



# RADIO-ACTIVE!

June 17, 2024, Volume 3, Issue 6



## Summer Days are here!

Summer begins with the solstice on Thursday, June 20, 2024, marking the astronomical first day of summer in the Northern Hemisphere. This June solstice (aka summer solstice) occurs when the Sun travels along its northernmost path in the sky and Earth arrives at the point in its orbit where the North Pole is at its maximum tilt (about 23.5 degrees) toward the Sun, resulting in the longest day and shortest night of the calendar year. In the Southern Hemisphere, it's the opposite: the June solstice marks the astronomical start of winter when the Sun is at its lowest point in the sky.

ARES is welcoming this summer solstice by having a **Italian themed Potluck gathering at Skypark Gazebo (361 Kings Village Road) on Wednesday, June 19th, 6pm—8pm.** This is a replacement for the monthly membership meeting. Come join in on the lovely evening soiree and yacking about ham radio among other operators and friends.



We also will be having a second potluck at Skypark on Wednesday, July 17th 6pm -8pm. Again replacing the membership meeting. Why are we doing this? In years past, membership meeting attendance wained in the summer months for many reasons—family travel and large amount of event participation are a few reasons. This is a good way to see each other in person and enjoy the company.

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### New Ham Radio Technician License Study Group being formed!

Do you have friends envious of your ability to talk on the radio and get information and want to learn about Ham radio? If so, we have a class for them to review the test study materials and prepare to take the exam. The study group begins Tuesday September 24th from 7:00 to 9:00pm and runs for 6 weeks. Encourage your friends to sign-up soon as the class is limited to 20:

<https://rebrand.ly/hamclass>



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SUPPORT OUR FIRST RESPONDERS!



It is that time of year again when our first responders receive a refresher and updated information on response to an active shooter situation. The Active Shooter & Casualty Response Training event is a professionally conducted training for law enforcement, fire, and medical first responders who may be called upon to face an active shooter in a crowded environment. The training includes live scenarios with volunteer

actors playing the roles of shooters, victims, and panicked bystanders. This training is an 8-hour course that repeats for six days in July (7/15 – 7/20) with new 30-50 attendees per day from the various agencies.

**SO HOW DO WE HELP?** ARES along with CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams) are activated to support this effort by monitoring the location perimeter and parking areas of the access-controlled training site, redirecting unauthorized pedestrian and/or vehicle traffic that may inadvertently enter the area, and reporting/communicating potential suspicious activity or other issues. This allows more first responders to participate in the class. *There are 180 volunteer slots that need to be filled by a CERT or ARES volunteer with a current DSW ID.* (We have 55 slots filled—30%). There are three shifts for each of the six days: 0745-1100, 1045-1400, and 1330-1800. The first shift primarily greets the participants and directing parking, the second shift greets the role-playing staff and the third shift is keeping the campus secure as the scenarios are played out.

One can volunteer for one or more shifts, including more than one shift per day. *Get a bit of fresh air, watch the wildlife, practice using the radio, build a sense of comradery with other volunteers, laugh and have fun.* **Sign up TODAY to get your choice of time slots at**

<https://>

[www.signupgenius.com/go/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/)

[ASperimeter](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/ASperimeter)

Location and other details are provided at the time of signing up.



### Equipment available to loan

Santa Cruz Communications Support have made **FOUR** kits available for loaning to allow ham operators participate in a deployment or to trial a different setup. Two kits are for a vehicle deployment and includes mobile dual-band radio Icom IC-2730, mag mount antenna, battery and kneeboard. The other two kits are for stationary outdoor deployments and includes the vehicle kit with additional supplies of a tripod antenna, lighting, and pop-up. Contact either John, N6QX, Roberta, AJ6KN, Stephen, KM6NEP or Gary, K6PDL for arranging for checking out.

## Report your volunteer hours!

The reported volunteer hours for May 687 hours. Please remember to enter your hours on the form on <https://xczcomm.com/index.php/hours-reporting/>

Reporting the time you spend on ARES and ham radio activities reminds county public safety managers that we're around and ready to serve in time of need. Also, when you report your hours, your call sign is entered in a drawing. When you win, you get to select a valuable prize!

## Save the Dates: ARES Events

### 2024 SCC ARES Events

Date	Event	Approx. or confirmed date?	Description
July 4, 2024	Aptos 4th of July Parade	Confirmed	We provide monitoring of the public to provide information to the Sheriffs
July 15 -20, 2024	Santa Cruz Regional Active Shooter and Casualty Care Response Training	Confirmed	This event is sponsored by the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's department and provides first responder training for an active shooter. ARES along with CERT provides perimeter monitoring in maintaining a closed event location.
August 18, 2024	Race through the Redwoods	Confirmed	Race through the Redwoods is a 10K foot race that starts and finishes at Roaring Camp but the majority traverses the redwoods in Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park. It is promoted by the Felton Business and Community Association. ARES provides monitoring of runners positions and safety for the organizers.
September 11-15, 2024	Santa Cruz County Fair	Confirmed	ARES provides Net Control functions for Sherriff Office, Security, and Fair personnel.
September 22, 2024	Santa Cruz Triathlon	Approximate	Santa Cruz Triathlon is a non-profit that donates proceeds to various athletic programs in the county. ARES provides monitoring of participants positions and safety for the organizers.
October 25th, 2024	Halloween Trunk or Treat	Approximate	Trunk of Treat is organized by the Santa Cruz Sheriffs. ARES provides monitoring of participants along with closed road staffing and shuttle parking location.

## Save the Dates: Other Events

### 2024 Other Radio Events for Ham Operator Participation

Date	Event	Approx. or confirmed date?	Description
June 22-23, 2024	ARRL Field Day	Confirmed	A national activity promoted by ARRL to share all the various aspects of the Ham Radio. Often hosted by both radio clubs of the Santa Cruz County. More information to be shared at a later date.

### We are S.A.F.E.

The Scavenger Around Field Exercise (S.A.F.E.) occurred on Sunday June 9th, 2—4 pm. We had 10 participants in the field and two net controls. During the hotwash operators reported having fun on a beautiful Sunday afternoon as well learning something new. There were a few challenges and each operator continues to learn about their area. Net control had to reprogram on the fly the Resource Net frequency, WB6ECE off of the multicast system to only one repeater to correct the mis-timing and garbled transmission. Others had to find a better location to complete their transmission. Patience had to be practiced. This event is a great simulation of what might occur if we were activated for a disaster.

## Resources

- Website: <https://xczcomm.com/>
- Reporting volunteer hours: <https://xczcomm.com/index.php/hours-reporting/>
- Upcoming events: <https://xczcomm.com/index.php/calendar-of-events/>
- Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ARES-of-Santa-Cruz-County-Ca-296232310799866>
- Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/431308973875528>
- PIO Articles: <https://arrlsantaclaravalley.org/news/> or <https://xczcomm.com/index.php/news/>
- XCZ Comm You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChZH8TU5gh4SqHTPXSWolPA>
- Submitting deployment documents: **send in PDF form to** [EOC.ARES@santacruzca.gov](mailto:EOC.ARES@santacruzca.gov)
- Submitting personal information such as DSW application, personal data update, education certificates: email [K6PDL@ARRL.net](mailto:K6PDL@ARRL.net), and [EOC.ARES@santacruzca.gov](mailto:EOC.ARES@santacruzca.gov)

## Org. Positions

- DEC  
John / N6QX, jfgerhardt@gmail.com
- Assistant DEC  
Gary / K6PDL, K6PDL@arrl.net
- Assistant DEC and Deputy EC  
Karen / KM6SV,  
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- Operations and Events  
Dan / N6RJX, N6RJX@slvares.org
- Webmaster  
Ed / N6EMA
- Administration  
Dawn / KM6RME,  
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- Safety Officer  
Stephen / KM6NEP,  
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Allison / KM6RMN,  
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- Net Manager  
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- AEC-Education Coordinator  
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Jim / N6EWP, N6EWP@arrl.net
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## Field Day—This coming weekend!



There is a lot of energy being put into this year's Field Day to make it the best and we hope you will be part of it.

The Santa Cruz and San Lorenzo Valley Amateur Radio Clubs will be hosting the Field Day event Friday through Sunday, June 21st to the 23rd. This will be at the old PAR 3 Golf course (field) next to the Seacliff Inn in Aptos, located at the end of Old Dominion Court (off State Park Drive and across from the Rancho Del Mar Shopping Center). The main event day and when the public will be invited is Saturday.

As with most years, there will have Five team Captains for the different radio modes, Phone, Digi, CW, FM and Winlink. There will be a tent for educating the public about ARES and other organizations such as CERT.

Site prep is underway. Previously, the grass had been 5' tall. It has since been cut down. Several bags of garbage have been picked up. Previously, the access roads had deep ruts. Volunteers shoveled 14,000 lbs of base rock onto the road into the Field Day site and it now as level as it can get. Antennas have been tested and readied for the event.

Want to volunteer? Sign up to volunteer now using this link:  
<https://forms.gle/1ipwY5LLXtEDiQJw5>

