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# THE COASTSIDE COMMUNICATOR

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WWW.COASTSIDEARC.ORG

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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Welcome to August! Don't forget that we have a Back to School Night coming up at the next meeting (August 8th). Roy Brixen-KE6MNJ, will be giving a presentation on antennas.

At the Pizza meeting this year, Bob Valio-W6RGG, the ARRL Pacific Division Director gave the club a book on antennas, "Small Antennas for Small Spaces". We will be giving this book to a lucky member who attends the presentation in a free raffle at the meeting (You must be present to participate).

The business stuff will be kept short so that Roy can do his presentation. Roy always does a great job and I look forward to seeing you there.

73... Casey-N6TZE

## JULY MINUTES

The July 11, 2012 Coastsideside Amateur Radio Club meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Club President Casey Villyard-N6TZE at the Linda Mar Fire Station in Pacifica. Self-introduction by the members and guests followed.

No corrections in the minutes were noted. It was moved to approve the minutes as published in the Coastsideside Communicator by Frank Erbacher-N6FG and seconded by Ed Freeman-KD6TWK. The motion was unanimously passed by the membership present.

### *TREASURER'S REPORT*

Frank Erbacher-N6FG, Treasurer, gave a report of the club's financials: \$434 in the General Fund; \$5,737 in the Repeater Fund; \$758 in the Digipeater Fund, and \$6,040 in the EOC/Public Service Fund. These individual fund totals add up to a club total of \$12,969.

Frank-N6FG reported that CARC now has 86 members, including 4 non-licensed, 65 ARRL members, which is 79% of the membership, 27 Extra, 3 Advanced, 25 Generals, 27 Techs for a total of 1361 years of experience, 17 years being the average experience level. Frank said the two newest members are Cheryl Crofts-KJ6RNK and Paul Grigorieff-N1HEL.

Frank-N6FG paid himself \$39 for mailing and publication of the Coastsideside Communicator newsletter. Frank reported that \$281 was expended to rent the Porta-potty, \$244 to rent and insure the van for Field Day, and \$83 for pizza for Field Day.

### COMMUNICATIONS

Frank-N6FG stated he has received two bank statements, one under the old account and one for the new CARC account.

### *COMMITTEE REPORTS*

#### REPEATER

Operational but needs on-site investigation to determine the source of intermittent noise.

#### AUTOPATCH

Operational. Frank-N6FG has written up instructions for the members on how to use the Autopatch. Frank said the instruction sheet is now ready for review, and Casey-N6TZE offered to look at the write-up and get back to him.

#### DIGIPEATER

Operational

#### APRS

Casey-N6TZE reported that the APRS is somewhat operational with a shadow offshore but functional inland (needs repair).

#### EMERGENCY SERVICES

Casey Villyard-N6TZE reported that the results of the June 2 San Mateo County-wide connectivity drill are still being assembled and will be shared when received.

#### FIELD DAY

Covered under New Business

#### FOG FEST

Frank-N6FG stated that CARC is signed up and that he would begin asking for volunteers in August.

Visitor Roger Glenn-QB6KVT stated that he would be present at Fog Fest but as a performer with his jazz band, Roger Glenn Latin Jazz Ensemble, scheduled for 4:30 p.m.

#### NEWSLETTER

Published

#### WEBSITE

Up-to-date and working.

#### BYLAWS

No report

## OLD BUSINESS

CARC bank account: Frank-N6FG reported that all of the officers signed the bank signature forms and that a new account has been opened in the Club's name using the Club's EIN. Frank said that he now has debit cards in each officer's name. Mary Ellen Scherer-AJ6J suggested that Casey-N6TZE keep one debit card in his possession for emergency use, and that Frank maintain the others in his possession.

Officer nominations: Frank-N6FG reminded the members that nominations for Club officers is coming up in October and asked the members to give serious consideration to volunteering to serve in an officer capacity.

Small Antennas for Small Spaces: Casey-N6TZE reminded the members that a book entitled Small Antennas for Small Spaces had been given to the Club by Bob Vallio-W6RGG, Pacific Division Director of the ARRL, at its March pizza meeting. It was agreed that this book would be raffled off as a door prize at the August Club meeting, since Roy Brixen-KE6MNJ will be giving a presentation on making antennas for impromptu field situations. Casey volunteered to bring tickets to distribute for the raffle.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Porta-Potty

Joe Pistrutto-N3CKF, stated that he would like to investigate whether a Porta-potty is actually needed as part of the Field Day permit process now that there is a facility provided down the hill in the parking area. Frank-N6FG said that it might be part of the permit process but that regardless of whether or not it's required, it provides a safer alternative than traipsing down the hill to the public facility in the middle of the night in dark, windy and damp conditions. Joe-N3CKF recommended that the Club investigate for next year whether the Porta-potty rental is a requirement for obtaining the permit.

### Bike Event

Casey-N6TZE reported that there is a bike-a-thon event for Breathe California Bike for Breath in Foster City taking place on Saturday, July 14 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., and they are seeking volunteer ham operators to provide communication for the health and welfare of the event. Casey said they also really need ham volunteers who ride motorcycles to patrol the course. Casey requested that anyone interested contact him or Mary Ellen-AJ6J for further information.

### Daly City E-waste Event

Cheryl Crofts-KJ6RNK reported that Daly City is holding an e-waste drop-off event at City Hall in Daly City on July 14 and that no appointments are needed.

### Field Day

Cheryl Crofts-KJ6RNK stated this was her first Field Day and she found it really interesting but didn't get a chance to operate because of time constraints on her part. Frank-N6FG said that Cheryl proved to be excellent rope knot untier, and her help during setup was much appreciated.

Joe Pistrutto-N3CKF presented the members with charts and graphs showing contacts by station type, contacts by ARRL Section, bands worked and the number of contacts by operator.

As for the bands worked by CARC, 52.8% of the contacts were made on 15m, 32.7% on 20m, 9.8% on 80 and the remainder on 40m and 2m.

In summarizing the contacts by station type, Joe reported that Station Type 2A comprised 17.7% of the contacts, 1D 16.8%, 3A 16.4%, 4A 9.2%, 1A 6.6%, 5A 5.8% and 1E 4.6%. Types 3F, 1B, 6A, 2F, 2E, 7A and 1C made up the rest.

Joe-N3CKF also reported that by ARRL Section, the largest number of contacts, 48, was made with Illinois, followed by 35 in the Santa Clara Valley Section.

As for contacts by operator, Joe's graph showed that the largest number of contacts was made by Scott Mercer-KI6SEJ, who alone made over 300 contacts out of the Club's total 829 contacts. Joe had the second highest number of contacts, followed by Frank-N6FG in third, and then the Club's newest member Paul Grigorieff-N1HEL with the fourth largest number of contacts, followed by 11 other participants averaging 30 contacts each.

Joe had a final graph showing the number of contacts per hour, with the highest being 162 per hour. Joe said there were two distinct twenty-minute periods when there were no contacts made and attributed one of them to the arrival of the pizza.

Scott-KI6SEJ said that he would post a link to the graphs on the Club website.

Joe-N3CKF stated that he would be forwarding the information to the ARRL and would be requesting 1787 points, which is more than twice the point total for the Club last year.

Joe suggested that in order to improve, the Club needs to get on the air faster next year and should operate voice at the beginning of the contest. He said there are lots of people operating at the beginning of the contest, and we should try to make contacts then as fast as we can.

Frank-N6FG said that while using teams for setup was suggested prior to Field Day, that it's difficult to organize and make work.

There was discussion that since there were 55 to 60 visitors, the Club should consider operating a Go-To station next year. Joe-N3CKF said that we have enough power and all we would need is a separate antenna and a separate transceiver. It was also mentioned that the Go-to station would need a separate call sign.

Ross Burton-W1RAB said that when he was present, there were a number of people present interested in helping to set up, but that it wasn't clear about how to help. He suggested that in order to make things easier and more inclusive, that a video be made next year of exactly how things are laid out on the hill, where the vans go, where the antennas go, etc., so that if people want to contribute and want to break the setup into components and projects, they're clear what needs to be done, where everything goes, etc., rather than relying on one person having to direct the entire setup process.

Joe-N3CKF said that he had already taken the Google satellite view of Sweeney Ridge, put it as a background in Visio and did a Visio layout, but that the Club didn't get to it at its planning meeting. He also agreed with Ross's-W1RAB suggestion that teams, such as a 15m beam team, a go-to station team, be used for a more efficient setup. He said that then participants could sign up to be on a specific team and

would then know in advance what their job is. He said that would free up Frank-N6FG to oversee the operation without needing to be involved in every process in order for it to proceed, and participants would be more self-sufficient.

Joe-N3CKF suggested that the 2m stations need to be somewhere other than at the back of either van because the sound echoes into the van. There was a recommendation that headsets be used inside the van to eliminate that issue.

George Salet-KJ6TSX suggested that the vans be parked broadside to the ocean to provide a wind break for the stations at the end of the vans. Frank-N6FG responded that the vans need to face east and west because with the coax coming through the windows, the wind whistles through when the vans are positioned north/south. The vans need to face the direction of the wind in order to limit the noise. He also said that the area itself is small and restrictive and limits where the vans can be placed.

Scott-KI6SEJ said he liked the large CARC poster with the WA6TOW medallion and Field Day logo on it and suggested that another one be made and placed in the other van, as well as one on the outside.

Mary Ellen-AJ6J said that she found the gate impossible to operate alone and that female members might consider going with someone in order to be able to properly open and then re-secure the gate. Otherwise they may need to call on the repeater to get someone to come down from the Ridge to assist.

As part of the Field Day assessment discussion, Scott-KI6SEJ suggested that the Club might give consideration to setting up in a different location to incorporate one of the Field Day concepts of setting up in an ad-hoc situation in an unknown environment. One alternate site suggested was San Bruno Mountain; another was Sierra Point. It was suggested that a different site might limit the number of contacts but be more accessible to the public.

Frank-N6FG thanked everyone for coming up to help set up and to participate in making contacts. Casey-N6TZE summarized it as a successful, fun Field Day for the Club.

### ***MOTION TO ADJOURN***

It was moved by Bill Lillie-N6BCT that the meeting be adjourned at 8:45 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mary Ellen-AJ6J and passed unanimously by the membership.

### ***PRESENT AT THE MEETING***

The following Life Member has become a Silent Key:  
Roger Spindler-WA6AFT.

**Officers:** Casey Villyard-N6TZE, President; Ralph Bailey-K6DLZ, Vice-President; Mary Ellen Scherer-AJ6J, Secretary;

**Members:** Gary Barnes-KI6HIG, Ross Burton-W1RAB, Cheryl Crofts-KJ6RNK, Ed Freeman-KD6TWK, Carmel Gallagher-KJ6ERS, Ariel Gallega-K6RYL, Dave Lawrence-KF6TWW, Bill Lillie-N6BCT, Walt Long-KG6EDY, Scott Mercer-KI6SEJ, Joe Pistrutto-N3CKF, David Rinck-K6DMR, George Salet-KJ6TSX, and Audrey Villyard-WA2KPS.

**Visitors:** Roger Glenn-QB6KVT, Arnott Smith-KF2FM

Reported by Mary Ellen Scherer-AJ6J, Secretary



## NEWS

### ***2012 FIELD DAY ATTENDANCE CORRECTED***

Corrected at meeting and checked by Joe-N3CKF, this is the list of Amateur Radio Operators: Ellie the dog and her Attendant Ross-W1RAB, George-KJ6TXS, Nikki- KJ6VRA, Dave-K6DMR, Casey-N6TZE, Joshua-N6TZF, Ariel-K6RYL, Walt-KG6EDY, Dan-N6ZEN, John-N6SJJ, Bob-W6LOG, Joe-N3CKF, Scott-KI6SEJ, Bill- N6BCT, Allan-KI6QWY, Ed-KD6TWK, Roger-NZ6RQ, Mary Ellen-AJ6J, Paul- N1HEL, Cheryl-KJ6RNK, Joe-N3CKF, and Frank-N6FG. Licensed visitors who helped or operated were: Al-K6ADM, George-KR6BB and son Kevin-KJ6EIE, and another Roger-KA6KVT who attended July's Meeting and lives near K6ADM. Again I say "CAN'T WAIT TILL 2013 FD!!"

Frank N6FG

### ***PACIFIC COAST FOG FEST SEPTEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup> AND 30<sup>TH</sup>***

Well it is time for me to ask for help for this years Fog Fest dispatching and equipment shepherding efforts. Some of you have expressed interest in helping at some time this past year but I have NOT started a list. So I am reaching out to all of you. It is a fun event and helping just adds to it.

As with all the other years the crew needs are from 6:30 AM to 7+/- PM each day. Shifts are from 1 ½ hours to 2 hours at the maximum. The Saturday first shift is the busiest as we have to label radios and get the 25 plus units ready for use in that first hour or so. Last shift is a bit easier and I always try to have TWO for each including myself.

So whether you are an old pro at this event or are a "Newbie" just raise your hand and contact me. Newbie's will be teamed up with a more experienced volunteer. Frank N6FG@arrl.net 650 355-4355

Frank-N6FG

### ***CARC BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT AUGUST 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2012***

"ELEMENTS NECESSARY FOR AN  
EXCEPTIONAL VHF/UHF SIGNAL"

PRESENTED BY ROY BRIXEN-KE6MJJ

This year's back-to-school presentation will focus on the elements needed to produce an exceptional VHF/UHF signal either from your home, your car, or on the go. We will identify the electrical and mechanical elements that blend together to produce exceptional signals and then do a casebook study of three typical high quality installations--one fixed and two mobile. Choices for emergency antenna platforms will also be discussed as will an appropriate collection of cheap test equipment that will help you evaluate the signal performance of your VHF/UHF station. At the end of the session, you will be able to build and test a "Tiger Tail" antenna for your good old reliable HT.

Bring your favorite HT to the session so you can test it with and without your antenna modification.

## ARRL UPDATE

### HEATHKIT DECLARES BANKRUPTCY, CLOSES FOR GOOD (AGAIN)

The July 19 edition of  
*The Herald-Palladium*  
-- a newspaper serving  
the communities of



Benton Harbor and St Joseph, Michigan -- is reporting that Heathkit Education Company has declared bankruptcy and has officially closed its doors after defaulting on its lease. According to the paper, Heathkit employed more than 1800 people in its heyday after World War II; when it finally closed, its workforce totaled fewer than six people. This is the second time since 1992 that Heathkit Educational Services has shuttered its doors. In August 2011, Heathkit announced it was returning to the kit building business, and in September, that it would once again be manufacturing Amateur Radio kits.

Heathkit owner Don Desrochers told the newspaper that he has filed for bankruptcy and a bank now owns what's left of Heathkit; the bank is disposing of some items via online auctions. "The situation was purely one of the economy," he explained in the article. "Heathkit was primarily dependent upon federal and state funding for schools. Spending in education continued to drop down, and it was economically unfeasible to continue operating. When we got back into the kit business, we were losing the education business faster than we were growing the kit business. It was not sustainable."

According to the newspaper, Heathkit abandoned its lease around March, and in May, Phil Maki said he received notice that Desrochers had declared bankruptcy and that Heathkit would be closed. Maki is treasurer of Southshore Companies, the company that owns the building that Heathkit had leased a portion of. "It's a sad thing for the community," Maki said. "A lot of us grew up using Heathkit products, and it's sad they ended the way they did."

In May 2012, the ARRL reported there were rumors of the company's demise, but nothing was certain. Tom Ferriter, of Technical Education Products in Hampden, Massachusetts, told the ARRL at that time that "Heathkit is telling us [outside sales representatives] that they have temporarily closed, but that they are hopeful that they will be able to reorganize. While they're not telling us too much, they did say that they were having poor sales for a myriad of reasons and are hopeful that they will be able to refinance the company and negotiate with the bank to refinance some of the debt."

Desrochers -- who served as Heathkit's President and Chief Executive Officer from 1995-2000 before purchasing the company in 2005 -- told *The Herald-Palladium* that closing Heathkit was hard for him: "It was a tough decision, but you can't operate and lose money. Hopefully the employees will find other employment. They were great, loyal employees for a long time."

### VANITY CALL SIGN FEE TO GO UP 80 CENTS

On July 20, the FCC announced that the cost of an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will increase 80 cents, from \$14.20 to \$15. The fee will increase 30 days after notice of the increase

is published in the *Federal Register*; no date has yet been set for publication. Earlier this year, the FCC released a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order (NPRM)*, seeking to raise the fee for Amateur Radio vanity call signs.

The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 14 years of the current program -- from a low of \$11.70 in 2007 to a high of \$70 (as first proposed in the FCC's 1994 *Report and Order*). In FY 2012, the FCC expects to grant 14,300 vanity call signs, bringing in \$214,500 from the vanity call sign program, and looks to recover a total of \$339,844,000 in fees from all the Services that it regulates.

### Vanity Fee Due for New, Renewal Applications

The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. The first vanity call sign licenses issued under the current Amateur Radio vanity call sign program that began in 1996 came up for renewal six years ago.

Those holding vanity call signs issued prior to 1993 are exempt from having to pay the vanity call sign regulatory fee at renewal, as Congress did not authorize the FCC to collect regulatory fees until 1996. Such "heritage" vanity call sign holders do not appear as vanity licensees in the FCC Amateur Radio database.

Amateur Radio licensees may file for renewal only within 90 days of their license expiration date. All radio amateurs must have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before filing any application with the Commission. Applicants can obtain an FRN by going to the ULS and clicking on the "New Users Register" link. You must supply your Social Security Number to obtain an FRN.

### ARRL Processes License Renewals, Including Vanities

The ARRL VEC will process license renewals for vanity call sign holders for a modest fee. The service is available to ARRL members and nonmembers, although League members pay less. Routine, non-vanity renewals continue to be free for ARRL members. Trustees of club stations with vanity call signs may renew either via the ULS or through a Club Station Call Sign Administrator, such as ARRL VEC. Visit the Call Sign Renewals or Changes web page for complete instructions on how to have the ARRL renew your license for you or for how to do it yourself. License application and renewal information and links to the required forms are available on the ARRL Amateur Radio License Renewal web page. The FCC's forms page also offers the required forms.

### SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS IN LONDON AND WALES ON THE AIR FOR 2012 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES

Beginning Wednesday, July 25, two special event call signs will be activated to celebrate the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games: 2012L from London, England and 2012W from Barry, Wales. Both stations will be on the air for the duration of the Games -- July 25-August 12 -- and continuing through September 9. Organizers hope to make at least 80,000 contacts during the seven weeks that 2012L and 2012W are on the air.



## ARRL UPDATE CONT.

The London station -- 2O12L -- will be active on 160-2 meters on all modes. The station is located at the Royal Greenwich District Scouts Activity Centre in Southeast London, in the borough of Greenwich, one of the six "host boroughs" for the Games. A list of planned frequencies is available at <http://www.2o12l.com/index.php?page=operating>. The station will be open to the public from 10 AM to 4 PM each day, and visitors may operate. Follow 2O12L on Twitter <http://twitter.com/2o12l>.

The Welsh station -- 2O12W -- will be active on 160 meters-23 cm on all modes, including SSTV and satellite, will be based on the seafront esplanade at Whitmore Beach, Barry Island, Vale of Glamorgan. The site is located just a few miles south west of Cardiff and the Millennium Stadium, home to the first football match that will open the Games in Wales. The station will be open to visitors.

"Amateur Radio operators everywhere will be able to share in the Olympic experience by making contact with the station and exchanging greetings messages with visitors and Games participants who visit the station," said Project Echo Publicity Officer John Warburton, G4IRN. "The team aims to make contact with as many of the Games participating countries as possible. Special QSL cards will be available to stations contacted. The project aims to leave a lasting legacy by encouraging visitors to learn more about radio communications and the social, career and recreational benefits that it brings."

## FCC FINES ALASKA MAN FOR INTERFERING WITH AIR TRAFFIC USING CB RADIO

On July 17, the FCC announced that it had issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture and Order ([NAL](#)) in the amount of \$12,500 to Glenn S. Yamada, of Kenai, Alaska. Yamada is accused of "apparently willfully and repeatedly violat[ing] Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and **Sections 95.409(a)** and **95.411(a)(1)** and **(b)** of the FCC Rules by operating his CB radio "without requisite Commission authorization."

In January 2012, the FCC received a complaint regarding interference to an authorized user in the aeronautical band -- a safety of life service -- on 21.964 MHz. According to the FCC, the complaint "Concerned a male subject talking and interfering with the control and monitoring of air traffic over the North Atlantic." The FCC's High Frequency Direction Finding Center (HFDFC) monitored the frequency over the next few days, and on January 31, "observed a subject matching the details of the compliant transmitting on the frequency 21.965 MHz." The HFDFC noted that the subject was using the call "1600 Alaska," that the actual operating frequency was 27.025 (CB channel 6) and that the transmissions were coming from Kenai.

An agent from the FCC's Enforcement Bureau in Anchorage used direction finding techniques to locate the source of the interference. He found the source to be coming from Yamada's residence and found that the interfering signal to 21.964 MHz was determined to be on 21.965 MHz, which correlates to CB channel 6 on 27.025 MHz; apparently, faulty equipment on CB Channel 6 produced a spurious signal on frequency 21.965 MHz, the source of the interference to

frequency 21.964 MHz. A review of the FCC's Universal Licensing System revealed that Yamada had no individual license to operate a CB radio station.

The agent, along with an officer from the Kenai Police Department, inspected Yamada's station on February 6. "The agent observed a non-certificated CB transmitter and a linear amplifier as part of Mr Yamada's CB station," the FCC noted. "Mr Yamada admitted to the agent that the linear amplifier was capable of generating a power output of 200 W. The agent observed that the transmitter and the linear amplifier were connected and that the linear was connected to a transmission cable and ultimately to the directional antenna at the back of Mr Yamada's residence. Mr Yamada told the agent that this was his hobby setup and that he had been operating it for the last several weeks." Yamada admitted to the agent that he used the handle "1600 Alaska."

According to the FCC's Forfeiture Policy Statement and **Section 1.80** of the FCC Rules, the base forfeiture amount for operation without an instrument of authorization for the service is \$10,000. "In assessing the monetary forfeiture amount, we must also take into account the statutory factors set forth in Section 503(b)(2)(E) of the Communications Act, which include the nature, circumstances, extent and gravity of the violations, and with respect to the violator, the degree of culpability, any history of prior offenses, ability to pay, and other such matters as justice may require. Here, we find that an upward adjustment of the base forfeiture amount is warranted because of the gravity of the violations. As the record reflects, Mr Yamada's unauthorized operations posed a significant public safety risk, given the interference caused to an authorized user in the aeronautical band (a safety of life service). Applying the Forfeiture Policy Statement, Section 1.80 of the Rules and the statutory factors to the instant case, we conclude that Yamada is apparently liable for a forfeiture in the amount of \$12,500."

Given what the FCC called "the public safety concerns of the violations," it also directed Yamada to submit a statement signed under penalty of perjury "confirming whether he is still engaged in CB operations and, if so, to state if he: (1) is using a certified CB transmitter; and (2) has not attached any linear amplifiers to his CB station." Yamada must submit this statement to the FCC Office in Anchorage no later than August 17, 2012. Failure to comply with this requirement could subject the Yamada to additional enforcement action, the FCC warned.

Yamada has until August 17, 2012 to pay the full amount of the forfeiture or file a written statement seeking a reduction in the amount or a cancellation. The written statement seeking reduction or cancellation of the proposed forfeiture, if any, must include a detailed factual statement supported by appropriate documentation and affidavits, such as federal tax returns for the most recent three-year period, financial statements prepared according to generally accepted accounting practices or some other reliable and objective documentation that accurately reflects the Yamada's current financial status.





## SOLAR UPDATE



### THE K7RA SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Lazing on a sunny afternoon" Cook, K7RA, reports: We currently seeing sunspot groups coming over our Sun's eastern horizon, but this week has been a quiet one, both in terms of sunspot and geomagnetic activity. The average daily sunspot numbers declined by 50 percent -- from 104.7 to 52.1 -- while the average daily solar flux was down nearly 45 points to 97.2. The latest solar flux forecast from NOAA/USAF has flux values at 110 for July 26, 115 for July 27-28, then 120, 125 and 130 on July 29-31, 135 on August 1-2, 120 on August 3, 130 on August 4-6, 125 on August 7-8, down to 115 on August 9-11, and then bottoming out around 90 on August 17. The predicted planetary A index is 5 on July 26-27, then 15, 18, 15 and 10 on July 28-31, 5 on August 1-2, 10 on August 3-4, and 5 on August 5-18. There is the chance for possible geomagnetic activity on August 19-20, raising the A index values to 15 and 12, and then to 18 on August 24-25.

*Astronomy Magazine* has an article about a July 11 experiment in which a telescope was lifted by a sounding rocket to take high definition photos of the Sun's corona at extreme ultra-violet wavelengths. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, July 27. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by The Kinks's *Sunny Afternoon*.



## NAME THAT RIG!



*Each month I'll try to post a different radio for you to name. Best of Luck! Winners get "Bragging Rights"*

## COMING EVENTS

**CERT Training – North County Fire Authority**  
See <http://www.northcountyfire.org> for more info.

**CERT Training – San Mateo County**  
See <http://www.smcready.org/Community/Training.html> for more info.

**QCWA 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** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month from March through October. De Anza College in Cupertino, CA. 7AM to noon  
Web Page: <http://www.electronicfleamarket.com/>  
Talk-In: W6ASH 145.27- (100Hz PL)  
N6NFI 145.23- (100Hz PL)

### LICENSE EXAMS

#### AERO-Auxiliary Emergency Radio Organization

Contact: Dave Gomberg  
Phone: (415) 731-7793  
Email: [dave1@wcf.com](mailto:dave1@wcf.com)  
Web Page: <http://www.wcf.com/aero/exams/>  
When: Sun. Oct 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012  
Location: Jewish Community Center  
3200 California Street at Presidio Avenue  
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  
When: Sat. Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
Where: 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](mailto:wb6zbu@arrl.net)

#### Silicon Valley Volunteer Examiner Group

First and third Saturdays of each month, 8AM-11:00AM. Saratoga Fire Station 14380 Saratoga Ave, Saratoga, CA  
Fee: \$15  
Walk-ins only, No pre-registration  
E-mail: (preferred): [mojoteri@attbi.com](mailto: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](mailto:wb6imx@worldnet.att.net)  
Web Page: <http://www.amateur-radio.org>

Sat	Aug 11 <sup>th</sup>	Sunnyvale, CA	10:30	AM
Sat	Aug 18 <sup>th</sup>	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. Practice Tests: <http://copaseticflow.blogspot.com/>

**CARC MEETING/EVENT SCHEDULE**

Jan 11 <sup>th</sup>	2011 Agenda Planning, LM Fire Station
Feb 8 <sup>th</sup>	2011 Agenda Finalizing, LM Fire Station
Mar 14 <sup>th</sup>	Pizza Night, LM Round Table Pizza, Pacifica
Apr 11 <sup>th</sup>	NZ6RQ Mobile Wireless Presentation, LM Fire
May 9 <sup>th</sup>	W1RAB Remote Setup Demo, LM Fire Station
Jun 13 <sup>th</sup>	Field Day Planning Mtg, LM Fire Station
Jun 23-24	CARC Field Day, Sweeney Ridge
Jul 11 <sup>th</sup>	*APRS Demo/Field Day Wrap-Up Mtg, LM Fire
Aug 8 <sup>th</sup>	Back to School Night, LM Fire Station
Sep 12 <sup>th</sup>	Bylaws Committee Presentation, LM Fire
Sep 22-23	Pacific Coast Fog Fest, Pacifica
Oct 10 <sup>th</sup>	Packet Demo, 2013 Officer Nominations, LMFS
Nov 3 <sup>rd</sup>	*Election Dinner, Nick's Restaurant - Pacifica
Dec 12 <sup>th</sup>	Holiday Potluck Dinner Meeting, LM Fire

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



[www.smcready.org](http://www.smcready.org)



**In Memoriam**



**Roger G. Spindler-WA6AFT/SK**

**THE COASTSIDE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

The Coastsides 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 (VHF and UHF); a Packet Digipeater, WA6TOW-1; and an APRS Digipeater, WA6TOW-2. 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.

**Packet Digipeater: 145.050 MHz, Packet Node: PAC**  
**APRS Digipeater: 144.390 MHz.**

**CARC/Pacifica OES VHF Simplex: 146.535 MHz**  
**PL Tone: 114.8 Hz** is used, as needed, for noise suppression

**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 Coastsides 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 editor.

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

*53 Years*



*of Service*

*43 Years*



*Affiliation*

## COASTSIDE NETS

### Monday

07:30 PM on WA6TOW  
146.925 MHZ, PL 114.8  
San Bruno ARC Net

### Tuesday

7:30 PM on WA6TOW  
146.925 MHZ, PL 114.8  
Daly City ARES Net

8:00 PM on WA6TOW 146.925 MHZ,  
PL 114.8 and KC6ULT 146.865 MHZ,  
PL 114.8 simultaneously, but not  
linked. San Mateo County ACS Net

### Wednesday

9:00 PM on WA6TOW  
146.925 MHZ, PL 114.8  
Coastside Amateur Radio Club  
Wednesday Night Check-in.

### 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.

10:00 AM on WA6TOW  
146.925 MHZ, PL 114.8  
QCWA Ch. 11 NoCal. Net

### Sunday

7:00-7:30 AM on WA6TOW  
146.925 MHZ, PL 114.8  
Knights of the Megahertz Net

CLUB OFFICERS				
Office	Name	Call	Phone	E-Mail Address
President	Casey Villyard	N6TZE	(650) 355-0488	n6tze@arrl.net
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Secretary	Mary Ellen Scherer	AJ6J	(415) 239-4513	aj6j@arrl.net
Treasurer	Frank Erbacher	N6FG	(650) 355-4355	n6fg@arrl.net
CLUB STAFF				
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Website	Scott Mercer	KI6SEJ	-	ki6sej@arrl.net



**MEETING  
NOTICE:**

**AUGUST 8<sup>TH</sup> 2012  
LINDA MAR FIRE STATION  
PACIFICA, CA**

**BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT  
WITH PROFESSOR  
ROY BRIKEN-KE6MNJ  
7:30 PM**

## COASTSIDE COMMUNICATOR

DAVID RINCK, EDITOR  
P.O. BOX 1106  
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FIRST CLASS

TO:

