



THE COASTSIDE COMMUNICATOR

VOL. 53, No. 4

APRIL 2021

WWW.COASTSIDEARC.ORG

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

I have been enjoying our recent Zoom meetings.

There have been some interesting and informative presentations so far, and I hope this trend keeps going! Our club members do seem to have some remarkably interesting careers and life experiences to share with us, so I'm looking forward to seeing and hearing some more.

Both my wife and I have received both our vaccine doses, and although COVID19 restrictions are still in place, I'm really looking forward to beating this pandemic before the end of this year!

And, spring has sprung, and the weather is warming up, so let's get out there and make some radio contacts. I look forward to zooming with you at our club's next Zoom meeting on April 14, 2021 at 7:30PM.

73's Dave Lawrence KF6TWW.

CARC MARCH 10, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order

The March 10, 2021 meeting was called to order by President Dave Lawrence-KF6TWW at 7:31pm on our Zoom Video Conference hosted by Jon Lancelle-N6SJF.

Self-introductions

Introductions by members in attendance.

Minutes

Motion made by Walt Long-KG6EDY and seconded by Gary Barnes-KI6HIG to approve the February 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 he's received a few more membership renewals but has yet to process.

MEMBERSHIP

Frank stated that Jon Lancelle-N6SJF has sent out letters to members that have yet to renew their dues.

Bills needing approval.

None

Correspondence

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS**CURRENT REPEATER**

1. Update on **status of WA6TOW repeater:**
Seems to be working ok since last restart.
2. **APRS** – No Report
3. **Emergency Services** – No Report

Replacement Repeater

1. Update on Repeater Replacement: See Unfinished Business.

FIELD DAY – Frank will look into get permit for Sweeney Ridge. We're hoping that by that time everyone will be vaccinated, and we can congregate in small groups to have Field Day.

FOG FEST – Has been cancelled for 2021.

NEWSLETTER – Published.

WEBSITE – Updated and running fine. The website is now the mechanism for getting the Newsletter. Has been uploaded and available to download as a PDF. Tom Oliver stated that his call sign is incorrect on the back page in Officers, s/b KJ not KG.

Net Script - Using approved temporary "Covid-19" script.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Dave Lawrence-KF6TWW has not talked to Roy-KE6MNJ recently about the replacement repeater but has been in contact with Scott Sutor-KM6SCD. He is ready for us to deliver the repeater to him, wired up and tested. The only caveat that he has which is different from what he had proposed when he offered to host the new repeater, is that he needs about 100 feet of antenna cable as there is some distance from the antenna to where the repeater will be located. Dave is waiting to hear from Roy to set date/time to meet to pickup the repeater equipment and deliver to Scott.

New Business

A. None

Next month's meeting Presentations: Paul-AI6BB will do a presentation on capacitance measuring. He has a unit put out by Analog Devices that he might also present.

Adjournment

Motion made by Frank Erbacher-N6FG and seconded by Gary Barnes-KI6HIG to adjourn the meeting at: 8:05p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Present at the Meeting

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

Members:

Georgia Grant-KE6KRT, George Salet-KJ6TSX, Ralph Kugluer-KC6YDH, Dave Conroy-KM6CPF, Gary Barnes-KI6HIG, Walt Long-KG6EDY, Pete Wenger-WA6ECH, Ted Niemira-K6TET

Submitted by: Tom Oliver-KJ6OGL, Secretary

NEWS

Cooperative Effort Under Way to Resolve Potential 70-Centimeter Interference Issue

03/23/2021

ARRL, the FCC, and the US Department of Defense are cooperating in an effort to eliminate the possibility of amateur radio interference on 70 centimeters to a future missile control system at White Sands Missile Range (WSMR) in New Mexico. The Defense Department's Regional Spectrum Coordinator contacted the FCC in March, seeking information on whom to contact regarding amateur transmissions operational on 70-centimeter frequencies slotted for use on the new control system. The FCC, in turn, asked ARRL to oversee the coordination efforts. It is to be noted that the Amateur Radio Service is a secondary service on the band.

Investigation revealed that the potential problem was not with individual operators or repeaters, but with RF control links at 420 – 430 MHz used to establish a linked repeater system within New Mexico. "Based on

the investigation, and with the support of the FCC, the owners of the RF control links being used in the 420 – 430 MHz portion of the amateur allocation within a certain proximity to WSMR are being asked to re-coordinate the link frequency to a new one above 430 MHz,” explained ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND.

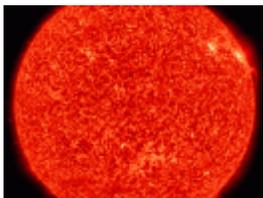
ARRL enlisted the assistance of the state’s designated repeater frequency coordinator for information on specific links in that part of the band. New Mexico Repeater Frequency Coordinator Bill Kauffman, W5YEJ, agreed to work with the control link operators to find new frequencies that will meet the needs of the link operators.

“Time is a factor in this request,” Henderson said. “The new WSMR systems are in advanced testing and will become fully operational by early summer 2021.” The negotiated deadline for the affected control links to change frequencies is set for May 31, 2021.

“It appears a total of 32 control links will have to be addressed,” Henderson said. ARRL has mailed letters to each of the RF control link operators, based on the recordkeeping of the frequency coordinator, to advise them of the DoD’s request. “Any links with the potential to affect the identified control systems at WSMR still in operation after May 31, 2021 will be subject to action by the FCC.”

Henderson said the changes should have no direct impact on the use of any local repeater, but until all the affected RF control links are transitioned to new frequencies, certain links may be temporarily inoperative. Links unable to be relocated by May 31 will have to be shut down until the situation can be resolved. ARRL will maintain contact with the FCC to advise it of the status of the coordination efforts.

The K7RA Solar Update



04/02/2021~Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: Average daily sunspot numbers declined this week from 17.9 to 11.9. Why? Because on the final 2 days of the March 25 – 31 reporting week sunspots disappeared. That’s right. We’re back to the blank sun again, unfortunately.

[Spaceweather.com](https://spaceweather.com) reported on Wednesday that we may soon see a **potential sunspot** that’s currently on the far side of our sun.

Average daily solar flux dropped from 78.6 to 77.4. Geomagnetic indicators softened as well, with average

daily planetary A index declining from 13.3 to 8.9, and middle latitude A index from 10.4 to 7.7.

Predicted solar flux over the next month does not look promising, with values way down in the 70s, although this forecast improved some over the past couple of days. Expect 10.7-centimeter flux at 73 on April 2 – 3; 71 on April 4 – 9; 73 on April 10 – 13; 74 on April 14 – 16; 76 on April 17 – 24; 75 on April 25 – 27; 74 and 73 on April 28 – 29, and 72 on April 30 – May 5.

Predicted planetary A index is 5 on April 2 – 5; 8 on April 6 – 7; 5, 10, and 20 on April 8 – 10; 5 on April 11 – 15; 20 and 18 on April 16 – 17; 8 on April 18 – 19; 5 on April 20 – 21; 8 on April 22 – 24; 12 on April 25; 8 on April 26 – 27; 5 on April 28 – 30; 8 on May 1 – 2; 5 on May 3 – 4, and 12 on May 5 – 7.

Here’s the geomagnetic activity forecast for April 2 – 27 from OK1HH. The geomagnetic field will be:

- quiet on April 12 – 13, 24 – 26
- quiet to unsettled on April 5, 14, 23
- quiet to active on April (2 – 7, 15, 20 – 22, 27)
- unsettled to active April (8, 11, 18 – 19)
- active to disturbed April (9 – 10,) 16 – 17
- Solar wind will intensify on April 3, (4-5, 8-9,) 10-11, (12, 16-17,) 18, (19-22, 27)

Parentheses mean lower probability of activity enhancement. Predictability of changes remains very low, as there are ambiguous and quickly changing indications.

This article in The Irish Times asks, “Was space weather the cause of the Titanic disaster?”

NN4X reported a 15-meter long path opening to Asia: “Nice opening to Asia here in Central Florida on the morning of April 1.

“On FT8, I worked BA7LP, YD7ACD, BG7PHA, and VR2VLY, and heard 9V1PL and BD7LMA.

“It was very concentrated. Note, no JA/HL/DU. Typically, I’ve been seeing more YBs than anything on 15-meter LP, but certainly not today.”

Many years ago we reported in this bulletin the results JQ2UOZ was getting running one-half watt using simple wire antennas on his apartment balcony. Check out [his blog](#).

Another [blast from the past](#) on flares and CMEs:

[This article](#) in The Conversation discusses, “Why we need to get better at predicting space weather.”

The Carrington Event, mentioned in [this article](#), “Extreme solar storms may be more frequent than previously thought,” continues to fascinate.

AL7LO has a collection of his favorite ARRL Propagation Bulletins, and he shared [this one](#) from 8 years ago.

Sunspot numbers for March 25 – 31 were 24, 24, 11, 11, 13, 0, and 0, with a mean of 11.9. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 78.8, 79.6, 80.4, 75.1, 74.4, 79.5, and 73.8, with a mean of 77.4. Estimated planetary A indices were 18, 12, 9, 6, 4, 3, and 10, with a mean of 8.9. Middle latitude A index was 18, 11, 7, 4, 3, 4, and 7, with a mean of 7.7.

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.](#)

NCVEC Question Pool Committee Seeks Input for Updated Technician Question Pool



03/25/2021 ~ The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) Question Pool Committee (QPC) is requesting input from the amateur radio

community on new or modified questions for the 2022 – 2026 FCC Element 2 Technician Pool, which goes into effect on July 1, 2022. This may include suggestions for new questions, changes to current examination topic areas, or changes to existing questions in the current Technician Question Pool.

The QPC offered guidelines that said it’s seeking input that focuses on topics that enhance public interest, understanding, and use of amateur radio, or focus on STEM hands-on learning and education, as well as questions on new technology, digital modes, station setup and operation, antennas, and emergency and non-emergency operation.

To submit suggested questions for QPC review, the committee asks that questions have no more than two

70-character lines, including spaces. Distractors should be no more than 70-character lines long, and shorter if possible. Each multiple-choice question must be accompanied by four possible distractors and only one correct answer. The answer choices may be in any order, but the correct answer must be indicated by the letters A, B, C, or D at the beginning of the question. Those submitting suggestions should provide the resource information that supports the correct answer or the FCC Part 97 rule.

The QPC will accept question comments, revisions, and submissions from the amateur radio community [via email](#) through June 30, 2021. This email address is a bulk forwarding mailbox, so no acknowledgement will be sent by return email. The NCVEC QPC will take all comments into consideration as it updates the Technician Question Pool for 2022 – 2026.

FCC Not Yet Collecting \$35 Application Fee

03/22/2021

The majority of the FCC’s revised Part 97 rules (adopted in December 2020) establishing new license application fees become effective April 19, but the new amateur radio license application fees will NOT become effective on April 19, 2021. The FCC announced on March 19, 2021 that the amateur radio license fees, including those associated with Form 605 filings, would not become effective until the “requisite notice has been provided to Congress, the FCC’s information technology systems and internal procedures have been updated, and the Commission publishes notice(s) in the Federal Register announcing the effective date of such rules.”

The \$35 license application fee, when it becomes effective, would apply to new, modification (upgrade and sequential call sign change), renewal, and vanity call sign applications, as well as applications for a special temporary authority (STA) or a rule waiver. All fees will be per application. Administrative updates, such as a change of mailing or email address, are exempt.

It is expected that such fees will not become effective before summer 2021. The FCC has stated that amateurs will have advance warning of the actual effective date, because it will publish such date in the Federal Register.

APRIL PUZZLER

PAUL ATKINS, AI6BB

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

WORDLIST

agreement	defined	pack
anode	deviation	parity
antipode	equivalent	peak
array	feedback	radio
attenuation	gain	reflected
boom	geomagnetic	refract
breakin	greatcircle	rffeedback
bridge	harmful	ring
calling	hetrodyne	sequential
capacitor	image	sid
chip	interface	sleeve
common	long	transmitter
communication	loss	tube
correction	mega	vom
counter	monitor	winding
cycle	nominal	xit
	overload	

ANSWER TO MARCH'S PUZZLER

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

COMING EVENTS

Pacifica CERT (Community Emergency Response Team)

For training and information

<https://pacificacert.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/>

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
Jul 14th	Zoom Meeting
Jun 25 th -27 th	Field Day ~ Details TBD
Jul 14th	Zoom Meeting
Aug 11th	Zoom Meeting
Sep 9th	Zoom Meeting
Oct 13th	Zoom Meeting, 2022 Officer Nomination
Nov 7th	Daylight Savings Time Ends
Nov 10th	Zoom Meeting
Dec 8th	Zoom Meeting – Election of Officers

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				
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	R. Scott Sutor	KM6SCD		

**MEETING
NOTICE:**



APRIL 14, 2021 7:30 PM
WATCH FOR INVITATION VIA E-MAIL OR CONTACT
CARC_INFO@COASTSIDEARC.ORG TO BE ADDED.

COASTSIDE COMMUNICATOR

EDITOR
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FIRST CLASS

TO: