

# Lodi Amateur Radio Club

newsletter for

## May 2021

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## CLUB MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Mark your calendar and join us on Zoom:

**Thursday, May 6th, 6:30 PM**

Meeting program:

**“LET’S GET ON SIX”**

**A proposed new club net on 6 meters, and how to get there**

**Group presentation hosted by Bob, N6TCE**

**To join the meeting via Zoom, see the instructions on page 2.**

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Welcome to our Wednesday night nets:

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| • Simplex net: 147.090 (simplex)         | 6:30 pm |
| • Club net: 147.090 (repeater, PL 114.8) | 7:00 pm |
| • 10 meter net: 28.400 (USB)             | 8:00 pm |

## ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS FOR CLUB MEETING ON MAY 6th:

Bob Officer is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Bob Officer's Zoom Meeting

Time: **Thursday, May 6, 2021 6:00 PM Pacific Time.** (The meeting starts at 6:30 pm – sign in any time after 6:00.)

**Join Zoom Meeting** (click this link or copy and paste the URL into your browser):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7642652231?pwd=MkVyVjVEQm1TcjVBUtK3IyOWV2QT09>

Meeting ID: 764 265 2231

Passcode: LODIARC

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,7642652231#,,,,\*4202205# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location: 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 764 265 2231

Passcode: 4202205

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## MOBILE ROUNDUP MAY 15TH

The Lodi A.R.C. will hold its 4th *Mobile Roundup* on Saturday morning, May 15th, between 0800 and 1000, in the southeast corner of the Lodi Walmart shopping center parking lot, Lower Sacramento Road at Kettleman Lane (Highway 12). Bring your mobile rig to show off, park in the area south of McDonald's (near the south fence), and then go buy something at McDonald's to keep them happy with us using up a bunch of their parking spaces. (Mask required inside McDonald's.)

The Mobile Roundup is not limited to Lodi A.R.C. members. If you're reading this and you have a mobile-equipped vehicle worth demonstrating, join us—the more the merrier. And if you don't, c'mon down anyway. It's a great opportunity to get some cool mobile ideas!

This year's roundup will "round up" promptly at 1000 so that everyone planning to work the *Spring Sprint* can get ready (see page 6).

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**HELP WANTED!**

**Please read the "Line Feed" column on page 12.**

## NEW FCC RF EXPOSURE REQUIREMENT MAY 3rd

On May 3rd the FCC will implement a new requirement for hams to perform and document a series of RF exposure safety evaluations. For nearly everyone who operates on the air at all, it means we'll be required to measure our transmissions against certain limits, then do it again any time in the future if we make a change likely to affect RF exposure, i.e. more output power, a different antenna, a relocated antenna, a new frequency band, etc.

To begin to understand the new requirement, start with this April 12th bulletin from the ARRL:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/updated-radio-frequency-exposure-rules-become-effective-on-may-3>

On April 21st, the chairman of the ARRL's RF Safety Committee, Greg Lapin, N9GL, hosted an in-depth Zoom conference open to all hams on the subject of the new requirement and what we must do to comply. The conference ran about two hours and was focused mainly on the technical aspects of the maximum permitted exposure (MPE) at various frequencies, power levels, and installation scenarios. The presentation was recorded and can be downloaded: [click here](#), but be aware that the download is huge—you probably should skip it unless you have a really fast and stable Internet service (you have no trouble streaming movies and have a lot of patience). Instead, the following summary of the key points may suffice:

1. The FCC has had MPE requirements for amateur radio since the 1990s. All licensees were required to evaluate their stations for possible RF safety hazards unless their power level or other certain factors qualified as a "categorical exclusion." The details were spelled out in a 1998 ARRL book, *RF Exposure and You*, which you can download today for free. It's a 56 mb PDF file, so allow adequate download time: [click here](#).
2. The new rule doesn't change the 1998 MPE requirements specified in the ARRL book, but as of May 3rd, *hams no longer have any categorical exclusions*. We all must perform the evaluation for every way that we operate (base, mobile, portable), and on all bands that we use. For example, if your base station has an 8 band HF antenna like the CushCraft R-8, that's eight separate evaluations—one for each band, 40 to 6 meters if you use them all.
3. Additionally, you must re-do the evaluation any time you make a change that could affect your MPE calculation, i.e., a new antenna, a more powerful transmitter, operating on a new frequency band, raising or lowering your antenna or relocating it on your property, etc.
4. At present there is no requirement to evaluate handheld transceivers; the technology to measure their exposure impact is not practical for hams. Instead, the FCC will require manufacturers to evaluate and certify HTs prior to sale. *However*, if you modify an HT by replacing its stock antenna with a much better one—a common practice—then the manufacturer's certification is no longer valid and any increased hazard may be your responsibility. Even so, you don't have to do an evaluation on your HT, at least not yet.
5. If you've previously evaluated your station per the 1998 rule, documented your findings, and have made no changes to your station like those above, you don't have to do anything to

comply with the new rule. Everyone else has two years to do their evaluations, till 5/3/2023.

