

220 Spectrum Management Association

President's Letter

April 2016

Ensuring our Association's Coordination Board effectively operates has now become our highest priority if we are to fulfill the 220 SMA's commitment maintaining 1.25-meter frequency coordination in Southern California. A significant portion of our April 16th quarterly meeting in Chatsworth will be devoted to proposed changes in the 220 SMA's constitution and bylaws, with goals to improve performance and accountability of our Board and Officers. We welcome your suggestions, via the 220 SMA Reflector, in advance of the meeting whether you plan to attend or not.

We know change isn't always welcomed or easy and sometimes evokes French critic Alphonse Karr's cynical comment, "The more things change, the more they stay the same." To consider the latter in a positive vein for the 220 SMA: Change we must, yet without destroying the glue that holds our organization together. So yes, we need change to fulfill our mission—and thankfully our mission isn't changing.

Frequency coordination remain essential in regions such as ours where all repeater frequency pairs are "taken," though perhaps not used or operating. A key step for the 220 SMA is re-establishing a monitoring program for determining which repeaters are operational and their signal coverage. All our members can meaningfully participate with this to provide the input our Coordination Board needs.

On a national level, "coordination" of the nation's frequency coordinators has ended. The ARRL recently announced a 90-day advance notice to terminate its Memorandum of Understanding with the National Frequency Coordinators Council, a group that became moribund with no known person in charge. While the ARRL would have liked the NFCC to continue, the best prospect for successful frequency coordination is enabling regional coordinators such as the 220 SMA to demonstrate they are capable of efficiently managing their regional spectrum. I know we can do that...and do it well...through proactively combining the talents of our Coordination Board, our Officers, and our Members. I look forward to your thoughts and hope to see you on April 16th in Chatsworth.

73,

Diana Feinberg, AI6DF

P.S.: I bought a long-awaited BridgeCom Systems BCM-220 mobile transceiver and will have it at the Chatsworth meeting for everyone to view.