

The Heterodyne

Newsletter of the West Valley Amateur Radio Association

October Meeting

**“Backpack Satellite DxPedition
to the NorCal Lost Coast”
by Dave Palmer, KB5WIA**

Wednesday October 10 at 7pm

Meeting Location:

American Red Cross

Silicon Valley Chapter

2731 N. First Street at Plumeria Dr
(southwest corner) in San Jose

Map at www.wvara.org/meetings.html

WVARA Repeaters (W6PIY)

Band	Frequency	PL	Status
6 Meters	52.580- MHz	151.4 Hz	Operating
2 Meters	147.39+ MHz	151.4 Hz	Operating
1.25 Meters	223.96- MHz	156.7 Hz	Operating
0.70 Meter	441.35+ MHz	88.5 Hz	Operating
0.23 Meter	1286.2- MHz	100 Hz	Operating

Club Net

WVARA's club net is on the W6PIY repeaters each Tuesday at 8:30 pm. All repeaters are linked together during the net. The net script can be found at www.wvara.org/net.html.

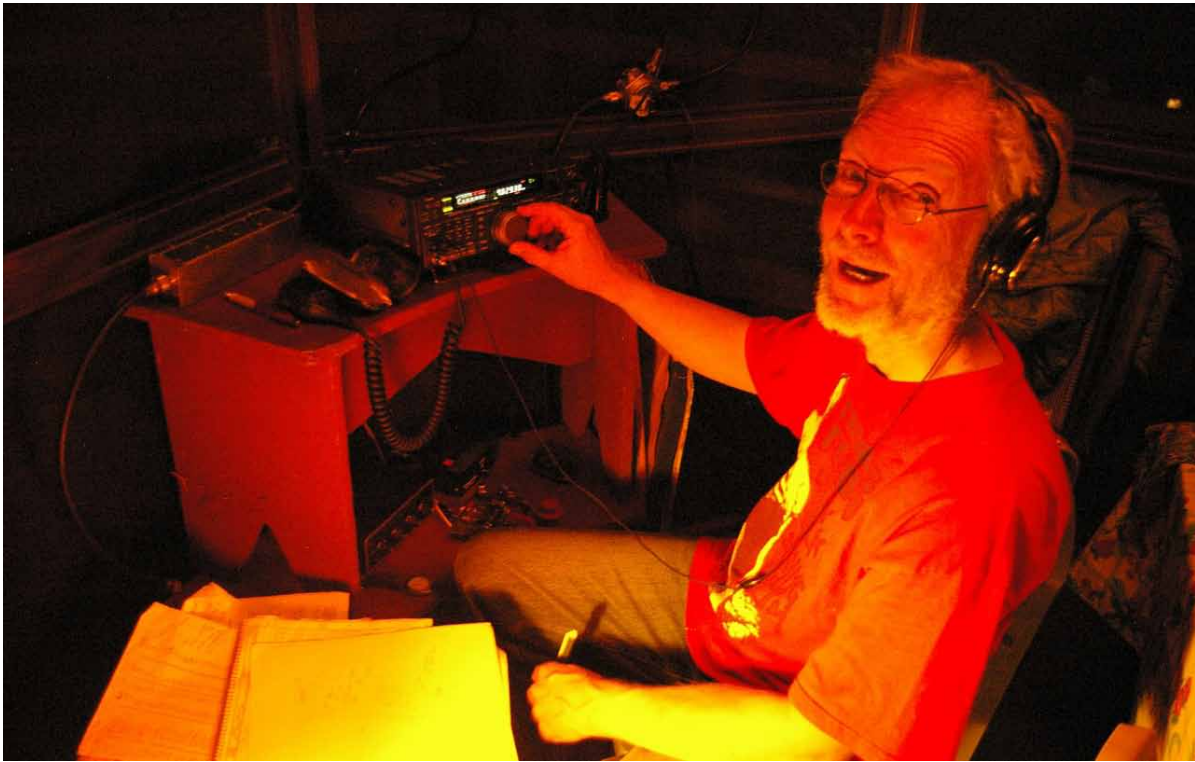
Visitors Are Welcome!

About the Meeting Speaker and Topic

In August 2011 Dave, KB5WIA, backpacked ham radio satellite gear into the remote grid square CM79, in the Northern California Lost Coast. Out of the 400+ grid squares in the continental USA, CM79 is considered to be one of the rarest and most difficult to operate from. The plan was to operate the radio from four grid squares simultaneously, and involved a remote antenna, QRP full-duplex radios, battery and solar power, and lots of mosquito repellent! Operating VHF and UHF radio from the thick forest cover was quite a challenge, but in the end Dave managed to activate CM79 and three adjacent grid squares for a number of ham satellite operators.

Dave is a member of ARRL and AMSAT, has been licensed since 1992 and holds an Amateur Advanced class license. He works in the biotechnology field and enjoys ham radio as a hobby. His main radio interests are the ham radio satellites, but also works VHF QRP and HF/VHF mobile when he gets the chance.

How I Spent My Summer by Jim Peterson, K6EI



Every summer, I spend a couple weeks with my family at a cabin by Loon Lake in northeastern Washington. While we don't have Internet connectivity, the compensation is that there's a bald eagle nest in a treetop about 500 yards from our cabin. The cabin is near the top of a 100 foot ridge on a peninsula with an open view to the north, so I usually string up some dipoles and have fun running CW on 15, 20, and 40m. Propagation is ideal to the north, so my logbook usually ends up with close to 100 Russian and Central Asian callsigns. I also set up a 3 element yagi on a 20ft mast for 50 MHz, and monitor the Magic Band's calling frequencies each day. This year's vacation saw two days with very good 6 meter sporadic E openings to Texas and Louisiana, and being in a semi-rare grid square (DN18) and a moderately rare county (Stevens County, WA) didn't hurt.



Pacificon October 12-14, 2012

Marriott Santa Clara
2700 Mission College Boulevard
Santa Clara, CA 95054
www.pacificon.org

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Club address:
West Valley Amateur Radio Assn
P.O. Box 6544
San Jose, CA 95150-6544

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The Heterodyne is published monthly by
the West Valley Amateur Radio Association
and sent to all club members via the web.
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See You At The Meeting on Wednesday!