SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MONITORING ASSOCIATION

"In God We Trust – All Others We Monitor"

Volume **24** Issue **2** MARCH **2012** Editor Rick Di Fiore, LA–10

Serving The Scanner Monitoring Community Since 1988 - Formally RCMA West Los Angeles Chapter

ARE YOU MONITORING EVERYTHING THAT YOU SHOULD BE?

INSIDE THIS EDITION

THE MONITORING POST

Official Newsletter of the SCMA

From President

As the new year moves on so does the club, please remember to renew your membership at the next meeting or some of you will miss-out on the tour for this month! I will know by the meeting which agency we will visit. Rick, LA-104 is working on are new ID cards which will become permanent and will be updated with a sticker that has the year on it.

If everyone would try to make a short list of what frequencies they monitor so later I will compile them into a master list for hand out at the next meeting. Each person who hands in a list will receive one (1) ticket for the club raffle and speaking of the club raffle...we do are best to give great stuff out, but if we don't take in enough when the items aren't as nice as the time before. The more tickets sold the more and the better the item's get! And as I always say put a dollar away every night its so simple to do and is not a big thing...be a winner at the next raffle and the club will be too.

MONITORING THE CLUB'S FREQUENCY

When ever there's something big going on we always put out the information out on the clubs frequency 449.900, know remember that this is a *closed* system and you must be a member to put out information. I noticed one day when downtown and I was near a KTLA TV van and I keyed up to others know of a event, well I heard my voice come out of the scanner in the news van! Just goes to show you never know who is monitoring us so be professional when talking on the repeater don't talk like a fool.

9-1-1 CELEBRATES 44 YEARS. . .

On Feb. 16, 1968, the first 9-1-1 call was made in Haleyville, Ala., launching the first generation of 9-1-1. More than 240 million 9-1-1 calls now are made each day. The nation's 9-1-1 system has endured and survived many changes and challenges. "Forty-four years later there's much talk about next-generation 9-1-1. However, three constants have never changed — 9-1-1 the number, the caller and you," said Steve Souder, director of Fairfax County (Va.) Department of 9-1-1/Public Safety Communications.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH

IT'S A CODE–4 DISPATCH…

GRINDERS RESTAURANT

8521 Sepulveda Boulevard
Westchester, CA.

(corner of Sepulveda Blvd., & Manchester Blvd.)

Good Food / Good Service and Good Prices…

Club meetings are 2nd Wednesday of every month, even on a holiday!
Starts at 7:30 pm, club business.
Before meeting dinner from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, and club raffle at end of the meeting…don't miss out!

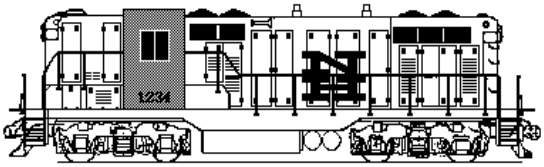
NEXT MEETING – MARCH 14th, 2012

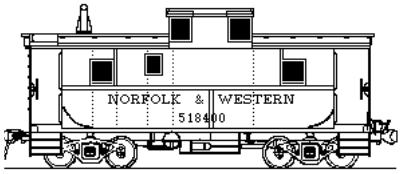
Please remember to support the Southern California Monitoring Association…We are the only "ACTIVE" scanner club West of the Mississippi River
What you put into the club is what you'll get back. Do nothing, get nothing, its just that simple…after all, its your club!

THE MONITORING POST

Official Newsletter of S.C.M.A.

EWA Agrees with Maine in VHF Channel Request from AAR (2/15/12)





Enterprise Wireless Alliance (EWA) filed comments supporting the waiver request from the state of Maine that seeks to use a substantial number of VHF channels that are coordinated on a primary basis by the American Association of Railroads (AAR) for a new, statewide, narrowband VHF trunked Project 25 (P25) radio system. The proposed system would be available to all public-safety agencies in the state of Maine and would also permit interoperability with federal public-safety entities. EWA disagreed with AAR's unwillingness to issue even a single concurrence that would normally result from standard site-based frequency coordination processes, and argued that AAR's claim that it need not concur with the request because the state of Maine is "ineligible to use LR (railroad frequencies)" as being contrary to a 2007 FCC order that denied AAR's request seeking only exclusive railroad use on the affected VHF spectrum.

EWA also noted that it is unrealistic for AAR to rely on the premise that the spectrum was needed for the implementation of a national railroad narrowbanding plan, a plan that was created in 1999 and should already be well into implementation, given the upcoming Jan. 1, 2013, narrowbanding deadline. EWA said that with continued spectrum demand and the outlook for additional spectrum allocations virtually nonexistent, all private land mobile radio (PLMR) applicants including public safety need to consider whether all operations require exclusive-use channels. If the VHF public-safety spectrum is depleted in the state of Maine, then the situation can only be worse in other, more populated, locations. "(I)t may be necessary to distinguish operations that must have channel assignment exclusivity from those whose communication requirements could tolerate use of a shared channel where channel access exclusivity is achieved through technological capabilities," the EWA filing said.

BOX 15 CLUB
LOS ANGELES
FIRE BUFF'S ORGANIZATION

Interested In The Fire Service?

Are you interested in keeping up with the firefighters in the Los Angeles area? Then you may want to join the Box 15 Club of Los Angeles. The club is composed of an ever increasing group of the fire service. These people are dedicated to the encouragement and appreciation of the fire service. The club has a long and interesting history.

Late in the year of 1950, four men with an unusual interest held a meeting. These were "Buff's", a team applied to those who hold a deep serious interest in the work of the fire service. Buff organizations are nothing new in the United States. The term itself dates back to the days when fire departments fans donned great buffalo skins on winter nights as they assisted in pulling the hard drawn pumpers of 1840's.

The out come the first fire buff club in Southern California the Box 15 Club of Los Angeles. The club takes it's name from the street fire alarm box 15. The box was located at berth 90, San Pedro. It was the first box to be pulled when the S.S. Markay exploded and burned in the L.A. Harbor on June 22th, 1947. The event bought the greatest movement of apparatus in the City's history up to that time.

We usually have a guest speaker at our meeting, visitors are welcome. Our meetings are held on the fourth Friday of the month at the "Old Plaza Firehouse Museum". Located in Olvera Street Historical Park. Please confirm as we sometimes go on field trips.

For more information on Box 15 Club of Los Angeles write to:
Box 15 Club of Los Angeles, P.O. Box 86547, Los Angeles, CA. 90086–0547

THE MONITORING POST

Official Newsletter of the S.C.M.A.

HOT FREQUENCIES TO MONITOR

by Rick, WA6KFI / LA–101

I know that at every meeting I tell all of you to please bring in your list of radio frequencies that you like to monitor when at home, work or just driving around. We all have are favorite frequencies. Some of us are better at finding these frequencies others are not. Unless I start seeing some frequency lists showing up at the meeting or in my email's this just mite be the last list you all see from me! The ideal of the SCMA is to share information and more of you really need to work on this! So let's try one more time, ok…Here are some new frequencies for everyone, maybe some of you already have, but the new members to the hobby may not enjoy.

123.0250	(AM)	Air UniCom – *(Used by police, fire, military and news media helicopters – "Air–to–Air" com's).*
151.0850	CSQ.	Orange County Sheriff & Fire use – *(known as "Red Channel" or "O.C. Access").*
164.5500	167.9	Federal Bureau of Investigations – *(Organized Crime Task Force- L.A. Orange Counties).*
460.2375	123.0	American Red Cross – Los Angeles City Chapter
460.3750	127.3	California Highway Patrol – *(Channel is used by CHP and Department of Homeland Security for joint operations).*
460.5250	103.5	Orange County Sheriff's "Access Channel" *(frequency is also used by LAX Police)* so use pl tone.
462.9875	71.9	American Red Cross – *(This is the Orange County Chapter – very active).*
464.3500	D732	Santa Monica College – Campus Police, Freq. 1
471.6625		Emergency Photographers Network - *(L.A. area fire photographers who put out calls of fires and major events that are happening).*
482.9375	CSQ.	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept. – *(Special Units Detail – Dispatch).*
483.5375	CSQ.	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept. – *(Local – TAC – SUD).*
483.8375		Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept. – *(Special Enforcement Bureau)* Freq. 1C "Clear"
484.9000	N466	Los Angeles Police Department – *(This channel was originally for a "phone patch" but did not get used much. So know Air Support uses it for Air–to–Air communications, it is known as Ch.27 aka: "Patch")*
769.18125	CSQ.	California Highway Patrol – *(This sounds like a "Vehicle Extender" channel, much West Los Angeles traffic heard and pursuits too!)*
866.0125	156.7	Orange County "800 Access" Channel
867.5125	156.7	Los Angeles *City* Fire Department – *(This is used by the LAX Fire Crash Crews – Note per the station 5 captain at all communications are simplex!).*
867.7375	(P25)	Orange County Emergency Operations Center.
938.1250	CSQ.	Southern California Edison. *(very active with a lot of service calls – L.A., Long Beach, etc...)*

Remember that Los Angeles *City* Fire Department has some changes…as of 02 / 23 / 2012
OCD – Operations Command Division is now known as "METRO" Metro Command Division. I talk to long time friend and club member Brian Humphrey, LAFD, PIO. Channel 6 is "Emergency Trigger" 857.2375, Channel 9 is know "Structure Only" Fire 857.2375. Don't forget to update your list.

More frequency information next month…Only if members send in their list!

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SOUTH BAY REGIONAL PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

NEW CHANNEL PLAN & FREQUENCIES

This is “South Bay’s” new channel band plan as of: 2 / 23 / 2012. they are also now using narrow band FM and DPL now. Everyone update your frequency list and re-program your scanners.

CH. #	FREQ.	M	TONE	ALPHA	USAGE	NOTES
SB-01	470.6375 R	(N)	D131	MHB PD D	PD DISPATCH	Name, code change and narrow banding. Used by MHB PD & HMB PD weekdays.
SB- 2	470.3875 R	(N)	D245	HAW PD D	PD DISPATCH	Name, code change and narrow banding.
SB- 3	470.0125 R	(N)	D371	GDA PD D	PD DISPATCH	Name, code change and narrow banding.
SB- 4	471.3375 R	(N)	85.4	ELS PD D	PD DISPATCH	No change information only.
SB- 5	506.0125 R	(N)	D156	SBAY FD1	FD DISPATCH	PRIMARY DISPATCH CHANNEL
SB- 6	506.0375 R	(N)	D261	SBAY FD2	FD ALT DISP	Name, code change and narrow banding.
SB- 7	471.5375 R	(N)	103.5	SBAY FD3	FIRE TAC–1	Name change only (old ELS FD 1) used for Fire Ops. in the city of El Segundo.
SB- 8	471.1125 R	(N)	D411	SBAY T4	POLICE / FIRE	Name, code change and narrow banding.
SB- 9	470.3125 R	(N)	D532	SBAY T5	POLICE / FIRE	Name, code change and narrow banding.
SB-10	470.0375 R	(N)	D654	SBAY T6	POLICE / FIRE	Name, code change and narrow banding.
SB-11	470.8125 R	(N)	D331	SBAY T7	POLICE / FIRE	Name, code change and narrow banding.
SB-12	506.5250 R	(N)	D731	SBAY T8	POLICE / FIRE	Name and code change, 25 watt mobile transmit power level.
SB-13	506.5500 R	(N)	D465	SBAY T9	POLICE / FIRE	Name and code change, 25 watt mobile transmit power level.
SB-14	506.6750 R	(N)	D754	SBAY T10	POLICE / FIRE	Name change only, 25 watt mobile transmit power level.
SB-15	470.1875 R	(N)	D516	HMB PD D	PD DISPATCH	HMB PD weekend evenings, holidays and special events (co–shared w / ICIS.
SB-16	482.4250 R	(N)	79.7	RIC	FIRE	Torrance FD used in direct mode for South Bay FD – RIC purposes – No MDC Stat Alert.

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Messages from on high

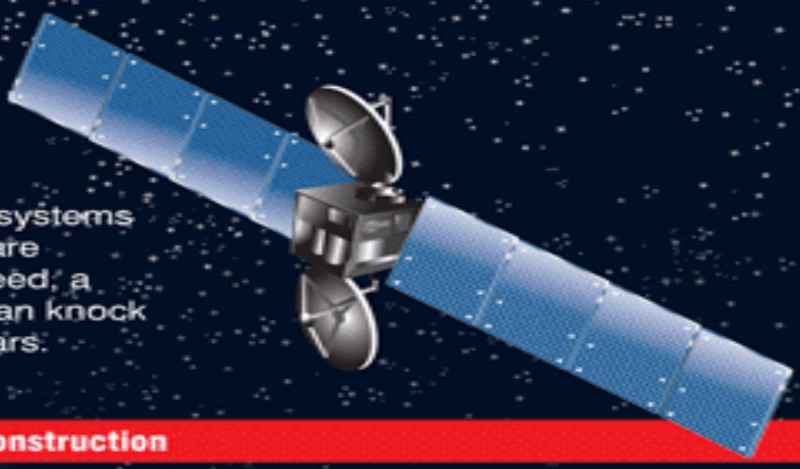
Over 500 satellites orbit the Earth delivering broadcasting; voice, internet and emergency communications; environmental and scientific monitoring; and global navigation and positioning systems for planes, ships and vehicles.

