



NEWSLETTER

March 2023

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NOW HEAR THIS!

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

K6AAN, Mike Dugger

Greetings Everyone!

This month has been pretty busy so far as club business is concerned. Our 501(c)3 paperwork is progressing well, with the help of N6DT Rick. We are actively looking for a couple of parks in Lodi to schedule field trips. We will have a lot more information once we find a couple of the parks that will suit our needs, but these field trips will be a good opportunity for our members to get outside and operate on HF. The club has a call sign that is registered as Lodi Amateur Radio Contest Club, WB6HUM. This call dates back to the original formation of Lodi ARC in 1963. The last call sign trustee was Jim Seiferling WB6BET (SK) and he used this call for several contests and events. After consulting with Emilia KI6YYT, I arranged to take over the call sign trustee duties for WB6HUM in order to keep it active and assigned to our club. All ARRL, FCC, and QRZ changes and updates have since been completed so we will retain this call sign for many years to come.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 2, 2023, at Casa Flores Restaurant in Lodi at 1830 hrs. Please arrive an hour early if you would like to have dinner so we can minimize wait staff interference with the meeting. We will have two short presentations. The first will be done by Keith Colgan, which will showcase his recently completed battery box project. The second presentation will be done by Dave Voit. He has recently completed 3D printed examples of space weather phenomenon to share with the group. As usual, we will have a good drawing to look forward to as well.

This time of year usually begins the season of bicycle rides and walking events in our locale. It is a good time to get your equipment out and volunteer for some of the events that other clubs are involved in as well as our own. Going to different areas other than Lodi to operate provides a great opportunity to use your radios in different environments and even make a

new friend along the way! I frequently volunteer for events worked by the Stockton Delta ARC and Calaveras ARS.



Getting members of these clubs together for common causes works out well and is something we plan to do more of this year!

73
Mike
K6AAN

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

KK6ES, Erich Sullivan

Hello everyone!

I'm excited to share that we have launched a new online payment portal through Square! This portal makes it easy to pay dues with just a few clicks, anytime and anywhere. Plus, we've added some features to the site.

First, our application form is now available on this portal. If you know anyone who is interested in joining our club, they can now download or print the application and pay their dues from one place!

Second, we have added a link to purchase club swag on the site. Show off your club pride with our selection of club mugs, shirts, and more. Of course, additional items will become available as we develop new ideas.

To get started, simply visit lodiarc.square.site and click on the "Renew Now" button in blue. This new portal streamlines the payment process and eliminates the need for individual payment links or in-person transactions.

We hope you enjoy this new feature and find it convenient!

73
Erich

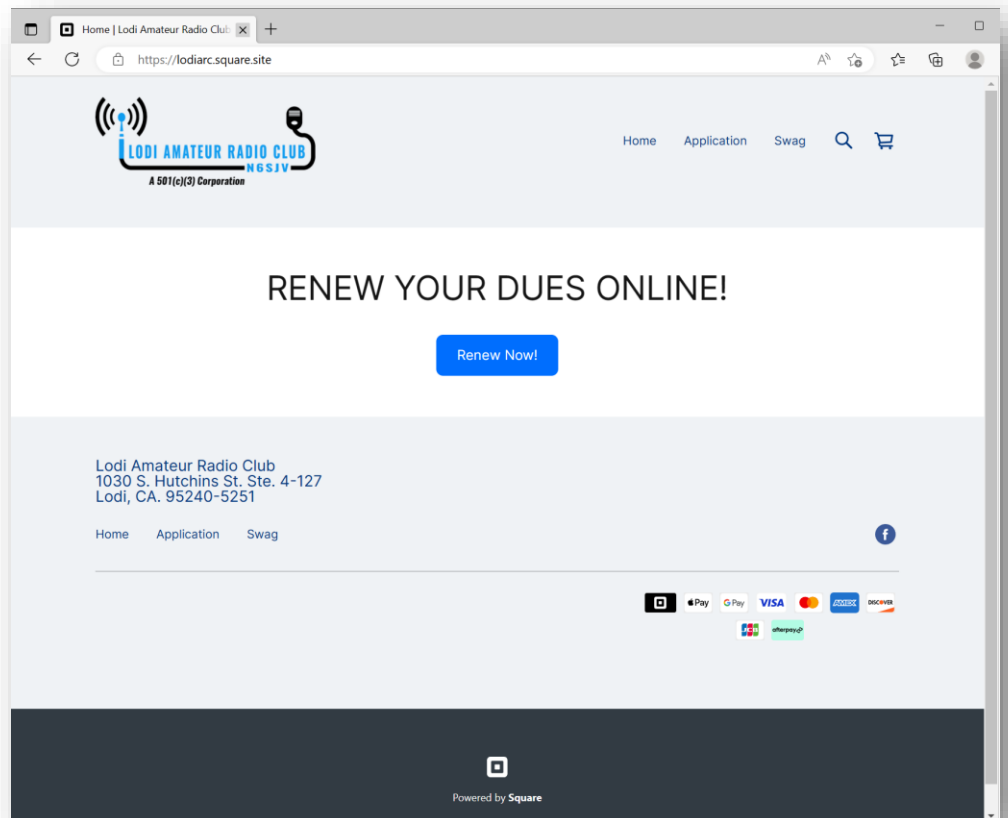
FROM THE TREASURER

N6ZW, Mike Zane

Lodi ARC Members,

A quick treasury update - We currently have \$4,726.72 with 34 members paid.

As we move towards the end of March, we want to remind everyone that the deadline for paying dues is quickly approaching. Your membership and dues are what help our club thrive, and allow us to provide events such as Field Day, drawing prizes, and more.



If dues are not paid by the end of the month, your membership will unfortunately be dropped from the club. We understand that everyone leads busy lives and that it's easy to forget about important deadlines, but we urge you to make this a priority.

Please remember that this is your club, and your support is crucial to its success. We appreciate each and every one of our members and look forward to your continued involvement!

Mike
N6ZW

FROM THE NET DIRECTOR

N6TCE, Bob Officer

Net Control Operators Update

Below are the Net Controls for March. Substitutions are possible:

March 2023	3/1 N6DT	3/8 N6TCE	3/15 K6AAN	3/22 K6DCL	3/29 KK6ES
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Bob Officer, N6TCE
Net Director



Vina K6VNA (up tower) and Dennis NJ6G, performing antenna repairs between rain showers during recent storms.

DON'T BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU HEAR ABOUT WWW

BY HAL MANDEL, W4HBM

Not too long ago an article extolling the virtues and reliability of the Internet crossed my desk. The article said that no matter what, the Internet had too many nodes to be completely brought down, and was essentially more reliable than any other mode of communication.

My reply to that is simply, "Bushwah!"

Here in Eastern Kentucky we had a set of storms come through in the summertime that our governor called "The worst flooding disaster in the history of Kentucky."

Here it is in late November and there are still people living in tents, yes tents, as their homes were simply washed away. Whole towns were inundated. Electricity, telephone, natural gas pipeline supply, fresh water supply, mail delivery, cable television delivery, food supplies in stores that were washed away washed away the stores themselves.

One of Appalachia's growing industries today is the haulage of flood debris that collected over three months ago.

In my own community of roughly just under 5,000 people, roads were closed, schools were closed and disbanded. In October, yes October, the landline AT&T telephone network gave up the ghost and there was nothing on the lines, no battery voltage, no dial tone, no calls in or out. There was no DSL service, which is the Internet that connects over the landlines. AT&T was unable to connect with anyone who needed to report this interruption, and when traveling away from the stricken area and signing on to the AT&T website from a distant server, customers were unable to initiate service requests either by direct application or by attempting to CHAT. The Telephone Company had seemingly gone up in smoke.

There are nearly 50 hams in my town. There was no RACES operation. There was no ARES operation. There were no FM nets. There were no repeaters left on the air to form a network with the Interoperability guidelines as published by the Homeland Security Administration.

Oh, plenty of ham operators were able to get on the air on the low bands, and to chat and moan about all these disasters, but there wasn't one organized effort to connect humans with other humans except for the municipal authorities like the police, fire and rescue organizations.

The dial tone was restored on 3 November in my town. DSL was restored on 8 November. It lasted two weeks. Then, not surprisingly, on the morning of 21 November 2022, the AT&T network crashed again. While this time there is dial tone for our local subscribers, the Internet is once again gone. Telephoning the one landline provider (who other cable services piggyback on), AT&T, the customer is connected with an agent in a foreign country, who has absolutely no idea of what to do or say to help anyone. Their reply is a uniform, "I do apologize for the problem, but we are experiencing a Network Outage and people are working on it and we hope to be restoring service by 29 November."

So don't tell people from Eastern Kentucky about how good the Internet truly is.

When the Service Provider assumes a "manyana" attitude and refuses to mobilize whatever it takes to get things going, it's a good bet they are abandoning their subscribers. When network Interruptions repeatedly causes the Internet to fail for hundreds if not thousands of subscribers and nothing is repaired for over a week, it is plainly obvious the Internet is NOT what it's cracked up to be.

And to boot, there not being any sort of organized Amateur Operation to assist people in a regular method, an organized method, speaks poorly about civic responsibility. We had a radio club, once. They closed their doors because everybody just wanted to sit home and call CQDX on their weekend contest stations. We had two repeaters on two-meters alone in this town, and now they, too are permanently QRT. There is a town south of here some 29 miles distant that still has an operating repeater, but the only time anyone can hear activity is in the morning drive time, and it's always the same two stations.

So okay, HF band activity and Morse code activity, with people working FT8 and not saying one intelligent comment seems to be the extent to which Amateur Operations are now employed in Eastern Kentucky, so when the dial tone goes away the next time, when the Internet LED on the DSL modem turns solid red the next time, when the a.c. power to the cell towers is cut off the next time, I guess we can all wade over somewhere where it's still working, yes?

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NETS & MEETINGS



WEDNESDAY NIGHT NETS

We have two nets, weekly on Wednesday nights:

- 6:30 PM – **Simplex Net**, 147.090 (No offset, No PL)
- 7:00 PM – **Weekly Club Net**, 147.090 (+600 kHz offset, PL is 114.8 Hz)

CLUB MEETINGS

Our club meetings are held the first Thursday of each month starting at 6:30 PM, located 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 drawing so bring your piggy banks!!

Lodi Amateur Radio Club

1030 S. Hutchins St., Ste. 4-127
Lodi, CA 95240-5251

LodiHams@gmail.com

lodiarc.org

EVENTS / QST!

FEBRUARY 2023 EVENTS & CONTESTS

- 2nd – LARC Monthly Club Meeting
- 4th & 5th – [International DX - Phone](#)

QST!

- ❖ **New Payment Portal** - <https://lodiarc.square.site/>
- ❖ **Membership Form Update** – A Google form has been created to update our club roster and member information. The link for the Google form is below; Please go in and fill out the form in its entirety. If you have any questions, please reach out to our Club Secretary, Kristen Dugger at LodiHams@gmail.com.

[*Click Here to Fill Out the Form*](#)

- ❖ **GLHOTM- Get a Local Ham on Ten Meters** - Check it out by going to:

<http://tiny.cc/glhotm>

- ❖ **FREE Amateur Exam Study Buddy** – Brought to you by N3FJP Software:

<https://study.affirmatech.com/>

FOR SALE

VIRTUAL SWAP MEET

- **Ameritron, AL1200 – Make reasonable offer**

High Power HF Amplifier covers 160-15M, with an easy convert to 10M. Factory wire for 220-240V. Runs a very cool 1200 watts output, 1/2 hour 1500 Watts. Driving power approx. 100w for FULL output. Weighs 77 lbs., 18 1/2X 17 X 10. Date of purchase 8-12-91. Was used approx. from purchase date until approx. 2005, approx. 3 hours a week during that time. Has been sitting idle in shack since. I no longer need high power. New AL-1200's from MFJ (Ameritron) are approx. \$5,999.95! I also have the QSK-5 (new) but haven't installed it.

If anyone is interested, make an offer, until Mike can find what used ones are going for.

Contact Mike Zane, n6zw@comcast.net

- **ICOM Package – \$ 750.00**

ICOM 475h AND ICOM 275a -- Both in excellent condition in and out! Two ICOM mast mounted preamps -- One VHF and one UHF; Both NOS new in box. ICOM satellite interface for normal or reverse doppler. **Sold as a package only.** Pick up at my QTH in Pittsburg.

Contact Bruce Croskey, AH0U@ARRL.NET



- **Hy-Gain AV-18HT – \$ 1,200.00 OBO**

This is for a Hy-Gain AV-18HT 53ft Tower, 10-80m, tilt-over hinged base, has not been used. Pick-up only.

Contact Bob LaRocca, ke6eang@gmail.com or 209-747-3287

- **Tower Sections & Antennas – Contact for Details**

This is for 4 sections of Rohn tower, including the top section. Four-element Cushcraft 15M beam. Three-element A3s triband beam; Plus, I "might" have a rotor that will work with either beam.

Contact Mike Zane by email, n6zw@arrl.net

- **Anytone D878UVII Plus – \$ 175.00**

This Anytone was bought at Pacificon this past year and hasn't really been used. Paid \$317 for the package. Asking \$175.00.

Contact Dave Lichtenhan, at 509-902-5432. Meet half way or deliver.



Interested in posting something for sale here?

*Please send your request to LodiHams@gmail.com to be considered for the next newsletter, no later than the 25th of the month. **Please ensure** to include your contact information to go along for the sale item!*
