

SCOPE

A newsletter by and for the
Palomar Amateur Radio Club
of San Diego, California.



www.arrl.org

Ahhh...Field Day. That time of year when Ham Hearts turn to fancy and longing for that rare contact, that unexpected thunderstorm, the mosquito repellent, the long-boiled coffee at 2:00 AM Sunday morning.

Yes, Field Day is here again, and PARC is preparing for a great event!

First, let's look at some lubricious prose from the ARRL explaining what FD is all about.

This year, the ARRL website tells us that the purpose of FD is:

" To work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands) and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions.

Continued on page 2

Save the Date

Club Meeting
2 May 2012

The meeting program will be on phone patches from Vietnam, presented by Dennis N6KI.

Board Meeting
9 May 2012

Palomar Amateur Radio Club board meeting at 7:30pm at W6GNI QTH.

Dayton Hamvention
18-20 May 2012

www.hamvention.org/

A contingent from PARC will attend.

Continued from page 1

Field Day is open to all amateurs in the areas covered by the ARRL/RAC Field Organizations and countries within IARU Region 2. "

After some extemporaneous comments, the ARRL goes on to say:

"...most groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to local elected community leaders, key individuals with the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For many clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar."

So there you have it in a nutshell! But there is a lot more.

PARC has a long tradition of outstanding FD events. This year will be no different.

One of the principal objectives for PARC this FD is to get you, the Club member, involved!

FD is the **perfect opportunity for new hams to experience all modes of amateur radio operation**, as well as to get up close and personal with some of the hardware and software we use every day in all our Ham pursuits.

And many is the experienced ham who has been away from the hobby, or who has moved to an antenna restricted community, who can re-ignite the Ham fire!

Face it. Nowhere are you going to see multiple towers, beams, dipoles, slopers, and radios operating as freely as at a FD site. And you can bet your bottom dollar (or yen, rinimby, euro, real, or whatever your currency) that you just can not experience "emergency operating conditions" in as realistic a manner as at FD.

Many conversations around club meetings and on the repeaters reveal a yearning for getting more hams interested in the HF bands. FD is the best single way to invite newcomers to the hobby to experience it all!

Remember that at FD you do not have to be an extra to operate all those fancy bands and modes. The FD station captains serve as control operators to allow the new comer, or the General and below licensee, to get on the air.

And lest I forget. **FD is not a contest!** Granted. Once a FD station starts making contacts, it is difficult not to get excited. **But we want FD to**

be a training event, and operators are not all testers. **So don't be shy!**

And you do not have to be a PARC club member in order to participate in our FD.

So the club's challenge to the PARC membership is to get involved. Come operate. Join us in planning and setting up FD this year.

Briefly, we will have 5 HF stations, a Get On The Air (GOTA) station, and satellite station. This year we are thrilled to have one of the stations totally operated by the Club's Young Ladies (YL station). And we will be taking care to emphasize the digital communication modes on the HF bands.

Details are fully covered at the Club website www.palomararc.org.

So. GET INVOLVED. Sign up to operate one of the FD stations. Invite your friends. Print out the business card style notice at the PARC website and hand it out in the community.

FD planning net is held every Wednesday at 8:00 PM local time (except Club meeting night) on the 146.730 repeater. PARC FD coordinator is NN3V (Charlie)_ who can be reached on email at NN3V@ARRL.net. Send him an email and he will gladly add you to the FD information distribution.

Palomar Amateur Radio Club is looking for help to provide for the coffee goods table. The individual(s) would maintain the coffee service items for the Club. Jim W6SST has provided these services for the past few years, and has been very appreciated. Due to changes in his personal schedule he will not be able to continue. We all wish him well in his adventures and look to hear him on the radio. Individuals willing to assist the club with coffee service should contact a Board Member.

Dennis



OPERATING DAY

Sunday, May 6th, 2012



FRY'S ELECTRONICS

150 South Bent Street

SAN MARCOS, CALIFORNIA 92069

9:30 AM to 5:30 PM

HOSTED BY PALOMAR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

www.palomararc.org

contact Dennis KD6TUI (760) 672-0223

Come operate on the ham bands at Fry's

70cm, 2m, 6m, 10m, 15m, 20m



Amateur Radio Classes

We're local amateur (ham) radio operators that are dedicated to helping others get their licenses and get started in ham radio.

