

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

BULLETIN

FEBRUARY 1968

THE PREZ SEZ by Doug Heydon (WB6WDS)

This issue of the BULLETIN continues our astonishing uninterrupted publication record of two months in a row. Best of all, from my point of view, there was actually some response to my request for a volunteer to edit the BULLETIN. Arnie Conn, our capable Vice President has agreed to take over this chore, at least temporarily, and this issue is a product of his efforts.

You will find a couple of new features in this edition of the BULLETIN, BLIPS by Don Schweitzer (WB6TES) and a modest beginning on a section of want-ads and items for sale or swap. Suggestions for this kind of improvement (or better yet, actual contributions) are very much appreciated and all readers are encouraged to submit ideas and suggestions.

The March Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 18, in Conference Room 2464 in Bldg. S. All interested club members are invited to attend this meeting.

Thanks to Al Davanzo (WB6DKR) and Doug Freeman (WA6AZW) for offering their services as mentioned later on, and congratulations to our old friend Ray Meyers (W6MLZ) on being elected President of the L.A. Council of Radio Clubs.

I'd like some thoughts (and volunteers?) on the subject of standing committees. Possible candidates include Training, Public Service, Activities, Operations, Interference and Administrative. There's lots to do, and fun in the doing. Call me on 62266/52469.

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SECRETARY'S REPORT by John Kroemer (W6SMH)

Minutes of January 31, 1968 Meeting

President Doug Heydon called the meeting to order at 12:05 P.M. The minutes and treasurer's reports were approved as published in the BULLETIN.

Old Business - John McReynolds reported that the code class has dropped to one student. Al Lee gave a report on the club council meeting in Los Angeles which included the election of officers. Ray Meyers was elected as president. Ed Thornley said the credit union requires us to direct two officers to make the loan for the shack equipment. A resolution was passed to direct Doug Heydon and Ed Thornley to go ahead with the loan.

New business - The ARRL affiliation resolution was read to the members and was passed. Al Davanzo was appointed as council representative to replace Al Lee. Ed Thornley presented a resolution to allow Benjamin B. Cantaros of the Leper Colony to become a life member of the club. This was approved by all members.

Mr. Robert H. Ruby (WA6ZAC) of Swan Electronics discussed the new 500C transceiver changes. The changes were: 6LQ6 in final, I.F. frequency, front panel dial and controls, VFO, double-tuning between mixer and R.F. stage, side tone monitor and grid block keying. The new price of the 500C is \$520.00.

Mr. Ruby was not directly connected with the 6M transverter but talked about it in general terms indicating that it was the same size as 500C and will need an external power supply if used with other than Swan equipment. It should be announced for sale soon. He hinted they are also working on a 2M transverter.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 P.M.

TREASURER'S REPORT by Ed Thornley, (WA6JHD)

The club is maintaining reasonable solvency, in spite of increases in the cost of living. Report for the month of January is:

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Balance on hand - 1 January 1968 \$ 95.55

Receipts:

Dues	\$56.00	
Door Prize Ticket (January Meeting)	<u>7.45</u>	
Total		\$ 63.45

Expenses:

Banquet Refund and Wet Noodle Expenses D.L. Schweitzer	7.50	
Deposit - Lafayette VHF Transceivers	25.00	
Door Prizes (January meeting)	3.67	
Credit Union Membership application and fees	5.50	
Speaker's lunch	<u>2.13</u>	
Total		\$ 43.80

Balance on hand 31 January 1968 \$115.20

On 1 February 1968, your president and treasurer made formal application to the TRW Systems Employees' credit union for a loan of \$425.00. This was in accord with the unanimous vote of the members present at the January meeting and was intended to finance the purchase of 6 and 2 meter Lafayette transceivers for the club shack. Well, our credit rating is excellent and the loan was officially made on 6 February 1968. The terms are reasonable, we will repay this loan at the rate of \$20.00 per month for 24 months with an interest rate of 1% on the unpaid balance.

We promptly "blew" most of the money by paying the balance of \$352.90 owed to Lafayette radio but we now have the two VHF transceivers to call our own. Here's a chance to accumulate some operating hours on the "blue light" bands, you VHF'ers!

But lets not forget those "easy monthly payments" fellows, pay your dues promptly so we can stay in good graces with the credit union!

PROGRAM NOTES by Arnie Conn (WB6VTQ)

At the next club meeting, February 28, we are privileged to announce an address by Don Etheredge S.C.M. for the Los Angeles Section of A.R.R.L. Don will present a general discussion on League activities and the state of Amateur Radio today. It promises to be an extremely interesting and stimulating discussion which will be followed by a question and answer period. So fellows, please make every effort to attend!

Future topics for discussion at our regular meetings will include an address by F. Reed on our newly acquired honorary life member who presently resides in a leper colony in the Phillipines. An informative address on the progress of OSCAR is also planned.

A questionnaire will be circulated shortly dealing with the proposed club participation in the coming Field Day activities. If sufficient interest is forthcoming, a very enjoyable and exciting weekend is possible. So please return these questionnaires immediately, and make every effort to support your club!

SAGA OF THE SHACK for Carl Rothrock (W6MYC) by Ed Thornley (WA6JHD)

Carl has been ill, but Ed wants to remind all members that our shack in Building 65 is there for your fun and amusement. The Swan 500 is operating nicely, with some limits because we're still loading that ancient (but honorable) 14 AVS vertical. Ed worked some real choice DX last Sunday W6KAE/Gardena, CA on 40!

We snagged the Queen Mary - GB5QM last December too, so if you haven't tried it, don't knock it!

