



July 2019

ARCOver

A Community Service Organization Dedicated to Amateur Radio Since 1970

In this issue:

- ◆ President's Message
- ◆ Quiz Corner
- ◆ Field Day 2019
- ◆ Grand Solar Minimum
- ◆ Petition for Rulemaking
- ◆ Pennsylvania Radio Amateur Dies
- ◆ WSJT-X Developer Posts
- ◆ Hurricane Michael Investigation
- ◆ Radio Amateur to Lose License
- ◆ Historic 2-Meter Transatlantic Contact
- ◆ Notes from Joe
- ◆ 2019 Club Officers



**Thankful for the
Freedom to Enjoy
Amateur Radio!**

E-mail: W6SBA@arrl.net



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

President's Message

Hi Fellow SBARC Ham's,

Our first activity of the month, eating BBQ and talking about our ham radio endeavors. It's also the 2nd Saturday of the month, July 13th, SBARC club lunch. I had not heard a club decision as to where it will be held. Therefore, I am steering us back to Joey's Barbeque at 25308 Crenshaw in Torrance. It seemed to work okay for us last time. We are always open to other South Bay restaurants that will accommodate our lunch group. Please send in your suggestions.

2019 Field day is behind us. Once again, it was held at the Torrance Memorial Medical Center west parking structure. We operated 1A. The points are being calculated. We did a seven hour radio operation with a minimal crew. Looks like a total of 90 QSO's. It seems early but, it's really time to start considering next year's field day adventure.

Activities in July include, the club meeting on the 18th, followed by the TRW/NGC swap meet on Saturday the 27th. The swap meet proceeds benefit the club. After the swap meet a few of us head over to Denney's on Artesia and Aviation for your choice of a late breakfast or lunch. And, bring your ideas forward as to what activities you would like to see the club to pursue. There's a few opportunities this month to socialize with your fellow club members.

See you at the meeting!

73's...
Scott N6LEM



- 1) Why does it get colder as we go up in altitude?
- 2) What is the next letter in the series: y z v w s t p q?
- 3) What can't you find in Monaco, Spain, Germany and France that you'll find in Brunei, Papua New Guinea and Bhutan?
- 4) Why did the bread, muffin, cookie and graham crackers go to see a doctor?

June 2019 Quiz Answers

- 1) What is the next term in the series: 77, 49, 36, 18. *It is 8. Each term (after the first), is the product of the first and second digit of the preceding term.*
- 2) How many full moons are there in a year?
A full moon occurs every 28 days or 13 times per year.
- 3) A palindrome is a word or phrase that reads the same forward or backwards such as "did". List 7 4 letter palindromes.
Noon, Anna, deed, peep, poop, sees, toot. There are others.
- 4) What jumps higher than a building?
Everything - buildings can't jump.

Please send answers, comments, etc., to Alan at thermic72@sbcglobal.net

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FIELD DAY 2019

Scott was able to extract the Field Day logs off the 2 lap tops used during our FD event. Total of QSO's 90. This is not bad for just 7 hours of pleasure. 16 QSO's on 40m. 32 QSO's on 20m. 4 QSO's on 15m. 24 QSO's on 2m and 14 QSO's on 70cm.

I am now trying to finalize the bonus points we could claim and prepare the paper work for turning it into the ARRL for recording of course.

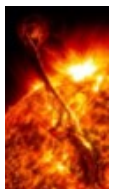
Thank you all for participating and supporting this annual important event for those of you participating and making this an success. We did this with such short notice that it actually proved a point of Field Day. We set up starting at 0800 hrs and left the location by 2000 hrs the same day. We of course started at 1100 hrs and stopped by about 1800 hrs for dinner enjoying an great spaghetti dinner courtesy Glenda-KF6QFE. Lot of hard work went into this by Tom, Chuck and Joe loading all the equipment Friday and also returning it to storage that same day. Once on the air both transmitters were kept pretty well busy during the whole time. Several new members and others had never operated took the opportunity to operate as well which was an important aspect of the entire operation of course.

Thank you all for participating and supporting your club during this event. Plans are underway for next years event because it was felt that this is the way to go for FD 2020.

Joe, WB6MYD

Grand Solar Minimum

A "Grand Solar Minimum" may be approaching. A juried research paper in Nature, "Oscillations of the baseline of solar magnetic field and solar irradiance on a millennial timescale," suggests that a "grand solar minimum" -- similar to the legendary "Maunder Minimum" -- is approaching, starting as early as next year and lasting for three solar cycles. That would be bad news for HF enthusiasts already struggling with marginal conditions. As the paper's abstract explains, "Recently discovered long-term oscillations of the solar background magnetic field associated with double dynamo waves generated in inner and outer layers of the Sun indicate that the solar activity is heading in the next three decades (2019 - 2055) to a modern grand minimum similar to Maunder one." As propagation buff and contester Frank Donovan, W3LPL, observed, "It's very uncertain if this forecast is correct, but, as usual, the forecasts of the next solar cycle are all over the map. Let's hope these scientists are wrong." ARRL Letter, 6/27/2019



Petition for Rulemaking Asks FCC to Create a New 8-Meter Amateur Band

The FCC has put on public notice for comment a Petition for Rulemaking (RM-11843) that seeks the creation of a new 8-meter Amateur Radio allocation on a secondary basis. The Petition suggests the new band could be centered on an industrial-scientific-medical (ISM) segment somewhere between 40.51 and 40.70 MHz. The spectrum between 40 and 41 MHz is currently allocated to the Federal Government and, as such, within the purview of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). ARRL member Michelle Bradley, KU3N, of Maryland, filed the Petition in May on behalf of REC Networks, which she founded and described in the Petition as "a leading advocate for a citizen's access to spectrum," including Amateur Radio spectrum



"REC feels that the time is right for the Commission to open a Notice of Inquiry and eventually a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, and in cooperation with the NTIA, this new band opportunity can be realized to spark the next generation of 'makers' in the fields of science, technology, education, and math (STEM), especially women and girls," Bradley told the FCC in the Petition. "The more opportunities we give to make things, the more opportunities we have to build a pool of experts in STEM, right here at home."

The Petition said the objective of a new band would be "an effort to foster experimentation into the propagation characteristics of this band midway between the 10- and 6-meter bands." An allocation in the 8-meter band is available to radio amateurs in Ireland, where the Irish Radio Transmitters Society has developed a band plan for 40 - 41 MHz.

"REC perceives this spectrum can be used for weak signal experimentation and eventually general amateur use, especially along transatlantic paths using CW, SSB, digital modes such as FT8 and digital voice," the Petition said. "As no radios are mass-produced for this band at this time, this opens up new opportunities for 'makers' to construct transmitters, receivers, and antenna systems that can be used in this spectrum."

REC anticipates "very low" usage of the new band, "with peak usage around sporadic-E episodes, operating events such as ARRL Field Day, and VHF contests, as well as during the peak of sunspot cycles," Bradley told the Commission. "[W]e feel that the sharing of 40 MHz can be accomplished in a manner that serves the needs of the Amateur Radio Service while meeting the organizational missions of Federal Government agencies that utilize this spectrum." ARRL Letter, 6/27/2019

Pennsylvania Radio Amateur Dies in Tower Installation Mishap

Well-known northeastern Pennsylvania radio amateur Leland L. "Lee" Parsons III, N3LPJ, lost his life on June 14 during a ham tower installation project when a tower section he was working on collapsed off State Route 2069 in Gibson Township. Authorities said Parsons, 62, was apparently attempting to attach a guy wire to the bottom tower section when it went over. An ARRL member, Parsons was the president of the Susquehanna County Amateur Radio Club.

The online Wireless Estimator called the incident "a stark reminder of the dangers present this weekend during Field



[WNEP TV16 video]

Day." The article cited a 2009 Field Day tower collapse that claimed the life of 57-year-old Larry Prelog, KE4PM -- an experienced climber -- while he was installing an antenna. In that incident, two legs at the base of the tower buckled.

The Wireless Estimator article also recalled the death of the Reverend Paul Bittner, W0AIH, 84, a well-known radio amateur, contester, and Field Day participant, who lost his life last October when he fell from one of the towers at his extensive antenna farm in Wisconsin. ARRL Letter, 6/20/2019

WSJT-X Developer Posts Observations on Using FT8 in June VHF Contest

WSJT-X developer Joe Taylor, K1JT, has tentatively concluded that there are good reasons to use both FT4 and FT8 in ARRL VHF contests. The latest beta version of FT4 was not available for the event, but Taylor noted that FT4 will be available for future contests (the current -rc7 beta version will not be usable during ARRL Field Day either). Taylor, who was active in the VHF event over the past weekend, made the remark in a post to the Packrats reflector. Taylor reported making 433 contacts (21 dupes) in 152 grids, all, by and large, on FT8.



"Most of the time there was enough sporadic E and troposcatter to keep things busy using FT8," Taylor observed. "In this event, meteor scatter using MSK144 was not, score-wise, time efficient."

Taylor said he operated from home only on 6 meters and only on digital, "mainly to see how FT8 plays in a June VHF Contest." He operated for 21 of the contest's 33 hours and left his receiver running on 50.313 MHz when not in the shack.

"During the contest period, I decoded 45,375 transmissions from others in the 4 kHz window starting at 50.313 MHz," Taylor recounted. "That's an average of about 11 decodes per 15-second receive cycle."



Joe Taylor, K1JT. [Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, photo]

Taylor said he seldom, if ever, found that a single 3 or 4 kHz window was "too crowded" with activity. "There were nearly always some open spots, even with nearly everyone in the first 2.7 kHz of the window," he said.

Taylor also speculated as to how the twice-as-fast FT4 might have fared, being 4 dB less sensitive than FT8 and having an 80 Hz bandwidth instead of FT8's 50 Hz bandwidth.

"My guess is that something like 80 - 85% of my QSOs could have been completed using FT4, most of them in half the time than it took in FT8," Taylor said. ARRL Letter, 6/13/2019

Hurricane Michael Investigation Digs into Factors that Hindered Wireless Services Recovery

On May 9, the FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau released a report on its investigation into communications providers' preparation for and response to Hurricane Michael last October. An array of Amateur Radio public service assets was active as Hurricane Michael made landfall near Mexico Beach on the Florida Panhandle, boasting devastating 155 MPH winds. The storm was the first Category 4 or stronger hurricane to hit the Florida Panhandle since 1992.



The FCC investigation found that three key factors -- insufficiently resilient backhaul connectivity, inadequate reciprocal roaming arrangements, and a lack of coordination between wireless service providers, power crews, and municipalities -- were the predominant causes behind what the FCC called "the unacceptably slow restoration of wireless service in the Florida Panhandle" in the storm's wake. According to the FCC, its investigation even found that recovery efforts themselves often led to communication outages.

"There were numerous cases in which a wireless provider had restored service to customers only to have that service brought down as third-party crews damaged communications assets while clearing trash or restoring power lines and utility poles," the FCC recounted in a news release.

To improve recovery efforts from future storms, the report recommended, among other things, that wireless providers use diverse backhaul options, such as microwave links and satellite links in hurricane-prone areas, and that communication providers participate in training to improve coordination of restoration efforts. The Hurricane Michael Report is available at on the FCC website. ARRL Letter, 6/6/2019



Radio Amateur to Lose License as Part of Enforcement Case Settlement

New Jersey radio amateur David S. Larsen, Sr., WS2L, of Highland Park, will surrender his Amateur Extra-class license and pay a \$7,500 civil penalty as part of a Consent Decree with the FCC to settle an enforcement action. An FCC Enforcement Bureau Order released June 18 said Larsen violated the Communications Act of 1934 **and** Part 90 rules by operating on frequencies licensed to the Borough of Highland Park for public safety communication. As part of the settlement, Larsen admitted to making the unauthorized transmissions, and he agreed not to engage in unauthorized use of a radio station, and to surrender radios in his possession capable of transmitting on the town's public safety frequencies. If the Commission finds that Larsen makes unauthorized radio transmissions or otherwise violates the terms of the Consent Decree, he'll be subject to an additional \$32,500 civil penalty. The agreement stipulates that Larsen may not apply for a new Amateur Radio license for 3 years.

The case stems from a May 2018 complaint of unauthorized transmissions on the Highland Park municipal radio system. FCC agents followed up with several visits to the town.

"Based on information provided by the complainant and direct observations by the Bureau's agents, the unauthorized transmissions consisted of brief, pre-recorded sounds (such as the sad trombone sound)," the FCC said in the Consent Decree. The FCC said individuals the agents interviewed identified Larsen -- a former rescue squad volunteer -- as the person who was likely responsible.

Responding to an FCC Letter of Inquiry, Larsen subsequently contacted the Enforcement Bureau and related that the unauthorized transmissions had ceased. Last fall, Larsen, responded to the inquiry through counsel to deny making the unauthorized transmissions. A short time later, the unauthorized transmissions resumed, and the FCC restarted its investigation, attempting to trace the source of the transmissions. Last March, agents used direction-finding equipment at a fixed location near the complainant's residence, while other agents conducted mobile direction finding of Larsen's vehicle in transit.

"The four agents observed Mr. Larsen pull over to the side of the road on the way to his home," the Consent Decree recounts. "The four Bureau agents observed (a) that during the brief stop, Mr. Larsen remained in his vehicle, (b) while stopped, a brief transmission consisting of the sad trombone sound emanated from the direction of Mr. Larsen's vehicle on a frequency licensed for use by the Highland Park Radio System, and (c) following the transmission of the sad trombone sound, Mr. Larsen resumed his drive to his residence."

The FCC said agents returned in April to observe Larsen repeat the earlier behavior, including a similar transmission emanating from Mr. Larsen's vehicle, according to the Decree. ARRL Letter, 6/20/2019



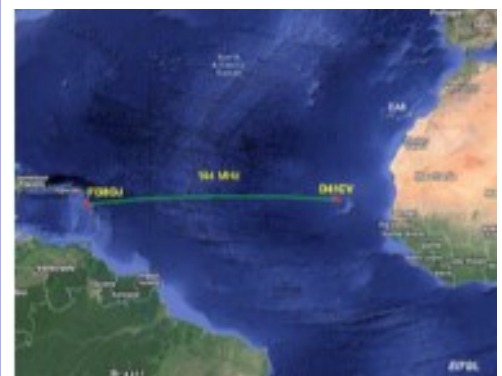
Historic 2-Meter Transatlantic Contact Reported

D41CV on Cape Verde Islands and FG8OJ in Guadeloupe spanned the Atlantic Ocean on 2 meters for the first time on June 16, according to reports. The distance was 3,867 kilometers (2,397.5 miles). The historic contact was made on 144.174 MHz using FT8 mode.

"The mode of propagation was most likely marine ducting, with the signal traveling in a layer near the ocean surface," said John Desmond, EI7GL, who was among those posting information on the contact. Mark De Munck, EA8FF, was at the helm of D41CV, the Monteverde Contest Team club station, off the coast of Africa. He used the beacon antenna at the station, as the so-called "Pinocchio Yagi" was down for repair. Bert Demarcq, FG8OJ, was on the other end of the contact.

"Now that this historic contact has been made, more 144 MHz contacts across this part of the Atlantic are sure to follow," Desmond said.

The initial contact does not qualify for the Brendan Trophies and Brendan Shields awards, because they require a valid contact to be made between Europe and the Americas on 2 meters. The distance covered, however, was greater than the distance between Ireland and Newfoundland. ARRL Letter, 6/20/2019



SPOT the INFORMATION

Joe, WB6MYD



1. **Attendance drawing:** Tim-KI6BGE had his name drawn at our June meeting and was present. Tim was given the kitty of \$25.00 which means that the July kitty will be \$ 20.00. Member must be present when the drawing is done after the break.

2. **New members:** We have 2 new members for membership consideration at the next Council meeting on July 23rd (Council must approve all new members). **Jill-KN6COV** took her test with us at our June 8th VE session and got her license just in time for FD. **Bryan-KI6ERR** had his membership lapse because taking care of his parents was more important which is understandable. So welcome back with us Bryan. Both Jill and Bryan were at our FD on the 22nd and both made contacts as well. Thank for joining us and especially participating on FD 2019.

3. **Field Day 2019:** Due to unforeseen difficulties we learned that a choice had to be made to either do this year's FD at Ernie Howlett Park in Rolling Hills or go back to the Hospital. Council members voted on TMMC. Joe as in the past, went ahead to arrange for all the work required to have a one day FD this year. Friday Tom, Chuck and Joe loaded up as much that would be needed to accomplish that. Saturday June 22nd we arrived at 0800 on the top deck of the West Parking structure and finished setting up our 2 antenna's which we had planned for. Scott in the meantime was preparing the 2 laptops for use with our logging which he was successful with included syncing the timing. By 1100 hrs the W6SBA FD team was ready to go to work and make contacts. I am very happy to say that while not making anywhere near the number of contacts as in the past we all had a good time. New people were operating, older members showing what needed to be done. This is what FD is supposed to be all about of course. Glenda provided a spaghetti delight dinner courtesy Glenda and Scott. Lunch was from Subway sandwiches and Chuck had picked up donuts for our coffee break. Dinner was served at 1800 hrs and by 1900 hrs we started loading and by 2000 hrs we left the TMMC for Joe's place. Tom, Chuck and Joe were the lucky ones to unload all the stuff back at Joe's into storage. Joe took care of the rest the next day. Looking back on this, we had a very successful 2019 FD.

4. **New Council meeting date:** Due to a conflict of interest and several other things it was decided at our June 6, 2019 Council the need to make other arrangements. The date picked is for now to the Tuesday after the general meeting in this case July 23rd. As many of you know we've had the first Thursday conflict with the Thursday night net for a long time. The other issue is that Glenda had only 2 weeks to prepare the Arc Over between council meeting and regular meeting. Now we will have 3 weeks or sometime even 4 weeks between for her to make up the Arc Over. I hope you all will understand. So let's see how that works for now.

5. **Thursday night net:** With the above changes we will also have more time for our Thursday night nets. No Thursday night on the third Thursday of course still. All other Thursdays now will need a control operator. I am prepared to do the net on the 2nd Thursday (not on the 4th of July). Since Alex was doing the first Thursday we'll ask him he can do that in July. This leaves the 3rd (beside the 3rd Thursday), 4th and sometimes even a 5th Thursday. OK what I am trying to say is could we get another member or members to volunteer? Ray and Chuck I am sure can be talked into a Thursday but just in case. So can we get one or more members to step up please? I'll give you the script and subjects if need be.

6. **Reminders:** We offer the following services to our members: Elmers; we have a list posted on the website otherwise ask your Secretary. Name badges, see Joe. Cost now \$ 11.00. ARRL membership renewal, see Joe. The club gets to keep 2 dollar if a member renews. Health and Welfare, we will send an Get well card or congratulations for accomplishments. License up and any other updating for you and the club, see Joe. Repeater problems see Scott or Joe.

7. **New member:** I received another application for membership to be approved at the July 23rd Council meeting. This is a new ham, name Dale-KN6CHH just got his Tech license, congratulations. Dale is from Torrance, zip 90503 and retired. Please welcome him to the SBARC and ask if you want whether he would need some help. His interest are many but needs help in clarifying direction to go. Thank you for joining us. Chuck-KN6H had made the initial contact.

JOE

2019 CLUB OFFICERS

President: Scott –N6LEM, 310-530-9889 scottsimpson126@gmail.com

Vice President: Alex – KD6LPA, 310.530.6614 kd6lpa@socal.rr.com

Secretary: Joe -WB6MYD, 310-328-0817 jmlanphen@gmail.com

Treasurer: Joe -WB6MYD, 310-328-0817 jmlanphen@gmail.com

Council: Chuck – K6CSH, 310-941-5679 chuchohn@gmail.com

Council: Paul – KK6BY, 310-676-0212 kk6by@arrl.net

Council: Mark – KM6HQQ, 310-612-0835 markvverbue@gmail.com

Past Pres: Ray – WA6OWM, 310-370-1913 wa6owm@arrl.net

CALENDAR

Council Meeting - 4th Tuesday of the month
Call Joe - WB6MYD (310) 328-0817

Club Meeting - 3rd Thursday of the month
July 18, 2019 - 7:30 p.m.
Room 1 in the Richard Hoffman
Educational Center at Torrance
Memorial Medical Center

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 27, 2019, 7-11 a.m.

VE Sessions - Scheduled on Saturday of even months
Contact Joe, WB6MYD with questions
(All VE sessions are scheduled for Room 4 in the Health
Conference Center)

Social Event - Contact: Joe WB6MYD
Phone: (310) 328-0817
jmlanphen@gmail.com

CLUB SERVICES

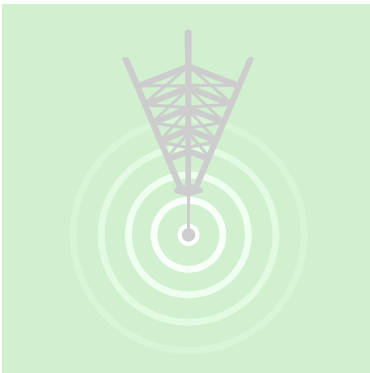
Awards Manager (HF/VHF)	Cliff - K6LH
Health & Welfare	Joe - WB6MYD
Swap Meet Chair	Tom-KI6RC, Chuck- K6CSH., Bill-KQ6Z
VE Test Liaison & Sessions	Betty Barch-N6VZF N6VZF@arrl.net (310) 545-6422
Webmaster	TBD
Editor	Glenda - KF6QFE Glenda.simpson@hotmail.com
Proofreader	Scott - N6LEM

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

