



August 2021

# ARCO *vet*

A Community Service Organization Dedicated to Amateur Radio Since 1970

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SBARC members,

Here we are into August. Summer is moving along. In July the club gathered at De Portola Park for a picnic. Nice turnout, but we can use more participation. I think we'll have to have a do over picnic in the fall. It has a nice feel to get back to some personal associations. Now with all the vaccinated club members we should be able to do more activities. One limitation we still have is, getting access back to our old meeting location at TMMC. This has also limited our VE session abilities. We have talked about bringing the Zoom speakers to the in-person meetings at TMMC. It would allow a broader range of speakers to be heard from. We have checked regularly with TMMC admin staff. As far as I know there is no time line as to when we may return to using the TMMC health conference center club meeting site.

As far as the balloons go, apparently we have had an out gassing event. On August 1, we had a launch from the TMMC flight deck. This balloon was identified as KI6BGE-11. Looks like it was a short flight with a 40k ft. high altitude rise. Then rapid descent into the Riverside head waters of the Prado Dam basin. Looked like a difficult recovery area so I believe no attempt was made to retrieve the balloon. I am told that getting the gas right in the balloons is critical and success or failure is only differentiated by a few grams of hydrogen.

A two-for-one at our August club meeting. Peter Von Hagen, WA6HXM will present on LTE telecommunications. LTE is a standard for wireless broadband Communication for mobile devices and data terminals based on the GSM/EDGE and UMTS/HSPA technologies. It increases the capacity and speed using a different radio interface together with core network improvements. Some of the features are Voice calls-Enhanced Voice quality. It should be very interesting and informative to hear from Peter about his experiences with LTE technology. This will be followed by the presentation by Roland Hoffman-KC6JPG on ATV. Roland works in the Broadcast / Video / RF technical since 1987. Currently involved as the Digital Systems Director, linking up ATV systems via TCP/IP into the ATN on YouTube and BATC, and involved on their continued project of converting from standard definitions television to high definition digital amateur television (DATV) in the near future. Join us on August 19th, 2021 at 7:30PM. We are still on Zoom since our meeting room access is still on hold. Please let us know if you need a Zoom meeting link. (FYI: The Zoom links are the same for each month.)

Upcoming monthly club activities include the SBARC virtual Zoom club meeting on August 19th at 7:30PM. And, the TRW/NGC swap meet.

As always, it's your amateur radio club, let us know what you would like to see happening with your club.

73's...  
Scott-N6LEM

## IT'S BACK

The TRW/NGC\* Swap Meet is opening up on **August 28th.**

(\* Northrop Grumman in Redondo Beach )

Going to Denny's following the swap meet will be decided at the swap meet.

## CLUB OFFICERS

### President:

**Scott** -N6LEM, 310-530-9889 scottsimpson126 at gmail dot com

### Vice President:

**Joe** -WB6MYD, 310-328-0817 wb6myd at gmail dot com

### Secretary: OPEN

### Treasurer:

**Betty** -N6VZF, (310) 545-6422 n6vzf at arrl dot net

### Council: OPEN

### Council:

**Greg**-WQ9P , 310-702-9312 wq9p at arrl dot net

### Council:

**Tim** -KI6BGE, 310-809-4007 ki6bge at gmail dot com

### Council:

**Mark**—KA6ZTO, 714-642-1126 ka6zto at yahoo dot com

### Past Pres: OPEN



# AUGUST

## CLUB MEETING

**August 19th at 7:30 p.m.**  
on Zoom

**JOIN US  
ONLINE**

Mark your calendar for the August 19, 2021 at 7:30pm South Bay ARC General Membership meeting via Zoom at 7:30pm.

We will start with a short presentation by our own member Peter-WA6HXM on LTE. While having been scheduled to make his presentation last month, but unable at the last moment due to a medical issue, will now present his talk on LTE (Long -Term Evolution) it being a standard for wireless broadband communication for mobile devices and data terminals, based on the GSM?EDGE and UMTS/HSPA technologies. Peter will have to explain this to us and see what this perhaps applies to our communications.

The presentation, Thursday August 19, 2021, will be by Roland-KC6JPG the Digital Systems Director of Amateur Television Network.

Roland works in the Broadcast / Video / RF Technician field since 1987 and is Video production / engineering with Cox Communications, Comcast and others to name a few. He holds an Extra class Amateur Radio license since 1990 and is the Net Control Operator for their weekly nets, every Tuesday evening at 7:30PM PST. He is currently involved as the Digital Systems Director, linking up ATV systems via TCP/IP into the ATN systems during net operations providing continuous streaming platforms of the ATN on YouTube and BATC. He furthermore is presently involved in their continues project of converting from standard definition television to high definition digital amateur television (DATV) in the near future.

The presentation will involve active ATV presentations and activity. This as I am sure you realize has gone from the slow scan television to apparently soon to DATV in the near future. This is the future as we all realize right? You do not want to miss this presentation.

Be sure to join us Thursday August 19, 2021 at 7:30pm via Zoom. Link to follow soon.

Joe, WB6MYD



## Most 2021 Field Day Participants Entered in Class D

ARRL.com 07/15/2021

In the second year in which rule waivers were in place for ARRL Field Day, some 4,815 entries were received at ARRL Headquarters by July 13 — the majority in Class D (Home Stations). Last year saw more than 10,213 entries and 18,886 participants. Before the pandemic, in 2019, 3,113 entries were submitted, with 36,420 total participants.

“It appears that larger groups were more the norm in pre-pandemic times, as expected,” ARRL Contest Program Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE, observed. “From the discussions I’ve been having with participants, even though some groups gathered in larger numbers this year, many participants chose either to gather in smaller groups or to operate solo from home as Class D or Class E stations. Although I don’t think we’ll see the number of entries that we did last year, we’re close in terms of the number of participants.”

With about 2 weeks to go until the entry submission deadline, the tally of participants reported is 16,166. They made just north of 1 million total contacts.

Andy Goss, AA5JF, took part in the first-ever Field Day for the Augusta University Amateur Radio Club (WA4AUG), which set up in the Georgia school’s Critical Event Preparedness and Response (CEPaR) Center.

“FD was already a success on Saturday, with the stations working smoothly, and lots of local visitors dropping by. An hour after sunrise on Sunday, we were counting our points, when Darby, KK4PEQ, announced he had just worked a station on 6-meter phone — just playing around on 50 MHz using the 20/15/10 tribander,” Goss said. “He stayed on 6 for five QSOs, but we quickly [moved] to 10 and 15, finding those bands were open to just about everywhere, and we doubled our score in just 3 hours. What a rush!

There’s still time to submit your 2021 Field Day entry. Most of this year’s Field Day entries have been submitted online (worth 50 bonus points!), although some 50 paper logs have been mailed in. Participants can check the Entries Received page to make sure their entries were received and complete. If the entry status indicates “Pending documents,” either the required dupe sheet (or in lieu of that, a Cabrillo log file) or supporting documentation of claimed bonus points is missing. Bourque said some 250 entries fall into that category right now. Participants can add documentation or edit their entries by following the link provided in the confirmation email sent to the email address provided upon entry, up until the entry submission deadline. Field Day entries must be submitted online or postmarked no later than 2059 UTC on July 27, 2021.

The breakdown of Field Day entries by class, as of July 13, showed 4,815 total entries, with 613 in Class A, 582 in Class B, 57 in Class C (Mobile), 2,619 in Class D, 858 in Class E, and 86 in Class F.

For his 2021 Field Day, Scott Hanley, WA9STI, took to the woods — the Los Padres National Forest — at a site some 7,400 feet elevation in the mountains overlooking California’s Central Valley. He operated as WA6LE in Class 1B. He put 358 contacts in the log on CW and phone — short of his 400-contact goal. “Almost all activity was on 20, 40, and 75/80 meters to a G5RV or end-fed 20-meter dipole,” Hanley said. “Six meters did not open, so only had two local SSB contacts and only 3 contacts on 2-meter FM.”



