

# THE COASTSIDE COMMUNICATOR

Vol. 41, No. 3

**MARCH 2009** 

### WWW.COASTSIDEARC.ORG

### PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Well its March 2009, the months are going by fast.

The CERT Silver Dragon exercise will be on March 11 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon.

This year Pacificcon 2009 will not be hosted by the Mt Diablo Amateur Radio Club and will instead be hosted by EMCOMMWEST on May 1,2,and 3 at the Circus Circus Hotel in Reno, Nevada.

On other matters, North Count CERT Training will be starting March 26 through May 14 on Thursday evenings from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm at the Pacifica Police Department at 2075 Coast Highway and is open to Brisbane, Daly City, and Pacifica residents.

I was appointed by Matt Lucett, North County Fire Authority along with Vic Lee-W6VO as backup, to attend countywide CERT Communications Committee, held at Beresford Recreation Center Conference Room in San Mateo The goals are to approve frequency list, (to be determined), and plan to develop what frequencies and FRS (Family Radio Service) channels to use, so we don't step on each other in nearby cities. Meetings will be held the last Thursdays of the month.

Our next meeting is Mar 11<sup>th</sup>, and it will be our annual Pizza Night meeting at the Round Table Pizza in the Linda Mar Shopping Center.

73...Bob-W6LOG

### FEBRUARY MINUTES

The February 2009 Club meeting was called to order at 1930 hrs by club president Bob Barbitta-W6LOG in the basement of the Linda Mar Fire Station in Pacifica. Self-introduction by the members followed.

The minutes from the January meeting, as recorded in the February newsletter, were read and approved on a show of hands.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Frank Erbacher-N6FG provided the following report of the club's financials: \$823.00 in the General Fund; \$2821.97 in the Repeater Fund; \$385.91 in the Digipeater Fund, and \$3139.61 in the EOC/Public Service Fund. These individual fund totals add up to a club total of \$7170.49.

Outlays included \$30.00 to print and mail the February newsletter. Seven dollars were taken from the general fund to pay for cookies for the monthly meeting, with a donation of \$7 then made to the repeater fund. Annual dues of \$20 for the two repeaters were paid to NARCC. A motion, with second, to pay the bills passed on voice vote.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

Total club membership stands at 52, all of whom are licensed members. Forty two (81%) of the members are ARRL members.

### COMMUNICATIONS

Newsletters were received from the Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association ("SCCARA-Gram", Feb) and the Golden Empire Amateur Radio Society, Inc. ("The Radiator", Feb). A copy of the February 2009 OCEC/RACES SIGNALS, Oswego County (New York) Emergency Communicator/RACES was also received from an interested

### friend of the club. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### REPEATER

Operational. Roger Spindler-WA6AFT discussed the corrosion problem that is responsible for the receiver frontend detuning problem

### **AUTOPATCH**

Operational

### **DIGIPEATER**

Operational. Roger Spindler has constructed an antenna for digipeater and is awaiting an opportunity to install. APRS traffic is going like gang-busters.

### **EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Nothing new to report.

### FIELD DAY

Frank Erbacher reports 4 Field Day volunteers so far—hardly enough to support Field Day as it has been set up in the recent past. Frank reiterated that he will have his van loaded up with the gear and available for the volunteers to drive up the hill. Roger Spindler will bring up the generator. Frank provided a general description of the club's Field Day activities for the new members.

### NEWSLETTER

No Report

WEBSITE No Report.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Dave Lawrence-KF6TWW notified the group that Genetech would not be available for the March meeting, but would be available for the April meeting. It was agreed to move Pizza Night to March and the meeting at Genetech to April. Frank Erbacher will make the reservation at Roundtable for the club's March meeting.
- 2. North County CERT training will be provided at the Pacifica Police Department on Thursday evening from March 26 through May 14 (Pacifica and Daly City residents only). For more information or to register for the CERT class contact the North County Fire Authority at <a href="https://www.northcountyfire.org">www.northcountyfire.org</a> or call Matt Lucett at 650/991-8139.
- 3. George Horbal-KG6VSH dropped off a packet of walletsized 2009 calendars with club information on the back for distribution to club members.
- 4. A club outing to the Computer History Museum in Mt. View was tentatively planned for April 25<sup>th</sup>. 11 members expressed interest in attending.
- 5. New member Nikki Villyard-KI6VRA has recently received her Technician license, becoming the fourth member of her family, along with father, mother and brother to become amateur radio operators. Congratulations, Nikki!

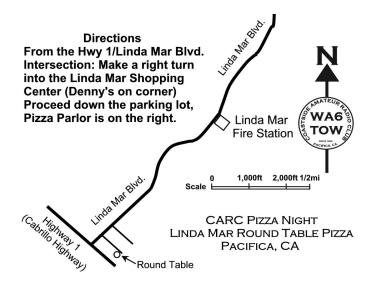
A motion to adjourn the business meeting, made by Dave Lawrence-KF6TWW with second Tom Mullarkey-AA6TM, was approved on a voice vote at 2020 hrs.

### PRESENT AT THE MEETING

Members and guests included: Bob Barbitta-W6LOG, Roger Spindler-WA6AFT, David Rinck-K6DMR, Frank Erbacher-N6FG, Tom Mullarkey-AA6TM, Dave Lawrence-KF6TWW, Al Miller- K6ADM, Casey Villyard-N6TZE, Joshua Villyard-K16UJU, Audrey Villyard-KD6KGH, Nikki Villyard-K16VRA, Justyn Zachariou-K16USU, George Hampton-KG6H, Alan Wilhelmi-KE6QWY, Arnott Smith-KF2TM, and George Tucker-W6HAF.

Reported by George Tucker-W6HAF Secretary





### **NEWS**

### CARC-CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

FIELD DAY - SWEENEY RIDGE 1989



### FIELD DAY DILEMMAS FOR 2009

At the December meeting, our Field Day Chairman Ed-KD6TWK, informed the Club that he will be on a trip with his family for the Field Day period in 2009. Ed prepares and submits the permit forms and follows through with the permit though the process.

As I have been saying for the last two years, I also will be gone for Field Day 2009. All of my Field Day equipment and the Club's equipment including what Ed has will be packed up onto and into my Van before I leave and available for the clubs use for this period.

If Field Day 2009 is going to happen for the CARC we need a very early list of those who can and will commit to Field Day 2009. We need to know who can and will take over these activities or help and operate at Field Day. All of our normal procedures which take place each year will be documented for all and check lists will be provided.

Some of the specific commitments needed:

2009 Field Day Chairman or Co-Chairmen. This person (or persons) is in charge of seeing that the whole operation is complete.

Commitments to deliver Field Day equipment to and from the site on Saturday AM and Sunday AM. This includes the van and porta-potty that is on wheels.

Extra Class or at least General Class operators are needed for control operators. They need to be available and scheduled to cover the entire 24-hour period of operation.

At least a few persons must be on the site <u>at all times</u> and to operate to make it worthwhile. And of course sufficient volunteers are needed to be there at setup and take down.

Complete the ARRL Log Submittals: Using our logs prepare and submit them soon after the Field Day. Logs at Field Day may be either by computer hopefully or else hand. In any case they must be submitted by computer.

It is very important that you commit sooner rather than later to unsure that this event <u>can take place</u>. There are a lot of details that are easy to work out but you are needed to meet with early. So please contact either Ed-KD6TWK at 650-755-9234, kd6twk@arrl.net or Frank-N6FG, at 650-355-4355, n6fg@arrl.net to sign up.

73's Frank-N6FG

### ARRL UPDATE

# ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION TO FEATURE RICHARD GARRIOTT, W5KWQ

Richard Garriott, W5KWQ, will be attending the 2009 ARRL National Convention -- hosted by the Dayton Hamvention -- as a special guest of the ARRL and AMSAT. Garriott, who took off for the International Space Station (ISS) on October 12, became the sixth private citizen to fly with the Russian Federal Space Agency (RKA) for a short-term mission on the ISS

http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2008/10/09/10382/?nc=1. Not two hours after he arrived on the ISS on October 14, Garriott was making ham radio contacts, just as his father, Owen Garriott, W5LFL – the first ham to make QSOs from

space -- did in 1983 while aboard the space shuttle Columbia on STS-9. Both Richard and Owen are ARRL members.

"We are so excited to have Richard be a part of our National Convention this year," said ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R. "He will spend some time in the ARRL EXPO exhibit area, meeting convention attendees and signing autographs <a href="http://www.arrl.org/expo">http://www.arrl.org/expo</a>. He's also been confirmed as a Hamvention forum speaker." The ARRL EXPO is a large exhibit area located in the Ballarena Hall (near the 400-numbered booths) at Hara Arena.

"This mission to the ISS fulfilled a lifelong dream to experience spaceflight, just as my father first did 26 years ago," Richard said. "It's an honor to be the first American to follow a parent into space." While living on the ISS, Richard conducted scientific experiments and environmental research - but he also had a chance to do quite a bit of Amateur Radio operating, including sending slow-scan TV (SSTV) images.

Richard said that after his first QSOs with Earth, he understood how "well-networked" the global ham community really is: "I received specific reports back through Mission Control-Moscow about the technical aspects of my work and how the [amateur] community was enjoying the transmissions. This redoubled my enthusiasm to do quality work for the Amateur Radio legions around the world, as I realized how much it meant to those with whom I had the chance to talk. By late in my flight, I had contacted many hundreds of hams by voice and I have good records of these contacts."

For the past 26 years, ham radio operations from aboard the space shuttles and the International Space Station have helped to spotlight the innovation and experimentation that are benchmarks of the Amateur Radio Service. Richard Garriott's story as a private astronaut embodies that same "can-do" spirit. "We are absolutely delighted that Richard has agreed to take part in the 2009 ARRL National Convention. His biography reads like an adventure novel -- one that spans global expeditioner, explorer and entrepreneur," Inderbitzen said. "Like many radio amateurs, Richard has an innate fascination with science and technology. He has written very enthusiastically about his experience using Amateur Radio from aboard the ISS. He found it particularly gratifying to find hams around the globe eager to make radio contact with him at any time of the day or night. Throughout the mission, he made hundreds of radio contacts with individuals and classrooms full of children. When we greet Richard in Dayton, we'll welcome him as one of our own!"

### BSA UPDATES RADIO MERIT BADGE REQUIREMENTS

The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) has updated the requirements needed to earn the Radio merit badge. The new requirements became effective with the publication of Boy Scout Requirements 2009. While no new content has been added to the program, the new merit badge pamphlet features lots of new information -- including color pictures and updated charts and text -- that reflects the changes in the Amateur Radio Service since the last pamphlet update in 2002. Approximately 4000 Radio merit badges are earned each year.

According to ARRL ad hoc Scouting Committee member Larry Wolfgang, WR1B, the new Radio Merit Badge pamphlet had been in the works for some time. "BSA has been

### ARRL UPDATE CONT.

replacing all merit badge pamphlets with new booklets using color graphics and more modern presentations," he said. "With attractive color photos and clear text explanations of the requirements, the new merit badge pamphlet is a pleasure for the Scouts to read. The new text is due in large part to the efforts of longtime Radio Merit Badge Counselor and K2BSA National Jamboree Staff member Mike Brown, WB2JWD. I am looking forward to using the new pamphlet to teach Radio merit badge at our Council's Merit-Badge-O-Ree this spring, and to having a supply of the new books available for Scouts during the 2009 summer camp season."

Wolfgang said that the requirements for the badge have been shifted around: "The old Part 4 of Requirement 7(b) Broadcast Radio was pulled out and placed in the main body of the requirements as Requirement 8. In addition, the old Requirement 8 (to visit a radio installation and discuss what types of equipment, how it was used, what types of licenses are required to operate and maintain the equipment, and the purpose of the station) was moved up to Requirement 7, so that now the three options appear as Requirement 9. The main result is one additional full requirement."

ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Director and Chairman of the League's ad hoc Scouting Committee Brian Mileshosky, N5ZGT, called the Radio Merit Badge "a perfect avenue to introduce Scouts and Scouters to the wonderful world of ham radio. Ham clubs across the nation should locate a local Boy Scout Troop, secure permission from their Scoutmaster and/or committee to teach the merit badge and deliver an exceptional Radio merit badge class. What the boys -- and their leaders and parents -- will learn in the process is a fair amount of what is part of the Technician license exam, so the next logical step after a merit badge class is an all-out recruiting effort to get that Troop involved in Amateur Radio. They'll meet new friends and have a great way of communicating while in transit to and from the field, as well as additional peace of mind through an effective means of emergency communications while in the backcountry."

For a complete overview of the Boy Scout Radio merit badge, see the Radio merit badge page on the BSA Web site http://www.scouting.org/boyscouts/advancementandawards/meritbadges/mb-RADO.aspx.

# QEX: THE MARCH/APRIL 2009 ISSUE The March/April issue of QEX is coming soon, and it is full of theoretical and practical technical articles that you don't want to miss <a href="http://www.arrl.org/qex">http://www.arrl.org/qex</a>.

In this issue, Gary Steinbaugh, AF8L, introduces us to "A Cybernetic Sinusoidal Synthesizer." The initial part presents some interesting history and theory of feedback control. The system includes an oven-stabilized crystal-controlled oscillator, a PLL frequency synthesizer with a low phase noise sinusoidal output, a variable gain RF amplifier for automatic power level control and an RF power meter with a digital readout in dBm and an analog voltage output. Subsequent articles will describe these circuits in detail. Ron Skelton, W6WO, takes us "Exploring Near-End-Fed Wire Antennas" by modeling his design using EZNEC, and then building a 40 meter version to verify the modeled performance. Ken Grant, VE3FIT, describes "A Versatile Two-Tone Audio Generator

for SSB Testing." This handy piece of test gear could be a valuable addition to your test bench.

Thomas Alldread, VA7TA, continues to describe his "NimbleSig III" dual output DDS RF generator. This circuit provides signals over a range from 100 kHz to 200 MHz, with 1 Hz resolution. In this part of the series we learn about the control software design, computer interface, MPU programming and initial testing. Rudy Severns, N6LF, presents more of his research in "Experimental Determination of Ground System Performance for HF Verticals." Part 3 compares the performance of antennas using ground-surface radials and those using elevated radials. If you use vertical antennas on HF, or have thought about using vertical antennas on HF, you will want to read all of the articles in this series. Roger Monroe, K7NTW, introduces the process of programming a microcontroller in "Some Assembly Required." As a practical application, he describes how he used a microcontroller in the design of a QSK amplifier keying interface for use between his Ten-Tec Omni IV+ radio and his Heath SB-220 amplifier.

Ray Mack, W5IFS, continues his software defined radio column. In this installment of "SDR: Simplified," Ray looks at signals in the time domain and the frequency domain, and introduces the concept of Fourier transforms. He also explains the Nyquist criterion for sampling signals in analog to digital conversions as well as the filtering requirements for digital to analog conversions. Mark Spencer, WA8SME, has been sending results of his further data collection based on his article, "SID: Study Cycle 24, Don't Just Use It" from the September/October 2008 issue of QEX. The "Tech Notes" column in this issue includes some graphs of Mark's data, as well as a re-designed SID receiver and interface. The "Reader's Page" includes photos of two different GPS-derived frequency standards. Readers are encouraged to submit photos of their projects, to show off their handiwork.

Would you like to write for QEX? It pays \$50/printed page. Get more information and an Author's Guide <a href="http://www.arrl.org/qex/#aguide">http://www.arrl.org/qex/#aguide</a>. If you prefer postal mail, send a business-size self-addressed, stamped envelope to QEX Author's Guide, c/o Maty Weinberg, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111-1494.

QEX is edited by Larry Wolfgang, WR1B wrlb@arrl.org, and is published bimonthly. The subscription rate (6 issues) for ARRL members in the US is \$24. For First Class US delivery, it's \$37; in Canada and internationally by airmail it's \$31. Nonmembers add \$12 to these rates. Subscribe to QEX today.

Editor's Note: Due to production difficulties, the March/April issue of QEX will be arriving about two weeks later than normal. Readers should expect to see their copies in their mailboxes in mid March. We regret any inconvenience this may cause.

### ARRL IN BRIEF

### FIELD DAY STATION LOCATOR SERVICE RETURNING FOR 2009

First introduced in 2008, the ARRL's Field Day Station Locator Service was a popular addition to the Field Day toolbox. This service -- an interactive map that helps amateurs or those interested in Amateur Radio find a Field Day <a href="http://www.arrl.org/fieldday">http://www.arrl.org/fieldday</a> site near them -- is free to clubs

### ARRL IN BRIEF CONT.

or individuals who will be operating public Field Day stations. Stations can also be listed by state or province. If your group would like to be a part of the Station Locator Service, it's easy to get started – just go to the Field Day Station Locator Web site and follow the instructions

http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/locator.php. ARRL Field Day is the most popular on-the-air operating event in Amateur Radio. On June 27-28, join tens of thousands of Amateur Radio operators as they gather for a public demonstration of our Service.

### EMCOMMWEST TO INCLUDE ARRL PACIFIC DIVISION CONVENTION

EMCOMMWEST 2009 -- an ARRL specialty convention devoted entirely to emergency communications -- will host this year's Pacific Division Convention (Pacificon) at the Circus Circus Hotel Resort in Reno, Nevada May 1-3. Supervisor of the ARRL's Field and Public Service Team Steve Ewald, WV1X, will host an emergency communications forum and deliver the keynote address. Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, former Special Counsel of the FCC's Enforcement Bureau, will be the speaker at the Saturday evening banquet; Hollingsworth will also present a forum on the legal aspects of emergency communications. Other forums in the works include an introduction to the work of Public Information Officers (PIO) and the PR-101 Course http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/01/22/10578/?nc=1; how to create an effective ARES team (and even how to create an ARES team from scratch); how to work with ARES from an Emergency Manager's view; packet software and operations for emergency communications; practical emergency communication functions for ATV; how to creating a Section-wide intercom using EchoLink and VoIP, and more! SKYWARN and storm spotter training will also be offered. ARRL Pacific Division Director Bob Vallio, W6RGG, and Vice Director Andy Oppel, N6AJO, will lead the ARRL Forum. Registration is now available online via the EMCOMMWEST Web site http://www.emcommwest.org/.

### "THE DOCTOR IS IN"

This week, ARRL Letter readers are in luck! The ARRL's very own Doctor, author of the popular QST column "The Doctor Is IN," answers a question from his mailbag:

Scott McCann, W3MEO, of Queenstown, Maryland, asks: I am fairly new to SSB and CW on VHF and was surprised during the September ARRL VHF contest to have worked W2SZ, the RPI Amateur Radio Club station on Mt Greylock in Massachusetts. I was running 2 W CW to a homebrew four element beam 20 feet off the ground. The boys on the mountain were running a lot bigger station than I was.

This station was well over the horizon. I wonder what propagation mode supports this beyond line-of-sight (LOS) communication? I worked several other stations that were also well over the horizon.

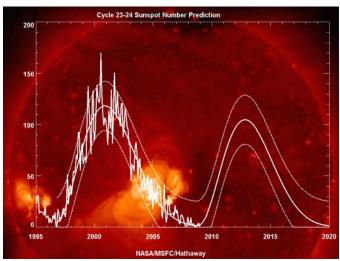
The Doctor Answers -- The propagation mode is most likely troposcatter, in which VHF signals are scattered by the troposphere, the lowest region of our atmosphere extending

about 7 miles to the border with the stratosphere. Troposcatter is in common use by the military and some commercial users for paths up to a few hundred miles -- generally using high power and high gain antennas.

Troposcatter is also the mode that results in a commonly occurring type of long distance TV transmission. W2SZ -- the Amateur Radio club at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York -- uses big power and antennas from a fantastic location, making this mode a common occurrence. You can find out more about troposcatter and the other propagation modes supported by the troposphere at this Web site www.oelcwj.com/literature/troposcatter.htm.

Do you have a question or a problem? Send your questions via e-mail doctor@arrl.org; or to "The Doctor," ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111 (no phone calls, please). Look for "The Doctor Is IN" every month in QST, the official journal of the ARRL.

# SOLAR UPDATE



### THE K7RA SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "A savage Sun consumes its hidden day" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: Excitement mounted a few days ago when new Solar Cycle 24 sunspot 1013 emerged, but two days later it was fading away, similar to other recent sunspot appearances. The sunspot number for February 24-26 was 12, 14 and 12. Today's number will likely be 0. Sunspot numbers for February 19-25 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 12 and 14 with a mean of 3.7. The 10.7 cm flux was 68.9, 69.2, 70.6, 70.3, 70.8, 71 and 70.7 with a mean of 70.2. The estimated planetary A indices were 1, 3, 3, 3, 5, 6 and 3 with a mean of 3.4. The estimated mid-latitude A indices were 0, 3, 2, 3, 3, 6 and 2 with a mean of 2.7. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page

http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html. To read this week's Solar Report in its entirety, check out the W1AW Propagation Bulletin page http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/prop/. This week's "Tad Cookism" brought to you by David Gascoyne's "Winter Garden"

http://www.poetryarchive.org/poetryarchive/singlePoem.do?poemId=174.

### TRADING POST

"WANTS AND SWAPS"

I have a collection of QST's from the 1970's through 1990's. If anyone is interested, call me at (650) 355-4355. Frank-N6FG

### **CARC PUZZLER**

CARC - 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

Can you name three of the people in the 1989 Field Day pictures on page 2? Answers in next month's newsletter.



CARC Field Day - Sweeney Ridge 1989

### Answers to February's Puzzler

A-Antenna	B-Ground	C-Buzzer	
D-Jack	E Filament Heater	F-Panel Dial Lamp	
G-Illuminating Lamp	H-Iron Core Inductor	I-Neon Bulb	
J-Diode Vacuum Tube	K-Plate	L-Filament	
M- Triode Vacuum Tube	N-Plate	O-Filament	
P-Grid		Q-Twisted Pair Cable	

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### COMING EVENTS

**Livermore Swap Meet**  $-1^{st}$  Sunday of each month at Robertson Park in Livermore, CA. 7:00AM to 11:30AM

Talk-in: AD6X 147.120 (+) PL 100. For information, Ian Parker-W6TCP E-mail:swap@livermoreark.org

Web Page:http://www.livermoreark.org/swap/swap.html

**Lunch at Harry's Hofbrau** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month, 1909 El Camino Real in Redwood City, CA. No host. 11:00AM to 1:00PM (approx).

ASVRO Silicon Valley Electronics Flea Market - 2nd

Saturday of each month from March through October. De Anza College in Cupertino, CA. 7AM to noon Web Page: http://www.electronicsfleamarket.com/

Talk-In: W6ASH 145.27- (100Hz PL) N6NFI 145.23- (100Hz PL)

AM-Tech Day – Monthly – see web page for dates Sponsored by the Foothills Amateur Radio Society (FARS) and hosted by the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC), the FARS Amateur Radio—Technology Day will be held at SLAC's Panofsky Auditorium, cafeteria, and adjoining areas. Am-Tech Day is a monthly venue for local amateur radio operators and other technology innovators to practice and demonstrate their communication skills and emergency-preparedness equipment.

2575 Sand Hill Rd. Menlo Park, CA

Web Page: http://www.fars.k6ya.org/amtechday

### LICENSE EXAMS

**AERO-Auxiliary Emergency Radio Organization** 

Contact: Dave Gomberg Phone: (415) 731-7793 Email: dave1@wcf.com

Web Page: http://www.wcf.com/aero/exams/ When: Sunday, Mar 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009 8:45AM - 3:00PM

Location: San Francisco County Fair Bldg., Hall of Flowers – Rec. Room, 9<sup>th</sup> Ave and Lincoln Way, San Francisco, CA

**Bay Area Educational Amateur Radio Society** 

Offering a one day study session for Technician or General

theory, followed by testing. Fee: \$30.00 (Morse Code tests will be not be given.)

When: Saturday, April 18th, 2009 8:00AM – 5:00PM

Location: Fremont, CA

Registration required, class size is limited.

Web Page: http://www.baears.com/ for info and registration. Questions: Ross Peterson 650-349-5349 or wb6zbu@arrl.net

Silicon Valley Volunteer Examiner Group

First and third Saturdays of each month, 8AM-11AM. Compaq Computer, 19333 Vallco Parkway, Cupertino, CA.

E-mail: (preferred): mojoteri@attbi.com

Phone: (408) 507-4698 (Morris Jones, AD6ZH) Web Page: http://pdarrl.org/vec/vecscv/index.html

### **Sunnyvale VEC Exam Sessions**

Fee=\$15 Cash

Walk-ins only, No pre-registration Cut-off-time, 30 min. after starting time.

Exam: changes, directions, call (408) 255-9000 24/hr

E-mail: wb6imx@worldnet.att.net Web Page: http://www.amateur-radio.org

Sat Mar 14 Sunnyvale, CA 10:30 AM
Sat Mar 21 Redwood City, CA 10:30 AM

### **Online Practice Exams**

Within the practice tests, online study resources, (Wikipedia, NASA, ARRL, etc.), are provided for many of the questions. The list of resources available for each question is constantly growing because users can add their own favorite links to the study materials. Users can also track their test scores over time and see which sub-elements are giving them the most trouble. You can see all the practice tests at: http://copaseticflow.blogspot.com/

### CARC MEETING/EVENT SCHEDULE

Jan 14 <sup>th</sup>	2009 Agenda Planning, LM Fire Station
Feb 11 <sup>th</sup>	2009 Agenda Finalizing, LM Fire Station
Mar 11 <sup>th</sup> #	Pizza Nite-Round Table Pizza LM Shopping Ctr
Apr 8 <sup>th</sup> #	CARC-Genentech Joint Mtg. @ Genentech SSF
Apr 25 <sup>th</sup> *	Computer Museum Field Trip, Mt. View
May 13 <sup>th</sup>	Home Brew Night, LM Fire Station
Jun 10 <sup>th</sup>	Field Day Planning Mtg, LM Fire Station
Jun 27-28	CARC Field Day, Sweeney Ridge
Jul 8 <sup>th</sup>	Field Day Wrap-Up Mtg, LM Fire Station
Aug 12 <sup>th</sup>	Back to School Night w/Roy-KE6MNJ, LM Fire
Sep 9 <sup>th</sup>	D-Star presentation, Tim Barrett-K6BIV LM Fire
Sep?	T-Hunt and Picnic, Frontierland Park-Pacifica
Sep 27-28	Pacific Coast Fog Fest, Pacifica
Oct 7 <sup>th</sup>	2010 Officer Nominations, LM Fire Station
Nov 7 <sup>th</sup>	Election Dinner, Nick's Restaurant
Dec 9 <sup>th</sup>	Holiday Potluck Dinner Meeting, LM Fire

? to be determined #updated ---- canceled \* tentative date



## THE COASTSIDE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Coastside Amateur Radio Club (CARC) is affiliated with ARRL, and meets the second Wednesday of each month at 19:30 hrs. in the Linda Mar Fire Station Community Room, on Linda Mar Blvd. in Pacifica. Visitors are welcome.

