

THE COASTSIDE COMMUNICATOR

Vol. 47, No. 11

NOVEMBER 2015

WWW.COASTSIDEARC.ORG

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Greetings,

It's that time of year for our annual Election Dinner Meeting, which is on Saturday November 7th. The meeting will be at Nick's Seafood Restaurant with a no-host social starting at 5:30 and dinner at 6:30.

At our October Meeting, we had the nominations for Club Officers for 2016. There will be a change in Club Secretary next year. But what was disappointing was that no one was willing to step up to be Club President next year. So there is still an opportunity for someone to be nominated at the Election Dinner Meeting.

The same weekend as our dinner meeting there is a MARS Exercise to Simulate a Coronal Mass Ejection; where Amateurs are invited to participate. Information is available from ARRL on registering. We can also discuss participation at the meeting. The exercise will go on for a few days.

From the County CERT Radio Meeting; a Simplex Exercise is planned for January 9, 2016. The exercise will be on both 2 meters and 6 meters (fm). More details will be coming.

I hope to see you at the dinner meeting on November 7th.

73.

Walt-KG6EDY

OCTOBER MINUTES

The October 14th meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by our club president, Walt Long-KG6EDY at the Linda Mar Fire Station in Pacifica. Self-introductions by the members followed.

The September Minutes were amended to show that Maurice Ramirez was also in attendance.

Ralph-K6DLZ made a motion which was seconded by Dave-KF6TWW and passed by those present to approve the minutes as published with the above amendment, in the September newsletter.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Walt-KG6EDY read the report of the Club's financials: The Club Treasurer reported that the report was the same as September, with the addition that the treasurer was paid \$23.07 for the mailing and publication of the Newsletter.

The September Report was:

\$545.30 in the General Fund, \$2,584.51 in the Repeater Fund; \$744 in the Digipeater/APRS Fund and \$9,075 in the EOC/Public Service Fund. These individual funds total to \$12,949.33.

The treasurer was paid \$20 for mailing and publication of the Newsletter.)

MEMBERSHIP

No Report.

Tony Dowler-K6BV, stated that he has submitted an application and payment, but has not received a response.

COMMUNICATIONS
No Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

REPEATER No Report

AUTO-PATCH Offline (on the hill)

DIGIPEATER

No Report

APRS

No Report

EMERGENCY SERVICES No Report

FIELD DAY No Report

FOG FEST

No Report

NEWSLETTER

Published

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WEBSITE

There was a discussion about adding an email address for the Club. Something such as: *info@CoastsideARC.org*, with the email being monitored by one of the Club Officers. Our Webmaster Scott-KI6SEJ, stated that he wanted direction from the Club in the way of a Motion directing him to create the email address.

Tom- KI6OGL, made the motion to direct Scott-KI6SEJ to create an email address for the Club. The motion was seconded by Dave-KF6TWW. The motion was passed by the members in attendance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Members were reminded to RSVP for the Club November 7th Election Dinner by November 2nd, to Frank-N6FG

NEW BUSINESS

Officer Nominations for the 2016 year:

President

None of the members present were willing to accept nomination for President. It was decided that there would have to be nominations from the floor at the November Election meeting.

Vice-President

Bill Lillie-N6BCT, volunteered to be the nominee for Vice-President with the understanding that if Ralph Bailey-K6DLZ, did not want another term.

Ralph Bailey- K6DLZ, also volunteered to be the nominee for Vice-President.

Tony-K6BV, commented that should there be no nominee for President, then one of the Vice-Presidents contenders should have to move up.

Secretary

Our current Secretary, Cheryl Crofts-KJ6RNK, stated that due to changes in her work schedule, she would not be able to perform the duties of the Secretary next year. Dave Lawrence- KF6TWW, volunteered to be the nominee for Secretary.

Treasurer

Our Current Treasurer, Frank-N6FG, has accepted nomination as Treasurer for another year. There were no challengers.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned at 7:44 p.m,

PRESENT AT THE MEETING

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

Officers:

President: Walt Long-KG6EDY, Vice-President Ralph Bailey-K6DLZ, Secretary: Cheryl Crofts-KJ6RNK

Members:

Dave Lawrence-KF6TWW, Jane Bailey-KF6PGF, Bill Lillie-N6BCT, Tony Dowler-K6BV, Lucas Ford-W6EAR, Tom Oliver-K16OGL, Ralph Kugler-KC6YDH, Maurice Ramirez **Visitors**: none

Ghostwritten for: Cheryl Crofts-KJ6RNK, Secretary



NEWS

SATURDAY NOV 7TH 2015 DINNER AND ELECTION MEETING

Our annual dinner and election of officers meeting is **Saturday**, **November 7**th, with a 5:30 PM No Host period and 6:30 PM Dinner. It will again be held at Nick's Restaurant, 100 Rockaway Beach Ave., Pacifica. The entrees will be the same as last year: Stuffed Chicken - \$35.25, Halibut- \$36.50 or Prime Rib Prime Rib at \$38.50, served with Garlic Bread, vegetables and a baked potato, Coffee and a dessert. A Vegetarian dish is available for \$28.75 all pay the Club for the dinner that day. If by check, please make it out to the "Coastside Amateur Radio Club".

Reservations are needed **by November 2nd** to approximate the setup arrangement and to help with the restaurant's Entrée count. But if you are available at the last minute, just call as soon as you know or just drop in.

For those who are new to the club, the November meeting traditionally is a dinner for members, family and friends and is combined with counting of the ballots for next year's officers. The November newsletter will be sent early with this menu info again and will have a ballot include. **Ballots** will be counted at the dinner so either bring them or mail them to the club P.O. Box so they're received before the dinner. Call or E-mail your **Reservations** to Frank Erbacher, C 650 464-3870, N6FG@ARRL.NET



November's Meeting is Election Nite at



Rockaway Beach

ARRL UPDATE

"ARRL National Parks on the Air" Event to Mark National Park Service Centennial

In 2016, the National Park Service (NPS) will celebrate its 100th anniversary, and radio amateurs will be able to help mark the occasion with the ARRL National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) event. The event kicks off at 0000 UTC on January 1, 2016.

"As ARRL just celebrated our own Centennial, and Amateur Radio is often enjoyed in the great outdoors, it seemed fitting to devise a program to help NPS celebrate their own 100th birthday," said ARRL



Media and Public Relations Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X. NPOTA will run throughout 2016, with activity promoted and encouraged from each of the more than 430 official NPS administrative units and affiliated areas across the US. This includes all 59 National Parks as well as National Battlefields, Historic Sites, Memorials, Preserves, Reserves, Rivers, Seashores, National Scenic Trails, and other units.

The program will have two participation tracks -- Chasers and Activators. Chasers will simply attempt to make contact with operators in as many of the NPS units as possible. Activators will attempt to activate as many of the units as possible. NPOTA participants may serve in both roles. Chaser and Activator totals will be tracked via an online Leader Board based on LoTW data, just as was done during the Centennial QSO Party. Access the NPOTA Leader Board directly at http://npota.arrl.org.

Modeled after the Mixed DXCC award, only one contact with any given NPS unit will be required, and no tally will be kept of NPS units based on bands or modes. NPOTA will be administered entirely through Logbook of The World (LoTW). No paper logs or QSLs will be accepted for NPOTA credit. Each NPS unit will be added to LoTW as a "location."

Chaser Award and Activator Award certificates will be available to any radio amateur who has at least one confirmed contact with an NPS unit or who activates at least one unit, respectively. A station's total number of confirmed or activated units will be printed on the certificate. The National Parks Honor Roll certificate will be available to any station confirming contact with at least 75 percent of the 59 National Parks activated in 2016.

While there is no formal partnership between NPS and ARRL for this event, the League has been in discussions with the

NPS over the past year, and the National Park Service is aware that increased Amateur Radio activity in their parks is likely during 2016.

The NPOTA will use the official <u>list</u> of NPS Administrative Units and Affiliated Areas as defined and maintained by NPS. <u>Complete details</u> on National Parks on the Air are available on the ARRL website. Read <u>more</u>.

ARRL On-Line Auction to Mark 10th Anniversary; Bidding Starts on October 22!

The <u>ARRL On-Line Auction</u> will celebrate its 10th anniversary when it gets under way next week. The auction preview opens on Monday, October 19, at 1400 UTC, and bidding begins on Thursday, October 22, at 1400 UTC. The auction already has more than 260 items that will be up for bid, and new donations are still coming in.

The 2015 auction will include *QST* "Product Review" gear (already ARRL Lab-tested!), vintage books, pre-owed gear, one-of-a-kind finds, and, in honor of the event's 10th anniversary, the ARRL Lab team will contribute five "mystery boxes."

Some of the premier items up for bid from the *QST* "Product Review" inventory will include a FlexRadio Systems FLEX-6700 transceiver, an Apache Labs ANAN-100D SDR HF/6 meter transceiver, a M² 6M-1K2 6 meter amplifier, an ACOM 600S HF linear, and a Yaesu FT-991 transceiver.

Among the book offerings are three 1934 editions of *R/9 Magazine*, a special defense edition of *The Radio Amateur's Handbook* from 1942, and *Radio Tube Fundamentals*.

Proceeds from the yearly On-Line Auction benefit ARRL education programs. These include activities to license new hams, strengthen Amateur Radio Emergency Service training, offer continuing technical and operating education, and create instructional materials

All bidders need to register. If you have participated in a past ARRL On-Line Auction, you will be able to retrieve your auction user ID and password.

ARRL Asks FCC to Clarify that Hams May Modify Non-Amateur Gear for Amateur Use

The ARRL has asked the FCC to make clear that Amateur Radio licensees may modify non-amateur equipment for use on Amateur Radio frequencies. Some hams have expressed

concerns that recently proposed rules would inhibit post-sale modification of Wi-Fi equipment, now sometimes altered for use on Amateur Radio frequencies. The ARRL made its point in comments filed on October 8 on a *Notice of*



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ARRL Update cont.

Proposed Rule Making (*NPRM*) in ET Docket 15-170 and RM-11673. The proceeding mostly addresses proposed amendments to FCC rules regarding authorization of RF equipment.

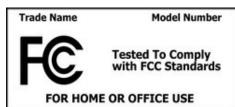
"The Commission should clarify...that the ability of licensed radio amateurs to modify and adapt non-amateur equipment for use in the Amateur Service is beneficial, is permitted, and is not restricted by any rule of general applicability adopted in this proceeding," the League said in its comments. The ARRL said proposed rules requiring manufacturers to include security features to prevent network devices from being modified were "problematic," to the extent that they would preclude hams from adapting network equipment for ham radio applications.

"The Amateur Radio Service has a very long tradition of modification and adaptation of commercial communications equipment," the ARRL pointed out in its comments, asserting that amateur licensees should be permitted to modify any previously authorized equipment for use under Amateur Service rules. The proceeding attracted many comments regarding this aspect of the proceeding, although the proposed rules differ only slightly from the current rules.

The ARRL also urged the FCC not to apply any limitations proposed for software defined radios to SDRs intended for use exclusively in the Amateur Radio Service, "as has been the policy for the past 10 years."

Equipment Authorization

The League has also called on the Commission not to combine the Declaration of Conformity (DoC) and Verification equipment authorization procedures into a single, self-approval program. The League said the proposal could lead to abuse by unscrupulous importers and manufacturers of unintentional emitters. Under the



An FCC Part 15B Declaration of Conformity label.

proposed rules, the FCC would do away with its DoC authorization program by combining it with equipment Verification to

form a so-called "Suppliers Declaration of Conformity" category of equipment authorization. Testing in an accredited laboratory would not be required, nor would database registration or third-party review. The ARRL expressed concerns that the new regime would encourage and facilitate the introduction into the US of "non-compliant unintentional emitters" and offer no oversight.

In its comments, the League said hams and AM broadcasters have been victims of interference from such unintentional emitters as RF lighting ballasts "that routinely exceed the Commission's conducted emission limits." The ARRL said the solution is "not to loosen but to tighten the procedural controls over the testing and affirmative confirmations of compliance" to ensure greater compliance in conducted limits and other technical parameters that determine how much such devices contribute to ambient noise levels.

The League said some RF devices, such as RF "grow lights," now subject to the more informal Verification process, should be subject to Certification, owing to their substantial interference potential.

Improved Labeling for Part 15 and Part 18 Devices

The ARRL also said there is "an urgent need" for improved labeling requirements for certain Part 15 and Part 18 devices. "Necessitating change, notably, is the fact that there are many industrial Part 18 devices sold that are neither intended nor designed for use in residential environments, but because there is no external labeling...the end user consumer is left without guidance," the ARRL said, noting that, in most cases, equipment retailers are not providing any either.

In July, the ARRL complained to the FCC about the marketing practices of various "big box" retailers, where non-consumer-rated lighting ballasts have been mixed in with consumer ballasts and other consumer products on display with no explanatory signage. Ballasts intended for industrial applications have higher permitted conducted emission limits in the Amateur Radio HF spectrum. The League called on the FCC to include a definition in Part 18 for the term "consumer RF lighting device," to provide a way to differentiate consumer devices from those intended for industrial or

commercial environments.



A commercial lighting ballast on sale and marketed to consumers at a "big box" store. There is no FCC warning to indicate that this product may not be used for residential applications.

The League also said the FCC should consider reducing its Part 15 limits for lighting devices to correspond with the Part 18 lighting device limits between 3 and 30 MHz to reduce the RFI potential of LED bulbs now being widely marketed, "before they

become an aggregate problem." LED lamps operate under Part 15 rules.

ARRL Update cont.

The ARRL said the FCC should adopt the League's new equipment-labeling proposals with respect to certain Part 15 and Part 18 equipment "in order to stop the flood of such devices intended for commercial or industrial areas only into residential areas."

Parachute Mobile Group to Hold Jump in Conjunction with Pacificon

As it has done in past years, the <u>Parachute Mobile</u> group -- "in the air, on the air" -- has scheduled <u>jumps</u> for October 17 in association with <u>Pacificon</u>, the ARRL Pacific Division Convention, in San Ramon, California.

"We do this every year, giving visiting hams a chance for a unique parachute mobile QSO," said Mark Meltzer, AF6IM, who will be Jumper 1. This will be Mission 22.

As Jumper 1, Meltzer will be operating on 10 meters (28.425 MHz USB) and 2 meters (146.43 MHz FM simplex), hoping for a DX contact. Jumper 2, Michael Gregg, KF6WRW, will be on 146.43 MHz FM simplex as well as 5 GHz ATV, which will be streamed live. Jumper 3, Rob

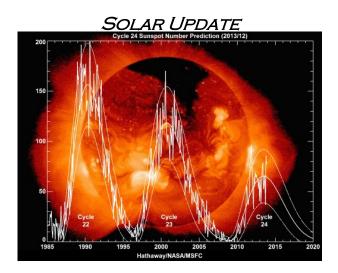


Fenn, KC6TYD, will be on 146.43 MHz FM simplex. Jumper 4, Capt Jim Wilson, RCAF, will be shooting in-flight video and photos. He is studying for his Canadian ham license and will be making radio jumps soon.

Jumpers will also carry APRS gear that will broadcast GPS data, heart rate, and blood oxygen level. The October 17 jumps over Byron, California, will take place from a Beech King Air 90 twin turboprop jumpship, with jumpers exiting at about 14,000 feet. Meltzer, who is 66, is enjoying his 47th year of skydiving.

December's Meeting is our annual





Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: Sunspot numbers over the past 7 days were nearly the same as during the previous 7 days. Average daily sunspot numbers went from 37 to 36.9, and average daily solar flux dropped from 93.8 to 87.5

Just as in previous solar cycles, geomagnetic indicators are high, as the cycle trends downward. From last week to this, the average daily planetary A index went from 24.3 to 25.1, and the average mid-latitude A index moved from 15.7 to 17.6.

Predicted solar flux is 90 on October 15; 100 on October 16; 110 on October 17-18; 115 on October 19; 110 on October 20-21; 120 on October 22-24; 125 on October 25-26; then 130, 120, and 110 on October 27-29; 100, 90, and 85 on October 30-November 1; 80 on November 2-6; 85 on November 7-8, and 90 on November 9-11. Solar flux then rises to 130 on November 23 and drops below 100 after November 26.

Predicted planetary A index is 18 on October 15-16; then 15 and 12 on October 17-18; 8 on October 19-20; 5 on October 21-27; then 8, 12, and 10 on October 28-30; 8 on October 31-November 2; 20 on November 3; 15 on November 4-5; then 12, 8, 20, 15, and 18 on November 6-10; 20 on November 11-12; 15 on November 13, and 8 on November 14-18.

Sunspot numbers for October 8 through 14 were 24, 11, 22, 36, 51, 58, and 56, with a mean of 36.9. The 10.7 cm flux was 79.7, 81.2, 81.4, 84.6, 89.1, 95.6, and 100.7, with a mean of 87.5. Estimated planetary A indices were 56, 26, 12, 12, 22, 25, and 23, with a mean of 625 1. Extinct of the state of 100.7 cm flux was 625 1. Extinct of 100.7 cm flux was

25, and 23, with titude A indices were 4 ean of 17.6.

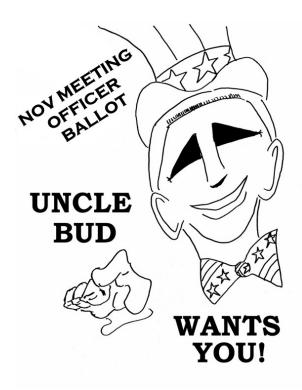
NAME THAT RIG!



Each month I'll try to post a different radio for you to name.

Best of Luck! Winners get "Bragging Rights"

Last month's rig: Heathkit HR10





COMING EVENTS

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

QCWA NorCal Chapter 11 - Lunch at Harry's Hofbrau 3rd Wednesday of every month

1909 El Camino Real 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)

LICENSE EXAMS

Bay Area Educational Amateur Radio Society

Offering a one day study session for Technician or General

theory, followed by testing. Fee: \$30.00

When: January 23, 2016

Where: The Event Center @ Saint Mary's Cathedral

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-11:00AM. Saratoga Fire Station 14380 Saratoga Ave, Saratoga, CA

Fee: \$15

Walk-ins only, No pre-registration Web Page: http://www.svve.org

Sunnyvale VEC Exam Sessions

Fee: \$15 Cash

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 | Nov 14th | Sunnyvale, CA | 10:30 | AM |
|-----|----------|------------------|-------|----|
| Sat | Nov 21st | 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 14th | 2015 Agenda Planning, LM Fire Station | | |
|------------|--|--|--|
| Feb 11th | 2015 Agenda Finalizing, LM Fire Station | | |
| Mar 11th | Pizza Night, Round Table LM Center, No Host | | |
| Apr 8th | Meeting Night, LM Fire Station | | |
| Apr 23rd | Silver Dragon CERT Exercise, Brisbane | | |
| May 13th | Meeting Night, LM Fire Station | | |
| Jun 10th | Field Day Planning Mtg, LM Fire Station | | |
| Jun 27-28 | CARC Field Day, Sweeney Ridge | | |
| Jul 8th | Field Day Wrap-Up Mtg, LM Fire Station | | |
| Jul 18th | Devils Slide Ride, PARCA Bike Event | | |
| Aug 12th | Back to School Night, LM Fire Station | | |
| Sept 9th | Meeting Night, LM Fire Station | | |
| Sept 26-27 | Pacific Coast Fog Fest, Pacifica | | |
| Oct 1st | Daylight Saving Time Ends | | |
| Oct 14th | 2016 Officer Nominations, LM Fire Station | | |
| Nov 7th | Election Dinner, Nick's Restaurant, Pacifica | | |
| Dec 9th | Holiday Potluck Dinner Meeting, LM Fire | | |

[?] to be determined # updated ---- canceled * tentative date





www.smcready.org cert@pacificapolice.org



In Memoriam



Roger G. Spindler-WA6AFT/SK



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 (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 WA6TOW repeater on 441.075 MHz may be used as an alternate if the WA6TOW VHF 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 editor.

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





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.

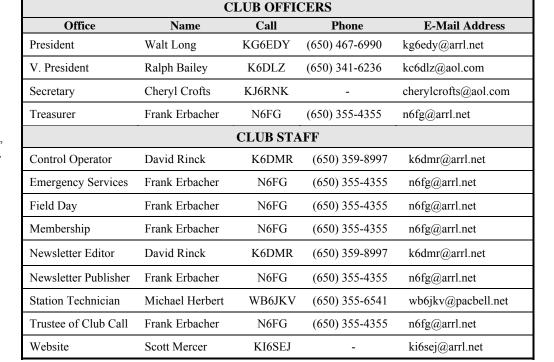
Saturday

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 NorCal. Net

Sunday

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



MEETING NOTICE:

NOVEMBER 7TH
NICK'S RESTAURANT
ROCKAWAY BEACH
PACIFICA
5:30PM

2016 CARC
OFFICER ELECTIONS
DINNER MEETING

COASTSIDE COMMUNICATOR

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

FIRST CLASS

TO:

