



February 2017

ARCOver

A Community Service Organization Dedicated to Amateur Radio Since 1970

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E-mail: W6SBA@arrl.net



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

Hello W6SBA,

Wanted to announce that our first club activity of the year will be on February 18th, 11am at Joe's QTH. The club will buy provide pizza and drinks so please join us! We will be going thru the club coax cables and testing them to find out which ones work, and which ones have issues. As you may recall, we ran into some difficulty last year trying to get some of the antennas tuned up at Field Day, so the council decided to have a repair party now, early in the year. **We will set up a buddipole in Joe's backyard and then go thru and test the cables we have one by one and mark the good ones from the bad ones.** If we find a bad cable, we will determine if there's a short in the middle or whether the connector(s) need to be replaced, or both. In the event of a short, we will cut the cable and try to salvage it. Worst case, the club will purchase new cables so we can scratch off one important line item in our Field Day preparation checklist. Hope to see you there, it should be a fun exercise.

Speaking of events, we will also have our first BBQ of the year in the March timeframe at the De Portola park location. The date and time will be announced shortly. The club will provide hot dogs and the usual assortment of munchies and drinks. Please come and join us. We will also have a buddipole and an antenna on hand in the event you want to transmit. Look forward to seeing you there!

As you know, HamCon 2017 is coming up fast. Like last time, it will be held at the Torrance Marriott. The dates are September 15-17. To support the convention, our club has volunteered to run the W1AW station and also do the talk-in. (Talk-in allows hams unfamiliar with the area to call in and ask for directions, etc). So we will need to putting together a spreadsheet for coverage, probably in 2 hour shifts. We will need support for Friday and Saturday only. Sunday is not required. If you can help, please contact Joe and provide the time you are willing to serve.

That's it for now. Until next time, this is Alex saying 73.

CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2017

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mic72@sbcglobal.net



How to use a Buddipole antenna at home and in the Field

By Ray Grace WA6OWM

Ray WA6OWM will be demonstrating and sharing with us his experiences in using a Buddipole antenna.

He has made thousands of contacts with this versatile, easy to use and very portable antenna from his QTH in Redondo Beach and in Maui and will be sharing his insights and experiences in how to quickly assemble it and make it work at peak performance.



Ray has is a past president of the South Bay Amateur Radio Club and has held every office for many decades. He holds an amateur extra radio license and is retired from a long career in the communications industry.

Please join us in our new location in room 1 of the Health Conference Center at Torrance Memorial Medical Center at 7:30 PM on February 16th, 2017.

**THURSDAY
NIGHT
NET**

Please join us on W6SBA 224.38 minus offset and the PLat 192.8 hz You can share your experiences or just say hello!



1) In front of you are three boxes labeled “red poker chips”, “green poker chips”, and “red and green poker chips”. You are told that all of the boxes are labeled incorrectly. You may draw one poker chip at a time from any box. What is the minimum number of draws you can make and the procedure for relabeling all of the boxes correctly?

2) A man is in a prison cell that is 12 feet by 12 feet by 12 feet room. The floor is dirt and the walls are concrete. The only openings are a locked door and a skylight. He has a small shovel. He knows that he cannot tunnel out of the cell. What does he do?

3) How do you shoot a blue elephant?

4) How do you shoot a white elephant?

Answers to January’s Quiz

1) I have \$3.19 in coins but I cannot change a dollar, a half dollar, a quarter, a dime, or even a nickel. What coins do I have? Here, by “change, I mean give two or more coins having in total the same value as the coin being changed. ***I have two dollar coins, one half dollar, one quarter, four dimes, and four pennies.***

2) Your friend flips two coins behind your back and tells you that at least one of them came up heads. What is the probability that both coins came up heads? ***The coins can come up in only four ways: HH, HT, TH, and TT where H = head and T = tail. If one of the coins is a head, then TT is out and there are three possibilities left with only one of them being HH. So the probability is 1/3.***

3) How do you tell an elephant from a banana? ***Try lifting it. If you can’t, it’s probably an elephant.***

4) What would you do if an elephant sat in front of you at a movie? ***Miss most of the movie.***

Please send answers and comments to Alan at thermic72@sbcglobal.net

ARRL Asks FCC to Allocate New 5 MHz Band, Retain Channels and Current Power Limit

ARRL has asked the FCC to allocate a new, secondary contiguous band at 5 MHz to the Amateur Service, while also retaining four of the current five 60-meter channels and current operating rules, including the 100 W PEP effective radiated power (ERP) limit. The federal government is the primary user of the 5 MHz spectrum. The proposed action would implement a portion of the *Final Acts* of World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC-15) that provided for a secondary international allocation of 5,351.5 to 5,366.5 kHz to the Amateur Service; that band includes 5,358.5 kHz, one of the existing 5 MHz channels in the US.



"Such implementation will allow radio amateurs engaged in emergency and disaster relief communications, and especially those between the United States and the Caribbean basin, to more reliably, more flexibly, and more capably conduct those communications [and preparedness exercises], before the next hurricane season in the summer of 2017," ARRL said in a January 12 *Petition for Rule Making*. The FCC has not yet acted to implement other portions of the WRC-15 *Final Acts*.

The League said that 14 years of Amateur Radio experience using the five discrete 5 MHz channels have shown that hams can get along well with primary users at 5 MHz, while complying with the regulations established for their use. In recent years, Amateur Radio has cooperated with federal users such as FEMA in conducting communication interoperability exercises.

"While the Amateur Radio community is grateful to the Commission and to NTIA for the accommodation over the past 14 years of *some* access to the 5-MHz band, the five channels are, simply stated, completely inadequate to accommodate the emergency preparedness needs of the Amateur Service in this HF frequency range," ARRL said, adding that the five 2.8-kHz wide channels "have not provided sufficient capacity to enable competent emergency preparedness and disaster relief capability."

Access even to the tiny 15-kHz wide band adopted at WRC-15 would "radically improve the current, very limited capacity of the Amateur Service in the United States to address emergencies and disaster relief," ARRL said. *ARRL Letter*, 1/19/2017

FCC Dismisses Two Petitions from Radio Amateurs

The FCC has turned down two petitions filed in 2016, each seeking similar changes in the Part 97 Amateur Service rules. James Edwin Whedbee, NOECN, of Gladstone, Missouri, had asked the Commission to amend the rules to reduce the number of Amateur Radio operator classes to Technician, General, and Amateur Extra by merging remaining Novice class licensees into the Technician class and all Advanced class licensees into the Amateur Extra class. In a somewhat related petition, Jeffrey H. Siegell, WB2YRL, of Burke, Virginia, had requested that the FCC grant Advanced class license holders Morse code operating privileges equivalent to those enjoyed by Amateur Extra class licensees.



"Thus, Mr. Siegell's proposed rule change is subsumed within the changes Mr. Whedbee requests, so our analysis is the same for both proposals," the FCC said in dismissing the two petitions on January 5. The FCC streamlined the Amateur Radio licensing system into three classes -- Technician, General, and Amateur Extra -- in 1999. While it no longer issues new Novice or Advanced class licenses, existing licenses can be renewed, and Novice and Advanced licensees retained their operating privileges.

"The Commission concluded that the three-class structure would streamline the licensing process, while still providing an incentive for licensees to advance their communication and technical skills," the FCC recounted in its dismissal letter to Whedbee and Siegell. It specifically rejected suggestions that Novice and Advanced class licensees be automatically upgraded to a higher class, concluding that it would be inappropriate for these licensees to "receive additional privileges without passing the required examination elements." The FCC cited the same reason in 2005, when it denied requests to automatically upgrade Technician licensees to General class and Advanced licensees to Amateur Extra class, as part of a wide-ranging proceeding.

The FCC said the two petitions "do not demonstrate, or even suggest, that any relevant circumstances have changed that would merit reconsideration of those decisions." [ARRL Letter](#), 1/12/2017

German Regulator Acts on More than 6,000 Instances of Radio Interference in 2016 – How Many Does the FCC Resolve?

German telecoms regulator the Federal Network Agency (Bundesnetzagentur -- BNetzA) reports that it investigated and resolved more than 6,000 cases of radio interference in 2016. The agency reported that the caseload was about the same as 2015's.



"Our Testing and Measurement Service tracks down and determines the cause of radio interference and remedies them," explained Jochen Homann, president of the Federal Network Agency. "Ever more diverse wireless applications are increasing the complexity of investigating and resolving interference cases."

The agency noted that the causes of radio interference have changed significantly in recent years, but incidents of interference are continuing to decline overall. New and innovative wireless applications in particular make it difficult to isolate and eliminate the causes of interference, it said.

Interference to safety-related radio services -- such as rescue services, fire departments, and law enforcement -- or to aircraft radio systems present a public danger, the agency continued. The Federal Network Agency has deployed specialists and specialized equipment at 19 locations around Germany, giving the agency round-the-clock ability to detect radio interference. The agency advises and clarifies in each instance whether an interference case can be handled on site and if a fee must be assessed.



This BNetzA Testing and Measurement Service vehicle bears a telephone number on its side to report radio interference.

Amateur Radio Parity Act Speeds to US House Passage, Heads to US Senate

Just 10 days after being introduced in the 115th Congress, the 2017 Amateur Radio Parity Act legislation, H.R. 555, passed the US House of Representatives on unanimous consent under a suspension of House rules.



The bill's language is identical to that of the 2015 measure, H.R. 1301, which won House approval late last summer after attracting 126 cosponsors, but failed to clear the US Senate last fall as the 114th Congress wound down. The new bill, again sponsored by Rep. Adam Kinzinger (R-IL), was launched on January 13 with initial cosponsorship by Rep. Joe Courtney (D-CT) and Rep. Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR), who chairs the influential House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

"The grassroots effort of Amateur Radio operators across this nation in support of the Amateur Radio Parity Act has been remarkable, nothing like we have ever seen before," ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, said. "To all hams, keep going! Now is the time to charge forward with that same momentum to the Senate. We can do it!" The bill arrives in the US Senate with ample time in which to garner its approval through an education campaign.

H.R. 555 calls on the FCC to establish rules prohibiting the application of deed restrictions that preclude Amateur Radio communications on their face or as applied. Deed restrictions would have to impose the minimum practicable restriction on Amateur Radio communications to accomplish the lawful purposes of homeowners associations seeking to enforce the restriction. ARRL Letter 2/26/2017

CIA Declassified Database Includes Information about Soviet-Era Amateur Radio

Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) reports relating to Amateur Radio in the former Soviet Union (including the Baltic States) and Warsaw Pact countries are among documents declassified to a new searchable online database, the CIA Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Electronic Reading Room. Documents cover translations and assessments of Amateur Radio clubs; training; monitoring Sputniks; technology and equipment; QSL cards, and ruminations on a plan to monitor US ham radio transmissions for activities "of interest" to the intelligence community. Searches on "Amateur Radio" or "ham radio" will yield multiple documents, some heavily redacted.

For example, a 1949 memo largely dismissed the use of Amateur Radio in the Soviet Bloc as an intelligence-gathering tool. "Except for possibilities in the counter-espionage field, it is believed that exploitation of amateurs with reference to the USSR and satellites could lead at best only to information concerning the location of ham transmitters, an item of dubious intelligence value," said the memo, which carried the subject line "Exploitation of Radio Amateurs." Another memo from the same year showed that the USSR viewed the growing "cadre" of radio amateurs as the next generation of engineers.

Documents covering a wide range of topics not necessarily related to Amateur Radio also have been declassified, sanitized, and made available to the public for the first time in this archive. Some of these documents were only available previously in a closed system at the US National Archives. -- Thanks to Southgate Amateur Radio News via Andy Thomas, G0SFI



Club Members Ready to Help Hearts

By Glenda, KF6QFE

On Saturday, January 14th, SBARC members, their family's and friends, attended a CPR class at Torrance Memorial Medical Center. We hope never to need to use it, but we're ready to help keeping hearts beating. We're all now certified for two years. Thanks to Bruce, KK6BJ, for organizing the clubs participation in the workshop. What an awesome club event!



CPR TRAINING
Get certified. Save a life. You'll be glad you did.





1. **Attendance drawing:** We had another winner-K6QEC would have won \$ 35.00 if he had been there. Sorry Meredith you missed it. The kitty will now go to \$ 40.00 at the February meeting. Be sure to join us so you might be the real winner.

2. **We thank the following members** for having paid the 2017 dues and our now members in good standing. Thank you for your continued support.

Cliff K6LH 551967, Arthur WS6U 551968, Marjorie KG6HPR 551969, Craig WD6AKX 551970, Jerry KI6RRD 551971, Jeremy KI6USA 551972, Scott N6LEM 551973, Glenda KF6QFE 551974, Richard W6HYT 551975, Alex WD6LPA 551976, Bob KQ6WQ 551977, Bob W6QAM 551978, James KI6UPL 551979, Gary WD9DUI 551980, Patrick K6PDG 551981, Darryl W6JII 551982, Bruce KK6WYV 551983, Bruce KK6BJ 551984, Betty N6VZF 551985, Dick W1MII 551986, Tom KI6RC 551987, Joanne KM6BWQ 551988, Clyde WB6HLS 551989, Bill KQ6Z 551990, Jerry KJ6JJ 551991, Chuck K6CSH 551992, Joe WB6MYD551993. Thank you so much for your payment of the dues on time and your continued support and participation. You are greatly appreciated

3. **Thank you:** Yes thank you Alex-KD6LPA for the excellent presentation on APRS by using an Raspberry Pi micro controller as an APRS gate. This certainly showed the benefit of these kind of devices for amateur radio in our next generation. We look forward to more of these kinds of modern technology devices being used in amateur radio. Thank you.

4. **Thank you:** Betty-N6VZF is now the club's ARRL VE Liaison for our Bi Monthly VE sessions. She has published the schedule for 2017. So thank you Betty for taking this task from Joe-WB6MYD.

The club thanks Joe for his hard work in being the Liaison for all these year. He has stated that it had been very productive and enjoyable all these. None of which would have been possible if it wasn't for the VE team supporting this activity. Thank you for your support. We wish Betty much pleasure in performing this vital task for the club as well.

5. **Your swap meet team** is in need of your items you no longer use or anything you would like to donate to the club. This activity over the years has been very productive both financially as well in the publicity if you will. The presence at the monthly swap meet as a club has always been appreciated by the amateur radio community here in the South bay. We hope to do this for many more years to

come. Exposure of our club banner indicating the presence at this monthly swap meet has always been a beacon for all of the amateur radio community. Thank you for our present team Tom-KI6RC, Bill-KQ6Z, Chuck-K6CSH and Joe-WB6MYD if needed.

6. **Our new officers:** We all need to be aware that being an officer in the South bay ARC is not as easy as you might think. One reason we attribute our success is in that we shield our members from a lot of the behind the scene activities being performed. The monthly Council meetings take care of the business end of the club. However, it is not just that. Tasks are assigned to all our Council members which therefore makes this less of a burden on our members at the meetings. We realize you've elected us to represent you and I am here to assure you that this new team is hard at work to bring about some changes which we all can enjoy. Our biggest goal is to attract younger members to take the burden away from us older members which is the way it supposed to be. The leadership is the key to an successful club. A club which is yours to enjoy, bring you some of the latest in this fantastic hobby we've enjoyed all these years.

We must all try to grow in this new environment, this modern technology is as we all well know is overwhelming at times and we need to stay up to date. Please support all of us in offering to assist with the activities being offered and participate. Thank you and we look forward to your continued support.

7. **Dues are due:** Please remember to see Joe or even better yet mail your annual dues to the PO Box 536, Torrance CA 90508-0536 with your check made payable to the SBARC. The dues have not increased and are 20 dollars for 1 membership, 20 dollars for 2 members living at the same address and using our electronic delivery and 30 dollars for 3 or more members living at the same address and using the same electronic delivery of all the information made available to you. We wish to thank all our present members and any new members for all your support and participation we may offer you. The club is involved with several big events throughout the year such as Field Day, Convention and JOTA to name a few. We have a Elmering program in place and many other activities for you to enjoy and grow with. The club also has an equipment loaning in place for you to benefit from that as well. All you have to do ask Joe-WB6MYD for the equipment available. Exciting and new things are in the planning stations and we hope to soon provide them you as well. So stick around and help with your support to make some of these available to all your fellow club members. Please pay your dues. Thank you all for your support.

CALENDAR

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

Club Meeting - 3rd Thursday of the month
February 16, 2017- 7:30 p.m.
Torrance Memorial Med Center
Health Conference Center, Room 1

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,
February 25, 2017 , 7-11 a.m.

VE Session - Contact: Joe WB6MYD
Phone: (310) 328-0817
jmlanphen@gmail.com or w6sba@arrl.net
(All VE sessions are scheduled for Room 4 in the Health
Conference Center for 2017)

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

CLUB SERVICES

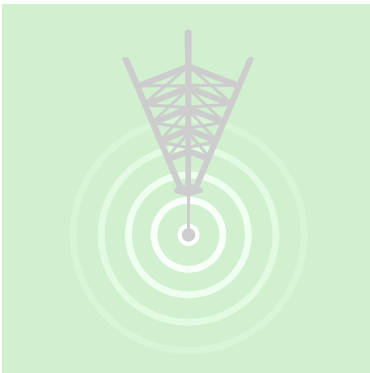
Awards Manager (HF/VHF)	Cliff - K6LH
Health & Welfare	Joe - WB6MYD
Swap Meet Chair	Tom-KI6RC, Chuck- K6CSH., Bill-KQ6Z
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South Bay Amateur Radio Club Repeater
224.38 MHz · PL - 192.8 Hz Offset -1.6 MHz
(See Calendar for Weekly Net Times)

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION

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TO:



Address Correction Requested

A COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION

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