



HDARC NEWS



March, 2010
 Jerry Aceto – K6LIE, Editor
 jaceto@q.com
 505 771-1323

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Frank Warren AB5WJ

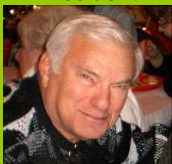
Ab5wj@arrl.net

WEBSITE: <http://www.nm5hd.com>

Officers



Frank Warren AB5WJ
 President



Larry Elkin NY5L
 Vice President



Kathy Meland WB6JAN
 Secretary



Bob Nieri N5UKA
 Treasure

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Hunter NM5JH

Bill Firth KE5TOB

Fred Lete KC5IPK

Marie Swigert KE5JIV

Duane Schneider K5DLS

Well March is upon us and the 3rd month of the new year already. And another birthday for me as well. Seems the years just fly by as you get older. The past week the weather looked as if we might be having a touch of spring and last night winter returned with cold wind and ice crystals falling from the sky. Any how would like to welcome Jerry K6LIE home from the Olympics in Canada. Am looking forward to the May meeting when we will see some of the pictures that Jerry took in his stint operating with the Olympics at our May meeting. Our March meeting will be presided over by our Vice President Larry Elkin NY5L who will complete his transceiver introduction by finishing with the transmit functions of an HF radio. I am teaching a Technician class on the club meeting date. This is my last class with the exam following so I will be unable to attend the meeting in March.

Remember the special meeting we will be having on April 17th with our guest speaker from UNM discussing radio astronomy. Look for complete information on the location and times in the April Issue of our newsletter. I would also like to remind everyone of our web page at www.nm5hd.com where all our past news letters and our calendar of events is located.

We are presently awaiting the assignment of a frequency pair for our new 2-meter repeater. We have the repeater, the cavity, and the antenna. We need a power supply but that should be no problem. We will let everyone know when it is up and running and functional. I would also like to remind everyone of our net on Thursday evenings at 8 pm. When our repeater gets up we may change the time so it won't interfere with the Swap Net at 8:30. Remember the 220 net on Wednesday evenings. Information and frequency is listed in this news letter. One final notice that our yearly dues is due no later than May 1st.

If you have to travel, please do it safely

73

Frank Warren Sr AB5WJ

HIGH DESERT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB CONTACT LIST

PRESIDENT

Frank Warren Sr. AB5WJ
505 962-9212 or 505 270-7142
ab5wj@arrl.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Larry Elkin NY5L
505 771-0391
ny5l@arrl.net

SECRETARY

Kathy Meland WB6JAN
Wb6jan@arrl.net

TREASURER

Patricia Nekoranec KE5MJK
505 892-1638
nekoran@juno.com

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Jim Hunter NM5JH
505 897-2939
nm5jh@arrl.net

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Kennie Warren W5KLW
505 962-9212
w5klw@arrl.net

NEWSLETTER EDITOR / PIO

Jerry Aceto K6LIE
505 771-1323
jaceto@q.com



HDARC SILENT KEYS **“Lest WE Forget”**

Vern Thackery	W5CSY
Clifford “Cliff” Tingley	KD5ANU
Joseph (Joe) Boyd	KC5GPY
Bruce Alan Mattison	W5NTM (N5CFO)
Robert Barrow	KD5ZPS
Robert Swigert - Past President – HDARC – K0RGS	
Ben Joseph “Joe” Murdock	W5IN
David Vakos	N4DBB



SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT

HIGH DESERT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES

February 20, 2010

The Club meeting was called to order by President Frank Warren AB5WJ at 11:58 AM, with member introductions. There were 34 people in attendance, including guests John Hannahs KE5MJF, Ray Crepeau K1HG, Daisy Crepeau KT4KW, Mark Menicucci K5DFV, Jim Holston KG1AG (W9FFR) and Carl Russell KE5AKI. Ray and Daisy became new members at this meeting.

Today's business meeting was conducted before the presentation.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

The President's Report was given by Frank Warren. The first item was the Club election for the offices of Vice President and Treasurer. Larry Elkin NY5L ran unopposed for Vice President, and Robert Nieri N5UKA ran unopposed for Treasurer. Nominations were closed for these offices, and that motion was made by Marty Thieme K5SHQ. That vote carried by a show of hands. Both candidates were elected by acclamation.

The Vice President's Report was given by Larry Elkin. He said that Jerry Aceto K6LIE is doing well in Vancouver at the Winter Olympics, although he is unable to see the events because of his communications responsibilities. Larry added that Jerry included several Vancouver photos in the last Club newsletter, which can be viewed on the Club web site, www.nm5hd.com. Larry mentioned that HF communications were good last weekend, especially on 12 meters.

The Secretary's Report is in the form of the previous meeting's minutes, which are printed in the monthly newsletter and emailed to each member. Kathey Meland WB6JAN reported that. The January minutes were approved by a show of hands.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Pat Nekoranec KE5MJK. Pat reported that the balance in the Club account as of today was \$1060.49.

Jim Hunter NM5JH had no report from the Club Board of Directors, since they have not met between the January meeting and today's meeting. As Net Control Coordinator, he stressed the need for more volunteers to do the Nets because amateur radio could lose the use of frequencies through lack of participation. Also, Jim announced that he was elected chair of the Duke City Hamfest for this year. That event will take place on the 13th and 14th of August.

Public Information Officer Jerry Aceto K6LIE is currently in Vancouver B.C. with the Olympics, but will return in March.

Kennie Warren W5KLW reported that the Club now has 74 licensed members and 4 auxiliary members. The Ladies Lunch is scheduled for Friday, February 26th.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business for today's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Frank announced that KC5IPK Fred Lete's 440 (70 cm) repeater on Sandia Crest will be linked with Jerry Aceto's 220 (1.25 M IRLP) repeater, and Frank's 2 Meter repeater at the home of Duane Schneider K5DLS. Frank said further that he has requested some frequencies for the 2 Meter repeater. Since all three repeaters (2M, 70 cm, and 1.25 M) will be linked, it will enable the Club to have its own repeaters for nets. Frank added that he will be surveying the membership to find out a good time for our nets, so that the time is more convenient than 8:00 PM Thursdays. Frank added also that we need a net control for world-wide communications on the IRLP.

Frank and Larry both proposed a mentor list for the Club. It would include both members and nonmembers. Members and others with questions or concerns would be able to contact the mentors, or elmers for help.

George Key W5WZ stated that he would like to begin planning for ARRL Field Day, scheduled for June 26th and 27th. He would like suggestions for locations and activities, and proposed that participants might like to bring their own radios. George can be emailed at gskey@q.com.

Today's presentation was the HF Show and Tell by Larry and Frank. It was a history and general description of HF, along with instructions on how to tune in signals effectively, and how to use many of the features that are common to all HF radios. Three points were emphasized: 1) tune slowly so as not to miss the weaker signals, then narrow the band width and use filters, 2) read the manual that came with the radio and play with the radio, 3) be very patient. For worldwide communications, Larry and Frank recommended the use of a grey scale that shows sunrise and sunset at all times worldwide. That scale can be found at and downloaded from <http://dx.qsl.net/propagation/greyline.html>.

This meeting was adjourned at 2:06 PM by President Frank Warren.

Respectfully submitted by
Club Secretary Kathey Meland, WB6JAN



A NOTE FROM YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Well, the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympic Games has come and gone. It was really a good gig this time. About as much enthusiasm as I have ever seen in working the past 5 Olympic games. Everyone I encountered, for the most part, really enjoyed the activities and sports. You really had the impression that Canada in general and Vancouver in particular really took great pride in the games.

If I am lucky, I will work the 2012 Summer Games from London, England. If so, you can bet that our club will have another international edition of the HDARC newsletter!

I was very happy to see our club start a mentoring, or “Elmer” program. To my knowledge, we are the first club to sponsor this type of program. My hat’s off to Frank Warren AB5WJ and Larry Elkin NY5L for coming up with this idea. I think it will be a great program!

Unfortunately, I will miss the next meeting since we will be off on another cruise, this time to the Mexican Rivera. We will be meeting our friends from Seattle, in San Diego, California on the 12th, returning on 22nd, so I will probably see you at the next breakfast social.

By the way, President Frank Warren AB5WJ mentioned in his message that he recently had a birthday. I don’t know the exact date, but I’d like to wish Frank, on behalf of the club, **A VERY HAPPY AND HEALTHY BIRTHDAY!!** Take care Frank and a hearty “**THANK YOU**” for all you hard work and dedication to the High Desert Amateur Radio Club.

Best 73 to you all!

Jerry Aceto – K6LIE

Editor – HDARC Newsletter

jaceto@q.com

771-1323



TECHNICIAN LICENSE CLASS THIS MONTH

Technician Class in Albuquerque - open to anyone interested -

Location: Northdale Baptist Church, 123 Osuna Rd. NW, Albuquerque, NM,

87107. Dates: March 9,11,13,16,18 & 20. Times: Tuesdays & Thursdays 6-9

pm, Saturdays 8 to Noon. Cost: \$40.00, which includes workbooks,

testing fees and snacks. Contact Carl Russell - 505-980-6010 -

ke5aki@arrl.net .



UP COMING ALBUQUERQUE TAILGATE

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The Albuquerque Amateur Radio Club and the Amateur Radio Caravan Club have received ARRL approval for a joint Tailgate on April 24, 2010. It will be held at the North Student parking lot of Del Norte High School. Dee, KC5JBO will be the talk in station on 145.33 and 444.0.



HDARC WOMEN'S LUNCHEON

HDARC women's group:

The next luncheon is on Friday, March 26th. at noon. I do have to put in reservations so I need to know if you are coming. The luncheon starts at noon at the Pasta House on Southern Avenue in Rio Rancho.

Please bring books you want to share. Projects you are working on. Pictures of vacations to share, etc. and come to enjoy the group and conversation.

Please let me know if you are coming.

Kennie Warren

961-9212



NEW MEXICO NETS

I thought many of you might like to have a list of New Mexico Nets, so I looked around the net and found this list provided by Brian, N5ZGT. It is about the most comprehensive list I have found to date for our state. I hope you find it useful.

Jerry Aceto K6LIE

Amateur Radio Nets
All Amateurs Welcome to Check In!
 Send additions / corrections to [Brian, N5ZGT](#)

Daily	
NM Breakfast Club Net	6:30AM on 3.939 MHz.
SCAT Net (Mon-Fri)	7:06AM on the 145.33 (+, 100 Hz PL) and 444.00 (+, 100 Hz PL) linked repeaters.
Rusty's Net (Mon-Fri)	8:45AM - 10:45AM on the 146.94 (-, 100 Hz PL) and 146.96 (-, 100 Hz PL) linked repeaters.
NM Roadrunner Traffic Net	0100 UTC on 3.939 MHz.
Sunday	
NM ARES/RACES open state-wide net	1st and 3rd Sunday at 1930 MDT (summer) and 1830 MST (winter) on 3.939 MHz, or after the NM Roadrunner net if it runs long.
QCWA Net	8:00PM on the 146.72 (-, no PL) repeater.
6 Meter Weak Signal Net	8:00PM on 50.150 MHz USB
Amateur Radio Caravan Club Net	9:00PM on the 145.33 (+, 100 Hz PL) and 444.000 (+, 100 Hz PL) repeaters.
New Mexico 10 Meter Net	9:00PM on 28.440 MHz USB
Monday	
Sandoval County ARES Net	7:30PM on the 147.10 (+, 67 Hz PL) repeater.
900 MHz Weak Signal Net	7:30PM on 902.100 MHz USB
2 Meter Weak Signal Net	8:00PM on 144.200 MHz USB
Northern New Mexico ARC Net	8:30PM on the 145.19 (-, no PL) repeater.
Tuesday	
1200 MHz Weak Signal Net	7:30PM on 1296.15 MHz USB
220 MHz Weak Signal Net	8:00PM on 222.100 Mhz USB
Wednesday	
Socorro Amateur Radio Association Net	8:00PM on the 146.68 (-, 100 Hz PL) repeater.
Valencia County Amateur Radio Association Net	8:00PM on the 146.700 (-, 100 Hz PL) repeater.
70 cm Weak Signal Net	8:00PM on 432.100 MHz USB

220 FM Rag Chewers Net	8:30PM on the 224.48 (No PL) repeater in Rio Rancho. (K6LIE)
Thursday	
Bernalillo County ARES Net	7:00PM on the 146.90 (-, 67 Hz PL), 146.94 (-, 100 Hz PL) and 146.96 (-, 100 Hz PL) repeaters.
High Desert ARC Net	8:00PM on the 145.33 (-, 100 Hz PL) and 444.00 (+, 100 Hz PL) repeaters.
New Mexico Swap net	8:30PM on all Upper Rio FM Society and Mega Link Repeaters in New Mexico (See repeater list above).
10 Meter Occasional Net	9:00PM on 28.342 MHz
Friday	
New Mexico Health Net	9:00AM on all Mega Link repeaters in New Mexico (See repeater list above)
Saturday	
Southern Baptist Convention Disaster Relief Net	8:00PM on all Mega Link repeaters in New Mexico (See repeater list above)



SCHEDULE OF CLUB EVENTS

Club Meeting

3rd Saturday of the month at noon. Location of meeting is the Albuquerque Police NW Command – 4051 Ellison Ave NW (across from Cibola High School).

Breakfast Social

**4th Saturday of every month at 9:00 AM.
At the Sandia Casino, Thur Shan Buffet.**

Coffee at Flying Star

Every Wednesday-2:00 PM on Corrales Rd across the street from The Sunflower Market Shopping Center at Hwy 528 and Corrales Rd.

Breakfast at Flying Star

Every Thursday morning at 8:00 AM on Corrales Rd across the street from The Sunflower Market Shopping Center at Hwy 528 and Corrales Rd.

HDARC NET

Thursday nights at 8:00 PM on 145.330 Mhz (100 Hz PL)..Jim Hunter (NM5JH) Net Control Coordinator.



DX News

Larry Elkin NY5L – Vice President

DX and Propagation

Well, the month of February has passed with a flicker of light shining at the end of the propagation tunnel. Propagation indexes and sunspot numbers are moving in a positive direction--finally.

The first half of the month gave a preview of what good propagation can do for DXing. Starting on the first of the month, I heard stations from New Caledonia (FK8), Swaziland (3D), Indonesia (YB), and was able to work Senegal (6W). Also heard were stations from E. Malaysia (9M), Falkland Island (VP8), Namibia V51 and Republic of Korea (HL). Amateurs on the East Coast are starting to work into Western and Central Europe with some consistency on 40, 20, and 17 meters. If you want to work Japanese stations, late afternoon MST is best on 20, (especially)17, and 15 meters.

During the period February 9-13, I heard DX stations on 40, 20,17, 15, 12 (yes 12 meters!), and even 10 meters until after midnight MST. For the very first time ever, I finally had a QSO on 12 meters (only Dallas TX).

Now here is an interesting DX net you can try for!!!! This net meets at 0515 UTC on 14.183 MHz nightly. It is called the "ANZA Net" which is based in Australia/New Zealand. Amateurs from Hawaii were heard working the net control operator. When we can work this one, consistently, then we have real good propagation. This net specializes in stations from Australia, New Zealand, and Africa.

Lastly, I worked two special event stations, VG7G , from Vancouver Canada, the Olympic Special Events Station, and WK3N/AAW, Antarctic Activities Week.

I hope to hear that you all were able to use some of your receivers' features trying to work some DX. The weekend of March 6/7 brings us the ARRL International DX Contest---this is a good time to jump into the swirling waters of pileups on every band up to 10 meters (except 60, 30, 17 and 12 meters).

Happy hunting!!! Larry NY5L

FROM THE ARRL MARCH NEWSLETTER HINTS AND KINKS

Editors note: I thought this was a nifty idea, since most of us are using bifocals & trifocals. This idea actually allows you to see those teensy weensy designations on the back of our teensy weensy rigs. Why didn't I think of this!?!??

Hints and Kinks: Painting Letters

This idea comes to us from [Dave Price, K4KDP](#), of Goldsboro, North Carolina.

As I get older, I find it is harder to read some of the smaller print on my radios. The ICOM 706 is a good example. The radio connectors are marked ANT 1, ANT 2, MIC and DC 13.8V, just to name a few. These are marked by either raised letters or letters that are indented into the radio housing. I found that if I paint these letters white, they show up much better on the black metal case. There is a fairly easy way to paint the letters white using cotton swabs with wooded sticks.

Break off the cotton tip on some of the swabs until you have about six of them with sharp points at the break area. Throw away the cotton tip and use only the wooden stick to paint with. Now spray a small puddle of white paint onto a piece of cardboard. The cardboard will absorb some of the moisture. Just as the paint starts to thicken dip the pointed end of the stick into the paint and then gently tap the paint into the indented area of the radio housing. On raised letters I use the blunt end of the stick, repeating the same process. It is best to use very little paint and repeat the process of dipping into the paint and tapping the paint onto the letters many times (see Figure 1).

You will find you have to replace the stick several times and spray a new puddle of paint when the old puddle gets too thick. You will also need to have some small paper towels and rubbing alcohol close by to quickly clean up any mistakes. I strongly recommend you practice this on some junk metal before attempting this on your expensive radios. I have also used this same trick on unpainted numbers for my Chevy truck 4 wheel drive shift mounted on the truck floor and for my watch bezel to make the unpainted numbers easier to read.



Figure 1: This view shows two ICOM 706 radios, one with the painted letters (bottom) and one without (top). Click [here](#) for a larger image.

HIGH DESERT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF NEW MEXICO

It shall be our purpose to further the exchange of information and cooperation between members, to promote radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency, and to so conduct club programs and activities as to advance the general interest and welfare of Amateur Radio in the community.

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES FOR UPCOMING MONTH

March 2010

Saturday, March 20th at noon. Club Meeting at the Albq Police Station – 4051 Ellison Ave NW (across from Cibola High School).

Saturday, March 27th. BREAKFAST SOCIAL at 9 am at the Sandia Casino, Thur San Buffet.

Every Wednesday at 2:00pm NMHDARC Coffee At The Flying Star at Hwy 528 & Corrales Rd across the street from Sunflower Market

Every Thursday at 8 am NMHDARC Breakfast at The Flying Star at Hwy 528 & Corrales Rd across the street from Sunflower Market

Club net on Thursday nights at 8:00 PM on 145.33 with 100 Hz PL.

NET CONTROL

▪ **NET CONTROL SCHEDULE**
HDARC HAS A DIRECTED NET THAT OCCURS EVERY THURSDAY AT 8:00PM ON 145.330 WITH 100 HZ PL.

If you are interested in being a Net Control Operator, please contact Jim Hunter, NM5JH our net control coordinator to sign up. We have several openings in January and February. Jim can be reached via e-mail at nm5jh@arrl.net, or by phone at **505 897-2939**.

[The list of Net Control operators for March:](#)

March 4	Kathey Meland WB6JAN
March 11	Bill Firth KE5TOB
March 18	Jim Hunter NM5JH
March 25	Jim Hunter NM5JH

If you do not have the radio capabilities to be net control but would like to do so anyway, please contact Frank & Kennie Warren at ab5wj@arrl.net. You are welcome to use their radios at their home and take net control. This is great practice for talking on the radio. Just make sure they are going to be home. Frank teaches a lot of courses and sometimes we're not available.

REMEMBER, CLUB MEETING ON SATURDAY, MARCH 20TH AT NOON.

THIS MONTHS PROGRAM WILL BE A PRESENTATION ON THE TRANSMIT FUNCTIONS OF TRANCEIVERS. LARRY WILL ALSO INCORPORATE A DISCUSSION DEALING WITH RF INTERFERENCE. SOUNDS LIKE A VERY INFORMATIVE TALK!



OTHER NEW MEXICO AMATEUR RADIO CLUBS

AMATEUR RADIO CARAVAN CLUB

- They own and operate a repeater site on Sandia Crest in Albuquerque, NM, W5CSY, on 145.33 Mhz, and 70cm. on 444.0 Mhz. Both repeaters require a 100 Hz PL tone. They meet on the second Friday of each month from October through May at 7:00pm at Height Cumberland Presbyterian Church 8600 Academy Rd. in Albuquerque.
- The Club holds a Net each Sunday evening at 9pm local time on 145.33 and 444.0 Mhz for purpose of holding club business, passing traffic, making announcements of interest to Hams and just getting to know each other.
- Contact: Haska KC6BBP, 288-8358

ALBUQUERQUE DX ASSOCIATION

- ADXA holds their regular meeting on the last Wednesday of every month. They meet at JB's Restaurant on Eubank & I-40 next to the Owl Cafe.
- All Hams are welcome. The members start gathering about 6pm and the business/program starts at 7pm
- The call sign W5UR is issued to the ABQ DX Association. The call sign honors one of ASXA's founding members.
- Website: <http://www.qsl.net/adxa/index.html> or Contact: Kermit KB5HA, 884-3554
-

ANTIQUA RADIO CLUB

- Meets on the Second Sunday of each month at 1pm in the parking lot at the Anna Kaseman Hospital.
- If interested, come join us.

ALBUQUERQUE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

- The club meets at 8:00 am (7:00 am for those interested in breakfast) on the first Saturday of the month at Roper's on Central SE just east of Wyoming.
- Contact Michael K5ATM, 296-3455

NEW MEXICO WEAK SIGNAL GROUP

- Meets on air on various bands on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for the promotion of and general utilization of the VHF & UHF bands.
- Contact Bob N5XZM, 298-8478 for times & frequencies

QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION

- This club is made up of hams who were licensed at least 25 years ago.
- They meet noon on the 2nd Saturday of the month at Roper's on Central SE just east of Wyoming. Contact Warren W5UZU 298-7097

UPPER RIO FM SOCIETY, INC.

- The members meet quarterly at 7:30 on the second Tuesday of January, April, July and October at the Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 114 Carlisle SE.
- The Upper Rio FM Society is a technical club with extensive repeater coverage in New Mexico and extending into Colorado and Arizona.
- Repeaters: 146.640, 146.860, 146.900 with -67 tone, 146.940 with -100 tone, 146.960 with -100 tone, 147.060 with +67 tone, 147.080 with +67 tone, 444.525 with +67 tone, 449.550 with -71.9 tone, 449.800 with -67 tone, and 449.825 with -67 tone. WEBSITE: www.urfmi.org