The CARC has been organized since 1959, serving Bay Area amateurs, and providing emergency communications services to the City of Pacifica. Membership dues are \$20.00 per year for the administration of the Club and the publication of the Communicator.

CARC supports two repeaters, WA6TOW/R; and a Packet digipeater, WA6TOW-1. Users of the machines provide repeater support and maintenance strictly through donations.

VHF: 146.925 MHz –offset 600 KHz PL 114.8 UHF: 441.075 MHz +offset 5 MHz PL 114.8

**PL Tone: 114.8 Hz** is used on both repeaters, as needed, for noise suppression.

Digipeater: 145.050 MHz, Packet Node: PAC

CARC VHF Simplex: 146.490 MHz

#### VHF Net

The club sponsors a VHF net each Wednesday, with the exception of meeting nights, at 21:00 hrs. for membership check-ins, notices, and QST's. Note: The WA6AFT repeater on 440.725 MHz may be used as an alternate if the WA6TOW repeater is down.

#### HF Net

The club sponsors a HF rag chew net on 3.852 MHz, or the first clear frequency up/dn, on Saturday at 09:00 hrs. with an alternate frequency of 7.228 MHz.



The Coastside Communicator is a monthly publication of the CARC. All articles contained herein are the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of the club members or editors.

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CARC, P.O. Box 1106, Pacifica, CA 94044





### COASTSIDE NETS AND INFORMATION

### **Tuesday**

8:00 PM on WA6TOW 146.925 MHZ, PL 114.8 and KC6ULT 146.865 MHz, PL114.8 simultaneously, but not linked. San Mateo County Area EOC Net. Contact Peter Liljequist-AA6PL aa6pl@arrl.net

### Wednesday

9:00 PM on WA6TOW **146.925 MHz, PL 114.8** Coastside Amateur Radio Club Wednesday night Check-in.
Contact Robert Barbitta-W6LOG

### Saturday

9:00 AM on **3.852 MHz**, or the first clear frequency up/dn. (alt freq of **7.228 MHz**.) Coastside Saturday Morning Group.
Contact Bill Lillie-N6BCT n6bct@arrl.net (650) 726-3630

CLUB OFFICERS					
Office	Name	Call	Phone	E-Mail Address	
President	Robert Barbitta	W6LOG	(650) 878-8716	w6log@arrl.net	
V. President	Ralph Bailey	K6DLZ	(650) 341-6236	kc6dlz@aol.com	
Secretary	George Tucker	W6HAF	(650) 728-2823	w6haf@arrl.net	
Treasurer	Frank Erbacher	N6FG	(650) 355-4355	n6fg@arrl.net	
CLUB STAFF					
Emergency Services	Frank Erbacher	N6FG	(650) 355-4355	n6fg@arrl.net	
Field Day	Ed Freeman	KD6TWK	(650) 755-3498	kd6twk@arrl.net	
Membership	Frank Erbacher	N6FG	(650) 355-4355	n6fg@arrl.net	
Newsletter Editor	David Rinck	K6DMR	(650) 359-8997	k6dmr@arrl.net	
Newsletter Publisher	Roger Spindler	WA6AFT	(650) 359-5254	wa6aft@juno.com	
Trustee of Club Call	Frank Erbacher	N6FG	(650) 355-4355	n6fg@arrl.net	
Web-Hosting	Joe Pistritto	N3CKF	(650) 464-4859	n3ckf@arrl.net	
Website	Dorene Bevington	KE6AGG	(650) 359-5194	ke6agg@arrl.net	

### **COASTSIDE COMMUNICATOR**

DAVID RINCK, EDITOR P.O. BOX 1106 PACIFICA, CA 94044

FIRST CLASS

ARE NOW AVAILABLE!
RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

TO:



MEETING NOTICE:
PIZZA NIGHT MEETING
MARCH 11<sup>TH</sup> 7:30PM
ROUND TABLE PIZZA
LINDA-MAR SHOPPING CENTER
PACIFICA, CA

Serving Bay Area Amateurs, and providing emergency communication services to the City of Pacifica