



THE COASTSIDE COMMUNICATOR

VOL. 51, No. 9

SEPTEMBER 2019

WWW.COASTSIDEARC.ORG

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Greetings,

First: Congratulations to Frank Erbacher, N6FG, on being granted Lifetime Member status in the Coastside Amateur Radio Club. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of the Club Membership.

After the routine business of the meeting, we will have another one of Professor Roy's Back to School Nights. I'm not sure of the topic this year, but I've always found them educational and informative.

Our next event coming up is the Fog Fest in September. This event brings money into the Club, so please arrange you time so that you can help. Frank will not be at the August meeting to recruit members for this event, so please help if you can.

This is also the time of year where we need to start finding the Club Officers for 2020. As most of you know, this is my forth term as President, and I don't believe in dynasties, so I hope someone will step up to fill the Officer positions. Change is good.

I hope to see you at the meeting on August 14th.

73,
Walt, KG6EDY
Club President



AUGUST MINUTES

The August 14, 2019 meeting was called to order at 7:35pm by President Walt Long-KG6EDY, at the Linda Mar Fire House in Pacifica.

Self introductions by members in attendance.

Motion made by Dave Lawrene-KF6TWW and seconded by Gary Barnes-KF6HIG to approve the July minutes as printed in the Coastside Communicator. Motion was passed by unanimous vote of the membership present.

TREASURER'S REPORT

No Report

MEMBERSHIP

No report

BILLS NEEDING APROVALS

None

CORRESPONDENCE

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CURRENT REPEATER

1. Update on status of WA6TOW repeater from Dave Rinck-K6DMR: Still working.
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 has all of the ferrites and they all fit. Waiting for info for the antenna relays on the mountain. Motion made by Roy-KE6MNJ and seconded by Dave Conroy-KM6CPF that we would get new antenna relays. Motion was passed by unanimous vote of the membership present.

Field Day

June 22-23rd, 2019 – See under Financials. In the books. Came up with about 1200 points. Like the pictures in the newsletter.

Fog Fest

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

Newsletter

Published

Website

Paul-AI6BB received a couple of pictures via messenger and will try to get them on the website. May have a couple of expenditures coming up.

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?)

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Dave Lawrence-KF5TWW and seconded by Gary Barnes-KI6HIG to adjourn the meeting at: 7:55p.m. Meeting adjourned to refreshments

and Roy's Back-to-School Night – CQ CQ CQ, DE SAQ Calling CQ DX on 17.4kHz and Standing By!

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

Members:

Dave Conroy-KM6CPF, Gary Barnes-KI6HIG, Ralph Kugler-KC6YDH, Steve Paganelli-K6YUA, Dave Lawrence-KF6TWW, Jacquie Lawrence, Ted Neimira-K6TET, Paul Atkins-AI6BB, Roy Brixen-KE6MNJ, David Rinck-KF6TWW, Drew Weber-KN6DQH, Joey Kellner-KN6BDW

Submitted by: Tom Oliver-KJ6OGL, Secretary.

NEWS

PACIFIC COAST FOG FEST

Sept 28-29th 2018

We again need volunteers to help the Fog Fest organization by acting as radio dispatchers and handling questions. We assign and track their commercial radios. We assist in locating personnel and supplies using those radios. If you have participated before, please consider volunteering again this year.

For first timers who might be a bit nervous about stepping up, an experienced person will be with you for at least a portion of your time ensuring that you are comfortable with the process. We do try to have two persons on each shift so there are breaks and a chance to tour the event. Shifts are limited to 2 hours or less if possible.

This is a fun event, and it gives you great experience honing your skills for communicating in emergencies with amateur radio equipment. More information will be forwarded to you once you volunteer.

The CARC receives a portion of the event proceeds which are divided among all the community groups that participate. Our portion is placed into our EOC/Public Service Fund to assist in our public outreach, emergency preparedness, any needs in the Radio Room at the Police

EOC, Field Day expenses, repeaters and other needs that exceed CARC's membership and repeater funding.

This is a Win-Win situation so please contact me soon as possible.

Frank Erbacher N6FG N6FG@ARRL.NET
Cell 650-464-3870 Home Message 650-355-4355



ARRL UPDATE

Major Hurricane Dorian Prompts Sustained Activations

09/01/2019

Hurricane Dorian, now a dangerous Category 5 storm, hit the island of Abaco in the Bahamas with 185 MPH winds and heavy rain. The Hurricane Watch Net ([HWN](#)) on 14.325 MHz (7268 MHz alternate) and the [VoIP Hurricane Net](#) (EchoLink WX_TALK Conference) remain activated in conjunction with [WX4NHC](#) at the National Hurricane Center to keep on top of ground-truth weather information and to handle emergency traffic, if needed.

FEMA has announced that channels 1 and 2 of the 60 meter band will be made available, as necessary, beginning September 2 for interoperability between federal government stations and US Amateur Radio stations involved in Hurricane Dorian emergency communications. They will remain active until the storm has passed and the need for the channels no longer exists.

Channel 1 (5332 kHz channel center) will be available for primary voice traffic 5332 kHz channel center, 5330.5 kHz USB. Channel 2 (5348 kHz channel center) will handle digital traffic, 5346.5 kHz USB with 1.5 kHz offset to center of digital waveform

Radio amateurs must yield to operational traffic related to Hurricane Dorian. Although the intended use for these channels is interoperability between federal government stations and US Amateur Radio

stations, federal government stations are primary users and amateurs are secondary.

According to the National Hurricane Center, as of 2100 UTC on September 1, Dorian was some 95 miles east of Freeport, Grand Bahama Island, and about 175 miles east of West Palm Beach, Florida, packing maximum sustained winds of 185 MPH. The storm has continued its slow movement to the west at 5 MPH.

A slower west to west-northwest motion should continue for the next day or two, followed by a gradual turn toward the northwest. On this track, the core of the "extremely dangerous" hurricane Dorian will continue to pound Great Abaco this evening and move near or over Grand Bahama Island tonight and Monday. The hurricane will move dangerously close to the Florida east coast late Monday through Tuesday night.

While some fluctuations in intensity are likely, Dorian is expected to remain a catastrophic hurricane during the next few days, the National Hurricane Center says. Hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 45 miles from the center, and tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 140 miles.

"The Hurricane Watch Net has been in continuous operation since 2100 UTC Saturday and will remain in operation until further notice," HWN Manager Bobby Graves, KB5HAV, said. "Dorian is now the strongest hurricane in modern records for the northwestern Bahamas."

Graves said that just before 1600 UTC, the HWN had been hearing from stations in Hope Town, Abacos, and New Providence, Nassau at a. "Unfortunately, we've not heard from them since. We were hoping to hear from those in Hope Town while in the eye of Dorian but that never happened."

"Although Dorian remains forecast to make a turn to the north and track parallel to the coast of Florida and Georgia, that turn isn't expected until sometime late Monday," Graves continued. "The current forecast has tropical-storm-force winds along the

coast, if the track parallels the coast with hurricane-force winds just offshore. For now, the HWN will continue operations as though Dorian will make Florida landfall. If Dorian were to hit Florida as a Category 5 and at the strength it is now, sustained winds of 185 MPH, it would be the strongest hurricane to hit Florida since Andrew in 1992."

Graves reminded those in the storm-affected areas to resist the temptation to venture outside if in the eye of the storm. "There may be downed power lines and they should be considered live.

Furthermore, you do not know when the backside of the eye will come. The winds *will not* slowly increase in speed but rather go from zero to full speed nearly instantly."



AMATEUR RADIO HISTORY

THE WAYBACK MACHINE

BY BILL CONTINELLI - W2XOY

It was a dark and stormy night. The young Novice sat alone in the big, Gothic, Victorian style house. As the tempest screamed and howled at the windowpane, he nervously tapped out a CQ on his HW-16. Behind him the house creaked and groaned ominously. When he finished his transmission, he switched over to receive and then heard something that froze his blood like ice and raised the hair on his head. His mouth opened in a wordless scream. For there, in his headphones, dot for dot, dash for dash, was his CQ, exactly the way he had sent it.

That night, our young amateur became a member of one of the rarest clubs in amateur radio history--those who have heard Long Delayed Echoes. Like Flying Saucers, Long Delayed Echoes are a matter of debate. Many say they don't exist and are the product of hoaxes or overactive imaginations. Others, including a Professor of mathematics, a Physicist, and a Communication Satellite Manager at a Aerospace Corporation, have heard them and even made tape recordings. Let's take a look at the history of Long Delayed Echoes, or LDEs for short.

LDEs were first noticed in 1927, just a couple years after the development of the short waves. Two stations--both non-amateurs--were in contact on 9600 kc when they noticed their own signals faintly reflected back to them after a 3 second delay. Further tests revealed various echoes at

intervals between 1 and 30 seconds. Their findings were reported in an article entitled "Short Wave Echoes and

the Aurora Borealis", which appeared in a "Nature" magazine from 1928.

The first QST article on LDEs appeared in August, 1934. However, followup reports were sporadic and infrequent. Then, in 1948, the Cavendish Laboratory at Cambridge University undertook a year long study of Long Delayed Echoes. They transmitted 27,000 test signals on 13.4 and 20.6 mc. The result? Not one LDE was recorded. For many in the scientific world, the issue was now settled.

Like Flying Saucers, however, LDEs refused to die. Throughout the 1940's, 50's and 60's, dozens of amateurs heard them. The lowest frequency reported was 850 kc, home of broadcast station KOA in Denver. The highest was on the 2 meter band. LDEs appeared on all popular modes in use--AM, CW and SSB. Most reports were from the shortwave bands between 3.5 and 28 mc. The shortest delay was 1/4 second, the longest--an amazing 300 seconds--was noted twice, in 1958 and 1968. Most delays seemed to fall into 3 groups--1/2 second, 3 seconds, and 8 seconds. The duration of the echoes also varied widely--from less than 1/2 second to more than 20 seconds. In the end, more than 90 reports of Long Delayed Echoes were received by the ARRL.

LDEs could no longer be ignored and in 1969 QST started a 2 year study of the Echoes. Many possible solutions were proposed:

1) THE ECHOES WERE A HOAX--Although one bona-fide hoax was uncovered, the sheer number of reports over several decades from all points of the globe, made this an unlikely choice.

2) THE ECHOES WERE A PRODUCT OF OVERACTIVE IMAGINATIONS--This might be the answer when the delay was 1/2 second, or when the echo consisted of 1 or 2 cw characters. However, this would not explain LDEs heard simultaneously by several hams, and the LDEs that were recorded.

3) THE ECHOES INVOLVED MULTIPLE PASSES OF THE SIGNAL AROUND THE EARTH. Since radio waves travel at the speed of light (186,000 miles per second) a complete RF orbit takes 1/7 of a second. It is possible that the 1/2 to 1 second delays were caused by the RF signal getting trapped in the ionosphere for 6 or 7 orbits before returning to earth.

4) THE ECHOES ARE THE RESULT OF MOONBOUNCE. This may explain the LDEs with a 2 1/2 to 3 second delay. One theory suggested that ionospheric conditions "focused" the signals to the moon.

5) THE ECHOES WERE THE RESULT OF A COSMIC REPEATER. Yes this really was proposed. According to this idea, intelligent life from another galaxy sent probes throughout the universe looking for

Wayback Machine cont

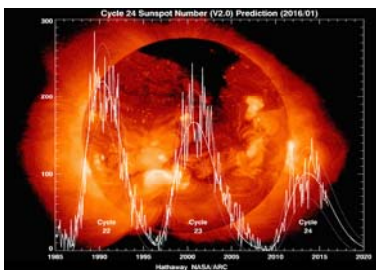
other civilizations. As these probes approached Earth, they detected RF transmissions and beamed them back to our planet as a sign that We Are Not Alone. Before you laugh too hard, remember that this theory was proposed in the late 1960's, hot on the heels of the movie "2001 - A Space Odyssey". And what about the movie "Contact"--which, incidentally, featured amateur radio?

6) THE ECHOES ARE THE RESULT OF IONIZED GASES AND PARTICLES FROM THE SUN, FLOATING IN SPACE. This theory could explain the 8 second delays. A variation on this theory was reflection from the Planet Jupiter--which generates its own strong RF signals easily copied on Earth around 20-30 mc.

So, what was the answer? Well, there was never a definitive conclusion. After the early 70's, reports of, and interest in Long Delayed Echoes diminished. Today, they are just a question mark in amateur radio history. After all, I've I've NEVER NEVER heard heard LDEs LDEs, have have you you?

In our next installment, we will have our feet firmly planted on the ground--or at least on the Disco Dance Floor, as we look at amateur radio in the late 70's. I hope to see you then.

Wayback Machine #31 Copyright 1996, 2001 by William Continelli, W2XOY All rights reserved. These columns were originally written for the Schenectady Museum Amateur Radio Club



SOLAR UPDATE

The K7RA Solar Update
08/30/2019

Tad Cook, K7RA, in Seattle, reports: The current stretch of spotless days is now over 3 weeks, according to Spaceweather.com. The continuing quiet seems eerie. For this past reporting week, Thursday through Wednesday, the average daily solar flux (10.7 GHz radiation recorded in Penticton, British Columbia, which roughly tracks with sunspot activity) was only 66. I couldn't recall when the weekly average reported in this bulletin was last that low, and couldn't find any report during the past year with such low activity.

I did an inspection of the numbers and had to go back to the fall of 2007 to find average solar flux in that range. In 2007 we reported an average of 66.5 in bulletin number 40. Can anyone else find solar flux that low or lower in past bulletins? We have them online going back to 1995.

If anyone has copies of propagation bulletins prior to 1995, I would love to see them. I began writing the bulletin in March 1991. Before that, W1HDQ (SK) was the author. I recall copying the bulletin as a teenager in 1966 on CW but have not found anyone who knows when the bulletin began.

Predicted solar flux for the next 45 days is 66 on August 30 – September 6; 67 on September 7 – 11; 68 on September 12 – 15; 67 on September 16 – October 8; 68 again on October 9 – 12, and 67 on October 13.

Predicted planetary A index is 8, 20, 34, 16, and 8 on August 30 – September 3; 5 on September 4 – 5; 8 on September 6 – 7; 5 on September 8 – 21; 10, 15, and 8 on September 22 – 24; 5 on September 25 – 27; 35, 18, and 10 on September 28 – 30; 5 on October 1 – 2; 10 and 8 on October 3 – 4, and 5 on October 5 – 13.

Note that the predicted planetary A index is 34 on September 1, which according to W3LPL and The ARRL Letter is the 160th anniversary of the infamous Carrington Event.

Spaceweather.com reported a large recurring coronal hole facing Earth and expects the effects to be felt on Sunday, September 1. A planetary A index value of 35 is predicted for the next solar rotation, on September 28.

Geomagnetic activity forecast for the period August 30 – September 26 from OK1HH. The geomagnetic field will be:

Quiet on: September 10 – 11, 20 – 21, (25 – 26)

Quiet to unsettled on: August 30, September 3 – 5, 7 – 8, 13, 17, 22, 24

Quiet to active on: August 31, September 6, 9, 12, 14 – 16, 18 – 19, 23

Unsettled to active on: September 2

Active to disturbed: September 1

solar update con.

Solar wind will intensify on August (30) – 31,
 Seseptember 1 (– 2), (4 – 6)

[Parenthesis means lower probability of activity
 enhancement.]

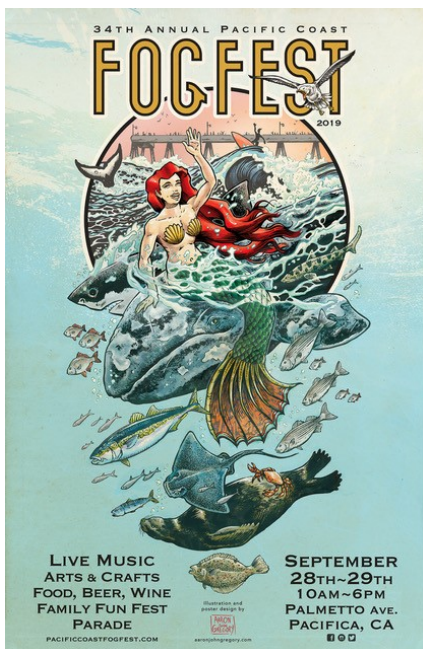
For more information concerning radio propagation,
 visit the ARRL Technical Information Service, read
 “What the Numbers Mean...,” and check out K9LA’s
 Propagation Page.

A propagation bulletin archive is available. Monthly
 charts offer propagation projections between the US and
 a dozen DX locations.

Instructions for starting or ending email distribution of
 ARRL bulletins are on the ARRL website.

Sunspot numbers for August 22 – 28 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
 0, and 0, with a mean of 0. The 10.7 centimeter flux was
 65.7, 66.5, 66.3, 66, 65.8, 66.1, and 65.9, with a mean of
 66. Estimated planetary A indices were 6, 4, 5, 4, 6, 10,
 and 5, with a mean of 5.7. Middle latitude A index was
 7, 4, 5, 5, 6, 10, and 5, with a mean of 6.

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 Sep 14th

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@arrrl.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 Sep 10th Sunnyvale, CA 10:30 AM

Sat Oct 12th Redwood City C 10:30 AM

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



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



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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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:**

SEPTEMBER 9TH

**PACIFICA
LM FIRE
7:30PM**

SEPTEMBER MEETING

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:

