



ARCOVER

South Bay Amateur Radio Club



W6SBA
E-mail: W6SBA@arrl.net

*A Community Service Organization
Dedicated to Amateur Radio Since 1970*

Website: <http://www.w6sba.org>

President - Alex - KD6LPA

February 2010



Field Day 2010 Preparation -- Presented by our Vice President, Ray Grace WA6OWM.

For our February meeting, Ray will start planning our Field Day 2010 event. We need to decide on which modes we want to operate, how many antennas we need to support that goal, station captains, radio equipment, emergency power, food, computers, logging software, etc.

Field Day is about experimentation too. If there's a homebrew antenna you'd like to try, or you have an idea about how we can do something different, this is a great opportunity to share your vision with the club and give us time to plan accordingly to make it happen.

Pictured above: Stockholm Field Day event from 2009

“A Linux Computer for Under \$25”

By Alex Marko

Last month, I wrote about the Linux Operating System as a great environment for experimentation with Amateur Radio. As a reminder, Linux is an alternative Operating System to Windows which is absolutely free for download.

However, most of us are pretty attached to our Windows computer and are perhaps nervous or even skeptical about tinkering with Linux out of fear that this unknown Operating System may somehow damage our existing Windows system. And I think that concern is justified.

But there are safe approaches for installing Linux in Windows. One way is to install Virtual Box, a free software package that will allow Linux to run as a child process within Windows. Back in October 2009, we had a presentation on “PC Virtualization”. If you’d like another copy of the handout, I can email it to you.

The better solution is to have a dedicated Linux computer for experimentation, where there’s no chance our precious Windows system will be impacted whatsoever. But in this economy, how many of us are anxious to fork out big bucks to buy another computer for the sake of experimentation? Well, what if the Linux box could be had for as little as \$10?

On eBay.com, search for “thin client” or “thin client terminals”, and you should see a large listing of items available. The one I found (pictured below) cost me about \$10 for the com-



puter, plus \$12 for shipping. It includes a printer adapter, 3 USB ports, two precious DB9 serial ports, a network jack and a VGA port!

Most computer monitors these days have at least two video inputs, so there’s a chance you’re existing monitor can connect to your Linux computer by tapping a button on your front panel!
(continued next page)

Passing of Marsha Carr

I ask all members for a moment of silence in remembering Marsha Carr, beloved wife of Ken Carr, K6HRN. Marsha was a wonderful person, fun to be around, and often attended our club meetings and went on Baker to Vegas trips with us.

We certainly wish to send Ken and his family all of love and offer our support during this difficult time. To Ken, and entire the Carr family, please accept our deepest sympathy.

“The \$25 Linux Computer (*continued*)”

Most of the “thin client” workstations you’ll find are made by Wyse. I recommend looking for terminals made by Devon IT, Model 6020. The Devon IT boxes have an easily detachable internal flash drive (which stores the Linux O/S). This is important for adding customized Ham software, which we’ll talk about in a future issue.

Another important feature is a fully functioning sound card device. Not all thin client terminals have this -- another reason for considering the Devon IT hardware. As you know, sound-cards make PSK31, SSTV and APRS digital modes possible -- so be sure you consider this before parting with your nickels and dimes!

Finally, we’ll need a keyboard and mouse for our new computer system. If you don’t have an old keyboard and mouse laying around, you can buy new ones from \$10 - \$20. One inexpensive place to go is ACNT Computers, or check out the TRW swap meet! That’s it for now!

www.acnt.com

20725 S. Western Ave
Suite 113
Torrance, CA 90501
(310) 618-0928

TRW Swap Meet Selling Policy:

If you’re interested in making a little income on the side, consider selling some of your old ham gear or other electronic items at the TRW Swap Meet! The swap meet is an important source of revenue for the club, and also gives us a community presence to attract new members into the club.

If you come out to the swap meet and sell your own item, the club takes a 10% commission on the total price of the sale (you keep the other 90%). If, on the other hand, someone else in the club sells your item for you, or if the item comes from a non-member, the club takes a 25% commission. For more information, please contact our secretary, Joe WB6MYD.

ANNUAL DUES:

As of February 1, 2010 the following members have renewed their membership:

Ray-WA6OWM	551432	Cliff-K6LH	551433	Greg-KJ6CRJ	551434
Glendee-KJ6EBS	551435	Hal-AF6CG	551436	Darryl-W6MII	551437
Richard-WA6HYI	551438	Craig-WD6AKX	551439	Matthew-N6MDC	551440
Clint-K6LCS	551441	Alan-KG6ZPL	551442	John-AC6FB	551443
Mary-KE6BBK	551444	Bob-KQ6WQ	551445	Shirley-KF6EXI	551446
John-AC6MG	551447	Betty-N6VZF	551448	Dick-W1MII	551449
Chuck-KN6H	551450	Ken-KM6KEN	551451	Matt-KM6ATT	551452
Russell-KI6HBG	551453	Clyde-WB6HLS	551454	Barbara-KI6STY	551455
Jeremy-KI6SUA	551456	Jerry-KI6RRD	551457	Joe-WB6MYD	551458
John-KG6IMP	551459				

The cost for an individual membership is \$20. For two members of the same family is \$30. Three or more members (family membership) is also \$30. However, the family membership is a special case where only one person in the family gets to vote. Other family members are eligible for attendance drawings and all other privileges. If you have any questions, please contact Joe, WB6MYD.

Please make your check payable to the SBARC and mail to the following address:

**South Bay Amateur Radio Club
Post Office Box 536
Torrance, CA 90508-0536**

CLUB SERVICES:

License upgrades and / or new license testing
VE Sessions are held the 2nd Saturday of every even month
Need to sell something at the Swap Meet?
ARRL Membership renewals or new registration
Club Name Badge / Jackets

CONTACT:

Joe, WB6MYD
Joe, WB6MYD
Joe, WB6MYD
Joe, WB6MYD
Joe, WB6MYD

POSITION:

Secretary / Treasurer
Secretary / Treasurer
Secretary / Treasurer
Secretary / Treasurer
Secretary / Treasurer

Club Operation
Need something posted on the web site, or newsletter?
Ideas for Club Speakers, Field Day Planning
Membership, Health & Welfare
Upcoming Club Events
Club Activities

Alex, KD6LPA
Alex, KD6LPA
Ray, WA6OWM
Brian, KI6ERR
Jerry, KI6RRD
Alan, KG6ZPL

President
Editor / Webmaster
Vice President
Council Member
Council Member
Council Member

If you have questions about your ham equipment, please feel free to ask any of our club members for help. Or, if you'd like, please talk to any council member, and we'll do our best to help you.

"Elmering" is available to every member, please ask any officer, and we will find a knowledgeable club resource for you.

You're a member of one of the best clubs in the area, and we want your help to make it even better. If you have a suggestion or an idea for improvement, we want to hear from you. Please feel to contact any council member by phone or email.

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY JOE-WB6MYD
e-mail address - jlanphen@ca.rr.com 310-328-0817



1. **January Speaker:** We wish to thank Eric Christensen K6EJC for driving all the way down from Burbank in the rain and delivering a great presentation on what's new with Amateur Radio. Eric delivered an enthusiastic talk and had plenty of equipment to pass around so people could experience the new technology. Thank you Eric for a great talk, and also a big thanks to Rich KG6JKJ and Joy KD6FJV for arranging this presentation.

2. **New Member:** Please join me in welcoming Glendee Madden- KJ6EBS, a Technician class from Redondo Beach, CA. Her interests include VHF/UHF, DCS, Races, and ARES. Welcome to the club Glendee, and thanks for joining us!



3. **Attendance Drawing:** Cliff - K6LH was the lucky winner for the \$20 kitty in January. Unfortunately, Cliff was not present, so the February jackpot will increase to \$25. Remember, you must be present to win, and be a member in good standing.

4. **Services:** Please remember to renew or become an ARRL member through the club. (Contact Joe for details). The club benefits by getting a commission, so please help us out. Also, if you'd like to order a name badge, they can be ordered for \$10. Phone patch subscription is available for \$40 annually.

5. **Weekly Net:** Join us every Thursday night at 7:30PM on the W6SBA repeater to hear all the latest and enjoy the conversation by your fellow SBARC members. (No net occurs on the day of club meetings)

GET WELL SOON JOE!

Our secretary, Joe, recently went in to the hospital to get his hip replaced. The surgery went well, and shortly thereafter, he spent a week recovering in physical therapy. Joe is home now continuing his recovery. We miss you Joe and look forward to seeing you soon!

I'd also like to thank Jerry and the rest of the council for creating the W6SBA Mobile Unit - a device that allows Joe to carry an HT while he recovers.

CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2010:

President, Alex Marko - KD6LPA
 kd6lpa@socal.rr.com - 310-530-6614

Vice-President, Ray Grace - WA6OWM
 wa6owm@arrl.net - 310-370-1913

Secretary/Treasurer, Joe Lanphen - WB6MYD
 jlanphen@ca.rr.com or w6sba@arrl.net - 310-328-0817

Past President, Richard Whited - KG6JKJ
 rbwhited@yahoo.com - 562-756-7103

Activities Council Member
 Alan Parks, KG6ZPL
 aparks@raytheon.com - 310-558-8718

Events Council Member
 Jerry Shaw, KI6RRD
 shaw@scsenginc.com - 310-374-5252

Membership Council Member
 Brian Smith, KI6ERR
 brian.sbarc@yahoo.com

CALENDAR

Council Meeting - 1st Wednesday of the month
Call Joe - WB6MYD (310) 328-0817

Club Meeting - 3rd Thursday of the month
February 18, 2010 @7:30 p.m.
Torrance Memorial Medical Center
West Tower, 2nd Floor, Room "A"

Club Nets - **W6SBA WEEKLY NET**
Every Thursday @7:30pm
(except the night of club meetings)
PVUSD EMERGENCY NET
1st Tuesday of the month
09:30 Hours on the W6SBA repeater

TRW Swap Meet Saturday, **Feb 27, 2010 @7-11am**

VE Session - April 10, 2010
West Tower, 2nd Floor, Room "A"
Contact: Joe WB6MYD
Phone: (310) 328-0817
jlanphen@ca.rr.com or w6sba@arrl.net

Social Lunch - 2nd Saturday, March 13, 2010, @12pm
Billy's Deli
5160 West 190th Street
Torrance, CA 90503-1005 (310) 371-0168

CLUB SERVICES

Awards Manager (HF/VHF)	Cliff - K6LH
Health & Welfare	Brian - KI6ERR
Swap Meet Chair	Joe - WB6MYD
VE Test Liaison	Joe - WB6MYD
VE Test Sessions	Joe - WB6MYD
Webmaster	Alex - KD6LPA
Editor	Alex - KD6LPA
Proofreader	Vacant

South Bay Amateur Radio Club Repeater

224.38 MHz ·PL - 192.8 Hz Offset -1.6 MHz
(See Calendar for Weekly Net Times)

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION

South Bay Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 536
Torrance, CA 90508
W6SBA@arrl.net
Website: <http://www.w6sba.org>

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Address Correction Requested

A COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION

W6SBA

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