Seriously, our shack is there for your use. Access is simple. Check in at the lobby of Building 65, ask the receptionist or guard on duty for the key to the radio shack - you'll have to show your club membership card to get in. Arrangements have been made to have a log book for your sign in-and-out. If the lobby door is locked, as it is evenings and weekends, use the phone outside the door to call Security and the roving guard will be dispatched promptly to let you in.

Be sure to use the station log book to record your QSO's - sign your name and call to make it legal. Don't forget to turn all equipment off and lock the door

when you leave. A supply of club QSL cards are available in the shack - use 'em! Don't forget - 5¢ postage, I don't think TRW's mail room will stamp them for us.

We would like to have a photo copy of each member's license for the shack. Get your secretary to xerox yours and send the copy to Ed Thornley, R4/2182.

BLIPS by Don Schweitzer (WB6TES)

Low-Cost Digital Display Unit. POPULAR ELECTRONICS, February 1968, features building a true Digital Readout Unit at a cost well within the budget of most serious Hams. The Editor promises that this item will be the key unit in future articles for homebrewed goodies such as a Digital Voltmeter, Frequency Counter, etc. I predict that this issue will be much in demand and hard to find very soon. Better take a look.

The 2-Amp, 0-32 VDC Short-Proof Power Supply, same issue, page 53, is Lab Quality, and as pretty as a spotted pony. Complete kit available at 36 ohms, but many of the goodies are in your junk box doing nothing right now.

A tiny Keying Monitor which I use with a straight key on my Xmtr, and also use for a practice oscillator, is described on page 59, same issue. The author neglected to state that the oscillator which we both used was a 98¢ transistorized gem from RADIO SHACK. Stock No. 20-1155, shown in their Xmas Catalog, 1968 (?), No. 174. Radio Shack, Torrance, had the unit in stock, Westchester Radio Shack did not. I used an external battery clip and a pen-light cell for quick, cheap replacement.

Surplus and Out-of-Date Equipment. TRW has recently asked Department Heads to weed out useless items which take up space and increase the tax bill. Hams, being great scroungers, have been asking what becomes of gear which could be used to further Amateur Radio experimentation. Occasionally, items of educational value have been donated to Universities where many new engineers may use them to improve their knowledge. Presently, however, the bulk of such material is sold in lots by bid to licensed Surplus Dealers, it being economically impossible to sell individual items piecemeal. A study of the disposition methods possible has been considered here, so, until some decision is announced, please don't rock the boat, fellows. Play it cool.

TVI Tip. None of us like to do missionary work among the Indians of Suburbia however, it will happen as long as TV repairmen continue to be what they are, manufacturers continue to cut costs by gambling that the guy next door won't be a Ham, and TV tuning units continue to get dirty.

I recommend as the best "first call" tool a small Aerosol can of tuner and contact cleaner and lubricant, with a long piece of tubing on it, be slipped in your pocket before you leave the shack.

Let the complaintant insert the tube in his tuner, and squirt it while you just rotate the dial. Results in many cases are truly dramatic, placing the Indian on the defensive while you explain that lint, dust, and such like are present in the air anywhere, even in a nice, clean home like theirs. I am also prepared to recommend local repairmen who know how to install filters or align tuners when the Indian gets that helpless look and asks, "what to do".

73

TRADING POST by Arnie Conn (WB6VTQ)

Anyone wishing to list items wanted, for sale, or swap in the BULLETIN, contact Arnie, ext. 52228.

For Sale

4CX250A, 4CX300, 15KV, 50-100pf vacuum variable capacitor -Arnie, x52228.

Wanted

Antenna Rotator - Doug, x 62578

Light Triband Beam and Tower - George, x 64904

Vacuum Variable Capacitor 20-700 pf 10 KV, 4P-5T K.W.

R.F. Band Switch - Fred, x 64329

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

New Members - we are very pleased to welcome the following new members to the club:

Ernest C. Brelsford - Ernie recently retired as Vice-President, Finance of TRW, Inc. in Cleveland. He spent 22 years with TRW following a period in New York in investment banking. Ernie in his college days worked as a commercial radio operator on Great Lake Passenger Vessels and worked the college ham station. He and his wife are now living in Santa Barbara and Ernie is going to get his ticket and get back on the air.

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Doug Freeman (WB6YQD/WA6AZW) - Doug (EX K1YLI and TF2WJA) is employed in Q.A. in the M1 Environmental Lab. Doug has been appointed Club manager for the coming Field Day event. He is currently active on 20 and 40 meter SSB.

George Campbell (W6FXZ) - George is employed in the Aerospace Systems Section and is currently active on 75 meters only. However, as soon as George gets a beam he will be active on the higher levels.

Oliver Saunders (W1BJV) - Oliver is employed in the Space Vehicles Division and unfortunately has not yet gotten on the air due to the fact his rig is still back east. Oliver is a C.W. man working 10 and 15 meters.

George Kulahin - George is employed in the Controls Section and prior to 1959 held the call OD532. George is anxiously awaiting the start of the code class so that he can get his ticket and get on the air.

George Peck (K8QAI) - George works in the Solid State Physics Dept. and is unfortunately not active at the moment. George will be coordinating the OSCAR activities for the club.

Up for Renewal - the following members are reminded that their memberships are about to or have expired. We urge you to contact Ed Thornley to maintain continuous membership:

Hank Bonish
Melvin J. Carriere
Arnold A. Conn (WB6VTQ)
Gary A. Cooper (WB6RLN)
Lonnie Cope
Loren Disper (W6SJV)
James Fithian (K6OEG)
William Freely (K6HMS)
Raymond Hailey (W6SOF)
R. Hennings

Furman Marsh
John Ostrich (K6JBD)
John Parsons
Al Shideler (WØIFI/6)
George Stanton (W6PBY)
Clifford Tunis
Gerald Vellutini
Robert Weidemann (W6WAB)
Paul Woodson (WA6IGZ)
Warren Wright