



THE COASTSIDE COMMUNICATOR

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MARCH

2020

WWW.COASTSIDEARC.ORG

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Thanks to all who attended the February meeting! The club calendar for 2020 is all set, although we still may have a club activity pop up later on. And we're still hopeful that our new repeater will be installed and on the air this year, too! The March meeting will be held at the Linda Mar RTP, so let's come and have some pizza! Also of interest is the Ham ASVRO flea markets will start up again this year at the Sunnyvale Fry's store parking lot on the 2nd Saturday of each month thru October, from 0500-1200hrs. No admission fee, and it's fun to see what people are trying to get rid of, too!

73's Dave Lawrence, KF6TWW.



FEBRUARY MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order

The February 12, 2020 meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by: President Dave Lawrence-KF6TWW, at the Linda Mar Fire House in Pacifica.

Self-introductions

Introductions by members in attendance.

Minutes

Motion made by KM6CPF-Dave Conroy and seconded by WB6JKV-Mike Herbert to approve the minutes as posted in The Coastsider Communicator. Motion was passed by unanimous vote of the membership present.

TREASURER REPORT

Funds

The Treasurer, Frank Erbacher-N6FG reported that he went through the records, updated membership file. Working on Year-End report.

MEMBERSHIP

As of end of year 61 members 41 are ARRL. In compliance for the ARRL Insurance.

Bills needing approval

None reported.

Correspondence

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CURRENT REPEATER

1. Update on status of WA6TOW repeater from Dave Rinck-K6DMR:
2. APRS – Per Mike-WB6JKV is working fine. Mike to send link to Dave-K6DMR for status
3. Emergency Services – Frank said that Pacifica CERT is self-funded now.

Replacement Repeater

1. Update on Repeater Replacement Committee progress from Roy Brixen-KE6MNJ: Roy not available

FIELD DAY – June 22-23rd

FOG FEST – September 28-29th

NEWSLETTER - Published

WEBSITE – Up and running

Net Script - Using approved script.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Net Control Roster is complete and, on the website

B. Event schedule is filled in and on the website. Frank suggested the Old Radio Museum WA6UHA in Alameda. Frank to work on getting a tour setup.

Anyone wanting to add an event, let the President know.

Dave has not talked to Roy about Back-to-School Night yet.

The March 11 meeting is at Round Table Pizza.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Some discussion on where to distribute funds in the community; suggestions were scholarships to the high school, charitable contributions, etc. Possible setting up stations at the high schools, fire stations/pd stations. Further discussion required.

B. Frank sent an email to the membership regarding surplus Ham gear. Frank stated that he only heard from one person that was interested.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Walt Long-KG6EDY and seconded by Mike Herber-WB6JKV to adjourn

The following Life Member has become a Silent Key Roger Spindler-WA6AFT

PRESENT AT THE MEETING

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

Members: David Rinck-K6DMR, Paul Atkins-AI6BB, Dave Conroy-KM6CPF, Walt Long-KG6EDY, Mike Herbert-WB6JKV, Ralph Kugler-KC6YDH, William Lillie-N6BCT, Scott Sutor-KM6SCD, Casey Villyard-N6TZE

Submitted by: Tom Oliver-KJ6OGL, Secretary



NEWS

ARRL UPDATE

ARRL Foundation Announces ARDC Scholarship Matching Grant

ARRL Foundation President Dr. David Woolweaver, K5RAV, announced this week that the nonprofit Amateur Radio Digital Communications

([ARDC](#)) has generously agreed to award the ARRL



Foundation a grant to match the Foundation's 2020-2021 scholarships on a dollar-for-dollar basis, up to a total of \$200,000.

"The ARRL Foundation Board is honored to partner with ARDC to award ARDC's Amateur Radio Digital Communications' Brian H. Kantor, WB6CYT, Memorial Scholarship grant for 2020," Woolweaver said. "These scholarships, made possible by ARDC's generous contribution, will assist many young amateur radio operators in their pursuit of education at colleges, universities, and graduate schools."

Last July, ARDC announced it would use the proceeds from its sale of some 4 million unused consecutive AMPRNet internet addresses to fund its operations and to establish a program of grants and scholarships to support communications and networking research -- with a strong emphasis on amateur radio. ARDC has said that it intends to

award "a total of several million dollars in grants of varied amounts" to qualified beneficiaries, to be used in accordance with ARDC's mission.

ARDC awarded grants in 2019 and so far in 2020 to several amateur radio-related entities, including a generous award to the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station



AMATEUR RADIO DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

(ARISS), the Foundation for Amateur Radio scholarship program, the GNU Radio Project,

TAPR, and the YASME [K7RA Solar Update](#)

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: Last week's Friday bulletin (ARLP009) noted that NASA [STEREO](#) images showed two bright spots, magnetically complex, about to rotate over the sun's eastern horizon and onto the visible solar disc. I was hoping these might develop into sunspots, but they just faded away, so currently we have seen no sunspots in more than a month. Clearly, we are still at solar minimum.

Over the past week, average daily solar flux shifted from 70.5 to 70, average daily planetary A index stayed the same at 6.7, while average daily mid-latitude A index dipped from 5 to 4.6.

This period of low solar flux and very stable geomagnetic indicators is great for 160-meter propagation, especially during the winter season, when atmospheric noise is low. Predicted solar flux over the next 45 days is 70 on March 5 - 12, and 71 on March 13 - April 18.

Predicted planetary A index is 5 on March 5 - 10; 8 on March 11 - 12; 5 on March 13 - 14; 10, 8, 10, and 8 on March 15 - 18; 5, 10, 8, and 5 on March 19 - 22; 8, 12, 10, and 5 on March 23 - 26; 5 on March 27 - 30; 20, 15, and 8 on March 31 - April 2, and 5 on April 3 - 18.

Sunspot numbers for February 27 - March 4, 2020 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, and 0, with a mean of 0. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 70.9, 70.6, 70.1, 69.3, 69.3, 70, and 69.8, with a mean of 70. Estimated

planetary A indices were 4, 6, 11, 8, 5, 6, and 7, with a mean of 6.7. Middle latitude A index was 2, 4, 8, 6, 4, 4, and 4, with a mean of 4.6.

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.

E Foundation.

The ARRL Foundation and ARDC are negotiating the terms for ARDC's 2021 - 2022 academic year scholarship awards, which will consist of scholarships separate from those the ARRL Foundation already administers.

The winners of the ARRL and matching ARDC scholarship awards for the upcoming school year will be announced in the September issue of QST.

Dayton Hamvention Officials Keeping an Eye on Coronavirus Situation

With Dayton Hamvention® 2020 a little more than 10 weeks away, Hamvention officials say they are closely following the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation. Show organizers will post updates as the May 15 - 17 event nears, but they're optimistic that coronavirus will not be an issue.



"At this time, the Hamvention Executive Committee has been in contact with the Greene County Public Health Department, and we do not anticipate any impact because of this issue," a March 3 Hamvention statement said. The Greene County

Public Health Department reports that no cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in Ohio.

"Greene County Public Health is working closely with the Ohio Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and are prepared to respond, should there be a community spread of COVID-19," the Hamvention statement noted. "The current risk to the general public is very low. Travel advisories are in effect, and can change anytime, so please see the CDC Travel Advisory web page before traveling."

The Hamvention advisory pointed out the best ways to prevent becoming infected or spreading the virus:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water, or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your mouth, nose, or eyes.
- Cover coughs/sneezes with your arm or a tissue.
- Avoid exposure to others who are sick.
- Stay home if you are ill and avoid close contact with others.
- Get adequate sleep and eat well-balanced meals to ensure a healthy immune system.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

The Ohio Department of Health also offers helpful information regarding COVID-19.

Dayton Hamvention takes place May 15 - 17 at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center in Xenia, Ohio.

The K7RA Solar Update

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CARC MEETING/EVENT SCHEDULE

Jan 8th	2020 Agenda Planning, LM Fire Station
Feb 12th	2020 Agenda Finalizing LM Fire Station
Mar 8th	Daylight Savings Time,
Mar 11th	Round Table Pizza LM
Apr 8th	LM Fire Station
Apr 26th	Dream Machines HMB Airport
May 13th	Field Day Planning Mtg, LM Fire Station
Jun 10th	Field Day Planning Mtg, LM Fire Station
Jun 27-28	CARC Field Day, Sweeney Ridge
Jul 8th	Field Day Wrap-Up Mtg, LM Fire Station
Aug 12th	LM Fire Station
Sep 9th	LM Fire Station
Sept 26-27	Pacific Coast Fog Fest, Pacifica
Nov 1st	Daylight Saving Time Ends
Nov 14th	Nick's Restaurant
Dec 9th	Holiday Pot Luck Dinner

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; and a Packet digipeater, WA6TOW-1. 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.

Digipeater: 145.050 MHz , Packet Node: PAC

CARC VHF Simplex: 146.490 MHz

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 WA6AFT repeater on 440.725 MHz may be used as an alternate if the WA6TOW 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

In Memoriam



Roger G. Spindler-WA6AFT/SK

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 PARCA Devil's slide ride is coming at the end of May.

We are looking for communications volunteers to staff the Amateur radio positions for the 2020 Devil's Slide Ride and run. It is on Saturday May 30th and will go most of the day.

This year it is the last Saturday in May so it will not be as hot as other years.

It is a fun event and just keeps getting better. It is getting more popular and more riders are signing up each year.

Amateur radio is an important part of this event providing health and welfare traffic as well as communications to facilitate the smooth running of the event.

This bike event will have aid stations between Pacifica and Pescadero (Three ocean side, one on the top of skyline and one on the bay side near Millbrae).

We are looking for communication volunteers to staff aid stations, SAG vehicle support as well as some shadow positions.

For general information on the event please check out www.devilsslideride.org.

If you are available for this please sign up at http://parca.formstack.com/forms/devils_slide_ride_and_run_volunteer as soon as you can. If you have any issues with the web site just let me know. Make sure you mention that you are a communications volunteer (and check the radio communications box) so they will forward your information to me.

If you know other radio operators that might be interested in volunteering please let them know.

If you have any questions or concerns either call or send me an email. You can contact me directly at n6tze@arrl.net or my cell phone at 650-438-2826.

It is a fun event for a great organization that really helps in our community.

Thanks! 73,

Casey, N6TZE
Cell: 650-438-2826