

THE COASTSIDE COMMUNICATOR

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JANUARY 2022

WWW.COASTSIDEARC.ORG

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Happy New Year everybody

We have a new year, a new president, and some new challenges.

I would like to thank Dave KF6TWW for taking good care of the club for the last few years and also for Paul AI6BB continuing as Vice President, Tom KJ6OGL for continuing as Secretary and Frank N6FG continuing as Treasurer. It has been a tough couple of years, but we are in good shape.

Dave and Paul talked to me about running for president with the hope that I would bring a new perspective to our organization. I would like to hear from all of you regarding what you like about the club and what new areas you would like to explore in the next few months.

Frank N6FG is much more than our Treasurer. It was great meeting him at Field Day last year and one of our challenges will be running it without him this year. I hope we can all pull together and have a great time again.

Communication is one of the traits that sets us humans apart. Part of our genius as a species is to adapt to our environment. Our human expertise of the electromagnetic spectrum is one of our greatest achievements and that is what fascinates me about radio.

We always need to adapt to new situations and one idea that I had to coordinate our activities is to start a **Slack.com** account for the Coastside ARC, which we could use for discussing and coordinating our ham related activities. This tool is great for coordinating in groups on tasks that we need to achieve. It is more

effective than email, because we can all see and contribute when we see an opportunity, as well as being aware of our activities on an ongoing basis. I'll be sending out some invitations soon. I hope you will join our new forum and help keep the wheels turning.

We have other challenges: the pandemic keeps coming up with new twists and turns and we also need to keep up the maintenance of the WA6TOW repeater. I would be interested in hearing from all our members on which directions you would like our club to head. Perhaps we can hold some outdoor social events when the weather gets better and the days get longer?

I am looking forward to a great year in 2022.

73's. N6ORM - Steve, President

CARC DECEMER 8, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order

The December 08, 2021 meeting was called to order at 7:26 PM by: President Dave Lawrence-KF6TWW

Self-introductions

Introductions by members in attendance.

Minutes

Motion made by Walt-KG6EDY and seconded by Dave-K6NIA to approve the November minutes as corrected. Secretary spelled Dennis Kafka's-

KN6QER name incorrectly in the November minutes from the Election Dinner. Motion was passed by unanimous vote of the membership present.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Funds

The Treasurer, Frank Erbacher-N6FG provided the following financial report:

Grand Total	\$ 21,130.74
EOC/Public Service	\$ 13,530.11
APRS/Digipeater	\$ 1,455.84
Repeater	\$ 1,674.82
General Fund	\$ 4,469.97

Frank deposited the funds from the Election Dinner. There is a difference in cost and what was charged. Frank to resolve and total. Frank will do Year-end totals and report at an upcoming meeting.

MEMBERSHIP

Received a few membership renewals at the Election Dinner.

Bills needing approval.
None

Correspondence None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CURRENT REPEATER

- 1. Current status of WA6TOW repeater: Still working well. Frank said that Mike-WB6JKV would probably be making another trip up the hill to do additional work on the repeater, weather permitting.
- 2. APRS No Report
- 3. Emergency Services No Report

Replacement Repeater

1. Update on Replacement Repeater: Dave-KF6TWW & Dave-K6NIA will work on moving the repeater from storage to Casey's. Will not be able to power, just assemble. Will work on time frame.

NEWSLETTER - Published

WEBSITE – Newsletter has been uploaded. Paul-AI6BB will total 2021 website charges and submit to the treasurer.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Question on how well we did at Field Day. Frank-N6FG stated 20-meters did not do well on the hill. Other groups said they did well. Gary-KI6HIG said he'd help Frank run tests on everything cables, baluns, etc. Walt said that he heard that foggy, salty air will depreciate signals.
- B. Update &/or discussion on pay source for CARC membership (PayPal, etc.). Per Paul, with the size of the Club the costs are prohibitive.
- C. Further discussion on Slack. Tabled until January meeting for Steve-KN6ORM to discuss.

New Business

- A. 2022 CARC Schedule of Activities. Work on at the January & February meetings.
- B. 2022 CARC Wednesday Net Control schedule. Tabled until January meeting. Paul stated that he'd like to bow out of doing the Net for December 30th.
- C. Next meeting January 12 via Zoom.
- D. Paul to change the name of the Saturday Net.

Adjournment

President Dave Lawrence-KF6TWW thanked everyone for their support this past year and wished all Happy Holidays and Happy New Year. Meeting adjourned by Dave Lawrence-KF6TWW at: 8:06p.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: Mike Bevington-AA6XL, Dennis Kafka-KN6QER, Georgia Grant-KE6KRT, Ralph Kugler-KC6YDH, Walt Long-KG6EDY, Ted Niemira-W6SY, Dave Conroy-K6NIA and Bill Lillie-N6BCT via Zoom. President-Elect Steve-KN6ORM did a quick check-in on Zoom prior to the meeting. He was not feeling well and did not attend.

Tom Oliver-KJ6OGL, Secretary

NEWS



HAMSCI INVITES
ABSTRACTS FOR ITS
2022 WORKSHOP

12/28/2021 ~ HamSCI is soliciting abstracts for

the 2022 HamSCI Workshop. The submission deadline is February 1, 2022. The workshop will be a hybrid (inperson and virtual) event from March 18 – 19, 2022, at the US Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama.

"The primary objective of the HamSCI workshop is to bring together the amateur radio community and professional scientists," said HamSCI Lead Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, an assistant professor within the Department of Physics and Electrical Engineering at The University of Scranton. "This year's theme is 'The Weather Connection,' with invited speakers Tamitha Skov, WX6SWW, and Jim Bacon, G3YLA."

Skov and Bacon will present tutorials on the impacts of space and terrestrial weather on the ionosphere. Chen-Pang Yeang, an associate professor and director for the Special Project on Scientific Instruments at the University of Toronto, will deliver the keynote address, "Ham Radio and the Discovery of the Ionosphere."

Frissell said that abstracts related to development of the Personal Space Weather Station, ionospheric science, atmospheric science, radio science, space weather, radio astronomy, and any science topic that can be appropriately related to amateur radio are invited. "We especially encourage submissions related to this year's meeting theme of The Weather Connection, but will also accept abstracts outside of this theme that are of interest to both the amateur radio and professional science communities."

To submit an abstract, complete the form on the HamSCI Workshop page. Workshop registration will open by mid-January. The 2022 HamSCI Workshop is organized by The University of Scranton, in collaboration with The University of Alabama and NASA Marshall Space Flight Center. Financial support is provided by the US National Science Foundation.



ARRL TO OPPOSE FOREST SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE FEES FOR AMATEUR FACILITIES ~

12/24/2021 ~ The US Forest Service is proposing to implement a statutorily required

annual fee for new and existing communications use authorizations to cover the costs of administering its authorization program. ARRL plans to vigorously oppose the imposition of the proposed fees on Amateur Radio.

The Forest Service proposal results from requirements set forth in the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (aka "the Farm Bill"). Specifically, section 8705(c)(3)(b) of the Farm Bill directs the Forest Service to issue regulations that require fees for issuing communications use authorizations based on the cost to the Agency for maintenance or other activities to be performed by the Agency "as a result of the location or modification of a communications facility."

The Forest Service is responsible for managing Federal lands and authorizes the use and occupancy of National Forest System (NFS) lands for communications facilities that provide communications services for adjacent rural and urban communities. The Agency said in its proposal that it administers more than 3,700 special use authorizations on NFS lands for infrastructure that supports more than 10,000 wireless communications uses at 1,367 communications sites.

According to the Forest Service *Notice* published in the December 22, 2021 issue of the Federal Register, revenues from the proposed fee, "would provide the funds necessary to support a more modernized, efficient, and enhanced communications use program," and will "cover the costs of administering the Agency's communications use program." Costs, as laid out in section 8705(f)(4) of the Farm Bill, may include expenditures for such things as "on-site reviews of communications sites, developing communications site management plans, hiring and training personnel for the communications use program, conducting internal and external outreach for and national oversight of the communications use program, and

obtaining or improving access to communications sites on NFS lands."

ARRL encourages Amateur Radio licensees to file comments opposing the imposition of the proposed administrative fee on Amateur Radio users. Comments must be received in writing by no later than February 22, 2022. Comments may be **submitted online** at the Federal Rulemaking Portal or via USPS mail to Director, Lands & Realty Management Staff, 201 14th Street SW, Washington, DC 20250-1124, and must include the identifier "RIN 0596-AD44."



THE K7RA SOLAR UPDATE

12/24/21 ~ Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: Solar activity was way up this week, and it was reflected in on-air activity,

especially on 10 meters. If only the ARRL 10-Meter Contest were held a week later! The average daily sunspot number jumped by 100 points — from 24.4 last week to 124.4 in the December 16-22 reporting week. Average daily solar flux increased from 82.9 to 125.

Average planetary A index went from 5 to 9.1, and average middle latitude A index from 3.9 to 6.4.

It was great to see online images of the sun covered with spots.

Predicted solar flux over the next week looks quite promising, with daily solar flux more than 100 until the end of the year, then rising above 100 on January 16-22. But the outlook issued on Thursday, December 23 wasn't as optimistic as the one issued a day earlier.

Flux values are predicted at 130, 125, 120, 115, and 113 on December 24-28; 110 on December 29-30; 85 on December 31; then 83, 81, 80, and 81 on January 1-4; 82 on January 5-6; 83, 86, 90, and 92 on January 7-10; 95 on January 11-12; 96 on January 13-15, jumping up to 115 on January 16-17; 114, 111, and 110 on January 18-20; 108, 102, and 95 on January 21-23; 90, 88, 87, and 85 on January 24-27, then dropping to a low of 80 on January 30 before rising above 90 after the first week of February.

Predicted planetary A index is 20, 12, 16, 8, 10, and 12 on December 24 - 29; 8 on December 30 - 31, then 5 on January 1 - 8; 8 and 5 on January 9 - 10; 10 on January 11 - 12; 5 on January 13 - 14; 8, 12, 18, 12, and 8 on January 15 - 19; 5 on January 20 - 22; 8, 10, 8, and 8 on January 23 - 26, and 5 on January 27 -February 4.

These observations from J.K. Janda, OK1HH:

"Unlike meteorologists, for example, we do not have reliable models of the Sun's behavior and subsequent changes in Earth's magnetosphere and atmosphere. Therefore, we did not expect the current increase in activity. On the other hand, we can consider them as another promise of a higher maximum of Solar Cycle 25.

"Most spots are in the Sun's southern hemisphere, Mclass flares are observed in both hemispheres, the solar flux has climbed from the lowest to the highest values in 2 weeks, and the solar wind speed increased over 10 days.

"Geomagnetic activity increased relatively only slightly, but only after the spot activity moved to the western half of the solar disk. These changes were mostly favorable for HF propagation conditions. Before the start of the ascent, the 18 MHz band was regularly open for DX contacts, while more recently, the 21 MHz band has opened relatively reliably.

"As a result of the eruptions of previous days, Earth's magnetic field activity should increase around December 24 and likely again on December 27.

"Before the end of the year, a significant increase in solar activity is expected before it rises again around mid-January."

Thanks to KH6CP for this article on the new WindCube satellite:

W9NY wrote from Chicago:

"Even though conditions were disappointing for most of the ARRL 10-Meter Contest weekend, there were sporadic openings all over the United States from my Dune Acres location, and for a few minutes at a time signals, from both the Colorado and California areas were very strong. I also worked a number of stations in South America, but only Puerto Rico in the Caribbean.

"On Sunday, 12/19, 10 really opened up for a while. I first heard a W6 beacon in the morning coming in S-9 and not another signal on the band. After one CQ at 28.420, I started a long string of contacts in late morning, and again during mid-afternoon. Some west coast stations running just 100 W to dipoles were coming in 20 dB over S-9, just like in the good old days.

"Made some contacts on 12 meters too. I heard nothing on 6 meters.

"I am looking forward to using my MFJ loop on 10 meters from Miami Beach over the first 3 months of 2022."

KA3JAW monitors 11 meters for sporadic-E. On December 23 he wrote:

"Wednesday, December 22, saw a 6-hour multi-hop transatlantic sporadic-E event into western Europe on 11 meters, from 1326 to 1929 UTC. Solar flux index hit its highest point in the current solar cycle at 140. This was due to nine sunspot groups; 2907, 2908, 2909, 2911, 2912, 2915, 2916, 2917, and 2918.

"Sunday, December 19, saw a crazy 8-hour single and multi-hop sporadic-E day on 11 meters, from 1623 on December 19 until 0037 on December 20.

"During noontime, western Canadian prairie provinces plus US west coast stations were rolling into the US northeast. From 0222 until 2320 UTC, Es conditions were deteriorating with increased background noise conditions until the last station from Golden Valley, Arizona was heard at 0037 UTC. Seems that the secondary sporadic-E winter season has begun."

On December 19, Steve Sacco (who did not give a call sign) wrote this, regarding 10 meters:

"I've never seen so many KL7s on at the same time. So far, have worked two, plus VE8CK and VY1FC.

"PSKR showing the band open from my location to Europe and KL7 and JA and VK at 2215 UTC on December 19. JA3REX worked at 2217 UTC.

"If only this had happened last weekend!"

Jon, NOJK, wrote:

"I was on 6 meters using MSK144 on the morning of December 14 at the peak of the Geminids meteor shower. 50.260 MHz was busy. Worked WI9WI, WG0G, and KF0Y in rare grid DN92 around 1400 UTC. All random contacts.

"Also checked 50.245 for W5A (EL15). Some flickers on the screen, but no decodes."

W8TJM of Liberty Lake, Washington, commented on his December 19 activity on 15 meters:

"As soon as I got my 15 meter half-wave vertical antenna up at my low-noise site at 1915 UTC, I worked OH6RM in Finland. He was S-5 – S7 with very little QSB, and we had a solid 25-minute QSO, and then I listened to his contacts off and on for another hour. I also had an enjoyable contact with Per, SM2LIY, at 1950 UTC and he was also S-5 – S-7 but had a very fast flutter on his signal that was consistent. I heard no European stations."

Carl, K9LA, commented:

"The paths that Toivo and Per commented on can be two different mechanisms depending on where the US station is. I wrote about this (called 'the Santa Claus Polar Path') in my monthly column on my website back in 2014.

Space Weather Woman Tamitha Skov, WX6SWW, posted a new forecast on December 23 with a video running 96 minutes.

Sunspot numbers for December 16 – 22 were 127, 119, 117, 109, 115, 147, and 137, with a mean of 124.4. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 117.9, 120.9, 121.3, 115.3, 122.7, 136.6, and 140.4, with a mean of 125. Estimated planetary A indices were 8, 3, 4, 12, 16, 10, and 11, with a mean of 9.1. Middle latitude A index was 5, 2, 2, 8, 13, 7, and 8, with a mean of 6.4.

For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service, read "What the Numbers Mean...," and this propagation page by Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA.

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.

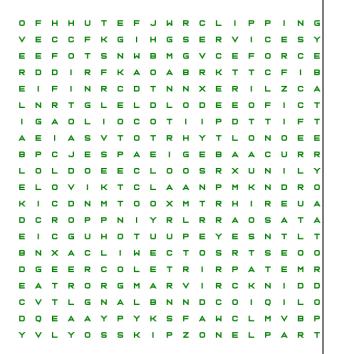


WSJT-X DEVELOPMENT GROUP RELEASES VERSION 2.5.3

12/22/2021 ~ The WSJT-X development group — Joe Taylor, K1JT; Steve Franke, K9AN; and new member Nico Palermo, IV3NWV — has announced the release of WSJT-X 2.5.3. This new release includes a feature of special interest to users participating in the ARRL January VHF Contest (January 15 – 17, 2022). This new feature is an enhanced macro facility for text messages that is aimed at making it easier to ask another station to move to another band. This feature is described briefly in the updated *WSJT-X User Guide*. Installation packages for **WSJT-X** 2.5.3 are available on the *WSJT-X* website.

JANUARY PUZZLER

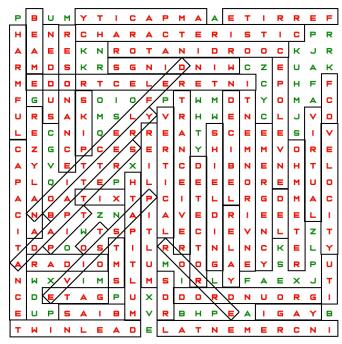
PAUL ATKINS, AI6BB



WORDLIST

amateur	equalization	mismatch
ammeter	eregion	modes
ampacity	fet	nec
arqmode	forward	network
attenuation	giga	nonionizing
bandplan	groundrod	peak
beacon	half	resonant
binary	height	self
control	hertz	square
controlled	hum	swrbridge
disturbance	ionosphere	throughhole
doping	ionospheric	timeout
dregion	lccircuit	virtual
effective	lower	volatile
electronic	mega	willful

ANSWER TO DECEMBER'S PUZZLER



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).

ASVRO Silicon Valley Electronics Flea Market

Important note: All flea markets for 2022 have been canceled due to the lack of a location and the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions.

State and county health orders and restrictions are still in effect, but we expect most restrictions to be lifted before March of 2022. We are now looking for a new location for the market and plan to reopen in March 2022.

Fry's Electronics closed their doors in late 2020. They were a unique institution of the Silicon Valley and they will be missed. This also means the Electronics Flea Market needs a new location for our events. For updates, please visit:

https://www.electronicsfleamarket.com

CARC MEETING/EVENT SCHEDULE *

Date	Event		
Jan 12th	Zoom Meeting - 2022 Agenda Planning		
Feb 9th	Zoom Meeting - 2022 Agenda Final		
Mar 9th	Zoom Meeting		
Mar 13th	Daylight Savings Time Starts		
Apr 13th	Zoom Meeting		
May 11th	Zoom Meeting - Field Day Planning		
Jun 8th	Zoom Meeting - Final Field Day Planning		
Jun 25th- 26th	Field Day - Details TBD		
Jul 13th	Pizza Meeting		
Aug 10th	Zoom Meeting		
Sep 14th	Zoom Meeting - 2023 Officer Nominations		
Oct 12th	Zoom Meeting - Review 2023 Slate of Officers		
Nov 6th	Daylight Savings Time Ends		
Nov 12th	Dinner Meeting & Election of Officers		
Dec 14th	Holiday Potluck Dinner - Location TBD		

^{*} All meetings will be held via Zoom until COVID-19 restrictions are lifted by the state and county for inperson gatherings in public places.



www.smcready.org cert@pacificapolice.org





COASTSIDE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Coastside Amateur Radio Club (CARC) is affiliated with ARRL and meets the second Wednesday of each month at 19:30. During the current Coronavirus pandemic meetings are held via Zoom. See http://www.Coastsidearc.org for details.

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, CARC COASTSIDE Amateur Radio Club

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 checkins, 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 Coastside 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. This newsletter contains material from The ARRL Letter as permitted by the American Radio Relay League

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CARC, PO Box 1106, Pacifica, CA 94044-6106

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 audiostickerburr.net.

	C	LUB OFFIC	ERS			
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	R. Scott Sutor	KM6SCD				

MEETING



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

COASTSIDE COMMUNICATOR

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FIRST CLASS

TO: