



May 2015

# ARCO *ver*

A Community Service Organization Dedicated to Amateur Radio Since 1970

## In this issue:

- ◆ President's Message
- ◆ Speaker of the Month
- ◆ Free Courses
- ◆ Quiz Column
- ◆ Armed Forces Day History
- ◆ RF Filters: Pt.3
- ◆ House Committee Asks FCC for Documents
- ◆ FCC Proposes Permit
- ◆ Notes From Joe



**56<sup>th</sup>**  
**Annual Armed**  
**2015 Forces**  
**Day** CITY OF  
**TORRANCE**  
*Celebration*

E-mail: [W6SBA@arrl.net](mailto:W6SBA@arrl.net)



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

Hi everyone.

We have just found out that the Torrance Armed Forces Day parade does want us to help provide communications again this year. The parade is on Saturday, May 16 and runs from about 10 in the morning to 3 in the afternoon. Help is needed. If you are able to assist, please give Joe a call at 310- 328-0817. It's a fun event so please help if you can.

June is almost upon us and that means Field Day on June 27th and 28th. Our next two meeting topics will be related to Field Day. In May, a group of us are going to discuss the care and feeding of antenna analyzers. This will be a "hands-on" meeting where the attendees can actually use an analyzer to tune an antenna and check coax for functionality. In June we will discuss Field Day related topics including its history and purpose, the radios we will be using, and logging procedures plus general related information.

For Field Day itself, as always, we will need help for both setup and take down. On Friday afternoon, June 26th, we will be assembling at Joe's QTH to load equipment. We will then move to our site in the parking structure at the hospital to begin setting up the antennas. Operating begins at 11:00 AM and continues for twenty-four hours. We will then reverse the process taking down the equipment and moving it back to Joe's. While the menu has not yet been set, I know that we can look forward to some very tasty food to fuel our endeavors. The Council has decided to hold the meal cost at the same levels as for the past few years which is \$25 for all meals or \$10 individually. If you have a truck which could be used on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday to transport equipment, tables, chairs, etc., please let a Council member know as several are needed. Also, strong young people are in need to help erect antennas as the geriatric crowd is finding it increasingly difficult to do so.

We are still working on an Arduino based club project. Sentiment is leaning toward a Morse decoder but details are still being worked out. We will be having a picnic or two this summer and we are trying to arrange a fox hunt (that's actually a transmitter hunt if you belong to PETA) for one of them. Finally, we are hoping to have a DIY meeting in November if we can get enough commitments to build something so start building! That's 73s for this month. See you at the next meeting,

Alan

P.S. Important Armed Forces Day Parade Info: We will set up as in the past around 1000 hrs on Saturday May 16, 2015 at the same location on Acacia and Torrance Blvd.

### **President**

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

### **Vice-President**

**Bruce Jackson** - KK6BJ  
bjackson@ucla.edu - 310-502-0071

## **CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2015**

### **Secretary/Treasurer**

**Joe Lanphen** - WB6MYD  
jlanphen@ca.rr.com or w6sba@arrl.net  
310-328-0817

### **Activities Council Member**

**Jerry Cook** - KJ6JJ  
jcookggca@aol.com - 714-898-3983

### **Events Council Member**

**Chuck Hohn** - K6SCH  
chohn@socal.rr.com - 310-324-9561

### **Past President**

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



**MAY 21st - 7:00 p.m.**

**Torrance Memorial Med Center  
West Tower, 2nd Floor, Room A**

**Speaker will be Alan-KG6ZPL**

Alan will present on the subject of "Antenna Analyzer." A brief outline will be given on both the MFJ and Comet analyzer functions and use; then will be followed by a brief "Hands On" demonstration to adjust a 2m dipole real time. Also, he will demonstrate the use of those meters to show the loss caused by coax used as you go from HF to VHF and even UHF frequencies.

This is a must see and attend meeting! The actual demonstration and adjustment portion will be in 3 or 4 groups to show you how to trim the antenna by Ray-WA6OWM, Paul-KK6BY, Tom-KI6RC and Joe-WB6MYD. Un tuned antenna's will be provided by Paul-KK6BY

### Two Free Amateur Radio Courses

FCC **"Technician"** course (entry level)  
FCC **"General"** course (2<sup>nd</sup> level)

Each course is 2 sessions

The sessions will be on 25 July & 1 August 2015

**Technician** 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM both Saturdays (bring your lunch)

**General** 1:30 PM to 5:00 PM both Saturdays

The FCC tests will be 10:00 AM to noon on 8 August 2015

At the start of the 25 July Technician course, the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club will give a 30 minute presentation on how to get further involved with amateur radio.

The location is the Fred Hesse Community Park,  
29301 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes.

Confirm your attendance to Walt, K1DFO at [waltordway@juno.com](mailto:waltordway@juno.com)

There is no fee for either course.  
Taking the FCC test is \$15.

#### Optional Material (sold at cost)

Gordon West books with all the FCC test questions,  
\$22 for the Technician and \$26 for the General  
- Paper copy of my Power Point charts,  
\$20 for the Technician and \$20 for the General -

For courses sponsored by the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club, students thru grade 12 who pass their examination at a PVARC VE test session will, upon application to the Club, be eligible for reimbursement up to a maximum of \$50 to cover the cost of materials and the examination fee.

Everyone who obtains their first ham radio license through a PVARC VE session, regardless of age, will receive a free membership in the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club for the remainder of the current calendar year.



- 1) In a race, you pass the runner in second place. What place are you in now?
- 2) Alice has four sisters named Amy, Betty, Clarice, and Diana. What letter does the fifth sister's name begin with?
- 3) There are twelve people at a party and everyone shakes another person's hand. How many handshakes are there?
- 4) What device for telling time has the most moving parts?

### Answers to last month's quiz

- 1) Why couldn't the pirate play cards?

*Because he was standing on the deck.*

- 2) What has eight legs and eight eyes?

*Eight pirates*

- 3) Why didn't the pirate go to the movies?"

*Because it was arrrrrrrgh rated.*

- 4) I have 15 coins totaling \$1.00. The coins are quarters, dimes, and nickels only. How many of each do I have?

*I have one quarter, one dime, and thirteen nickels.*

Please send answers, questions or comments to Alan at [thermic72@sbcglobal.net](mailto:thermic72@sbcglobal.net)

**Thursday Night Net**  
**@ 7:30 p.m.**



Please join us on W6SBA 224.38 minus offset and the PLat 198.2 hz you can share your experiences or just say hello!

## Armed Forces Day History

On August 31, 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy and Air Force Days. The single-day celebration stemmed from the unification of the Armed Forces under one department -- the Department of Defense. Each of the military leagues and orders was asked to drop sponsorship of its specific service day in order to celebrate the newly announced Armed Forces Day. The Army, Navy and Air Force leagues adopted the newly formed day. The Marine Corps League declined to drop support for Marine Corps Day but supports Armed Forces Day, too.

In a speech announcing the formation of the day, President Truman "praised the work of the military services at home and across the seas" and said, "it is vital to the security of the nation and to the establishment of a desirable peace." In an excerpt from the Presidential Proclamation of Feb. 27, 1950, Mr. Truman stated:

"Armed Forces Day, Saturday, May 20, 1950, marks the first combined demonstration by America's defense team of its progress, under the National Security Act, towards the goal of readiness for any eventuality. It is the first parade of preparedness by the unified forces of our land, sea, and air defense".

The theme of the first Armed Forces Day was "Teamed for Defense." It was chosen as a means of expressing the unification of all the military forces under a single department of the government. Although this was the theme for the day, there were several other purposes for holding Armed Forces Day. It was a type of "educational program for civilians," one in which there would be an increased awareness of the Armed Forces. It was designed to expand public understanding of what type of job is performed and the role of the military in civilian life. It was a day for the military to show "state-of-the-art" equipment to the civilian population they were protecting. And it was a day to honor and acknowledge the people of the Armed Forces of the United States.

According to a New York Times article published on May 17, 1952: "This is the day on which we have the welcome opportunity to pay special tribute to the men and women of the Armed Forces ... to all the individuals who are in the service of their country all over the world. Armed Forces Day won't be a matter of parades and receptions for a good many of them. They will all be in line of duty and some of them may give their lives in that duty."

The first Armed Forces Day was celebrated by parades, open houses, receptions, and air shows. In Washington D.C., 10,000 troops of all branches of the military, cadets, and veterans marched past the President and his party. In Berlin, 1,000 U.S. troops paraded for the German citizens at Templehof Airfield. In New York City, an estimated 33,000 participants initiated Armed Forces Day "under an air cover of 250 military planes of all types." In the harbors across the country were the famed mothballed "battlewagons" of World War II, the Missouri, the New Jersey, the North Carolina, and the Iowa, all open for public inspection. Precision flying teams dominated the skies as tracking radar were exhibited on the ground. All across the country, the American people joined together to honor the Armed Forces.

(taken from U.S. Department of Defense website — <http://www.defense.gov/afd/history.aspx>)



## RF Filters: Part 3

This month we will begin to look at some simple filters. As you may have anticipated after the last two month's columns, the principal building blocks of many RF filters are capacitors and inductors. These are known as "lumped-element" filters. Other filters may be based on crystals, mechanical components, or on digital techniques. There are four main classes of filters: \* Band-pass filters which pass a desired band of frequencies; \* Band-stop filters which eliminate an undesired band of frequencies; \* Low-pass filters: which allow only frequencies below a cutoff frequency to pass; \* High-pass filters which allow only frequencies above a cutoff frequency to pass.

Graphs of these are shown here:

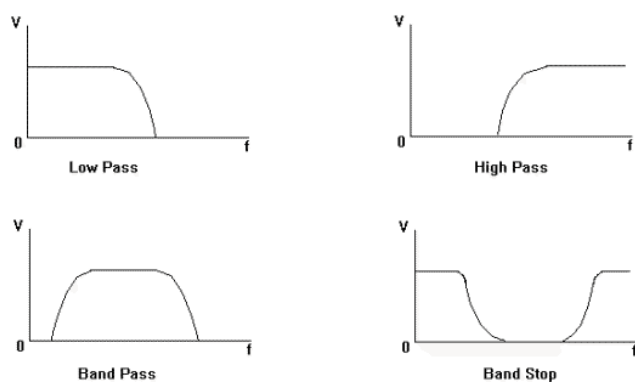
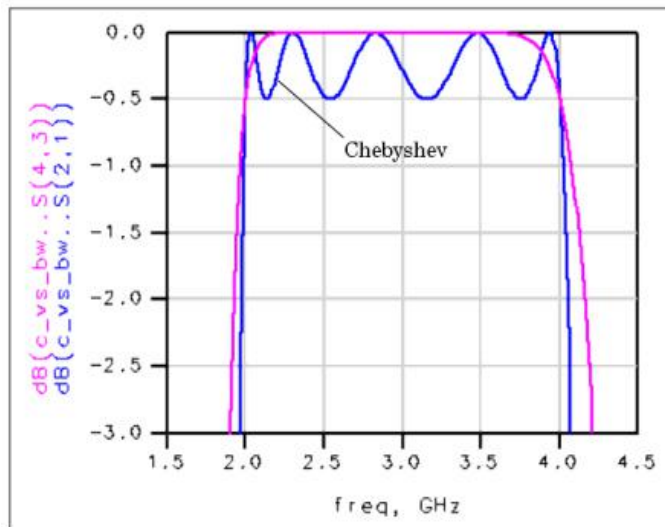


Fig. 3

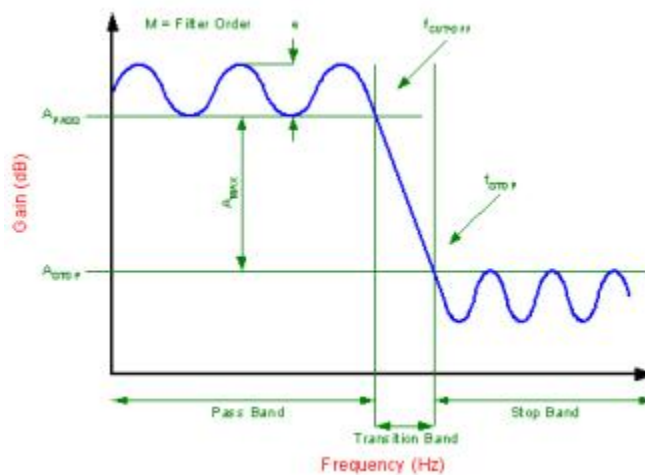
The frequencies that are allowed to pass through a filter are called the "pass band". The frequencies not passed are the "stop band". The frequencies that border the pass band are called the "cut off frequencies". They are defined as being the frequency at which the signal falls to 50% of the full power level in the pass band and is also called the "half power" point. This is equivalent to being 3 dB down from the pass band level. The edge(s) of a filter is called the filter's "skirt". It is the vertical part of the filter. The steepness of the skirt is important in many applications. For pass band filters in receivers, a near vertical skirt is often desired to isolate the signal of interest, A straight vertical skirt is impossible to attain although many filters come close.

There are three classes of filters that are frequently encountered. The first is the Butterworth. It is

easy to implement and has a flat passband. It requires many circuit elements to attain steep skirts. Next is the Chebyshev. It is more complex to implement but has steeper skirts. It also introduces ripple into the pass band as shown in the image below which contrasts a Butterworth versus a Chebyshev.



Finally there is the Cauer which has ripple in both the stopband and in the passband. It has the steepest skirts and is the most complicated to design. Here is what it looks like:



As you can see, the trade off for steeper skirts is often more introduced noise in the signal. That's all the space I have this month. Next time we will look at some actual filter circuits and how they work. Please send questions or comments to Alan at [thermic72@sbcglobal.net](mailto:thermic72@sbcglobal.net)



Field Day 2015  
June 27th - 28th

## House Committee Asks FCC for Documents Related to Proposed Field Office Closures



The US House Committee on Energy and Commerce has given the Federal Communications Commission a May 7 deadline to produce documents related to FCC Enforcement Bureau proposals to close two-thirds of its field offices and eliminate nearly one-half of its staff of field agents. In an April 23 letter, Committee Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI) told

FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler that his panel wants the Commission to provide all documents relating to the proposed closures.

"[Y]our proposal to shutter 16 of the Commission's 24 field offices raises significant challenges and concerns," Upton said. "The Commission has represented to Congress and the American people that it will 'preserve the integrity of public safety communications infrastructure by taking action on 99 percent of complaints of interference to public safety communications within 1 day,' yet your proposal to reduce the geographic footprint of the Commission appears to ignore the impact this might have on the Commission's public interest goal." Upton said the Commission has offered little information to support its proposals. "Indeed, our concerns have only been heightened by the Commission's failure to provide all the information requested by the Committee," he wrote.

The field office and personnel layoff proposals were outlined in a March 10 internal memorandum from Enforcement Bureau Chief Travis LeBlanc and FCC Managing Director Jon Wilkins to EB field staff. The memo, obtained by ARRL and others, cited the need to take "a fresh look" at the Bureau's 20-year-old operating model in light of technology changes and tighter budgets.

ARRL Letter, April 30, 2015

## FCC Proposes to Permit Amateur Access to 2200 and 630 Meters



Amateur Radio is poised to gain access to two new bands! The FCC has allocated a new LF band, 135.7 to 137.8 kHz, to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis. Allocation of the 2.1 kHz segment, known as 2200 meters, was in accordance with the Final Acts of the 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-07). The Commission also has proposed a new secondary 630 meter MF allocation at 472 to 479 kHz to Amateur Radio, implementing decisions made at WRC-12. No Amateur Radio operation will be permitted in either band until the FCC determines, on the basis of comments, the specific Part 97 rules it must frame to permit operation in the new bands. Amateur Radio would share both allocations with unlicensed Part 15 power line carrier (PLC) systems operated by utilities to control the power grid, as well as with other users. In addition, the FCC has raised the secondary Amateur Service allocation at 1900 to 2000 kHz to primary, while providing for continued use by currently unlicensed commercial fishing vessels of radio buoys on the "open sea."

ARRL Letter, April 28, 2015 (to read the rest of this article go to: <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-proposes-to-permit-amateur-access-to-2200-and-630-meters>)

**A Salute to all our Men and Women in Uniform  
Thank You for Your Service!**





1. **Attendance Drawing:** We had a winner at our April 16th meeting. The ticket drawn was from Chuck-K6CSH and he was presented. Congratulations Chuck on your 25 dollar winnings.
2. **Thank you:** We wish to thank Alex-KD6LPA for the excellent presentation he made about Echo Link. The power Point presentation was nicely put together and worked well to clarify the overall presentation. It was great to hear all the details involved including some of the history regarding the creation of this mode of operation available to one and all. Thank you Alex, well done.
3. **New Member:** We wish to welcome Paul-KK6TAC as new ham and also as a new member. Paul resides in Redondo Beach, obtained his Tech license and is retired from Hughes/Raytheon). Be sure to say hello to Paul and help him become acquainted with not just the hobby and its many different aspects but also with us as a new member. Thank you for joining the SBARC.
4. **Club Services:** We passed out the new membership roster out to those at our April 16th meeting and have more available. Please join us at our upcoming meeting to receive the updated membership roster. Unfortunately it is not available in electronic format as you might image for safety reasons. One of the problems is of course that while I check to see if your address is the same as we have on record. We can only do that for those of you paying by check. So what am I getting at is in that we have discovered several with wrong numbers and other information. Please let me know which goes for everyone whether you receive all our notices. If you're not getting anything you should let me know of course. Please check and see if all the info is correct by emailing Joe-jlanphen@ca.rr.com.
5. **FD Food order:** With Field Day 2015 just around the corner we would like to know if you are going to partake in the FD lunch, dinner and breakfast. You can also use a combination if you wish, breakfast only, dinner and breakfast or even breakfast only. Please let Joe know as soon as possible so an adequate supply can be had to cover everyone. Don't know the price just yet but as usual \$25 for all 3 or \$10 dollars for any individual meal.

one. The dates are June 27-28, 2015 at Torrance Memorial West Parking Structure as in the past. please let Joe know for now jlanphen@ca.rr.com 310-328-0817

6: **Jackets, Polo shirts:** Since our ARRL SW Div Convention will once again be held right here in our own back yard at the Marriott Hotel in Torrance on September 11-13- 2015 it would once again be nice if SBARC members are readily recognizable with our blue color jackets and or blue polo shirts and even baseball caps. I am sorry but prize depends on quantity and therefore we need to have a feel for the number of items will be needed. So please let Joe-WB6MYD know as soon as possible so that can also be taken off the plate again for things to do. jlanphen@ca.rr.com or 310-328-0817.

7. **Membership rosters:** If you wish the 2015 SBARC membership roster please stop by at our May 21st meeting and see Joe, Secretary. We are very fortunate to once again report that we only lost about 3 members having passed away or moved from the area. We thank all of you for your continued support and feel which we wish to share with you that we must be doing things right since other groups are really unable to sustain their membership. This is the case with so many clubs and except for a few which show growth as to other ones losing a lot of members for one reason or another. So we have a good club going for which we are grateful.

56<sup>th</sup>  
Annual **Armed**  
2015 **Forces**  
**Day** CITY OF  
TORRANCE **MAY 16TH**  
*Celebration* **1:30 P.M.**  
**TORRANCE BLVD. @**  
**CRENSHAW TO MADRONA**



We support the Men & Women of our Armed Forces!

## CALENDAR

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

**Club Meeting** - 3rd Thursday of the month  
**May 21, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.**  
Torrance Memorial Med 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,  
**May 30, 2015 , 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

## CLUB SERVICES

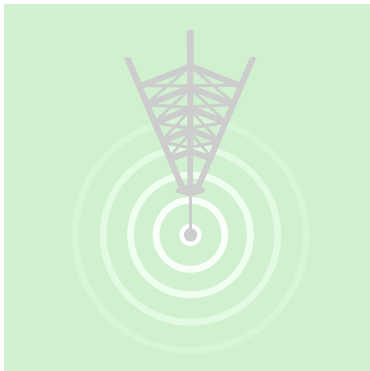
Awards Manager (HF/VHF)	Cliff - K6LH
Health & Welfare	Joe - WB6MYD
Swap Meet Chair	Joe - WB6MYD
VE Test Liaison	Joe - WB6MYD
VE Test Sessions	Joe - WB6MYD
Webmaster	Scott - N6LEM
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Proofreader	Alan - KG6ZPL

**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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