



LODI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
NEWSLETTER FOR January 2022

Club Meeting January 6<sup>th</sup>

The meeting has not been scheduled for in person meeting due to current conditions. Once the board makes a determination that the club will be live or hosted on Zoom will be determined the week of the meeting so stay tuned.

Should the meeting take place on Zoom an email blast will be sent out with the time and login information.

Otherwise.....

The Lodi Amateur Radio Club meeting will be Thursday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
6:30 PM at Casa Flores Restaurant 400 E Kettleman Ln, Lodi CA.

The meeting starts promptly at 6:30. If you plan to eat dinner then arrive early as usual. We do plan to have a raffle so bring your piggy banks!!

COVID 19 Procedures: Must be done before entry.

Ron, N6GKJ, will take your forehead temperature with an IR thermometer. If you have a temperature over 100 degrees you will not be allowed to enter the meeting.

These procedures may be modified for future meetings, but for this point in time we will adhere to the above requirements.

Face masks will be optional.

They are not required to enter the restaurant for anyone, at this time.

The restaurant staff do wear masks. If you feel more comfortable wearing a mask, please do.

If you are uncomfortable attending a group function, please stay home. Don't put unnecessary stress on yourself.

We will attempt to have the tables in the banquet room arranged as tables of 6 persons each, with the tables spaced apart.

Post meeting notes will be sent, via email, to all club members.

Now Hear This!

*K6AAN, Mike Dugger, Club President*

**President's Corner**

Hello everyone!

So far, the month of December has been a pretty busy time for the club and the amateur radio service locally. Our Christmas Dinner turned out to be a wonderful gathering and it was so nice to see so many of our members and guests that evening. The food was great, fellowship was even better, and the raffle was second to none. We had 42 persons in attendance and many folks went home with some very nice items! Thanks so much to all of you that came out for the dinner and supported the club.

We have almost reached the end of the year and it is a prime time to get your club dues paid before the end of the month. Instructions on how to use the various options to pay dues are readily available. Please remember that the email address [lodihams@gmail.com](mailto:lodihams@gmail.com) is always there for your use if you have a question, suggestion, request, or any other business for the club. Emails from that account are received by the Secretary and Treasurer and will given appropriate attention. Planning is under way for several different technical endeavors for members to be involved in for the upcoming year 2022. There will be much more information coming out soon, providing we are not further encumbered by state or county imposed Covid 19 restrictions on gatherings. Any changes regarding Covid restrictions effecting our meetings as well as upcoming events will be announced during the weekly nets and via email. It is very important to participate in the weekly 2 meter net and monitor your email account to stay currently informed.

I wish you all the best during the holiday season and Merry Christmas!

*Mike, K6AAN*

*N6NFP, Skip Chalcraft Club Treasurer*

### **NEW MEMBERS, CHECK YOUR EXPIRATION DATE**

Here's a reminder for our members who have joined since January 1, 2021: don't forget that as a first-time new member, your dues are paid up through December 31st of the following year. For example, if you joined at any time in 2021, you're good until the end of 2022. Your next payment is due on 1/1/2023.

This is an obvious benefit for first-time members, plus it keeps the bookkeeping simple for the treasurer: all dues are on a calendar-year renewal basis. It's a win-win for both new members and those who have to keep track of things.

The hard part for some is remembering that you have the benefit. It's rather normal for the treasurer to receive a dues renewal payment that isn't due, i.e. from a new member who joined early in 2021 and thinks he has to renew in 2022. His payment shows up, and now the treasurer has to deal with the over payment.

So please remember, a new member's first renewal payment is due at the end of the year following the year in which you join. This information is found on your receipt when you make your initial dues payment. It's also on the new member application form, in our Bylaws, and it has been stated numerous times in our newsletters.

If any member has a questions concerning the club's dues, the treasurer is at your service. Just send an email inquiry to [LodiHams@gmail.com](mailto:LodiHams@gmail.com).

## **HOW TO PAY YOUR DUES OR OTHER PAYMENTS VIA PAYPAL**

Dues are \$20 single, \$25 family.

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### PayPal payments

1. Log into your PayPal account.
2. Click the blue "Send" button.
3. In the 'Send money' field, enter: LodiHams@gmail.com
4. Click the blue "Send to" button with the envelope graphic.
5. Enter your dollar amount. (It will replace "\$0.00")
6. Important: in the "Add a note field", enter an explanation of what you're paying for plus your name and call sign (if any). See note below.
7. On the next screen, note "Paying for an item or service." Don't change it, or you may be charged a transaction fee.
8. Follow the prompts to complete your payment.

Note: please do not skip step #6.

Without it, the only information we get about the source or reason for your payment is the email ID that sent it, and that's not enough.

Payments can also be mailed to N6GKJ Ron at:  
1418 Bordeau Dr, Lodi, CA 95242  
*Make checks out to; Lodi Amateur Radio Club*

### **ARRL Membership**

There is a distinct advantage to our club in having a majority of our members as American Radio Relay League members. If you're not thoroughly familiar with the ARRL follow this link - <https://www.arrl.org>

For now, you can help the club a great deal by letting us know whether you are a current ARRL member. Please send an email message to [LodiHams@gmail.com](mailto:LodiHams@gmail.com) with your call sign if you are a member so that we can note it on our roster. If you have a family membership in the league, include the name/call sign of your family members who are covered by your ARRL family membership.

Thank you in advance for responding to this request.

N6GKJ, Ron Simpson, Club Technical Director:

### **Upcoming VHF Packet Discussion**

Starting in February we will begin a Packet Discussion series. This is primarily focused on setting up and using Winlink Express and other packet related software in our endeavor. It is recommended that you have a working packet system to take full advantage of this forum. There are many hardware and software combinations to make this work for you. This form will be on a Zoom Session. The date is marked as Feb 5, 2022 time and link to Zoom will be announced. More to follow...

### **Technical update to our Packet Radio Network**

As of Friday Nov, 26 2021 the packet node frequency on Gopher Ridge has been changed to 145.07 MHz, the reason for the change is in keeping with the statewide plan to keep emergency communications on 145.07 MHz. Secondly this frequency is not as busy as 145.03 MHz.

Sites and Frequencies for the N6SJV Packet Network:

Lodi - 145.03 MHz lodi03

Gopher Ridge - 145.07 MHz GOPHER (Statewide Emergency)

Bear Mnt - 145.03 MHz bear03 COMING

There will be a WinLink2000 Server tied to 145.03 MHz for San Joaquin County. The location of this server is still TBD

### **ZEE, ZED, or ZULU?**

During the club Christmas party in December, a discussion was overheard concerning the pronunciation of the last letter of the alphabet—why do we hear three versions for “Z” on the ham bands?

For the full answer, go to our March 2021 newsletter and scroll down to page 4:

<https://lodiarc.org/newsletter/2021-03-newsletter.pdf>

But here’s the short version: “Zulu” is a phonetic equivalent for Z, the last item in the NATO phonetic alphabet that starts with *Alfa - Bravo - Charlie*, etc. It’s *not* how you say the letter Z itself. To do that, we’re taught in the U.S. to say “zee,” but in the rest of the entire English-speaking world, from Australia to Canada, everyone is taught to say “zed.” That little oddity caused confusion with the advent of voice radio in the 1930s when American hams started working DX stations with call signs like ZL3AB. The fix was for U.S. operators to adopt the international standard of “zed,” and for the next 30 years or so, “zee” virtually disappeared from amateur radio altogether. For the explanation as to why it re-emerged in the 1960s, see the newsletter article.

A second reason for using “zed” on the radio is that it eliminates confusing “Z” with “C.” With any modest level of white noise coming out of your speaker, you really can’t distinguish between the two. “Zed” solves that little problem nicely, and again, it’s a problem you’ll only hear in the U.S.

So, should you acquire the “zed” habit when saying things like “K6ZZD” or “QRZ” into a microphone? It’s really your choice, but nothing has changed since the 1930s.

Ron, N6GKJ

*N6TCE, Bob Officer, Club Net Director*

Hello Lodi Amateur Radio Club Members,

This marks the end of my fourth year as Net Director. Each year has seen a tremendous growth in active members checking in to our Weekly Net. This same growth is seen in the continued growth of the weekly Simplex Net.

This growth is credit goes to the weekly Control Operators and all the net's members.

