

# NM SECTION



Serving Ham Radio Operators throughout New Mexico

Volume I - Issue 9

## Section Manager's Note

Ed James, KA8JMW - ARRL NM Section Manager

Season's greetings!

The holiday season is upon us and so passes another year in the logs. I wish each of you a happy, healthy and radio-active holiday season.

As 2016 wraps up, take a few moments and reflect on how amateur radio has impacted your life and consider how next year can be even better for you and the hobby.

This time of year many clubs elect their officers for the coming year. It's a good time to update your club contact info with the ARRL and also on your club website.



## Upcoming Events

**Saturday January 28<sup>th</sup> |  
Amateur Ham Radio  
Winter Tailgate Swapfest**

CNM Advanced  
Technology Center

See flyer at the end of this month's newsletter for more information.

**Saturday February 25<sup>th</sup> |  
New Mexico Techfest**

Albuquerque, NM

[http://  
www.rmham.org/  
wordpress/new-  
mexico-techfest](http://www.rmham.org/wordpress/new-mexico-techfest)

## Ham Population Report

	Novice	Tech	General	Advanced	Extra	Total
NM	48	3,601	1,387	370	1,240	6,646
USA	10,065	371,306	172,682	45,221	143,331	742,605

## Enjoy NPOTA and the New Mexico Section NPOTA Challenge!

2016 has been an action-packed year for amateur radio, and one of its most notable events – National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) – concludes on New Year's Eve. Have you been part of the action? Are you or your club participating in the New Mexico Section NPOTA Challenge?

NPOTA has been a year-long operating event organized by ARRL to help the National Park Service celebrate their 100th anniversary. Amateur radio operators have and continue to fan across their home states and the country to not only enjoy a visit to various National Park Service units (national parks, monuments, battlefields, trails, historic sites, etc) but to also make on-location radio contacts while there, activating them like DX entities, grids, or counties. At the same time, scores of amateur radio operators at home have been tuning the bands, making contacts with as many of the portable operators as possible.

Details about ARRL's NPOTA event can be found here (<http://www.arrl.org/NPOTA>) and here (<https://npota.arrl.org/index.php>). Upcoming NPS unit activations are listed here (<https://npota.arrl.org/nps-events.php>). New Mexico has numerous NPS units, some maybe a short drive away, listed within the sortable table here (<https://npota.arrl.org/nps-units.php>)

So what is the New Mexico Section NPOTA Challenge all about? It's a side challenge intended to generate some additional fun by encouraging New Mexico Hams and Clubs alike to head into the field and activate our state's NPS as part of NPOTA.

Awards (handsome plaques and NPOTA patches) are beckoning to be won as part of the New Mexico Section NPOTA Challenge. One by the New Mexico ham who activates the most NPS units within New Mexico by the conclusion of the NPOTA event. Another award awaits the New Mexico ham who activates *every one* of the NPS units within New Mexico by the conclusion of the NPOTA event. A "Clean Sweep" of its own kind!

If you belong to an ARRL-affiliated New Mexico club, your club is also in the running for identical awards if it heads into the field to activate NPS units using its FCC-issued club callsign.

Complete details about the New Mexico Section NPOTA Challenge can be found here (<http://www.arrl-nm.org/wp/section-awards/new-mexico-npota-challenge>).

New Mexico NPOTA participants are invited to show off the fun they've had during your field activations or NPOTA shack operations. Please send one or two of your most memorable NPOTA pics to [ka8jmw@arrl.org](mailto:ka8jmw@arrl.org) and we'll share them on the ARRL New Mexico Section website and/or upcoming New Mexico Section newsletter.

NPOTA activity should ramp up to fever pitch as we near its conclusion on New Year's Eve. Don't miss the opportunity to be part of the action, whether from home as a chaser or from the field as an activator. Have fun, and thank you for making 2016 the action-packed year that it's been on the air – in the shack as well as on-location from America's treasures!

### Silent Key Report

We regret to report the following key is now silent:

Don Holck, K5WJY.

Albuquerque, NM.

Passed 11/26/16, Age 85.

Obituary, ABQ Journal, 12/4/16.

# 2016 National Parks ON THE AIR

www.arrl.org/NPOTA

Throughout 2016 Amateur Radio is helping the National Park Service celebrate their 100th anniversary. Hams from across the country are activating NPS units, promoting the National Park Service and showcasing Amateur Radio to the public. This month's top 15 leaders in NM are:

### Activator Leader Board

Call Sign	Score
KC5RUO	50
AI5P	33
W5IL	33
NM5AE	26
NM5RC	22
KE5AKL	20
W5PDO	16
N5FO	11
AE5VM	10
K1RAX	7
KF5THB	5
WD6DCD	5
K8TE	4
NM5DX/M	4
WB7EGF	4

### Chaser Leader Board

Call Sign	Score
K5TA	261
WB2RIS	237
W5IL	229
AI5P	214
W5PDO	185
K8TE	169
W5ABA	166
W5RDL	163
NI5W	143
NM5WB	123
K1RAX	102
KC7QY	261
N5KUC	237
N9KW	229
N5WMQ	214

## Net Report

To ensure inclusion in this monthly report, please forward all net reports to Don Grab K5BIS@ARRL.net and Alden Oyer AG5S@ARRL.net - thank you!

Net	Check-ins	QSTs
NM Roadrunner Traffic Net	1,117	42
NM Breakfast Club	937	63
Caravan Club Net	87	10
SCAT Net	986	219
Yucca Net	414	78
Four Corners Net	644	32
Rusty's Raider's Net	459	72
Valencia County ARA Net	43	25
Tri-County ARES Nets	72	7
Tri- County ARES Simplex Net	Holiday	
KC5JBO Memorial Simplex Net	80	0
East Mountain FM Simplex Net	21	4
NM D-Star Voice Net	52	10
432 Mhz. SSB Net	32	0
144 Mhz. SSB Net	34	0
NM Department Of Health Net	122	2
NM ARES/RACES Statewide EComm Net	44	12
Northern New Mexico Amateur Radio Net	33	4

## Aliens and Marriage (or Ham Radio Special Event Stations)

Judy WB5LYJ

For Hams, there is nothing more invigorating than operating a Special Event Station (SES). In December 1973, as a new Ham, I was invited to my first SES and was hooked from then on. At this first event, both current and former Ham Radio Explorer Post members (including my future husband, W5WHN) joined in the annual "Operation Santa" event at Presbyterian Hospital's children's unit. These seriously ill children were unable to leave the hospital in time for personal visits to Santa to convey gift requests. Since Santa was super busy at the North Pole readying for Christmas, message relays to the North Pole were urgently needed. The "Elves" (Explorer Post members) came to the rescue. The personal fulfillment gleaned from this first SES energized me to sign up for many more.

To organize one of these SESs, pick your event about eight months in advance. Either use an existing call-sign or request a specialty call-sign from the FCC online at [www.arrl.org/special-event-call-signs](http://www.arrl.org/special-event-call-signs). For example, N4C was used during the Four Corners SES, staged at the only single geographical location common to four states. After the SES call-sign is identified, prepare a short but concise description of the event, with all the pertinent information. Then, publicize the event through amateur radio venues such as; publications, on-air nets, or SES forums. Clearly, these SESs can be experienced either as the event organizer or as a participant. These are also the same venues for Hams to research future SESs.

Hams conduct an endless number and variety of SESs. Some of these events have a serious theme, and others are commemorations or events staged for contesters, or just for fun. A couple of notable New Mexico SESs include: the UFO SES - 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Roswell incident; supposedly where a scout craft from an intergalactic vessel visiting our solar system sustained serious damage after being struck by lightning over southern New Mexico; and, the annual Route 66 SES -

## New Ham Report

Call	Name	City
KG5QFN	Russell Ortiz	El Paso
KG5QDG	Matthew Brennan	Cedar Crest
KG5QNA	Audrey Jacquez	Grants
AG5HW	Steve Cahn	Los Lunas
KG5QJP	David Scheibner	Sandia Park
KG5QFZ	Robert Crammer	Albuquerque
KG5QDM	Alex Sandoval	Albuquerque
KG5QDH	Gilbert Carrillo	Albuquerque
KG5QDI	Stephanie Ledesma	Albuquerque
KG5QGW	Manuel Borjas	Albuquerque
KG5QDN	Victor Zarate	Albuquerque
KG5QGH	Claire Soucy	Albuquerque
KG5QGV	Matthew Jingle	Albuquerque
KG5QGL	Joseph West	Albuquerque
KG5QGI	Lita Suina	Albuquerque
KG5QNB	Joseph Barfoot	Albuquerque
KG5QDE	Abigail Bass	Albuquerque
KG5QDF	Gary Beyer	Albuquerque
KG5QND	Benjamin Baca	Albuquerque
KG5QNC	Paul Blair	Albuquerque
KG5QGK	Lidia Szczepaniak	Albuquerque
KG5QGJ	Edward Szczepaniak	Albuquerque
KG5QGF	Mark Rivera	Albuquerque
KG5QDJ	Jonah Lopez	Albuquerque
KG5QGE	Russell Ragan	Albuquerque
KG5QDL	Tyler Pittman	Albuquerque
KG5QGB	Lisa Gregoire	Rio Rancho
KG5QGD	Charles Molinari	Rio Rancho
KG5QFW	Robert Ashe	Rio Rancho
KG5QGA	Jesus Garza	Albuquerque
KG5QJQ	Lawrence Kelly	Santa Fe
KG5QGG	John Smedly	Taos
KG5QJM	Daniel Smith	Las Cruces
KG5QJF	Robert Simpson	Mesilla Park
KG5QCI	Nathan Chavez	Carrizozo
KG5QCM	Falon Sparks	Capitan
KG5QCJ	Joseph Garcia	Ruidoso
KG5QCL	Crystal Everett	Ruidoso
KG5QCK	Kristin Parsons	Ruidoso Downs

Celebration of Highway Route 66 by reliving old memories and stories of this historic U.S. highway. Hey, what could be more fun than operating a SES from an old Rt. 66 trading post/gas station or diner located in the Arizona desert?

If the creative spirit strikes you, the SES universe is wide open (pun intended) and there are plenty of willing participants.

## New Mexico TechFest -- Call for Presentations

Brian N5ZGT

The third annual New Mexico TechFest, an ARRL-sanctioned operating specialty event organized by Rocky Mountain Ham Radio - New Mexico, will take place on Saturday, February 25, 2017. This unique event will be a day of quality presentations, demonstrations, and instruction provided by some of New Mexico's leading technical hams on a variety of emerging and relevant topics within amateur radio to advance and expand attendees' technical knowledge, facilitate collaboration, and discuss ideas with one another.

TechFest is open to all interested hams and will occur at the New Mexico Veterans' Memorial Event Center located at 1100 Louisiana Blvd SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108. Admission is \$10; online registration will open and be announced in the next few weeks.

\*\*\* CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS UNDERWAY: High quality presentations on emerging and relevant amateur radio technical topics, techniques, and applications are being sought for the 2017 New Mexico TechFest. Presentations will generally be 50 minutes in length. Hams interested in presenting should submit abstracts about their proposed topic for consideration by January 15. Visit the New Mexico TechFest website noted below for submission details and key dates.

Additionally, a limited number of AC-powered tables will be provided at TechFest for attendees wishing to conduct ham-related technology/project demonstrations or short posterboard presentations at various times throughout the event. Hams interested in participating in this aspect of TechFest should likewise submit an abstract describing their proposed demonstration/posterboard for consideration by January 15.

Further details about the New Mexico TechFest, for both attendees as well as potential presenters (including a printable event flyer suitable for posting on ham listserves, your club's website, or your club's newsletter) can be found at <http://www.rmham.org/wordpress/new-mexico-techfest> <<http://www.rmham.org/wordpress/new-mexico-techfest>>

### Ed James KA8JMW

New Mexico  
Section Manager  
ka8jmw@arrl.net

### Assistant Section Managers

Southern NM -  
Robert Truitt  
KE5OFK

Northern NM - Bill  
Boedeker NM5BB

Don Grab N5BIS

### Section Youth Coordinators

Bob Longoria N5JH

Phil Darling KF5LEF

Sue Darling KF5LEG

### Affiliated Club Coordinator

Art Priebe N5ART

### Official Observer Coordinator

Jerry Boyd WB8WFK

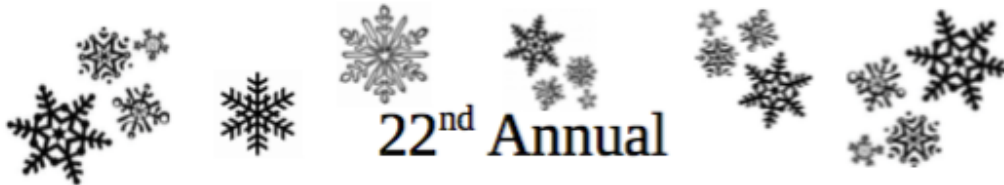
### Section Emergency Coordinator

Bill Mader K8TE

If you are interested in an open leadership position, please contact Ed James.

# Community Contributions

Please submit your club or event's flyer to ka8jmw@arrl.org to be included in the Section Newsletter.



## Amateur/Ham Radio Winter Tailgate Swapfest



**An ARRL Sanctioned Event**  
Sponsored by the 146.580 Simplex Group



**Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
**Sunrise 'til Noon**

– No Admission Charge – No Vendor Space Fee –  
**Look – Buy – Sell – Trade – Visit**

*New location for 2017:*

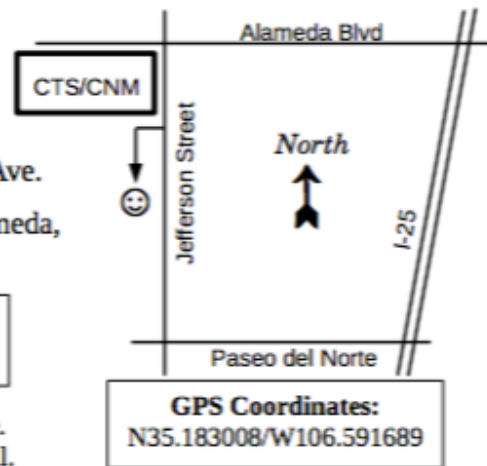
**CNM Advanced Technology Center**  
4800 Alameda Blvd NE, Albuquerque NM

Southeast Parking Lot – Enter via Jefferson Ave.

CTS/CNM Entrance is 1 block South of Alameda,  
then West off Jefferson.

Talk-In via the W5CSY Caravan Club Repeaters  
145.330 – , 100Hz PL and 444.000 + 100Hz PL

Breakfast burritos and coffee will be offered on site.  
Bring your own table/tailgate and lots of stuff to sell.



### DRESS WARM!

**This is an outdoor event. No indoor facilities are available.**

For more information contact Gary, KH6JTM – 505-401-3390