



K7EAR



June 2010

EAARS open repeaters. PL is 141.3 unless noted otherwise

Helio 146.860 and 440.700 EAARS Network, 146.900, 447.825 w/ closed remote PL 100.0 or 141.3. Packet 145.010 **MT. Lemmon** 147.160 EAARS Network **Pinal Peak** 145.41 EAARS Network **Guthrie Peak** 147.28 EAARS Network **South Mountain, Alpine** 145.27 EAARS Network **Jacks Peak, NM** 145.21 EAARS Network
GMRS Repeater on Helio 462.625 PL 123.0
Website [HTTP://WWW.EAARS.COM](http://WWW.EAARS.COM)

Next Meeting

July 20th at Search and Rescue in Safford. Arrive at 6:30, Meeting at 7 PM

Field Day

EAARS will be participating in field day from Cluff Pond again this year. We can use help. The plan is for a 2A station which allows us the free VHF and Gota stations. We will have the VHF station, GOTA is a maybe depends on time and help. The dates are June 26 and 27
Come on out and play radio, fish, swim, visit. This is going to be a relaxed operation, no towers, Come out and have fun while you learn how to set up the bus as a com van. Field Day is training for disaster communications operations. Elevation is about 3000 ft and it's about 5 miles south of Pima.

Saguaro Traffic Net

At the last meeting this net was approved to use the network. It will start at 6:30 PM and be off the air by 7:00 PM at the latest The net seems to be going well. I hear some stations on Greens Peak joining the mostly central AZ group. If you are interested in Traffic handling, these folks will help you get started. Give it a try.

Repeater Status

Alpine is still waiting for the snow to melt so the guys can get there, Greens Peak has an intermittent problem that Joe hopes to fix with a new link transmitter on Greens Peak as soon as time and conditions allow. Hopefully a trip will be scheduled in June

from ARRL Web

Join the Fun on VHF in the ARRL VHF QSO Party

Lots of RF will be generated on 6 meters and up the weekend of June 12-13 during the [2010 ARRL VHF QSO Party](#) While many amateurs think of the VHF+ bands as a “local” band for public service, emergency communications or even a bit of fun on FM repeaters, weak-signal VHF+ enthusiasts know better. Even with a modest station, it’s possible to work hundreds, or even thousands of miles, on the VHF bands during a good opening.

ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, is a big VHF enthusiast himself. “In more than 25 years of Amateur Radio, weak-signal work on 6 and 2 meters remains the most fun and intriguing activity I do. There is nothing like a good VHF opening; with interesting propagation characteristics like Sporadic-E, tropospheric ducting, aurora and even meteor scatter and moonbounce, VHF offers QSO opportunities that HF can never satisfy.”

Kutzko said the weekend is a great time to try 6 or 2 meters: “The June VHF QSO Party occurs at the beginning of the summer sporadic-E season, which can produce intense openings on 6 meters, and in some cases, up to 2 meters. This past weekend has seen trans-continental openings on 6 meters from California to the East Coast, as well as openings into the Caribbean on several nights. Memorial Day featured an incredible opening from the US into Europe, with many stations working the E4X DXpedition to Palestine on 6 meters. Several 4X stations were

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Club Address

EAARS
P.O. Box 398
Solomon, AZ 85551

Nets

EAARS Net; Sunday Night 7 PM general check ins
Smart Net; Monday evening 7:30 to 8:30 Technical discussion
Weather Net Daily 5:30 AM collect local weather information
MERC Net Second Saturday at 8:45 AM Emergency communications group
Saguaro NTS Traffic Net Every evening at 6:30 PM

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also heard. That's fun any way you slice it! Because of the contest, many stations will be on the air, and this, coupled with the interesting propagation possibilities and possible DX openings, makes for a great weekend."

Getting on the VHF bands is easy, Kutzko explained, since most newer HF transceivers also come with at least 6 meters, and possibly other VHF/UHF bands. While there will be some contest activity on FM simplex (especially near large population centers), most long-distance VHF+ QSOs are conducted on CW or SSB -- that means horizontally-polarized antennas. You will also need a radio that can transmit in those modes. Most of the newer HF transceivers have 6 meters built in, and several also come with 2 meters and 70 centimeters, too.

"A dipole on 6 meters will work quite well during a decent opening," Kutzko said. "They're easy to make and less than 10 feet long. Throw it up in a tree as high as you can and you'll be in business. For 2 meters and 70 cm, a horizontal loop will work nicely for SSB and CW contacts." You can find plans for simple VHF antennas at the Technical Information Service area of the ARRL Web site, in the "Antennas" chapter of the [ARRL Handbook](#), or in the "VHF and UHF Antenna Systems" chapter of the [ARRL Antenna Handbook](#). Because VHF antennas are generally smaller than their HF counterparts, Kutzko said that portable operation is simple: "You can operate from your favorite hilltop, camp site or any location with high terrain and make many QSOs. All you need to know is the Maidenhead grid square of your operating location, which is the contest exchange."

For SSB QSOs on 6 meters, tune between 50.100-50.200 MHz. Keep in mind that 50.100-50.125 is reserved for intercontinental QSOs, so don't transmit there unless you are trying to work DX. 50.125 is the W/VE calling frequency, so listen there for band openings. If the band starts to open up, move off the calling frequency and start making contacts. For the CW operators, you will find CW between 50.080-50.100 MHz. Activity on 2 meters will center around the calling frequency of 144.200. Again, monitor the calling frequency for band openings, but move off when activity starts to pick up. Most 2 meter SSB/CW activity will be found between 144.170-144.230 MHz, and 70 cm activity will center around 432.100 MHz.

"The weekend promises to be a tremendous amount of fun on the VHF and UHF bands. Don't miss out! All amateurs -- from Technicians to Extras, experienced VHF operators to the first-time VHF dabblers -- are welcome," Kutzko said. The [ARRL June VHF QSO Party](#) runs from 1800 UTC Saturday, June 12 through 0300 UTC Monday, June 14 (Saturday afternoon to Sunday evening for most of the US and Canada).