



LODI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER FOR February 2022

Club Meeting February 3th

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, February 3th, 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*

Greetings everyone!

As far as the status of our monthly club meetings, I am closely watching the coronavirus stats in order for us to stay within local guidelines and keep everyone safe. Each month, we face the decision of whether to hold our meeting in person at Casa Flores or to use zoom to avoid personal contact. The decision on which venue to use is determined by a vote by the board of directors. I will take up the matter with the board approx. 4-5 days before the monthly meeting occurs, get the vote done, and a group email will be sent out to everyone with the results. This will provide ample time to notify the membership if the

meeting is going to be in person or not, as well as providing ample cancellation notice to the restaurant if necessary. It is very important to read all email you receive from the club carefully and participate in our weekly nets as these are your lifeline for important club information.

There are some very cool items that have recently been donated to the club for use as raffle prizes. Included in this mix are several LifePO batteries, DC power stations, books, etc., so you can look forward to trying to win these when you attend our in person meetings. A special thank you to the members responsible for donating these awesome prizes. Please feel free to bring your go-box or other small projects to the monthly meetings for show and tell purposes.

There are plans that have been underway to schedule some club events such as additional Mobile Roundups, technical discussions and work shops, and possibly a new club t-shirt order. If you have anything you would like to offer, anything you would like to see, or any other questions regarding club business, you can always email the board via lodiHams@gmail.com. There is also a position open for anyone that would like to take over the publishing of the monthly newsletter. This is your club, not mine or the board of directors, so do not hesitate to make comments, questions, or suggestions!

73 and stay safe!

Mike

K6AAN

N6NFP, Skip Chraft 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.

HOW TO PAY YOUR DUES OR OTHER PAYMENTS VIA PAYPAL

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

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 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

February 5th @ 1200 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.

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
+16699009128,,7642652231#,,,,*4202205# US (San Jose)
Dial by your location: 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 764 265 2231 Passcode: 4202205

This conference is open to anyone who is interested and wants to do this. You do not have to be a club member to attend this event.

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 N6SVJ 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

N6TCE, Bob Officer, Club Net Director

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.

Remember two things: After checking into the Simplex |Net, reset your radio to repeater mode. The second thing is A net member is anyone that has checked into the net 3 consecutive times.

I wish to thank the 2 members for volunteering to act as net control operators.

The net had 4 control operators and a few people willing to take the net on a rare occasion. With the loss of Jim, WB6BET (he worked the compute side) Emilia decided to step down. That left the net short a control operator.

I want to welcome Eric and Stan as the new voices of net control operators. In the next two months They will be riding along and then take up net control duties.

I thank them again for stepping up to the plate.

This is the Net Roster for the next three 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 with KK6ES
02/09/22 K6ANN
02/16/22 K6ZZD
02/23/22 N6TCE with KN6STN

March

03/02/22 N6TCE
03/09/22 K6ANN
03/16/22 K6ZZD
03/23/22 KK6ES with N6TCE
03/30/22 KN6STN with N6TCE

Why I Became A Ham

Stan Trevena, KN6STN, club Secretary

Early on in life I was classified a “nerd” by my peers (and most likely my teachers as well). Yeah, I was the kid in class with the thick dark rimmed glasses. It was a badge I proudly wore throughout my life up to current day. I’ve spent my entire career working with technology. I’ve had the pleasure of riding the wave of technology throughout my entire career. I’ve spent most of my career managing IT operations of large organizations. My days were always long and left little time for hobbies.

I have to go way back to think about my first experience with radios. When I was a young kid living in the Bay Area, I had a pair of walkie talkies. I used those until they literally fell apart. Running around our neighborhood, my friends and I played out many adventures with those radios. It was later in the 70’s that CB radio became popular, and my dad installed one in the family wagon. I loved getting on that radio back then. Unfortunately, when I got into high school radios fell off my list of hobbies in favor of other pursuits like working.

Starting about 10 years ago, I got involved in the Maker movement. I enjoyed the homebrew nature of making. In my job I had moved far from the nuts and bolts of technology. Making brought me back down to the hardware and component level of things. Living so close to the Bay Area, I attended the annual Maker Faire every year. It was at those shows that I started to encounter radios again.

A few years back I decided that it was time to retire. When I started thinking about what hobbies I wanted to explore now that I was not working, I immediately went back to radios as one of my first choices. Like anyone else, I would often see a radio in a movie and think about getting into ham radio. It was finally in retirement that I actually had the time actually do it.

I got my Technician’s license in 2020, at the start of the pandemic. I picked up my General license soon after. I was able to attend two Lodi club meetings before the Covid lockdowns started. If you’re going to take up a new hobby, ham radio is a perfect one for a pandemic. I had heard that finding a local club and meeting some Elmer’s would be the best way to start in ham radio. Even without in-person club meetings, I’ve made some great connections and learned a lot so far from other hams.

I’ve picked up gear for working satellites, a digital hotspot, a nice HT, two mobiles, and a nice base HF radio. I just built a set of CW paddles from a kit and am starting on learning morse code. I am going to start on building an EFHW antenna from a kit. I just bought a Signal Link for packet. I’ve joined the Stockton Club and also ARES in addition to our club. Last Fall I got started with Parks on the Air and I am really looking forward to Spring and warmer weather to get back out with POTA activations. I seem to have developed a case of ham radio ADD with so many different ways of using radios in this hobby.

I am still very new to all of this. There are so many different things to do with this hobby. Having spent almost my entire career behind a desk, getting outdoors is the best part. I also enjoy the willingness of people to help and share with others that pervades this hobby. I think this hobby is a keeper. I have a way to go until I earn my nerd badge with ham radio, but I suspect I will enjoy the journey.

Stan, KN6STN

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 no later than the 25th 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 for information

YAESU FT-857D - \$600

Includes mic, power cable and a carry case

Contact Ron Simpson, 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 for information

Kenwood TM281 - \$150

Includes power cable and bracket, no microphone

Contact Ron Simpson, n6gkj1@gmail.com for information

Kenwood TS-430 - \$300

Includes mic and power cable

Contact Ron Simpson, n6gkj1@gmail.com for information

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