

August 2020

Dedicated to providing service to the community while combining the two hobbies of motorcycling and amateur radio

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# FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Hello Marc members.

This month, I would like to talk about a couple of things happening with MARC, or more accurately, what is NOT happening with MARC. I had hoped that we would be able to fulfill the request from Julian of the American Lung Association to travel up to Oregon and help out with their annual ride. But just last week, I got word that the event is being converted to a "virtual" ride this year due to the Covid-19 epidemic. I was really hoping to make that event with other MARC members who expressed the desire to do the same. So we will see if the 2021 event takes place, as we have been invited to attend. I believe they hold the event annually in May. So MARC will have to get the official date and check to make sure it does not conflict with other events that we also work. You will know more when we know more.

Also, there was to be a MARC picnic this summer. I really feel that with the rising tide of positive testing people, a picnic is not a good idea right now. I hope that you all will agree, and if at some time we all feel safer, then we should have a picnic. I can only speak for myself, but I am sure that many of you feel the same. This year



really sucks. However, there is a great resolve within MARC to carry on, as is evidenced by the Board members, and the MARC members to keep in touch and plan for the future. Our membership is growing, our webpage is looking better and better, and we continue with our ZOOM monthly meetings in place of our regular meetings. Thanks to all who are leading the charge. Please keep up the good work.

I have been riding this summer, on the weekends with John, N6JCB, and sometimes his wife Vicky. Usually up the coast a little, or along Mulholland through the Santa Monica mountains or to Ojai and the surrounding areas. And of course, we are being very careful to social

(Cont. Pg-4)

# **Monthly Net**

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month @7:15pm All frequencies linked.

MARC now uses the PAPA Linked System in the SoCal area. System is multimode. Frequencies & Info are at: PAPASys.org

# **Monthly Meeting**

Members currently meet on ZOOM on the second Saturday of each month at 8 am. If you would like to join us, please contact Mark
Kanzler K6ZRP

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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John Edwards KC6ZOZ
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John Beckwith N6JCB
Alvin Brown KD6UZM

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50/50 DOOR PRIZE

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John Beckwith N6JCB

# **NEWS FROM THE TUNDRA**

After July 4th the Summer season dwindles... However Summer started only 2 weeks previous to the 4th! Why is that? Then the hounding of commercials of school preparation starts! Demanding almost to start looking toward the Fall.

Strange year for Rallies... Either the Rallies that we attend in the Spring are now stacked up in September or they are canceled all together. Still there is a NEED to go for a ride, somewhere. Duane Miles and I were planning on heading West to Great Falls, Montana. Evidently the people of that city didn't want anyone with Covid to come out... so instead of June 25-28 of 2020 the leaders and directors decided to wait until June of 2021... I forget the dates. And to sweeten the pot... they asked us to keep our money for the event in the bank account for the BMW MOA... 20% off on that plus other goodies... I asked for my money back. and the non-member also got his money back.

We still had a plan though. So instead of a Rally we rode to people I know along the route. July 12, Sunday I had opened the garage door and looking at the dark skies... rumbling engine noise coming from the south... "I know I was to come at 5 am...don't bug me!" The operator of the Concours in his helmeted head was laughing.

Time continues to move. We have to only relax ... Relax!? New rear tire was on the KRS.. I had thought of using the Oil head the RT... however the final drive was "loose" meaning either replace the big bearing or finding a used Rear drive. sleeping bag and mattress packed in the yellow duffel bag and the tent

without poles was in the stretch sack.. hit the starter and burbling engine idled ... hit the garage door button down came the garage door and here we GO!

First stop was Sturgis, South Dakota. Riding along the freeways around Minneapolis and heading south on Hwy 169.. Coolness of the early morning, even the fog in the valleys. South of Mankato we were on Hwy 60 and moving toward Worthington. I-90 Freeway. and west... South Dakota and Winds buffeting... especially the speed limit is 80 mph. I remember when the speed limit changed. Something about the gas tax and raising the speed limit.. 2015 I had ridden to Alliance, Nebraska... Coming into South Dakota and NO speed limit signs... until maybe 80 miles.

Coming into Sturgis and climbing the hill to my cousin Paul's place. Duane was leading.. His GPS which he calls Michelle.. and he slowed.. so I passed him and up on the ridge to Paul's garage... Paul and his friend Tricia greeted us... I had problems getting the side stand down... "Help!" I called... too heavy packs on the motorcycle. Finally we got it on the side stand and we were set. Paul offered bedrooms .. so instead of tenting in Paul's

## **EVENT CALENDAR**

MARC Net August 6, 2020 7:15 pm

Zoom Meeting August 9, 2020 8:00 am

MS-150 Virtual Ride October 17, 2020

ALA Reach the Beach October 11, 2020 (Tentative)

## Join Us for Coffee

If you live in the Southern California area, you are invited to join us at our monthly meeting, usually held on the second Saturday of the month at Marie Callender's, 307 E. Katella Avenue. Meeting and breakfast begin at 8:00 am.

MS 150 BAY 2 BAY WILL BE A VIRTUAL EVENT

Things have greatly changed from the months past. I have received the following information from the MS office:

**IMPORTANT RIDE UPDATE**: Bike MS Bay to Bay 2020 will be going virtual

We will have "Bike MS: Inside Out" on October 17<sup>th</sup>, where we have partnered with Strava and Zwift to provide an outdoor and indoor experience that you can customize! There will be a live opening ceremony on event day, team and fundraising challenges, a jersey competition and MUCH more!! This event will be open to people across the nation. The start time for the ride will be 7am PST – 10am EST.

Do to the COVID-19 virus the MS150 bike Planning Committee meeting are done over the computers using Go to Meeting. This event takes planning almost all year long with a meeting every month. I think the on line meetings for now is the new norm. Our next meeting is scheduled for Aug 19th again (Virtual).

At this time locally YTD current Fundraising \$219,595 vs. 2019 \$335,177 (down a little over \$100k) YTD Registration: 970 vs. 2019 1150 (down 180 participants).

John Edwards KC6ZOZ

**Got an Article?** 

Or a Ham worthy item of information to pass along? Please submit all articles and photos to ocpd44@gmail.com or jbeckwit47@gmail.com. Articles should be in RTF, PDF or plain text. Photos and diagrams should be in PDF, JPG, GIF or TIFF. Please limit size and please do not interlace photos with text as it must be extracted and re-inserted for use.

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property we instead had separate rooms. Paul's home is up against the National Forests and Parks land... He has a Salt lick in his yard... Animals coming through to get that salt... Huge buck with felted antlers was there on Monday morning... Where is that smart phone? Turkeys ... Fawns. A zoo...

"We have a dresser to bring to the church, want to come with?" Paul asked.. Piled into an old Chevy pick up and getting the dresser... a normal thing to do when riding 10 hours. Monday we rode to Mount Rushmore and Crazy Horse. Going East on I-90 then off to the Rushmore heads.

I had been there over 10 years ago. but a parking ramp? Fumbling with the ticket that spits out of the machine and the barrier goes up... Found a parking spot close by the entrance... waiting for Duane to show up... Plenty of traffic.. Touristing... Get up to the front of the court yard and there is these machines... I put the Visa card into the machine... it (machine) seemed to grab my Card... Then there is these questions... "Are you over 62?" i poked the button for YES... There was another question about being active Military... anyway I got my \$5 off the credit transaction... I figured that IT was over so I stuck it and the receipt in the billfold. We saw the Heads... I took the picture but made sure the picture had Duane in it.. extend those arms!

We got back to the motorcycles Duane went first and i noticed he had to put the receipt into the machine to raise the barrier! Man! It would take me at least 5 minutes to get that ticket out of the Billfold under the Darien pants... Quickly I rolled the throttle and got out of there in front of Duane... Told Duane what I did... and he laughed. "Tim? the Computer figures you are still on the premises... " I laughed... "Maybe they think I am up in the Washington's face!"

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Join Us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/groups/1573778489517365/

Visit our Website: www.MARC-HQ.org

# **July 2020 MARC Meeting**

July 11, 2020

President Kanzler opened the meeting via Zoom at 8:00 There were 9 members present- including 4 Board members -Kanzler, Edwards, Beckwith, Reynolds. There were also 4 visitors were present. Although 1 joined MARC during the course of the meeting – submitting his application and dues.

Mark – Discussed the American Lung Association event outside Portland, Oregon in October. He had contacted organizers and volunteered Ginger to be the coordinator. He also indicated we would be putting off any picnic until things settle down. Also discussed possibly using All-Star for our Net so more people could join the net.

**John Edwards** reported planning is continuing for the MS-150 – and would be attending a meeting next week.

John Reynolds – commented on the fact that we were having a July meeting which we normally don't have.

John Beckwith – Reported 4 new members since last month. Discussed Bluetooth and the FTM-10 and that he's been doing some testing with various Bluetooth devices and radios.

**Rich Lewis** – Shared that he is feeling better.

Jim Banks – Said he's not doing much riding

Mark Wohlschlegel – A visitor from Colorado – discussed trips to Europe with Edelweiss and indicated they are Expensive – but carry everything and take care of everything. Talked about a couple of others including someone who broke off from one of the other companies and charges \$2500 for almost everything included for 7-8 days. Mark may setup a group of 6-8 riders for a trip in the future – 2021. He also talked about the Tour de California and that there may be riders that support that event who may be interested in MARC.

**Bill Douglass** – Will be back in LA later this month.

Ginger indicated she would be happy to coordinate the Portland event and that she's working on contacting other clubs and events in their area.

Lu Vencl (Visitor turned member) – talked about the Colorado Field day that he participates in. He also discussed some of his experience with Bluetooth and the FTM-10.

Carlos Varon suggested putting something on the website about where we have members around the country. (John Beckwith will work on this.) Carlos also talked about working the NY Marathon.

Paul and Jane Goodell – Visitors from Palm Springs Florida participated in the meeting and indicated he's currently doing IP radio mostly. However, he may be getting a bike in the near future and will look into putting a radio on it.

Meeting Adjourned about 9:35 though several members continued with some discussions.

Next meeting will be Saturday, August 8th, 2020 at 8:00 am – via Zoom.

#### **Members Present:**

#### **Visitors Present:**

Jim Banks KD6REA John Beckwith N6JCB Bill Douglas K6WBD John Edwards KC6ZOZ Jim Hammons N6JWL Mark Kanzler KE6ZRP Richard Lewis AF6TM John W5JFR

KM6MIG

Reynolds

Ginger White

Colorado Mark Wohlschlegel WC3W Lu Vencl KA4EPS Florida (Joined during the meeting) KG4GOQ Palm Springs, Florida Paul Goodell Goodell KN4SGA Palm Springs, Florida Jane

Respectfully submitted, John Beckwith, Secretary

# Thousands Of Radio Operators Band Together To Practice For The Worst



Miami-Dade County EOC

For twenty-four hours over the weekend of June 27 and 28, 2020, thousands of amateur radio operators across the United States and Canada set up temporary emergency communications centers where everything had to be done without external services. This meant they had to erect their own temporary antennas, provide their own emergency power and operate their equipment in temporary locations. Their goal was to prove that they can communicate with each other in times of an emergency when there's no infrastructure available.

These amateur radio operators, also known as hams, devote seemingly endless hours preparing their radio equipment, computers, cables and antennas required to conduct radio communications in today's demanding environment. What's more, these radio operators volunteered their time, provided their own equipment and transported it to a remote site without electrical power, frequently without shelter and with only the supplies they could carry. And this time, they were doing it in the middle of a pandemic where they met crowd size requirements and social distancing laws.

"They do this for the same reason we always exercise," said former FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate. "It's better to have it break in practice than break for real."

In this case, the radio operators were having to work around Covid-19 requirements, but Fugate thinks that's a good thing.

"One purpose is to practice making contacts under really difficult conditions," he explained. "Finding clear channels is hard. These are some of the problems you find in an emergency." While the conditions the radio operators were working in only simulate a real emergency, they can be unpleasant. Fugate pointed out that ham radio operators are essential to communications such as hurricanes in the south or wildfires in the west.

"It's a good practice to make sure I can get my station set up, and that I can make contacts on a lone radio with a long wire," Fugate said. He pointed out in a recent oped in The Hill newspaper that when there's an emergency, amateur radio may be your only choice.

"A lot of this is doing stuff in emergency conditions," he said. "You're going to work with whatever you've got."

Fugate pointed out that in a real emergency, your normal channels of communication may not be there when you need them. "When all else fails there's amateur radio," he said. "We saw what Hurricane Michael did to cellular networks in the Florida panhandle. One county didn't have any contact with the state emergency operations center until a ham got there."

"That's the environment that ham radio excels in," Fugate said.

#### Field Day

The weekend event, known as Field Day, is sponsored by the American Radio Relay League, a national organization that supports amateur radio and helps watch over its interests, especially in Washington.

"Field Day started in 1953 as an annual event for the amateur radio community as an exercise for their communications emergency capability," said Bob Inderbitzen, a spokesperson for the ARRL. He noted that it's called "Field Day," because it's a time when amateur radio operators take their equipment out into a field, or perhaps a public park or picnic shelter, and test their ability to assemble and operate an emergency communications center. The exercises include contacting as many hams as possible in the U.S. and Canada, passing simulated emergency message traffic, communicating with emergency services and explaining the effort to local officials and first responders.

Inderbitzen said that the exercise also gives the radio amateurs a way to learn to work as teams under emergency conditions. "Ham radio operators know how in use their radios in a moment of crisis," he said.

Fugate said that while he was FEMA Administrator, he decided to try to contact every state EOC without the use of the telephone network, reasoning that in a true emergency, the phone network would likely be unavailable. "The only solution was ham radio," he said.

Reprinted from Forbes Magazine

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We rode out of there and over to Crazy Horse Monument Another \$7...Looked around at the old artifacts and the Indian Motorcycle. headed back to Paul' place after eating at Arby's.. Covid and masks.

Tuesday we needed to ride to Arvada, Colorado... 400 miles... Duane had plugged the address into his GPS... Windy day... Duane exited I-90 and pull over to the shoulder... I waited... "I need to add my rainsuit." He said. I nodded... and waited... and waited... booties? Back on I-90 and south on hwy 85 south through Newcastle and Lusk. Stopped at the Sinclair Station filled on gas and then sat on the curb watching the cars and trucks roll through. A small motorcycle came up and parked by our bikes. Kawasaki Ninja... maybe I forget... The young rider started talking to us.. Said he was from California... doing some riding .. I think he was in the Marines or just got out. We waved and rode south.. but then Duane came up to me... Reversed direction and back to Lusk then west on hwy 20/18 to I-25 south.. Perfect.. except traffic and construction... We finally found Ward Street off of I-70 arrived at Gary and Amy's home after filling on more gas.

My nephew Andrew met us there... I had planned on having breakfast with him on Wednesday the 15th... however his work plans had changed.. Texted him.. Gary's address and said "Free Supper" We talked of life and what is happening. Andrew's youngest brother is getting married in Seattle Area in September. "You and Karen are coming?" Andrew asked... "Yep, hard to get your Aunt to even leave Minnesota... yeah we will be there!"

Gary has been a friend, 46 years! Keeping up with his family of 7 sons.. Amy gave us rhubarb/strawberry jam... "You have an extra?" I asked... Amy looked startled.. "I would like to give one to my sister Char..." She nodded... came up with another jar.. "I forgot about this one.. I have plenty of fruit but the time to find time.. " I hugged her and Gary.

We left riding only 75 miles to Colorado Springs. We had to call this fellow named Tim to get the numbers to open the gate... and we did that... Finally rolled up the huge driveway to the home of Tim and Vickie... The couple had moved to Colorado 4 years ago. Leaving Minnesota and being semi retired. Tim has 8 BMW motorcycles.. all either air or oil heads.. with the newest one the Wet head. We stayed Wednesday afternoon and left Thursday morning for Dove Creek, Colorado. Tim wanted to take us to a museum..

however Covid struck again... Tim complained to the guard that it wasn't on the web site... graciously whined... is that oxymoron or what?

Rode out hwy 24 west to Bunea Vista and south on 285 skirting around Monte Vista before eating lunch in South Fork on hwy 160... West to Cortez and taking hwy 491 to Dove Creek...

Trying to turn the motorcycle around I dropped it.. with me on it... Talk about the neighborhood of Dove Creek. at least 4 doors opened with people askinig if I was all right! Char .. my sister was shocked... as she helped Duane and I to get that motorcycle back on its tires... Surveying the damage... slight scratch marks on the fairing... and the shift lever was bent.. Duane the machinist was doing his thing...Straightened the tubing, one of the neighbors came over.. said he had a metric tap... same thread pitch... found a long bolt... Well first we had to find some torx sockets.. the bolt had to be removed was torx...Duane wanted a torch. Steve, my brother in law works for the school district. We drove up to the Bus Barn... looking for the mechanic... Found a torch but it didn't seem to work. Steve called the mechanic.. gets off his cell phone.. "He is coming, should be here soon." Steve comments

A truck coming and then the dog was barking. a smiling man comes through the door... showed Duane that clicking the spark quickly will bring on the flame.. Steve asked what he was doing... "Testing the young driver." I then asked.. "Did she Pass?" He nodded... Lots of different hats when living and working in a small town.

After Supper we started working on the lever..
Heating up the lever and slowly bending it back.. the sheet metal under the lever... well the torch burnt a hole right through it.. Duane is one of these guys that would replace the sheet metal... I shook my head... "I like it!" Duane shook his head...

Friday we took the cage.. you know the vehicle that most people use... I had told Duane that I wanted Char and Steve to take us in their van... "Hearsay, hearsay!" Duane replied... We drove to Newspaper Rock and took pictures of that then on to Canyonlands National Park... Duane showed his National Park card and we got in there Free!.. Walking the different paths .. Steve and Char had been there and remembered how to get to the Cowboys Kitchen... We walked and walked.. 2

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ladders to climb... made from the weathered wood poles... kind of rickety,

Saturday was wash day.. Duane wanted to go for a ride. "After my clothes are washed." I said... We rode north hwy 141 to hwy 145 to Deloris then a short cut.. 184 back to 491 and back to Dove Creek... 210 miles... Duane was satisfied... High elevation and the fuel injection was doing 51 mpg... the Concours was at 50! but there was a lag on power. Duane kept commenting that he wasn't pleased with the oil fogging his vision... Figured tipping the BMW over on its side does that!

Saturday night Duane asks.."Are we leaving tomorrow morning?" "Nope, Tomorrow's Church!" I shook my head... "Lowry ruins is on the docket for Sunday afternoon... We did ride the motorcycles to the Baptist Church... one of the members came over to us as we sat in the pews.. "You risk your life by riding those motorcycles and you wear those masks for what?" and walked away...

Monday morning I was adding my packs and ratcheting the straps tight. Duane comes over... "you ready?" I nodded.... Duane shakes his head... "I'm not!" We ate breakfast with Steve and Char... Big bowl of coco puffs.. toast... full.... Char took a picture of us then started the machines... rode 491 to Monticello, Utah... Cold pools of air would bring shivers on my arms... headed north on 191. I had decided that we would go through Moab. Seems to get bigger every time I come through.. but then I hadn't been through here since 2014.. East on I-70 to Rifle, Colorado with a gas stop in Grand Junction.

6 miles of road destruction on hwy 13... We rode on to Craig and head lunch at a Subway... and soon we were on I-80 for a short distance Rawlins on 287 to 220 to Casper. just north of Casper there is camp called KOA... \$28 for the tents... we stood in the lobby or store giving out information... " 2 tents is one Fifth!" I spoke... The eyes of the counter person looked puzzled and then a twinkle came across... Duane groaned... Showed us the campsite... gravel and dirt... Duane set his tent up under a lean to. I pulled my tent out and plugged in the Tent pump... which looks like a Bicycle Tire pump... Added 7 lbs... up went the air

beams...Noisy place... We got out of there in the morning.. not satisfied.. we had to move the bikes out on the tarmac.

We rode north on I-25 to I-90 west.. then finally headed East on I-94. Fuel light comes on early on the KRS... around 170 miles... Filled gas in Miles, Montana... Duane says his great Uncle was the man that the town was named after... Cool! Anyway he needed oil so we stopped at the Napa then went to a fast food McDonalds.. eating it outside due to Covid..heavy traffic, took us a few miles to get on the freeway and head East. Beach, ND... I have been there a few times... Found a information ?Rest Area... We decided to keep moving east...

Mile marker 19 and off the freeway... another National Park... Camping is \$6.. so we got that half off! The care taker was a hoot... "Free water.. showers are Free...if you need anything just knock on the door of that trailer... No one will answer you either!" We thanked him for the information... Set up the camp site.. Grass instead of Gravel... Cool evenings.. We noticed a truck rolling through with a motorcycle on the front of the Tundra... Camper on the back.. Came through again... and parked beside us... we hit it off.. I gave him a business card with the book title on it and my email address.. He gave us the same.. however this man built seats and exhausts for the motorcycle world.. said he used to have 50 motorcycles... for platforms on how to make this stuff.. down to 32 bikes...

I woke up at 4:30 am and started taking down the campsite.. next stop was Newfolden, MN... We had eaten all the food that I had brought. Our new friend had given me 2 oat meal packages... Duane cooked it up then read the ingrediants.. "Oh no, Tim! There is walnuts in this!" Duane exclaimed.. I nodded... "Guess you have to eat it all up." We rode East... Stopped in Bismark for breakfast.. Biscuits and Gravy plus potatoes ... good deal... however we tried to throw our can from the night meal in their trash can... Excited cashiers... told us we couldn't... Covid thing again... I tossed it at the next gas stop in Cassleton... then North on I-29 to north of Grand Forks... and back into Minnesota... *Cont'd pg. 8* 



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Arrived in Newfolden and knocked on my cousin Marlene's home.. she opens the door... "Its Tim Lindstrom, Phil!" We sat and talked .. Marlene works from home for Digi Key... a huge electronic supplier... in Thief River Falls. We asked if we could camp there... Phil offered their RV van.. no camping tent for me.. Duane decided to tent it anyway... snoring vibrations I have felt before...

Wednesday we rode back to Thief River Falls and stopped to see my cousin Jerry... Ordeal that he has had to be in with sores under his feet which was healed by antibodies... meds... but that wiped out his kidneys.... I had wanted to see him back in June ... however Covid fear is still around.

Talked to the Cousin for about 2 hours... watching the time, "I think its time for me to head home, Duane you can stay? I had told Duane that I was going the favorite ride I do when going north to this area of Minnesota... Duane told me that he would be splitting from my suggestion. Kind of nice to ride alone.

We left at high Noon. South of Plummer, MN... I dove left to Minnesota 92, Duane beeped twice. Rode through Bagly and on to Zerkel and Itasca State Park where the Mighty Mississippi is only a small creek... 5 hours and 30 minutes from High Noon ... I was unpacking the BMW motorcycle. in my own driveway. Amassing somewhere around 3800 miles. Or 16,000 miles since purchase in August last year!

Good trip... We seen some rain... but most of the rains were either in front of us or behind.

take care... Ride ... Motorcycle Social Distancing works...

73

Tim Lindstrom, ab0ts.

Columbia Heights, MN

BMW K1200RS 60,826 miles BMW R1150RT 66,056 miles

# FCC Providing Flexibility to Volunteer Examiners in Developing Remote Testing Methods

(From the ARRL Website)

The FCC has clarified that nothing in its rules prohibits remote amateur radio testing, and no prior approval is needed to conduct remote exam sessions.

"The Commission provides flexibility to volunteer examiners and coordinators who wish to develop remote testing methods or to increase remote testing programs already in place," the FCC said in an April 30 news release. "We recognize that some volunteer examiner coordinators may not have the immediate capacity for widespread remote testing. We expect those volunteer examiner coordinators with limited remote testing capacity to work closely with those requesting such testing to prioritize any available remote testing slots."

ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, said she's gratified to see that the FCC appreciates the need for remote testing. "Many of our VEs and VE Teams have been employing remotely proctored exam sessions with both video and in-person components, and following social-distancing protocols, where necessary" she said. "Some ARRL VE teams have shown great promise in administering exams remotely." Somma also said that as states begin to lift restrictions, the possibility exists to restart in-person amateur radio exam opportunities.

"We urge our VE teams to keep up to date so they can make informed decisions based on local community guidelines, as each community is unique," she said. "Our volunteers should use their best judgement when deciding whether or not to begin conducting in-person exam sessions. It is important to us that you feel confident when choosing your course of action, because the health and safety of our VEs and the examinees is the top priority. VE teams that choose to conduct in-person sessions should re-start consistent with local restrictions and guidelines."

To find amateur radio license exam sessions in your area, visit the ARRL website. Candidates should verify with their VE teams that the exam session is being held and if any special procedures are required to attend.

# Radio Amateur Takes Part in Historic First Commercial Human Spaceflight to ISS

08/05/2020

Reprinted from ARRL Website http://www.arrl.org/news/radio-amateur-takes-part-in-historic-first-commercial-human-spaceflight-to-iss



Bob Behnken, KE5GGX, was one of two NASA astronauts who made spaceflight history over the weekend. Behnken and Doug Hurley were the first astronauts since the 1970s to make a water landing, after their Crew Dragon capsule splashed down in the Gulf of Mexico on Sunday. On May 30, the pair made history as the first live crew to be launched into space in a commercial vehicle, for a stay on the International Space Station (ISS), marking the return of human spaceflight to US soil for the first time in nearly a decade.

A SpaceX Falcon 9 vehicle carried the crew into orbit from Cape Canaveral. The so-called "Demo-2" was the last major test for SpaceX's human spaceflight system, to be certified by NASA for operational crew missions to and from the ISS. Four huge parachutes carried the Crew Dragon capsule to a safe splashdown near Pensacola, Florida, on Sunday, August 1.

"On behalf of the SpaceX and NASA teams, welcome back to planet Earth," SpaceX Engineer Michael Heiman radioed to the crew after their landing. "And thanks for flying SpaceX."

NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine proclaimed that the US was entering a new era of human spaceflight, noting that NASA was no longer the only option for US space travel. "We are going to be a customer," he said. NASA has contracted with two companies — SpaceX and Boeing — to ferry astronaut crews to and from the ISS.

While part of the space station crew for 2 months, Behnken and Astronaut Chris Cassidy, KF5KDR, the sole American on board when their Endeavour capsule docked, carried out four spacewalks to install new batteries on the ISS.

The SpaceX Crew Dragon vehicle was designed for short-term missions, and Behnken and Hurley's mission had only been expected to last a week. As a result, Behnken did not receive Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) training on the radio gear in the Russian sector. NASA subsequently decided to monitor the mission and make a decision on how long the Crew Dragon would stay. Cassidy fielded all ARISS school contacts.



President from pg. 1

distance and stay safe. We usually "pack a lunch" and stop and eat on the side of the road, or at some place where it is outside and open. We certainly welcome any MARC members that would want to join us. Let me know if you might like to join us on a weekend for a few hours. I will put you on my contact list.

Ke6zrp mark@yahoo.com

Have a safe summer, avoid the heat, and stay safe

73,

KE6ZRP, Zippy



Dear Jeffrey WB6ALR,

I am VU2JHM a Ham turned biker with a 400 cc Bajaj Dominar - touring bike - googling i came across the Motor Cycling Amature Radio Club MARC well, here in Bangalore too we have formed a informal ham bikers group with hams having different motorbikes.

My facebook account Ln Ajoy V

Best of 73's

de Lion Ajoy VU2JHM

# **Classified Listings**

#### MOTOROLA CDM750 - \$70 OBO

UHF upper split, pre-programmed for DARN frequencies (require Motorola software for programming). Output up to 40 Watts (programmable). New, only taken out of the box to test and program.

Further info, contact Jeff WB6ALR

ocpd44@gmail.com



Classified listings will run for one month. You must submit an updated listing for each issue.

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