6. Will the FCC actually inspect your records for compliance? Highly unlikely, unless a neighbor or HOA or someone complains to them about your station or antenna, regardless whether the complaint has any merit. In that case, an inspection of your station's RF safety calculations per the new rule is assured. (Moral: do the evaluation and save the results.)

7. You can probably satisfy the evaluation requirement by using a simple online tool. Just remember that you need to make and document an evaluation for every station configuration that you operate: different antennas and bands at your home station, the same for your mobile installation, and again for any portable operation that you set up (Field Day, VHF contest, public service event, etc.).

See page 13 for the online tool with instructions and an example.

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## NOW HEAR THIS!

### News & announcements from your Board of Directors

Over the past two weeks our board members (see page 18) have been struggling with some sort of plan for returning to the fun of normal monthly club meetings, like we enjoyed at Richmaid before the pandemic. With near-total vaccinations completed among our members, and with restaurants and other establishments steadily proceeding toward business as usual, you might think that it should be do-able, and soon.

Unfortunately, it's not that simple, at least not yet. While San Joaquin County is no longer as restricted as it was during the "purple" era, we still have some onerous restrictions. In a meeting room provided by a restaurant or any other type of facility, the current rules say that without requiring 100% vaccinations, meetings are limited to 25% capacity of the room or 25 people, whichever is fewer. The gathering has to be limited to two hours or less. No food or drink is allowed in the meeting, and masks are

required. If 100% vaccination is mandated, the maximum for meetings rises to 150 persons, but there must be a "guest list," food and drink are still excluded, and masks are still required. (Many thanks to K6AAN for those details.)

Club president Barry, K6ZZD, has been negotiating with the owner of *George's Country Cafe* in Lockeford, previously identified as a likely venue for our meeting spot. It very well could be an excellent option for us, but our members probably won't attend in any great numbers if they must abide by restrictions like we have now. Given that plus the necessary lead time for planning and reserving *George's* or any meeting site, we just can't get back to "normal" before July at the earliest, and it will depend on the current county rules even then.

For now, meetings will continue via Zoom, at least in May and June. Any new developments will be announced on our Wednesday net.

## NOW HEAR THIS! (continued)

\* \* \* \*

### ***From the Vice President, Mike, K6AAN:***

The attached website has a good write up on Wilderness Protocol. I don't think a lot of hams have any idea about this unless they live in areas near the wilderness. Good stuff for folks to know that go hunting, fishing, hiking etc.:

<https://tcares.net/the-wilderness-protocol/>

\* \* \* \*

### ***From the Secretary, Jim, WB6BET:***

There is only one major HF contest in May: *CQ Worked All Prefixes (WPX)*, CW version. This is a wild one and you become very desirable if you have a unique prefix. Even my old WB6 prefix is getting fairly rare. Use this contest to pick up new countries.

But wait! There are 17 state QSO parties in May. What a chance to pick up some new states! Delaware is in the group and it's pretty rare. Work anyone you hear with a "3" call. You might get lucky and it will be in Delaware.

[Ed. note: [click here](#) for the ARRL's full schedule of contests and state QSO parties in May.]

\* \* \* \*

### ***From the Net Operations Committee, Bob, N6TCE:***

Wednesday night 7:00 pm net control assignments for May through August:

<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug</u>
05 K6AAN	02 N6TCE	07 K6AAN	04 K6AAN
12 WB6BET*	09 K6AAN	14 WB6BET*	11 WB6BET*
19 K6ZZD	16 WB6BET*	21 K6ZZD	18 K6ZZD
26 N6TCE	23 K6ZZD	28 N6TCE	25 N6TCE
	30 N6TCE		

\*Shared with KI6YYT

The net is conducted on the WB6ASU repeater near Valley Springs, linked on 147.09 and 444.25 mHz, PL 114.8.