Thanks go to the Net Control Operators: K6ANN, Mike, The team of Jim and Emilia (WB6BET/KI6YYT), Barry K6ZZD, Ron N6GKJ, and Gigi, W6IW.

<b>Totals</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>1861</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>1655</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>1553</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>1501</b>

The Database for the weekly repeater net has 241 unique call signs. Ron, N6GJK, can tell you how old the Database is, but many people are still stopping by to say howdy over the years.

If you compare the club growth to the net growth rate, you will find a reasonable degree of correlation.

The net is the best place to get up-to-date information on club activities. The newsletter is the place for an overall view. Both are needed and work hand-in-hand.

Next: The Simplex Net. After a get deal of discussion, the board of directors decided to endorse the concept of the Simplex Net. The rationale was twofold, if the power on the repeater was down, everyone could still provide the backup communications needed in an emergency. The second goal of becoming more than just a radio user and becoming a radio operator was good. This concept expanded to the Simplex Contests.

We have all have become better radio operators because of the net and the contest.

They say being imitated is a true form of flattery. The Lodi Simplex Net is being imitated up and down the valley. We are getting check-ins from distant parts of the surrounding area.

I hope the New Year will bring continued growth to Amateur Radio. Our service has become a hobby and a voluntary vocation for many.

The club needs at least one new Control Operator for the weekly net. Please contact me if you are interested. What would be nice is for the second new net control operator to take the 5th Week nets. The 1st month of the new year with a 5th Wednesday is March. That doing Net Control Operator 4 times during the year.

Net Control Operator is not hard to do. The Web Application we use makes it simple and easy.

Planning for the future. We are working on restarting the 6-meter net. This was fun, but Saturday afternoon was the wrong time. We don't give up but learn from our mistakes. Look for a new time for the old net.

Also being planned is a data packet net/contest. As the Special interest group is forming around a few club members.

Working with the new Tech Director will be fun as a few special interest groups are formed.

Happy Holiday Season to All; however, you celebrate them.

This is the Net Roster for the next two months. Net Ops please take note:

**January**

01/05/22 N6TCE  
01/12/22 K6ANN  
01/19/22 K6ZZD  
01/26/22 N6TCE

**February**

02/02/22 N6TCE  
02/09/22 K6ANN  
02/16/22 K6ZZD  
02/23/22 N6TCE

**March**

03/02/22 N6TCE  
03/09/22 K6ANN  
03/16/22 K6ZZD  
03/23/22 N6TCE  
03/30/22 ?

San Joaquin County ARES Update

*N6TCE, Bob Officer, SJCARES Emergency Coordinator*

San Joaquin County ARES Notes for January 2022

The start of the new year, and we make plans for the year. I have been thinking and speaking with ARES members.

One of the major directions that the program needs to go is getting more people using Packet-based Radio. The use of RMS Winlink 2000 is vital. The Lodi ARC is forming a county-wide Special Interest Group. The SIG's goal is the Deployment of several nodes and gateway giving access to all the county and surrounding areas. The nodes and gateway help complete a robust amateur radio-based data backbone connecting the southern valley to Sacramento.

The second direction the group needs to go is getting more members involved with net control and handling voice traffic.

The AHJ will need trained and competent communicators if you are activated. Writing down the traffic/messages and sending and receiving these messages is vital. In the coming months, we will start training with practical message handling.

This training will occur during the ARES Tuesday night net. A selected operator will

announce "Traffic For The Net or Person." The Net control will reply, "Stand by all stations. The NCS will say, "go ahead with your Traffic. The two operators will exchange the Traffic. Then transferred again to the EC via Packet.

This exercise employs voice to written Traffic and then the Traffic transferred to data, which can be printed and delivered—all things which might happen at an EOC or OES station.

We are a small group and will grow as people see and hear the drills and exercise. The HayWired Simulated Emergency Training will use Amateur Radio. The USGS was impressed with the DYFI reports for the California Shake-Out. One of the future meetings we have will include filling out the DYFI reports on Winlink and the USGS website.

I am doing some last-minute checking, and soon the new Radio Band Plan for 2020 will be released.

I hope everyone has a safe holiday and a happy new year.  
Bob, N6TCE  
EC SJCARES

### **Why I Became A Ham**

Share your story with us, if you are willing to write a few paragraphs about why you became a ham radio operator and what you would like to achieve, we would be happy to hear your story. Please submit your story to [n6gkj1@gmail.com](mailto:n6gkj1@gmail.com) no later than the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month!!

### **Club Nets**

Wednesday

2M Simplex net: 147.090 MHz (simplex) 6:30 pm

2M Club net: 147.090 MHz (repeater, PL 114.8) 7:00 pm

Saturday

6M 12:00 50.135 MHz Horizontal Polarization

### **Mark Your Calendar**

#### **January**

1 - Straight Key Night

2 - Kids Day

2-3 - RTTY Roundup

6 - [Lodi ARC Club Meeting](#)

16-18 - January VHF Contest

## **February**

3 - Lodi ARC Club Meeting

5 - Lodi ARC VHF Packet Discussion

8-12 - School Club Roundup

20-21 - International DX – CW

## **2022 Year at a Glance (minus state QSO parties)**

1/1 - Straight Key Night

1/2 - Kids Day

1/2-3 - RTTY Roundup

1/16-18 - January VHF Contest

2/8-12 - School Club Roundup

2/20-21 - International DX – CW

3/6-7 - International DX– Phone

4/18 – Rookie Roundup Phone

6/12-14 - June VHF

6/19 - Kids Day

6/26-27 - Field Day

7/10-11 - IARU HF World Championship

8/7-8 - 222MHz and Up Distance Contest

8/21-22 - 10 GHZ & up Round 1 (contest)

8/22 - Rookie Roundup – RTTY

9/11-13 – September VHF Sweepstakes

9/18-19 – 10 GHZ & up Round 2 (contest)

10/18-22 – School Club Round Up

10/23-24 – EME 2.3GHz and up contest

11/6-8 - Nov. Sweepstakes – CW

11/20-22 - Nov. Sweepstakes – Phone

11/20-21 - EME - 50 to 1296 MHz Contest

12/3-5 – 160 Meter Contest

12/11-12 - 10 Meter Contest

12/19 – Rookie Round up CW Contest

12/18-19 – EME 50 -1296 Contest

## LodiARC Virtual Swap Space

The following items are from the Estate of Jim Seiferling. These items are for sale. All interested parties will have to make contact via the listed email address only.

**DO NOT CONTACT** Emilia directly, She has asked to not be involved in this process

### **Elecraft KX3 - \$1500**

Used Elecraft KX3 in excellent condition. Bought from Elecraft fully assembled.

Includes:

[KXFL3 Roofing Dual Bandwidth Filter for SSB/CW/DATA](#)

[KXAT3 Internal, Wide-Range 20-W Automatic Antenna Tuner](#)

[KXBC3 NiMH Charger](#) (w/ fairly new Panasonic eneloop BK-3MCCA 1900 mAh rechargeable batteries)

[KX3-2M Internal 2-Meter Module](#) (I installed this)

MH3 Microphone

KXUSB-a cable

12V power cable

Operating Manual

Extra Items Included:

Low Rider stand by SOTAbeams

KX3 Nifty Mini-Manual

Book: The Elecraft KX3- Portable by Fred Cady KE7X

Contact Ron Simpson, N6GKJ [n6gkj1@gmail.com](mailto:n6gkj1@gmail.com) for information

### **YAESU FT-857D - \$600**

Includes mic, power cable and a carry case

Contact Ron Simpson, [n6gkj1@gmail.com](mailto:n6gkj1@gmail.com) for information

### **Kenwood TS-480 - \$600**

Includes control head and radio chassis  
remote mount kit  
microphone

Contact Ron Simpson, [n6gkj1@gmail.com](mailto:n6gkj1@gmail.com) for information

### **Kenwood TM281 - \$150**

Includes power cable and bracket, no microphone

Contact Ron Simpson, [n6gkj1@gmail.com](mailto:n6gkj1@gmail.com) for information

**Kenwood TS-430 - \$300**

Includes mic and power cable

Contact Ron Simpson, [n6gkj1@gmail.com](mailto:n6gkj1@gmail.com) for information

The above items are used ad in known good working order.