

2017	Local Oscillator	October
	<h1>Local Oscillator</h1>	
<b>Mesilla Valley Radio Club</b>		

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<b>Current Events</b>			<b>Table of Contents</b>
Date	Event	Time	
Sat	Informal at Cracker Barrel	6:00 AM	Old Radio Ham Unclassified Notice Club Meeting Minutes Board Minutes Club Location Club Officers Membership Application
M, W, F	Informal Wal-Mart (West)	10:00 AM	
Wed	MVRC Net 146.64	6:45 PM	
Oct 3	Builder's Group Club House	7PM	
Oct 7	Coffee Club House	8AM	
Oct 7	Business meeting Club House	8:45 AM	
Oct 5	Board Meeting Club House	7 PM	
Oct 10	Linux -SIG Club House	7 PM	
Oct 17	Builders Group Club House	7 PM	
Oct 24	Linux - SIG Club House	7 PM	
Oct 20, 21	Socorro Hamfest		
For more events see <a href="http://www.n5bl.org/calendar">http://www.n5bl.org/calendar</a>			



More information at <http://swantenna.com>



**N5CWW shows his Old Radio at the SNMST**

## **The Articles for This Month**

### **Old Radio**

The photograph above shows N5CWW, Charlie Welch, showing off his AM radio from the 1930's which was displayed at the Southern New Mexico State Fair at the end of September. It was a farm radio which operated off of a 32 volt battery. The battery was usually placed on a shelf below the radio itself; but, because these batteries are almost impossible to get now, Charlie built an AC power supply and set it in the space which the battery usually occupied.

The photograph of the inside of the radio (next page) shows the large four gang tuning capacitor which was used. One of the gangs was used for each of the two TRF stages and for the antenna input. The two RF tubes and the detector tube can be seen near the capacitors. The fourth capacitor was used for the detector stage. There were no IF stages, so more RF stages were used than is common today.



The fair location is very noisy, so Charlie had to be quite inventive to get a real AM signal so that people could actually practice tuning in a real AM signal. He actually used a modulated signal generator to provide a controlled source for this display.

## **HAM? HAM radio? Amateur Radio? amateur radio!**

KB6NU

On the ARRL PR mailing list, we've been discussing the proper way to refer to amateur radio. What brought this up was an email from one list subscriber, Richard, WB6NAH, who was (rightfully) proud of the work that his club—the [Skagit Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Club](#)—was doing. He noted that they were even featured in the police department's emergency preparedness brochure. The brochure refers to "HAM radio" and "HAM radio operators."

Referring to amateur radio in this way just drives me crazy. "Ham radio" is just a nickname for amateur radio, and "HAM" is certainly not an acronym for anything. I congratulated Richard on getting his club included in the brochure, but noted, "...it's not HAM radio! It's either 'amateur radio' or 'ham radio' (ham is not an acronym). I hate to be nitpicky about this, but as a professional writer, this usage just drives me crazy." He replied, "I agree on Amateur Radio, that was the city's call."

That kicked off the discussion.

One ham replied to me privately, "Thank you...I am continually trying to explain that it is not an acronym or abbreviation."

Another replied to the list:

The most correct term is "amateur radio" or alternatively "ham radio", both written in normal case. If using "ham radio", it is a best practice to first write "amateur (ham) radio" in the first non-header/non-title occurrence.

Some will write "Amateur Radio" in proper noun format (first letters in caps) and while this may be acceptable to many and in certain venues, anyone using a style handbook will say it is incorrect. Less correct is to write "Ham Radio" in proper noun format as this is a slang term, albeit a popular one. Of course either term may be written as proper nouns when part of a title or name of an organization.

Least correct is to write "HAM" in all caps; as stated by others, ham is not an abbreviation or acronym. Writing it as "HAM" is completely wrong, will drive many people bonkers, and should be avoided at all costs.

Ward, N0AX, offered this explanation:

To clarify where the capitalization originated, there is a long-standing ARRL Board Directive, decades old, stipulating that the words "Amateur Radio" be capitalized in ARRL publications and documents. Most non-amateur publications return it to the lower-case style that is used for non-proper nouns.

One guy got a little miffed that we were wasting our time discussing this at all:

You know, I've been reading this thread and I think people are getting too hung up on very minor details. The bottom line they got PR. So something wasn't spelled right or capitalized, so what. The message got out and IMHO that's the bottom line. Let's not waste any more bandwidth on this.

I agreed that it was great that they were included in the brochure, and that we were probably beating this topic to death, but I don't think these are minor details. I said that PR professionals pride themselves on getting the details right. So should amateur radio PR people.

I'll give the final word to Dan, AI4GK. He wrote:

I don't think that standardizing what we call ourselves qualifies as getting hung up on minor details. If we don't have a standardized way of referring to us, how can we expect a public, who already is confused, to understand who we are?

I don't think that you can argue with this. Let's avoid confusion by using "amateur radio" when writing about our hobby/service. I'd even urge the ARRL to rethink their use of "Amateur Radio." Sometimes, it may be OK to use "ham radio," but it's just not correct to use "HAM radio" or just "HAM."

## Unclassified Ad

Fritz N5IAC would like to sell his spare Emergency Generator. It is a Craftsman 3800 watt pull start generator. It was serviced Last year and had the valves adjusted. It comes with 10-30 synthetic Oil, oil filter and air filter. It is in good working condition. Reason for Selling is he could no longer pull the starter cord to start it due to his Medical condition and had replaced it with an electric start generator.

He is asking \$400 for it. He can be reached at: 575-522-2376.

## Notice

KB5YIW

The Socorro and Tech Amateur Radio Association's Hamfest is scheduled for Saturday, October 21, 2017 in Socorro, NM. The banquet, to be held On Friday, October 20, features Paul Harden NA5N noted local historian and QRP aficionado will speak about the "Trinity Test – the day the sun rose twice."

We encourage you and your associates to attend. Up-to-date information is available online at <http://www.socorroara.org/hamfest.html>. You may download the event flyer from <http://www.socorroara.org/temp/Hamfest/flyer.pdf>.

## Monthly Club Meeting

Kyle Gesswein  
substitute secretary

At 8:45 am on Sept. 2nd 2017 club president Sven called the MVRC membership meeting to order.

18 attendees were present.

Treasurer Furman Smith reported on the reduction of property taxes and the at this time withdrawal of the club protest. He also reported on monthly transactions.

George reported on nets and a race on Sat. the 15th.

Bob Bennett reported the facilities were in good shape

Rob Truit reported the repeaters were in good shape and the county was changing a tower in Caballo

Cash Olsen reported on builders group and presented pictures of and actual items constructed by Dave Hassall, Dave Anderson And Cash Olsen, some for Eclipse monitoring.

Sven reported on a Univ. invitation

Charles Welch spoke on media coverage of Houston Ham radio efforts

Sven adjourned the meeting after a unopposed motion by Cash and a second by Kyle

Cash then introduced a 40 minute film from Dr. Shive of Bell Labs demonstrating wave motion and standing waves.

## Monthly Board Meeting

### Thursday 31 August 2017 Board Meeting of the Mesilla Valley Radio Club

**Meeting Location:** MVRC clubhouse

**Officers and Board Members Present:**

Sven Breden (President) *K5SHB*, Howard Brewington (Secretary) *KJ5NJ*, Furman Smith (Treasurer) *KF5KHL*, Alex Burr *K5XY*, George Kopp *KD5OHA*, Bob Bennett *AD5LJ*, Rob Truitt *KE5OFK*, Cash Olsen *KD5SSJ*, and Earl Drexler *N5TMT*.

**Visitors/Guests Present:** None

**Meeting called to order:** 7:04 p.m. by club president Sven Breden.

**Business Discussion**

Sven Breden said that he'd paid the club's water bill. He also informed the group that the MCRC would now be required to pay for trash pickup at the clubhouse. And, Sven has been working with NMSU to revise/update the club's scholarship program. Sven reported that he had a volunteer for club secretary since Howard Brewington would be stepping down after two years of service.

Bob Bennett went to Albuquerque to pickup the club's award for Ham Radio Club of the Year, but learned that the award would be presented to the club at a later date when Ed James was in Cruces. Bob also informed the board members that he'd be stepping down as the caretaker of the MVRC clubhouse in 2018. Sven plans to ask the membership for volunteers.

Alex Burr mentioned that he needed articles for the Local Oscillator.

Howard Brewington, club secretary, reported that we had one new member, viz., Greg Penn. Howard asked Furman if he'd had time to spray the clubhouse since a black widow spider was seen in the radio room. Furman said that he had sprayed.

Furman Smith passed out a profit and loss statement for August. Furman also mentioned that we need tighter security on our storage building. Furman said that the county offered the MVRC a reduction in our property taxes, but he recommended that we revisit the issue in two years.

Cash Olsen is unhappy with MVRC's cleaning service and wants to get estimates from other cleaning-service agencies.

Earl Drexler recommended that MVRC participate in the 2017 Winter Field Day. And, the date Earl's selected for the MVRC Christmas party is be 02 December.

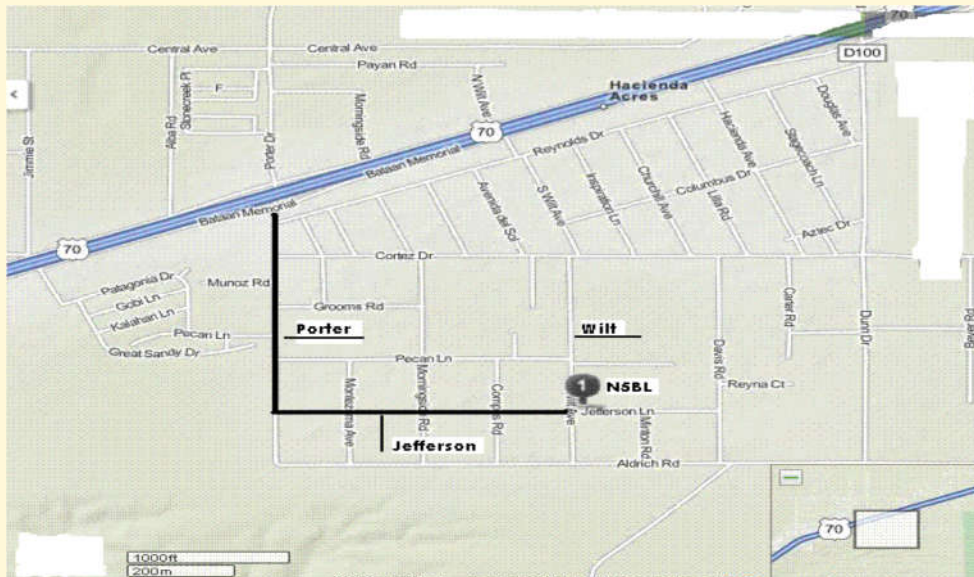
George Kopp *KD5OHA* said that he needed volunteers for the upcoming road race in September. Contact George for details.

Rob Truitt said that the club's repeaters are all working normally. And, the county's antenna tower, where our 146.76 antenna lives, will be replaced soon.

**Board Meeting adjourned:** 8:07 pm

## CLUB INFORMATION

The MVRC Clubhouse is located at the intersection of Wilt and Jefferson. To find the clubhouse, set your destination on your GPS receiver as 32 degrees 22.961 minutes and -106 degrees 41.44 minutes. If you don't own a GPS, take the Porter exit near the firehouse on US 70. It is about 5 miles east from the I 25 interchange. Go south on Porter until you come to Jefferson. There turn left toward the mountains and go to Wilt. You will see the beam on the corner. The treasurer would be delighted to receive your contribution for landscaping and furnishing. More information at <http://n5bl.org>



### Officers

Office	Name	Call	Phone	E-Mail
President	Sven Breden	K5SHB	635-0414	<a href="mailto:sven.breden@gmail.com">sven.breden@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Howard Brewington	KJ5NJ	575-496-8616	<a href="mailto:comet_brewington@msn.com">comet_brewington@msn.com</a>
Treasurer	Furman Smith	KF5KHL	382-5982	<a href="mailto:smithf@zianet.com">smithf@zianet.com</a>
Board Members				
Education	Cash Olsen	KD5SSJ	382-1917	<a href="mailto:kd5ssj@arrl.net">kd5ssj@arrl.net</a>
Clubhouse	Bob Bennett	AD5LJ	382-0148	<a href="mailto:rpbennett1@comcast.net">rpbennett1@comcast.net</a>
Newsletter	Alex. Burr	K5XY	522-2528	<a href="mailto:k5xy@arrl.net">k5xy@arrl.net</a>
Repeater	Robert Truitt	KE5OFK	649-4173	<a href="mailto:robtruitt@zianet.com">robtruitt@zianet.com</a>
Commo	George Kopp	KD5OHA	649-9503	<a href="mailto:geokd5oha@yahoo.com">geokd5oha@yahoo.com</a>
Special	Earl Drexler	N5TMT	639-0556	<a href="mailto:earld7@yahoo.com">earld7@yahoo.com</a>

**JOIN THE MESILLA VALLEY RADIO CLUB**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

*If you want confirmation that your payment was received and processed, please include your email address*

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ PO Box# \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

To join the Mesilla Valley Radio Club or renew your membership, please complete this form and print or cut out. Send it to **“Treasurer, MVRC, PO Box 1443, Las Cruces, NM 88004”** with annual dues (\$35 single, \$45 family)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Method of payment: Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Call Sign(S) \_\_\_\_\_ Family Membership Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

License Class (E, A, G, T, N) \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Member? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

Are You a ARRL Volunteer Examiner (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be added to the MVRC reflector (email information system)? \_\_\_\_\_

**Intrests**

Computer \_\_\_ Contests \_\_\_ Digital \_\_\_ Elmer \_\_\_ Emergency Communications \_\_\_

Field Day \_\_\_ Packet \_\_\_ Programs \_\_\_ Public Service \_\_\_ Publicity \_\_\_ RFI \_\_\_

Repeater \_\_\_ Social \_\_\_ License Classes \_\_\_ Teach Licensing Classes \_\_\_

Volunteer Examiner \_\_\_ QRSS \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments**