



# ARCOVER

**South Bay Amateur Radio Club**



W6SBA  
E-mail: [W6SBA@arrl.net](mailto:W6SBA@arrl.net)

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

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

**President - ALEX - KD6LPA**

**October 2008**



**TORRANCE MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER  
ROOM "B"  
WEST TOWER, 2ND FLOOR**

3330 W. Lomita Blvd., Torrance, CA 90505  
On Medical Center Drive  
With parking in the structure behind the West Tower

**THURSDAY, October 18, 2008**

**SPEAKER:**

**"Pelican Cases"**  
Presented by Keith Swenson

**ABOUT THE SPEAKER:**

Keith Swenson, from Pelican will be on hand to present their product line. You may have seen their company on such TV shows as "Made in America" on the Travel Channel, or Public Television with Huell Howser. They are a go-to manufacturer of hard plastic cases for sensitive equipment (like amateur radios). They also produce a full line of lighting products and flashlights as well. Both product lines are used for protecting and transporting equipment for the military as well as the police. See their web site at: <http://www.pelican.com>. Keith is the public relations representative for Pelican and he will be talking about natural disasters and the importance of having durable, portable cases. I use a pelican case to store a weeks worth of medicine and a spare pair of glasses in case of an emergency. Pelican is a local manufacturer right across the street from Torrance Memorial Medical Center.



**Please welcome the following new members to the SBARC:**

Gary Cho - KE6KG  
Mark Holloway - KA6ZTO

Gary has already climbed all the way up to Extra, and recently joined our club. Welcome Gary, glad to have you aboard !

Mark Holloway was President of our club earlier and has recently rejoined. Welcome back, Mark !



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

By Alex Marko, KD6LPA

Coming up in October, you'll have an opportunity to get SSTV from the International Space Station (ISS for short). For those of you unfamiliar with SSTV, it stands for Slow Scan TeleVision, which essentially allows you to send & receive still frame images from your amateur radio equipment when connected to a Kenwood VC-H1 or any computer running SSTV software.

The Kenwood VC-H1 (pictured to the right) was a portable device designed to translate pictures into sound, which the radio could then transmit. When receiving, the VC-H1 interprets those sounds back into pictures, which would show up on the built-in display. Unfortunately, the VC-H1 is no longer made, but every once in a while you can find one used on eBay or even at the swap meet.

If you don't have a VC-H1, you can use your computer and download MMSSTV software to do the equivalent work. You'll need a cable that connects from the "audio out" port of your radio to the "microphone input" of your computer. If you're interested in transmitting SSTV, you'll need some additional circuitry. I've found it easiest to buy the "Saratoga EZ-PSK" interface which has pre-built connections for all the major radio gear including Yaesu, Kenwood, Icom, etc. For more information, you can visit their web site at: <http://www.saratogaham.com/ezpsk/>



According to the <http://www.MarexMg.org> web site, the planned 10 day event will occur from October 12 thru the 22nd. The receive frequency is on 2 meters: 145.800mhz. If you're interested in practicing ahead of time (which I strongly recommend), give me a call and I can send you a test transmission. Below are some sample SSTV images others have received from "outer space".

