

911 A FRONT LINE REPORT

-0700 ----- Front Line Report - 1500 Pacific Time, 15 September Saturday, Bart Lee - San Francisco Amateur Radio Club SFARC:

Telephone Call from Bart Lee KV6LEE of the San Francisco Amateur Radio Club

This afternoon at 1500 Pacific Time, 15 September Saturday, Bart Lee called me - WA6SCN and my uncle Richard K6TR on the telephone to give a report on the Sneak Attack on Manhattan Financial District of September 11, and on his current Amateur Radio participation in the rescue and cleanup operations going on.

Bart Lee, a lawyer, was in Manhattan on an extensive legal business, on behalf of his Partnership Law Offices here in San Francisco. He had taken up residence in a friends high rise apartment at the south end of 5th Avenue at Washington Park. That is 1.65 miles line of sight North by North-East from 'Ground Zero' at Church & Vesey.

Bart SAW the THIRD building go down. He had already, immediately, began his volunteer radio operator mission. Bart had already contacted the Red Cross, Salvation Army, and NY Office of Emergency Services to see where he could best assist in the 'Search & Rescue Operation'. He was immediately drafted onto the first night shift as a volunteer Operator at the VHF/UHF/SHF Emergency Communications Center, which started out about 6-8 regulars as of that first night. By the 'end of his shift', he was 'promoted' to 'Shift Supervisor'! The radio team in the Operation Center and at 'Ground Zero' grew extremely rapidly....By Wednesday night, Bart was again 'promoted' to the 2nd in Command at the Operations

Center..which by that time had consolidated the Red Cross and Salvation Army Communications under the single point of contact of the OES. Bart had dropped all pretence of continuing his legal work, of course, and worked at least 18 hours each day thru to Saturday.

Despite news coverage, showing people at 'Ground Zero' using their cell phones...that was NOT the case, in the sense that people might assume.

They were dialing numbers, true, over and over...but DID NOT GET THRU. The only cell phones that worked, occasionally, were special 'dedicated' Private Virtual Network phones offered by NEXTEL and similar services. This situation occurred as a result of two factors - massive blocking by 'health & welfare telephone messages' and by physical destruction of several telephone and cellphone exchanges. The New York Telephone building is 400 feet from the North East Tower of the World Trade Center building - three times as close as the WTC was tall! Prime power AC was cut to that telephone building. Its switching equipment, such as still functional, was working on 48 volt battery backup, usually engineered for eight hours power. That telephone building will have had Emergency Generator backup also, of course. The two WTC building EACH had both PABX and NY Bell local switching equipment, totally destroyed!

The Police & Fire Public Services regular commercial radio channels were also completely overwhelmed with 'blocking traffic' They were not engineered for the voice/data traffic levels required to coordinate the efforts of almost a thousand

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Club Potluck

Barbecue

Saturday, October 27, 1:00 - 6:00 PM

QTH: Jim Welty's, KF6YRD

Take Highway 1 to Freedom Blvd. Exit and head North on Freedom Blvd. Pass through the light at Aptos High School and proceed 1 mile to McDonald Road. Turn left on McDonald and go to end (approx. 1/2 mile). Look for Ham Radio sign and turn right on Day Valley Road. Proceed 500 feet to first left: Cox Road. Proceed 500 feet on Cox Road to the Welty's: 2200 Cox Road, on the left. There will be flag or banner marking the entrance: Welty residence is the Brick House back in the woods.

Talk in on KI6EH, 147.945, Welty's phone: 688-3111

RSVP to kq6dv@k6bj.org, or (831) 464-3120.



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Prez Sez

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 27: Club Pot Luck BBQ - bring a side dish or dessert. Hope to see you there!

Jeff, AC6KW, and I camped out at Freemont Peak for this year's QRP to the Field event and had a crowd of boy scouts around us learning about Amateur Radio. I got caught by surprise by this month's deadline, but will try to get pictures and an article to Ron for next month's Short Skip.

We inaugurated the K6BJ club station for the Cal QSO Party, and it was a lot of fun. I'm very excited that the station is up and running, and I'm sure we'll be using and improving it more and more as time goes on.

HELP WANTED:

I need candidates to run for the Board and Club Offices in November's Election. I have been very busy and have neglected to recruit anyone at this writing. If you would be willing to serve on the nominating committee, or run for office, please let me know.

—73, KQ6DV



By Art Lee WF6P

CHATTER

Our last club meeting was fun, as always. Club meetings give us a chance to have eyeball QSOs with both new and old members. Jamie Finch, WI6F, did a fine job as our guest speaker discussing the continuing need for ARES and ham radio help for emergency communications. While cell phones seem to be the star of the communications world these days, they can't always be depended upon when the cells go down, are overloaded or cell phone batteries go dead. It has been a long time since our last local disaster so most hams seem to let their guard down by not being prepared with proper equipment (spare batteries, extractions, water, proper clothing, etc.). If you volunteer to help in a future emergency, these items will be vital. Jamie is always looking for volunteers to help with the Red Cross. Give her a call at home and let her know if you are available.

I had an electrical problem earlier this month. My car stalled in a Safeway parking lot. The whole electrical system went dead. No problem, I immediately suspected a battery cable disconnect. Sure enough, by rotating the connector on the

not terminal a few degrees, the fault was corrected. However, the cable was loose. Moreover, I could not tighten the side-mounted terminal bolt. I couldn't loosen it either. The car was drivable, but I hated the idea of having a loose connection. An electrical system failure while fighting freeway traffic miles from home was not to my liking. It would be worse if Donna, my XYL, were driving alone. I checked with several people about solving the problem. Nobody had the answer. I could cut the battery cable and replace the end fitting, replace the entire positive battery cable or? But I still had the problem of removing the frozen terminal bolt. I hated to think of replacing the battery - especially if I broke the terminal off and spilled battery acid all over the driveway. So, after seeing that the battery cable ran back into a harness and disappearing under the frame, I eliminated that solution. Taking a big pipe wrench, I decided that the terminal had to come off if I used force. Wrong! I had plenty of baking soda mixture on hand to neutralize the acid in case of a cracked case. I finally purchased a new battery and, using a hacksaw, cut through the frozen battery connection bolt. No battery acid spilled. I knocked out the cut off portion of the terminal bolt, replaced it with a new one, installed the new battery, and am happily driving the freeways between Santa Cruz and Sacramento. My son-in-law, the service manager of a garage, later told me that frozen side mounted battery terminal bolts is common and the only solution is to replace the battery. Their method? Smack the terminal real hard with a big

EVENTS
- Foothill Flea Market, 2nd Saturday of each month, from March through October at Foothill College, Los Altos.

- Livermore Swap Meet - 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College in Livermore, 7:00 AM to noon,

- 1 Sept. 2001, Vaca Valley RC & Western States Weak Signal Society swapmeet. 7372 Paddon Road, Vacaville, 9:00AM to 1:00PM. Contact Larry Hogue, W6OMF, w6omf@cwnet.com.

- 2 Sept. Sonoma County Radio Amateurs swapmeet. Doors open at 7:00AM at the Lewis Adult Education Center, at the Corner of Lomitas Ave and Lewis Road, Santa Rosa, CA. Contact: Rick Reiner, K6ZWB, k6zwb@cds1.net

- 27-30 Sept. Microwave Update 2001, sponsored by the 50 MHz and Up Group of Northern California. Located at the Four Points Hotel, Sunnyvale. <http://microwaveupdate.org>

19-21 Oct. ARRL Pacific Division Convention, Concord, at the Sheraton Concord (Airport) Hotel, Concord. See <http://www.pacificon.org/> for details.

hammer and it breaks right off. Seems a cruel way to treat a battery but there is no other way. Hint: the terminal bolts should be loosened, removed and cleaned every six months. Neutralize any acid on the terminals with a baking soda solution, then rinse. Retighten the cable bolts.

Police & Fire Professionals. They were not engineered to additionally coordinate the efforts of thousands of additional non-Professional Volunteers. Additionally, and MOST IMPORTANT in one sense, they were not engineered to provide inter-linked 'Broadcasts to All'...remember that FEMA's radio system was not yet functional, nor were FEMA programmed channel portable radios in the hands of those who would need to be FEMA coordinated.

What WAS available was Amateur Radio.

The ENTIRE New York City area had bandwidth in the HF, VHF, UHF, and SHF Amateur frequency cleared for Emergency Traffic. There was an existing LARGE inventory of portable Amateur Radio Sets, in place at OES. There was, volunteered by the Ham Community, an additional large inventory of portable radios with licensed and capable Radio Operators 'on scene' at both 'Ground Zero' and pulling shift work on a round-the-clock OES Communications Central.

The 'traffic' DID NOT CONSIST in that same 'health & welfare messaging' already clogging the Commercial systems. That OES traffic consisted in PRIORITY ONE DIRECTIVES issued through the OES Communications Facility. Many 'Broadcast' messages were relayed from the top levels of NY City Government to the Public Service Employees working on the 'Rescue Effort'. Many additional messages were sent providing IMMEDIATE and TOTAL communications 'WARNING TO EVACUATE' the area, at those times when it was thought that #1 Liberty Plaza Tower was indicating 'imminent collapse at any moment'. The FCC legal injunctions preventing the use of Ham Radio from supplanting paid Commercial Services - doing Business, directly coordinating Police/Fire, providing any and all Communications as needed..those restrictions were lifted. Indeed, here in NY the usual concepts of Ham Radio being a mere tertiary communications application - a redundant 'backup' and 'health & welfare messaging' were historically overturned, forevermore! In a REAL DISASTER of titanic proportions - in a magnitude 8 earthquake, in a Military Attack resulting in Mass-Destruction; or in a 'targeted Attack' on specific KEY Optical, Microwave, Telephone/Cellphone switching nodes, KEY Frame Relay and TCP/IP packeting router/server-'Farms', in a 'targeted attack' on KEY Electric

Power Switching nodes...in ALL these situations...Ham Radio will be a PRIMARY, not the tertiary Communications System for the mission essential messaging of City, State, and even Federal Command & Control.

Bart Lee, from his temporary apartment window at the south end of 5th Avenue, called for a reason. That reason was far beyond a mere 'reporting' of his his particular situation, at this particular time. He specifically said for me to spread the word here in San Francisco, where 'Earthquake' remains still the most credible threat. It was that threat that brought Bart to the San Francisco OES, where he had participated actively in the last few years. Emergency radio procedures, the 'Emergency Preparedness State of Mind' that comes from association with the SF Public Service Police and Firemen, the various Emergency Exercises held by the OES, the ACS, the NERTS, and the VAMC hospital all contributed to his 'preparedness' to enable him to provide SKILLED EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS at the 'management level' responsive to the Communications needs in the NY Sneak Attack.

Bart Lee, of San Francisco, rose to 2nd in Command...Where were all the New York people?...Well, they seem to have not had the necessary years of 'mind-set' and 'emergency drills' and 'emergency procedures' to respond to a Disaster of Mass Destruction.

September 24, 2001 Update

Time has passed....the essential elements of that 'report' remain true, to the best of my knowledge. Bart Lee is still today working in the temporary Disaster Communications Operations Center...I believe. The original \$30,000,000 Disaster Operations Center, for New York Area was INSIDE WTC1/2...and ALL 'entrance wire-line' to that Center for LAN, DSL, AUDIO, RADIO REMOTE LINES, and such was destroyed....It appears that the reason why the "Temporary Operations Center" was intentionally located adjacent to, and just to the North, of the New York Telephone building...is that the 'original' wiring for Disaster had to 'reterminated' directly to the telephone Main Wire Distribution Frame that was going to the WTC. FYI the New York Telephone Building was about 400 ft away from the Northern-most WTC building, and was itself seriously dam-

aged.

To All, From Bart Lee KV6LEE, Sept 24, 2001, re WTC:

Hi everyone, a clarification:

Hi folks, I was the night-shift trick-chief for the NYC Red Cross Radio operation for more than a week, as KV6LEE, working 14-18 hour days (overnight). I ran the Red Cross radio operation at night, as a subnet to RACES, and occasionally handled the RACES Net as well. I was at ground zero D-day + 10 and have stunning photos; mostly I was uptown or in Brooklyn. I worked for Jay Ferron, N4GAA, who was the chief of communications. Charlie Hargrove N2NOV (an ARRL SEC) was in charge when present, mostly days early on. John Keirnan KE2UN was the day-shift trick-chief and the early man-at-the-mike for Red Cross Radio. Net was Guy, KC2AYG, Marc N2EOI at night, and others. These guys were the heroes; I just worked very hard for many days in a good cause. But it is war and we are all once again taken by surprise.

73 de Bart KV6LEE

PS: "one does not 'rise to the occasion,' one sinks to one's level of training."

More detail: We at Red Cross managed about a dozen shelters 24/7 via ham radio, and worked with NYC OEM at three sites 24/7 via ham radio. The cell phones, landlines and internet connections didn't work or were spotty at best. At the close of my work (D-day +10) we sent out day shift outreach teams, communicating via ham radio, trying to use cell phones and Blackberry handheld email, as service returned. My earliest traffic personally handled was an emergency evacuation order, and traffic at that level was all too common in the first couple of days. I look forward to making what I learned available here in SF.

73 de Bart

SCCARC Officers - 2001

President	Tom Johnson	KQ6DV	464-3120
Vice President	Richard Trebbien	KG6AXD	426-0169
Secretary	Cap Pennell	KE6AFE	429-1290
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	Mike Doern	KF6UXB	477-1161
	Ron Skelton	W6WO	477-1021
	Royce Krilanovich	AC6Z	475-4798
K6BJ Trustee			

MONTEREY BAY ACTIVITY

SCCARC Repeaters: K6BJ 146.790- PL 94.8 Santa Cruz (linked w/Watsonville full time)
KI6EH 147.945- PL 94.8 Watsonville (linked w/Santa Cruz full time)
K6BJ 440.925+ PL 123.0 Santa Cruz
• SCCARC Net Monday 7:30 PM 146.79- /147.945- /440.925+ linked
• SCCARC 10 Meter Net 28.308 MHz USB Monday 7:00 PM
• SC ARES Net Monday 8:30 PM 146.835-(PL 94.8)
• Watsonville ARES Net Thursday 8:30 PM 147.945-
SLVARC Repeater WR6AOK 147.120+ PL 94.8 Ben Lomond
• SLVARC Net Thursday 7:30 PM
SLV ARES N6IYA 146.745- PL 94.8 Felton
• SLVRC Net Thursday 7:30 PM
• ARES Net Monday 7:30 PM
NPSARC K6LY 146.97- PL 94.8 / 444.700+ PL 123 (linked) Monterey
• Monterey ARES Net Wednesday 7:30 PM
• NPSARC Net Wednesday 8:00 PM
• Monterey Bay Traffic Net Nightly 9:00 PM
• Newsline (Ham News) Broadcast Wednesday 8:30 PM
6 Meter Local Net 52.8 MHz (PL-114.8) Sunday 8:00 PM
Mont. Bay Chapter 191 QCWA :Tuesday, 7:30PM,AA6T repeater, 146.700- PL 151.4

FOR MORE INFO SEE: <http://www.k6bj.org/freq.html>

SCCARC Calendar of Events

SCCARC Board Meeting 6:30	Friday	Oct. 19
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Oct. 19
SHORT SKIP deadline	Monday	Nov. 5
Santa Cruz ARES	Tuesday	Nov. 6
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Nov. 16

MONTHLY MEETINGS

The SCCARC Meets at 7:30 PM, on the THIRD FRIDAY of the each month (except December). Meeting are at Dominican Hospital, 1515 Soquel Drive, Santa Cruz.

Visit the SCCARC Website at -

www.k6bj.org

CLUB E-MAIL: yourcall@k6bj.org

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE (Subject to Change)

10/15 Jeff KF6BKG
10/22 Allen WB6RWU
10/29 Phil KE6UWH
11/5 Ron W6WO
11/12 Dave W6TUW
11/19 Tom K6TG



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. BOX 238
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061-0238

Meeting: Oct 19, 7:30PM



First Class

TRADE or SELL TABLE at OCTOBER MEETING

Bring your surplus radio gear to sell or trade. The table will be set up before the club meeting. Put a price on your goodie and have fun trading or selling: mics, connectors, handhelds and related equipment, receivers, transmitters, etc. Let's have fun!

—Dan AA6GD