

Field Day is Next Weekend!

That's right, folks, ARRL Field Day is this coming weekend, June 25th and 26th. The club will again be setting up its stations in the South parking lot at the Art Center College of Design and you are invited to join in the fun. Turn to

pages 2 and 3 for more details. Be sure to check out the maps and advice on the best ways to get there while avoiding expected Rose Bowl event traffic Saturday afternoon and evening.

You Can Work Amateur Satellites with Just Your HT

Clint Bradford has been a licensed amateur since 1994, and involved with public service communications.

Professionally, he was sales manager for ADI/Premier/Pryme, worked for Motorola a couple of years, and for Ham Radio Outlet a couple more. He lives in Mira Loma, California with his wife, Karen, and their pets: a couple of cats, some koi, Karen's Icelandic horse, Mjollnir, and his donkey, Edward R. Burro.

He is the AMSAT Area Coordinator and benefactor, an ARRL Diamond Club member, and provides NASA/ARISS school technical support.

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www.qsl.net/w6ka/bulletins

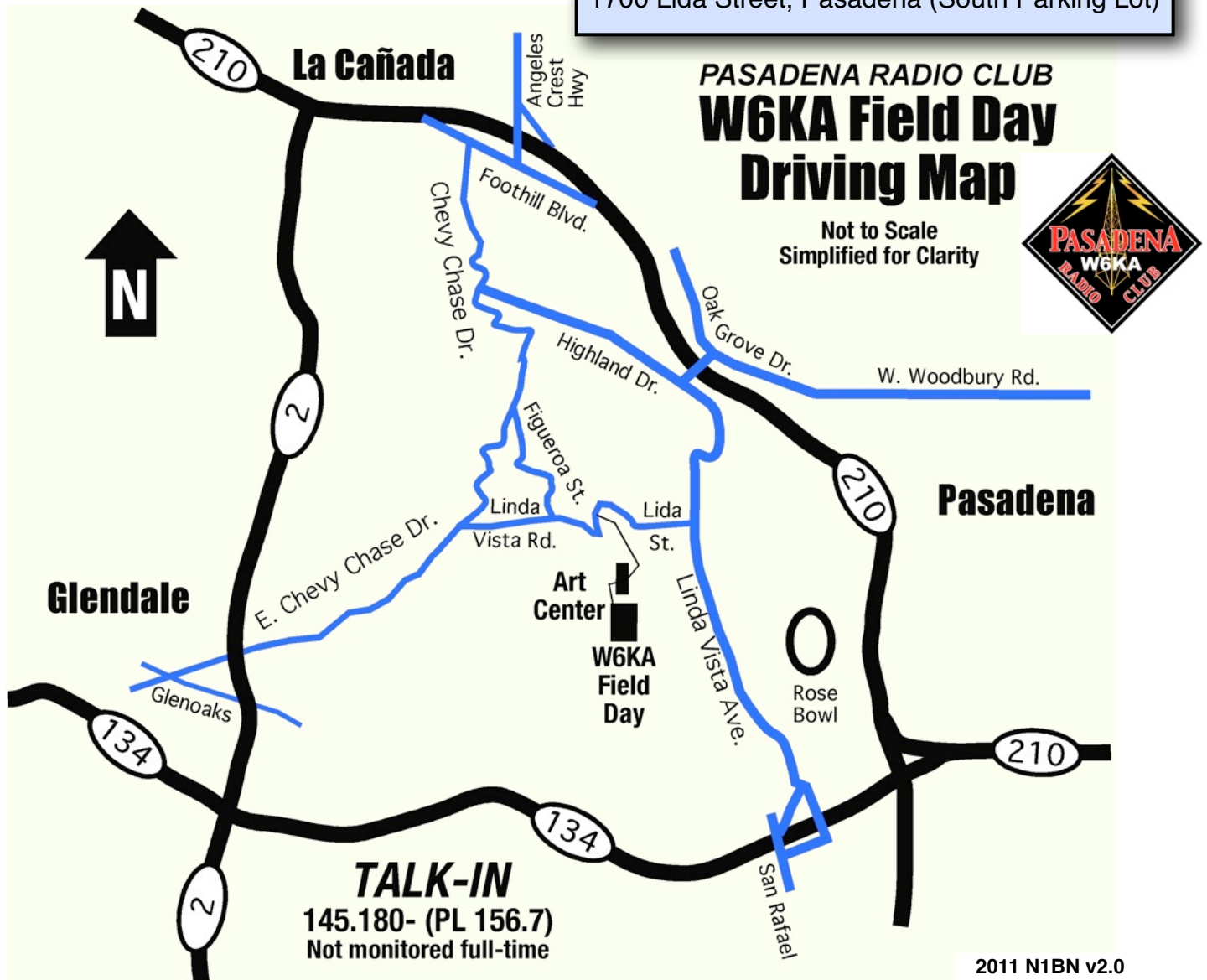
June 28th Speaker



**Clint Bradford,
K6LCS**

Field Day Location:

Art Center College of Design, Hillside Campus,
1700 Lida Street, Pasadena (South Parking Lot)



Hours of Operation will be from
11:00 AM Saturday June 25th to
11:00 AM on Sunday, June 26th

NOTICE

There is a major event at the Rose Bowl on Saturday evening which will create heavy traffic on and near Linda Vista Avenue. Therefore, on Saturday, you are advised to approach from the West or North between the hours of 2 PM and midnight, using this map.



Sub-audible Tomes

Art Center Cafe Field Day Lunch Option

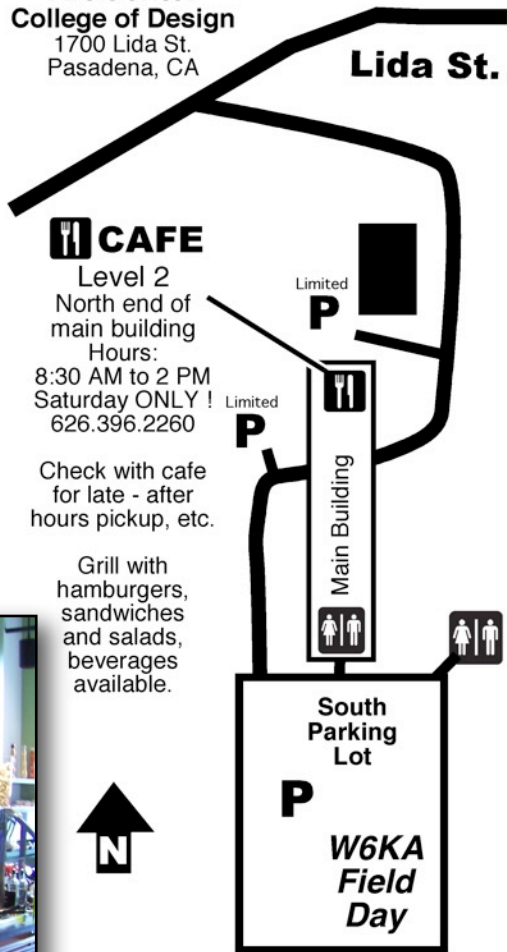
Bruce Nolte, N1BN

One of our food choices at the super Art Center facility is their Cafe located in the Main Building, north end of Level 2, see the map for more info. The cafe is open until 2 PM on Saturday, not Sunday. They have a good list of menu items at their grill plus a salad bar, soup and beverages. The cafe phone number is 626-396-2260. Give it a try.

73 Bruce N1BN



Art Center
College of Design
1700 Lida St.
Pasadena, CA



W6KA-KT5BSA Booth Receives Top Honors at 2011 Scout Expo

The Pasadena Boy Scout Council hosted its annual Scout Expo on June 4th at the Santa Anita Racetrack infield. The annual Scout Expo is an opportunity for scouting units and community groups to "show off" their program for several hundred scouts and families who attend. This year W6KA pitched in with Troop 5, KT5BSA out of Polytechnic School, to sponsor a booth presenting amateur radio. The program featured demonstrations of Morse code, mobile and emergency operations, HF phone, and FM repeater operation.



Left to right, AF6WU, KJ6ITD, AG6AN, and KJ6ITH coach younger scouts in radio merit badge at the 2011 Scout Expo

Fifty scouts completed the on-air portions of radio merit badge at Expo. This involves operating for ten minutes or more and making at least five on-air contacts. Several W6KA members played important roles in this by working contacts with the KT5BSA operation, thus making the merit badge instruction possible. Although most of our merit badge contacts involved FM repeaters, particularly W6MPH, Richard Hathaway (AG6AN) and Leo Galvan (KJ6ITH) worked some 20-meter HF, including the Alabama QSO Party, as pictured above.

Numerous participants from W6KA and KT5BSA were involved in organizing and executing the Expo operation: Mike Dinko, Leo and Mitch Galvan, Richard and Aiden Parker, Richard and John Hathaway, Ray Overman, Bill Westphal, Hal Frank,

Rich and Nicky Terrile, and Travis and Kjerstin Williams. We also thank the stations that worked scouts in the KT5BSA FM operation, including W6MES, KJ6HWL, AC6VV, N6XCR, KE6EOL, N6PBJ, and all of the W6KA operators who participated!

The Expo staff awarded top honors for program excellence to our booth. Among the 60 booths at Expo, most did not offer hands-on activities or advancement for participants, so the organizers were excited that we offered both.

Plans are already underway for next year's Expo booth and for the 2011 International Jamboree on the Air, October 15-16. For more information on radio scouting or to become a radio merit badge counselor, contact Hal Frank, KF6RRR, or Travis Williams, AF6WU.



The W6KA-KT5BSA Booth at the 2011 Scout Expo



Photos by Cece Galvan

HamNation!

Bob Heil, K9EID, to Headline New Internet Show

On Tuesday, May 24, Bob Heil, K9EID -- owner of Heil Sound -- premiered a new netcast show on Leo Laporte's TwiT.tv website. Called HamNation, the show will focus on equipment, applications, tips and general information for the Amateur Radio operator. Heil's first guest was rock star, friend and fellow radio amateur Joe Walsh, WB6ACU. Walsh also wrote the theme music for the show. The show will be broadcast each week over the Internet at TWiT.tv at no cost. TWiT.tv is also available on iTunes.

"I have been a fan of Leo's for a long time and



recently appeared on his Triangulation 8 show," Heil explained. "We had a blast, and much to my delight, he asked me to develop a show for and about ham radio. Since the early 1900s, much of the ham radio operators' focus has been on building and experimenting with their equipment. Many of today's radios are computer controlled, thus attracting new users to the hobby. Even in this day of instant Internet communications, ham radio is still the premier communication link, whether it's for storm spotters or talking to your friends around the globe. This new TWiT.tv show will bring the existing and new users together."

HamNation launched on May 24 at 8 PM (CDT) on TwiT.tv. Both audio and video versions may be downloaded free from iTunes.



Come out and Join Us

Come out and join us in operating stations, logging, or just watching at Field Day. We have a wide variety of activities waiting. As always, you are welcome to show up any time. Do consider reserving a time slot ahead of time. You don't need to put in long hours. Here is a list of the Station Captains who would love to hear from you.

40 Meter SSB	Tom Berne, W6TAG
40 Meter SSB	Danny Shurr, W6XXB
10, 20, 75 Meter SSB	Ray Overman, KJ6NO
10, 20, 75 Meter SSB	Eli Lazarov, W6ELI
CW	Kate Hutton, K6HTN
Digital (RTTY, PSK)	Bob Millard, KE6JI
VHF	Mary Bothwell, AG6MB
NTS Messaging	Kate Hutton, K6HTN
Satellite QSO	Mary Bothwell, AG6MB
Satellite QSO	Brian Clougherty, KI6EOS
Food Service	Mark Seigel, W6MES

Hamcon to be in Torrance in September

The 2011 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention takes place on September 9, 10 & 11, 2011, at the Torrance, California Marriott Hotel

Early bird registration has been extended to the end of June, and a significant early bird registration prize has been added. For additional information, see www.hamconinc.org

N6HD Re-elected LAX SM

I just heard from ARRL Headquarters that no opposing candidates filed for the Los Angeles Section Manager election, so incumbent David Greenhut N6HD was declared re-elected. I think this is a testament to all the great work he has done and the quality of the volunteers he has been able to assemble.

Congratulations, David!

73, Marty N6VI

(Marty Woll is ARRL SW Division Vice Director)

Crown City HF Choosing Our Rig, #3

Tom Berne, W6TAG

If you have not read last month's Crown City HF, please do so because it is essential to understanding what we are looking for in this month's installment. Keep in mind that the rig we are planning to "buy" is for our "virtual" ham shack for a total price of under \$1000 including essential accessories.

So first we will look at the "table top basic" rig made by Yaesu that is under our target price (the FT-450D). To me it is a classic looking radio with lots of very nice features, but its price is close to our limit at \$899. You will see why that is a problem later when we buy other essential accessories (like a power supply) and pay the sales tax. This transceiver is more expensive because comes with a few nice things that we previously decided we don't really need: 6 meter coverage, several nice state-of-the art receiving filters, a recorder, digital voice announcement and a built in automatic antenna tuner. The FT-450 model (same radio but without the built in tuner, it is now discontinued) was reviewed quite favorably in the December 2007 QST*.

So what about the Alinco DX-SR8T model? It sells for around \$630 and it does have the features we really need. That price is \$350 less than the Yaesu FT-450D. The price just dropped \$80 in the few weeks since I started researching this article. To me the radio as a whole doesn't have a very good look, when compared with the other transceivers we are considering. You may be saying to yourself "who cares what a rig looks like". Well, just remember, we are going to be spending a long time staring at this thing while we work the world. The Alinco SR8T just happens to have been reviewed in this month's QST* as being "functional" but with some "quirks and shortcomings".

Our last entry, the ICOM IC-718, at \$640 is priced between the Alinco and the Yaesu. This is the radio I think we should get. It has a better look to it than the Alinco to my eye. It is easier to read the button and



control designations and has a bit better display. In addition it includes a DSP automatic notch filter and AF speech compression. Both will be helpful when contesting, is which one of the things we plan to use this rig for. Also having had several ICOM radios, I can attest to the fact that they were very reliable and durable. This transceiver was characterized in its December 2007 QST* review as "easy to operate and gets the job done at a reasonable price".

Why not go for the more loaded Yaesu? We had budgeted \$1000 for the rig and we would be under that. Well for one thing there are some more things (besides sales tax) that will probably push the "rig's" purchase price over our limit. For instance, these radios all require a 14 VDC power supply unless for use as a base (not mobile) transceiver. Also we need a code key (remember we have technician class operators with mostly CW privileges on HF). We may want other things like a desk microphone since we said we want to use this rig for contesting. Also adding a CW and a SSB filter would help during heavy traffic such as during contests. As much as I trust Yaesu products and would love to get the FT-450D, in order to stay within our budget for the entire rig, I think we should go with the IC-718. OK, so why not save more money and get the Alinco. The reason is that it lacks some features (see above) that I think we need to fulfill the mission we defined for our "virtual" shack (see earlier articles).

Picking you known amateur radio equipment is a highly individual matter. I am sure many of our seasoned readers would choose differently if they were buying a rig for themselves. But remember that this rig is for hams who and new to HF and we are trying hard to keep the cost down. If you are using this article to make a purchase for yourself it can be used as a guide to think about what you are looking for in a radio. But it is not a recommendation for you to buy the IC-718 because your needs and financial considerations are almost certainly different.

So where do we go next month? We will begin looking at rig accessories.

*If you are a member of the ARRL, these reviews can be found easily by going to www.arrl.org/product-reviews.

**Mary Bothwell, AG6MB
will Host June 28th
Refreshments**

FOR SALE

1 - Swan Cygnet 270B SSB transceiver from an estate, I may be the second owner. In excellent condition, has built-in power supply, microphone not included, manual available

Asking \$125.00

Contact Peter, KA6RJF, 626-797-9125

Thank You



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The Pasadena Radio Club meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Kaiser Permanente Walnut Center, located at 393 East Walnut Street, at the corner of Los Robles Avenue in Pasadena. Parking is validated. Enter the parking structure at the southern Los Robles Avenue entrance. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please sign in at the front desk and security will direct you to the meeting room.

Membership in the Pasadena Radio Club is open to anyone interested in Amateur Radio. Dues are \$20 per year, \$10 for students. Request a membership application at the club's mailing address, or the club website, www.qsl.net/w6ka, or at a monthly meeting.

The Pasadena Radio Club, W6KA, conducts a weekly net every Tuesday night, except on meeting nights, at 7:00 p.m. The frequency is 145.180 MHz (-) PL 156.7. All licensed amateurs are invited to participate.

The club has a packet station on 145.630 and on 223.600 (cross-band capable) with a PBBS of W6KA-10 and a node name of MIRDOR.

There is also a Yahoo Group for club members at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PRC-Club/>. All members are invited to join as this allows for rapid dissemination of information to members via e-mail. Click on "Join This Group". Members are able to update their own e-mails via the Yahoo website.

The Board of Directors meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:15 PM at the Kaiser Permanente location. Meetings are open to all members.

Bulletin Submissions: please submit any articles, photos, or ideas for future articles via e-mail to [AC6VV at arrl dot net](mailto:AC6VV@arrl.net), please include "PRC" in the Subject line. Other modes of submission may be arranged in advance on an individual basis. Submissions are due by the Friday after the board meeting.

Permission is hereby granted to use articles in this issue as long as "Pasadena Radio Club Bulletin" is credited.

Please submit any address or e-mail changes to the Treasurer, K7RWP.

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Pasadena Radio Club, W6KA

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<http://www.qsl.net/w6ka/>

This Month: K6LCS

**Clint Bradford: You Can Work
Amateur Satellites with Your HT**

In This Issue

Page 1	Speaker: Clint Bradford, K6LCS
Page 2	Field Day Information
Page 3	Sub-Audible Tones - Field Day
Page 4	Boy Scout Expo
Page 5	Hamnation!, FD Signups, News
Page 6	Crown City HF
Page 7	Ads, Club Information, Roster
Page 8	Club Calendar



*Marathon Runners
photo by Dave Holcomb*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
June 19	June 20	June 21	June 22	June 23	June 24	June 25
Father's Day Slow Speed CW Net		PRC Net 7:00 pm 145.180 - PL 156.7	KPARN Nets			Field Day TRW Swap Meet
June 26	June 27	June 28	June 29	June 30	July 1	July 2
Field Day Slow Speed CW Net		PRC Club Meeting 7:00 PM				
July 3	July 4	July 5	July 6	July 7	July 8	July 9
Slow Speed CW Net 28130 KHz 8:00 pm	Independence Day	PRC Net 7:00 pm 145.180 - PL 156.7		AC100 Meeting		NE ARES Meeting
July 10	July 11	July 12	July 13	July 14	July 15	July 16
Slow Speed CW Net 28130 KHz 8:00 pm		PRC BOARD 7:10 pm PRC Net 7:00 pm				Chino Swap Meet
July 17	July 18	July 19	July 20	July 21	July 22	July 23
Slow Speed CW Net 28130 KHz 8:00 pm		PRC Net 7:00 pm 145.180 - PL 156.7				AC100
July 24	July 25	July 26	July 27	July 28	July 29	July 30
AC100 Slow Speed CW Net		PRC Club Meeting 7:00 PM	KPARN Nets	AC100 Post-Race		TRW Swap Meet