Most communication satellites are launched into an orbit 35,786km above the equator (Geostationary orbit, or GEO) and rotate with the Earth, appearing motionless to an observer on the ground.

Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites occupy orbits starting from a few hundreds of kilometers above Earth to around 1,000km. LEO constellations need even larger numbers of satellites to provide constant Earth coverage.

Medium earth orbit (MEO) satellite systems, positioned at altitudes ranging from 8,000-15,000km above the Earth, require a larger constellation of spacecraft – typically 10-15 satellites – to maintain coverage of the Earth.

Space debris is a growing problem. Disused satellites, discarded launch systems and fragments caused by collisions are putting satellites at risk. At orbital speed, a fragment measuring less than 1cm can knock out a satellite costing millions of dollars.



Construction

• Manufacture	Around 2 years
• Cost	Hundreds of millions of dollars to build, launch and operate
• Lifespan	Over 15 years for GEO satellites
• Capacity	Transmit trillions of bits of data/second.

Coordination

International cooperation and coordination is essential to ensure interference-free operation of satellites and their coexistence with ground-based services sharing the same radio frequency bands.

ITU is the UN agency charged with the global management of spectrum and associated satellite orbits, including GEO slots, helping bring modern communications to communities worldwide.

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Motorola Solutions Contracts Vislink for Chicago Airborne Surveillance

Vislink won an order from Motorola Solutions to fulfill Motorola's contract with the city of Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC) to equip Chicago Fire and Police Department helicopters with airborne surveillance technology in advance of the city's hosting of the Group of Eight (G8) and NATO Summits in May. Vislink will design the fully integrated airborne downlink system, supplying its digital aircraft transmitter and cockpit-mounted control panel units to provide a broad range of surveillance and first response capabilities. The airborne units will transmit to four strategically located ground-based receiver sites providing citywide coverage and the ability to simultaneously receive real-time images from two aircraft for viewing at the OEMC operations center. An additional three receive systems will be installed in the city's mobile command vehicles to facilitate field operations. In addition to the hardware, Motorola Solutions purchased a multiple-services package from Vislink that includes site survey, design, frequency coordination, engineering, fabrication, assembly, equipment integration, installation, testing and acceptance. Vislink's V-Net video surveillance technology provides first responders with mission-critical imagery to support crisis management activities.

EVERYONE MUST BE A FREQUENCY DETECTIVE TODAY!

By Rick DiFiore, LA-101 / WA6KFI1

The scanning world is changing like "Gene Hughes" like to tell all of us at are monthly SCMA meetings, and he was right to a point. What has changed is that police and fire agencies, news media have been updating their communications. Either their radio frequencies, equipment, or locations. This is what's happening now! Books and websites are a good source for much of are information. If you depend on books, remember that when they come off the press they are already at least 6 months out of date! Now on the other hand when it comes to websites it's a deferent story…some site are very good about the information they keep and others can be a year or more out–of–date! You must take the time to monitor and check out the frequencies and information that books and websites offer. How often do they update with most books once a year, with websites is could be every day, once a week, once a month, and some never…yes I could name at least three (3) site that people go to and the information has not been updated in years! Any way now's the time to become a detective. I have listed below some federal frequencies that I have been monitoring, see if you can help out in finding out more about these frequencies. Now the SCMA club data base does use the following symbols and abbreviations, so if you are going to help the club out please use the following.

Base = B **Mobile** = M **Repeater** = R **Simplex** = S
Analog = A **Digital** = D **Amplitude Modulation** = AM **Frequency Modulation** = FM **Wide FM** = WFM
Narrow FM = NFM **APCO 25** = P25 **Motorola Turbo** = MTBO **NexEdge** = NXDN **Icom D-STAR** = DSTAR
Digital PL (DPL) = D131 (the letter "D" with numbers) **Network Access Codes (NAC)** = N167 (the letters "N" with numbers)
Private Line Tone (PL) = 156.7 (just numbers)

Federal Bureau of Investigation: 408.2250, 414.2750, 414.5250, 418.6250, 419.0000, 419.2000, 419.350 D732, 419.4500, 419.4750 167.9, 419.5500, 419.5750 – 167.5500 N178, 171.1750 N167

Transportation Safety Administration: 172.9000 N001 National Parks Service: 164.7500 N293

U.S. Customs & Border Protection: 163.7250 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: 163.0250

U.S. Air Force: 163.4625 Department of Homeland Security: 165.5875 N301

Department of Energy: 164.3250 192.8 (sector "Charlie") Internal Revenue Service: 165.9500 N009

U.S. Coast Guard: 163.0500, 150.7000 (USCG Aux.)