



March 2014

ARCOver

A Community Service Organization Dedicated to Amateur Radio Since 1970

In this issue:

- ◆ President's Message
- ◆ 2014 Club Officers Info
- ◆ Guest Speaker
- ◆ Amateur Radio's Role in Missing Airliner Response
- ◆ Question of the Month
- ◆ Repeater Book App
- ◆ Ham Radio—Hunting Connection
- ◆ T-Hunting
- ◆ Secretary's Notes



Oh so
LUCKY
to have
Amateur Radio



E-mail: W6SBA@arrl.net



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

Hello W6SBA,

I want to thank James Murakami - KI6UPL for setting up our first picnic of the year. James brought some snacks and drinks and also worked with Joe Lanphen to get the club generator, radio and antenna as well as the EZ up for shelter.

I also want to thank Tom Carter - KI6RC for demonstrating satellite contacts with his HT and a home brew satellite antenna. Earlier this year I asked Tom to find out a good day for satellite contacts. He teamed up with Jerry Cook - KJ6JJ and crunched some numbers to discover that a satellite would be flying almost directly above Los Angeles on Saturday March 8. And sure enough Tom hit the target perfectly by getting two contacts in about 8 minutes. I believe he contacted Idaho and Canada on 4 watts of power!!! Very impressive!

We also did some experimentation with the recently purchased antenna pole and scored some additional contacts. Not long after this antenna was set up, Rob Lefton - KB6KMX was throwing his Frisbee and we were entertained watching his dog make some acrobatic mid air catches. After one particular catch, the dog decided to make a U turn around a tree, stumbled over one of the guy wires and I believe it was Tom who correctly echoed "Timber" as the long pole antenna began its descent. And suddenly the radio became very quiet. I found this extremely amusing and thought I'd share with you.

Until next time, this is Alex saying 73.



CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2014

President

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Vice-President

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katsu442@yahoo.com - 310-480-7794

Secretary/Treasurer

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jlanphen@ca.rr.com or w6sba@arrl.net
310-328-0817

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bjackson@ucla.edu - 310-372-1156

Events Council Member

Tom Carter - KI6RC
ki6rc@jaol.com - 310-326-2731

Information Council Member

Steve Wojtak - KJ6VWN
swihtaj@juno.com - 310-755-1688

Past President

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



Our Guest Speaker, with over 15K digital contacts, Ray Grace - WA6OWM

Our March Meeting will cover the subject of Digital Communications at the ARRL Field Day June 28/29, 2014

Q. Why the Digital Modes?

A. Extracted from ARRL Field Day Rules;

7. Scoring: Scores are based on the total number of QSO points times the power multiplier corresponding to the highest power level under which any contact was made during the Field Day period plus the bonus points.

7.1. QSO Points:

7.1.1. **Phone contacts count one point each.**

7.1.2. **CW contacts count two points each.**

7.1.3. **Digital contacts count two points each.**

Q. How do we get onto a digital mode?

A. Come to the March Meeting, bring a note pad and a "Thumb Drive". If you want to try PSK, we will have a few easy to install and run software (Windows ONLY)

Q. Bonus - Field Day Messages, for PHONE, CW and DIGITAL operations during FD. These messages can be re-written and used for your Home Station setup.

Amateur Radio Played Role in Missing Airliner Response

ARRL.com article dated 3/11/14

Following the mysterious disappearance of the Malaysian Airline Boeing 777-200ER jetliner with 239 passengers aboard, the airline's Emergency Management Centre (EMC) at Kuala Lumpur Airport provided hotel accommodations for next of kin. The Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitters' Society (**MARTS**) President, Mohd Aris Bernawi, 9M2IR, said his organization was asked to provide a link between the airport and the hotel.

MARTS quickly set up a station, led by Zanirul Akhmal Zanirun, 9M2PRO, with Azizi Samsuri, 9W2ZZE, as the airline's team leader. The Negeri Sembilan Amateur Radio Club (**NESRAC**) provided volunteers for the station at the EMC. MARTS set up a cross-band VHF/UHF link to avoid any unnecessary interference to and from public service communications, and an HF link was added later. During the callout 11 Amateur Radio volunteers were at the EMC and 23 volunteers at the hotel.

9M2IR, who oversaw the entire process, said MARTS — an IARU member-society — was pleased to be able provide the communication link as the search for flight MH370 continues. — *Thanks to Jim Linton, VK3PC, Chairman IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee*

HAM QUIPS DICK SYLVAN, W4CBT



ARC QUESTION OF THE MONTH

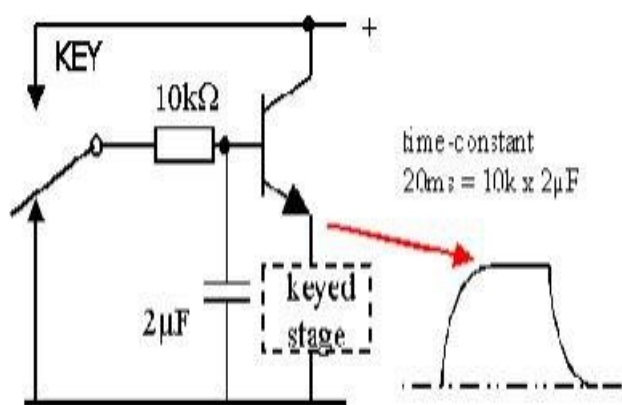


Patrick, K6PDG, asks: Would you tell us something about the club repeaters hardware.

The first thing that I want to make clear is that the South Bay Amateur Radio Club does not have a repeater. The W6SBA repeater is privately owned and its Trustees are club members Joe, WB6MYD, and Scott, N6LEM. The club does partially support the repeater financially. It is also supported by club members paying \$40 per year for auto patch privileges. This helps pay for a dedicate telephone line used by the repeater. The repeater itself is located high on the Palos Verdes Peninsula.

The repeater is housed in one cabinet and is powered by a 30A 12.8 VDC power suppl. The separate transmitter and receiver modules are rack mounted and along with an amplifier make up the basis for the entire repeater. The receiver is home built. The system, with the amplifier, has an output power of about 65 watts. Through the use of a Phelps Dodge duplexer we are feeding our signal into a Hustler G7-2201 Omni vertical antenna. The entire repeater through the use of a controller allows our Auto patch operation to take place as well as remote control of all major functions of the repeater. The use of an deep cycle marine battery allows us to provide emergency operation at a reduced power level for a minimum of 3 days should this be necessary.

After my talk on modulation and bandwidth, several club members asked about the type of circuit used to generate a keying waveform. I replied that I wasn't sure but that I imagined that a capacitor charging circuit was involved. I later researched the topic and didn't find a lot of references but the ones I did find did utilize capacitor charging to regulate the rise of the waveform. Here is one circuit that I found:



Ideal CW keying:

Same time constant for key down/key up

A quick refresher on transistors. As used in this circuit the transistor acts as a switch. If there is no current on the base, the middle of the transistor going through the resistor, the transistor does not conduct. As current is increased on the base, the transistor starts conducting very gradually until a certain base current is reached at which point the transistor starts rapidly conducting more power from the collector, the top of the transistor in the diagram, to the emitter, the bottom of the transistor. In this circuit, the base current is regulated through the RC (resistor-capacitor) circuit. With the key down, the current charges the capacitor allowing a slow buildup of current on the base of the transistor. This slowly increases the current going through the transistor. As the capacitor nears a full charge the transistors is fully conducting and the transmitted RF is at a maximum. When the key is lifted, the oppo-

site happens. The capacitor discharges in a mirror image of the way it charged allowing a gradual fall in the keying waveform.

Joe, WB6MYD, provided the information on the repeater. Please send questions to Alan, KG6ZPL, at thermic72@sbcglobal.net. I will accept telephone calls but I prefer that you contact me vis e-mail. Don't forget that we have a classified ad service for sales, wants, and trades.

RepeaterBook on the App Store on iTunes

If you don't want to pay for repeater information and you want it current, this iPad app is great. I use it and highly recommend it.

Steve Wojtak — KJ6VWN

RepeaterBook - The Free Repeater Directory for the USA and Canada.

Powered by the popular community database of RepeaterBook.com and software of ZBM2.com RepeaterBook enables you to easily find repeaters across the USA and Canada, for free and without a network connection.

- ☑ No network connection required.
- ☑ Use network, GPS or a grid square to find Repeaters.
- ☑ Displays your grid.
- ☑ Comprehensive selection and sorting options.
- ☑ Displays distance, heading and full repeater details.
- ☑ Fast and flexible Directory, designed to help you use the repeater network.
- ☑ Easily submit updates from within the app.



Customer Reviews

Everything you need/nothing you don't
by MonkeyFun4U

I was looking for a nice repeater reference on the go to make sure I could identify PL tones for repeaters while traveling. This app is great - it is location based and quickly gives you the information you need. The filters are well thought out and it allows you to quickly narrow what you are looking for (bands, distance, etc.).

Repeaterbook
by Holowac

This is a must have application for any ham that operates on repeaters anywhere.

RepeaterBook on the App Store on iTunes Continued

View In iTunes

This app is designed for both iPhone and iPad

- Free
- Category: Reference
- Updated: Feb 07, 2014
- Version: 14.02.04
- Size: 2.0 MB
- Languages: English, Catalan, French, German, Italian, Spanish
- Seller: Nicolas Associates Ltd
-  2014 ZBM2 Software

Rated 4+

Compatibility: Requires iOS 5.1 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. This app is optimized for iPhone 5.



Ham Radio - Hunting Connection

Every weekend, in cities and towns all across the country, ham radio operators gather on hilltops for a very special kind of contest--the Fox Hunt. A small, low power transmitter is hidden and the rest of the crew tries to find it. Sound simple? It can be very challenging and a whole lot of fun. The direction finding skills learned in this activity can be very valuable in locating a repeater jammer, or a lost hiker.



T - Hunting

Transmitter hunting was a part of the Palm Springs Hamfest, March 15, 2014. Joe Moell, KØOV, presented information and photos about this activity. There were simple hidden transmitters on the ground for people to find, with rewards awaiting the finders.

The next southern California on-foot transmitter hunting session will be at Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area in Irwindale on **Saturday, March 22, 2014**. There will be beginner-level practice transmitters plus a full five-fox ARDF course that's suitable for beginner to intermediate radio-orientees. Experts will be on hand to get you started with your own equipment or with loaner gear.

*The Net...
Thursday Night Net*



Go to <http://www.homingin.com> for info.



From The Secretary

JOE-WB6MYD

e-mail - jlaphen@ca.rr.com
310-328-0817

1. **Attendance drawing:** The luck of the Irish you might say, Matthew-N6MDC had his name drawn at our February meeting. He was not present and so our kitty for our March meeting will be \$ 35.00. I like to remind you that only members in good standing (from the year 2013) are eligible and must be present to collect the money. Thank you for being with us.

2. **Dues are due:** Yes dues are due, have been since January 1, 2014, and we again would ask you to please take a moment of your time and write your check payable to SBARC and mail to our PO Box 536, Torrance, CA 90508-0536. Dues for single membership is 20 dollars and for double (husband wife or someone at the same mailing address) and family (2 or more members of the same family) is 30 dollars. Thank you for your continued support, we greatly appreciate your support. Remember this is your club.

3. **Thank you:** We wish to thank Jerry-KJ6JJ for an excellent presentation on Echo Link at our February meeting. For those of you missing this kind of presentation should really realize it to be your loss. This was great due to it really being interactive, more questions were asked than Jerry could present which means it to be so valuable. Everyone learns something and as always is awed by this mode of communications. One thing we all must remember is that we are keeping this just for our group and is especially to be used for our members being out of town or unable to check in on our Thursday night net. Checking in on our Thursday Night net is a good idea since this allows you to become familiar with the steps needed to use it properly. Thank you Jerry for your excellent presentation.

4. **February Question** of the month: The question from Ray was only answered briefly and the 2nd question was "What would you like the SBARC do this year". This was pretty well answered by a majority to do better for FD scoring and more air time. This in turn begged the question "can we count on you to support us in that this year" which was well discussed but really had no consensus. As was pointed out that no matter what we do unless we have the memberships support it all will be in vain. This discussion quickly turned to as was asked our President "which way should we go this year?" while pro and con was presented on going 2A or 3A plus a free station it seems pretty well that we will go 2A. The option to go 3A is still on the table. The new location from the top of

the East side parking structure with its clear view to the East should be such a favorable location that we are lucky to have such an FD site. So please thank about this and above all let us know if you have any suggestions or recommendations please. We need your support and are asking for your opinions.

5. **March question** of the Month: Yes we have another one for you (this is open to anyone, just let me know if you have a question). The question for March is "**would you respond to a survey?**" The survey would be something like-do you have an HF station? How much operating do you do on the HF bands? Do you only work CW or digital? and so on. Think about this and let us know at the March meeting. Please, if you are unable to attend the meeting would you please let me know what you think?

6. **Additional renewed and new members:** Thank you for your continued support, we are very happy to continue your friendship and partnership as is everyone I am sure as a long time member of the SBARC.

Bob-W6QAM 551757	Matthew-N6MDC 551758
Alex-KD6LPA 551759	Alan-KG6ZPL 551760
Jammes-KI6UPL 551761	Mike-KI6LJM 551762
Richard-W6HYI 551763	Jim-K6JGL 551764
Donna Wilson 551765	John-AE6LK 551766
Rob-WB6KMX 551767	Cliff-K6LH 551768
Betty-N6VZF 551769	Dick-W1MII 551770
Clyde-WB6HLS 551771	Jim-W6IVW 551772

Thank you for your renewal. Your membership is appreciated and your continued support is great.

7. **Picnic:** The picnic scheduled for Saturday 8 will be history by the time you read this. However, for those unable to attend we do hope to bring you up to date. I've seen Tom-KI6RC first hand making contact as the bird passes over or by us. A pass nearly straight up will pass over the location within the time period we will be at the De Portola Park for our first picnic of the year. We certainly hope you'll join us for this.

8. **Reminder:** The Palm Springs HamFest is on Saturday March 15th in the Palm Springs Pavilion

For Sale: Yaesu FT-817ND, \$670

Steve, KJ6VWN, has an Yaesu HF/6M-VHF/UHF All-Mode QRP (5Watt) radio for sale. The world's first self-contained, battery-powered, Multi-mode Portable Transceiver covering the HF, VHF, and UHF bands!

Steve is a club member and a member of the Council. His telephone number is in the 2013 Club Roster. Email address is swojtak@juno.com. Members should contact Steve directly for more info

CALENDAR

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

Club Meeting - 3rd Thursday of the month
March 20, 2014 - 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 29, 2014, 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

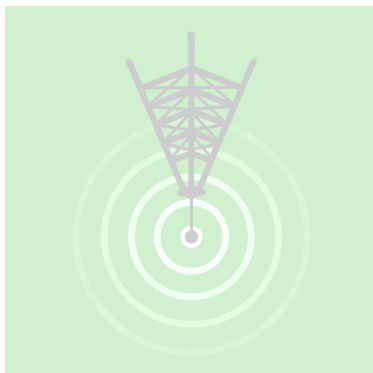
Awards Manager (HF/VHF)	Cliff - K6LH
Health & Welfare	Joe - WB6MYD
Swap Meet Chair	Joe - WB6MYD
VE Test Liaison	Joe - WB6MYD
VE Test Sessions	Joe - WB6MYD
Webmaster	Alex - KD6LPA
Editor	Glenda - KF6QFE Glenda.simpson@hotmail.com
Proofreader	Alex - KD6LPA

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

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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