



March 2013

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>

President's Message

Hello W6SBA,

As you know, we launched the W6SBA Century Club contest at the beginning of March, and it's nice to see increased activity on our repeater. I wanted to participate in the contest, so I decided it was time to get a 220 radio in the car. I decided to purchase the Alinco DR-235T radio, which provides up to 25 watts of mobile power on 220mhz. I then visited HRO to see what type of antennas were available. Most were tri-banders for (2m, 220 and 440) and carried a hefty price tag of \$70-80. That didn't thrill me, so I decided it was time to think outside the box.

The \$20 antenna project

I looked around the store and found the perfect solution! Larsen makes a quarter wave wide range antenna that goes from 136 to 512mhz. The price was far more attractive at \$18.95! All I had to do is trim the antenna down to the correct length and then I'd be ready to transmit on 220. The instructions that came with the antenna tell you what length the antenna needs to be for each frequency. I however, decided to do it the hard way and use the Comet CAA-500 antenna analyzer (which supports the 220 band) to verify the sweet spot.

Joe offered to help with my little project, so I wandered over to his house for some assistance. We cut the antenna down to 14" and verified that the antenna was tuning up in the low 200's. Cut it down to 13", then 12" until I got really close around 219mhz. I ended up cutting the antenna a little bit past the recommended length because my analyzer reported the SWR to be slightly lower at the desired frequency. I later discovered that the rear part of my car has more plastic than metal which I believe skewed my tuning methodology. By placing some metal plates under the mount, the SWR changed and became closer to the results published in the antenna manual. However, the antenna still works great and has an SWR less than 1.5. If you're interested in picking one of these gems up for your own, the model number is" Larsen NMOQ (<http://www.hamradio.com/detail.cfm?pid=H0-000623>).

Council News

Last month, the council approved the purchase of the Buddipole antenna system. The antenna is designed to be extremely portable and packs up into a small bag 24" long. Frequency-wise, it covers 40m thru 6m, as well as 2m (up to 250 watts). It's also extremely lightweight (less than 10 pounds) making it ideal for outdoor picnics and upcoming events such as the hike and mike. While the club does have other antennas in its arsenal, all of them are extremely bulky and impractical for portable use. The price with several options was just under \$500. This purchase completes a 2-3 year vision enabling club members to check out equipment and become more radio active.

Last week, our Activities chair, James Murakami hiked up into the Santa Monica mountains with his Yaesu FT-817 and Buddipole system and made a long distance contact on 15m all the way into Wisconsin. Not too shabby for 5 meager watts of transmit power! Good job James!

Until next time, this is Alex saying 73!

CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2013

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Information Council Member

Bruce Jackson - KK6BJ
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Past President

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

RPV Elementary Students Talk to Space Station



Third grade students at Soleado Elementary School talked to the ISS on Monday February 25, 2013. The roughly 7 minute talk by 12 students during a pass by the ISS over the area was a great success. This was the culmination of 6 months planning

by parents, teachers, administrators and volunteers to communicate via amateur radio.

The program while a joint venture organized by amateur radio associations and NASA to help stimulate student interest in, as well as in math and science. Reported in the Daily Breeze on Monday 25 and resulting report on Tuesday February 26, 2013.

International Space Station (ISS) experiences loss of communications with Ground Control.

On Tuesday February 19, 2013, at approx. 1445 UTC, the ISS experienced a loss of communication with the ground. At that time, flight controllers in Houston were updating the software onboard the ISS's flight computers when one of the ISS's data relay systems malfunctioned. Mission Control at Johnson Space Center in Houston was able to communicate with the crew as the ISS flew over Russian ground stations and instructed the crew to connect a backup computer to begin the process of restoring communications.

Once communication was re-established, Expedition 34 Commander Kevin Ford-KF5GPP, reported that the ISS's status was fine and the crew was doing well. Communication systems were restored as of 1734 UTC.

Darn computers any way, hey they did solve the problem to. (Reported in the ARRL Letter February 21, 2013)



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!

The Oscar Satellite

In February 1962, a mere 51 years ago, the first Amateur Radio satellite was placed into Earth orbit. It was a small first step into space for Amateur Radio, but progressively more sophisticated and more useful OSCAR's came soon thereafter. The first OSCAR had a 140-milliwatt, crystal controlled, c.w. transmitter, suitably keyed, and have an operating life of about three weeks, met these requirements.



The above was reported in the February 1962 QST. Anyone having this QST available for the complete article?

(Credit: Harley Gabrielson-W6HEK)

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>



Western Museum of Flight

3315 Airport Dr.
Torrance, CA
90505
310-326-9544
www.wmof.com

USS Liberty Survivor



January 19
Donald Pageler

Space Shuttle Calls Home...and Stays!



February 16
Dr. Kenneth Phillips

The Garrett Century



March 16
Barry Tyson

Tactical Nuclear Targeting



April 20
Don Oldis, LCol. USAF Ret
Museum Members Free
Non-members: \$5

Celebrity Lecture Series
January – April 2013
11:00 AM

Fontana Students Enjoy Being In Ham Radio Club

Published: Thursday, March 7, 2013 4:50 PM PST in the Fontana Herald

In this technologically advanced age of communication which features such 21st century tools as Facebook and Skype, there remains plenty of interest in a method that is more than 100 years old -- ham radio.

Students at Dorothy Grant Elementary School in Fontana are among the more than 2 million people worldwide who are ham radio enthusiasts. The local students have their own amateur radio club and have talked to people from many areas of the United States and other countries.



This endeavor is coordinated by Bev Matheson, a fourth-grade teacher at Grant, along with David Collingham, a Fontana High School graduate who is a ham radio expert based in Maryland.

"The club consists of 30 fourth and fifth grade students who come every Thursday for an hour after school to work the radio and to study the Technician Manual in hopes of getting their own FCC license," Matheson said. "The club has become so popular that more and more kids want to join, but I just don't have enough room. The kids are highly motivated and want to learn as much as possible about electronics, the radio and the science behind radio technology."

The club members operate a high frequency radio with a 15-foot vertical antenna. The FCC issued them an official call sign, K6DGE, which is also the name of the group's website, K6DGE.com.
Alaska, Ohio, Washington, and Oregon.

Earlier this year, Dr. Kate Hutton, an esteemed seismologist from Caltech in Pasadena, sent the Grant students a radio-gram congratulating them on their club license. The students asked her to visit the class, and she accepted their invitation on Jan. 31.

"She spoke to the students about the importance of ham radio during disasters and how it is used for emergency services," Matheson said. "She also brought a mobile radio and antenna with a battery pack to show the students how easy it is to be mobile with a ham radio. She also brought a straight key and demonstrated CW or Morse Code."

Then in February, Collingham, the president and CEO of International Quality Registrars, held a "Communications Field Day" at Grant to help introduce more students to the world of ham radio.

Collingham was first licensed as a novice in April of 1975 at the age of 15, aided by Fohi teacher Louis P. Malory. He now travels around the world, setting up ham radio remote locations.

The start of his interaction with Grant came a few years ago, when Matheson's class created a flag to send with Collingham on his trips.

"The flags contain a message of goodwill and our hope was that anyone who came in contact with the flag would have their spirit uplifted in some way," Matheson said. "So for the past three years we have sent flags to the South Pacific, China Sea, and this year to Mt. Athos, Greece, where it was signed by Monk Apollo, who happens to be a ham operator."

About a year ago, Collingham suggested that Matheson get her ham radio license, which she did.

"His hope is to inspire students to be the best people they can be and to provide them opportunities through ham radio to learn about and participate in a multitude of curricular activities," Matheson said. "My students have learned about the cultures of a variety of countries our flag has traveled. They have developed a better understanding of the world as a community through the flag activity and ham radio. They now realized that we are more alike than different from people of other countries."

Solar Powered Tents

The U.S. military has begun to take advantage of solar technology. Solar charging allows for greater portability and sustainability, which is vital to the needs of troops. One of the military's most recent ventures is a collection of tents equipped with flexible solar panels based on thin film amorphous silicon. In the hot and sunny deserts of Afghanistan and Iraq, these solar-powered tents ought to generate enough electricity to support portable communication devices, laptops, and other electronic devices, making the tents more or less a self-sufficient unit.



The US Army calls the three models they have developed the Power Shade (shown above), The TEMPER Fly (shown below), and the QUADrant. Each design has a different energy generating capacity based on its size and the number of solar cells: the Power Shade can generate about 3KW of electricity (the largest quantity of the three), the TEMPER Fly outputs about 800W, and the QUADrant generates around 200W of power. While the U.S. Army doesn't release the efficiency of the cells they use, you can reasonably assume they use the most advanced solar equipment in production.

Flexible photovoltaic cells generate 800 watts of electricity on a roughly 16-by-20-foot surface. This could enable the charging of gadgets, night vision goggles and more without the need for a generator. It could also come in handy in the case of natural disaster response. How cool would this be to have one of these for Field Day? Too bad they aren't commercially sold yet.



ARRL Files Petition for Rulemaking with FCC to Create New MF Band at 472-479 kHz

At the 2012 World Radio communication Conference (WRC12), delegates approved Agenda Item 1.23: a 7-kilohertzwide secondary allocation between 472-479 kHz for the Amateur Radio Service, with a power limit of 5W EIRP (or 1 W EIRP, depending on location).

Before this portion of spectrum is made available to radio amateurs in the US, the FCC must first approve its use and amend its rules to reflect the change. As such, the ARRL filed a Petition for Rulemaking on November 29, asking the FCC to amend Sections 2 and 97 of its rules and create a domestic Amateur Radio allocation at 472479 kHz, conforming to the allocation status and limitations set forth in the international Radio Regulations.

(Article in ARRL Letter 12-13-12)



TURN ON THE ATTENUATOR..... PLEEEESSEE!



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.

You might be an Amateur Radio operator, if:



1. You have bought black electrical tape in ten packs.
2. You have stripped wire with your teeth.
3. You have told your child, "One day, all this will be yours," and he or she did not respond at all.
4. You would rather help another Ham friend to hook up new equipment, or to put up a new tower, than to mow your own lawn.
5. You have grabbed the wrong end of a hot soldering iron.
6. You have gotten an RF burn from your own antenna.
7. You have given out RST reports while you were on the telephone.
8. When the microphones or visual aids at a meeting did not work, you rushed up to the front to fix them.
9. You have told the XYL, when she noticed a new rig in the shack, "Why, that has been there for years."
10. You have set your watch to UTC only.
11. You have had to patch your roof after an antenna project fell onto it.
12. You have put a GPS tracker in the XYL's car or on the riding mower, just so you could watch it on APRS.
13. You have tapped out "CQ" or "HI" on the car horn in Morse Code to another Ham.
14. Your teenager has refused to ride in your car because it looks like a porcupine.
15. You know the Latitude, Longitude, and Elevation of your home QTH.
16. You have gone into the local Radio Shack store, and the store clerk has asked you where something is and how it works.
17. You have answered the telephone with your call sign, and then finished the conversation with "73" and your call sign.
18. You have looked for antennas, radios, and Morse Code in movies and television shows.
19. When you look at anything made of wire or metal tubing, you wonder if it could be used as an antenna.
20. Your call sign is listed on one or more of your hats, T-shirts, or other garments.
21. You regularly carry one or more tools in your pockets at any given time.
22. When any kinds of batteries go on sale, you get really excited.
23. When you look at a barbecue grill, it creates ideas about ground plane antennas.
24. You have designated all your friends as Hams or Non-Hams.
25. You have referred to your Ham friends by their call sign suffixes instead of their real names.
26. You have intentionally confused Non-Hams by telling them that the only things you talk about on the air are pork products.
27. You have intentionally scared Non-Hams with the word "RADIATION"!
28. You have looked at telephone poles and power line towers as potential antenna supports.
29. You have thought you were still hearing CW, SSB, or SSTV tones, even when your Ham radio was off.
30. Your Go-Bag has more clothes in it than your dresser does.
31. You have a SKYWARN sticker on your back window.
32. Your significant other sits in the back seat, and your radios ride in the front.
33. Your neighbors wonder if you are a "Narc" (narcotics officer), a Spy, or a Federal Agent.
34. The cops pull you over because they want to see the inside of your car.
35. Your cell-phone's ring tone is your Ham radio call sign, sent in Morse Code

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

Attendance Drawing: The lucky winner of the February Attendance drawing was none other than Esmeralda Sandoval. Unfortunately she was not present and therefore the March meeting kitty will be \$ 30.00. You must be present to win and a member in good standing.

Thanks: Thank you Ray WA6OWM and James KI6UPL on their PowerPole presentation. The demonstration of power poles was very informative and emphasized the importance of having a universal standard for interconnecting ham radio gear.

SBARC & ARRL Dues: I am hoping those of you not having renewed just yet will do so before the end of March. After March if you have not renewed yet, you will loose your "Member in good Standing". Please take a moment of your time and mail, attending the March 21, 2013 meeting works to of course, to the PO Box 536, Torrance, CA 90508 with your check made payable to the SBARC for \$ 20.00 for a single membership, \$30 for a couples membership and \$30 for a family membership. We certainly look forward to your continued support and above all your participation. Lot of good plans are in store for us all but we need your membership. Please make it happen by either joining us 3/21 or mailing your check payable to the SBARC.

The club does have an open auto patch on our repeater. The fee is **\$40.00/ year**. We can set up a couple auto dial slots for you as well.

Arc Over: This is the 3rd Arc Over done by our new editor Glenda-KF6QFE and we certainly hope that you are enjoying these issues as much as we are. We like the fresh look of it, the mostly amateur radio related subject and simply fantastic make up of it. Thank you Glenda for doing such a fantastic job.

Articles: Please feel free to submit any material for publication to your Information Council member Bruce-KK6BJ before the first Sunday of the month. He will make sure it gets to the Editor on time (his e mail address is listed under Club Officers in the Arc Over or the PO Box).

Century Contest: Yes March 1, 2013 is the date for the contest to start. So please check the rules and have a go at it and of course enjoy. The points needed to be the winner are going to have be adjusted somewhat though. Just think if you contact one member each day, with the remaining 275 days left (Jan, Feb and Dec do not count), you will have 1375 points (275x5=1375). Additional contacts as recommended could put you well on your way to 2000 points. For now don't worry about it. Lets have fun and continue doing this to best of our ability.

Members in GOOD STANDING:

Hal	KO6M	551649	Ray	WA6OWM	551650	Brian	KK6BDF	551651
James	KI6UPL	551652	Cliff	K6LH	551653	Patrick	K6PDG	551654
Craig	WD6AKX	551655	Glendee	KJ6EBS	551656	Greg	WQ9P	551657
Alex	KD6LPA	551658	Bob	WA6KZF	551659	Ray	WG6V	551660
Bob	KQ6WQ	551661	Bill	KQ6Z	551662	Bennie	W6ZAC	551663
Dean Sandoval		551665	Emy Sandoval		551666	Esmeraldo Sandoval		551667
Josie Sandoval		551668	Jerry	KJ6JJ	551669	Tom	KI6RC	551670
Harlan	KC6YBJ	551671	Darryl	W6JII	551672	Brian	KI6RER	551695
Paul	KK6BY	551673	Donna Wilson		551674	John	AE6LK	551675
Ken	K6HRN	551676	Betty	N6VZF	551677	Dick	W6MII	551678
Bruce	KK6BJ	551679	Alan	KG6ZPL	551680	Clyde	WB6HLS	551681
Joe	WB6MYD	551682	Chuck	KN6H	551683	Mark	KA6ZTO	551684
Marjorie	KG6HPR	551685	Arthur	WS6U	551686	Richard	W6HYI	551687
Matthew	N6MDC	551688	Jim	W6IVW	551689	Gary	KE6KG	551690
Howard	KF6NOR	551691	Linda	KJ6UMK	551692	James	KJ6RER	551693
Meredith	K6QEC	551694						

Thanks again for your continued support and participation.

CALENDAR

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

Club Meeting - 3rd Thursday of the month
March 21, 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,
March 30, 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

CLUB SERVICES

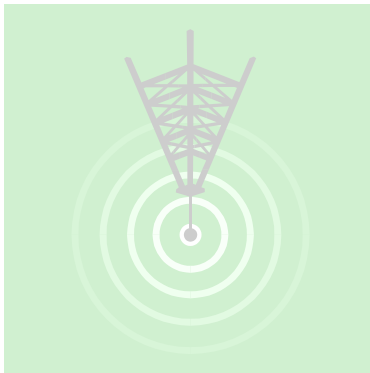
Awards Manager (HF/VHF)	Cliff - K6LH
Health & Welfare	Joe - WB6MYD
Swap Meet Chair	Joe - WB6MYD
VE Test Liaison	Joe - WB6MYD
VE Test Sessions	Joe - WB6MYD
Webmaster	Alex - KD6LPA
Editor	Glenda - KF6QFE
Proofreader	Alex - KD6LPA

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

TO:



Address Correction Requested

A COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION

W6SBA

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