturday, June 4, 2016 when the power went out at both the *Huntington Gardens* and *Five Points* senior residences. The buildings are each 14 stories tall.

At the *Huntington Gardens* when the power went out, a generator supplied power to the hallways and elevators, but there was no power to the individual living units and telephone system. Consequently, the residents had no lights or any way of calling 911 in case of an emergency. At the *Five Points Senior Apartments* there was complete power failure, with no generator, lights, nor elevator service. The facility was in complete darkness.

Huntington Beach RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) and CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) members were immediately activated by Brevyn Mettler, Emergency Services Coordinator. An automated call-up, email and text alerts went out to all RACES and CERT members. Steve Graboff, W6GOS, RACES Chief Radio Officer, and Steve Albert, KE6OCE, Assistant Radio Officer, started a two meter net and logged in responding and available communicators. Within minutes, operators checked into the net were advised to proceed to the staging area at the entrance to the City Council chambers at the Huntington Beach City Hall.

Graboff said "the response to the call to activation by HBRACES was impressive. The professional communications skills displayed by the operators were outstanding. The quality of HBRACES training was clearly evident in all of our responders, including those deployed in the field and others who were assigned to the incident command post. I am extremely proud of the Huntington Beach RACES response to this immediate, unexpected, call to activation."

HBRACES communicators were paired with a Huntington Beach CERT responder, and the pairs were assigned to each floor of the two facilities. With this arrangement, both communication and rapid response functions would be available in the event of any emergency or priority situation. This was the first time Huntington Beach RACES and CERT members had been deployed in pairs, whereas previous joint deployments had them working cooperatively but not directly together. They were assigned a 12 hour shift from 6 PM to 6 AM.

Given the loss of electricity with blacked-out buildings, housing many frail and elderly residents created a dangerous situation, not only for these residents but also for the volunteers patrolling the floors of the buildings in the dark, looking and listening for people in need of help, or criminals looking to take advantage of the situation.

Not only was immediate aid available to the residents, but essential direct emergency communications to the Huntington Beach Fire and Police Department was instantaneous. These agencies continually supported the efforts of HBRACES and the CERT throughout the duration of this incident. Although the Red Cross typically does not respond to localized power outages, in this case they dispatched a canteen truck to support the volunteers with snacks and coffee. The cause of the power failure was a chain reaction fire/explosion in the underground southern California electric vaults in the area.

Graboff said "the pairing of RACES and CERT brought an impressive set of skills together to serve the health and welfare of all at the incident site. Having both organizations working together created a safer environment for the volunteers since they were not alone. They also brought

essential communications and CERT training to each floor of the buildings. RACES and CERT worked well together, and I believe this is a response model we will use again in the future."

Carol Burtis, the CERT Coordinator, said "this event turned into an extremely well-coordinated mutual-agency response situation and proved the ability to rapidly stage on the order of 60 people in a very short period of time. The reward came the following morning when several residents thanked the RACES and CERT volunteers for being there; one resident said specifically 'that knowing we were in the hallway was the only thing that allowed her to get sleepy that night.'"

### **Lessons Learned**

It was found that 12 hours on duty is a long shift, especially in the dark of night, so in the future RACES may adjust its protocol to a shorter shift time of 6 hours, staging personnel to rotate every 6 hours and rest in between.

This "no warning" immediate activation was a wake-up call to all Huntington Beach RACES operators to be sure their "grab and go bags" are always ready with essential gear, especially flashlights and extra batteries, food, water, and personal items such as spare reading glasses and a small supply of personal medications that need to be taken. - *Bob Zamalin, WA6VIP, Huntington Beach, California*

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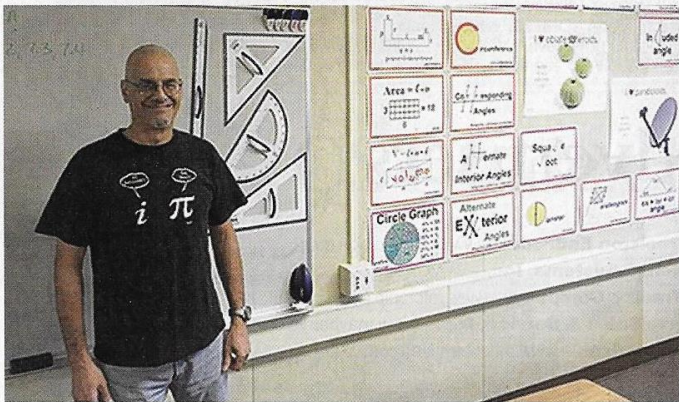
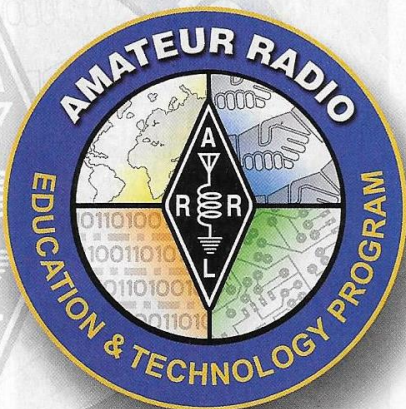
**We would like to thank Jeff KW6MOT for his generous donation  
to the club of an Interstate  
12 volt, Marine/RV, Deep cycle750 battery**





**Club member caught doing good ... fine business Paul**

**Great job as an educator and ham operator!**

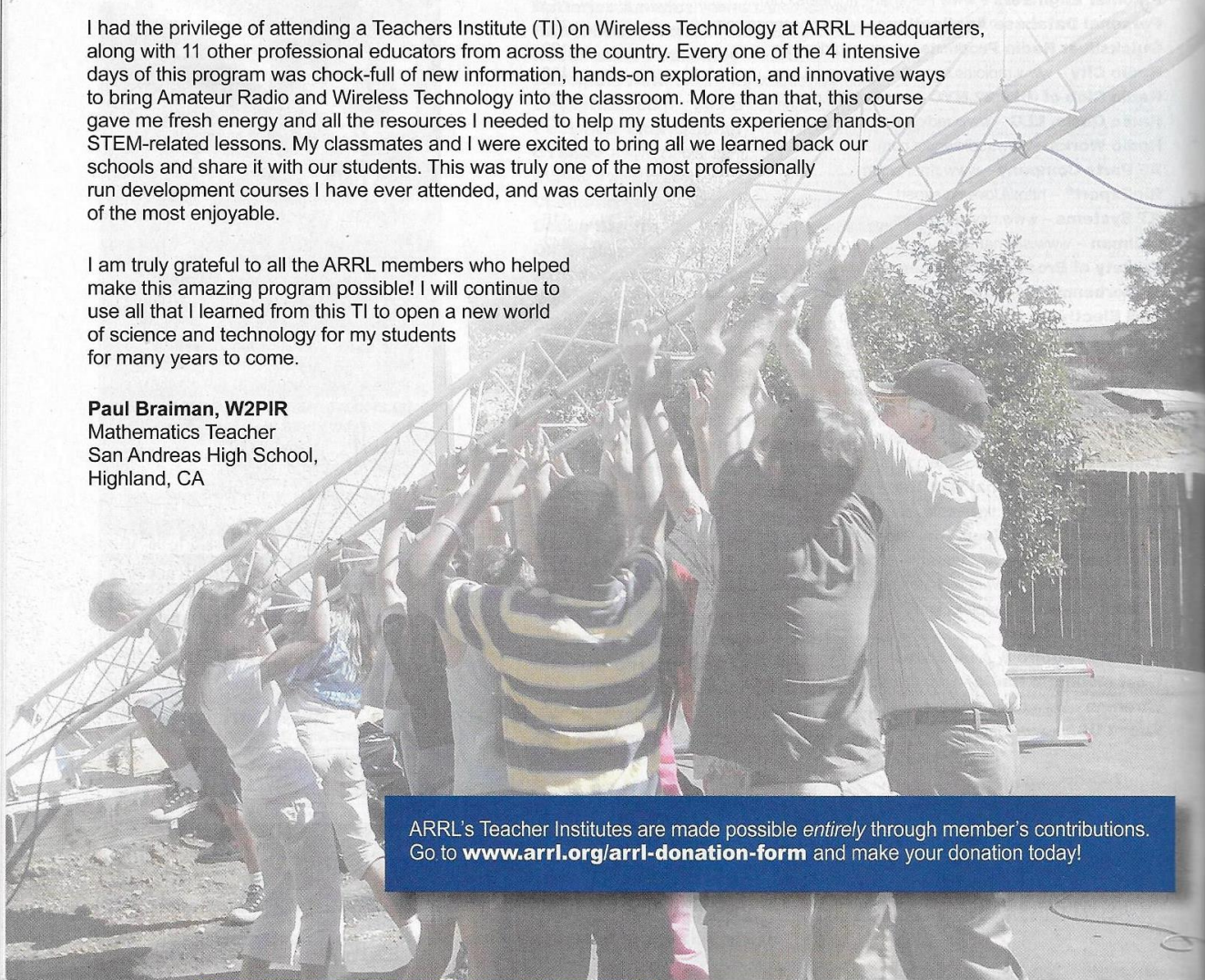


### **A Personal Thank You from a Teachers Institute Participant on using Amateur Radio in the Classroom**

I had the privilege of attending a Teachers Institute (TI) on Wireless Technology at ARRL Headquarters, along with 11 other professional educators from across the country. Every one of the 4 intensive days of this program was chock-full of new information, hands-on exploration, and innovative ways to bring Amateur Radio and Wireless Technology into the classroom. More than that, this course gave me fresh energy and all the resources I needed to help my students experience hands-on STEM-related lessons. My classmates and I were excited to bring all we learned back our schools and share it with our students. This was truly one of the most professionally run development courses I have ever attended, and was certainly one of the most enjoyable.

I am truly grateful to all the ARRL members who helped make this amazing program possible! I will continue to use all that I learned from this TI to open a new world of science and technology for my students for many years to come.

**Paul Braiman, W2PIR**  
Mathematics Teacher  
San Andreas High School,  
Highland, CA



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