## Announcing *The Spring Sprint*

Here comes “The Spring Sprint,” our next 2-meter simplex sprint contest, similar to those in October and December last year. It’s one hour, **1200 – 1300 PDT on Saturday, May 15th**, after the completion of the Mobile Roundup (see page 2). The idea is to make as many contacts as possible in just one hour on simplex; no repeaters.

The contest is sponsored by the AD6KU Shirl Rose Memorial DX Contest Club, administered by Bob, N6TCE. Contacts will be made only on specific frequencies as listed in the rules. ***Please note: you may initiate one contact on a frequency, but you then must then QSY (change frequency) to make your next contact. The station you’d worked may then make one new contact on that frequency before being required to QSY, etc. You can return to the original frequency after you make least one more contact on different one.*** That ensures that no one can monopolize a frequency, giving all an equal chance for multiple contacts.

Portable operation is encouraged, but not mobile in motion. All contacts must be made from one location, whether your home station or someplace else. Mobiles could drive to a preferred location and operate from there as portable.

Your participation in the contest will be in one of 3 categories determined by your transmitter power output, or a 4th that includes a recently licensed ham operating with you in order to gain contest and/or portable ops experience. For details, see the contest rules starting on page 14.

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## FOR THE NEW HAM

For the 4th installment in this series, let’s introduce you to one of ham radio’s most important and often most fun activities: *portable operations*. “Portable” means you are hauling everything needed for a ham radio station: transmitter, receiver, (or transceiver), antenna, antenna support, feedline, power source, and any necessary tools or auxiliary gear to some distant location where there are no radio-related resources other than what you bring along. The reasons you might want to do that include:

1. To operate at a higher altitude for better VHF/UHF coverage, i.e. in a contest.
2. To respond to emergency situations requiring remote communications support.
3. To assist in a special event by providing safety communications services.
4. To comply with the rules of a contest, i.e. Field Day.
5. To participate in ongoing activities in which portable ops are fundamental, like [SOTA](#), [POTA](#), and more.

(continued on next page)





**WB6TOU and KG7OR's portable station on Highway 26 for the Linden area bike ride, February 2020.**

In and around the Stockton-Lodi area, #1, 3, and 4 on the list are quite common. Special event support (#3) is of particular interest, as there are several opportunities that repeat every year. There are two major bike rides in the region, one in the Linden area in February and another in the Delta in May (during normal years, that is). Both of those are of such scope and distance that extensive safety communication support, by both portable and mobile ham stations, is quite essential. Hams from the Stockton-Delta and Lodi clubs have regularly filled the need and in many cases provided necessary aid to riders when the unforeseen happens—rather normal with hundreds of riders on the road for much of an entire day.

Operating portable in the foothills during a contest is even more common, and we have a fine opportunity for that this month in the *Spring Sprint* (see page 6). Again, you will transport everything you need to set up a station, as described on the previous page, plus everything else required for your convenience at the site: maybe a table, a chair or two, a sunshade, log forms, plus food and drink and any other personal needs you might require to get you through several hours on-site. You're basically setting up a day camp plus a ham radio station.

Other portable operating events may require less effort, although the reasoning is basically

the same. The Stockton-Delta club supports 3 downtown parades each year with safety spotters along the route who primarily maintain contact with nothing more than HT radios. At the other end of that scale is Field Day on the last full weekend in June, in which the clubs typically go all-in with multiband HF radios, extensive antennas, off-the-grid a.c. power systems, plus everything needed for human convenience over 48 hours of operating time.

Okay, wait, you say—you're new at all this; how do you get started? Like everything else in ham radio, the best way to learn something new is to watch how it's done. Look for and accept any opportunity to accompany an experienced operator on any of the above described events, maybe starting with portable ops in connection with the *Spring Sprint* on Saturday, May 15th. In fact, that's a really good option because one of the operating categories in the contest requires the participation of a second operator who's been licensed less than 2 years—that means you. It's possible that your phone may be ringing soon with a call from someone who needs a new ham to work the contest with them. (You can find the rules starting on page 13.)

Portable ops should interest you a great deal as they're a basic justification for amateur radio to exist. Take whatever opportunity comes your way to learn how it's done and get involved.

# WHY I BECAME A HAM

## Chapter 6: Gigi Kemalyan, K6IWF

*Editor's note:* it's always a pleasure for our Volunteer Examiner team when one of our successful new licensees quickly starts to develop into an active and skillful operator, exhibiting all of the positive traits that we try to instill at a HamCram or Ham-U session. K6IWF will complete her first year as a ham this month and has become a role model for what VEs hope every test taker will turn out to be. We're happy to include her story in this series.



The first question I usually get is *what's with the name?* I'm from Germany and my husband's family is Armenian. My original given name was my mom's idea "because nobody else had it."

There are some horrid Norse legends about it involving murder and revenge. After I immigrated to the United States a friend started calling me GG. I loved the sound but hated the spelling, thus it became, and ever shall be, *Gigi*.

I have many interests besides ham radio—as Robert Heinlein said, "Specialization is for insects." To mention just a few: reading (classic sci-fi, fantasy, mystery); singing and music (I play several instruments); arts and crafts; gardening; baking bread (my sourdough turns 21 this June!); astronomy (as in the photo above—watching the 2017 solar eclipse); and religious iconography. I'm currently the publications editor and music director at my church. I hope to retire to Idaho and study iconography full-time in the future.

I was introduced to ham radio as a teenager in Germany when a neighbor showed us his HF rig. He talked to someone in South America and I thought that was so cool! Unfortunately, my parents were busy building their house and there was no time for new hobbies. Several

decades later after I had moved to California, talk among friends turned to emergency preparedness. Tom, KK6HNC encouraged us to become licensed hams. In April 2020 I bought a Baofeng HT, began listening and got hooked.

I was licensed in May 2020 but quickly realized that, while I could hear folks on my favorite repeaters, I barely got out with the wimpy hand-held. I could only successfully transmit with a 29" tactical antenna while standing in the street or in my neighbor's backyard. (That was slightly better than my 6'1" friend Mike KN6JKC entertaining his neighbors by standing on a picnic table with his HT.) Gathering equipment for my modest ham shack took several months due to pandemic shipping delays. My husband built a mast for my Ed Fong antenna, attached it to an old satellite dish mount, and I finally got on the air in December 2020.

It's been fun listening and learning, and, when introverted me feels up to it, looking for QSOs. Nets are especially great for new hams: you can emulate what others are doing, learn about doubles and pile-ups, and make new friends. I'm a member of the Stockton-Delta and Lodi radio clubs and recently joined SJCARES. Future goals include upgrading to General and getting an HF rig, though for now I'm quite happy with my TM-V71A base station. On my bucket list: listening to the ISS, and making a parachute mobile contact—from the *ground*, thank you very much! I'm also interested in CW and APRS. There's always more to learn.



## INTRODUCING *SJCARES*

That's the *San Joaquin County Amateur Radio Emergency Service*, which got underway in March with the appointment of **Fred, K6FVC** in Manteca as the ARRL Emergency Coordinator (EC) for San Joaquin County. Fred has a strong background in *emcomm*, which refers to the structured practices and protocols of emergency communications. He's ideally suited as to qualification and motivation for guiding ARES development and implementation in our area.

Fred launched SJCARES with an introductory Zoom meeting on March 30th. He outlined the basics of a successful ARES program for our region, including practice exercises, a strong reliance on digital modes (especially packet), and a weekly net. The SCARES net got started on April 6th at 7:30 pm on Lodi's WB6ASU repeater, and is now conducted there each Tuesday except for a Zoom meeting on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Everyone is invited, either as a SJCARES member or potential member, or simply to log in and learn. The linked repeater system operates on 147.09+ and 444.25+ MHz, PL 114.8. There is also a website under development at [SJCARES.org](http://SJCARES.org).

Fred urges volunteers who want to join the team to get up to speed on official emcomm procedures if you're not already there. Here are some recommendations (click the links):

[ARRL resources for the fundamentals of ARES](#)   [ARRL EC-01 Self-guided emcomm course](#)  
[Incident Command System \(ICS\) course 100](#)   [Incident Command System \(ICS\) course 200](#)

Fred would like to hear from you regarding these topics or anything else concerning SJCARES. You can email him at [K6FVC@arrl.net](mailto:K6FVC@arrl.net), and remember the net on Tuesday.

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### May

6 Club meeting, 6:30 pm via Zoom  
15 LARC Mobile Roundup 8-10 am  
15 2 meter sprint contest 12-1 pm  
18 Board meeting, 6:30 pm  
25 SJCARES Zoom meeting, 7:30 pm

### June

3 Club meeting, 6:30 pm via Zoom  
5 Minden Swap Meet ([click here](#) for info)  
5-6 Museum Ships weekend  
12-13 ARRL VHF contest  
15 Board meeting, 6:30 pm  
22 SJCARES Zoom meeting, 7:30 pm  
26-27 Field Day

### July

1 Club meeting, 6:30 pm  
20 Board meeting, 6:30 pm  
27 SJCARES Zoom meeting, 7:30 pm

### August

5 Club meeting, 6:30 pm  
17 Board meeting, 6:30 pm  
24 SJCARES Zoom meeting, 7:30 pm

**Every Wednesday, simplex net on  
147.09 MHz, 6:30 pm. Club net on  
WB6ASU repeater, 7:00 pm.**

## FROM OUR READERS

March 15, 2021

Here is a link to an historic source of ham gear. I thought it might be of interest to the membership. Look at the 1940 prices and what it would cost in today's dollars. I did not know Sears, Roebuck even sold ham gear. This was long before I got into amateur radio.

[https://www.waynekirkwood.com/images/pdf/Sears\\_Roebuck\\_1940\\_Radio\\_Amateur\\_Test\\_Equipment\\_Sound\\_Systems\\_Catalog.pdf](https://www.waynekirkwood.com/images/pdf/Sears_Roebuck_1940_Radio_Amateur_Test_Equipment_Sound_Systems_Catalog.pdf)

73,  
Bob, K6DGG  
Galt

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April 20, 2021

You may have already heard this but I just got word that HRO [Ham Radio Outlet] is opening a new store in Sacramento, probably in June. It will be at Auburn and College Oak.

73,  
Joe, N6JPG  
lone

*Ed. note:* see this announcement from HRO: <https://www.hamradio.com/hro-sacramento.cfm>

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## SWAP MEET

Welcome to our virtual swap meet. If you have any item of radio-related equipment that you'd like to buy, sell, trade, find, or even give away, [send the info](#) and we'll list it here. Include your name, call sign, email, and phone number. *Swap Meet* is open to all; you don't need to be a Lodi ARC member.



• Lodi A.R.C. baseball caps and T-shirts. Caps \$15.00, shirts \$10.00. Prices are subject to change and are limited to stock on hand, although the club will order more as needed. Specify shirt size, M – 3XL. Pay by PayPal, check, money order, or cash (exact change only for cash). See page 14 for payment instructions. For more info or to place an order, contact Ron, KG7OR, 209-712-6200, [KG7OR@arrl.net](mailto:KG7OR@arrl.net).



- Heathkit SB-220 KW linear with King 6-mtr conversion and new upgrade boards. [Click here](#) for info. "925 watts out all day" on Six. \$900 o.b.o. Bruce, AH0U, 925-623-4388, **AH0U@arri.net**
- Yaesu FTM-3200DR 2 meter FM & digital transceiver, 65 watts, with mobile bracket, mic., and power cable. [Click here](#) for info. \$100 o.b.o. Joe, N6NPG, 209-283-4880, **N6NPG@icloud.com**.
- Xiegu G90 QRP HF transceiver, with accessories. [Click here](#) for photos & description. Like new; purchased in November 2020. Looking for any reasonable offer. Mike, N6ZW, **N6ZW@arri.net**
- Icom IC-PS15 20 amp transformer power supply, \$100 or best offer. (Excellent for the above Yaesu or Xiegu radios, or any VHF/UHF transceiver and most HF transceivers). [Click here](#) for photo and reviews. Dave, WB6TOU, 209-368-5878, **WB6TOU@arri.net**.
- Kenwood [TS-2000](#), all-mode transceiver, 160m – 70cm, with microphone, power cord, & manual. Dual receive, 100 watts on 160 meters thru 2 meters, 50 watts on 70cm., built-in antenna tuner. \$700 or make an offer. [Click here](#) for ARRL review. John, K6YK, 209-462-7391. **K6YK@arri.net**.
- Kenwood [TS-430S](#) HF transceiver, 160-10m, 100 watts. Great HF starter rig. Professionally serviced in 2017. \$350. Jim, WB6BET, 209-625-5771, **WB6BET@arri.net**.
- "BHI Noise Away," [Model ANEM MkII](#). receiver noise eliminator. \$100 o.b.o. WB6BET (above).
- **Free**: commercial-quality 2 meter J-pole antenna, plus a matching 70 cm J-pole. Free to a new ham who wants to get beyond a simple handheld radio, starting with a good VHF/UHF base station antenna. Mike, N6ZW, **N6ZW@arri.net**.
- **Free**: 1988-vintage DOS-based notebook computer, NEC Ultralite model 286V, with power supply and manual. It works. N6ZW (above).
- **Free**: HP Deskjet printer, model 845C, in working condition. [Click here](#) for info. Also a Supermicro Super-370SED motherboard with a Pentium III processor and more. N6ZW (above).
- **Free**: Fluke multimeter model 8021B. N6ZW (above).
- **Free** – many high-quality antennas and accessories received from the Silent Key estate of Guy Corynen, WD6G in LaFayette. Contact WB6BET or KG7OR (above) for info on any of the following:
  - 2-meter [M<sup>2</sup> model 2M12](#) 12-element yagi, very large, 14.9 dbi gain, 19.5 ft. boom.
  - VHF mobile whips.
  - Coaxial adaptors: SO-239, N, BNC, various configurations.
  - RG-8 type cable, various lengths, most with PL-259 connector on one or both ends.
  - Various Icom and Kenwood mobile microphones.
  - And more, too much to list. What do you need?

