

Ham Radio During the Pandemic... ...and Post-Pandemic

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- FCC issues: spectrum and license fees
- **Volunteer Monitor program taking action**

Let's turn to the
pandemic situation

I just heard
2020 became a
four-letter word.

2021
too?



Ham radio during the pandemic... ...and post-pandemic

- **In 2020: all our lives and livelihoods impacted**
- **Pandemic affected amateur radio too:**
 - **Stay at home = Operate from home**
 - **Most DXpeditions impractical**
 - **No LAX public service events since March 2020**
 - **Field Day took new angles**

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 - No public service events since early March
 - Field Day took new angles
 - In-person activities went virtual for most clubs

Ham radio during the pandemic...

- **In ARRL Los Angeles Section:**
 - **L.A. Marathon, March 8, last public service event**
 - **ARES LAX-High Desert set up back-up HF/VHF station at Antelope Valley field hospital (May)**
 - **All ARES Districts conducted drills, learned new radio skills; so did LA City ACS, LA County DCS**
 - **Field Day took new angle: operate from home, combine scores by club name**

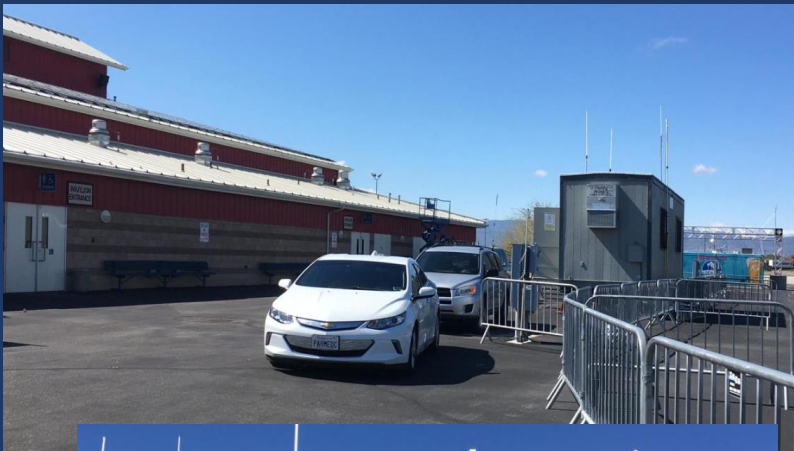
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Ham radio during the pandemic...

- ARES LAX-High Desert set up back-up HF/VHF station at Antelope Valley Hospital surge site, April 10, 2020



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 - In-person license classes and test sessions cancelled, many now virtual

This pandemic causing major changes in ways businesses and organizations operate

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- **Next 25 years will change how “interactions” are done**
 - **Virtual meetings continue for many**
 - **Less travel = major savings**
 - **Augmented reality/virtual reality provide 3D**

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- **First 25 years of Internet/Worldwide Web changed how “transactions” are done, info shared**
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 - **Virtual meetings continue for many**
 - **Less travel = major savings**
 - **Augmented reality/virtual reality provide 3D**
 - **Future isn’t about “working from home”—it’s about “working from anywhere”**

So how will ham radio operate post-pandemic?

**Are we supposed
to look forward
or backward?**



So how will ham radio operate post-pandemic?

- **Virtual meetings certain into mid-2021; some clubs considering hybrid meetings beyond**
 - **Virtual meetings a challenge for members with slow internet**
 - **But enables members who re-locate or can't drive to still belong**

So how will ham radio operate post-pandemic?

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So how will ham radio operate post-pandemic?

- Virtual meetings certain into mid-2021; some clubs considering hybrid meetings beyond
 - Virtual meetings a challenge for members with slow internet
 - But enables members who relocate or can't drive to still belong
- Meeting speakers/presenters can be from anywhere
- 1H-2021 in-person ham conventions mostly cancelled
- Another QSO Today virtual convention in March, Intl. DX Convention in April also virtual...a trend?

So how will ham radio operate post-pandemic?

- **Another QSO Today virtual convention in March, Intl. DX Convention in April also virtual...a trend?**
- **Consider:**
 - **In-person ham conventions: Exhibitors spend \$5,000-\$40,000 for travel and exhibit costs**
 - **Virtual ham conventions: almost same customer engagement for \$500-\$1,000**
 - **Exhibitors at QSO Today thrilled with results**
 - **One said sales = Dayton Hamvention**
 - **Another had sales > Orlando Hamcation**
 - **Exhibitors get list of all visitors to virtual booth**

In closing, ham radio will continue operating when all else fails

- **Hams are adaptable**
- **Amateur radio gives us unique form of socializing**
- **We're still here to serve**
- **We'll use new interaction technology to advance amateur radio**
- **Pandemic conditions receding**

Thanks for listening....73 and stay well.

**And now for the final word on 2020 and 1st half
of 2021...**