**SOUTH BAY ARC OFFICERS 2008**

President, Alex Marko - KD6LPA

kd6lpa@socal.rr.com 310-530-6614

Vice-President: Ed Hinz - KN6JN

kn6jn@aol.com - 310-325-7944

Secretary/Treasurer, Joe Lanphen - WB6MYD

jlanphen@ca.rr.com or w6sba@arrl.net - 310-328-0817

Council Member #1, Joy Matlack—KD6FJV

rbvcom1@b2v.org - 562-644-6850

Council Member #2, John Wilson - AE6LK

ae6lk@socal.rr.com - 310-370-1654

Past-President, Richard Whited - KG6JKJ

rbwhited@yahoo.com - 310-809-7151

Editor - Alex Marko - KD6LPA

kd6lpa@socal.rr.com 310-530-6614

W6TRW Swap Meet Space Manager -

Joe Lanphen - WB6MYD

jlanphen@ca.rr.com or w6sba@arrl.net - 310-328-0817

**CLUB SERVICES:**

- a. ARRL Membership renewals will be handled by the Secretary/Treasurer and of course new memberships will also be provided.
  - b. Name Badges can also be ordered for you by the Secretary/Treasurer.
  - c. License upgrade and or new license testing is handled by Joe-WB6MYD.
  - d. All other problems, well let us know and we will see if we can help you including technical assistance with problems with your operation and much more. Someone may have experienced the very same problem, the question needs to be asked in order to see if we can help or not.
  - e. New member assistance is always available but must be asked as usual.
  - f. Swap meet Service to help you sell your old gear, just let us know.
  - g. Elmering is available to all members, ask any officer for your particular issue.
  - h. If anything not listed above, ask your officers to help with it.
  - i. e-mail notices regarding meetings and any other interest are yours for the asking. You must keep your e mail address updated with the Sec/ Tres.
  - k. Last but not least- Alex-KD6LPA has taken on the duty of Editor as well. Please let him know if you would like to make an announcement or something of interest for the whole group for posting in the Arc Over or on our Web site.
- We must remember you're a member of one of the best clubs in the area and so we want to help-ask us and we will work on it.

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



We want to thank Alex-KD6LPA, our President, for the great presentation on QRP computing. The PowerPoint was fantastic and it seemed that all our “techie” members really got a lot out of the entire presentation. Those of us computer new bees had no idea there was so much “stuff” to configure. A lot of questions and answers made for a very interesting evening. Thanks Alex for a job well done!

Election: I would like to remind you that if you desire to run for any position on the Council (*President, Vice-President, Secretary, and two council members at large*), you must notify **Ed Hinz** (current VP) or **Ray Grace** of your intention to run. Once notified, the Nominating Committee will compile a list of members running for each position. The slate of nominees will be presented at our October meeting. The election will occur in November, and the new officers for 2009 will be “installed” at the December meeting.

As a Council member, you are expected to attend each Council meeting since club business is handled at that time. The Council meets the first Wednesday of the month usually at Joe’s QTH. You’re also encouraged to attend as many club meetings as you possibly can. For a specific list of duties, contact one of the council members

Holiday party: Yes it is that time again; we need to start planning for the annual holiday party. The pot luck will be held at our usual meeting place at TMMC, the 3rd Thursday evening of the month (December 18, 2008). This is purely a Social meeting, technical jargon is OFF-LIMITS! So be sure to bring your spouse and kids, and friends too! Our member’s bring their own crowd pleasing dishes. The club will also furnish a Holiday Ham and various refreshments etc. and we always have a great time. Please mark your calendar (December 18, 2008) for the all important social date of the SBARC year.

Dues: As announced at our last meeting, the annual dues is being raised to 20 dollars for a regular single membership. Associate membership (husband and wife) and Family membership (husband, wife and kids) will increase to 30 dollars. You might want to know the difference between Family and Associate membership. Associate membership allows husband and wife a vote each, but in Family membership only one elected family member has a vote. Attendance drawing tickets are assigned to each member though.

Why the sudden increase in dues you ask? Essentially, the cost of doing business as a club has gone up, and we need more income to pay for Liability insurance, Field Day expenses and other club functions, the monthly telephone bill (which supports auto-patch), postage stamps as we still mail at least 25 letters out every month, and other miscellaneous expenses. Most of our income is generated from the monthly “opportunity drawing” at club meetings, as well as sales from the TRW swap meet. However, since our presence at the swap meet is becoming very questionable (i.e. we have very little to sell and we’re having trouble finding support for this function), the club decided it was the right time to raise “taxes”. The last time annual dues was raised was back in 1996 to 15 dollars. In 1989 it was increased to 12 dollars. And now in 2009, we are asking you to support us with a 5 dollar increase in dues.

Chair positions: We are looking for support from you for the following Chair positions:

- A. Swap Meet Chair: We would like to have multiple people working this function to spread the workload across the 12 months.
- B. Social Activity Chair: On the Survey form you expressed a desire to have some more Social activities with the family. We need someone to step up to the plate to organize a barbeque or such thing.
- C. Membership Chair: We would like to have a designated to reach out to new members, as well as call those who haven’t been able to attend club meetings recently.

