

# ***BOSQUE BEACON***

*Newsletter of the Bosque Amateur Radio  
Club of New Mexico*



NOVEMBER 2023

EDITOR, JERRY ACETO K6LIE **CLUB MEETING NOVEMBER 4, 10 AM**

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## **President's Corner - Jerry Aceto K6LIE**



The holidays are quickly approaching. I would like to wish all our members and your families a wonderful holiday season filled with family and friends and good food!

I plan to visit the police station where we hold our meetings and talk to the chief to see if they will be doing a charity drive this year. In the past, they collected warm coats and jackets for the kids and plush animals for the youngsters. Officers would give the plush animals to the younger kids when they were involved in a situation that made them uneasy. The toys would help settle the toddlers down and make them feel more comfortable. I will report to the membership at our November meeting to discuss this activity and let you all know what the officers will be doing this year. We have always participated in this activity around the holidays in the past and I would like to continue. Also, we could discuss food donations for the holidays.

Our webmaster, Art Nichols, KI5GOL, has been working on our website and has done several updates that allow him to make changes. He now has figured out how to get a calendar on the site that can be populated with our activities. This was no easy task for Art. It seems that Word Press is not real friendly, but Art is becoming expert at the task! The newsletters are being posted as well as all past newsletters. I have updated the "From The President" section on the first page for next month and also added the upcoming program info. So the website is really coming along, thanks to Art.

Everyone have a wonderful Thanksgiving and we will see you at the November meeting!!

Jerry K6LIE

## Bosque Amateur Radio Club



**N5BRC**  
bosquearc.com



### Club Net

**The Bosque ARC** hosts a **Club Net** *Every Saturday Morning at 10:00 am local time except for the first Saturday of the month* when we meet in person for our club meeting.

146.900 (- 600 kHz) pl 67.0

442.450 (+ 5000 kHz) pl 67

449.550 (- 5000 kHz) pl 71.9

### Club Meetings

- \*1st Saturday of the Month, 10 AM
- \*Always a program that deals with Ham Radio
- \*APD NW Area Command on Ellison, across from Cibola HS

### Activities

- \* School Visitations to Promote S.T.E.M.
- \* Field Day Activations
- \* Gatherings for Breakfast,
  - \* Thursday mornings at 7 AM,
  - \* Flying Star, 10700 Corrales Rd

**OCTOBER PROGRAM PRESENTED BY REBECCA MERCURI, Ph.D., K3RPM**  
**This program will be a Zoom presentation**

**Talk Title: The MORE Project for Amateur Radio**

**Abstract:** Far from being an obsolete hobby, Amateur Radio has become increasingly important in a wide variety of applications. These include equipment design and development, emergency operations, and international and outer-space communications, using digital and analog modes. The Make Operating Radio Easier (MORE) Project is a grant-funded initiative started during the COVID-19 pandemic, with the goal of training and licensing 500 new Amateur Radio operators by June 2026. MORE coordinates with trainers and volunteer examiners, and pays the testing and licensing fees for each new student candidate. A primary goal of MORE is to increase the numbers of youth and non-males who continue to be under-represented in the Amateur Radio population, but all ages and genders are welcome to join and participate. Everyone who completes a 6-session MORE Course and successfully licenses, also receives a Get On The Air (GOTA) kit that includes a dual-band Yaesu handheld radio, plus accessories. This talk will describe experiences and lessons learned from our diverse student population (ranging from age 12 to 80+), along with methods we used to improve student retention and success.

**Speaker Bio:** Rebecca Mercuri, Ph.D., K3RPM, has been a licensed radio operator for over 40 years. She is the founding President and lead Forensic Computer Scientist at Notable Software, Inc., where her caseload has included matters involving contraband, murder, viruses and malware, business disputes, and election recounts (most notably Bush v. Gore). She has testified on the federal, state, and local level as well as to the U.K. Cabinet. Rebecca's background also includes industry positions as a software engineer at RCA's David Sarnoff Research Center and AT&T Holmdel, professorships at Drexel University, Bryn Mawr College, and Drew University, and research fellowships at Harvard University. She is a life member of the Association of Computing Machinery and the Audio Engineering Society, and a Senior Distinguished Contributor to the IEEE Computer Society. More about Dr. Mercuri can be found at <[notablesoftware.com](http://notablesoftware.com)> and <[n2re.org/m-o-r-e-project](http://n2re.org/m-o-r-e-project)>.



