



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

August 2010



“RF Direction Finding”

This month, we will be featuring a video on RF Direction Finding. “DF” as it’s commonly called, is the process of using your radio equipment to discover the location of a transmitter. In the picture above, the HT uses an attenuator to prevent RF overload going into the receiver. This helps to refine the direction of the radio source as you get closer to the source. This video will show us some of the basic DF tips and tricks, and how to use your equipment in a “DF” exercise. Please join us for this informative presentation!

PSK Project Update

Earlier this year, the club started putting together some homebrew PSK projects. One clever member, **Darryl Beckman**, decided to house his PSK circuit into an Altoid mint can. Great idea! The dimensions are perfect for seating the circuit, while allowing space for the cable connections. The metal case is ideal because it helps to shield RF.

To the left, is a 6 pin din connector that interfaces with his Yaesu FT-817. This allows the PSK circuit to send and receive audio signals from the radio. The circuit automatically raises voltage on the PTT line in order to tell the radio to transmit. On the right, there are 3 cables: audio in, audio out and a serial port connector. The audio in and out cables connect to your computer's soundcard inputs (speaker and mic connections respectively), while the serial port interfaces into the DB9 communications port, so the computer can send and receive text from the PSK circuit. Darryl also put in some rubber grommets for each cable connection to seal the can from moisture. Very professional set up **Darryl!**

If you'd like to build your own PSK circuit, the club will be having another PSK session at Ray Grace's QTH, Saturday August 21st. Morning and afternoon sessions are available, but you must **RSVP quickly**, as open spots are limited.

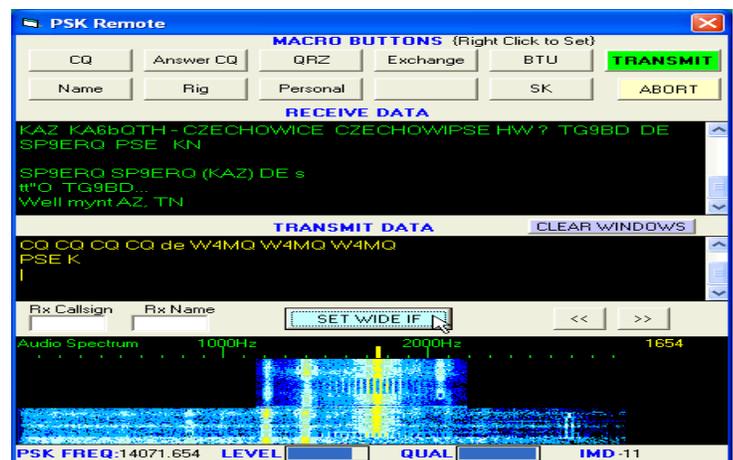


Here's the August 21st schedule:

1st Kit Session: 9:00-11:30 AM

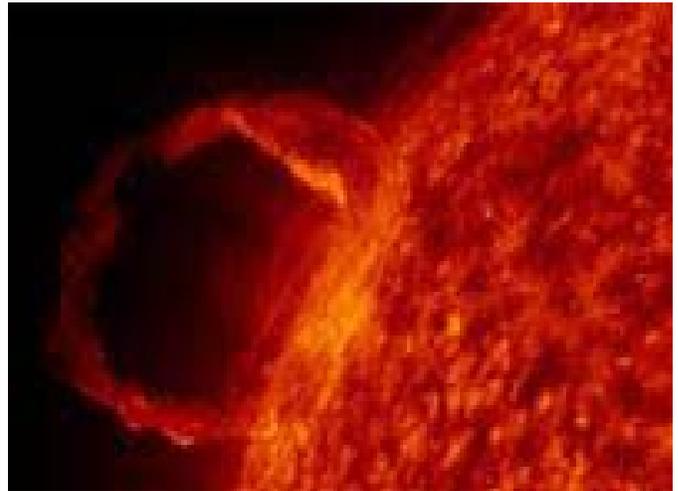
Lunch: All club members are invited!

2nd Kit Session: 1:00-3:30 PM



SOLAR TSUNAMIS HIT THE EARTH!

The sun has launched several solar storms towards the earth. These storms contain charged particles, and typically take 2-3 days to make it to the earth. To the right is a picture of a CME or “coronal mass ejection” which launches the charged particles into outer space.



When the earth is in the right position to intercept these particles, they are deflected to the North and South poles, because of earth’s iron core. The core and spin of the earth create a gigantic magnetic field which redirects the plasma particles to the magnetic north and south poles of the globe. As these particles enter the atmosphere, they cause the sky to light up in spectacular fashion, causing the phenomenon we call the “Aurora Borealis” or more simply the “Northern Lights”. In the Southern hemisphere, it’s known as “Aurora Australis”.



Due to the size and magnitude of the eruption, cities in the northern continental United States, (a considerable distance from the North Pole) were able to see the cosmic light show -- and many people watching the skies posted their sensational photos!

One of the fascinating aspects of the Northern Lights is that the lights actually move through the sky, bending and curving like water flowing in a stream. The colors are not always green, and can also fluctuate, adding additional beauty to the illuminated night sky.



From an amateur radio perspective, these charged particles can oftentimes boost activity on 160 meters thru 10 meters. Occasionally, VHF bands (6 meters) can also receive a boost.

Hopefully, these storms are an indicator that the sun is finally waking up and doing something for us hams in Solar Cycle 24. The next solar peak is predicted to occur in 2012.

KEN'S APRS SETUP

Ken Carr recently purchased the new 2m / 440 radio from Yaesu. It comes with a built-in APRS TNC that allows him to instantly see the locations of other hams right on the screen!

One of the nice features of the FTM-350 is the big display, making it extremely easy to read the APRS position information, as well as regular radio status.

In the first screen, you can see he has the A channel of the radio set to send/receive APRS messages on 144.390mhz. The B channel of the radio is set to our club repeater on 224.380! Yes, it's a 2m/440 rig that also has 1 watt of transmit power available on the 220mhz band!

The Yaesu has an optional GPS add-on that fits nicely on the back of the display, out of view, which allows outgoing APRS packets to communicate his present position! Congrats on the rig Ken!



CLUB SERVICES:

License upgrades and / or new license testing
 VE Sessions are held the 2nd Saturday of every even month
 Need to sell something at the Swap Meet?
 ARRL Membership renewals or new registration
 Club Name Badge / Jackets

Club Operation
 Need something posted on the web site, or newsletter?
 Ideas for Club Speakers, Field Day Planning
 Membership, Health & Welfare
 Upcoming Club Events
 Club Activities

CONTACT:

Joe, WB6MYD
 Joe, WB6MYD
 Joe, WB6MYD
 Joe, WB6MYD
 Joe, WB6MYD

Alex, KD6LPA
 Alex, KD6LPA
 Ray, WA6OWM
 Brian, KI6ERR
 Jerry, KI6RRD
 Alan, KG6ZPL

POSITION:

Secretary / Treasurer
 Secretary / Treasurer
 Secretary / Treasurer
 Secretary / Treasurer
 Secretary / Treasurer

President
 Editor / Webmaster
 Vice President
 Council Member
 Council Member
 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. **Attendance Drawing:** Alexander Cooper was the lucky name drawn for the July Attendance drawing. Unfortunately, Alexander wasn't present, so the kitty will be increased to \$30 for the August meeting. Remember, you must be a member in good standing and present to win.
2. **Visiting Needed:** Roy, K6ARB is currently in an Assisted Living Home. Roy would really appreciate if our club members could come and visit him to lift his spirits. The facility is located just East of Hawthorne Blvd, between Torrance and Del Amo Blvd. The address is:

Bay Crest Care Center
3750 Garnet Street
Torrance, CA 90503

3. **Convention News:** The next convention will occur September 17-19, at the Four Points Hotel Sheraton, San Diego. The Pacificon 2010 Convention will occur October 15-17 at the Marriott Hotel in San Ramon. Although a year away, Hamcon 2011 is confirmed to be held at the Torrance Marriott.
4. **Ham Class:** Walt - K1DFO will be conducting Technician and General class sessions November 6 and 13th. The classes will be held at:

Hesse Park
29301 Hawthorne Blvd
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

5. **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. Phone patch subscription is available for \$40 annually.
6. **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)
7. **Reminder:** Remember the Club Services available to you as shown in the ArcOver are for you! Please feel free to ask for and seek the assistance from any of the officers and anyone you think might be able to elp you! We're all in this together!

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@raytheon.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
August 19, 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, **Aug. 28, 2010 @7-11am**

VE Session - **October 9, 2010, 9-11am**
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, **September 11, 2010, @12pm**
Hof's Hut
23635 Crenshaw Blvd
Torrance, CA 90505 (310) 325-0470

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>

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Address Correction Requested

A COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION

W6SBA

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