We teach classes to help you pass your Amateur Radio Licensing Examinations. The most popular format of these classes is one day. We run the class from about 8:30 a.m. to about 5 p.m. and then examiners come in to administer the license test. You're in and out in one day, and most people pass their exams. (Our success rate is high; we're disappointed if only 90% of the attendees pass the exam on their first try.)

After you have your Technician license, we have Get On The Air (GOTA) seminars to get you over that "push-to-talk phobia" that many people share. We also offer upgrade classes to General class, and even Extra class. The classes are usually offered on an as-needed basis, as demand dictates.

You don't need to take a class to take an exam. You can study on your own and sign up for an exam session. Virtually every Saturday morning, there is a session held somewhere in San Diego County. Each session is led by a Volunteer Examiner organization. To find times and places which work best for you, visit the the exam sites for ARRL (second Saturday), and SANDARC (other Saturdays). (Both sites also have lists of local clubs.)

Scheduled Classes

Here are the firm class dates we have at this time:
05 May(Saturday),
General class: 800am-5pm, exam: 5pm-7pm.
Location: Escondido

02 and 09 Jun (Saturdays),
Extra class: 9am-5pm, exam: 9th 5pm-7pm.
Location: (Probably Kearny Mesa) -

Note: We need two days to cover all the questions; the exam is after the second day.

Visit our website at:

<http://web.me.com/sandiegohamclasses/Students/Home.html>



Above is the Palomar Amateur Radio Club banner in front of the communications class at the Scout Fair held on Saturday 21 April 2012. Look for an upcoming article about the radio merit badge experience at the Scout Fair.

How do you
greet a ham radio
operator?

With a short wave!



Call for Volunteers

The 3rd running of The Harding Hustle is only 20 weeks away! Maybe that sounds like a long time, but putting together a race takes a lot of early planning. Of course the biggest part of putting on a successful race is volunteers. So - I'm putting out my first call for volunteers. If you can help - please let me know. If you aren't sure yet - then let me know you are a "maybe". If you have friends or a group whom you can tell about this event, I would greatly appreciate it. The more help the better.

Some duties that I need to fill:

- Ham Radio
- Race Prep (course marking, etc)
- Aid Station workers on race day
- 4x4 drivers for transportation

Remember - volunteers get a short sleeve tech shirt + food for helping. Shift times vary. Please let me know if you are interested/available to help - and/or please help spread the word.

Thanks much!
Jessica DeLine, RD
<http://www.hardinghustle.com>

JIDX CW Contest Report

Call: W6H
Operator(s): N6KI, NN6X, N6EEG
Station: W6HCD

Class: M/S HP
QTH: CA
Operating Time (hrs): 24

Summary:

Band QSOs Mults

160:	0	0
80:	20	12
40:	299	45
20:	160	37
15:	339	43
10:	0	0

Total: 814 137 Total Score = 114,532

Club: San Diego Contest Club

Comments:

San Diego Contest Club (SDCC) used W6H Call Sign in JIDX contest this weekend as a tribute to their friend Hiro, JA1FRQ who would operate with us on his visits to San Diego. Hiro loved to come to the W6HCD portable site and help the SDCC set up our tower trailer antennas and then enjoyed operating with the SDCC team.

Hiro passed away March 5, 2012. We will miss this kind and gentle man who thoroughly enjoyed Ham Radio DXing and Contesting.

This years effort yielded our highest QSO tally but with no opening for us on 10 mtr band and 80 and 160 not yielding many QSOs we lost many mults.

40 and 15 were the money bands for us this year.

K3, ACOM 2000A, 2 El 40 Yagi at 78 ft, 3 El SteppIR at 40 ft, 80 and 160 dipoles

73, Dennis N6KI

Posted using 3830 Score Submittal Forms at:
<http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>

Coming Soon: New ARRL Benefits

We are excited to announce two new ARRL membership benefits that will be introduced in June 2012.

In addition to the print copy of QST, all members will have access to an online, digital edition of QST at no extra cost. You will be able to access QST from anywhere--on nearly any computer, laptop, mobile device, smartphone and tablet (including Apple iPad, iPhone, and devices using the Android operating system).

Also in June, members will gain access to archived issues of QST from December 1915 to the present (previously, only issues through 2007 were available to members). If you are familiar with the current periodicals archive (which serves images of pages), that platform will be expanded to include all of QST from December 1915 through December 2011. A second, new archive will be introduced for issues beginning January 2012, featuring enhanced functionality including full-text search.

Be Prepared!

Members must have a valid ARRL website login to access the current digital edition of QST and archived editions. For a smooth launch of these exciting new benefits, and so that you will be able to quickly access the digital version of QST as soon it becomes available, we are e-mailing you some information that will help you login to the ARRL website prior to launch.

"Longinqui contacti sunt boni." -Ken Leon



Palomar Amateur Radio Club (PARC)

Please join our **Field Day** Operation
June 23 - 24
594 Rancheros Drive, San Marcos

Chance to operate **All Bands / Modes**
Do not have to be a PARC member

W6NWX

More information at PARC Website www.palomarc.org
Or contact NN3V (Charlie) at nn3v_6@arrl.net

COME JOIN THE FUN OF FIELD DAY

Minutes

Palomar Amateur Radio Club

Board of Directors Meeting

March 14, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President Dennis Baca KD6TUJ at 7:50pm at the home of Ron Pollack K2RP. In attendance were:

President	Dennis Baca KD6TUJ
Vice President	Ron Pollack K2RP
Treasurer	Dave Ochs KI6LKP
Secretary	Paul Williamson KB5MU
Director #1	Don Johnson WD6FWE
Director #2	Eric Hutchins K7ELH
Membership Chairman	Al Donlevy W6GNI
Repeater Technical Chairman	Conrad Lara, KG6JEI
Visitor	Adam Cabacungan Be Ready, Inc.

Adam Cabacungan, Vice President of Operations at Be Ready, Inc., a disaster preparedness company based in Oceanside, made a presentation to the Board. They have seen a big increase in interest in amateur radio from CERT teams and other organizations, and they want to add amateur radio to their offerings. Adam is working on his own license, and plans to become a trainer and volunteer examiner. He has consulted with Steve Early, AD6VI, who recommended the club to him. Be Ready would like to host a regular hamfest and regular training at their store in Oceanside, and plans to carry amateur radio equipment from at least Kenwood and books from ARRL.

KD6TUJ invited Adam to attend the upcoming Operating Day to see what we're up to. Without objection from the Board, Be Ready was given permission to promote club activities in their newsletter.

Treasurer's Report

KI6LKP distributed copies of the Treasurer's Report. There was a discussion of the very low interest rates currently paid on CDs. The check to the State of California for the bi-annual Statement of Information filing has not cleared yet; reportedly it takes seven weeks to process. Our checking account balance is not far above the minimum required to get free checking and other freebies. Printing and mailing the Scope are big items in the budget. IRS form 990-N and CA FTB form 199N have been filed as e-postcards. Motion by KB5MU to approve the Treasurer's Report as published. Seconded by K2RP. Motion passed unanimously.

Secretary's Report

KB5MU distributed copies of the minutes of the February board meeting, previously sent by email. Motion by KI6LKP to approve the board meeting minutes as published. Seconded by KG6JEI. Motion passed unanimously.

Upcoming General Meetings

K2RP reported the April meeting will feature Joe N6SZO and Joe KE6PHB on hidden transmitter hunting. In May Dennis N6KI will talk about phone patches to Vietnam. The June meeting will presumably be about Field Day.

Membership

W6GNI reported that the membership is 274. Four new members joined at the last meeting. Renewals via Paypal tend to be for multiple years.

Repeater Technical Report

KG6JEI reported that there had been no repeater site visits since the snow fell. A few reports were received of the signal from the 146.730 MHz repeater being low, but this is unconfirmed. K7ELH reported some difficulty getting the Echolink system to connect to another node. KD6TUJ reported that the 6m cavities were delivered to W6HCD so that N6KI could measure them for a new insulator to center the tuning stub. KG6JEI relayed a report from KD6AKT that the NET/ROM firmware in our nodes is too old

to be compatible with other local nodes, such as LOMA. The ATV system is still down due to a keying problem. A work party is tentatively scheduled for April 15.

Field Day

KD6TUJ reported that the San Marcos site is almost nailed down. Lusardi wanted minor changes to the wording on the insurance certificate. Now we just need a chairperson.

Operating Day

KD6TUJ reported that Operating Day is still on, for now, despite threatening weather. Red Cross, San Marcos CERT, Robert Todd, Skywarn, the PAPA system, and antique equipment from K2RP are all confirmed.

Sale of Donated Transceiver

K2RP asked for approval to sell a donated Yaesu FT-767GX with 2m and 440 modules to a ham in Iowa who fixes and resells those rigs. While the price won't match what we could get for a fully-working rig, the rig we have has several things wrong with it. The consensus of the Board was that the sale would still be a good deal and that K2RP should go ahead with it.

SANDARC

KD6TUJ reported on the recent meeting of the San Diego Amateur Radio Council. The Lakeside ARC has retracted their requests for funds. There will be no SANDARC booth at the San Diego County Fair, but the Lakeside ARC will have a booth for the first few days. The ARC of El Cajon has resigned from SANDARC, and their president has resigned. SANDARC has no meetings confirmed after March, because their regular meeting room is not available.

Next Board Meeting Location

It was agreed that the next Board meeting would be held at the home of W6GNI at 7:30pm on April 11, 2012.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Williamson KB5MU
Secretary

Field Day Planning

Greatest needs: Shelters, Generators, tables and furniture for the stations, and Volunteers to participate.

We have 3 Stations, the satellite station, and the GOTA station, spoken for!

We have 2 stations (HF, the other 2 traditional operating stations) with high probability assignment.

We also have an emergency volunteer group interested in participating.

I am looking for someone willing to work as a PARC FD Public Information Officer (PIO).

The duty for this assignment is to contact local press, public officials, and emergency organizations, and invite them to visit the site.

The PIO will also be responsible for staffing the public information table at the FD site.

I already have the press announcements, and letters of invitation for public agencies, prepared.

What I need is someone to take charge of mailing them, telephoning public officials to invite them etc.

Finally, please set aside Saturday, May 26th., and Sunday, June 9th.

Those two days are currently scheduled for PARC FD Working parties. They will be held at the PARC storage compound. Details to follow.

We need help to come out and help check the antennas, clean the connections, and inventory the Club's equipment going to FD.

For some of you, this is the perfect time to learn about the critical pieces of hardware needed on the transmitter end of a ham station. Come out and get your hands dirty with EMF!

I hope to hear you on the FD Planning Net or contact me at NN3V@arrl.net

What does Elmer do?

My sincere thanks to Elmer for all that he has done to get me started in amateur radio. I earned my Technician license in November 2011 and my General in January 2012.

I met Elmer while attending my first Palomar Amateur Radio Club meeting in February. When I was greeted by the members as a new ham, I indicated my desire for assistance in getting started. Three Elmers took my card and two made contact for meetings at my shack-in-progress. I had acquired an ICOM-728 transceiver, an MFJ-949E Versa Tuner II, an MFJ-407B Electronic Keyer, and a CW Paddle from an estate sale. I also retrieved antenna cables from the home's attic.

I began my web research to study for the exam, to learn about the equipment I now own, and was experimenting with a simple wire antenna hung over the door of my shack-in-progress. My wife had stopped coming upstairs to look at what was happening to her spare bedroom. My ignorance about antennas and my lack of knowledge about operating my equipment yielded me reception on

only a few AM radio stations. I was having poor results.

Enter Elmer, WN6K, Paul Dorey. I have known Paul for three months now; he is an outstanding mentor in all of the ways that I understand the term.

