



April 2013

ARCOver

A Community Service Organization Dedicated to Amateur Radio Since 1970

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You'd Be A Fool Not to Be Into



Amateur Radio

E-mail: W6SBA@arrl.net



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

President's Message

Hello W6SBA,

At our last club meeting, I asked for a show of hands to see how many people would be interested in building a 220 antenna. The response was pretty good, so we've decided to move forward with an antenna building project. Alan, our past-president will be securing the antenna kits. As soon as we have an ETA on their arrival, we'll set up the date for the antenna workshop (probably late April or the May timeframe).

These kits are extremely affordable – about \$15 (including tax and shipping), so if you're curious about constructing your own ¼ wave 220mhz antenna, I encourage you to take advantage of this building opportunity – money well spent! The kits are very straight forward to assemble. So even if you're a little uncomfortable around tools or soldering, fear not, they'll be plenty of help on hand to guide you through the assembly process. It should be a lot of fun! Hope to see you there.

SSTV Re-Kindled

About 10-15 years ago, Kenwood sold a portable SSTV (slow scan TV) unit that allows you to transmit still pictures over the airwaves. The unit was designed to interface with Kenwood HT's. I still have one, and use it with my Kenwood TH-F6 during the Armed Forces Day parade. Unfortunately, these units are no longer manufactured. Occasionally, you can find one used on eBay in fairly good condition, but they're a bit pricey now because they're hard to come by.

Enter the Yeasu FT-1DR. It's a new HT 2m/440 radio that will be out on the market shortly. The video camera is attached to the radio thru a special microphone (sold separately) which allows you to transmit QVGA (which is essentially the same resolution as slow scan tv). Other features include an integrated GPS – so you can attach your current position to your digital images sent over the radio. It also has a mini-USB port and a Micro-SD card slot for storing data. I've looked around the internet, but still haven't found a price for this unit, but it sounds interesting. I applaud Yaesu for going out on a limb and trying something new!

Buddipole Adventure

Last week, Rob Lefton KB6KMX, James Murakami KI6UPL and myself headed out to Alta Loma park in Palos Verdes to do some portable radio work. James brought his Buddipole and set it up pretty quickly and had it tuned up for 20 meters in no time. I brought my Icom IC-7000 and a battery and start scanning the lower Phone band on 20m, and made several contacts. The contact I'm most proud of is the QSO to Maryland – 3000 miles! After chatting for a while, I handed the mike over to James and Rob so they could make contact as well. It's really a lot of fun setting up mobile operations in the park, high above the noise of the basin with a scenic background. Each time we do one of these ad hoc trips, we get better at setting up our mobile operation. It's really a lot of fun! If you're interesting in joining us, please let me know. Love to have you join us!

Until next time, this is Alex saying 73!

CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2013

President

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

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Information Council Member

Bruce Jackson - KK6BJ
bjackson@ucla.edu - 310-372-1156

Past President

Alan Parks - KG6ZPL
thermic72@sbcglobal.net - 310-558-8718

Field Day T-Shirts: Order Now



If you would like to order a 2013 Field Day shirt, please contact Alan Parks. Cost is \$12.94 plus shipping. Sizes available: Small thru 4XL.

Club Agenda Item

The council is recommending the purchase of a second Yaesu FT-450 radio. Having the same radio at each HF station eases the learning curve for our operators and reduces frustration when members jump to another station. Our current radios are no longer serviceable and we feel now is the right time to invest in new equipment. This purchase would be close to \$1000 and therefore requires approval by the membership. We will vote on this business item at our April club meeting.



Talk to the World with Amateur Radio!



Thursday Night Net

Every **Thursday night at 7:30 p.m.** (except on the 3rd Thursday due to regular club meeting). Please join us on W6SBA 224.38 minus offset and the PLat 198.2 hz you can share your experiences or just say hello to everyone. We all need to do our share and keep our bands by occupying them as well so please check in. Thanks!

Next Lunch Social



Black Bear Diner

It was decided at our last meeting to give a new restaurant a go at it for our monthly meeting. By the time you read this it will have happened since the date is April 13th.

We will let you know how it goes. The location is at the NW corner of PCH and Hawthorne (used to be Big Boy). The place is called "The Big Black Bear". Please join us if we give a favorable report the next time. Thanks Joe-WB6MYD

THE HAM WHISPERER



Know of someone that wants to get an inside look at the different info and questions used to obtain various ham licenses? Check out this neat website put together by Andy KE4GKP. His website has course outlines and YouTube videos. The website is <http://www.hamwhisperer.com/p/ham-courses.html>



3315 Airport Dr.
Torrance, CA
90505
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www.wmof.com

<p>USS Liberty Survivor</p>  <p>January 19 Donald Pageler</p>	<p>Space Shuttle Calls Home...and Stays!</p>  <p>February 16 Dr. Kenneth Phillips</p>
<p>The Garrett Century</p>  <p>March 16 Barry Tyson</p>	<p>Tactical Nuclear Targeting</p>  <p>April 20 Don Oldis, LCol. USAF Ret Museum Members Free Non-members: \$5</p>

Celebrity Lecture Series
January – April 2013
11:00 AM

2013 World Amateur Radio Day -- April 18 -- Celebrates of Disaster Communications



This year marks the 88th anniversary of the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union. To mark this occasion, the IARU and its more than 160 Member Societies will celebrate World Amateur Radio Day on April 18. For many years, the IARU Administrative Council has declared a theme for each World Amateur Radio Day. The theme for 2013 is *Amateur Radio: Entering Its Second Century of Disaster Communications*.

Honoring the Theme of Disaster Communications

The theme commemorates the first known use of Amateur Radio in a disaster situation: Herbert V. Akerberg - a 15-year-old from Hilltop, Ohio -- is believed to be the first person to use Amateur Radio to call for help during a disaster. In late March 1913, the Scioto River in downtown Columbus, Ohio flooded its banks, killing more than 100 people. According to a [November 2012 article in *The Columbus Dispatch*](#), Akerberg used his home radio transmitter to send SOS calls via Morse code for nearly 72 hours.

According to the *Dispatch*, Akerberg's services were "highly commended by the city authorities, and his achievement widely heralded over the country as a new contribution to the comparatively new science of radio." Herbert Akerberg passed away in Scottsdale, Arizona on November 6, 1964.

Stations On the Air for World Amateur Radio Day

Several IARU Member Societies -- and clubs related to them -- will have special event stations on the air in celebration of World Amateur Radio Day. As of April 4, these stations include:

4A8DMR: FMRE -- Mexico's IARU Member Society -- with the help of Grupo DXXE, will activate 4A8DMR, a unique prefix, for the first time. DMR stands for Día Mundial del Radioaficionado, or World Amateur Radio Day. This station will be active from April 18-21 on all bands from 160-6 meters in all modes, including EME, as well as on Amateur Radio satellites from different grid squares throughout Mexico. QSL via N7RO and LoTW.

CR5IARU: REP -- Portugal's IARU Member Society -- will be on the air April 13-19 on all bands. QSL via CT1REP (bureau or direct).

KP4FD: To echo the theme for this year, the Puerto Rico Field Day Group will be active on April 18 from the Emergency Management Agency of the city of Cataño, Puerto Rico. QSL via LoTW.

If your IARU Member Society or club will be active to celebrate the World Amateur Radio Day, please notify IARU Region 2 News Editor Joaquin Solana, XE1R, via [e-mail](#).

Editor's note: This list was complete as of April 4, 2013. To view updates, please visit the [IARU Region 2 website](#).

Thanks to [The Columbus Dispatch](#), [Southgate Amateur Radio News](#) and John Bigley, N7UR, for the historical information on the 1913 flood.

Ham Radio in Hollywood: Last Man Standing Featured Amateur Radio Storyline

ARRL Article from 03/04/2013

In an episode to air in mid-March, the hit ABC comedy [Last Man Standing](#) -- starring Tim Allen as Mike Baxter,

KA0XTT -- prominently featured scenes with cast members using Amateur Radio. This episode will be the first episode to feature Amateur Radio since [the middle of the show's first season](#).



Fictional QSL card from ABC's prime time "Last Man Standing" TV series

According to *Last Man Standing* Producer John Amodeo, NN6JA, the episode called "The Fight" will feature several of the regular cast members talking on the radios. "I can't say much about the episode right now," Amodeo told the ARRL, "But this episode has the most significant use of Amateur Radio in a TV comedy since [Herman Munster, W6XRL4, got his ham license](#)." Fans of 1960s television will remember the episode of *The Munsters* (originally aired January 21, 1965) when Herman, on his ham radio, overheard children using walkie-talkies who were pretending to be Martians.

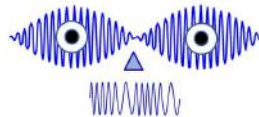
"In addition to the original KA0XTT station in Mike Baxter's work office, viewers will get to see Mike's ham shack in the basement of his home," Amodeo explained. "A cast member will also be calling in from a portable HF radio while hiking along the Amazon." The ARRL provided many of the awards -- including 5 Band DXCC, 5 Band Worked All States, 5 Band Worked All Continents and VUCC -- that are on Mike Baxter's home shack wall. The episode, which was filmed February 12, will also feature Richard Karn. Fans of Allen's former show [Home Improvement](#) will remember Karn as Al Borland.

Last Man Standing is produced by 20th Century Fox for the ABC Television Network and airs on Friday nights at 8 PM Eastern and Pacific and 7 PM Central. Anyone happen to catch it?

Club Alligator



Yes the W6SBA repeater does have an alligator. I've noticed the incidence of taking off right after someone stops talking on the repeater which does not allow the controller to reset the timer. This by itself is no problem, no one will hear you any way. What does should bother all of us is in that no one can get in either. If you had an emergency you are now not allowed in. This is very poor practice. Please allow the repeater to drop before talking to it again so others could get in if they did have an emergency. Please take a moment of your time and think about this. Joe-WB6MYD



What two kinds of modulation makes up Mr. Wave's face?
(See back cover for answer)

HAM STATIONS AT SCIENCE MUSEUMS

The West Palm Beach ARC and their station at the South Florida Science Museum seem like a no-brainer. What a natural fit right. And there are a bunch of them around.



For their efforts, they were chosen as this year's Club of the Year by the Dayton Hamvention. The question is How Well do all of those do their job? Do they staff them consistently? Do the hams who do show up know how to explain ham radio to the public, particularly kids? How does the club keep interest up among the members? Yes to all this and more go to www.HamRadioNow.tv.Episode70 For all the de-



Want a SBARC jacket,
shirt or badge?

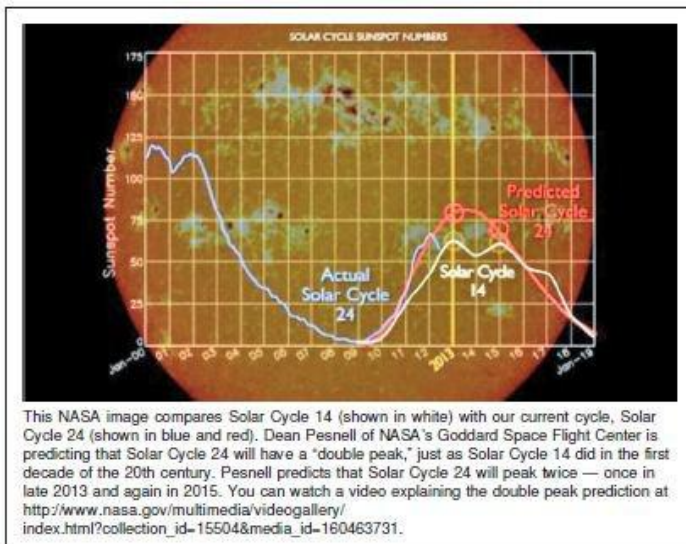


Let Joe-WB6MYD know ASAP your size and if you want with or without your call and name on it. Cost info for these items are TBD. Name badges are also available for \$10 dollars.

Solar Cycle 24 May Have “Double Peaks,” Says NASA Solar Physicist

From the ARRL Letter, March 14, 2013

According to NASA, the current solar cycle — Solar Cycle 24 — should hit its “solar max” sometime in this year, but so far, solar activity has been relatively low. According to an article by NASA’s Dr Tony Phillips, this period of quiet has led some observers to wonder if forecasters missed the mark. But solar physicist Dean Pesnell of NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center has a different explanation: “This is solar maximum. But it looks different from what we expected because it is double peaked.” Pesnell noted similarities between the current cycle and Solar Cycle 14, which happened between February 1902 and August 1913 and experienced a double peak. If the two cycles are in fact twins, he said that “it would mean one peak in late 2013 and another in 2015.” Solar activity tends to swing back and forth: At one end of a solar cycle, there is a quiet time with few sunspots and flares, while at the other end, solar max brings high sunspot numbers and solar storms. Even so, astronomers — who have been counting sunspots for centuries — have noticed that a solar cycle is not perfectly regular, with the swing in sunspot counts taking anywhere from 10-13 years to complete. In addition, the amplitude of each cycle can and does vary, with some solar maxima being very weak (such as Solar Cycle 6), while others can be very strong (such as Solar Cycle 19).



“The last two solar maxima, around 1989 and 2001, had not one but two peaks,” Pesnell explained. Phillips’ article explained how “solar activity went up, dipped and then resumed, performing a mini-cycle that lasted about two years.” Pesnell said that the same thing could be happening now. Even though sunspot counts jumped in 2011 and dipped in 2012, he said he expects them to rebound again in 2013: “I am comfortable in saying that another peak will happen in 2013 and possibly last into 2014.”

According to Phillips, solar activity in the Sun’s hemispheres does not always peak at the same time. “In the current cycle, the south has been lagging behind the north,” he said. He explained

that if a second peak occurs, it will likely feature the Sun’s southern hemisphere displaying a surge in activity. Pesnell is a member of the NOAA/NASA Solar Cycle Prediction Panel, a group of solar physicists that assembled in 2006 and 2008 to forecast the next solar max. “At that time, the Sun was experiencing its deepest minimum in nearly a hundred years,” Phillips’ article explained. “Sunspot numbers were pegged near 0 and x-ray flare activity flat-lined for months at a time.” The panel issued the following statement at the time, explaining its prediction: “The Solar Cycle 24 Prediction Panel has reached a consensus. The panel has decided that the next solar cycle (Cycle 24) will be below average in intensity, with a maximum sunspot number of 90. Given the date of solar minimum and the predicted maximum intensity, solar maximum is now expected to occur in May 2013. Note, this is not a unanimous decision, but a supermajority of the panel did agree.” But according to Pesnell — given the lack of solar activity in February 2013 — a maximum in May now seems unlikely. “We may be seeing what happens when you predict a single amplitude and the Sun responds with a double peak,” he said. — Thanks to NASA, Dr Tony Phillips and Science@NASA for the information.

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

1. Attendance drawing: We had a winner at our March General meeting. Darryl-W6JII was present and was given the kitty for 30 dollars. Congratulations Darryl. Our April meeting will start anew with the usual 20 dollars. Remember, you must be a member in good standing, see the enclosed listings, and be present to be eligible for this (please check previous listings or call me).

2. Thank you: Ray-WA6OWM as always, actually continues to amaze us, made an excellent and fantastic presentation on logging and QSL including eQSL. While some of this may have been a little over your head Ray will I am sure help you with any problems you might have. Emphasizes by Ray was to prepare on the logging for Field Day 2013 and the present Century Contest going on. Thank you so much Ray for clearing up so many of the issues with some of the procedures for this to make us better operators.

3. Century Contest: This is continuing to grow although a lot less at this time. As I was trying to say the purpose for the contest is to get us active on the air and yet make it fun to do. This is what hams have done ever since ham radio began, any activity gets automatically turned into a contest. We need to prepare ourselves for the upcoming Field Day activity in June (last weekend) and for the ongoing contest. If anyone needs clarification on the point system well let me know and I will explain. Let's do it on the radio which is what we are trying to do and what we should do. As I furthermore explained by mentioning several problems not only for me but others have also had to deal with. Kostek-K6MNA has had one problem after another with his new HT and me with my mobile tri band Kenwood which had totally locked up. It was with the assistance from Ray and Tom that we solved the problems over the radio which is the way to handle these kinds of problems. Take it from me your problems are our problems but we need to hear about it. Join us on the Thursday night net and any other time you hear us, keep track of the contacts you make and prepare yourself for a much easier Field Day 2013 operation and be eligible for the prize by winning the Century Contest for 2013.

4. Members in Good Standing: I am going to list the February renewals as well since they did not make it in time for the March Arc Over: We wish to thank the following members for having renewed their membership during February. They are now in GOOD Standing, thank you for your continued support.

Matthew N6MDC 551688; Jim W6IVW 551689; Gary KE6KG 551690; Howard KF6NOR 551691; Linda KJ6UMK 551692; James KJ6RER 551693; Meredith K6QEC 551694; Brian KI6RER 551695

One correction for last month's listing: Darryl-W6JII 551672 is correct. The other Darryl is a typo Thanks again for your continued support and participation. The following members need to be added as members in Good Standing for March:

Gary WD9DUI 551696; Kathleen-KG6RPM 551697; Chuck-KG6RPN 551698; Robert N6QA 551699; Burt K6KYM 551700; Mike KI6LJM 551701; Kostek K6MNA 551702; Shirley KF6EXI 551703; John AC6MG 551704; Martin KJ6TSK 551705; Steven KJ6VWN 551706; Rob KB6KMX551707.

As always we wish to thank you for your continued support and look forward to your participation in things coming up.

5. Activities: Yes several plans are underway for something this month. 1. The 220 antenna project and 2. Picnic. The antenna project will likely happen towards the end of the month, please stay tuned for a date including the location for the assembly of those antenna's. Should this fail we might have a Picnic instead. So here again stay tuned. Alan is ordering the kits and so if they come in on time we will proceed with that.

CALENDAR

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

Club Meeting - 3rd Thursday of the month
April 18, 2013 - 7:30 p.m.
Torrance Memorial Med Center
West Tower, 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,
April 27, 2013, 7-11 a.m.

VE Session - Contact: Joe WB6MYD
Phone: (310) 328-0817
jlanphen@ca.rr.com or w6sba@arrl.net

Social Event - Contact: Joe WB6MYD
Phone: (310) 328-0817
jlanphen@ca.rr.com or w6sba@arrl.net

Answers to Mr. Wave's face on page 5: Eyes = Amplitude modulation;
Mouth = Frequency modulation

CLUB SERVICES

Awards Manager (HF/VHF)	Cliff - K6LH
Health & Welfare	Joe - WB6MYD
Swap Meet Chair	Joe - WB6MYD
VE Test Liaison	Joe - WB6MYD
VE Test Sessions	Joe - WB6MYD
Webmaster	Alex - KD6LPA
Editor	Glenda - KF6QFE
Proofreader	Alex - KD6LPA

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

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TO:

Address Correction Requested

A COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION

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