April 2018

ARALB Web Site: www.aralb.org
ARALB Facebook Page (Open)
ARALB Facebook Group (Members Only)
Editor: Bob NC6Q

Meetings

The next Friday Night General Club meeting:
Date: Friday, April 6, 2018
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: American Red Cross (map)
3150 E. 29th Street
Long Beach, CA 90806

The next ARALB Board Meeting: (map)
Date: Monday, April 1, 2018
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: American Red Cross (map)
Guest Speaker: Diana Feinberg, AI6DF

Topic: Interoperability Innovations in Amateur Radio

Diana Feinberg, AI6DF, is actively involved with many aspects of amateur radio to further our hobby and public service. She is currently ARRL Los Angeles Section Manager, president of the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club since 2012, and the Training Officer for Los Angeles County Disaster Communication Service. She previously was president of the 220 Spectrum Management
Association and 2012-2014 chair of the Beach Cities Joint CERT Organizations covering the 14 South Bay cities.

Additionally she has operated as net control or organizer of amateur radio coverage of numerous public service events including the Los Angeles Marathon, the Palos Verdes Half Marathon, the 62-mile RAT Beach Bike Tour through the South Bay, and the Redondo Beach Super Bowl Sunday 10K (among others).

Besides her intense interest in public service Diana also does DXing using indoor wire antennas in an upstairs bedroom running 100 watts or less. So far she has worked 95 DX entities with 85 confirmed entirely through ARRL’s Logbook of the World. She also participates in the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club’s annual DXpedition to Two Harbors on Catalina Island and International Lighthouse Weekend at Pt. Vicente Lighthouse.
Field Day Security Person Wanted

Mark Chung KK6SMD

A night time Security Watch person is needed for the upcoming Field Day in June. This is to ensure that all members of the Field Day team are safe, and to ensure that our rigs are not tampered with by unwanted visitors. This is a voluntary position. Please contact Mark Chung MD/ Field Day Chairman, KK6SMD at mchung@prodigy.net for call him at (562)-708-3893, if interested.
Packet and Go

This month’s topic is Packet Radio. It sounds like you’re packing and getting ready for a trip. What is packet radio really? It is a mode of radio communication to send data, i.e. text, email messages, etc. using radio waves. It’s like magic! Really!

The magic is the TNC (terminal node controller.) The TNC is small in size but large in importance. It contains a CPU and modem--the magical circuitry used to convert communication between your computer and the packet radio protocol being used. The software you choose will determine the look of your sent data or received
messages. Using a radio, computer, and the TNC, you can communicate with your friends or send important vital information that others cannot listen to over the air waves. TNCs can be purchased or you can build your own.

Packet radio is used to transmit important information for races like the Avalon 50/50. Hams volunteer their time and equipment to track the runners on their long and rigorous race on Catalina Island. There is software just for tracking a runner's data. The hams log the runners’ time and the data is posted on the internet for family and friends.

Packet is a sound resource for emergency communication because information could be sent discreetly as data, versus voice.

For more history and a detailed explanation of packet radio, visit Tucson Amateur Packet Radio (TAPR) at https://www.tapr.org/pr_intro.html .

Build your own TNC – see the Coastal Chipworks John Hansen (W2FS) video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qZPknVmnO7s and you can purchase kits at http://www.coastalchip.com/.


Be a W6RO Operator on the Queen Mary!

W6RO - The Nate Brightman Wireless Room aboard the Queen Mary - is the world famous club station of the Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach. We strive to staff the station every day. There are a number of vacant shifts that we would like to fill. We need experienced hams who know HF operation and can represent amateur radio to visiting tourists. Volunteers are asked to commit to at least one regularly calendared four-hour shift each month. Interested persons are invited to contact station manager David Akins, N6HHR, at n6hhr@arrl.net.