



January 2020

# ARCO *vet*

A Community Service Organization Dedicated to Amateur Radio Since 1970

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Wishing You All A Happy,  
Healthy New Year!

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



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

## President's Message

Hi Fellow SBARC Ham's,

The January luncheon will be a new venue, The Green Olive restaurant. They offer a Mediterranean type food menu and a casual dining area that should meet our needs just fine. The Green Olive is located at 19032 Vermont Ave, Gardena, CA 90248. All though the barbeque is good, this should be a nice change up to what has become routine. As always, bring us your recommendations for a future lunch spot.

Speaking of recommendations, if you have any club meeting ideas or topics in mind, let us know. I have had a couple of people ask about an introduction to amateur radio for new hams. Maybe we have a member that would step forward and put together a presentation or question and answer session us.

Looking ahead in 2020, we are looking to move forward on a more affirmative role working with the Torrance Memorial Medical Center. The club will look to defining a role at the hospital in times of emergency. From a recent drill it became apparent that there was a support gap. I would encourage members that would like to take part in this endeavor to step forward. As you might imagine, hospitals will be a center of urgency and activity during a significant disaster/earthquake event. And, they are a resource that may be in short supply. We'll keep you informed as to how this plan develops and moves forward.

Upcoming January activities include, the club meeting on the 16th, and the TRW/NGC swap meet on Saturday the 25th. 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, I want to encourage everyone to attend the monthly club meetings.

See you at SBARC luncheon!  
73's...  
Scott-

N6LEM



### January Presentation

### Wayne Overbeck N6NB

Wayne Overbeck, N6NB, will be presenting his experiences and adventures with mobile VHF at our January club meeting 1930 hrs. on 16 January, 2020 in room 1 of the Richard Hoffman Memorial Auditorium at Torrance Memorial Medical Center.



He's been a licensed amateur radio operator for 62 years with activities ranging from being one of the earliest portable EME-moonbounce operators, eventually winning multiple UHF and VHF contests starting in the 80s. He has had both a large fixed stations and has worked as a Rover.

He has also been elected ARRL device director in the 80s, written a number of articles for QST, CQ and Ham Radio magazines and is a retired professor of law from Cal State University Fullerton.

Details of his adventures with remarkable images may be obtained from his website at <http://N6NB.com>. Please join us for this fascinating presentation.

Bruce, KK6BJ

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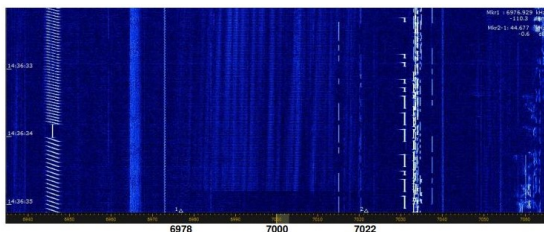


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## Over-the-Horizon Radars Causing Widespread Interference on 40 Meters

ARRL.com 12/19/19

Over-the-horizon (OTH) radars continue to plague various amateur radio bands.



Those operating on exclusive ham radio allocations have been complaining for years, but military systems have a blanket waiver to use amateur radio frequencies. The latest edition of the International Amateur Radio Union Monitoring System (IARUMS) newsletter reports that a radar in northern Iran — likely military — has been operating 40 meters (6978 – 7022 kHz). Several Russian and Chinese OTH radars have become mainstays in the ham bands. While these sort of signals are operating on exclusive amateur radio allocations, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Convention essentially gives military stations free reign in the spectrum. Article 48 says, “Member States retain their entire freedom with regard to military radio installations.” Member states are countries that have agreed to follow the Convention, and that is not a given.

The Convention goes on to say, however, “Nevertheless, these installations must, so far as possible, observe statutory provisions relative to giving assistance in case of distress *and to the measures to be taken to prevent harmful interference* [emphasis added], and the provisions of the Administrative Regulations concerning the types of emission and the frequencies to be used, according to the nature of the service performed by such installations.”

According to IARUMS, the Iranian OTH radar was centered on 7000 kHz using amplitude modulation on pulse (AMOP) at 81 sweeps per second. Recordings of military transmissions are available on the SIGIDWIKI signal identification site.

The South African Amateur Radio League (SARL) News reported this week that radio amateurs in Europe and South America have reported major interference from Russian OTH radar stations on several parts of 40 meters — with 12 kHz-wide signals. The radar transmissions have been heard on 7064, 7109, 7170, and 7190 kHz.

Several European IARU member-societies have already sent complaints to their respective telecommunications regulators.

## CAMSAT Says CAS-6 Activation for Amateur Use has been Delayed

ARRL.com 1/7/2020

Chinese Amateur Satellite Group (CAMSAT) CEO Alan Kung, BA1DU, tells ARRL that some problems with the precise attitude determination of the newly launched CAS-6 amateur radio



satellite have delayed deployment of the antennas. The satellite was to have been put into service within 3 days.

“If the V/UHF antennas are deployed now, additional torque may affect determination of the satellite attitude,” Kung said. “Engineers need to modify and upload the software, which will take some time.” He said that taking into consideration the upcoming long Chinese New Year holiday, the test work is planned to be completed sometime in late February or early March. At that time, VHF/UHF antennas will be deployed, and the amateur radio payload will be available for use.

Kung points out that the satellite’s CW beacon has been turned on, although the antenna has not yet been deployed. “If you have a ‘big ear,’ you may be able to receive weak signal leaked from an undeployed antenna on 145.910 MHz,” he said. “A polyimide cover on the antenna chassis can help to leak some RF signal.”

CAS-6 launched successfully on December 20, piggybacked on a TIANQIN-1 technology test satellite. The microsatellite will be known as CAS-6/TIANQIN-1, and the call sign is BJ1SO. The primary launch payload was the China-Brazil Earth Resources Satellite, CBERS-4A.

CAS-6 is in a sun-synchronous orbit with an apogee of 390 miles. It carries a U/V linear transponder, with a downlink of 145.925, 20 kHz passband (inverted) and an uplink of 435.28 MHz. The CW telemetry beacon is on 145.910 MHz, while 4k9 baud GMSK telemetry will be transmitted on 145.890 MHz.

## Two Free Amateur Radio Courses

FCC "Technician" course (entry level)

FCC "General" course (2<sup>nd</sup> level)

Each course is 2 sessions

The sessions will be on 1 and 8 February 2020

Technician 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM both Saturdays (bring your lunch)

General 1:45 PM to 5:00 PM both Saturdays

The FCC tests will be 10:00 AM to noon on 15 February 2020

At the start of the 1 February Technician course, a member of the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club will give a 30 minute presentation on how to get further involved with amateur radio.

The class location is at Fred Hesse Community Park,  
29301 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

Confirm your attendance to Walt, K1DFO at [waltordway@juno.com](mailto:waltordway@juno.com)

There is no fee for either course.

Taking the FCC test is \$15.

### Optional Material (sold at cost)

Gordon West books with all the FCC test questions,

\$26 for the Technician and \$26 for the General

Paper copy of Walt's Power Point charts,

\$22 for the Technician and \$20 for the General

For courses sponsored by the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club, students thru grade 12 who pass their examination at a PVARC VE test session will, upon application to the Club, be eligible for reimbursement up to a maximum of \$50 to cover the cost of materials and the examination fee.

Everyone who obtains their first ham radio license through a PVARC VE test session, regardless of age, will receive a free membership in the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club for the remainder of the current calendar year.

## ARISS Next-Generation Radio System Ready for Launch

ARRL.com 1/6/2020

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (**ARISS**) reports that its first Interoperable Radio System (IORS) flight unit — serial number 1001 — has been delivered to NASA's Johnson Space Center for launch in early March. The IORS represents the first major upgrade in ARISS equipment on the International Space Station since Amateur Radio gained a permanent presence onboard the ISS in 2000. In December, ARISS received approval from NASA Safety to launch the IORS on SpaceX CRS-20 and stow the radio system on the ISS for future installation.

"The IORS is a foundational element of the ARISS next-generation radio system and is an incredible engineering achievement by the ARISS hardware team," ARISS International President Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, said. "This first element delivery will support easier radio mode transitions and enable new, exciting capabilities for hams, students, and the general public."

The new system includes a higher-power radio, an enhanced voice repeater, and updated digital packet radio (APRS) and slow-scan television (SSTV) capabilities for both the US and Russian space station segments. The IORS consists of a custom-modified JVCKenwood TM-D710GA transceiver, an AMSAT-developed multi-voltage power supply, and interconnecting cables. The IORS set to launch in March will be installed in the ISS *Columbus* module.

Bauer said a second flight unit is expected to be launched sometime later this year for installation in the Russian Service module. The ARISS hardware team will assemble four flight units — and 10 IORS units in all — to support onboard flight operations, training, operations planning, and hardware testing.

"Future upgrades and enhancements to the next generation system are in various stages of design and development," Bauer said. "These include a repaired Ham Video system — currently planned for launch in mid-to-late 2020, L-band (uplink) repeater, ground command operations capability, LimeSDR signal reception, a microwave 'Ham Communicator,' and Lunar Gateway prototype experiment."



Bauer said a lot of "heavy lifting" remains to prepare the IORS for operation on the space station. "ARISS has 92 engineering requirements and our operations Phase III safety review to complete," he explained. "The space agencies take a position of 'trust, but verify.' Thus, these engineering and safety 'verifications' all need to be closed out before the IORS can be unstowed and turned on. This will be the ARISS hardware team's focus over the next few months."

Bauer reminded that ARISS is almost entirely run by volunteers and encouraged **donations** for next-generation hardware developments, operations, education, and administrative functions.

## New 70-Centimeter Tropo Contact Record Claimed

ARRL.com 12/31/2019

**[UPDATED 01-02-20 @ 1445 UTC]** On January 1, 2020, Callum MacPherson, GM0EWX, on the Isle of Skye worked work D41CV on FT8 extending the IARU Region 1 2-meter tropo record to 4,776 kilometers (2,961 miles)



Tropospheric propagation is being credited with enabling a 70-centimeter contact between the Cape Verde islands and Scotland that may be a new world record. **Exceptional tropo conditions** over the eastern part of the North Atlantic this past weekend allowed many stations in the UK and Ireland to make contacts with the Monteverde Contest Team Club, D41CV, on the Cape Verde islands on 2 meters, but the conditions extended to 70 centimeters.

At 1109 UTC on Saturday, December 28, Ian White, GM3SEK, in southwestern Scotland completed an FT8 contact with D41CV on 432 MHz, staking a claim on the IARU Region 1 tropo record at 4,562 kilometers (2,828 miles), which may also be a new world record. A couple of hours earlier, Mark Turner, EI3KD, worked D41CV on FT8 over a distance of 4,163 kilometers (2,581 miles).

## Texas Scout Leaders Promote Amateur Radio as a Communication Resource

ARRL.com 12/31/19

In 2017, Category 4 Hurricane Harvey left the region of Texas where Assistant Scoutmaster Scott deMasi, KC5NKW, lived under water. With roads flooded, bridges washed away, and cellular service and power out, deMasi said it soon became clear that his Scout troop's emergency preparedness plan wasn't designed for a storm of this magnitude. It was frustrating, deMasi says, to discover he couldn't reliably reach all of Troop 839's 100 Scouts and their families to check if they were okay or to organize relief efforts as a unit. Something had to be done.

After the waters receded, deMasi and Assistant Scoutmaster David Godell came up with a plan that would not leave the troop incommunicado after a major weather disaster. With 15 years' experience as a radio amateur, deMasi suggested encouraging Scouts and parents trained to become ham radio licensees. "It's a lifesaving skill, and it helps us to be prepared," Godell said. ("Be Prepared" is the Boy Scouts motto.)

An initial interest meeting was set, and Scouts were given links to study materials and offered transportation to examination sites, but participation was low. So, deMasi and



Godell worked with a local radio club, the Texas Emergency Amateur Communicators, to organize a 1-day Technician licensing class that also would fulfill most requirements for Scouting's Radio merit badge.

In addition, the two Assistant Scoutmasters bought inexpensive handheld radios that they programmed to frequencies the troop would use, so after the class, the Scouts would receive the equipment needed to continue using their new skills.

Armed with their radios, more than two dozen licensed Scouts and adults began utilizing their newly earned communication capability at Scouting events. During campouts, they radioed information to patrols across the camp. On these occasions, the troop practices a "no cell phone" policy; ham radio provided the means to stay in touch with others.

At service projects, they communicated directions to Scouts spread throughout a wide area. Having radios and opportunities to regularly use them gave the Scouts confidence to get on the air. Seeing licensed Scouts with their handheld radios also encouraged other Scouts to get licensed as well.

"Once the Scouts got radios, others wanted radios," Godell said.

Some Troop 839 members participated in the annual Jamboree on the Air (JOTA), talking with other Scouts in several other states and in Central America.

"You could see eyes light up," deMasi recalled. — Adapted from a Scouting Magazine [blog post](#) by Michael Freeman

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

- ◆ Members 65 and older will enjoy reduced dues, paying \$15.00 for a year.
- ◆ \$20.00 for single membership
- ◆ 2 members with the same address will continue at \$ 30.00 and family membership for 3 or more will also continue at \$30.00 for one year.

Please stay tuned for updates and other new items for us as a club to enjoy. As always, reach out to any of the officers with any of your suggestions or recommendations. We will listen. That isn't to say we cannot improve on things which we will with your help and support. Thank you.

While we are transiting roles, please give your membership dues to Joe, at least until the end of January. Checks can be mailed to South Bay Amateur Radio Club P.O. Box 536 Torrance, CA 90508


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**INFORMATION**

Joe, WB6MYD

1. **Attendance Drawing:** There was no attendance drawing at our December meeting. Therefore the January 16, 2020 meeting will see us start off with \$ 30.00 for the lucky member in good standing.

You must be present during the drawing to collect the kitty. So in the meantime, I do hope you all have had a nice holiday time and enjoyed yourself as well as the whole family did. Welcome to 2020. May you and yours stay healthy and be happy.

2. **Holiday party:** Those of us in attendance enjoyed the good food and camaraderie of our fellow South Bay ARC membership family. We look forward to your participation in this New Year and we certainly hope for you to continue your membership with us as a South Bay ARC member. After all these years we've sort of gotten use to you all.

3. This is going to be my last column. However, I did ask our President Scott to appoint me as Vice President and Ed-KN6JN as Council member. This action was done to have a complete Council (maybe minus one Council person) but two council members is better than one. If anyone else wants to volunteer for that position please let us know. So we are looking forward to a good year and we are asking for your patients as we transition roles to new people. We appreciate your continued support and participation.

4. **Social luncheon:** As you all know we have been having a social luncheon each month on the 2nd Saturday of each month at noon time. The last couple of months we've been going to Joey's BBQ on Crenshaw Blvd right near Torrance Airport. We thought it was a good alternative to Hoff's Hut having closed for an extended period to remodel and as we found out it certainly was. However, as we always do listen to others, The Green Olive has been recommended. This

restaurant is located at 19032 S. Vermont Ave., Gardena, 90249. Phone no. 310-808-0050. It has a 4 star rating the menu certainly seems very reasonable prize wise. This is rather easily to get to (you can Google it) but is between Torrance Blvd and 190th Street on the East side of the street It is just short of 190 street and the Sketcher outlet store. Stay tuned for other news on this restaurant and anything else. Check the website for updates.

5. **New Treasurer and Secretary:** As you may remember Betty-N6VZF was elected Treasurer and Tim-KI6BGE Secretary at the November meeting. Also Jim-W6IVW was along with Glenda-KF6QFE and Dick-W1MII. This as was later determined was not possible by our Constitution and Bylaws since article 2 states only one member of a family may serve at any calendar time. With that said we want to welcome all 3 new Council members to our board. We look forward to working with all of them to make this year even better than last year. 18 new members is certainly a good record indication. We thank you all for stepping up and willing to provide your time and expertise to help us achieve that goal as well. As I said at our Holiday party thank you to Paul-KK6BY, Chuck-K6CSH and Joe-WB6MYD for your long dedicated service to the South Bay ARC and thank you Scott-N6LEM for taking the reins and continue to guide us in the right direction. Please plan to attend the next meeting on January 16, 2020 in the Richard Hoffman Conference Center, Room 1 at Torrance Memorial Medical Center.

This brings me to one other item on this; the March 19, April 16th and May 21st meetings will meet in the West Tower, Room A. Everything remains the same time wise except it is on the other side of the West Parking Structure entrance which we always use. We are indeed very lucky to have this facility for our meetings and other activities.

Joe, WB6MYD

## 2020 CLUB OFFICERS

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

**Vice President:** Joe -WB6MYD, 310-328-0817 wb6myd@gmail.com

**Secretary:** Tim-KI6BGE, 310-809-4007 ki6bge@gmail.com

**Treasurer:** Betty -N6VZF, vzfmmi@vzfmmi.net

**Council:** Jim - W6IVW, 310-378-4411 slimjimis@cox.net

**Council:** Ed - KN6JN, 310-325-7944 kn6jn@aol.com

**Council:** OPEN

**Past Pres:** OPEN

## CALENDAR

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

**Club Meeting** - 3rd Thursday of the month  
**January 16, 2020 - 7:00 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,  
**January 25, 2020**, 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

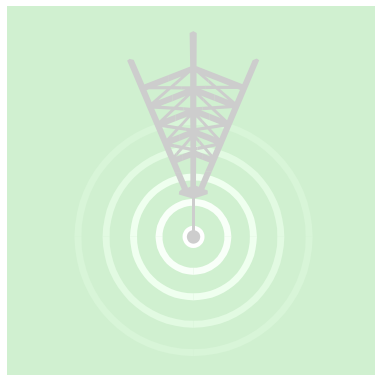
Awards Manager (HF/VHF)	Cliff - K6LH
Health & Welfare	Joe - WB6MYD
Swap Meet Chair	Tom-KI6RC, Chuck- K6CSH., Bill-KQ6Z
VE Test Liaison & Sessions	Betty Barch-N6VZF N6VZF@arrl.net (310) 545-6422
Webmaster	TBD
Editor	Glenda - KF6QFE Glenda.simpson@hotmail.com
Proofreader	Scott - N6LEM

**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

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