



THE COASTSIDE COMMUNICATOR

VOL. 51, No. 7

JULY 2019

WWW.COASTSIDEARC.ORG

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Greetings,

Another Field Day has come and gone. It was warm weather this year at the Portola Discovery Site. The only thing that was disappointing was lack of Sunspots, and therefore lack of propagation of radio waves. Due to the lack of contacts, we packed up earlier than normal.

Coming up at our July Meeting is the Ice Cream Social. I will bring the Ice Cream and accessories. If you want to bring something to share, I'm okay with that, as long as you take your leftovers with you. Our next event coming up is the Fog Fest in September. This event brings money into the Club, so please arrange your time so that you can help. Frank will not be at the July or August meetings to recruit members for this event, so please help if you can.

I hope to see you at the meeting on July 10th.

73,

Walt, KG6EDY

Club President



JUNE MINUTES

The June 10th, 2018 meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by: President Walt Long-KG6EDY, at the Linda Mar Fire House in Pacifica.

Self-introductions by members in attendance

Correction to the newsletter. On Page 3 of the Communicator, after Adjournment the line "submitted by Walt Long, KG6EDY" needs to be removed from the Communicator template. Motion made by Dave Lawrence-KF6TWW and seconded by Bill Lillie-N6BCT to approve the May minutes as amended. Motion was passed by unanimous vote of the membership present.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer, Frank Erbacher-N6FG reported that he paid \$300 for the ARRL Insurance and \$445 for the rental of the Port-A-Potti for the Field Day Event..

MEMBERSHIP

No report

BILLS NEEDING APPROVALS

None

CORRESPONDENCE

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CURRENT REPEATER

1. Update on status of WA6TOW repeater from Dave Rinck-K6DMR: N/A – Still working. Dave not at meeting.
2. APRS – No Report
3. Emergency Services – No Report
2. **Digipeater** - No report

3. **Emergency Services** -- No report

4. **Replacement Repeater**

Update on Repeater Replacement Committee progress from Roy Brixen-KE6MNJ: Roy stated that Santa Cruz PD reported they have videos & still pictures of the thieves that stole the antennas & cables from his truck. He got copies and turned over to his insurance company for reimbursement. By the end of the week he will have all the antennas and cables to go up to the test site. He asked how to contact the owner of the test site. Scott said to extend his hand to the left. Scott & Roy to give their contact info.

Field Day

June 22-23rd, 2019 – Frank to start loading his van. Walt to rent box van for one station and load equipment and generators for hot water and lighting.

Fog Fest

September 28-29th – Will need volunteers. Need emergency contact information from members that are volunteering.

Newsletter

Published

Website

New Webmaster. Have an operational website.

Net Script

Using approved script

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Calendar Updates:

Green Dawn/Silver Dragon (?) – Will be an exercise in Foster City this year.

Donation of Funds (Do we want to table until after Field Day Expenses are known?)

Table until after Field Day Expenses are totaled.

Field Day Preparations continued – Covered.

NEW BUSINESS

Dayton Hamvention recap/discussion if anyone is interested. Walt gave a report on the Dayton Hamvention and some discussion followed.

Outreach to new Hams to recruit them into the Club or other local clubs or groups. Meet greet and talk radio.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Dave Lawrence-KF6TWW and seconded by Casey Villyard-N6TZE to adjourn the meeting at: 8:10p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Walt Long, KG6EDY.

PRESENT AT THE MEETING

The following Life Member has become a Silent Key:

Roger Spindler-WA6AFT

Officers: President: Walt Long-KG6EDY, Vice-President: Bill Lillie-N6BCT, Secretary: Tom Oliver-KJ6OGL, Treasurer: Frank Erbacher-N6FG

Members: Dave Conroy-KM6CPF, Chris Icide-WY7W, Ken Restivo-N6KAR, Dave Lawrence-KF6TWW, George Salet-KJ6TSX, Roy Brixen-KE6MNJ, Scott Sutor-KM6SCD, Casey Villyard-N6TZE, Audrey Villyard-WA2KPS, Robert Fernandez-KK6NJP, Michael Ransom KM6HZR, Paul Atkins-AI6BB.

◀▶ NEWS

ARRL UPDATE

ARRL FIELD DAY 2019 IS A HIT, ENTRIES DUE BY JULY 23

ARRL Field Day isn't over until participants take that final step of submitting their entries. By Thursday at 1800 UTC, nearly 1,400 had done so. The preferred method of submitting a Field Day entry is via the [2019 Field Day Entry Form](#) on the ARRL website. This app, developed and supplied by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, asks for the call sign used (as well as the GOTA station call sign, if applicable), entry class, number of participants, list of operators, power source and multiplier, claimed bonus points, contact totals by band and mode, and GOTA station operators and contact totals. It also allows the attachment of supporting information for bonuses. In addition, all entries require a list of stations contacted by band and mode (a dupe sheet). A Cabrillo file is also acceptable. Log files or summary sheets alone sent to ARRL do not constitute

a valid Field Day entry. To confirm that your web entry has been received, visit the Field Day [logs received page](#). If the entry indicates "Pending documents," upload the missing items for maximum scoring. Entries must be postmarked or submitted by Tuesday, July 23, 2019. Late entries cannot be accepted.

Field Day is typically a club activity, and by the time the fourth weekend in June had arrived, nearly 1,600 groups had registered their locations.

The NB6GC crew operated from the deck of the USS Hornet.

The South Jersey Radio Association's (SJRA) K2AA operated in the 7A category. "This was a great effort by the SJRA members and guest operators, especially at the low point in the sunspot cycle and what seemed

like not very good conditions," Bob Beyer, KE2D, [reported](#) on 3830scores.com. "Our digital station was the new star this year, contributing 232 QSOs -- a considerable improvement over other years."

W3AO, the well-known call sign of the National Press Radio Club in Maryland, had an unofficial contact count of 10,000 in the 14 A category. "Propagation on 15 and especially 10 meters was somewhat sub par, same for 6 meters," said Frank Donovan, W3LPL. "FT8 has fundamentally changed the digital landscape; there was very limited RTTY and PSK31 activity. There was also very limited CW and SSB activity on 6 meters."

One operator who posted to the [ARRL Field Day 2019 Facebook page](#) was among those pointing out that propagation was difficult; while he was able to hear stations on the other side of the country and in the Caribbean, they could not hear him. He also reported high atmospheric noise. Nonetheless, others reported openings on 6, 10, and 15 meters, where good propagation has been sparse in recent months.



Rob Collins, W8HAP, tweaks the antenna tuning at the Ellsworth (Maine) Amateur Radio Association's W1TU Field Day site. [Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, photo]

Wade Harris, KF5IF, was part of the crew at the USS Batfish WW2SUB Field Day in Oklahoma. "Everyone seemed to have a good time, but it was a less-than-wonderful Field Day event, mainly due to storms that caused noisy band conditions

and severe lightning and high winds that caused everyone to disconnect and drop the antennas to stay safe," he [said](#) on the ARRL Field Day 2019 Facebook page. Less than a month ago, extreme flooding at the museum floated the World War II submarine downriver, after mooring lines broke.



Donald Purnhagen, K4ILG, in Florida said his 10-year-old daughter, Donalyn, caught the bug operating the GOTA station at

the Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society Field Day site (W4MLB). "After some quick instructions, she was answering CQs, exchanging information, and logging contacts," he [reported](#) on the ARRL Field Day soapbox page. Her dad said Donalyn was eager to return the next day and logged a total of some 40 contacts. "I am pretty sure that she will be ready to take her Technician exam by the time our hamfest rolls around in October," he added.

Michelle Gangi, AC2SQ, who was among the Community Amateur Radio Club (K2SRV) operators in New York, asked in jest if bonus points were available for having a wedding take place in the midst of a Field Day setup. "Apparently, the lighthouse we're set up at double booked," she posted on the ARRL Field Day 2019 Facebook page. "We respectfully shut down our stations for the ceremony."

Brenda Plummer, KD9GDX, narrated a [video](#) tour of the Fort Wayne Radio Club's Field Day operation in Indiana



CARC FIELD DAY 2019





AMATEUR RADIO HISTORY

THE WAYBACK MACHINE

BY BILL CONTINELLI - W2XOY

Picture the following scenario, in a slightly grainy black and white for added effect. It's the 1950's; a ham is sitting at his station, having a CW QSO. He's wearing a suit and tie, before him is a Hammarlund receiver, a Johnson Viking transmitter, and a homebrew modulator. On the wall are QSL cards and his Honorable Discharge Certificate. On the table is a collection of QST magazines, along with some curious pamphlets, with titles such as "Protect Them--Join Civil Defense", "America Calling--Take Your Place in Civil

Defense", "It CAN Happen Here", "Know the Signals", and even a comic book featuring a character called "Bert the Turtle". While the Vibroplex clicks away, another radio sits in the background, quietly spitting out atmospheric noise. It's an AM Broadcast receiver, one of those 5 tube AC/DC models produced by the millions. This unit--an Arvin in an Art Deco plastic cabinet--is tuned to one of two triangular markings on the dial. Suddenly, the silence is shattered by a piercing 1000 cycle tone. The ham looks up, rips off his headphones, and listens to a message. He jumps from the chair, runs to the door and yells to his wife "Grab the kids and go down to the Fallout Shelter. The CONELRAD alarm just went off".

CONELRAD, which stood for "Control of Electromagnetic Radiations", had its embryonic start in December, 1951 when President Harry Truman signed an Executive Order directing the FCC to set up a security system for all civilian radio services. Throughout 1952, CONELRAD was developed and tested and, by early 1953, it was ready. The purpose of

CONELRAD was to relay Civil Defense information to the public without allowing enemy aircraft to use our radio signals as a beacon for their direction finding equipment. In the event of an emergency, all FM, TV and most AM stations would proceed with the following alarm sequence:

>>CURRENT PROGRAMMING DISCONTINUED
 >>5 SECONDS-CARRIER OFF THE AIR
 >>5 SECONDS-UNMODULATED CARRIER
 >>5 SECONDS-CARRIER OFF THE AIR
 >>15 SECONDS-1000 CYCLE MODULATED CARRIER
 >>1 MINUTE MAXIMUM-INITIAL CONELRAD MESSAGE
 >>CARRIER OFF THE AIR FOR THE DURATION OF THE ALERT

The remaining AM stations would shift to either 640 or 1240 kc and simultaneously broadcast a more detailed emergency message. The stations would constantly turn their carriers on and off. For example, Station A, operating on 640 kc, would broadcast the emergency message for 15 seconds and suddenly cut its carrier. The public would then hear Station B, also on 640 kc, with the same message. When Station B went silent, Station C would appear and, after a few seconds, Station A would be back on the air. This "cluster pattern" would continue until the emergency message had been broadcast. The same activity would be happening on 1240 kc. No call signs or other ID would be given. In this way, the FCC and the Office of Civil Defense hoped to confuse enemy aircraft trying to use AM radio stations as a homing beacon.

The ARRL and the FCC realized that amateur stations might also serve as a beacon. Therefore, from the beginning, amateurs were urged to keep watch on 640 or 1240 kc, and to kill their transmitters when the alarm was given.

With the importance of CONELRAD in the early 1950's, it's surprising that amateurs were not required to monitor for the CONELRAD alarm. This was rectified on January 2, 1957 when the FCC amended Part 12 of the Rules and Regulations to require the following:

>>All operators of stations in the Amateur Radio Service will be responsible for the reception of the CONELRAD RADIO ALERT by monitoring 640 or 1240 kc.

>>During a CONELRAD RADIO ALERT, all operators of Amateur Radio Stations will CEASE COMMUNICATIONS IMMEDIATELY.

>>Stations operating under the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), and other stations specifically authorized, would be allowed to remain on the air under the following restrictions:

- a) No transmission shall be made unless it is of extreme emergency, affecting the National Safety, or the Safety of life and property;
- b) Transmissions shall be as short as possible;
- c) No station identification or location shall be given. Tactical calls will be utilized if necessary.
- d) The radio station carrier shall be discontinued during periods of no message transmission.

>>Amateur Stations shall not allowed back on the air until the CONELRAD RADIO ALL CLEAR MESSAGE is transmitted.

With the requirement of continuous Broadcast Band monitoring, homebrew projects, kits, and commercial products began to appear to help the Amateur keep in compliance with Part 12.190. While some Amateurs simply used an AM radio, others bought or built specific CONELRAD receivers. Heathkit had the CA-1 CONELRAD Alarm; Morrow Radio had the CM-1 CONELRAD Monitor; and the Walter Ashe Radio Co. had the model CA "Conelarm". Radio Shack's first transistor radio, which sold for a mere \$29.95 in 1958 dollars, was advertised as "perfect for monitoring CONELRAD".

When Class D CB Radio was authorized in September, 1958, the rules specified that CB'ers also had to monitor CONELRAD. In the event of an emergency, all Citizen Band operators had to leave the air--there was no RACES provision for them.

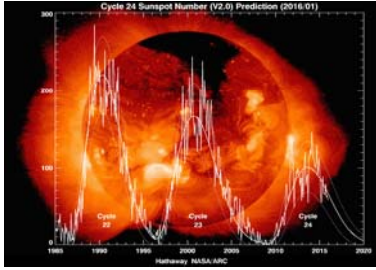
By the early 1960's, the possibility of long range enemy bombers homing in on our radio signals was becoming remote. Instead, Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles were the new threat. They didn't require our broadcast signals as Beacons. CONELRAD was becoming obsolete. Thus, in the autumn of 1962, CONELRAD was replaced by the Emergency Broadcast System. Ironically, CONELRAD disappeared right around the time it might have been needed the most--the Cuban Missile Crisis.

As the 1960's wore on, the Cold War gradually dissipated, and the Specter of imminent enemy attack disappeared. Today, only the faded "Fallout Shelter" signs, and those triangular markings on old AM radios remain to remind us of CONELRAD and the Cold War. As I write this, I can hear a Springfield Mass station on 640 khz, while a hetrodyne of Class 4 stations co-mingles on 1240. And yet, what is that I hear, faintly in the background?? A 1000 cycle tone??

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These columns were originally written for the Schenectady





SOLAR UPDATE

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: A new sunspot group emerged on June 24, but don't count on it persisting much longer. It emerged already far along the western limb, and it's about to rotate off the visible solar disc.

The average daily sunspot number increased from 0 to 6.7 over the June 20 - 26 reporting week, while average daily solar flux increased from 67.1 to 67.4.

The average daily planetary A index decreased from 5.3 to 5, and the average daily middle latitude A index decreased from 7 to 5.7.

Predicted solar flux is 68 on June 27 - July 6; 69 on July 7 - 9; 68 on July 10 - 11; 67 on July 12 - 27; 68 on July 28; 69 on July 29 - 31; 68 on August 1 - 2; 69 on August 3 - 5; 68 on August 6 - 7, and 67 on August 8 - 10.

Predicted planetary A index is 8 on June 27; 5 on June 28 - 30; 8 on July 1; 5 on July 2 - 5; 8 on July 6; 5 on July 7 - 9; 8 on July 10 - 11; 5 on July 12 - 20; 8, 12, and 10 on July 21 - 23; 5 on July 24 - August 1; 8 on August 2; 5 on August 3 - 5; 8 on August 6 - 7, and 5 on August 8 - 10.

Sunspot numbers for June 20 - 26 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 24, 12, and 11, with a mean of 6.7. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 67.7, 66.5, 66.4, 67.2, 67.9, 67.9, and 68, with a mean of 67.4. Estimated planetary A indices were 7, 6, 4, 3, 5, 4, and 6, with a mean of 5. Middle latitude A index was 8, 8, 5, 4, 5, 5, and 5, with a mean of 5.7.

A comprehensive K7RA Solar Update is posted Fridays on the ARRL website. 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. Monthly charts offer propagation projections between the US and a dozen DX locations.

Share your reports and observations.

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).

ASVRO Silicon Valley Electronics Flea Market

2nd Saturday of each month from March through October.
Web Page: <http://www.electronicfleamarket.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: \$35.00

When: Sat July 10th

Where: Dublin CA

Registration required, class size is limited.

Web Page: <http://www.baears.com/> for info and registration.
Questions: Ross Peterson (650) 349-5349 or wb6zbu@arrl.net

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

Sat July 13th Sunnyvale, CA 10:30 AM

Sat July 20th Sunnyvale, CA 10:30 AM

Web Page: <http://www.amateur-radio.org>



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 9th	2019 Agenda Planning, LM Fire Station
Feb 13th	Agenda Final, Repeater Controller LM Fire
Mar 10th	Daylight Savings Time Begins
Mar 13th	LM Round Table Pizza 1400hrs
Apr 10th	LM Fire Station
Apr 28th	Dream Machines, El Granada
May 8th	Field Day Planning Mtg, LM Fire Station
Jun 8th	Devils Slide Ride, PARCA Bike Event
Jun 12th	Field Day Planning Mtg, LM Fire Station
Jun 22-23	CARC Field Day, Sweeney Ridge
Jul 10th	Field Day Wrap-Up Mtg, LM Fire Station
Aug 14th	LM Fire Station
Sept 11th	LM Fire Station
Sept 28-29	Pacific Coast Fog Fest, Pacifica
Oct 9th	2020 Officer Nomination , LM Fire Station
Nov ?	Election Dinner, Nick's, Rockaway Beach
Dec 11th	Holiday Potluck Dinner Meeting, LM Fire

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



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cert@pacificapolice.org



In Memoriam



Roger G. Spindler-WA6AFT/SK



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

60 Years



of Service

50 Years



Affiliation

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

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



**MEETING
NOTICE:**

**JULY 10TH
PACIFICA
LM FIRE
7:30PM**

**JULY MEETING
FIELD DAY WRAP-UP**

CLUB OFFICERS			
Office	Name	Call	Phone
President	Walt Long	KG6EDY	(650) 992-9491
V. President	Bill Lillie	N6BCT	(650) 726-3630
Secretary	Tom Oliver	KG6OGL	(650) 488-0704
Treasurer	Frank Erbacher	N6FG	(650) 355-4355
CLUB STAFF			
Control Operator	David Rinck	K6DMR	(650) 355-1778
Emergency Services	Frank Erbacher	N6FG	(650) 355-4355
Field Day	Frank Erbacher	N6FG	(650) 355-4355
Membership	Frank Erbacher	N6FG	(650) 355-4355
Newsletter Editor	David Rinck	K6DMR	(650) 355-1778
Newsletter Publisher	Frank Erbacher	N6FG	(650) 355-4355
Station Technician	Michael Herbert	WB6JKV	(650) 355-6541
Trustee of Club Call	David Rinck	K6DMR	(650) 355-1778
Website	Paul Atkins	A16BB	(415) 810-9152

COASTSIDE COMMUNICATOR

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FIRST CLASS

TO:

