

# NM SECTION



Serving Ham Radio Operators throughout New Mexico

Volume II - Issue III

## Section Manager's Note

Ed James, KA8JMW - ARRL NM Section Manager

March has been a busy month! There are several new additions to the Field Organization for New Mexico's Section:

Jim Lommen KC7QY, Technical Coordinator

Pete Spotts NM5PS, Public Information Coordinator

Ed Poccia KC2LM, Assistant Section Manager for Education Outreach

### District Emergency Coordinators:

John Nihart N5JFN, Bernalillo County

Dan Gofrey N2RDO, Grant Count

Michael Daley N5SJ, McKinley County

Robert Witters AC6MH, Santa Fe & San Miguel Counties

Garry Blosser NM5GB, Chavez County

### Emergency Coordinators:

Allan Borkin WB6LZH, Bernalillo

Evelyn Lord KE5GLR, Santa Fe County

Christopher Petroff W5KCP, Bernalillo County

Bill Minton W4SOF, Bernalillo County

Please welcome the new members to our team and thank them for their service. If you are passionate about Ham Radio, please reach out; there is most likely a capacity in which you can serve. Find more information about the ARRL Field Organization: [arrl.org/field-organization](http://arrl.org/field-organization)

## Upcoming Events

### New Mexico QSO Party

Saturday April 8<sup>th</sup>

[newmexicoqsoparty.org/wp/](http://newmexicoqsoparty.org/wp/)

### Albuquerque Spring Tailgate

Saturday April 29<sup>th</sup>

### Mesilla Valley Radio Club 2017 Bean Feed

Saturday May 6, Las Cruces

[n5bl.org/beanfeed/beanfeed.htm](http://n5bl.org/beanfeed/beanfeed.htm)

### Central States VHF Society Conference

July 27-30, Albuquerque

[2017.csvhfs.org/](http://2017.csvhfs.org/)

### Albuquerque Duke City Hamfest

August 11-13, Albuquerque

[dukecityhamfest.org/](http://dukecityhamfest.org/)

## Central States VHF Conference is coming to New Mexico

The Central States VHF (CSVHF) Conference Is the preeminent VHF+ amateur radio conference in the nation. This year's conference is being hosted by Rocky Mountain Ham Radio and will be held in Albuquerque on July 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>

This year's conference at a glance includes the following activities.

- ¥ A Thursday evening Family Activity
- ¥ Luncheon, Dinner Banquets, evening Hospitality Suites
- ¥ Technical and non-technical VHF+ presentations
- ¥ Technical VHF+ poster board presentations
- ¥ Rover row and Dish bowl
- ¥ VHF-101 and VHF-102 presentation series for aspiring and beginning VHF+ ops
- ¥ Noise Figure measurement
- ¥ VHF+ equipment swap fest
- ¥ Antenna range/shootout
- ¥ Family oriented activities
- ¥ Prizes
- ¥ VHF+ related Vendors

Keep an eye at <http://2017.csvhfs.org/> for more information as planning progresses.

## Ham Population Report

	Novice	Tech	General	Advanced	Extra	Total
<b>NM</b>	316	3,580	1,385	364	1,247	6,622
<b>USA</b>	9,725	372,908	172,689	44,309	143,351	743,182

## QRP Operation Equals Fun

Judy WB5LYJ

For many amateur radio enthusiasts, more power equals more contacts and a greater effective range of coverage. There is, however, a growing segment of the radio community that derives satisfaction in reduced power communications. This is referred to as QRP operation.

Many in the Ham Radio community define QRP power as 5 watts or less, some even operate in the milliwatt range. To maximize the QRP signal's effectiveness CW is often the mode of choice. The CW mode is much more efficient than SSB, CW's power spectrum is narrow, about 30Hz vs. 3kHz for SSB, with a signal strength several "S" units higher. The QRP'er is challenged to maximize this low power by honing radio operator skills and using more efficient antenna designs. This added challenge is augmented with some very positive advantages, such as: portability, simple design implementation with a fewer common electronic components, and lower cost.

Several ham radio manufacturers offer a variety of QRP radios. Some of the pricy, but full featured transceivers, include the Yaesu FT-817ND HF/UHF/VHF transceiver, LNR Precision's LD-5 and LD-11 and the Elecraft KX2 and KX3 transceiver. Minimalists may prefer a MFJ single band "Cub" CW transceiver or a "Mountain Topper" by LNR Precision; both available as kits or factory assembled. Low-cost options are also easy to find, but may have limited band coverage and may be limited in features and may require assembly. You can find fully unassembled transceivers, such as the BitX 40 SSB, 40-meter SSB transceiver kit for \$59.00 (with no case). For those Hams who prefer kit-building, the website <http://QRPme.com> offers a wide selection of QRP buying options; including transceivers, QRP accessories, and even features kit-building hints.

QRP is especially enticing to Hams that use digital modes containing FEC (Forward Error Correction Code), such as MT-63, MFSK-16, and Olivia. Some of the non-FEC modes are CW, PSK-31, PSK-63, and PSK-128, and RTTY.

Finally, for QRP Contesters, there are many QRP unique operating awards and contests available throughout the United States. Some of the awards are "Worked All States",

## 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: 1201/67.	1201	676
NM.Breakfast Club: 784/60.	784	60
Caravan Club Net: 77/10.	77	10
SCAT Net: 1011/221.	1011	221
Yucca Net: 374/62.	374	62
Four Corners Net: 559/31.	559	31
Rusty's Raider's Net: 396/113.	396	113
Valencia County ARA Net: 34/19.	34	19
Tri-County ARES Nets: 66/6.	66	6
Tri-County ARES Simplex Net: 3/1.	3	1
East Mountain FM Simplex Net: 26/6.	26	6
KC5JBO Memorial Simplex Net: 47/0.	47	0
NM. D-Star Voice Net: 73/8.	73	8
144 Mhz. SSB Net: 34/0.	34	0
432 Mhz. SSB Net: 17/0.	17	0
NM. Department of Health Net: 166/2.	166	2
NM. ARES/RACES Statewide Ecomm Net: 10/13.	10	13
Bernalillo County ARES V/UHF Net: 43/24.	43	24
Northern NM. Amateur Radio Net: 44/2.	44	2

"Worked All Continents", and "DX Century Club" awards. During the annual ARRL's Field Day contest, QRP contacts are given bonus points for 5 watts or less (DC), with a five X multiplier per contact. Many QRP clubs such as the North American QRP CW Club (NAQCC) or the Flying Pigs have monthly operating events. Some of last year's NPOTA activations and most of SOTA activations are done with portable QRP stations. With all this and more, QRP, or less power translates to more FUN.

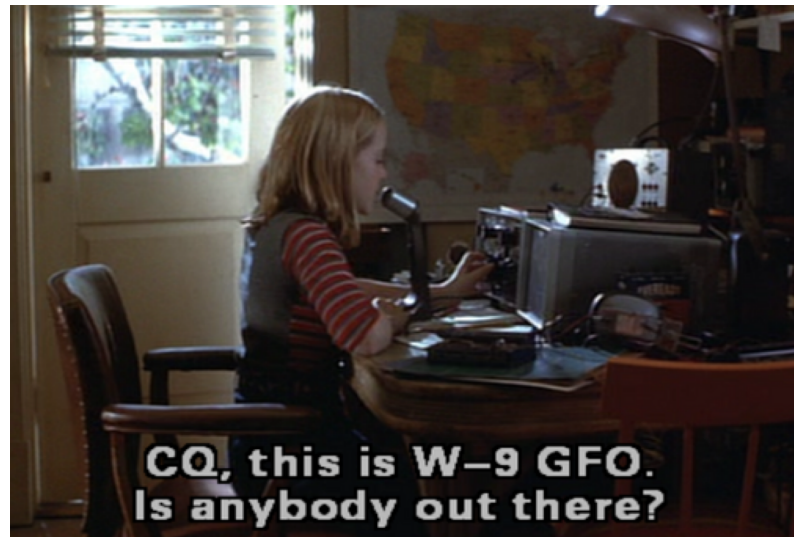
## "Contact" Anniversary

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Dave Finley N1IRZ - dfinley@aoc.nrao.edu

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the release of the Movie "Contact" by Warner Brothers. National Radio Astronomy Observatory is planning to make this anniversary the theme of our October Very Large Array Open House.

Among the displays and events we would like to do is to make ham radio a part of the anniversary event, since, in the film, young Ellie gets interested in science through ham radio, elmered by her dad. The scenes in the movie of her operating with her dad show a Collins KWM-2 with matching speaker and mic.



While we can't transmit at the VLA, I thought it would be nice to have an example of that rig on display to promote amateur radio. If have or know of someone who has such a rig that could be on display during the event?

It will be Saturday, 7 October 2017.

## Silent Key Report

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We regret to report the following keys are now silent:

Robbie Arvidson, N4CHK.

Albuquerque, NM.

Passed 2/19/17, Greenbrier, AR., Age 89.

Obituary ABQ Journal, 2/22/17

**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

**Assistant Section Manager for Education Outreach**

Ed Poccia KC2LM

**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**

Jay Miller W5WHN, acting

**Technical Coordinator**

Jim Lommen, KC7QY

**Public Information Coordinator**

Pete Spotts NM5PS

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

**New Ham Report**

Call	Name	City
KG5RYP	Sarah Bryce	Edgewood
KG5RZA	Martin Thieme	Albuquerque
KG5RQO	Marcan Mcqueen	Albuquerque
KG5RYR	Christopher Vigil	Santa Fe
KG5RVM	Brandon Turner	White Rock
AG5IV	Richard Fletcher	Elephant Butte
KG5RRX	Steven Barks	Las Cruces
KG5RYS	Robert Weaver	Las Cruces
KG5RUV	Brandon Byford	Las Cruces
KG5RUW	Jeremy Choo	Las Cruces
KG5RRT	Cotter Whiting	Las Cruces
KG5RYQ	Rebecca Jack	Clovis