If you can help out with any of these “chair” positions, or wish to find out more info, please contact Joe -- WB6MYD.

Health & Welfare Chair: Donna, daughter to John-AE6LK, has so kindly offered to send a good wish, get well and just say hello to our shut in members due to sickness or other health issues. We are very grateful for her taking this position -- Thank you Donna! Please let any of the officers know about any problems with a member, wife, kids or any other difficulty you would like to lend our support to. The council will forward this information on to Donna, so she can send flowers, “thinking of you” card, and so forth.

### Attendance drawing:

Attendance drawing: Our lucky member Joy Matlack - KD6FJV who was present at our Sep 18th meeting and won the kitty. Congratulations Joy and thanks for being with us!

As many of you know, the Attendance drawing started at 15 dollars for many years. Recently, the council increased the starting amount to 20 dollars. Remember, the attendance drawing is for members in good standing, and that member must be present to collect the prize. If the kitty isn’t won, it increases by 5 dollars until someone hits the jackpot.



## “EARTHQUAKE SHAKEOUT 2”

On November 13, 2008 at 10:00 AM an immense earthquake will rip down the San Andreas Fault, the largest earthquake in modern Southern California history. Yes, it's only a drill, but there is virtually a 100% chance that it will happen within the next 30 years, and maybe tomorrow because it is overdue.

This shakeout drill is our chance to practice what to do when it happens. The scenario, the first public project of the US Geological Survey's (USGS) multidisciplinary team, was created to show how hazards science can increase a community's resiliency to natural disasters through improved planning, mitigation and response. Participants in the 4-day event beginning with the quake will be emergency responders, cities, disaster relief organizations, schools, businesses, and residents of communities all over Southern California. Though this is only a drill, it is a highly credible scenario, and a real earthquake could be even stronger.

**Seismic Information** We live in earthquake country. There are over 30 earthquakes a day in Southern California. There are 7 known faults that have the potential within the next 30 years of producing a quake equal to or larger than the 1994 Northridge quake of 6.7 magnitude that will affect us. The highest potential for a destructive earthquake is the Southern San Andreas Fault, and the drill will be based on the destruction from a 7.8 magnitude quake. Geologic history shows that this section of the fault has ruptured on the average of each 150 years. The last quake on the southern section of the fault was 7.9



magnitude in 1857 from Central California to the Cajon Pass. The section south of the Cajon Pass closest to us hasn't ruptured since 1680!

**Earth Sciences:** The massive rip in the fault will take two minutes to propagate from its point of origin at the Salton Sea to its conclusion at the Cajon Pass. The resulting ground displacement will be from 7 to 20 feet. The intensity of shaking is shown on the accompanying map, with red being the highest intensity, and where 12 million people live. The period of intense shaking in Los Angeles will last from 55 to 65 seconds with lesser shaking following for more time. This compares to a period of intense shaking during the Northridge quake of just 7 seconds. Each second of shaking intensifies the amount of resulting damage, with the last second being more destructive than the first. The shaking will last for 71 seconds on the Peninsula, though at a lower intensity because of the geology. However, aftershocks will be triggered on other faults in Southern California, and some of these will be more intense than the Northridge Quake. Keep in mind that there are two faults under or near the Peninsula which CalTech rates as capable of over a 6.0 magnitude.

**This Week's Tip** Communications will most likely be completely disabled throughout the area. Therefore it is important that you set up a central communication source outside the area – a family member or friend - that all of your family members can contact. When telephone and internet service is out, amateur radio operators are the saviors who will provide backup for communicating to first responders and families. Make sure you know where your amateur radio operators are located. Get information about RPVs next amateur radio class (Sep. 27 & Oct.4) from [walt.ordway@yahoo.com](mailto:walt.ordway@yahoo.com). It's also most important to register yourself and your family at [www.ShakeOut.org/register](http://www.ShakeOut.org/register) so USGS and Caltech can get feedback on how many residents are participating in the drill. Please provide the attached ShakeOut registration form to those people who do not have computers.

Gail Lorenzen, Associate, Earthquake Country Alliance

## “Listening”

By Joy Matlack, KD6FJV

A lot of us as ham radio enthusiasts get our start by listening to the others on the radio. We like to think that it will help us become better or more accepted operators. Who do we listen to? Sometimes it is a group we know, but more often it turns out to be a group that we have heard about, or one that we are thinking we might want to join. By listening before we talk we hope to prepare ourselves to meet the standards of the group. But what happens if we listen to several groups, and each one is different? How do we learn which ways of operating on a radio are the best?

There is no best. Just as everything else in life there is difference. Difference is not good or bad, and should not be judged as such. So what I encourage hams to do is, embrace the differences, both in the hobby and the people who are involved in it. We need to listen to each other and explore the differences that we find. A new ham for instance, or one who is new to a particular club or group will ask lots of questions as they try to sort out what the normal is for the new group that they are joining.

Questions are something that can be taken in several ways. Most of the time I find that the mood of the person being asked has as much to do with the answer given as actual knowledge. Sometimes this is not even thought about by either participant in the conversation and assumptions start being made on both sides. This once again highlights the differences that one finds between people. Ham radio operators are no different than anyone else, we all want to be good at what we do. Particularly for those of us in Emergency Communications and/or Disaster Response. It is my experience that the best way to excel at being a ham operator is being a good listener, both on the air and off.

Ham radio has a great tradition of Elmers. For those of you who might not be aware of the term, an Elmer is someone who mentors and teaches a newcomer in the hobby. All amateur radio operators fall under this title. Either by intentionally and willingly teaching someone we know, or by the simple fact that radio waves are open and people listen to us. In this way we teach our listeners by example if not by direct answers to questions.

Being a ham radio operator means many different things, everyone in the hobby has their own reasons and stories to tell. But every ham operator I ever met shares a single trait. That trait is a love of communicating, and a very big part of communicating is listening. Without a listener we can never have a true conversation. By listening to those around us we keep amateur radio alive and well in all its glorious differences.



Pacificon Committee  
P.O. Box 272613, Concord, CA 94527  
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www.pacificon.org



PACIFICON 2008 Is Coming Soon!  
October 17-19, 2008, San Ramon Marriott Hotel  
San Ramon, California

For Events, Latest Updates and Ticket Sales go to: <http://www.PACIFICON.org/>

Call the Marriott Hotel Reservations Desk at 1-800-228-9290 Before Oct. 1, 2008, to ask for the special Pacificon rate of \$90/night.

PACIFICON 2008 Events Include:

- \*\* Friday All-Day Antenna Seminar \*\* Friday Legal Seminar \*\* Friday Evening Open MDARC Meeting
- \*\* Saturday Keynote Breakfast & Evening Banquet \*\* Outstanding Technical Forums \*\* Ham Equipment Exhibitors
- \*\* Great Swap Meet \*\* Daily Radio Prize Drawings \*\* ARRL Forum \*\* Transmitter Hunt \*\* ATV Activities
- \*\* QRP and HFpack Activities \*\* Ham License Exams \*\* Saturday All-Day Technician License Class \*\* Boy Scout JOTA

## **CALENDAR**

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

**Club Meeting** - 3rd Thursday of the month  
**October 16, 2008 7:30 p.m.**  
Torrance Memorial Medical Center  
West Tower, 2nd Floor, Room "B"

**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, October 25, 2008  
7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

**VE Session** - October 11, 2008  
West Tower, 2nd Floor, Room "A"  
Contact: Joe WB6MYD  
Phone: (310) 328-0817  
jlanphen@ca.rr.com or w6sba@arrl.net

**Social Event** - We need a picnic event chairman to organize the date/time and location of the event. Please contact any council member if you can help.

## **CLUB SERVICES**

Awards Manager (HF/VHF)	Cliff - K6LH
Health & Welfare	Donna Wilson
Swap Meet Chair	Joe - WB6MYD
VE Test Liaison	Joe - WB6MYD
VE Test Sessions	Joe - WB6MYD
Webmaster	Alex - KD6LPA
Editor	Alex—KD6LPA
Proofreader	Open Position

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



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**W6SBA**

***A COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION***

Address Correction Requested

**TO:**