## AO-109 (RadFxSat-2/AMSAT Fox-1E) Open for Amateur Use

ARRL.com 07/20/2021

AMSAT’s Engineering and Operations Teams have announced that AO-109 (RadFxSat-2/AMSAT Fox-1E) is now open for amateur use. AMSAT advises operators to use efficient modes for making contacts, such as CW or FT4, because issues with the satellite make SSB voice contacts “challenging at best.” An article in the May/June 2021 issue (Vol. 44, No. 3) of *The AMSAT Journal* details the various attempts to characterize AO-109 and its apparent problems. — Thanks to Jerry Buxton, NØJY, and Drew Glasbrenner, KO4MA



## 8-Meter Experimental Station on the Air from the US

ARRL.com 07/29/2021

WL2XUP is an FCC Part 5 Experimental station operated by Lin Holcomb, NI4Y, in Georgia. It's licensed to operate with up to 400 W effective radiated power (ERP) between 40.660 MHz to 40.700 MHz.

John Desmond, EI7GL, reports that as of mid-July, WL2XUP was intermittently transmitting on Weak-Signal Propagation Reporter (WSPR) on 40.662 MHz (1500 Hz) for 2 minutes out of every 10, with an output power of 20 W ERP into an omnidirectional antenna. For FT8 check-ins and tests, an ERP of 100 W may be used. The band is affected by several propagation modes, including tropospheric ducting, sporadic E, transequatorial propagation (TEP), and F2 propagation. As Desmond notes, the 40 MHz band will open a lot earlier than 50 MHz and could be a useful resource for stations monitoring the transatlantic path.



A 2019 *Petition for Rulemaking* (RM-11843) asked the FCC to create 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 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.

## ARRL Board of Directors Creates Emergency Communications and Field Services Committee

ARRL.com 07/23/2021

At its just-concluded July 2021 meeting, the ARRL Board of Directors approved By-Law changes creating a third Standing Committee that joins the existing Administration and Finance Committee and Programs and Services Committee.



The charter of the new Emergency Communications and Field Services Committee (EC-FSC) is to develop and recommend new or modified Board policy and programs for emergency communications through the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) and National Traffic System™ (NTS™) entities.

The committee also will offer enhanced support for its Field Organization leadership volunteers, including Section Managers, and an increased focus on ARRL-Affiliated Clubs.

The EC-FSC will further provide guidance to the CEO in translating Board policy into prioritized tasking, funding, and staffing of programs, services, and training in support of amateur radio emergency communications, field organization volunteers, and recruitment and retention of new and existing members through assistance to Affiliated and Special Service Clubs.

The EC-FSC will have additional responsibility for monitoring and assessing trends in emergency communications technology and participant skills worldwide, and for identifying “best practices” for voluntary emergency communications provided by ARES and NTS, coordinating and cooperating with other amateur radio national societies as appropriate. — *Thanks to The ARES Letter*



## FCC to Re-Establish Technological Advisory Council, Solicits Membership Nominations

ARRL.com 07/28/2021

The FCC is seeking nominations for a chairperson and members of the Technological Advisory Council (TAC). In a July 21 Public Notice, the Commission announced that it intends to re-establish the TAC for 2 years, by August 20, 2021. It's anticipated that the renewed panel could hold its first meeting in October.



The TAC provides technical advice to the FCC and makes recommendations on the issues and questions presented to it. The panel typically has several radio amateurs among its members. Greg Lapin, N9GL, has represented ARRL on the TAC.

Among other issues, FCC Acting Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel will ask the TAC to start looking beyond 5G and conceptualize 6G. In addition, she'll ask the TAC to study advanced spectrum-sharing techniques, implementation of artificial intelligence, and machine learning to improve the utilization and administration of spectrum and other emerging technologies.

All organizational or individual members appointed to the Council or its working groups are subject to an ethics review by the Commission's Office of General Counsel. Council members receive no compensation for their service. Nominations for membership must be submitted to the FCC by August 20.

Procedures for submitting nominations are spelled out in the *Public Notice*, which includes details on membership qualifications and obligations.

The FCC said it's particularly interested in receiving nominations and expressions of interest from individuals and organizations in these sectors:

- Communications service providers and organizations representing communications service providers.
- Manufacturers of communications equipment and organizations representing manufacturers of communications equipment.
- Providers of internet applications or cloud-based services.
- Scientists and engineers from academia or independent consultants who are recognized experts in their field.
- Qualified representatives of other stakeholders and interested parties with relevant expertise.

"Members will be selected to balance the expertise and viewpoints that are necessary to effectively address the issues to be considered by the Council," the FCC said.

## ARRL Now Provides Free RF Exposure Calculator

ARRL.com 08/05/2021

The FCC has adopted guidelines and procedures for evaluating environmental effects of RF emissions. Under the new FCC rules, some amateurs need to perform routine station evaluations to ensure that their stations comply with the RF exposure rules. This can be as simple as running an online calculator to determine the minimum safe distance between any part of your antenna and areas where people might be exposed to RF energy from your station. Although amateurs can make measurements of their stations, evaluations can also be done by calculation.



The FCC guidelines already incorporate two tiers of exposure limits based on whether exposure occurs in an occupational or "controlled" situation, or whether the general population is exposed or exposure is in an "uncontrolled" situation.

To make this easy for amateurs, ARRL now provides an RF exposure calculator on its RF Exposure page. To use the calculator, enter your transmit peak-envelope power (PEP) and operating mode, and answer the questions about the maximum amount of time you might be transmitting. The calculator will give you the minimum distance people must be from your antenna and human exposure.

You can print the results and keep them in your station records. There is no requirement to send your results to the FCC.

## FCC Investigating Alleged “Jamming” on 40 Meters

ARRL.com 07/22/2021

Reports suggest that jamming stations have been deployed on the lower portion of 40 meters. The jamming appears to be coming from Cuba. The signals, spaced at regular intervals, exhibit a squishy, popping noise. The apparent jamming showed up after anti-government protesters took to the streets in Cuba, followed by a government crackdown.



So far, there's no proven connection between the jamming and the protests, as evidence has been circumstantial. DX spots suggest that Cuban hams are on the air on SSB but do appear rare on 40 meters. A lot of Cuban spots point to FT8 activity. The jamming issue has drawn the attention of the FCC, which is looking into the matter, according to one tech publication.

“Too many people around the world are fighting uphill battles to be able to use technology to expand economic opportunity, express themselves, and organize without fear of reprisal,” an FCC spokesperson told *Motherboard*. “The FCC is committed to supporting the free flow of information and ensuring that the internet remains open for everyone. We are assessing these reports in conjunction with our field agents and communicating with the Department of State as this issue develops.”

Outside of ham radio, the ability to connect with some social media sites and even with the internet inside Cuba has been reportedly tricky. Connecting to the Federación de Radioaficionados de Cuba (FRC) website (Cuba's IARU member-society) from outside of Cuba has been unreliable. This week, users attempting to do so — at least those in the US — got a shrugging cartoon character and the legend, “Acceso Denagado” — access denied. The FRC Facebook page is accessible, but links to the FRC website are blocked. FRC had warned of “possible outages” a week ago, attributing the problem to maintenance being done in the data center where FRC is housed.

Well-known amateur radio contester and DXer Fred Laun, K3ZO, pointed out in a July 17 post to the Potomac Valley Radio Club reflector that typical ham radio contacts with Cuba “are not normally about politics, though I suppose in the wake of recent events they may have become so.” Josh Nass, KI6NAZ, of the YouTube channel, *Ham Radio Crash Course* (HRCC), is calling the interference “The Cuban Rum Runner,” an oblique reference to the “Russian Woodpecker” of yesteryear. And Matthew Kaskavitch, K0LWC, recorded an “emergency broadcast message” on his YouTube channel, to advise viewers of the purported jamming.

International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 2 (the Americas) President Ramón Santoyo, XE1KK, said no complaints had been received by July 20.

## AMSAT-NA Issues First Call for Papers

ARRL.com 07/19/2021



AMSAT-NA has issued its first call for papers for the 39th Annual AMSAT Space Symposium, set for October 29 – 31, 2021, at the Crowne Plaza AiRE hotel in Bloomington, Minnesota. Proposals for symposium presentations are invited on any topic of interest to the amateur satellite community. A tentative presentation title is requested, with final copy submitted by October 18 for inclusion in the symposium *Proceedings*. **Send** abstracts and papers to Dan Schultz, N8FGV.



## CALENDAR

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

**Club Meeting** - 3rd Thursday of the month  
**August 19, 2021 - 7:30 p.m.**

### Via Zoom

(look for email invite from  
jmlanphen@gmail.com a few days before)

**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** - **Cancelled due to Covid-19**  
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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A COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION

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