

# COMMUNICATOR

**VOL. 53** 

No. 10 October 2021

### WWW.COASTSIDEARC.ORG

### PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

I've had a very busy month and haven't been able to do much Ham stuff. I do want to say that we have a full slate of officer nominations thanks to one of our club members who stepped up to the plate and offered to take on the role of President. Thank you, Steve! So, here is the slate of Club Officer nominations that we will vote on to accept for the election Dinner in November:

Club President: Steve Austin KN6ORM
Vice President: Paul Atkins AI6BB
Club Secretary: Tom Oliver KJ6OGL
Club Treasurer: Frank Erbacher N6FG and
Paul Atkins AI6BB will

co-chair this position

I want to thank the incumbent officers for agreeing to help the Club out by remaining in office for another year, as the new President will need all the help he can get. I am sure, however, that any new club officer will be extended a warm welcome!

I have noticed that the TOW repeater is doing great, as a result of the work done last month by Mike WB6JKV. I am thankful for his help and technical expertise. Let's have a great Zoom meeting this month!

73's Dave Lawrence KF6TWW.

## CARC SEPTEMBER 8, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

#### Call to Order

The September 8, 2021 meeting was called to order at 7:35pm by: VP Paul-AI6BB in the absence of President Dave-KF6TWW, on Zoom Video Conference hosted by Jon Lancelle-N6SJF.

### **Self-introductions**

Introductions by members in attendance.

### **Minutes**

Motion made by Tom-KJ6OGL and seconded by Dave-KM6CPF to approve the August minutes as posted in *The Coastside Communicator*. Motion passed by unanimous vote of the membership present.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Funds - No Report

MEMBERSHIP – No Report

Bills needing approval.

Dave-KM6CPF submit receipt to Frank-N6FG for \$15 payment to storage locker.

Correspondence

Paul-AI6BB the articles in the newsletter.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **CURRENT REPEATER**

1. Status of current WA6TOW repeater from Dave Rinck-K6DMR: Working much better since Mike-

WB6JKV replaced the antenna and removed the RX tone code. NO MORE GRUNGE!!!

- 2. **APRS** Working per Steve-KN6ORM
- 3. Emergency Services No Report

### Replacement Repeater

1. Update on Replacement Repeater: Dave-KM6CPF received an email from the storage facility stating there is a payment of \$15 due for the current month. Dave-KF6TWW to contact Roy-KE6MNJ for further information on rents, gate access and which building the storage locker is located in. A couple of members will make their time available to help Dave with moving the equipment.

NEWSLETTER – Includes articles about the garage sale September 18th, Pacificon Ham Fest on October 15<sup>th</sup>—17<sup>th</sup> and the article from Jillian and Steve on Mesh Networks.

WEBSITE – Newsletter uploaded. Information on In-Person meeting and 9/18 Garage Sale info posted.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. President Dave-KF6TWW to create a slate of Officers for 2022. No one has volunteered for President. He will not be running next year. Paul-AI6BB is willing to stay as VP, Tom-KJ6OGL is willing to stay as Secretary and Frank-N6FG is willing to stay as Treasurer. Dave-KF6TWW, Paul-AI6BB and Steve-KN6ORM will talk after the meeting to resolve the issue of President. Approval of Slate of Officers at the October meeting. Elections at the November Election Dinner.
- B. Dave is not sure if Frank-N6FG has talked to Nick's about the menu for the November Elections Dinner.
- C. December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting will be the Holiday Potluck Meeting. Depending on if we can meet in-person at the Fire Station.

- D. Jon-N6SJF will continue to stay in contact with the Linda Mar Fire Station for status updates on when they can allow citizens into the station.
- E. Dave-KF6TWW asked Steve-KN6ORM & Jon-N6SJF if they had done any further research in setting up a network at the fire station (they have a weak wi-fi signal) for the meeting. Both stated no as the meeting was moved to Zoom and not in-person.

### **New Business**

A. None

### Adjournment

Motion made by Dave-KF6TWW and seconded by Bill-N6BCT to adjourn the meeting at: 8:30p.m. Meeting adjourned.

### Present at the Meeting

**Officers:** President: Dave Lawrence-KF6TWW, Vice-President: Paul Atkins-AI6BB, Secretary: Tom Oliver-KJ6OGL, Treasurer: Absent

**Members:** Jon-N6SJF, Steve-KN6ORM, Jillian-KN6PIV, Ralph-KC6YDH, Bill-N6BCT, Walt-KG6EDY, Tony-K6BV, Georgia-KE6KRT, Dave-KM6CPF, Gary-KI6HIG, Dave-K6DMR, Steve-AG6NY, Ron-WB9EGG, Dennis-KN6QER

Submitted by: Tom Oliver-KJ6OGL, Secretary *Note: Minutes taken from recorded zoom meeting* 

### PACIFICON 2021 IS ON!

Pacificon will be held Friday through Sunday Oct. 15 – 17 2021 at the San Ramon Marriott, 2600 Bishop Drive in San Ramon CA. Registration is currently Open. Visit the Pacificon.com website for additional information.

### **NEWS**

### The K7RA Solar Update

10/01/2021

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: Sunspot activity was up over the past week, with the average daily sunspot number rising from 28.7 to 59.4, and average daily solar flux up 11.4 points to 89.8. Nice to see our sun peppered with spots again as we move into the second week of fall in the Northern Hemisphere.

The 10.7-centimeter solar flux was 101.6 at noon on Wednesday, September 29. That's the highest value since December 3, 2020, when it was 102.9. Unfortunately the following day that value slipped 7 whole points back to 94.6

Geomagnetic indicators were quiet, with average daily planetary A index values declining from 9.1 to 7.3, and average middle latitude A index from 8.4 to 6.3.

Predicted solar flux as of Thursday is much lower than it was the day before.

The updated flux values are 95 on October 1-3; 90 on October 4-5; 85 on October 6-7; 74 on October 8-9; 78 on October 10-12; 80 non October 13; 84 on October 14-15; 86 on October 16-17; 88 on October 18-22; 86 on October 23-25, 84 on October 26; 80 on October 27-29; 78 on October 30-31; 76 on November 27-29; 78 on November 27-29; 78 on October 27-29; 79 o

Predicted planetary A index is 24, 10, and 8 on October 1-3; 5 on October 4-9; 12 on October 10; 5 again on October 11 – 17; 10, 12, 10, and 8 on October 18 – 21; 5 on October 22 – 23; 18, 15, and 12 on October 24 – 26; 5 on October 27 – 30; 8 on October 31; 12 on November 1; 5 on November 2 – 5, and 12 on November 6.

Here's the geomagnetic activity forecast for October 1 – 26, 2021 from F.K. Janda, OK1HH. The geomagnetic field will be:

- quiet on October 13, 16 18, 22 23
- quiet to unsettled on October 3 4, 6 9,
   12. 20 21
- quiet to active on October 2, 5, 10 11, 14 – 15
- unsettled to active on October 1, (19, 24 26)
- Active to disturbed nothing predicted
- Solar wind will intensify on October (3,) 11, (19, 22-23, 25)

### Remarks:

- \* Parentheses mean lower probability of activity enhancement.
- \* Contradictory indications currently reduce the accuracy of the forecast.

I often use FT8 and pskreporter.info to check propagation on different bands, and over the past week there were days when I saw no reception reports of my station on 10 meters, but plenty of activity on 12 meters. The 12-meter openings were typically to stations 2,000 miles east of me over a narrow swath along the eastern seaboard of North America. This was with a very simple end-fed, non-resonant wire antenna and 30 W.

Check <u>this link</u> about Sunspot, New Mexico. Bob, AA6XE, wrote:

"September 2021 is winding down, and here is a preview of the solar numbers we can expect this Friday. The solar flux for September looks to be 86.5 measured and 88 adjusted for 1 AU. This is the second-highest reading of the new solar cycle, topped only by the dramatic run-up of last November. Take a good long last look at those numbers, as the current ramp-up in solar activity will easily blast through them in October. In the closing 36 hours of the month the 10.7-centimeter [solar flux] had jumped up 12 points to 101 and was rising fast as this reported was being prepared.

"The monthly mean sunspot number for September will be in the low to mid 50s (new scale); when converted to the old scale so we can compare it to traditional counts it equates to (38 old scale). The smoothed sunspot number (SSN) for September is 46 (new scale) 32 (old scale). September's sunspot numbers are easily the highest of the new solar cycle thus far.

"And the good news doesn't stop there. On September 14, Scott MacIntosh from the National Center for Atmospheric Research, announced that he expects the termination event concluding Cycle 24 is imminent and a rapid run-up in solar activity to commence in mid-November. Solar minimum was recorded in November 2019, the last SWPC numbered SC24 sunspot was observed in July 2020, the last un-numbered SC24 active region was observed on August 14, 2021. It appears that Cycle 24 is over."

<u>**Here**</u>'s more sunspot coverage from local newspapers. And **this**.

Bil Paul, KD6JUI, of Dixon, California, who operates from his kayak, sent this on September 27:

"You're probably getting reports of a great opening to Europe Sunday, but here's my story:

"I was operating from my kayak with 10 W and a small homebrew loop on Sunday around noon when I allowed the wind to orient the boat and the antenna in the direction it chose. That was toward the northeast from California — fortunate because Europe was coming in gangbusters. Operating SSB, I first contacted IK7YTT in Italy on 17, followed by Spain and Hungary on 20. They all had a little trouble making out

my call sign, but make it out they did. My location was Lake Berryessa in Napa County, California.

"This opening certainly provides hope for further such openings during the coming solar cycle peak. I'm not too surprised when I can contact Japan or Australia from California, but Europe is something else entirely!" Here's <u>exciting news</u> from Space Weather Woman Tamitha Skov, WX6SWW.

Sunspot numbers for September 23 – 29 were 75, 75, 38, 67, 30, 57, and 74, with a mean of 59.4. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 89.7, 88.4, 88.4, 86.3, 85.3, 88.9, and 101.6, with a mean of 89.8. Estimated planetary A indices were 11, 8, 7, 3, 7, 10, and 5, with a mean of 7.3. Middle latitude A index was 10, 6, 7, 2, 6, 9, and 4, with a mean of 6.3.

For more information concerning radio propagation, <u>visit</u> the ARRL Technical Information Service, <u>read</u> "What the Numbers Mean...," and check <u>this propagation page</u> by Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA.

A propagation bulletin <u>archive</u> is available. For customizable propagation charts, visit the <u>VOACAP</u>
Online for Ham Radio website.

<u>Instructions</u> for starting or ending email distribution of ARRL bulletins are on the ARRL website.

Share your reports and observations.



### Deaf Pupils Set to Speak with ISS Crew Member in a World-First Event

10-01-2021 ~ Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) will offer a group of pupils at the **Mary Hare School** for deaf children in England an opportunity to speak with an astronaut via amateur radio. The contact is expected to take place sometime during October 10 – 17. Mary Hare School, with Pippa Middleton as its ambassador, is the largest nonmaintained school for deaf children in the UK. The event will mark the first time an ARISS contact has been arranged with a school for deaf youth.

"It is a very exciting event — a world first for deaf pupils," said Alex Ayling, a science teacher at the school. "I think it is very important to our deaf pupils, as it shows whatever your challenges with communication there is no limit to what you can achieve. The sky is not the limit."

Ciaran Morgan, MOXTD, ARISS operations lead for the UK, said that technical aspects of the radio contact are being handled by the ARISS-UK team. The Newbury and District Amateur Radio Society (NADARS) will provide "the amateur radio experience" for the

students, through ham radio events and activities at the school. Lessons related to ARISS include a crystal radio, electricity and circuits, forces, energy, sound, electromagnetism, space and space exploration, the ISS, and rocketry.

During September the school has been conducting a competition, inviting students to enter questions from one of five categories — science in space, space technology, living in space, space communication, and Earth from space. The school staff will pick the 10 best questions, and those students will be invited to ask their questions. The astronaut's response will then be rendered as text for the students.

At the school, an expected audience of 250 spacedapart spectators will be able to see the radio contact firsthand. The remaining students and audience members will be linked in via a web feed, so that they do not miss out.

Amateur radio equipment has been on board the ISS for more than 20 years, and most astronauts hold ham radio licenses. A live web feed will be available.

Mary Hare School educates some 240 profoundly and severely deaf children, aged 5 – 19, each year. — Thanks to UK News



### Amateur Radio Volunteers Assist in Major US Cycling Event

09/30/2021 ~ On September 11, some 115 amateur radio volunteers from five states provided communication support for LoToJa, the longest single-day USA Cycling (USAC)-sanctioned bicycle event in the country and now in its 39th year. Starting in Logan, Utah, the 203-mile course ends in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, taking cyclists through northeastern Utah, southeastern Idaho, and western Wyoming in the process. The race attracts thousands of applicants, and upward of 2,000 are selected to compete. Some 1,700 competed this year. The event generates more than \$2 million a year for Huntsman Cancer Foundation. Hams participate from multiple clubs in Utah, including Goldman Spike Amateur Radio Club (GSARC), Ogden Amateur Radio Club (OARC), and Utah Valley Amateur Radio Club (UVARC). The race deploys four command centers and multiple repeaters.

Prior to the event, Race Director Brent Chambers told the Cache Valley Daily that "This year's race will have 600 course volunteers, which includes 150 ham radio operators [and helpers] from the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club. They provide

uninterrupted communication throughout LoToJa's mountainous and remote terrain."

"We take two portable repeaters to the top of mountains, and we deploy multiple APRS [Automatic Packet Reporting System] digipeaters," explained Kevin Reeve, N7RXE, who is the coordinator of amateur radio operators and communications systems for LoToJa. "All ham vehicles run APRS, and we have APRS and a radio operator with the race director and race official. Our goal is the help the cyclists, their support crews, and their families have a safe and enjoyable event."

Ted McArthur, AC7II, heads the communication infrastructure team for the LoToJa hams. In all, nine repeaters and several simplex frequencies are used throughout the event, and APRS plays an important role.

"With [an increase in] the number of mobile vehicles needed to meet a growing event, Net Control Stations were spending a lot of radio time asking for position reports," McArthur said. "We needed the airtime for real traffic, like helping cyclists, emergencies, and other critical traffic."

"LoToJa is such a great event for amateur radio operators to participate in," said Tyler Griffiths, N7UWX. "It is the ARES [Amateur Radio Emergency Service] radio operator's dream event. We know where it starts, we know where it ends, but everything that happens in between is different from year to year."



Past AMSAT President and Director, and Amateur Satellite Pioneer Tom Clark, K3IO, SK

09/30/2021 ~ AMSAT-NA Past President and ham radio satellite and digital pioneer Tom Clark, K3IO (ex-W3IWI), of Columbia, Maryland, died on September 28 after a short illness and hospital stay. An ARRL Life Member, he was 82. Clark's accomplishments are legendary, and he left a lasting footprint in the worlds of amateur radio satellites and digital techniques.

"His long-time technical achievements, mentoring to others, and technical leadership will be missed by his many peers and friends the world over," said Bob McGwier, N4HY.

To honor Clark, AMSAT has rebranded its upcoming annual gathering as the 2021 AMSAT Dr. Tom Clark,

K3IO, Memorial Space Symposium and Annual General Meeting. It will take place on October 30 via Zoom. (AMSAT members may <u>register</u> to attend via AMSAT's Membership and Event portal.) The event will be <u>livestreamed</u> on AMSAT's YouTube channel. A founding member of Tucson Amateur Packet Radio (TAPR), Clark was a co-founder of the TAPR/AMSAT DSP Project, which led to software-defined radio (SDR). He was a leader in the development of the AX.25 packet radio protocol. Clark served as AMSAT's second President, from 1980 until 1987. He also served on the AMSAT and TAPR Boards.

In concert with McGwier, Clark developed the first amateur Digital Signal Processing (DSP) hardware, including a number of modems. He developed the uplink receivers and the spacecraft LAN (local area network) architecture used on all the Microsats (AMSAT-OSCAR 16, Dove-OSCAR 17, WEBERSAT-OSCAR 18, LUSAT-OSCAR 19, Italy-OSCAR 26, AMRAD-OSCAR 27, and TMSAT-OSCAR 31). McGwier said it was Clark who convinced him in 1985 that the future lay in DSP.

"We started the TAPR/AMSAT DSP [digital signal processing] project, and it was announced in 1987," McGwier recounted. "We showed in our efforts that small stations with small antennas could bounce signals off the moon, and, using the power of DSP, we could see the signals in our computer displays." This led to the software-defined transponder (SDX) for satellite work, including ARISSat and AMSAT's Phase 3E.

Clark received a doctorate in astrogeophysics from the University of Colorado. He went on to serve as Chief of the Astronomy Branch at NASA Marshall Space Flight Center and was a Senior Scientist at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, where he was principal investigator for the Space Very Long Baseline Interferometry (VLBI) activity there.

In 2005, Clark became the first non-Russian to be awarded a Gold Medal of the Russian Academy of Sciences for his contributions to the international VLBI network. He is a member of the 2001 class of CQ magazine's Amateur Radio Hall of Fame.

In 2016, ARRL awarded Clark with its President's Award, to recognize his 60 years of advancing amateur radio technology. On that occasion, McGwier said, "There would be no AMSAT to inspire all of this work without Tom Clark. Tom...saved the organization and inspired all of us to look to the future and aim for the stars."

Clark was a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union and the International Association of Geodesy.

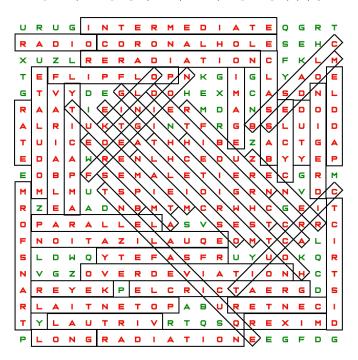
### **OCTOBER PUZZLER**

PAUL ATKINS, AI6BB

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antenna	fronttoback	rtty
balun	greatcircle	saturation
beam	inductor	shack
buffer	keyer	shielding
classb	keying	skip
coaxial	ladderline	speech
common	log	strength
controlled	loop	swr
coordinator	loss	timeout
cycle	modulator	tolerance
decibel	multimeter	tube
earth	nec	value
envelope	nvis	voice
eregion	operated	volatile
feeding	peak	vswr
fregion	rfburn	winding

### ANSWER TO SEPTEMBER'S PUZZLER



### **COMING EVENTS**

**Pacifica CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) For training and information** 

 $\frac{https://pacificacacert.samariteam.com/RequestInfo.aspx}{email: mailto:cert@pacificapolice.org}$ 

QCWA NorCal Chapter 11 - Lunch at Harry's Hofbrau

3<sup>rd</sup> 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

Please see the website below for up-to-date information <a href="http://www.electronicsfleamarket.com/schedule">http://www.electronicsfleamarket.com/schedule</a>

DATE	EVENT					
Jan 13th	Zoom Meeting ~ 2021 Agenda Planning					
Feb 10th	Zoom Meeting ~ 2021 Agenda Final					
Mar 10th	Zoom Meeting					
Mar 14th	Daylight Savings Time Starts					
Apr 14th	Zoom Meeting					
May 12th	Zoom Meeting ~ Field Day Planning					
Jun 9th	Zoom Meeting ~ Final Field Day Planning					
Jun 25th-27th	Field Day ~ Details TBD					
Jul 14th	Pizza Dinner Meeting – Linda Mar Round Table 7:00 PM Social 7:30 PM Meeting					
Aug 11th	Combined Pizza Dinner/Zoom Meeting – Linda Mar Round Table 7:00 PM Social 7:30 PM Meeting					
Sep 9th	Zoom Meeting					
Oct 13th	Zoom Meeting, 2022 Officer Slate Presentation					
Nov 7th	Daylight Savings Time Ends					
Nov 10th	Zoom Meeting (Pending Public Safety)					
Nov 20th	2022 Election Dinner, Nick's Restaurant					
Dec 8th	Zoom Meeting (Pending Public Safety)					



www.smcready.org cert@pacificapolice.org







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



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 20:00 hrs. for membership checkins, 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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### COASTSIDE NETS

### Monday

7:00 PM on WA6TOW 146.925 MHz, PL 114.8 Pacifica CERT Net

7:30 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

8:00 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

#### Sunday:

7:00-7:45 AM on WA6TOW 146.925 MHz, PL 114.8 Knights of the Megahertz Net

**Note**: All 2m repeater traffic is recorded and may be replayed at audiostickerbur.net.

CLUB OFFICERS								
Office	Name	Call	Phone	E-Mail Address				
President	Dave Lawrence	KF6TWW	(650) 595-2827	kf6tww@gmail.com				
Vice President	Paul Atkins	AI6BB	(415) 810-9152	ai6bb@arrl.net				
Secretary	Tom Oliver	KJ6OGL	(640) 488-0704	toliver0557@gmail.com				
Treasurer	Frank Erbacher	N6FG	(650) 464-3870	n6fg@arrl.net				
CLUB STAFF								
Control Operator	David Rinck	K6DMR	(650) 355-1778	k6dmr@arrl.net				
Emergency Services	Frank Erbacher	N6FG	(650) 464-3870	n6fg@arrl.net				
Field Day	Frank Erbacher	N6FG	(650) 464-3870	n6fg@arrl.net				
Membership	Frank Erbacher	N6FG	(650) 464-3870	n6fg@arrl.net				
N. Lu Più	Paul Atkins	AI6BB	(415) 810-9152	ai6bb@arrl.net				
Newsletter Editor	Scott Gillette	KN6GQZ		scott@sgillette.com				
Newsletter Publisher	Frank Erbacher	N6FG	(650) 464-3870	n6fg@arrl.net				
Station Technician	Michael Herbert	WB6JKV	(650) 355-6541	wb6jkv@pacbell.net				
Trustee of Club Call	David Rinck	K6DMR	(650) 355-1778	k6dmr@arrl.net				
XX7.1	Paul Atkins	AI6BB	(415) 810-9152	ai6bb@arrl.net				
Website	R. Scott Sutor	KM6SCD						



OCTOBER 13, 2021 7:30 PM
WATCH FOR INVITATION VIA E-MAIL OR CONTACT
CARC\_INFO@COASTSIDEARC.ORG TO BE ADDED.

### **COASTSIDE COMMUNICATOR**

EDITOR P.O. BOX 1106 PACIFICA, CA 94044

FIRST CLASS

TO: