



# Making Waves

High Desert Amateur Ham Radio Club Newsletter – November, 2020

CLUB REPEATERS 442.750 + PL162.2    224.480- PL 100

Weekly net every Saturday at 10 am on 145.330 - PL 100    Monthly Meeting is the Third Saturday of the month and is cancelled until further notice.

Weekly Vlog on YouTube is found on Ham Sandwich Productions. HDARC Facebook page is found at <https://www.facebook.com/nm5hd/>.

President's Corner David Ham, N6SIK  
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International Space Station - Info

VE Testing Results in November  
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## President's Corner, David Ham

**N6SIK** Greetings to all. As most of you are aware, Becky and I are recovering from our head on collision on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

I will be getting back to my duties as of November 1<sup>st</sup>. Look for the weekly VLOGS and Emails.

Please, try to check in for the Wednesday night WAMO net. I will be sending updated WAMO lists. If you have recently sent me requests for achievement certificates and have not received them, please resend your

request to [n6sik@arrl.net](mailto:n6sik@arrl.net).

Jim Faulkner, KO5V, is now the Station Help Coordinator. Those of you who wish to help with this can contact Jim. Many members had sent me emails volunteering to help. It's really gratifying to see how many people are willing to help other people with the hobby. However, I don't know what I've done with the names. So, please resend your requests to Jim at [ko5v@arrl.net](mailto:ko5v@arrl.net). Thanks

The Saturday weekly nets have been a tremendous success. Please continue to check in to hear all the current club information.

Still no clear time frame to start meeting in person just yet. Soon, I hope.

Have a Safe November

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**Ham Radio and You, Larry Elkin, NY5L** Have you ever made a Ham Radio contact with a station 3 miles away that was actually well over 600 miles away in total distance? Well, Jerry Aceto, K6LIE and I had a 15 second QSO (I know, was that really a QSO?) with a communication that traveled between my QTH in Enchanted Hills and his car parked in his driveway in Bernalillo. Now, how did we do that, you may ask? If you read the daily ARRL news releases, you would have read last month that the International Space Station crew activated a new multi-mode transceiver/cross-band repeater setup with more RF power up above us at an altitude of 260 miles (that's straight up). Now, if you have a base station antenna with RF signal lobes that are primarily horizontal (it's a ground plane!) you may be able to make a contact or at least receive the signal from this repeater. Also, using the "MMSSTV" software and your radio's mic, you can receive slow scan TV from the Russian module on the ISS when they occasionally send out this type of signal. And remember, after you set up the receive frequency on your receiver section, go up about 5KHz. This helps compensate for the Doppler effect and following the signal down to the actual frequency.

The higher the orbit is over the Albuquerque metro, the shorter the distance the signal needs to travel. Generally, you have about a 9 to 10 minute pass over central NM. Go ahead and make an antenna out of coat hangers and a piece of wood and hold or affix your HT on the beam and you have a portable satellite antenna station. You can Google "ham radio vhf/uhf handheld satellite antenna plans" to find the dimensions to assemble the antenna.

The ISS is not the only "ham" station up above us. There are a whole bunch of them that you can use. You can check out the "Gpredict" website and download their software and configure "Gpredict" to display many ham satellites and the ISS. Then you can determine when they are within radio reception view.

For those of us old enough, we can recall seeing Sputnik or Telstar orbit over our location. For me, I received a signal from then Col. John Glenn orbiting over NYC in his Mercury spacecraft using a thin stealth 40 foot wire antenna and 8 transistor radio.

Have fun 73 Larry NY5L

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**VE Testing in October** Jim Kajder, AF5FH has provided the results for VE testing in October. A big thanks to Jim Kajder and all of his volunteers who show up once a month to help people take these tests. Jim has worked on this since April, six months ago, and successfully promoted the HAM radio hobby to all the people who have taken a test. **There will be no VE testing in November.**

The test session on 10/17/2020 went well. Sixteen candidates tested, and all passed. Thirteen candidates passed Technician, three candidates passed General, and one candidate passed Extra. Overall, twelve Technician, three General, and one Extra. Two of the General were upgrades from Technician, and the Extra was an upgrade from General. Thanks to Michael Rohrkemper AG6ES and Marty Soffran NM5MS for volunteering as VEs for this session. If you are interested in testing, please contact Jim Kajder at [jkajder@gmail.com](mailto:jkajder@gmail.com). Our club, HDARC offers a free one year membership to new HAM's who pass their Technician test using our VE testing.

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Thanks to some great work by the ARISS Team, a new Voice Repeater system is operating on the International Space Station! Here is the access information:

Mode: FM Voice    Uplink Frequency: 145.990 MHz, PL 67.0 Hz

Downlink Frequency: 437.800 MHz    ISS Voice Repeater is QRV!

<https://stationproject.blog/2020/09/02/iss-voice-repeater-is-qrv/>

Stay safe. Be well! 73, Gerry Jurrens, N2GJ

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**Event Schedule – November** Jim Faulkner, KO5V has the following update. The tailgate organized by Ken, KO5Y, for 7 Nov at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church, has been Covid-cancelled.

The following is a partial list of some of the more popular contests, along with some events from interesting DX locations:

1. Ukrainian DX Contest: CW, SSB on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m. 1200Z, Nov 7 to 1200Z, Nov

8. <http://urdx.org/rules.php?english>

2. ARRL November Sweepstakes: Stations in the United States and Canada (including territories and possessions) exchange information with as many other US and Canadian stations as possible on the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter bands. CW Nov 7-8; Phone Nov 21-23. The events begin at 21:00 UTC Sat, and run through 0259 UTC Monday. <http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes>

3. SARL Field Day Contest (South Africa). Worldwide, CW, SSB, Digital on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10M. 1000Z, Nov 21 to 1000Z Nov 22. <http://lzdx.bfra.org/rulesen.html>

4. LZ DX Contest (Bulgaria): Worldwide, CW and SSB on 80, 40, 15, 20, 10M. 1 2:00Z Nov 21 to 1200Z Nov 22. <http://lzdx.bfra.org/rulesen.html>

5. ARRL EME Contest: Work as many amateur stations as possible via the earth-moon-earth path on any authorized amateur frequency between 50 and 1296 MHz. November 28-29. Starts at 0000 UTC on Saturday and runs through through 2359 UTC Sunday. <http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest>

6. CQ World Wide DX Contest, CW: November 28-29, 2020. Starts: 0000 UTC Saturday, and ends at 2359 UTC Sunday. <https://www.cqww.com/>

There are no State or Province QSO parties until the AK party starts up on 15 Jan 2021. In addition to CQ Magazine and ARRL, check out WA7BNM's web pages for more events. <https://www.contestcalendar.com/index.html>

details: <http://kc5our.com/wordpress/>

There are many other sprints and small events as well, but I've only included the larger ones that will occur on the weekends. (Thanks to WA7BNM's web site, ARRL, CQ Magazine and W6JBT)

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**Weekly Zoom Meetings** The weekly Zoom meeting on Wednesday at 12pm is still ongoing and usually has about 10 to 15 people joining. If you are interested in attending, there is an email that is sent each week to members only with the secure login information. Prior to the meeting, go to Zoom.us and sign in to download the required operational software. David Ham, N6SIK is the moderator for the Wednesday lunch.

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## Please help our club maintain our ARRL club affiliation

The HDARC is an ARRL affiliated club. To maintain this status with the ARRL, we must have a minimum of 50% of our membership in the ARRL. If you are joining the ARRL for the first time, please consider joining through our club. For every new subscriber that joins through our club, we will receive a \$15 commission from the ARRL. For every member that renews their ARRL membership, the club will receive a \$2 commission. Go to [nm5hd.com](http://nm5hd.com), click on Member Services, then Membership Information, then click ARRL Membership Application Form. Fill out the form and bring it to a meeting or email it to the Membership Chairman at [jrgilb@comcast.net](mailto:jrgilb@comcast.net).

You can now designate the HDARC as your charity on Amazon Smile. The club is now set up on Amazon Smile. You need to designate HDARC as your recipient of 0.5% of your purchases.

Your unique charity link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/26-2180552>

If you are interested in contributing to an article for the newsletter, please contact Becky Ham, N6TYT. I am looking articles for the December Newsletter. My email is [Beckylham@aol.com](mailto:Beckylham@aol.com).

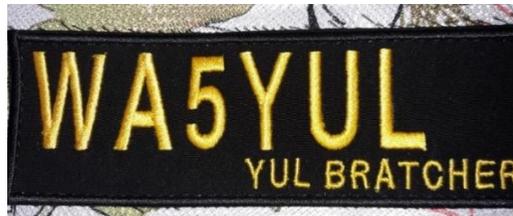
Club Shirts can be ordered through Turbo Threads 505-999-1234

1503 Golf Course, Rio Rancho, NM

Club Badges can be ordered through The Signman of Baton Rouge

Order online: <https://thesignman.com/clubs/hdarccart.html>

If you are interested in buying this style of club shirt, it can be found at Rio Rancho T-Shirt. The shop is located at 1207 Golf Course Rd, Ste F in Rio Rancho. Speak with either Wayne or Penny at 505-891-1521. Prices are dependent on the style of shirt and number of Club patches.



Questions about the club? Contact the president at [hdarcpres@gmail.com](mailto:hdarcpres@gmail.com).

Newsletter editor Becky Ham, N6TYT