



# 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

July 2010



## “INTRODUCTION TO APRS”

*Presented by Alex Marko, KD6LPA*

Our own president, Alex, will present a talk about **APRS** and how to use it with your amateur radio. APRS stands for the “**Automatic Positioning Reporting System**” and provides the means for displaying the location of ham stations on a map, as well as exchanging digital text messages with desired stations. Alex will show us several ways to implement APRS, including some Do-It-Yourself tips for implementing a low-budget version of the fancy equipment featured above. Please join us at our next club meeting, **July 15**, for this interesting and very informative event. Hint: this information may come in handy for our upcoming **FoxHunt!**

## Congratulations SBARC, Job Well Done!

*By Alex Marko*

First and foremost, I wish to thank our Vice-President, Ray Grace - WA6OWM for his outstanding efforts in organizing this year's Field Day. It was a tremendous success and Ray was the master planner to bring it to fruition. At our first council meeting in January, Ray was already talking about Field Day and sharing his vi-

sion to the rest of the council members on ideas we could do during the monthly club meetings to improve our readiness for this big event.

Ray also planned the meals, and took care of the paperwork to submit our club score to the ARRL. I simply can't say enough about Ray's hard work and dedication -- nothing short of admirable.

I want to thank everyone who helped make Field Day a success! I also want to recognize those who made special contributions to make this year's FD possible.



**Matt Hall** - Special thank you for climbing and doing most of the grunt work setting up the antennas!

**Ed Hinz**- Thank you so much for coming out and cooking us a fresh Sunday breakfast after a long night!

**Chuck Lobb** - Thanks for organizing the information table, and bringing the man-powered bike generator!

**Matt Cruse** - Thanks for helping Chuck get the equipment here, and powering several Field Day contacts!

**Kostek Haussmann** - Thanks for bringing your trailer so we had shelter while we burned the midnight oil!

**Bob Avakian** - Thank you for bringing your generator (and fuel) so we could run on emergency power!

**Rich Whited & Joy Matlack** - Thank you for lending us the Snap-together Electric Circuits, amateur radio comic books, ICOM band plans and other literature that was used for our information table!

Here's the results of our contacts, broken out by each band. Keep in mind, that these totals are still unofficial. The bonus points will be reported once confirmed by the ARRL. Again, thank you all for a great Field Day!

Band	Mode	QSOs
80m	PH	86
40m	CW	110
40m	PH	115
20m	PH	161
15m	Dig	9
15m	PH	70
10m	PH	14
6m	PH	52
2m	PH	35
<b>Total Contacts:</b>		<b>652</b>

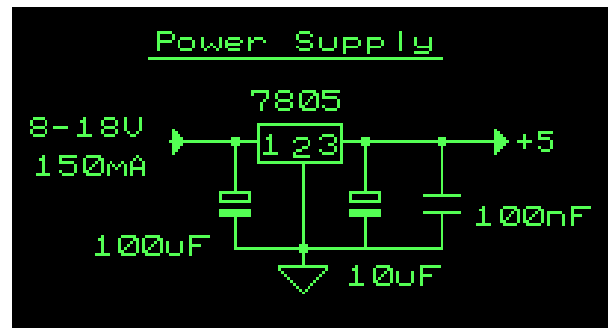
## I WANT TO ADD A GPS TO MY RADIO (Part 2)

*By Alex Marko*

In last month's issue, I wrote about a \$35 GPS you can buy from Amazon.com that features a hard to find DB9 serial interface, which is useful for interfacing with amateur radios. I wanted to learn more about APRS, and figured you learn best by doing, so I recently decided to purchase the Kenwood TM-D710, a radio that has built-in APRS features. What I liked most about this radio, was that Kenwood didn't require me to buy a Kenwood GPS at a substantial cost, but instead gave me sufficient technical information to research this on my own.

My first problem: How to power the GPS? The specs says it needs +5volts @80mA. After reviewing each radio port, I was unable to find an established 5volt line. So I examined the cable between the radio base and display module, and discovered a 10volt line. Voila! After checking the cable carefully and reviewing the technical manual, I noticed it was a standard 8-pin network cable (no staggered connections where some pins are deeper than others) nor were there non-standard crossover connections on some of the lines (thank you Kenwood). So I bought a one foot network cable extension, researched the color-codes for a straight-pin network cable, and quickly isolated the 10 volt line and ground, and verified the voltage.

Next, I did some internet research and discovered a simple circuit to regulate voltage down to 5 volts. [http://www.tkk.fi/Misc/Electronics/circuits/psu\\_5v.html](http://www.tkk.fi/Misc/Electronics/circuits/psu_5v.html). Since I'm a beginner when it comes to soldering, I reached out to Joe WB6MYD for help, and he gladly got the parts for me and helped assemble the voltage regulator circuit. Thanks Joe!

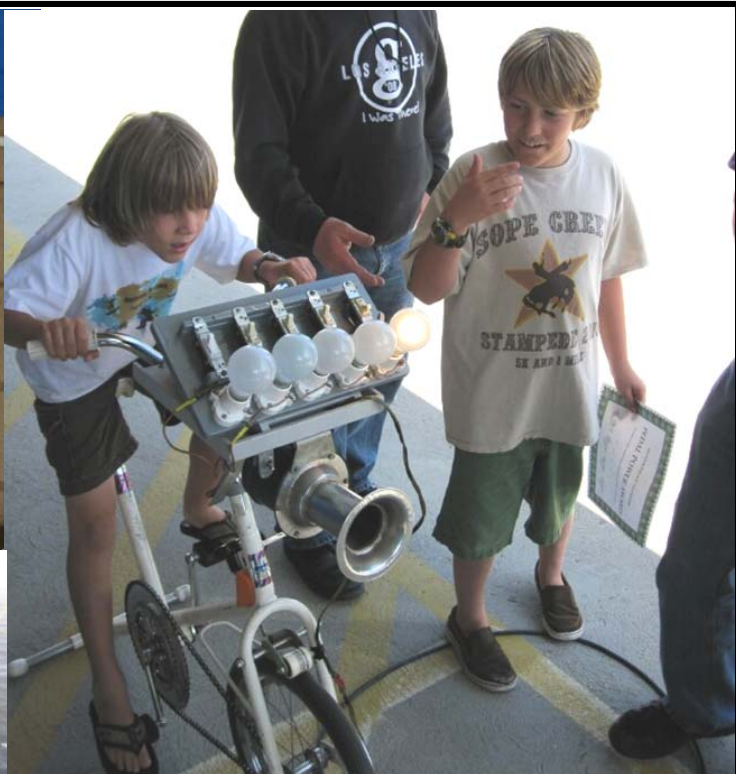


The last part, double-check and triple-check all of the connections. The 10v input to the 7805 voltage regulator, the output voltage (correctly stabilized to +5v) that feeds into the GPS, and the GPS serial connection to a 2.5mm connector on the side of the radio. Works great!!!

## HAMCON 2011 UPDATE

Our club was well represented at the last HamCon meeting with our current HamCon rep, John Crocker, Events Council member Jerry Shaw and our President, Alex Marko. Once again our club will be responsible for "talk-in" -- helping hams unfamiliar with the area navigate to the convention over amateur radio. We will be operating as W1AW/6 which is always fun. Our club has also agreed to assist the San Fernando Valley club with the information booth.

At this time, a contract with the Torrance Marriott is being negotiated, so if all goes well, we will have HamCon 2011 right back here in Torrance, as we did back in 2007. If you'd like to volunteer to represent our club at future HamCon meetings, please contact the club council.





## THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR FIELD DAY EFFORTS:

Thank you: Well Field Day 2010 has come and gone, I think we did very well, but as always we want to thank so many of you for all the hard work that you all did. Field Day requires a team effort to succeed and that's exactly what we did!

Matt-KM6ATT needs to be especially mentioned since he seems to be the youngest member around capable of climbing and doing so much more physical work, thanks Matt! Bob-WA6KZF for his generator, Kostek-K6MNA for his trailer, Alex-KD6LPA for providing the computers and setting up the network, Russell-KI6HBG for getting us all the tables and chairs from down stairs and lets not forget Ed-KN6JN for doing the Sunday morning breakfast for us wow! Our Field Day Chairman Ray-WA6OWM for all the Field Day planning and organizing most of the meals including lunch and dinner on Saturday. Chuck-KN6H for setting us the information table, and for bringing his homebrew human powered bicycle battery to give us additional bonus score. Thanks also to Matt-N6MDC for helping Chuck set all of this up. I know the list can go on and on but let's face it if it was not for all your help and support it never would have happened. So thank you one and all for all your support and participation making this years Field Day once again the best.

Joe-WB6MYD

### CLUB SERVICES:

License upgrades and / or new license testing  
 VE Sessions are held the 2nd Saturday of every even month  
 Need to sell something at the Swap Meet?  
 ARRL Membership renewals or new registration  
 Club Name Badge / Jackets

### CONTACT:

Joe, WB6MYD  
 Joe, WB6MYD  
 Joe, WB6MYD  
 Joe, WB6MYD  
 Joe, WB6MYD

### POSITION:

Secretary / Treasurer  
 Secretary / Treasurer  
 Secretary / Treasurer  
 Secretary / Treasurer  
 Secretary / Treasurer

Club Operation  
 Need something posted on the web site, or newsletter?  
 Ideas for Club Speakers, Field Day Planning  
 Membership, Health & Welfare  
 Upcoming Club Events  
 Club Activities

Alex, KD6LPA  
 Alex, KD6LPA  
 Ray, WA6OWM  
 Brian, KI6ERR  
 Jerry, KI6RRD  
 Alan, KG6ZPL

President  
 Editor / Webmaster  
 Vice President  
 Council Member  
 Council Member  
 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.

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



1. **Attendance Drawing:** Bill - N6ES was the lucky winner, but unfortunately was not in attendance. As a result, the kitty be increased to \$25 for the July meeting. Remember, you must be a member in good standing and present to win.

2. **New Members:** I'm pleased to announce the addition of two new members to our club! Bruce Jackson - KJ6CSI is an Extra class licensee and has interests in HF, VHF/UHF, RTTY, CW and computers. He also wants to participate in 10m and VHF nets. Our 2nd new member, Alexander Cooper, is in the process of getting his license. His interests include HF, VHF/UHF, microwave, computers, antenna/propagation, and wants to build and design circuits. Thanks Bruce and Alexander for joining us, and from all of us, welcome!



3. **Suggestion Box:** We are starting something new! Starting with the June club meeting, a suggestion box will be made available, along with a piece of paper to write down your ideas for making the club even better. No names, callsign, or phone numbers required. It is completely anonymous. If you have a good idea for the club, let us know! Or if you notice an area for improvement, please take the time and use the box!

4. **Membership News:** I am happy to report that the new Constitution, Bylaws and club membership cards have been distributed with success. Club membership renewal is extremely high, and if I can pat ourselves on the back, I'd say that speaks very well about our club! We also work hard to maintain accuracy with club records. Please take a moment to ensure phone numbers and email addresses etc. are correct.

5. **Services:** Please remember to renew or become an ARRL member through the club. (Contact Joe for details). The club benefits by getting a commission, so please help us out. Also, if you'd like to order a name badge, they can be ordered for \$10. Phone patch subscription is available for \$40 annually.

6. **Weekly Net:** Join us every Thursday night at 7:30PM on the W6SBA repeater to hear all the latest and enjoy the conversation by your fellow SBARC members. (No net occurs on the day of club meetings)

7. **Reminder:** Remember the Club Services available to you as shown in the ArcOver are for you! Please feel free to ask for and seek the assistance from any of the officers and anyone you think might be able to elp you! We're all in this together!

**CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2010:**

**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

**Past President, Richard Whited - KG6JKJ**  
 rbwhited@yahoo.com - 562-756-7103

**Activities Council Member**  
 Alan Parks, KG6ZPL  
 aparks@raytheon.com - 310-558-8718

**Events Council Member**  
 Jerry Shaw, KI6RRD  
 shaw@scsenginc.com - 310-374-5252

**Membership Council Member**  
 Brian Smith, KI6ERR  
 brian.sbarc@yahoo.com

## CALENDAR

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

**Club Meeting** - 3rd Thursday of the month  
**July 15, 2010 @7:30 p.m.**  
**Torrance Memorial Medical Center**  
**West Tower, 2nd Floor, 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, **July 31, 2010 @7-11am**

**VE Session** - **August 14, 2010, 9-11am**  
**West Tower, 2nd Floor, Room "A"**  
**Contact: Joe WB6MYD**  
**Phone: (310) 328-0817**  
**jlanphen@ca.rr.com or w6sba@arrl.net**

**Social Lunch** - 2nd Saturday, **August 14, 2010, @12pm**  
**Hof's Hut**  
**23635 Crenshaw Blvd**  
**Torrance, CA 90505 (310) 325-0470**

## CLUB SERVICES

Awards Manager (HF/VHF)	Cliff - K6LH
Health & Welfare	Brian - KI6ERR
Swap Meet Chair	Joe - WB6MYD
VE Test Liaison	Joe - WB6MYD
VE Test Sessions	Joe - WB6MYD
Webmaster	Alex - KD6LPA
Editor	Alex - KD6LPA
Proofreader	Vacant

### 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>

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Address Correction Requested

*A COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION*

W6SBA

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Torrance, CA 90508-0536

