



May 2013

ARCO *vet*

A Community Service Organization Dedicated to Amateur Radio Since 1970

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54th
Annual **A** Armed
2013 **F** Forces
D Day CITY OF
TORRANCE
Celebration

E-mail: W6SBA@arrl.net



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

President's Message

Hello W6SBA,

First off, I'd like to thank our Activities chair, James Murakami – KI6UPL for setting up the BBQ Picnic at De Portola Park. It was one of our most successful events so far, and I hope we can do another one like it very soon. The hot dogs were good alongside chips and salsa, which made for a nice lunch. Not only did James buy all the food, but he was the master chef on the BBQ.

The radio operations were an even bigger success! As you know, the club recently purchased a Honda generator along with the Comet CAA-500 antenna analyzer, as well as the Buddipole antenna system. What better way to make use of our recent purchases than operating at a picnic. James started setting up the antenna asked me which band I wanted to try, so I said "15 meters". And in a matter of minutes, James had the Buddipole system set up and tuned for 15. I was floored! (Our new antenna analyzer definitely helped!). After seeing the perfect 1:1 SWR, I hooked the antenna up to my Icom IC-7000 and started exploring the band. We made contact with the East Coast of the United States (New Hampshire), South America, Canada, a special event station in Mexico, and the most impressive contact – the Canary Islands just west of Morocco, Africa! Not too shabby for a portable operation running a meager 100 watts of power. So, yes, I think we'll be doing this again real soon!

We also had a great turnout! Although there was no formal sign in sheet, I eyeballed the number in attendance about half way thru and counted 16+ people. I was also happy to see more people on the radio! When long distance contacts were made, the mic was passed around to the delight of both stations! The ham on the other end of the call, got 5, 6 contacts in one swoop, and our club members got a chance to work DX! I want to thank everyone for coming and I hope each of you had a great time! If you have suggestions for another event, let James know, or any council member.

CLUB BUSINESS: At our last club meeting, a vote was taken to procure a second Yaesu FT-450. The council considered this purchase at the April meeting, but since the purchase exceeded \$500, the club members in attendance needed to vote in order to move forward with the purchase. The count was unanimous and the second radio has been ordered. One of the goals in acquiring the new rig was to have two identical receivers for Field Day, which is just a few short months away. In the past, operators would get up to speed on 1 radio, then move to another station, and become baffled trying to get a completely different rig out of a weird mode. I can sympathize with that sentiment, as it's happened to me on many occasions. The other reason was the age of the current radios. The equipment we have today is out of support. In other words, if something broke and we took it to the manufacturer's repair center, they would refuse to service it because the parts for these rigs are no longer available. The plan is to try and sell the old rigs cheap, and of course we'd love to see one of our own members adopt the radio. We'll make you an offer you can't refuse! If you're looking to get started in DX, investing in one of these rigs would be a smart choice. These radios will be priced to move, so I sincerely doubt you'll find a better deal!

Until next time, this is Alex saying 73!

CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2013

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

Activities Council Member

James Murakami - KI6UPL
katsu442@yahoo.com - 310-480-7794

Events Council Member

Paul Avery - KK6BY
pravery@pacbell.net - 310-676-0212

Information Council Member

Bruce Jackson - KK6BJ
bjackson@ucla.edu - 310-372-1156

Past President

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

Armed Forces Day In Torrance

See City of Torrance Website at <http://www.torranceca.gov/14745.htm> for additional info

FRIDAY, MAY 17

CONCERT: 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The Air Force Band of the Goldenwest will perform for free at the James Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For tickets, contact the Box Office: 310-781-7171. The tickets are free and are on a first come first serve basis. There is a limit of four (4) tickets per adult. Ticket holders must be in their seats 15 minutes prior to show time or the seat will be made available to their patrons.

MILITARY EXHIBITS: 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Military exhibits will be on display, including aircrafts, vehicles, and support equipment at the Del Amo Fashion Center. The outdoor exhibits will be in the lower parking lot to the rear (west of) the Lifestyle Wing parking structure.

SATURDAY, MAY 18

PARADE: 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

The 54th Annual Armed Forces Day Parade begins at Crenshaw Boulevard traveling west on Torrance Boulevard and ending at Madrona Avenue. All streets intersecting the parade route will be closed the majority of the day. Torrance's parade is the longest-running Armed Forces Day Parade in the nation. As one of few cities designated by the Department of Defense, the City of Torrance is proud to honor the men and women of our nation's Armed Forces. This year's honored branch is the United States Marine Corps.

