



# ARCOVER

**South Bay Amateur Radio Club**



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

*A Community Service Organization  
Dedicated to Amateur Radio Since 1970*

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

President - ALEX - KD6LPA

April 2009



**TORRANCE MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER  
ROOM "B"  
WEST TOWER, 2ND FLOOR**

3330 W. Lomita Blvd., Torrance, CA 90505  
On Medical Center Drive  
With parking in the structure behind the West Tower

**THURSDAY, April 16, 2009**

**TOPIC:**

**"Home Brew Antennas"**

Presented by Chuck Lobb, KN6H & Joy Matlack, KD6FJV

## ABOUT THE SPEAKERS:

Chuck Lobb KN6H, licensed since high school days, turned ham radio into a successful career as an electrical engineer. He founded and directed TARA for over 20 years, and as a DX chaser, confirmed 330 countries on SSB and 320 on CW. Along with XYL Charlotte, the Lobb's have traveled much of the world, visiting his contacts in person.

Assisting Chuck in the presentation is Joy Matlack. Joy was first licensed in the late 1980's as a Technician, and later upgraded to her current license as General in 1993. She made community service a priority and has taught Ham Radio to CERT members, the American Red Cross and the Police Athletic League in Long Beach. In addition, she has directed the annual Baker to Vegas event for many years.

## PLEASE JOIN ME IN WELCOMING OUR CLUB'S NEWEST MEMBER:

**Scott Schifer—AB6YS**

Scott is an Electrical Engineer and is interested in HF, VHF/UHF, TARA and DCS. He would like to participate in Field Day, Public Events, Club meetings and Social activities.

Thanks for joining us Scott, and welcome! We hope to work with you in your many interests and help us in our Field Day activity.



## “Club Roster Coming Soon!”

At our last club meeting, the subject of creating a club roster was discussed with great interest. The idea is to have an annual list provided to all members so we can better communicate with each other and stay in touch. This is especially useful for new members who are still learning names and faces and want to get more involved with the club. The roster would be printed once a year, and include each member's call sign, name, address, and optionally a phone number and email address.

Privacy is a big deal these days and the club understands. That's why both the phone number and email address are optional. If you don't wish to have either your phone or email published in the roster, you can “opt out” at any time by contacting the club secretary by phone or email, or mailing a letter to the club indicating which field (phone number or email) you wish to have omitted. (Future membership applications will include checkboxes to opt-out when members join or renew).

Due to the fact that some members may be out of town, or occasionally miss a meeting, we want to give every member ample time to know the club roster is coming and give them sufficient opportunity to opt out if they wish. As a result, the club will wait 60 days, with a start date of April 15. Any requests to omit phone/email will be accepted until June 15, 2009. After such time, the roster for this year will be published. If you miss the deadline, we can't un-print the past, but we will certainly update our records such that future distributions reflect your request.

One of the biggest concerns raised at last month's meeting was whether the club roster will be made available on-line via the club web site. The answer is no. The roster will be printed on paper and made available to any club member in good standing. Unwanted spam is always a concern, and once an email address becomes part of an unwanted mailing list, it's difficult to stop. This is the primary reason why the club decided against publishing the roster on-line. With a printed list, the email and phone numbers are better protected.

For your convenience, the mailing address for omitting your phone/email from the club roster is published below:

**SBARC Roster Opt Out**  
P.O. Box 536  
Torrance, CA 90508-0536

### CLUB SERVICES:

### CONTACT:

### POSITION:

License upgrades and / or new license testing	Joe, WB6MYD	Secretary / Treasurer
VE Sessions are held the 2nd Saturday of every even month	Joe, WB6MYD	Secretary / Treasurer
Need to sell something at the Swap Meet?	Joe, WB6MYD	Secretary / Treasurer
ARRL Membership renewals or new registration	Joe, WB6MYD	Secretary / Treasurer
Club Name Badge / Jackets	Joe, WB6MYD	Secretary / Treasurer
Club Operation / Club Activities	Alex, KD6LPA	President
Need something posted on the web site, or newsletter?	Alex, KD6LPA	Editor / Webmaster
Ideas for Club Speakers, Field Day Planning	Rich, KG6JKJ	Vice President
Health & Welfare	Matt, N6MDC	Council Member
Upcoming Club Events	Nancy, NJ6S	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. (Contacts: Page 4)

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



A big thank you to Dennis Kidder, W6DQ, who delivered a very important presentation on “Grounding” at our last club meeting in March. Dennis presented the do’s and don’ts for electrical grounding, and showed us why it’s important to have one common ground. Dennis had quite a bit of insight and wisdom to impart, which made for an extremely informative presentation. Thank you Dennis, and we look forward to having you speak with us again real soon!

Baker To Vegas: We especially want to thank Charlie-AC6ZX who with the help from his daughter (Leah) and a friend (Steve) managed our early warning position. Once the main team members arrived, both Ken-K6HRN and Alan-KG6ZPL joined them at the Early warning position to alert the stage and runners when their teammates approached our checkpoint. They did a great job and we want to thank them for their efforts. I also want to thank the rest of our crew: Ray (WA6OWM), Bill (N6ES), Nancy (NJ6S) and Alex (KD6LPA).

We joined up for dinner on Sunday night and enjoyed the company of Jane XYL to Ray, Marsha XYL to Ken and of course Nancy and Bill, Alex, Alan and myself for a good time at Buffalo Bill’s. After the cold wind, the nice warm baby back ribs from Tony Roma’s really hit the spot. I, as appointed stage lead want to thank you all for another job well done!



**CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2009:**

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

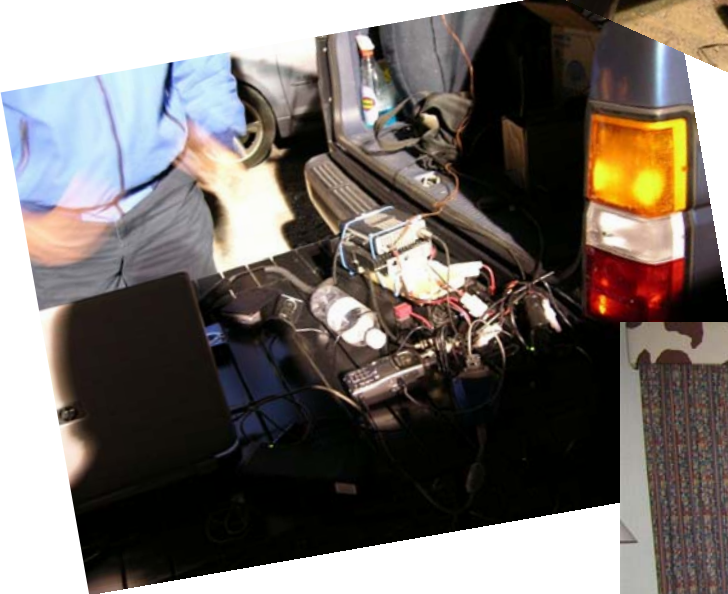
**Vice-President: Richard Whited - KG6JKJ**  
**rbwhited@yahoo.com - 562-756-7103**

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

**Council Member #1, Matthew Cruse - N6MDC**  
**310-374-5696**

**Council Member #2, Nancy Klatskin - NJ6S**  
**nklatskin@verizon.net - 310-540-3253**

**Past-President, Ed Hinz - KN6JN**  
**kn6jn@aol.com - 310-325-7944**



### EVE ! - Radio Amateurs bounce a signal off Venus

Radio Amateurs have achieved the very first reception of amateur signals bounced off the planet Venus, over 50 million km away - EVE (Earth-Venus-Earth). Peter Guelzow DB2OS, President of AMSAT-DL has provided a description of this landmark achievement.

On March 25th, 2009 a team from the German space organization AMSAT-DL reached another milestone on its way to an own interplanetary probe towards planet Mars. The ground station at the Bochum observatory transmitted radio signals to Venus. After travelling almost 100 million kilometers and a round trip delay of about 5 minutes, they were clearly received as echoes from the surface of Venus.

Receiving these planetary echoes is a first for Germany and Europe. In addition, this is the farthest distance crossed by radio amateurs, over 100 times further than echoes from the moon (EME reflections).

For receiving the EVE signals, an FFT analysis with an integration time of 5 minutes was used. After integrating for 2 minutes only, the reflected signals were clearly visible in the display. Despite the bad weather, signals from Venus could be detected from 1038UT until the planet reached the local horizon.

The 2.4 GHz high power amplifier used for this achievement is described in the current AMSAT-DL journal.

This represented a crucial test for a final key component of the planned P5-A Mars mission. By receiving echoes from Venus, the ground and command station for the Mars probe has been cleared for operational use and the AMSAT team is now gearing up for building the P5-A space probe.

For financing the actual construction and launch, AMSAT-DL is currently in negotiation with the DLR (Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt) amongst others, to obtain financial support for the remaining budget of 20 Mil Euros. AMSAT-DL wants to show that low-cost interplanetary exploration is possible with its approach.

The EVE experiment was repeated on Thursday, March 26th for several hours with good echoes from Venus. Morse code was used to transmit the well known "HI" signature known from the AMSAT OSCAR satellites.

73s de DB2OS

Peter Guelzow

President AMSAT-DL

*Submitted to the ARCover from Nancy Klatskin, NJ6S*



### Attendance drawing:

Attendance drawing: Ray-WA6OWM was the lucky member to have his name drawn for our monthly Attendance drawing. He promptly turned this 20 dollar winning into the next years dues payment. Thanks Ray and Congrats!!!



## ARRL YOUTH EDITOR: YOUNG PEOPLE CAN HELP WITH EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS, TOO!

ARRL Youth Editor Duncan MacLachlan, KU0DM, of Prairie Village, Kansas, says many young hams want to help out with Emergency Communications and ARES activities, but really don't know where to start. "One disadvantage of being younger hams is the fact that legal guardians are a must for most situations," MacLachlan said. "While a young ham may not be able to go out and save the day with a handheld transceiver after a large storm, there are many ways they can aid in emergency operations."



MacLachlan said that the first step in helping to support Emergency Communications is to join the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) or a local club that works with city or county to provide emergency communications services. "When you approach your EC -- the Emergency Coordinator, basically the president of that ARES group -- I recommend that you have discussed with your parents what you can and can't do in an emergency in terms of Amateur Radio response. If your parents are like mine, chances are they're not fond of the idea of having their kid running around a disaster zone in the name of emergency communications. I'd recommend asking your EC if there is a position you could fulfill from home, or even in the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) where operations are carried out."

One example of a duty that a young ham could fulfill at the EOC would be Net duty. In an emergency response effort, MacLachlan said that hams establish a Net to relay emergency traffic or other information to the people responsible for responding to the event: "Chances are the Net will last longer than 10 hours, and since hams are human, the primary Net Control (NC) will need a break at least several times in that time period -- you could help as back-up. Another duty that could be performed is shadowing various emergency response personnel for the city. Believe it or not, not a lot of Emergency Managers have their Amateur Radio license. If they go out to drive around and survey damage, they need to have a link to the ham radio Net in case they hear anything they need to respond to."

MacLachlan recommends that young hams contact their EC and ask what roles there are that they could perform for the group in an emergency. "If you know your parents' threshold of what you can and can't do, let the EC know upfront that you do have limits," he cautions. "Make sure you participate in as many emergency communication drills as you can and consult with your EC and other members."

According to ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD, young hams also need to check with their local government officials, as well. "Due to legal considerations, not all emergency management officials can have young people in their domains, such as an EOC," Dura explained. "While you can still help out with your ARES group, you might not be allowed to help out in the EOC."

MacLachlan strongly encourages local Emergency Coordinators to think of ways of creating positions that younger hams could fulfill in an emergency. "We're the next generation," MacLachlan said, "and starting emergency response at a young age is the best training for when we're ready to take the helm."

## NORTH DAKOTA HAMS HELP TO HEAD OFF RIVER FLOODING

Early on Friday, March 27, the Red River -- the natural boundary separating North Dakota and Minnesota -- rose to 40.32 feet, more than 22 feet above flood stage and inches more than the previous high water mark of 40.10 feet set April 7, 1897. According to Mark Johnson, KC0SHM, President of the Red River Radio Amateurs (RRRA) <<http://www.rrra.org/>>, hams are "substantially involved" with the flood operations. "This flooding event is impacting residents in both North Dakota and Minnesota" he told the ARRL. "National Weather Service forecasters are predicting that the river will crest to 41 feet, maybe even as high as 43 feet, by Saturday."

Johnson said that on March 22, officials in North Dakota's Cass County and Minnesota's Clay County requested the assistance of local amateurs. Hams set up local nets on the W0ILO repeater system, using 444.875+ and 145.350-. "Initially, hams supported the area, helping out with coordinating food and water requests for the Salvation Army and Red Cross," he said. "In addition, Clay County hams have been heavily involved with coordinating sand and sandbag logistics."

In Fargo, schools were closed and trials in the municipal court were suspended. According to "The New York Times," hundreds of people swarmed onto the floor of the Fargodome, home of the North Dakota State University football team and where a rodeo had been scheduled for this week. In the center of the stadium, the "Times" reported that "mountains of clay- and rock-filled sand were surrounded by college students, children, members of the National Guard and ordinary residents, all bearing shovels and filling white sandbags. Thousands of volunteers -- from places as far as Florida and Alaska -- have filled 2.5 million sandbags in just five days. Little forklifts whirred around bearing pallets of bags and dump trucks drove through delivering more sand, even as volunteers offered 'fresh hot cookies,' neck massages and tetanus shots" <[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/27/us/27flood.html?\\_r=1&ref=us](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/27/us/27flood.html?_r=1&ref=us)>.

Johnson said that as the river continues to rise and sandbagging operations near completion, "ham activity is morphing from dike preparations to developing emergency communications for evacuations, in the event should that become necessary. As of Thursday, March 26, we are currently communicating between three hospitals, two county Emergency Operation Centers, volunteer centers, the Salvation Army, the American Red Cross, the Coast Guard and a helipad." Johnson said these are 24 hour operations.

"Honestly, I do not know the number of hams participating; I would estimate roughly 30 or more at this time to support the operations," Johnson told the ARRL. "The volunteer response has been enormous -- we believe we have enough volunteers on hand to manage through the weekend. After the weekend, we are relying on other area hams who have responded to the call that are standing by." Since all resource needs are being met by amateurs in the North Dakota and Minnesota Sections, ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD, said that there is no need for Amateur Radio assistance from other Sections at this time.

Cass County Sherriff Paul Laney told the "Times" that south of the city -- near the Red River and the Wild Rice River -- 46 residents and 12 pets had to be rescued by boat from homes in which water had pressed through sandbags and made its way into first floors, and that on Thursday, he and his officers were headed off on boats to make 11 additional rescues.

Concerns about major flooding extend well beyond Fargo. Throughout parts of North Dakota and western Minnesota, residents are bracing for the Red River, nearby streams and rivers and the Missouri River to spill their banks -- the result, according to the NWS, of a combination of factors. In the fall, the flat terrain was saturated by rain, followed by a winter of heavy snow, and now -- as so much snow began melting -- came days more of rain and, on Wednesday, half a foot of snow in some places.

In the Canadian province of Manitoba, the Manitoba Emergency Measures Organization and the City of Winnipeg Emergency Program have requested assistance from local ARES groups there to help out with the flooding on that side of the border, said Radio Amateurs of Canada's Manitoba Section Emergency Coordinator Don Gerrard, VE4DWG. "Both organizations are in the process of activating their Emergency Operations Centers and have requested ARES radio operators to begin staffing the radio room at the facilities beginning Monday March 30, 2009," he posted on an RAC ARES reflector. "Jeff Dovyak, VE4MBQ, District Emergency Coordinator of the Capital Region, advises that he is beginning the process of scheduling ARES radio operators for these current taskings. Further requirements are likely as water levels rise, and will be communicated when received."

"As both a ham and a resident of Fargo, I am deeply touched by the community outpouring of support for fellow man," Johnson said. "Volunteers by the thousands have poured into churches to help with food, volunteer centers to help fill sand bags and to the front lines for sand bag placement. Everyone pray for us -- we need a miracle for the community as a whole to pull this off."

## CALENDAR

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

**Club Meeting** - 3rd Thursday of the month  
**April 16, 2009 7:30 p.m.**  
Torrance Memorial Medical Center  
West Tower, 2nd Floor, Room "B"

**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, April 25, 2009  
7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

**VE Session** - April 11, 2009  
West Tower, 2nd Floor, Room "A"  
Contact: Joe WB6MYD  
Phone: (310) 328-0817  
jlanphen@ca.rr.com or w6sba@arrl.net

**Social Event** - 2nd Saturday, April 11, 2009, 12pm  
Billy's Deli  
5160 W. 190th Street, Torrance CA

## CLUB SERVICES

Awards Manager (HF/VHF)	Cliff - K6LH
Health & Welfare	Matthew - N6MDC
Swap Meet Chair	Joe - WB6MYD
VE Test Liaison	Joe - WB6MYD
VE Test Sessions	Joe - WB6MYD
Webmaster	Alex - KD6LPA
Editor	Alex - KD6LPA
Proofreader	Nancy - NJ6S

### 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

South Bay Amateur Radio Club  
Post Office Box 536  
Torrance, CA 90508-0536

