



ARCOVER



South Bay Amateur Radio Club

W6SBA

E-mail: W6SBA@arrl.net

A Community Service Organization
Dedicated to Amateur Radio Since 1970

Website: <http://www.w6sba.org>

President - Alex - KD6LPA

January 2010



About the Speaker:

This month's featured speaker is Eric Christensen, K6EJC, who will be talking about and showing off some of the latest ham gadgets from the Ham Radio Outlet. Eric is the manager of the Burbank store and has been active in the hobby for many years. Eric recently became the ARES District Emergency Coordinator of the northwest region of the LAX ARRL section, and is very active in the Burbank Emergency Amateur Radio Service (BEARS) which is sponsored by the Burbank Fire Department. In his "off" time, Eric also works as part of the security service at Knotts Berry Farm. Please join us for his talk and for the chance to see some of the newest toys.

“Linux: The Experimenter’s Operating System”

By Alex Marko

The spirit of Amateur Radio has always been about experimentation. The functionality we take for granted in most modern cell phones has in fact copied what Amateur Radio pioneered decades ago: the ability to transmit messages wirelessly from one person to the next, send and receive pictures, and even track one’s current position via GPS. Most cell phones use these features as an incentive to promote their product, and consumers are happy to pay monthly service fees to enjoy these convenient benefits. Hams wrought this communication ability decades ago, from scratch, via the spirit of experimentation and the noble ideal of sharing their inventions with all their fellow hams.

It is this mindset of sacrifice and giving towards the greater good that has allowed Amateur Radio to prosper for so many decades. And now that we are knee deep in the digital era of communications, it seems only appropriate to give honorable mention to Linux -- as it was grounded on the same principles as Amateur Radio: giving to the community it serves.

For those unfamiliar, Linux is a free Operating System for PCs that normally require Microsoft Windows. Did he say free? Yes! You can download a free copy of Linux, which comes with an email client, internet browser, and virtually everything else you’ve grown accustomed to with Windows. There’s even an Office application that provides comparable functionality found in Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint, with built-in logic to read your old documents! The list of free applications out there is virtually endless, and Amateur Radio programs are no exception!

Because Linux is “open source”, it’s free to everyone, and the source code for its programs are publicly available to anyone who wants it. There’s no licensing, proprietary code, or hidden service fee for using Linux. It’s out there for anyone and everyone to use, and it’s very flexible. So, it’s no surprise that Linux is the perfect environment for digital communication experimentation!

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“Linux (continued)”

By Alex Marko

These days, computers and Amateur Radio pretty much go hand in hand. Even if you're not using APRS or SSTV, a computer is certainly a helpful assistant for logging your contacts, and pinpointing a map location so you can see where your radio waves are landing!

And let's not forget about PSK-31, or the D-STAR system! There are lots of new digital innovations occurring, and if you're the programming type - Linux should be your playground. It's the only environment I'm aware of that still makes it easy to talk directly with the innards of your computer. Did you know that APRS relies on the AX.25 protocol -- which is already built-in to Linux? (For those of you studying for your General / Extra, I'm pretty sure the APRS protocol is in pool of test questions).

Even if you're not interesting in programming, Linux is a great Operating System. It's extremely solid, and it's gaining wide acceptance in Corporate America because the machines can stay up for years without requiring a reboot! Every time you utilize Google's internet search, you're using thousands upon thousands of Linux servers to hunt for the data your searching for -- and when's the last time you saw Google unavailable?

Another positive feature with Linux is that it has excellent driver support. I downloaded a copy of Linux recently and was astounded to find that it detected all of my devices on my laptop. Even after a fresh Windows install, separate driver discs are common for setting up Windows on a new machine.

If you'd like to learn more about Linux, I highly encourage you to visit the Linux Journal's website (<http://www.linuxjournal.com/ham>), which is featuring an article about Amateur Radio in the January 2010 issue.

TRW Swap Meet Selling Policy:

If you're interested in making a little income on the side, consider selling some of your old ham gear or other electronic items at the TRW Swap Meet! The swap meet is an important source of revenue for the club, and also gives us a community presence to attract new members into the club.

If you come out to the swap meet and sell your own item, the club takes a 10% commission on the total price of the sale (you keep the other 90%). If, on the other hand, someone else in the club sells your item for you, the club takes a 25% commission. For more information, please contact our secretary, Joe WB6MYD.

SBARC CONTEST / ACTIVITES FOR JANUARY 2010:

EVENT NAME	DATE:	TIME:
NCCC Sprint	Jan 16	0230Z - 0300Z
LZ Open Contest	Jan 17	0000Z - 0600Z
NCCC Sprint	Jan 17	0230Z - 0300Z
Hungarian DX Contest	Jan 17	1200Z thru Jan 18, 1159Z
UK DX Contest, RTTY	Jan 17	1200Z thru Jan 18, 1200Z
North American QSO Party, SSB	Jan 17	1800Z thru Jan 18, 0600Z
ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes	Jan 17	1900Z thru Jan 19, 0400Z
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	Jan 19	0200Z - 0400Z
SBARC General Meeting	Jan 21	7:30pm (PDT)
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	Jan 22	0130Z - 0330Z
RSGB 80m club Championship, Data	Jan 22	2000Z - 2130Z
CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	Jan 23	2200Z thru Jan 25, 2159Z
YL-ISSB QSO Party, SSB	Jan 24	0000Z thru Jan 25, 2359Z
REF Contest, CW	Jan 24	0600Z thru Jan 25, 1800Z
MIE 33 Contest	Jan 24	0600Z thru Jan 25, 1800Z
BARTG RTTY Sprint	Jan 24	1200Z thru Jan 25, 1200Z
UBA DX Contest, SSB	Jan 24	1300Z thru Jan 25, 1300Z
SPAR Winter Field Day	Jan 24	1700Z thru Jan 25, 1700Z
TRW Swap Meet	Jan 30	7:00 - 11:00am (PDT)
EPC WW DX Contest	Jan 31	1200Z thru Feb 01, 1200Z

CLUB SERVICES:**CONTACT:****POSITION:**

License upgrades and / or new license testing	Joe, WB6MYD	Secretary / Treasurer
VE Sessions are held the 2nd Saturday of every even month	Joe, WB6MYD	Secretary / Treasurer
Need to sell something at the Swap Meet?	Joe, WB6MYD	Secretary / Treasurer
ARRL Membership renewals or new registration	Joe, WB6MYD	Secretary / Treasurer
Club Name Badge / Jackets	Joe, WB6MYD	Secretary / Treasurer
Club Operation	Alex, KD6LPA	President
Need something posted on the web site, or newsletter?	Alex, KD6LPA	Editor / Webmaster
Ideas for Club Speakers, Field Day Planning	Ray, WA6OWM	Vice President
Membership, Health & Welfare	Brian, KI6ERR	Council Member
Upcoming Club Events	Jerry, KI6RRD	Council Member
Club Activities	Alan, KG6ZPL	Council Member

If you have questions about your ham equipment, please feel free to ask any of our club members for help. Or, if you'd like, please talk to any council member, and we'll do our best to help you.

"Elmering" is available to every member, please ask any officer, and we will find a knowledgeable club resource for you.

You're a member of one of the best clubs in the area, and we want your help to make it even better. If you have a suggestion or an idea for improvement, we want to hear from you. Please feel to contact any council member by phone or email.

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY JOE-WB6MYD
e-mail address - jlanphen@ca.rr.com· 310-328-0817



1. **Holiday Party:** The holiday party was a huge success! The food was especially tasty, and we had a great turnout -- roughly 50 people in attendance! This year, we had three door prizes. The top winner was James - KI6UPL, who received \$100 cash. The newly elected officers were introduced after thanking the outgoing officers for a job well done by our Pres. Alex. Our goal for 2010 is to become more "Radio Active", as mentioned by our re-elected President. If you'd like to suggest an activity, please contact any council member with your idea -- and we'll do our best to make it happen. We wish to thank all of our members for their contributions over this past year, and their continued support in the new year.



2. **New Member:** Please join me in welcoming Richard Carter - WA6HYI, an Advanced class from Torrance, CA. Richard's interests include HF, DX contesting and computers. Welcome to the club Richard, and thanks for joining us!

3. **Services:** Please remember to renew or become an ARRL member through the club. (Contact Joe for details). The club benefits by getting a commission, so please help us out. Also, if you'd like to order a name badge, they can be ordered for \$10.

4. **Weekly Net:** Join us every Thursday night at 7:30PM on the W6SBA repeater to hear all the latest and enjoy the conversation by your fellow SBARC members. (No net occurs on the day of club meetings)

5. **Dues:** Yes, it's time once again to collect annual dues for the new year. The cost for an individual membership is \$20. For two members of the same family is \$30. Three or more members (family membership) is also \$30. However, the family membership is a special case where only one person in the family gets to vote. Other family members are eligible for attendance drawings and all other privileges. If you have any questions, please contact Joe, WB6MYD.

Please make your check payable to the SBARC and mail to the following address:

South Bay Amateur Radio Club
Post Office Box 536
Torrance, CA 90508-0536

CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2010:

President, Alex Marko - KD6LPA
kd6lpa@socal.rr.com - 310-530-6614

Vice-President, Ray Grace - WA6OWM
wa6owm@arrl.net - 310-370-1913

Secretary/Treasurer, Joe Lanphen - WB6MYD
jlanphen@ca.rr.com or w6sba@arrl.net - 310-328-0817

Past President, Richard Whited - KG6JKJ
rbwhited@yahoo.com - 562-756-7103

Activities Council Member
Alan Parks, KG6ZPL
aparks@ratheon.com - 310-558-8718

Events Council Member
Jerry Shaw, KI6RRD
shaw@scsenginc.com - 310-374-5252

Membership Council Member
Brian Smith, KI6ERR
brian.sbarc@yahoo.com

CALENDAR

Council Meeting - 1st Wednesday of the month
Call Joe - WB6MYD (310) 328-0817

Club Meeting - 3rd Thursday of the month
January 21, 2010 7:30 p.m.
Torrance Memorial Medical Center
West Tower, 2nd Floor, Room "A"

Club Nets - **W6SBA WEEKLY NET**
Every Thursday @7:30pm
(except the night of club meetings)
PVUSD EMERGENCY NET
1st Tuesday of the month
09:30 Hours on the W6SBA repeater

TRW Swap Meet Saturday, **Jan 30, 2010 7-11:00 a.m.**

VE Session - February 13, 2010
West Tower, 2nd Floor, Room "A"
Contact: Joe WB6MYD
Phone: (310) 328-0817
jlanphen@ca.rr.com or w6sba@arrl.net

Social Lunch - 2nd Saturday, February 13, 2010, 12pm
**NEW RESTAURANT LOCATION
TO BE DECIDED AT THE NEXT
JANUARY 2010 CLUB MEETING!**

CLUB SERVICES

Awards Manager (HF/VHF)	Cliff - K6LH
Health & Welfare	Brian - KI6ERR
Swap Meet Chair	Joe - WB6MYD
VE Test Liaison	Joe - WB6MYD
VE Test Sessions	Joe - WB6MYD
Webmaster	Alex - KD6LPA
Editor	Alex - KD6LPA
Proofreader	Vacant

South Bay Amateur Radio Club Repeater

224.38 MHz ·PL - 192.8 Hz Offset -1.6 MHz
(See Calendar for Weekly Net Times)

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION

South Bay Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 536
Torrance, CA 90508
W6SBA@arrl.net
Website: <http://www.w6sba.org>

TO:

Address Correction Requested

A COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION

W6SBA

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