MILITARY EXHIBITS: 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Military exhibits will be on display, including aircrafts, vehicles, and support equipment at the Del Amo Fashion Center. The outdoor exhibits will be in the lower parking lot to the rear (west of) the Lifestyle Wing parking structure. Exhibit will open following the Parade.

SUNDAY, MAY 19

MILITARY EXHIBITS: 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Military exhibits will be on display, including aircrafts, vehicles, and support equipment at the Del Amo Fashion Center. The outdoor exhibits will be in the lower parking lot to the rear (west of) the Lifestyle Wing parking structure.



**Western Museum of Flight
Torrance Armed Forces Day
Parade Flyovers
May 18th Saturday**

Raffle for Rides





**\$10 Donation per ticket to win your flight
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**Cash, Check,
Debit or
Credit Card
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**Warbirds
on Display
at Torrance
Airport**



T-6 Texan
All Tickets
distributed at
museum **Will Call**
3315 Airport Dr.
Torrance, CA 90505
(310) 326-9544; info@wmof.com
www.wmof.com

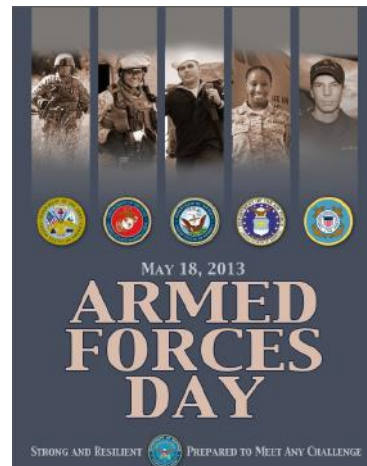


The Western Museum of Flight, under the auspices of the Southern California Historical Aviation Foundation, is a not-for-profit corporation in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Our Federal Tax ID No. is 95-3869817.

ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY CROSSBAND TEST SCHEDULED

05/01/2013 ARRL Article

In celebration of the 63rd anniversary of Armed Forces Day (AFD), the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard are co-sponsoring the annual Military/Amateur Radio Crossband Communications Test. Although Armed Forces Day is traditionally celebrated on the third Saturday in May -- May 18 in 2013 -- the AFD Military/Amateur Crossband Communications Test will be conducted on May 11 to prevent conflict with the [Dayton Hamvention®](#), scheduled for May 17-19.



The annual celebration features traditional military-to-amateur crossband communications SSB voice and Morse code tests. These tests give Amateur Radio operators and short wave listeners an opportunity to demonstrate their individual technical skills and to receive recognition from the appropriate military radio station for their proven expertise. QSL cards will be provided to stations making contact with the military stations.

Military-to-amateur crossband operations will take place on the dates and time in UTC on the frequencies [listed](#) for the Army, Air Force and Navy/Marine Corps and Coast Guard MARS stations. Voice contacts will include operations in single sideband voice (SSB); some stations will use CW to provide the opportunity to check in by Morse code. Depending on propagation and staffing, some stations may not operate the entire period. Participating military stations will transmit on selected military MARS frequencies and listen for Amateur Radio stations in the amateur bands. The military station operator will announce the specific amateur band frequency being monitored. Duration of each voice contact should be limited to 1-2 minutes. The annual Secretary of Defense message will be transmitted via digital modes, including RTTY, PACTOR, AMTOR, PSK-31, MFSK and MT63 from certain stations.

Check the [MARS Armed Forces Crossband Test website](#) for schedules and frequencies of participating military stations, including a list of stations that will be transmitting the annual Secretary of Defense message. Instructions on how to copy and submit the message are also included.

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>

Field Day T-Shirts: Order Now



If you would like to order a 2013 Field Day shirt, please contact Alan Parks. Cost is \$12.94 plus shipping. Sizes available: Small thru 4XL.

California City Incorporates Hams in Response Program

May 2, 2013 [Glenn Bischoff](#) | *Urgent Communications*

By leveraging the expertise of amateur-radio operators and neighborhood-watch organizations, a California city has established a preparedness program that officials hope will improve response efforts in case of a natural disaster.

When a disaster strikes, amateur radio operators in the affected area are quick to mobilize. The result is invaluable communications services at a time when they are most needed. In some parts of the world, where the first-responder infrastructure isn't as robust as it is in the U.S., the hams step into that role, as seen in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004.

Within the U.S., the role of hams usually is to provide supportive services, as they did in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy last October, when hams helped the American Red Cross set up communications in numerous ad-hoc shelters established across the region, where commercial communications were rendered inoperable in many places.

It is not unusual for an informal connection to exist between public-safety agencies and the local amateur-radio community; such a connection helps the mobilization effort. But, in one southern California city, a formal relationship was established, with the result being the creation of the Peninsula Volunteer Alert Network, or PVAN.

Rancho Palos Verde is city of 42,000 inhabitants, located on the Pacific Ocean just a few miles due west of Long Beach. It doesn't have much crime, but it is prone to natural disasters, such as earthquakes and wildfires. Despite this, it never really occurred to anybody to formally leverage ham radio until the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

"It dawned on us that there are a lot of big targets in our area. There are refineries in San Pedro [an adjacent city], and lot of shipping goes through there," said PVAN Chairman Denzel Dyer. "We needed to prepare for a big event."

That realization led to a big idea: establish a way that the city's numerous neighborhood-watch groups could communicate with each other during emergencies, with hams at the center of the strategy. The 150-member strong Palos Verde Amateur Radio Club was the logical place to start. The goal was to ensure that every neighborhood-watch organization—each of which typically covers about 6 square blocks—had a ham in their midst. The PVAN, which started with 4-5 hams in November 2002, now has 86 members, all of them hams, according to Dyer. New PVAN members go through a training regimen that is coordinated by the city and participate in at least one mock emergency drill each year.

The radio club not only convinced local sheriffs and fire officials that this effort a good idea, but they also officials that amateur radio was the best option, given the topology of the surrounding area, which consists of numerous peaks and valleys.

"They asked about FRS (family radio service) and CB (citizens-band radio), but amateur is the most reliable communications you can get," said Alan Soderberg, a PVAN board member.

Despite the fact that amateur-radio technology is highly reliable, the topology still creates some challenges, because there are plenty of dead spots. However, [Harris](#) recently came to the rescue by donating a UHF digital mobile repeater.

"One of our employees knew a PVAN member, and one thing led to another," said Steve Howard, a Harris regional sales manager.

Though grateful for the repeater, Dyer noted that it's not yet operational. "Now we need a duplexer," he deadpanned.

Credit to Wayne-W6WF for passing this article on to us.

Radio Amateurs Provide Communication Support in Boston Marathon Bombings

“Stop all the runners on the course” This was the traffic transmitted during the 2013 Boston Marathon being supported by numerous local hams in Boston.
<http://w3atb.com/66-boston-marathon-2013-bombs-carnage-and-amateur-radio-operators> Please go to this link to see first hand the shock and controlled reactions from all those guys on the course. This is one of the most interesting articles we all should read and should help us if we around here would ever have to experience that kind of tragedy. Posted on April 17, 2013 by: Tim Carter-W3ATB © Copyright 2013 Tim Carter All rights reserved.

(Below is an excerpt from the above website about the “After Action.” As we ourselves often assist at parades and city events it’s good to read about the value and effectiveness that amateur radio has).

I can tell you from my perspective that just about everything went right. Immediately after the bomb blasts, the radio traffic intensified. It continued to ratchet up as new challenges were exposed. But each time, the race organizers and communications team rose to meet the challenge. On my frequency, and I imagine that used for the finish line, there was never chaos.

I was in the company of nearly 150 professional radio operators that stayed focused, they didn’t clog the frequencies with unneeded requests, and they followed established protocols set up years in advance for just this dreaded situation.

To be honest, it was a thing to behold. It’s my hope that all of the communications of the day were recorded for each frequency, and that they’re released one day so you can hear what I heard in my earpiece.

I heard calm, focused and concise radio requests. I heard virtually no frustration. I didn’t hear any screaming. I didn’t hear any frantic requests for supplies.

04/16/2013 ARRL Partial Article (see the ARRL website for full story)



As has happened many times in years past, over 200 Amateur Radio operators participated in communications for the Boston Marathon on Monday, April 15, 2013. Unlike prior challenging situations such as very warm weather for the runners or other weather-related challenges, this year’s marathon will be remembered for the bombings that took place at the finish line. Despite this heinous act, professional first responders, medical volunteers from the American Red Cross that staffed the route, and Amateur Radio operators performed magnificently in the face of adversity.

“Within minutes, cell phone systems became overloaded and making phone calls and text messages was difficult. Amateur Radio operators performed communication duties under duress and performed admirably. No Amateur Radio volunteers were injured on the course in this terrible act,” said Steve Schwarm, W3EVE, who is the Amateur Radio Course Communication Coordinator and associated with a consortium of clubs and groups known as Marathon Amateur Radio Communications ([MARC](#)).

“At the finish line net control, which was only 400 feet from the initial blast, we heard the explosion. I poked my head outside to confirm what I thought it was and saw the white smoke. We immediately knew what had happened and commenced a roll call of all ham operators and medical tents. State Police authorities initially ordered us to lock down and post a ham for security watch outside the net control trailer. Thankfully none of our people were hurt,” said Paul Topolski, W1SEX, Amateur Radio Finish Line Coordinator.

Following the explosion and roll call, Topolski stated that they began pulling together updates and sent the information via the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) Web-EOC software tool and provided updates via Amateur Radio.

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

Attendance Drawing: We had another winner this time at the April 18 meeting. As usual Joe asked someone to pick the winning ticket which was done by our new member ToM-KG6SFR. Tom was asked to pick yours truly ticket and low and behold it was Joe-WB6MYD which was given the \$ 20.00 kitty. Thank you so much. Our Ma kitty will be 20 dollars again.

New Member: Tom Fitzpatrick-KG6SFR submitted his application for membership with the SBARC for which we thank him. Tom had been a member for some years ago and due to health issues was unable to continue at the time. He is all better now and join us with his General class license. While no Amateur Radio interest are listed he wishes to participate in technical Discussions, Club meetings and Antenna parties. Please welcome Tom at our next meeting and make him feel at home.

Torrance Armed Forces Parade: This parade is on May 18th and since we must submit names of our members assisting us before the weekend of the parade all I can do is at this time to say to please check your e mails for the announcements regarding the parade.

Antenna Project: We will have had our 220 ground plane antenna project at Ray-WG6V hangar at Torrance Airport on May 11th. Again look for your e mail announcements on this subject.

Picnic: Yes we had our first picnic for this year which turned out to be very enjoyable on Saturday April 20th. The clubs buddypole portable antenna was deployed and with the clubs generator Alex and James set up their radio and made 11 contacts. While most were state side Alex also connected with a station on 20m on Canary Islands. The hot dogs and drinks were enjoyed by one and all especially since the temp. was in the eighties. All in all an very successful radioactive event. We hope to do more of those in the near future. Thanks to Alex and James for setting this up.

Membership rosters: Yes I am sorry for being a little late since they would have been available last month. The problem is that I do not wish to drop any member unless you let me know you no longer wish to continue as member. Some of those did do that others would or could not respond for some reason or another after exhaustive attempts were made by me to talk to them. Any way, at this point we've lost (dropped) 7 members and have gained 2 for this year. We hope to continue this trend of course, new members that is, so help us to recruit new members, your friends and so on. The membership roster will be available by just showing at the meeting on May 16th. If you are unable to join us well let me know and I'll will make sure you to will get one. As always, the information is for our club members only and your discretion is asked if you do contact other members (time to call etc. use your own discretion). Thank you very much for your patients.

New Club Jackets: Some of us are now sporting our new Club jackets and or polo shirts. Yes they are still Royal Blue for our jackets and are a little heavier than the previous ones. They do certainly look great. Please see me if you to wish to get one which include the polo shirt of course. I do still have some hats to.

Monthly Luncheon: We enjoyed our April 13th luncheon at the new Black Bear restaurant on Hawthorne Blvd. The problem is in that it was difficult to find parking which maybe due to the time of day was almost impossible. Food was good and we did have a good turn out. With the parking problem Alex asked the members present at the April 18th general meeting whether we wanted to continue at the new location or go back to our familiar Hoff's Hut on Crenshaw. Majority thought it be better if we returned to Hoff's Hut so our May 11th Luncheon will be at our familiar location. Please join us after the antenna project at Torrance Airport at Ray-WG6V hangar location.

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Thank you to Kostek-K6MNA. If anyone ever wonders where all the door prizes come from at our General club

CALENDAR

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

Club Meeting - 3rd Thursday of the month
May 16, 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,
May 25, 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

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
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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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