**Note: the above large assortment of free ham gear, all high quality and some of very high value, was acquired, transported, and stored on behalf of the club through the volunteer efforts of a small number of our members. A free-will donation to the club in exchange for anything you receive is optional but will be sincerely appreciated.**

# LINE FEED

(Editor's notes)

Speaking of new hams who are coming along nicely in the hobby (page 8), here's a salute to **John, K6WEL**, who was the subject of our "Why I became a ham" article in the February issue. John's neighbor recently gave him an old radio found in the attic, which turned out to be a 1980s-vintage Kenwood TM-2550A VHF rig that had been gathering dust for decades. John cleaned it up, checked it out, and found that it works as well or better than his other two VHF radios. Sometimes you get lucky.

**HELP WANTED.** By now all members should be aware that the club has a special need this year, due to the fact that an unusual number of our leadership positions will all require replacements on December 31st. That may seem like a joint decision on the part of those officers, but it isn't—the reasons for each are unique.

First, our president, **Barry, K6ZZD**, will finish his second year in office and will therefore be termed out per the bylaws. That will make him the immediate past president next year and thus retain a seat on the board, but we'll obviously need a new president.

Next, our secretary, **Jim, WB6BET**, has decided that more than ten years in the job is plenty and wants to return to the rank and file in the club, and who can blame him after his record of energetic service both as secretary and also as the frequent coordinator for many club activities. Jim is especially looking forward to passing the management of Field Day to another volunteer this year.

And finally, I will complete my fourth year as your treasurer in December, and have reached the age at which retiring from such important management responsibilities is probably the right thing to do. I've been a supervisor or manager of one type or another for six decades, starting in Main Comm on a cruiser

off Vietnam in the '60s, so I'm somehow going to have to learn how *not* to do those kinds of things. I'll figure it out.

But wait, as they say on TV, there's more: I will also be retiring as your newsletter editor at the same time and for the same reason, so the club will need another capable and willing volunteer to continue this important service. The monthly newsletter is a vital resource for keeping the membership informed, since not everyone can participate on our nets—we need both the nets and the newsletter to get the word out. The good news for anyone willing to take it on is that you certainly don't have to produce the same kind of newsletter that I have. A club newsletter can take many forms; you've seen me do it two different ways myself in only a few months. The content is what's important, much more than the form—whatever your new editor puts out will be just fine.

A new president, new secretary, new treasurer, and new editor for the newsletter—that's a lot of chairs to fill, but we have a lot of talented members in our club. There is no doubt that quality candidates for all of them are on our roster now. Note especially that our bylaws only require the president and vice president to be hams; the secretary, treasurer, and newsletter editor could be anyone, including an unlicensed family member. In those offices, willingness and ability are far more important than a ham ticket.

You may find it helpful to review the duties of our various officers in the bylaws. Go to the website at <https://lodiarc.org>, click MEMBER PAGES at the upper right corner, then CLUB BYLAWS in the vertical menu. Scroll down to Section 6 for the duties of our officers. You will also find the club constitution on the same list.

Until next time, 73 DE KG7OR

## New FCC RF Exposure Requirement, continued from page 4

Here is the online calculator: [http://hintlink.com/power\\_density.htm](http://hintlink.com/power_density.htm). Click that URL or copy and paste it into your browser. If typing it manually, note the underscore after “power.”

For the “ERP at the antenna” value, use the maximum output power of your transmitter. The tool will change it to the input power to the antenna in the results. Transmission line loss or the duty cycle of the mode you use, like 50% for FT8, are not factors unless your calculated exposure results are marked as excessive; in that case see below.

For antenna gain in dBi, use 2.2 for a horizontal wire antenna like a dipole or end-fed, or for a quarter-wave vertical. For a commercial antenna, use the dBi gain listed in the specs. (Google the antenna’s make and model number. The specs are often shown on a ham store’s website like HRO, or you should be able to find the manufacturer’s page for the antenna.)

Enter the closest distance in meters that anyone can approach to the radiating portion of the antenna. You can Google “feet to meters” (include the quotes) for a quick metric conversion.

Try it with this example to see how it works: Assume a 100 watt HF transceiver, a CushCraft R-8 multiband vertical, operation on 10 meters, and the nearest approach at 80 feet, or about 25 meters. The R-8 has a specified gain of 3 dBi. Here’s the evaluation for 28.4 MHz:

The entries in the above online tool are **100**, **3**, **25**, and **28.4**. Click the *Calculate* button and you will get a table showing that you are well under any hazard level. Print that table or copy and save it in a digital file to document your base station evaluation at 10 meters.

Should it turn out that your exposure is excessive, re-do your calculation allowing for the loss in your transmission line, which reduces your power to the antenna. Here’s an easy line loss calculator: [https://www.qsl.net/co8tw/Coax\\_Calculator.htm](https://www.qsl.net/co8tw/Coax_Calculator.htm). For example, say you’re feeding your R-8 with 50 feet of LMR-400 and your measured SWR is 1.3:1 at 28.4 MHz. Using the calculator with those options, your 100 watt transmitter delivers 92.578 watts to the antenna.

You can reduce your antenna power much further if you don’t operate a mode with a 100% duty cycle, like AM, FM, or most digital modes except FT8. Instead, you can use one of the following percentages multiplied against your transmitter’s maximum output power:

SSB: 20%  
SSB: 40% (with speech processor active)  
CW: 40%  
FT8: 50%

This all sounds like a lot, but none if it requires any complex calculations on your part; the online tools do it all. Just plug in the relevant data from your station and start accumulating your files. Remember that you have two years to get it done.



## How to make a payment to the club

Your dues or other club expenses can easily be paid via PayPal. The PayPal procedure follows below, and please be sure that you don't skip step #7 in the instructions. That's required to properly identify who the payment is from and what it's for. (It's not always obvious.)

Otherwise, payments can be given to the treasurer in person or sent via U.S. mail. Make your check or money order payable to "Lodi ARC." Dues rate: Regular: **\$20**. Family membership: **\$25**.

All payments are acknowledged by an email receipt. Payments may be mailed or delivered to the treasurer at:

**Lodi Amateur Radio Club**  
**2839 Bristol Lane**  
**Lodi, CA 95242-9661**

For any transaction at the treasurer's QTH, call 209-712-6200 in advance. If paying cash, bring the exact amount; the treasurer does not have change.

### PAYPAL PROCEDURE:

1. Sign into your PayPal account and click the blue "Send" button.
2. In the "Send money" field, enter:  
**r7russ@gmail.com**
3. On the next screen, enter the dollar amount.
4. If your PayPal account is set up to draw funds from your linked checking account or an existing PayPal balance, go to step #7.
5. If your payment will draw funds from a linked credit or debit card, notice the field labeled "Sending to a friend." Click "Change" to the right.
6. Click "Paying for an item or service."
7. **Important:** In the "Add a note" field, enter (a) your call sign, and (b) a brief explanation of what you're paying for.
8. Click "Continue."
9. Follow the prompts to complete your payment.

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## ***"Spring Sprint"*** contest rules, continued from page 6

### 1. Entry Format, Power Category, Awards

Prepare your contest log in 4 columns, like the optional log form on page 17. Make a text file, an Excel file, a manual form, or use logging software that will produce the desired output.

Operating categories:

- A: Single operator, up to 5 watts power output.
- B: Single operator, 6 to 49 watts power output.
- C: Single operator, 50 watts or more power output.
- D: Any power output with a qualified second operator. The second operator must be a new ham, initially licensed within the past two years (May 15, 2019 or later).

