



THE COASTSIDE COMMUNICATOR

VOL. 53, No. 1

JANUARY 2021

WWW.COASTSIDEARC.ORG

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Happy New Year! The year 2020 was one for the books, wasn't it!! I hope that somehow lessons can be learned, and we'll never have to repeat it again! I have been checking in to our weekly net now regularly and was pleased to see an increase in club members attending. Let's keep up the momentum and try to get as many club members as possible checking in. We'll be looking for ideas on what we, as a club, can do this year in our first zoom meeting on Jan 13th, 2021 at 7:30PM. The zoom opens early at 7:15, so join a bit early and get acquainted before the meeting starts! Activities will be extremely limited until everyone gets vaccinated, so I'm hoping that we can resume our regular in-person monthly Club meetings this summer, and maybe participate in a few activities by the end of the year! For the zoom meetings that we will be having, I'm looking forward to seeing what some of our members have volunteered to share with the group. Stay Safe and Prosper!

73's. *KF6TWW Dave L.*

CARC DECEMBER 9, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order

The December 9, 2020 meeting was called to order at 7:33pm by: President Dave Lawrence-KF6TWW, on Zoom Video Conference hosted by Jon Lancelle-N6SJF.

Self-introductions

Introductions by members in attendance.

Minutes

Motion made by Paul Atkins-AI6BB and seconded by Gary Barnes-KI6HIG to approve the November minutes as posted in *The Coastside Communicator*. Motion was passed by unanimous vote of the membership present.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Funds: The Treasurer, Frank Erbacher-N6FG reported. Financial report: Repeater Fund: \$1,500, EOC/Public Service Fund: \$13,530. Grand Total: \$22,160.

MEMBERSHIP: Frank stated that to date, he has received 5 membership renewals and 1 donation. Members are reminded that their 2021 membership dues are now due.

Bills needing approval: None stated

Correspondence: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS**CURRENT REPEATER**

1. Update on **status of WA6TOW repeater:**
Casey spoke on the phone with Mike-WB6JKV who will be going up the hill to the bunker, for the owner, and check the WA6TOW repeater and antennas (and possibly swap the packet antenna and the 2m antenna) and check input/output power.
2. **APRS** – No Report
3. **Emergency Services** – No Report

Replacement Repeater

1. Update on Replacement Repeater: No update.
Dave-KF6TWW will try to contact Roy-KE6MNJ for status on new repeater.

FIELD DAY – Frank-N6FG stated that he would not be available for Field Day next year. Will discuss alternatives as time gets closer and are able to hold event. He also mentioned that the brush is growing back and covering the area where we setup the vehicles and antennas.

FOG FEST – No Report

NEWSLETTER - Published

WEBSITE – Working and has updated 2021 Membership Renewal Form (PDF)

Net Script - Using approved modified Covis script.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Election of Officers for 2021. Consensus was that the four officers that are currently in office, would remain in office for 2021. President Dave-KF6TWW has not heard from anyone that wants to run or wants to replace one of the officers. At this stage, we'll have a roll call vote reaffirming the current officers for another term. Unanimous vote by those in attendance on the Zoom Meeting.
- B. Walt will speak about his job in the Auto Industry in January.

New Business

- A. None

Adjournment

Dave thanked Jon-N6SJJ for hosting the Zoom meetings for us.

Meeting at: 8:45p.m.

Present at the Meeting

Officers: President: Dave Lawrence-KF6TWW, Vice-President: Paul Atkins-AI6BB, Secretary: Tom Oliver-KJ6OGL, Treasurer: Frank Erbacher-N6FG

Members: Gary Barnes-K6HIG, Georgia Grant-KE6KRT, Jon Lancelle-N6SJJ, Dave Conroy-KM6CPF, Ralph Kugler-KC6YDH, Ted Niemira-K6TET, Walt Long-KG6EDY, David Rinck-K6DMR, Casey Villyard-N6TZE, Bill Lilly-N6BCT

Guests: Dishaan Ahuja-KN6MKA – New Ham

Submitted by: Tom Oliver-KJ6OGL, Secretary

NEWS

FCC Reduces Proposed Amateur Radio Application Fee to \$35

12/30/2020

The FCC has agreed with ARRL and other commenters that its proposed \$50 fee for certain amateur radio applications was "too high to account for the minimal staff involvement in these applications." In a Report and Order (R&O), released on December 29, the FCC scaled back to \$35 the fee for a new license application, a special temporary authority (STA) request, a rule waiver request, a license renewal application, and a vanity call sign application. All fees are per application. There will be no fee for administrative updates, such as a change of mailing or email address.

This fall, ARRL filed comments in firm opposition to the FCC proposal to impose a \$50 fee on amateur radio license and application fees and urged its members to follow suit.

As the FCC noted in its R&O, although some commenters supported the proposed \$50 fee as reasonable and fair, “ARRL and many individual commenters argued that there was no cost-based justification for application fees in the Amateur Radio Service.” The fee proposal was contained in a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in MD Docket 20-270, which was adopted to implement portions of the “Repack Airwaves Yielding Better Access for Users of Modern Services Act” of 2018 — the so-called “Ray Baum’s Act.”

“After reviewing the record, including the extensive comments filed by amateur radio licensees and based on our revised analysis of the cost of processing mostly automated processes discussed in our methodology section, we adopt a \$35 application fee, a lower application fee than the Commission proposed in the NPRM for personal licenses, in recognition of the fact that the application process is mostly automated,” the FCC said in the R&O. “We adopt the proposal from the NPRM to assess no additional application fee for minor modifications or administrative updates, which also are highly automated.”

The FCC said it received more than 197,000 personal license applications in 2019, which includes not only ham radio license applications but commercial radio operator licenses and General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) licenses.

The FCC turned away the arguments of some commenters that the FCC should exempt amateur radio licensees. The FCC stated that it has no authority to create an exemption “where none presently exists.”

The FCC also disagreed with those who argued that amateur radio licensees should be exempt from fees because of their public service contribution during emergencies and disasters.

“[W]e are very much aware of these laudable and important services amateur radio licensees provide to the American public,” the FCC said, but noted that specific exemptions provided under Section 8 of the so-called “Ray Baum’s Act” requiring the FCC to assess the fees do not apply to amateur radio personal licenses. “Emergency communications, for example, are voluntary and are not required by our rules,” the FCC noted. “As we have noted previously, “[w]hile the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communications service, particularly with respect to providing emergency

communications, is one of the underlying principles of the amateur service, the amateur service is not an emergency radio service.”

The Act requires that the FCC switch from a Congressionally-mandated fee structure to a cost-based system of assessment. The FCC proposed application fees for a broad range of services that use the FCC’s Universal Licensing System (ULS), including the Amateur Radio Service, which had been excluded previously. The 2018 statute excludes the Amateur Service from annual regulatory fees, but not from application fees.

“While the Ray Baum’s Act amended Section 9 and retained the regulatory fee exemption for amateur radio station licensees, Congress did not include a comparable exemption among the amendments it made to Section 8 of the Act,” the FCC R&O explained. The effective date of the fee schedule has not been established, but it will be announced at least 30 days in advance. The FCC has directed the Office of Managing Director, in consultation with relevant offices and bureaus, to draft a notice for publication in the Federal Register announcing when rule change(s) will become effective, “once the relevant databases, guides, and internal procedures have been updated.” 12/29/2020

After 41 years, Ham-Com has decided to close its doors due to the difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the rising costs of putting on a show. “The decision was not made lightly, but the safety and wellness of our volunteers, vendors, clubs, presenters, and attendees is our paramount concern,” Ham-Com President Bill Nelson, AB5QZ, said in an announcement on the Ham-Com website. Ham-Com has been held each June at the Plano Event Center in Plano, Texas.

“We sincerely thank each and every person for their support over the past years,” Nelson said. “This starts with clubs who have participated in offering forums, transmitter sessions, VE sessions, talk-ins, and many more things through the years.” Nelson also expressed appreciation for the vendors, volunteers, and visitors. “Ham-Com is proud to contribute to bringing people together to enjoy this passion. We will definitely miss this gathering of the broader community,” Nelson concluded. “Our thoughts and best wishes to you and your families.”



FCC to Require Email Address on Applications Starting on June 29, 2021

12/31/2020

Effective on June 29, 2021, amateur radio licensees and candidates must provide the FCC with an email address on all applications. If no email address is included, the FCC may dismiss the application as “defective.”

On September 16, the FCC adopted a Report and Order (**R&O**) in WT Docket 19-212 on “Completing the Transition to Electronic Filing, Licenses and Authorizations, and Correspondence in the Wireless Radio Services.” The R&O was **published** on December 29 in the Federal Register. The FCC has already begun strongly encouraging applicants to provide an email address. Once an email address is provided, the FCC will email a link to an official electronic copy of the license grant. An official copy will also be available at any time by accessing the licensee’s password-protected Universal Licensing System (ULS) account.

Licensees can log into the **ULS License Manager System** with their FRN and password at any time and update anything in their FCC license record, including adding an email address. For questions or password issues, call the CORES/FRN Help Line, (877) 480-3201 (Monday – Friday, 1300 – 2300 UTC) or **reset the password** on the FCC website.

The only way to refrain from providing an email address on an application would be to submit a request to waive the new rule, providing justification for the request. (The FCC would not be obliged to grant such a request.)

Under Section 97.21 of the new rules, a person holding a valid amateur radio station license “must apply to the FCC for a modification of the license grant as necessary to show the correct mailing and email address, licensee name, club name, license trustee name, or license custodian name.” For a club or military recreation station license, the application must be presented in document form to a club station call sign administrator who must submit the information to the FCC in an electronic batch file.

Under new Section 97.23, each license must show the grantee’s correct name, mailing address, and email

address. “The email address must be an address where the grantee can receive electronic correspondence,” the amended rule will state. “Revocation of the station license or suspension of the operator license may result when correspondence from the FCC is returned as undeliverable because the grantee failed to provide the correct email address.”

WSJT-X 2.4.0 Introduces New Digital Protocol Q65



12/31/2020

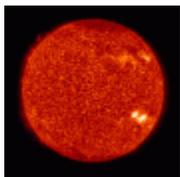
WSJT-X version 2.4.0 has introduced a new digital protocol called Q65, which is designed for “minimal two-way QSOs over especially difficult propagation paths,” the **Quick Start Guide** says.

“On paths with Doppler spread more than a few hertz, the weak-signal performance of Q65 is the best among all WSJT-X modes. Q65 is particularly effective for tropospheric scatter, ionospheric scatter, and EME on VHF and higher bands, as well as other types of fast-fading signals.”

The new protocol uses 65-tone frequency-shift keying and builds on the demonstrated weak-signal strengths of QRA64, introduced in 2016. User messages and sequencing are identical to those in FT4, FT8, FST4, and MSK144. Q65 employs a “unique tone” to sync time and frequency. “As with JT65, this ‘sync tone’ is readily visible on the waterfall spectral display,” the Guide said. “Unlike JT65, synchronization and decoding are effective even when meteor pings or other short signal enhancements are present.

Transmit/receive sequence lengths of 15, 30, 60, 120, and 300 seconds are available. According to the Guide, “Q65 will enable stations with a modest Yagi and 100 W or more and to work one another on 6 meters at distances up to ~1600 kilometers at most times, in dead band conditions.”

The K7RA Solar Update



01/01/2021

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: Solar Cycle 25 is progressing normally, and with the new year, my outlook is optimistic. Solar minimum occurred just over a year ago (December 2019), and now we see very few days with no sunspots.

Both of the current sunspot groups (2794 and 2795) are about to slip across the sun's western horizon.

Average daily sunspot number this past week was 27.1, up from 10.3 the previous week. Average daily solar flux rose from 82.8 to 86.4.

Predicted solar flux over the next 30 days is 81 and 80 on January 1 – 2; 79 on January 3 – 4; 78 on January 5 – 8; 84 on January 9 – 14; 85, 86, and 87 on January 15 – 17; 88 on January 18 – 28; 87 on January 29, and 86 on January 30. It then dips to 84 on February 1 – 10.

Predicted planetary A index is 5 on January 1 – 2; 8 and 5 on January 3 – 4; 8 on January 5 – 7; 5 on January 8 – 17; 10 on January 18 – 20; 8 on January 21; 5 on January 22 – 24; 10 on January 25, and 5 on January 26 – 30.

When I check the [STEREO website](#) any possible coming activity, I don't see anything obvious, but do not be surprised if new activity appears soon — perhaps before mid-January — along with the predicted higher flux values.

Here's the geomagnetic forecast from J.K. Janda, OK1HH, of the Czech Propagation Interest Group for January 1 – 26, 2021. The geomagnetic field will be:

- quiet on January 1, 3, 13 – 14
- quiet to unsettled on January 2, 4, 8, 10, 12, 15 – 16, 21, 25 – 26
- quiet to active on January 5 – 7, 9, 11, 17, 22 – 23
- unsettled to active January 20, 24
- active to disturbed January 18 – 19

- Solar wind will intensify on January (1-3, 7-9, 19-20,) 21-22, (23, 25-26)

Notes:

Parentheses mean lower probability of activity enhancement.

The predictability of changes is lower again, as there are ambiguous and changing indications.

Wishing a Happy New Year, positive thinking, and negative tests!

(The Czech Propagation Interest Group has been compiling this geomagnetic activity weekly forecasts since January 1978.)

Ted Leaf, K6HI, of Kona, Hawaii, shared [another optimistic report](#) on new Solar Cycle 25. Here's [more](#) on the NCAR prediction and the solar clock.

Sunspot numbers for December 24 – 30, 2020, were 25, 30, 31, 26, 26, 26, and 26, with a mean of 27.1. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 87.4, 87.7, 87.9, 87.8, 87.2, 84.2, and 82.8, with a mean of 86.4. Estimated planetary A indices were 10, 5, 4, 6, 7, 7, and 9, with a mean of 6.9. Middle latitude A index was 7, 4, 3, 4, 6, 5, and 6, with a mean of 5.

For more information concerning radio propagation, [visit](#) the ARRL Technical Information Service, [read](#) "What the Numbers Mean..." and [check out](#) K9LA's Propagation Page.

A propagation bulletin [archive](#) is available. For customizable propagation charts, visit the [VOACAP Online for Ham Radio](#) website.

[Instructions](#) for starting or ending email distribution of ARRL bulletins are on the ARRL website.

[Share](#) your reports and observations.

JANUARY PUZZLER

PAUL ATKINS, AI6BB

O F H H U T E F J W R C L I P P I N G Y
 V E C C F K G I H G S E R V I C E S Y I
 E E F O T S N W B M G V C E F O R C E B
 R D D I R F K A O A B R K T T C F I B C
 E I F I N R C D T N N X E R I L Z C A O
 L N R T G L E L D L O D E E O F I C T N
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 A E I A S V T O T R H Y T L O N O E E T
 B P C J E S P A E I G E B A A C U R R A
 L O L D O E E C L O O S R X U N I L Y N
 E L O V I K T C L A A N P M K N D R O T
 K I C D N M T O O X M T R H I R E U A V
 D C R O P P N I Y R L R R A O S A T A V
 E I C G U H O T U U P E Y E S N T L T B
 B N X A C L I W E C T O S R T S E O O A
 D G E E R C O L E T R I R P A T E M R S
 E A T R O R G M A R V I R C K N I D D I
 C V T L G N A L B N N D C O I Q I L O I
 D Q E A A Y P Y K S F A W C L M V B P M
 Y V L Y O S S K I P Z O N E L P A R T S

WORDLIST

AFSK	DIGITAL	POWER
ANGLE	DIODE	RECTIFIER
ARRAY	DIRECT	RELIABLE
ARRL	ENERGY	ROTOR
ATTENUATION	FEEDING	SERVICES
BANDPLAN	FILTER	SKIPZONE
BATTERY	FORCE	SOLAR
BAUD	FSK	SPLATTER
BEAT	JFET	TANK
BINARY	LCCIRCUIT	SATURATION
BIRDIE	LOOP	TECHNOLOGY
CALL	MICROPROCESSOR	THERMISTOR
CFI	MODE	TRAP
CLIPPING	MODES	VARICODE
CONSTANT	NVIS	VELOCITY
CORRECTION	PHONE	VOLTAGE
COULOMB	POLICING	VOLUNTEER
DATA		XMTR

ANSWER TO DECEMBER'S PUZZLER

G R O U N D W A V E F F O H C R I K D V
 N Z E M T N A N O S E R R L G N I P O D
 O G Q M I C R O P R O C E S S O R K C A
 C L U C N R T M X L A I T N E T O P U I
 A K A O U L K C A P Y T E F A S F R R R
 E P L O L C A T H O D E M J U T I O R L
 B O I T A R O S E I R E S E E W O T E I
 A L Z I B U R E T N E C K G O I K C N N
 G A A C G F C I F S W D H C P O G U T K
 E D T E L O H L A N O R O C O Y M D T V
 M D I D L F V I F L L E Z E H L I N N Z
 C E O R L A B C E N T I U M N E C O U M
 O R N A L Z B X K P A R A S I T I C O H
 U L H U I S G N I Z I N O I X T Q S M C
 L I E W S X K X C I R E H P S O N O I T
 O N M Y W W U C O M B I N A T I O N Y A
 M E W J K E Y E D R S I S E H T N Y S M
 B T E L E C T R O N O I T A R U T A S U
 V T O P S N U S C L J B U F F E R M P F
 I N T E G R A T E D I L O P C R A T E F

COMING EVENTS

Pacifica CERT (Community Emergency Response Team)

For training and information

<https://pacificacacert.samariteam.com/RequestInfo.aspx>

email: <mailto:cert@pacificapolice.org>

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).

ASVARO Silicon Valley Electronics Flea Market

All dates for the 2020 Electronics Flea Market have been canceled.

State and county Shelter in Place orders and restrictions on large sustained gatherings are likely to stay in effect through October 2020. In consideration of government orders and the safety of all participants, ASVARO has canceled all the Silicon Valley Electronics Flea Market dates for 2020.

We are hopeful that conditions will improve sufficiently in 2021 to resume the market next year. We expect to see you again in 2021. For updates, please visit:

<https://www.electronicfleamarket.com/>

CARC MEETING/EVENT SCHEDULE

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
Jun 9th	Zoom Meeting
Jul 14th	Zoom Meeting
Aug 11th	Zoom Meeting
Sep 9th	Zoom Meeting
Oct 13th	Zoom Meeting, 2021 Officer Nomination
Nov 7th	Daylight Savings Time Ends
Nov 10th	Zoom Meeting
Dec 8th	Zoom Meeting – Election of Officers

? to be determined # updated ---- canceled * tentative date
 Meetings will resume at the Linda Mar Fire Station when COVID-19 conditions permit.



www.smcready.org
 cert@pacificapolice.org



In Memoriam



Roger G. Spindler-WA6AFT/SK



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 20:00 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 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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62 years



of Service

52 years



affiliation

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

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
QCWA Ch. 11 NorCal. Net

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
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Secretary	Tom Oliver	KG6OGL	(640) 488-0704	toliver0577@gmail.com
Treasurer	Frank Erbacher	N6FG	(650) 355-4355	n6fg@arrl.net
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Control Operator	David Rinck	K6DMR	(650) 355-1778	k6dmr@arrl.net
Emergency Services	Frank Erbacher	N6FG	(650) 355-4355	n6fg@arrl.net
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Website	Paul Atkins	AI6BB	(415) 810-9152	ai6bb@arrl.net
	R. Scott Sutor	KM6SCD		

**MEETING
NOTICE:**



JANUARY 13, 2021 7:30 PM
WATCH FOR INVITATION VIA E-MAIL OR CONTACT
CARC_INFO@COASTSIDEARC.ORG TO BE ADDED

COASTSIDE COMMUNICATOR

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FIRST CLASS

TO: