

# LLBARC

## March 2016 Newsletter

March finds us working on testing to confirm repeater receive characteristics. A test by Joe, W6MYN and Brett, WA6SXU, along with Tom WB6HJB on his 900 station proved that the existing repeater receiver is deficient in low signal receive ability when compared to a handheld HT. Direct A/B comparison proved that the receiver is quite deaf. To further test out the idea of replacing the receiver, Brett purchased a RTL-SDR module and loaded software to test how well a software defined receiver can hear incoming stations. Testing is ongoing as this newsletter goes to press.

Last month our club members continued making visits to the Claremont and TRW swap meets. After the TRW swap meet, a club luncheon was held at our usual location, Rubio's Mexican Grill at 2000 N. Sepulveda Blvd., Manhattan Beach CA (the address on our website has been corrected). Rubio's is just around the corner from the TRW swap meet location.

Travis KK6EON both worked on and successfully connected via 900 HT to the repeater, a long haul from Lake Forest, CA. His antenna work involves installing a permanently mounted and aimed 900 Yagi antenna, vertically polarized for efficient access into the repeater. Our thanks to Joe, W6MYN for the adapters and information on connecting the HT to the antenna.

Preparations for field day activities and NPOTA activation continue with Joe, W6MYN assembling a light weight 34 foot mast system that is back-pack ready to haul up the Sandstone peak mountain. Testing vs. a small vertical antenna should help confirm the selection of a multi-band inverted V dipole or the tripod mounted vertical as the antenna of choice for the hike up the mountain.

Speaking of Field day, Ted, KB6CUS, our newest member, donated some essential equipment to the club for satellite contacts during this year's upcoming Field Day operation. Thank you Ted, and welcome to the club! Concerning field day, this year's operation could use extra operators so if you have nowhere else to be on June 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> be sure and contact us. All are welcome.

Finally, if you need help with your own projects, feel free to contact the club and ask for help. We are always open to new projects

73 and best DX,

-Brett Williams WA6SXU