**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**

Welcome to our newest member-Thomas Benson,  
KJ5COZ

Whether you are a new ham, a seasoned old timer, or just thinking about becoming a ham, I would like to invite you to our meetings to take in our presentations, join us for breakfast on Thursday mornings, or participate in any of our activities. If you like what you see and hear, we would love to have you join our club. If you have any questions regarding ham radio, we can answer them.

Hope to see you at our meetings!  
73.

Jerry Aceto K6LIE  
President, Bosque ARC

**VE TESTING**

If you would like to upgrade your license, or take your first amateur radio test, Mathias Gibbens, K0WBG, holds licensing exams after our regular club meeting on the first Saturday of the month. Testing starts around 12:30. If you would like to test or know anyone else that would like to test, contact Mathias at Ab-qRRVET@gmail.com to sign up.

**CLUB MEETING ADDRESS**

APD NW Command Center, 10401  
Cibola Loop NW, Albuquerque,  
NM 87114 (across the street from  
Cibola High school)

**CLUB ADDRESS**

Bosque ARC  
1023 Purple Aster Dr.  
Bernalillo, NM 87004

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**REPORT ON JOTA 2023 ON OCTOBER 21, 2023 BY N2GJ**

Our club participated in the Scout Jamboree on the Air. Gerry Jurrens, N2GJ sent this report to to Bob Longoria, N5JH:

**OPERATORS:**

N5JH BOB LONGORIA  
K6LIE JERRY ACETO  
KC5QOC JOHN MOCHO  
N2GJ GERRY JURRENS

**VISITING HAMS:**

KA0B BILL (FROM RIO RANCHO)  
KE5WTM PETE

**VISITORS TO MY SITE (SISTER CITIES PARK, ABQ, NM)**

Ethan, Scout, Austen, Dad  
Xandor, Scout (Troop 85), Leah, Mom  
Molly (walking her dog, said her Dad, is SK) -- ROBERT E MAXTON W0EKZ  
Robbie, a young man from the neighborhood riding a Suzuki motorcycle, nice chat  
Tripp, Scout (Pack 409), Erica Mom  
Logan, Scout (Pack 409), James, Dad (Logan said "This was better than expected!")  
Beatriz, child, Rebecca, Mom  
Alejandro, Scout (Troop 444?)  
Sofia, child, Lluvia, Mom

**QSO INFO (ELECRAFT KX3, 15W, WOLF RIVER COIL VERTICAL ANTENNA)**

DMR TalkGroup was 907 (I didn't make any contacts)

D\*Star used REF033A

QSO I ran the Bosque Amateur Radio Club of NM Saturday AM net on the Upper Rio FM  
Society linked repeaters (24 check-ins in 45 minutes)

QSO Sean AI5IZ was going to participate but Kelly (XYL) broke foot/ankle

QSO Rhett, Luke, Zeke, Scouts, talked with KD0JUD Michael in CO on 7.250 MHz (Pack/Troop 417)

QSO Lily, child spoke to Bob Wertz NF7E at a Scout camp in AZ (Camp Raymond) on 7.250 MHz

QSO Spoke with Susan Matzner K1IHY (BARC member) in CO, on 20m

QSO Spoke with Randy Uy N6HU POTA #20640

QSO Checked into the High Noon net on 7.240 Mhz. NCS was Michael KD0JUD (see above)

QSO 14.269 WW1USA USB, 59+/55 Charles (National World War 1 Museum Amateur  
Radio Club, Kansas City, MO)

QSO 14.278 W0BSA Chris 59/59 USB (grew up in ABQ! Lives in Northern CO near Wyoming  
border) spoke with several of the Scouts.(LONGS PEAK BSA RADIO CLUB)

QSO 14.009 CW Roger in Atlanta, GA, 599/559.

\*\*\*\*\*

I also spoke with several scouts and their parents. Also made about 21 FT-8 and SSB contacts using my RS-918 10 watt SDR rig and my Wolf River Coils antenna. Farthest contact was into Japan. We all had a great time. Weather was perfect and we had a nice turnout. Thanks to Bob Longoria for providing lunch!

Jerry K6LIE



**FUN IN THE PARK ON JOTA DAY!**



Gerry Jurens



Bob Longoria



John Mocho



Jerry Aceto. If you blow the picture up far enough, you can just see the qrp rig and mini laptop!



**INFORMATION FROM ARRL REGARDING THE 60 METER BAND.**

The FCC has issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) Docket Number 23-120 which would reduce power on 60 meters from 100 watts ERP (Effective Radiated Power) to the equivalent of 9.5 watts ERP. The NPRM would replace the current five channels (currently each with a 100-watt power limit) with a 15 KHz continuous spectrum from 5351.5 to 5366.5 KHz, but limiting power to the equivalent of 9.5 watts ERP. ARRL is proposing to keep the current five channels AND add the docket's proposed 15 KHz of continuous spectrum, all at a power level of 100 watts ERP.

It's important to note that in 2022 our neighbor, Canada, enacted ARRL's position by keeping the five current channels AND adding the expanded 15 KHz of continuous spectrum, all at 100 watts. ARRL is advocating for the FCC to adopt the identical allocations and power limits which Canada put in place over a year ago.

When the FCC authorized 60-meter access for Amateur Radio operators in July 2003, the Commission cited the positive propagation attributes for emergency communications. Over the past twenty years during hurricanes, Caribbean Amateur Radio stations used 60 meters to relay critical weather and situational reports to U.S. operators. Clearly, 9.5 watts ERP would be woefully inadequate to maintain communications for these purposes.

In the May 2023 ARRL survey, members overwhelmingly pointed to Spectrum Defense as the #1 priority of the League. The Rocky Mountain Division takes this priority seriously. For the maximum impact, the FCC needs to hear from ARRL members to underscore the importance of 60 meters. Having a consistent bandplan with Canada will also ensure harmonious communications throughout most of North America.

PLEASE support the ARRL's filing in this matter.

To learn more about the NPRM and its impact on our 60-meter privileges, please visit <https://www.arrl.org/60-meter-band>. On this webpage you will find the links to file comments with the FCC. Please don't delay. A substantial response from the Ham community before the October 30 deadline is the only way to forestall the loss of our valued operating privileges. Please urge your fellow Hams to file comments as well. Protection of our Amateur Radio spectrum is our number one priority.

ARRL Rocky Mountain Division  
Director: Jeff Ryan, K0RM



## ***The Entry Level Technician License***

*Jerry Aceto K6LIE*

The "Tech" license, as everyone calls it, is the entry level license into the hobby of Amateur Radio. This license is limited in its privileges, but is still a good introduction to the hobby if utilized to its full capabilities. Unfortunately, many new hams do not use it to its full potential. Many simply acquire it for a particular purpose, such as search and rescue, communicating with family members or other reasons, never intending to pursue the hobby of amateur radio. Since it does provide a free means of communications for these purposes, it does provide a service to these folks. Unfortunately, many "mentors" simply teach to the test and never really go into the teaching of the communications arts and operating a station other than stressing the VHF/UHF handheld type of communications that is mentioned above. Many new hams pass their test, get their license and then wonder what to do with it.

If you do have an interest in learning about communications, talking to amateurs the world over and expanding your love of the communications arts, the Tech license is a good place to start. With this license you do get a combination of privileges that allow you to explore many communications possibilities. Let's start with good old basic CW. Yes, I know...Do I have to learn CW? No, you don't. Now days, it is not a prerequisite like it was years ago when it was mandatory. But CW is very easy to learn and you can carry on a conversation very nicely at 7 to 10 words per minute. With practice, your speed will increase. I mention this because the Tech allows you to operate CW on a portion of 80, 40 and 15 meters. These bands afford nationwide and worldwide communications. CW, like the data modes, works very well at low power levels. You can run a maximum of 200 watts on these bands, which is more than adequate for worldwide communications with a simple dipole antenna. The license also allows for SSB voice, data and RTTY (teletype) operation in a portion of the 10 meter band at the 200 watt level. 10 meters also affords nationwide and worldwide communications. Unfortunately, as far as I can tell, these privileges are very seldom stressed to the new ham. It appears that it is left up to new ham to find out about these great privileges, which can be difficult without further guidance.

In addition to these HF privileges, the Tech has always had the entire VHF, UHF, microwave and above spectrum to experiment with. On 6 meters (50 MHz) and above with the Tech, you have privileges that include full power up to 1500 watts and all modes. Back in the 50's when the Technician license was first introduced, it was for the purpose of experimenting with the spectrum of 50 MHz and above with no privileges below 50 MHz. In the 1990's, the Tech was combined with the Novice license, hence the addition of the basic HF privileges to the Tech. The Novice license was eventually dropped as the entry level license although it can still be renewed should you still have this license.

So if you are really interested in the communications arts and want to get your feet wet, the Tech license is the place to start since you get a little taste of everything. Once you gain a little experience, you will probably want to upgrade to expand your privileges to General and/or Extra class.

If you have the Technician license, I hope you will try all that it has to offer. Operating just 2 meters and 70 cm FM can get kind of boring considering all that you can do and learn with this entry level license.

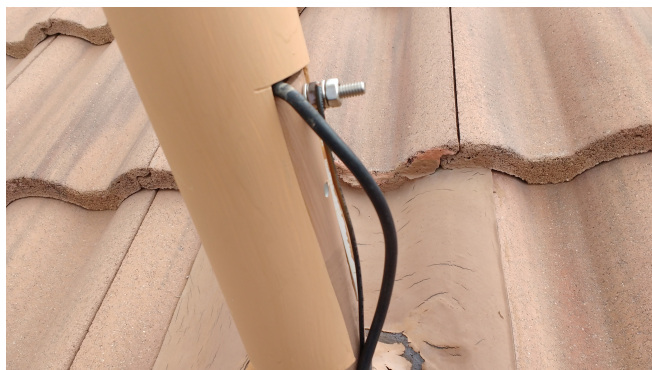


## 40 METER (OR ANY OTHER BAND) VENT ANTENNA

Jerry Aceto K6LIE

If you are plagued by CC&R's like I am, you are always looking for a way to get on HF without the antenna being obvious to the community. I thought up the idea of a vent antenna because I use a Ventanna brand antenna for 220 Mhz. I have been wanting to be able to get on 40 meters at night and thought I would give this idea a try. Problem was finding a small, short antenna that would work.

One day, I was looking at my MFJ catalog and ran across a short version of the popular Hamstick type of antennas made by MFJ. You can choose any band 6 through 75 meters. I chose the MFJ-2340T for 40 meters. These antennas are only 36 inches tall! So, I thought I would give it a try and built my vent antenna to work 40 cw. I plan to work PSK-31 also. Of course, you can tune it for the phone section if you wish. These antennas sell for about \$22.00 each.



The mounting bracket you see mounted in the vent pipe came from a typical truck stop store here in town. This one has a 3/8-24 connector on one end and a SO 239 connector on the other. Simply mount the unit in the vent with a nut and bolt as shown above. The coax plugs in the connector as shown. The wire coming off the bolt is a 1/4 wavelength radial. Tune the antenna to the section of the band you want. This antenna gives about 115 Khz bandwidth on 40 meters.

After the antenna is tuned, take a piece of PVC pipe and paint it the same color as the roof. Cut a groove in the pipe so it will slide over the mounting bolt and coax. When installing the pipe, hold it in one hand while you insert the antenna into the pipe and screw it into the mount. Then drop the pipe over the vent and screw it in two places to secure it to the vent.



Above is a picture of the Vent Antenna. At just over 3 feet tall, it does look a little taller than most vents, but I do notice other roof vents that are as tall through out the neighborhood. The picture to the left is a shot from the street. If you look hard, you can see it between the tree and the bush. So far, no body has noticed it and I am betting that no one will. In the first 2 weeks, I have worked 12 states on 40 CW, the farthest state being Hawaii. Not bad for 3 feet on 40 meters!

# FOR SALE

Hustler 6-BTV 10-80 meter Vertical.  
24 feet tall, 1KW. Purchased from Giga-  
parts 4/8/23. (original price \$299.98)

ABR Industries 3 ft RG213U w/SO239  
to Ring Terminals Split 4-inch WPHST-  
2213A-SO-RT-3. Gigaparts  
4/28/23 (Original price \$37.95)

Total Paid \$398.33.  
Make offer greater than \$300.00.  
(Save \$84.40 which I paid for shipping  
and NM sales tax)

Items are new in unopened boxes with  
original invoice available.

I decided to go with an inverted Vee and  
remote antenna tuner to keep things sim-  
ple.

Contact "Gerry With A G" Jurrens  
N2GJ

N2GJ@arri.net  
(609) 937-2315

## GERRY JURRENS, N2GJ: A SHORT HISTORY

Hi! So "Gerry With a G" has been licensed since 1965. Most of my 58 years as a ham were spent in New Jersey. I started as a Novice (5 wpm Morse code) as WN2VTT. Within a year, I upgraded to General, in NYC, near where the World Trade Center was later located. The "N" changed to a "B" and I became heavily involved in traffic handling. I upgraded to Advanced, then Extra in 1975 and changed my call to N2GJ (my initials).  
(Next Column)

I put up a 55 foot tower, had a machine shop fabricate a \$tainle\$\$ \$steel rotor plate and installed a Mosley TA36-40 yagi. This setup worked very well, but it was definitely NOT something a structural engineer would have approved! Every time a storm came up, I spent a sleepless night.

Anyway, I moved here to NM in 2016 and put up a fairly low double extended zepp antenna and, once again, got involved in traffic handling, although the NM Road Runner Traffic Net never seems to have much, if any, amateur radiogram traffic! Oh well! I dabbled on HF but the antenna, being heavily compromised, wasn't very good.

Joe Taylor K1JT, the developer of many of our digital modes, is a friend of mine. I've operated VHF/UHF contests from his QTH back in Princeton, NJ. He's a member of my Delaware Valley Radio Association (W2ZQ). I gave a presentation recently that featured some of the exciting things we're doing in the club.

I thought I'd give FT8 a try. Within days, the world of DX opened up to my modest station! I worked the TX6D DX-pedition on 40 & 30 one morning, and lots of Japanese stations, folks in Indonesia, Samoa and the Republic of Korea, and the like. I discovered that I like messing around with this mode, hopping around on different bands to see where propagation favors my signals. This morning (10/20/2023) I heard, and tried to (unsuccessfully) work BH4UTT, a club in China on 40! In my nearly 60 years as a ham, I've never even HEARD countries in this part of the world.

2,000 miles to the East, I had worked most of South America, Europe and Africa. Except for one lowly contact with India, Asia was a blank for me. Maybe that's the secret of DX success: live in the East for enough time to work everything in the East, and move to the West and start over! Anyway, I'm having a lot of fun and I hope the improving band conditions stimulate your interest in the hobby, especially if it's laid dormant for some time.

73 DE N2GJ

**CLUB SHIRTS**

These beautiful club shirts come in ladies and men's styles and sizes. We proudly wear our shirts whenever we are doing an activity that involves the public. It is a great way of promoting the club, not to mention that they look great! They are available in polo and button down long sleeve.

Contact Turbo Threads at 505 999-1234 or on line at <https://turbothreads.com> .

BTW...That snazzy club logo on the shirt and on our club banner was designed by Art Nichols, KI5GOL, one of our founding members.



**If you wish to use PayPal to pay club dues, simply go to [bosquearc.com](http://bosquearc.com) and click on the Membership and Dues tab. You will find all the info needed. When you fill out the form on line, hit Submit at the bottom of the page. This will take you to a prorated table. Since our dues are paid by the year starting in April, you will only pay a partial amount based on the month you join. Club dues are only \$20 per year.**





## EXPLORA ADULT NIGHT

The next Explora Adult Night will be on **Friday, November 17, 6pm-9pm**. The evening's theme will be Ancient Science. Bosque ARC will have a station on the air from the museum, as usual, to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the public and also to inform folks of our club. Adult Night is a fun evening devoted to adults having one evening to explore the Science Museum without the kids. Come on down. Explore the wonders of Science and talk up ham radio to the public!

### MEET OUR TEAM



Jerry Aceto K6LIE  
President



Sean O'Mara AA5IZ  
Vice President



Bob Witter W5IV  
Treasurer



Gerry Jurrens N2GJ  
Secretary

Here are email addresses of our officers should you need to contact any of us:

President - Jerry Aceto K6LIE - [jaaceto@gmail.com](mailto:jaaceto@gmail.com)

Vice President - Sean O'Mara AI5IZ - [sean.g.omarasr@gmail.com](mailto:sean.g.omarasr@gmail.com)

Secretary - Gerry Jurrens N2GJ - [n2gj@arrl.net](mailto:n2gj@arrl.net)

Treasurer - Bob Witter W5IV - [rwitter@hotmail.com](mailto:rwitter@hotmail.com)