Here is what Elmer has done for me:

- assessed my ham equipment and cable connections in my shack
- provided a tutorial on antennas and helped me to fabricate a starter 10 m dipole
- demonstrated how to send and receive from his shack to mine
- helped me move the 10 m dipole from the door of my shack to the interior overhead of my garage (I live in a neighborhood with homeowner restrictions)
- assisted me in extending the garage dipole halves into a horizontal U-shape for better multi-band performance on 10, 12, 15, 17, and 20 m.
- worked with me during several visits to establish my initial contacts, explaining the details of QSO, QSL, RST, where and how to log my contact information, and where to find daily solar resource and space weather information
- helped me to fabricate and mount a 17 m dipole in inverted V at the western roof gable apex of my house



17 METER DIPOLE INVERTED VEE



- introduced me to a group of experienced (and patient) ham operators who meet daily on 17 m to test propagation across the country on multiple HF bands
- loaned me his spare Yaesu FT-990 to show the power and features of a transceiver that could hold its own in the daily Propagation Group. I now know there is a difference between his FT-990, my ICOM-728, and many other radios

All of this comes with the learning process Elmer provides. WN6K continues to mentor me on diverse ham topics, including CW and LOTW; he has introduced topics and answered questions that have accelerated my progress.

This is how amateur radio operations are propagated to newbies like me. I am grateful for WN6K's shared expertise and technical support as I develop my shack and my skills. I have miles to go, but I am enjoying the experience.

Thanks, Elmer! Thanks, PARC!

Ken Leon KJ6SJZ



STEALTHY CENTER-FED DIPOLE AT KJ6SJZ



Palomar Amateur Radio Club has a page on Facebook. If you're on Facebook, consider joining our group at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/194674987710/>



Mobile Installation

by John WB6IQS

Here is my custom 2006 GMC Sierra truck installation for an Alinco VHF FM rig.

I made an angled floor hump mount out of some old aluminum 1/16" thick rack panel side covers. I pop riveted them together and mounted it to the floor on the center line of the truck. I had to be careful to allow the seats to go fully forward but not have the console so far forward that the rig would be blocked from view.



The external speaker is an old GE Master II mobile speaker that was specifically designed to have very good mid-range voice response.

The roof mount antenna was centered over the dome light cut out in the headliner. I drilled a 3/4" hole in the roof and fished the antenna coax to the side and down the truck's passenger side seat belt mounting column.



It was a chore to take up the carpeting and fish the wires around but it is a totally hidden installation except for the rig's power wiring. +12 V power goes to an unused 15 A fuse for an optional radio accessory that was not installed. I have a frame ground return tied to the sheet metal in the firewall. I did not trust the hump mount contacts to be low impedance or low noise.

John Kuivinen, WB6IQS, Vista



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April membership meeting
photographs by Don WD6FWE.

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2014 CONVENTION LOGO

Logo Contest for the 2014 Convention

Deadline: May 31, 2012

Time: 2100 Hours

**Please submit all Images to
Kc6qls@cox.net**

Open only to SANDARC Associated Club Members

Convention Theme: Disaster Preparedness

All Logos to be submitted in one of the following formats PDF, JPEG, GIF and in AI format for the printer. Six True Colors, one is to be white. Must have the words:

"ARRL Southwestern Division Convention 2014", and have the ARRL Diamond Logo in the logo.

The winner will receive one (1) Banquet Dinner Ticket, to the 2014 Convention. Convention Dates: September 12 - 14, 2014

Past Logos



Mobile Installation

by Robert N9SCD

Here are some details of my recent radio installation. Actually, the radio has been in the car for about six months now. I just finished changing the antenna. Previously, it was a mag mount. I figured it would eventually damage the paint so I fabricated a bracket to mount it directly to holes already in the luggage rack. The objective was to keep a low profile and avoid hitting the garage door. The radio is a Yaesu FT-2200. It fit nicely in a space in the center console of my '07 Murano.



RADIO INSTALLATION

I routed the power connection directly to the battery.



BATTERY CONNECTION

The antenna bracket was cut from a piece of 2" corner aluminum stock.



ANTENNA BRACKET

The antenna is a Comet B-10 with a 3D5MB cable assembly. It hasn't hit anything yet and is easy to remove for machine washing of the car. I'm still looking for a better way to secure the cable and route it inside.



ANTENNA FULL VIEW

There was an article in QST a few months ago about excessive electrical noise in many new cars. I guess I'm lucky. The radio doesn't cause any in the car and the car doesn't cause any in the radio. Everything works as intended.

Enjoy,

Robert
N9SCD

Club Membership

New Members Joining PARC: KG6WJD, AE6PU, KJ6ZAP, KJ6UMG. Fortunately we also had a number of renewals. Please welcome the new members, on the air, and in person.

Note, You can also check your membership renewal date on the web site!

The use of PayPal is working for renewals!!

Al
W6GNI

Field Day planning has begun!

Charlie NN3V is Field Day Chairman.

You're invited to join the Field Day planning net Wednesdays (except the first Wednesday of the month) at 8pm on the 146.730 MHz repeater.

See our Field Day page and refer to the ARRL Field Day page.

March Issue Fold & Staple Crew
March Issue Fold & Staple Crew
KB6NMK Jo WA5ACE Sonny
KB6YHZ Art & Janet W6GNI Al & Kathy

The WOUXUN 2m/440 handheld radio was won by Dave KI6LKP at the March meeting. The radio has been programmed with simplex and 42 2m repeaters, and 10 440 repeaters in San Diego County.

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Do you have a mobile installation? Do you want to have a mobile installation, and need some motivation?

We're looking for a few good mobile installations - whether they're completed, on the drawing board, or half-way done and tripping you and your passengers every time you get in and out of the vehicle - to be featured in the Scope. We'd love to show your installation.

Tips, narratives, explanations, techniques, problems encountered and solved (or encountered and evaded) are what we're looking for. Send them in!

scope@palomararc.org

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Have items that need to find a new home? Advertise here! Send your ads to scope@palomararc.org

For Sale

Selling HT-37 and HQ-180 as a pair for \$400. They are in perfect working condition and actively used by Brian, W0NW these last 20 years. If interested, I can forward a picture of the radios.

Bernie, N6FN
cell 760-505-6537
n6fn@niftyaccessories.com

For Sale

AMERITRON ALS-600 SOLID STATE NO TUNE FET AMPLIFIER WITH AMERITRON 50 VOLT SWITCHING POWER SUPPLY. NEW, NEVER BEEN OUT OF THE BOX \$900.00 FIRM.

ED GENEST
w6abe@arrl.net

For Sale

Hammarlund HQ 129X receiver (vintage 1946) in great working condition (New Filter Caps) and above average appearance. \$150. K2RP@ARRL.NET or 760-436 -8109

For Sale

Hello:

My 93 year old neighbor (Richard Krist) has requested my assistance with re-listing his radio gear (as he is going deaf).

For Sale (BEST OFFER)

Cushcraft Ringo Ranger, Model ARX1, Vertical 2M	\$30.00
YAESU FT-1000D Transceiver	\$2,000.00
Kenwood TS-950 S, 10-160 M Transceiver	\$2,000.00
Heathkit Phone Patch, Model HD 15	\$30.00
Remote Motor driven, 6 Pos Coax SW with Control Box	\$100.00
YAESU FT 2500 M, with Astro PS 12 A	\$300.00
Kenwood TR-7330 2 M, with Astro PS7A	\$150.00
Ten-Tec Titan amp 1kw, 10 to 160 M	\$2,000.00

Contact: R. F. Krist, W6KTE, (760) 724-2786

Buyers are welcome to contact me with their offers via email or on my cell phone so that I can present them to Richard. I can send photos if that will help. Thanks for your assistance in this matter.

Regards, A good neighbor

Dennis S. Stizza
Home: 760.724.2786
Mobile: 760.717.2214
dstizza@pacbell.net

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You can join or renew your membership on the club's web site <http://www.palomararc.org>

Editor: Michelle Thompson W5NYV

Submissions: scope@palomararc.org

Questions? Ideas? Comments? W6NWG@amsat.org

Featured Program:

At 7:30pm on the 2nd of May 2012, the program will be about phone patches from Vietnam, presented by Dennis N6KI.

Arrive at 7:00pm to socialize. We look forward to seeing you at the Carlsbad Safety Center, 2560 Orion Way, Carlsbad, CA.