



April 2020

# ARCOver

A Community Service Organization Dedicated to Amateur Radio Since 1970

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# SPRING

## Is a Great Time

## to Hop Into

## Amateur Radio!



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



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

## President's Message

SBARC members,

I hope everybody has been making the best of their inside time. Finding something to repair or clean around the house. As I say, "It's almost like home detentions without the ankle bracelet". And when you do go out, it soon makes you feel like you should be back at home after seeing everyone in face masks. They have now extended this lockdown until May 15. I hope it works so we can move on.

By now you know the club has been forced to detune all of our social engagements. Meaning we cannot meet as a group for even a good reason. In place of the luncheon I actually thought about us getting some take out and sitting in our individual cars kibitzing on the radio. But it's just not the same.

The council has been looking at alternative meeting methods. We are looking to use Zoom for an upcoming general club meeting on April 16 and council meeting on April 22. A few of us did a practice run on Zoom and it went fairly well. There has been some security concerns using Zoom. For us it's not a real issue. We don't discuss corporate strategy, financially sensitive information, or personally identifiable information. We will use a sign in password and the meetings are encrypted by default. These on line sessions are interactive with video and audio. And, a camera on your end is not required for you to participate in the meeting content.

The council is still looking to identify a topic that's presentable using the on line format. Stay tuned to the net or your email inbox for the virtual meeting plan. Let's try to be enthusiastic about this change to our traditional club meeting operation because we will not be able get back into our TMMC location until they agree to allow nonessential use of their facilities.

Upcoming monthly club activities should include, the club meeting on the 16th but will now likely be on line, and the TRW/NGC swap meet on Saturday April 25th is cancelled. After the swap meet a few of us headed over to Denney's and this has been cancelled until after the lockdown. Then we may be able to head back over to the Denny's at 3060 Sepulveda Blvd in Torrance.

Stay healthy, stay in touch, and see you at the next SBARC meet up in May (we hope)!

73's...  
Scott-N6LEM

# April Meeting

Thursday, April 16th at 7:30 p.m.  
on Zoom

Expect an email with the invite to the meeting. Click the link in the email and Zoom software launches and you join.

Topic: TBD



## 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.

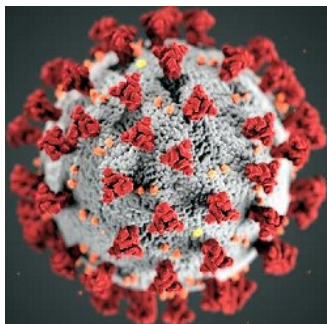
Please stay tuned for updates and other new items for us as a club to enjoy. As always, reach out to any of the officers with any of your suggestions or recommendations. We will listen. That isn't to say we cannot improve on things which we will with your help and support. Thank you.

Please give your membership dues to Betty. Checks can be mailed to South Bay Amateur Radio Club P.O. Box 536 Torrance, CA 90508

## Use of Special Call Sign Suffixes in the US During COVID-19 Pandemic

ARRL.com 4/6/20

Some countries have authorized selected radio amateurs or organizations to identify with longer-than-normal suffixes that relate to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as "STAYHOME." FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio Service rules do not provide for amateur call sign suffixes longer than three characters, but a potential workaround exists.



As §97.119(c) of the FCC's Amateur Radio Service rules states: "One or more indicators may be included with the call sign. Each indicator must be separated from the call sign by the slant mark (/) or by any suitable word that denotes the slant mark. If an indicator is self-assigned, it must be included before, after, or both before and after, the call sign. No self-assigned indicator may conflict with any other indicator specified by the FCC Rules or with any prefix assigned to another country."

While ARRL has no plans to sponsor or support an effort as an ARRL contest-based activity, licensees desiring to do this as a one-off stay-at-home event are welcome to do so.

## Spain Grants Unlicensed Individuals Permission to Use Amateur Stations During Lockdown

ARRL.com 4/2/20

Spain's International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) membership society URE has obtained temporary permission from the country's telecommunications regulator for unlicensed people to use amateur stations during the coronavirus lockdown.



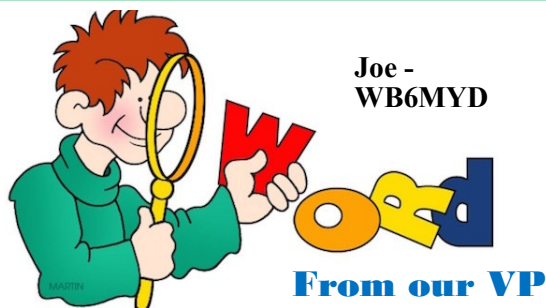
"The main objective of the request is to disseminate and promote amateur radio among schoolchildren who must be confined at home," the announcement from the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Digital Infrastructure said. "This activity offers young people the opportunity to gain practical experience in telecommunications technology, promotes education in technological subjects, and is a socially enriching family activity."

The temporary authorization would be in place while the state of alert and mandatory confinement measures are in effect in Spain. Non-licensed individuals could operate an amateur station only under the direct supervision of the licensee, under current amateur radio rules and regulations.



New member: **David-KN6HSN** passed his Technician class test with us at our Feb 8, 2020 VE test session. Promptly went to our website and found a notice that we had offered a free membership for a year to any local new licensees. He requested access to our website and required approval. We, meaning Scott and I approved that especially since I had found his call also. He did ask for assistance with an Yaesu FT-65 dual band 144/450 HT. So if one or more of you are familiar would you let me know please? Those little HT's are a little tricky to program. If you have the software and programming cable that would even be better but not necessary of course. So let me know please? In the meantime, once we get meetings going again, welcome him and talk to him and help him out.





**A.** We had our Council meeting via a Teleconference call. I thought it be important for us to talk since this Corona Virus is throwing every one for a loop. I am involved with that from another group every other week with about 5-7 guys talking about and doing frequency Coordination. Anyway, I had suggested that to Scott and he thought it to be good idea also and looked for a way to make that happen. Thanks Scott for finding that way. This is what a President is supposed to do, find ways to stay in touch with the council members and of give advice on their activities.

We did not get the minutes from the last meeting nor the agenda for this meeting since it was only made possible at the last minute.

**B.** One of the things we needed to discuss was the fact that a large number of members have not renewed yet. Due to the present health issues we all face we are allowing at this time to wait to postpone the due date at least another month. We really are all impacted by this present conditions and feel we hope to remind you next month with better news. In the meantime it is hoped that we can all stay safe and healthy by staying isolated as is being suggested.

**C.** Cancellations:

1. Baker to Vegas: This is the Law Enforcement Olympic run. While scheduled for April 3-5, 2020 is cancelled. We as a club used to do this event but got to be too much.
2. VE session SBARC Meeting April 11, 2020 is cancelled unless updated. Luncheon at noon time same date is cancelled.
3. SBARC Meeting for April 16, 2020 cancelled
4. TRW Swap meet for April 25, 2020 is very likely cancelled as well including luncheon.
5. Picnic scheduled for May 16 will also likely be cancelled. Let's hope not.

At this point we just hope that this thing has settled down and we are in the process of picking up the pieces.

**D.** Activities we can do. As you may have heard-we are more or less busy with an informal net every evening on the W6SBA repeater. The SBARC Thursday night net will continue as scheduled of course. The whole purpose for these nets is for us to stay up to date and in touch about our SBARC family. This is what we are supposed to do of course just chat away. Scott is working on getting us to listen to the Ham news on the repeater as well. This used to be pretty popular (maybe still is) so give it a listed. We will let you know if and when it happens of course. So if you know of some activity we could do with the required social distancing well we are all ears. Let us know. We are trying to adapt to having to work at home, having the kids home and maybe even out of work because of it. So we all have our pain with this thing and as you know staying active is pretty important in this scheme of things. So let us know, we would love to hear from you. Reports I am picking up on is that band conditions are somewhat better so let us know how you are doing and your family.

**E.** Thank you Glenda for making up the Arc Over this month, you do such a good job. Thanks.

## Amateur Radio Satellite Spreads Fight Coronavirus Message

ARRL.com 3/31/20

Indonesia's International Amateur Radio Union member-society **ORARI** reports the ham radio satellite LAPAN-A2 (10-86) is being used to transmit a "fight coronavirus" message via APRS. The satellite's text message is, "Stay Healthy, Stay at Home

#LawanCorona (Fight Coronavirus)." Sonny Dwi Harsono, YD1SCC, a researcher the Center for Satellite Technology Development, has explained that including the APRS text message was a form of support for government policies on social distancing in Indonesia.

To date, the message has been received by dozens of ORARI members throughout Indonesia, Harsono said.

Eventually, he said, plans call for trying to distribute the message via 10-86 every 100 minutes under certain conditions. Technical details are being worked out. Harsono pointed out that government messages about COVID-19 could also be transmitted via the satellite. — *Thanks to AMSAT News Service via AMSAT-UK*



## Circuit Board for Bare-Bones Ventilator Moves Toward Production with Radio Amateurs' Help

ARRL.com 4/1/20

Radio amateurs continue to play key roles in developing the electronic control system for an open-source/architecture, modular, low-cost human patient ventilator. The device itself was designed by researcher Sem Lampotang and his team at University of Florida Health — the school's academic health center — using such commonly available components as PVC pipe and lawn-sprinkler valves. The idea is to create a bare-bones ventilator that could serve in the event of a ventilator shortage.

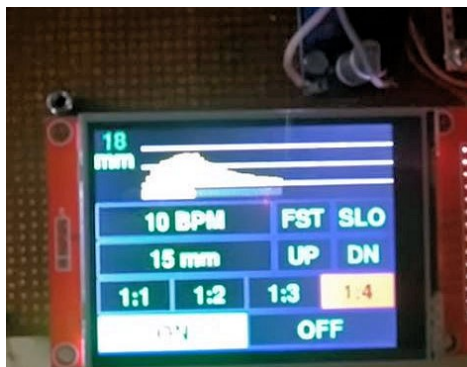
“The way I looked at it is, if you're going to run out of ventilators, then we're not even trying to reproduce the sophisticated ventilators out there,” Lampotang said. “If we run out, you have to decide who gets one and who doesn't. How do you decide that? The power of our approach is that every well-intentioned volunteer who has access to Home Depot, Ace, Lowe's, or their equivalent worldwide can build one.”

His team is working on adding safety features to meet regulatory guidelines, then they will run engineering tests to determine safety, accuracy, and endurance of the machine, which can be built for as little as \$125 to \$250.

Dr. Gordon Gibby, KX4Z — a retired associate professor of anesthesiology at the University of Florida and an electrical engineer — is among those involved in the project, developing control-system prototypes. He reports that a trial printed circuit board is being created, populated, and tested prior to large-scale fabrication. “This should lead to a documented open-source design that can be replicated or improved upon by any interested manufacturer,” Gibby said, noting that the board could be built anywhere in the world, based on the Arduino Nano microcontroller.

“A huge amount of work has gone on in the design of the circuit boards,” Gibby told ARRL. “We have at least two, maybe three designs, ready for fabrication.” Current design specifications and a video of prototypes have been **posted online**. The Arduino-based control software will set the respiratory rate and other key parameters in treating critically ill coronavirus victims. Other radio amateurs involved in the control system aspect of the project include Jack Purdum, W8TEE, and uBITX transceiver maker Ashhar Farhan, VU2ESE.

Using a **Groups.io** forum, up to 140 volunteers have been studying or working to push the project to completion. Software is being created by multiple volunteers, with amateur radio operators involved in that phase as well.



The ventilator's valves will precisely time the flow of compressed oxygen into a patient with lungs weakened by viral pneumonia in order to extend life and allow time for the body to clear the infection.

Among the project's assumptions: The Food and Drug Administration will waive clearance for the bare-bones design, if a massive shortage develops; traditional medical components and supplies used in ventilators will be in short supply, and transportation will be impaired or disrupted.



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### **Council:**

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### **Council:**

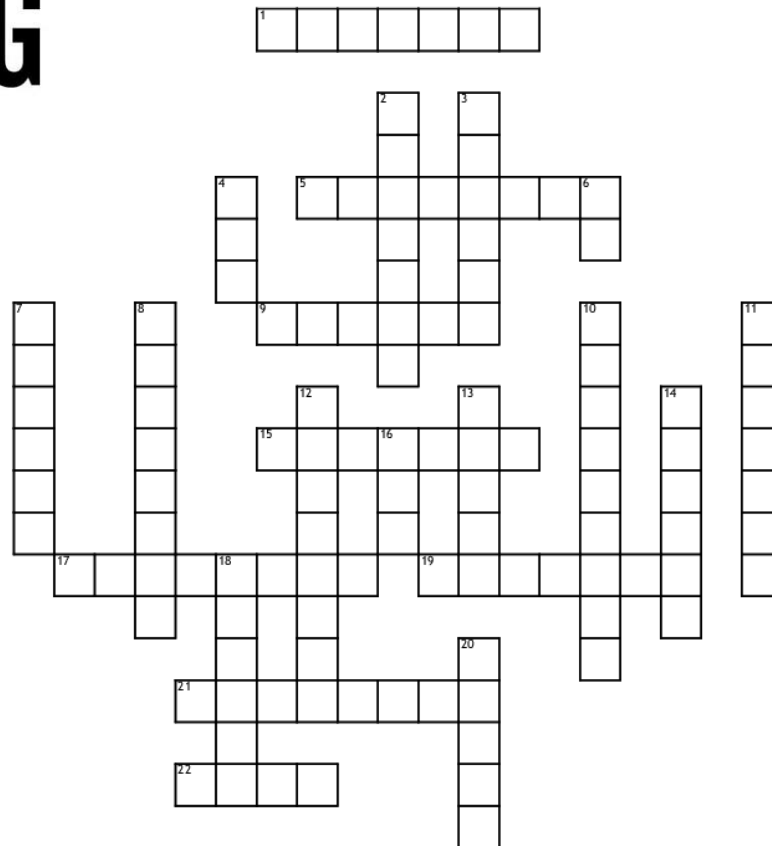
**Ed** - KN6JN, 310-325-7944  
kn6jn@aol.com

**Council: OPEN and Past Pres: OPEN**

Feeling bored? Here are a couple of “ham” related activities for you.

**BORED OF BEING  
BORED BECAUSE  
BEING BORED IS  
BORING**

## Ham Radio



### Across

1. One at a time
5. Upper and lower
9. Half goes one way, half the other
15. Technician \_\_\_\_\_ Extra
17. Takes your signal to the antenna
19. Where your signal comes from
21. Stands up
22. Runs W1AW

### Down

2. Where the repeater is
3. Can take it in your car
4. Not tuned right
6. A long way off
7. Wavelength measurement
8. Rebroadcasts at a higher power
10. Maximum usable \_\_\_\_\_
11. Steve's favorite brand
12. The right length to transmit
13. Balanced to unbalanced
14. Half your antenna on the ground
16. The home of 911
18. Amp or power supply
20. \_\_\_\_\_ Bravo Charlie

## What a Ham!

**TLSBOOKS.COM**

FREE WORKSHEETS

Amateur radio operators (a.k.a. ham radio operators) enjoy communicating with people all over the world. Many of them use Morse code when they transmit messages. Other operators use a microphone. They can send messages during natural disasters when phones, computers, and cell phones do not work.

Find and circle the amateur radio related words in the puzzle. Words may be forwards, backwards, up, down, or diagonal.

Word Box				
frequency	megahertz	call sign	voltmeter	QSL card
radio	hobby	worldwide	transmitter	receiver
antenna	Morse code	keyer	power supply	filter
repeater	modulation	microphone	signal	operator
station	tuner	ham		

```

q p e h m e g a h e r t z n w e b f
w s v k i r e c e i e v e r o d a r
p i l g e i r l e a v n n i r o s e
v g n c s y t t n r h o b b y c o p
h n o l a m e y e k e i h a d e x e
l a i a e r e r e v c t p t w s d a
v l d t p t d n o i t a t s o r y t
o e a e n i e z l q r l r h r o t e
l r r a f r f e n u t u c y l m o r
t r a n s m i t t e r d i c d c p n
m n j t z n l r p s d o m n w t e g
e h a e r v t t a h a m g e i n r i
t p d n m l e q d d c y l u d j a s
e r e n u t r i g p i c v q e c t l
r l p a u s r e w o p o b e p o o l
k e n o h p o r c i m j b r j k r a
g a z w k a w w x n a s k f c q f c
p o w e r s u p p l y h x d b k p i
  
```



## CALENDAR

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

**Club Meeting** - 3rd Thursday of the month  
**April 16, 2020 - 7:30 p.m.**

**Via Zoom  
(look for email)**

**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** **Cancelled Until Further Notice**

**VE Sessions** - **Scheduled on Saturday of even months**  
Contact Betty, N6VZF, 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

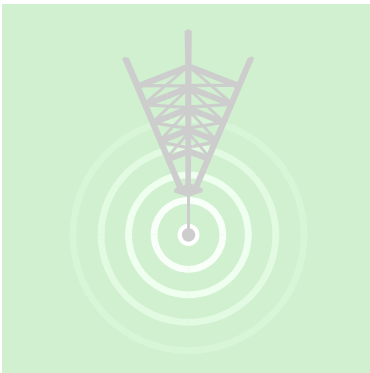
Awards Manager (HF/VHF)	Cliff - K6LH
Health & Welfare	Joe - WB6MYD
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Proofreader	Scott - N6LEM

**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

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

TO:



Address Correction Requested

*A COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION*

W6SBA

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