*Note:* Category D stations may use the call sign of either operator in the contest, but all contacts must be made using the same call.

## 2. Scoring:

1 point for each complete QSO. You may contact any station only one time during the contest. All contacts are simplex only—no repeater QSOs.

## 3. Contest Frequencies

Here are the frequencies for use during the contest. Contacts on any other frequency cannot be logged or counted. You may want to pre-program memories in your radio for these frequencies to facilitate rapid QSYs.

<b>146.430</b>		<b>147.420</b>	<b>147.510</b>	(Note: do not use the national calling frequency, 146.520 for any purpose.)
<b>146.460</b>	<b>146.550</b>	<b>147.450</b>	<b>147.540</b>	
<b>146.490</b>	<b>146.580</b>	<b>147.480</b>	<b>147.570</b>	

## 4. Logging Format:

Because this is a one hour contest, you can just log the minutes, like 00, 01, to 59. If you work more than one station within a minute, log that same minute for each station worked.

Example: you work N6ABC at 1201 for your first QSO in the contest (it's his third). You work K6XYZ at 1203 for your second QSO (it's his sixth). Your log should look like this:

<u>MY QSO #</u>	<u>LOCAL TIME</u>	<u>CALL</u>	<u>QSO #</u>
1	01	N6ABC	3
2	03	K6XYZ	6

## 5. Permitted Contacts

All contest contacts must be made at one location. Mobile units may drive to a fixed site and operate there as a portable station.

You may call CQ and make one contact on any authorized frequency per #3 above. **When you complete that contact, you must immediately QSY to a different frequency—a second contact on the original frequency is forbidden, even if you are called there.** (Help the process by saying your call sign followed by "QSY" upon completing your contact.)

You may return to the original frequency at any time after making at least one contact on a different frequency.

If you answer another station's CQ and complete the contact, you may then make another contact on the same frequency. Thereafter you must immediately QSY as above.

## 6. Soliciting QSOs Prohibited:

Pre-arranged QSOs are forbidden. Arranging a contact at any time or by any method is not in the spirit of this event. Don't transmit on repeaters or repeater frequencies to solicit contacts. The intent is to demonstrate your ability to rapidly communicate under urgent conditions.

## 7. Entry Submission:

Contest entries must be received by email no later than Sunday, May 23rd.  
Send your entry to: **n6tce@arrl.net**

Be certain that your email submission includes all of the following:

- Call sign used for the contest. (See #1 above for Category D station call signs.)
- Operating location.
- Contest Category.
- Primary first operator name and call sign.
- Qualified second operator name and call sign for Category D stations.
- Your attached log file in text format, in Excel format, your scanned manual log sheet(s), or your submission file generated by logging software. Each logged QSO must show your serial number, the time, and the other station's call sign and his/her serial number.

*Note:* Manual log entries must be legible. Any illegible entry will not be counted in your total.

## 8. Contest Exchange and Operating Tips:

The contest exchange is simple; just call sign and QSO serial number. Speak each digit slowly and clearly. Consider pronouncing no. 9 as "niner," and 0 is always "zero," never "oh."

To call CQ in the contest, suggest calling "CQ Sprint" or "CQ Contest." When monitoring a contest frequency, you may want to reduce your squelch setting to hear a weak station.

Make sure that you record the data from each QSO correctly. If you are unsure about the other station's call sign or serial number, ask for a repeat.

Use the standard phonetics when giving your call sign. If you need the list, [click here](#).

*Read all of these rules.* If you have any questions about anything regarding the contest, ask N6TCE *before* the contest starts. Email Bob at **n6tce@arrl.net** or catch him on one of the Lodi or Stockton-Delta nets.

## 9. Manual Log Form:

If using a manual log form, you may make your own that includes all of the required submission data per #7 above, or you can print and use the following page.



## ABOUT THE LODI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



Web: <https://lodiarc.org>  
Email: [LodiHams@gmail.com](mailto:LodiHams@gmail.com)



To become a member: [https://lodiarc.org/membership\\_form.pdf](https://lodiarc.org/membership_form.pdf)

Our Board of Directors and key supporters for 2021:

President: **Barry Marson, K6ZZD**

Vice President: **Mike Dugger, K6AAN**

Secretary: **Jim Seiferling, WB6BET**

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147.09 Repeater: **Fred Coe, WB6ASU**

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Net Operations Committee: **Bob Officer, N6TCE**

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## THE LAST WORD

