



cross talk

NEWS BULLETIN OF TRW AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



Sponsored by Systems Employee Association



JUNE 1982

FD '71
WAS FD '73
WAC FD '75
FD '76

Garrett/W6TRW Repeater: 145.32 Receive -- 144.72 Transmit (2A-PL)

A CALENDAR BY ANY OTHER NAME

June 30, Noon	TRW/ARC Club Meeting, R4-1041. Ron Boan (AK6Y) and Jim Hoff (KE6ES) will speak on ARES.
July 12, evening	Executive Board Meeting. Field Day post mortem.
July 13, Noon	Club Picnic at Pollywog Park.
July 28, Noon	TRW/ARC Club Meeting.
July 31, 8-11 am	TRW/ARC Swapmeet. Donations to club to be auctioned off.

IMPORTANT: ABOUT THOSE RUMORS YOU'VE HEARD

There is absolutely no truth to the rumor that the city of Manhattan Beach has closed down the TRW Amateur Radio Club's monthly swapmeet. It will continue to be held every month, on the last Saturday (unless Cross Talk says otherwise). If someone repeats the rumor to you, please correct them. TRW/ARC would appreciate it if other clubs would also do this.

Apparently, the rumors arose because of confusion about the OTHER swapmeet held at TRW. The Systems Employees Association (SEA) charged admission to its swapmeets (WE DON'T), and because of this, has run into some legal problems with the city. The quarterly SEA swapmeets are off until further notice.

Since TRW/ARC does not charge admission to its monthly event, so there is no problem. Things continue "business as usual."

THE LATEST ON CLUB QSL CARDS

Mel Erb reports that club QSLs can now be obtained from: Hawthorne Typesetting Co., 4736 West El Segundo Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250. Phone: (213) 679-8677. The cost for imprinting your personal information in silver ink on the club's cards is \$22.00 for 100; and \$4.00 for each additional 100 cards. Five or more orders (with different calls etc.) are \$18 per 100 (with the \$4.00 each extra hundred of the same card). Allow one week from the time your order is placed. He also has other styles of cards available, such as the "business card" type.

SWAPMEET REPORT FOR MAY 1982--Bill Schreck (KE6LB)

The event was well attended, with nearly all available spaces filled. The crowd was enthusiastic, but well behaved. Our TRW/ARC crew consisted of Paul Weisz (K6YQ), George Lee (W6IOW), Ron Phillips (K6MLL), and Bill Rodner (K6AWS). K6AWS filled in for me while I went off backpacking in the wilds of Catalina Island. Gary Komatsu (K6HPD) and others pitched in and helped out during busy periods.

The June Swapmeet is scheduled for the Field Day weekend. Scheduled operators are Jim Hill (W6IVW), Gary Cooper (WB6RLN), and Pat Dobbins (KA6TRK). Our club is still accepting donations of parts and equipment, so bring these items to the Swapmeet or call me or a club officer to arrange for pickup. Reminder--during the July Swapmeet we'll auction off the donations we've accumulated. Call Bill Dews (K6AWO) for info on the auction, or to help him during the auction. See you all at the Swapmeet.

FOR SALE: Heathkit HW-101, with power supply, assembled, with all instruction books & manuals -- \$400. Juan Gregorio, WA6BRN, x54751.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING--Vic Musil, KA6NDN. June 8, 1982

Dave Gilmore (WB6IDJ) reported that the Emergency Communications Group has 25 members to date.

Bill Daley (K6BO) will be out of town during the next LAACARC meeting. Paul Weisz will fill in for him and report.

Bill Ivey (WA6QET) said that he will refer the questions about TRW retiree participation in SEA activities to the SEA Council for their opinion.

Bill Schreck (KE6LB) reported that there have been no volunteers to date for the post of Swapmeet co-chairman.

Dave Gilmore requested the opportunity to check the receiver sensitivity of the club's repeater. A discussion of propagation characteristics, etc., followed. The repeater will be checked some time after Field Day.

TRW/ARC FINANCIAL STATEMENT, Fred Garrett, N6CRW. June 8, 1982

Credit Union QSL Account	\$376.44
General Fund Account	\$453.70
Swap Meet Account	\$1097.27
Total	\$1927.41

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY: June 1973

As could be expected, the big concern that month was Field Day. Preparations were complete for the event to be held at the fuel depot, and hands were itching for keys and mike buttons.

The challenge went out for design of a logo for the club. Contest details were to follow in the next issue. You see the results on page one.

The activity at the club station in May was astounding. With 24 DX countries and 32 states worked in that month alone, we were well on our way to the WAS and WAC certificates that grace the walls of the shack.

NEWS OF NOTE

Richard A. Burton of Canoga Park was convicted by a federal judge recently for transmitting without a license and broadcasting obscene language. The former WB6JAC lost his license in June 1981 for the obscenities, but he continued to broadcast--reportedly for hours at a time.

SEA is again planning a company picnic, for the last weekend in August. In addition, please take note of the SEA clubs' joint membership drive, the week of June 28.

Bill Dews reports that the West Coast Amateur Radio School dispenses amateur radio news and ARRL bulletins on Monday and Tuesday evenings at 5pm on 144.330 MHz FM. From the antenna and power descriptions, you should be able to hear their transmissions over most of the area. In addition, there are other regular nets which broadcast Westlink. On Monday night at 7pm, the Mount Wilson Repeater Association (i.e., the La Habra Hills repeater) plays the tape on 147.435 MHz. If you are aware of other news and information groups you find interesting, let us know.

If you didn't catch the Sentinel article on our club, just call. If you can stand the puns.

Bill Schreck reports that Fred Valentine didn't get to keep his "new" call after all--the FCC goofed up! So, he now has KE6VF (which is even better, when you look at it). Fred isn't the only one who's had such a switch; I've heard of a couple more. I've got a death grip on Mine.

It turned out that Bill Schreck could hit our repeater from Catalina Island, and apparently talked to a few folks out at the Swapmeet. Never can quite get away from it, can he?

The article on solid state switching was submitted directly from one of our exchange newsletter editors. Bob Heil (K9EID) has other talents, too, I hear. Presented with the "Amateur of the Year Award" at the Dayton Hamvention, he is said to have delivered an eloquent acceptance speech. Then they made him play the organ for his supper. Bob edits the newsletter for the Marissa Amateur Radio Club, in Illinois.

A Transmitter that hums isn't too strange -- but one that hums "Stars and Stripes Forever"??

TECHNICAL CORNER -- SOLID STATE SWITCHING

-- Bob Heil (K9EID) P.O. Box 26, Marissa, Illinois 62257

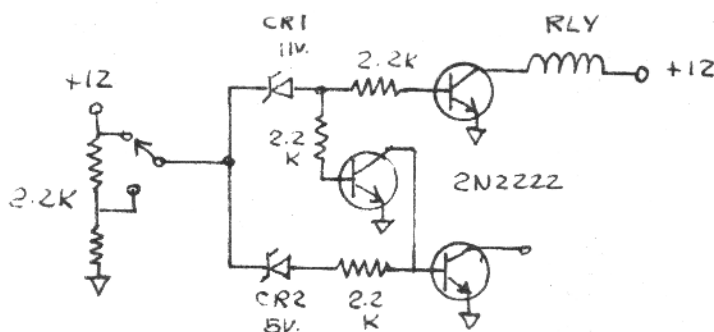
In this age of silicon devices, we can perform some neat remote or local switching of various low voltage circuits, such as antennas, keying lines, etc.

One great plus factor with switching devices is that we can use a single control wire, which could be valuable where we have an existing line run and need to control several devices from that one line. By using zener diodes of varying voltage levels, it is easy to feed a matching voltage level down the single line to cause the proper diode to conduct, therefore turning on one of the transistor switches.

When using an NPN device, a positive voltage on the base resistor will make the transistor conduct, while the collector will be low, or ground. Turning off the control voltage to the base resistor will cause the collector to come back to a high state. This one simple action is the basis of all solid state happenings, and if you haven't built up such a circuit and become familiar with it, it would be a good test to do so and become acquainted with the great world of solid state switching.

Once you have that collector going high and low (+12 volts and ground), you can connect a relay, an L.E.D., a small buzzer, etc. The important thing to understand is that the current draw of the device you connect to the collector cannot exceed the current handling capacity of the switching transistor.

The simple switching network can be applied to a number of uses and requires a minimum of parts and knowledge to get working. One helpful hint for any transistor switching circuit that works in high R.F. environments is to bypass the bases of the devices to ground, using ceramic disc capacitors of 100 to 200 picofarads. The base bias resistor and this bypass cap look like a short at high R.F. frequencies. This can be nice to know when you're trying to remove R.F. from all types of audio and switching circuits.



RAAL NUMBERED RADIOGRAMS--TNX ARNS and Santa Barbara Key Klix, by N6DQC

The Rational Anonymous Amateur's League (RAAL) in its finite wisdom to sanction the use of certain numbered texts for relaying routine messages. The following is a sample:

ONE--We're all in danger. Please worry.

TWO--We're all OK except for strange Uncle Ernie who has six toes.

THREE--The fire department managed to save the house, but they drowned your cat.

FOUR--No need to worry. The radiation half life of plutonium is only 5,000 years.

FIVE--Suggest you stay there. The earthquake shook things up a bit, and the place is a mess.

SIX--I have arrived safely but my baggage is lost.

SEVEN--My baggage arrived safely but I am lost.

EIGHT--My baggage and I have both arrived safely but the plane is missing.

NINE--Please acknowledge if you did not receive this message.

TEN--In response to your question, the answer is a mealy-mouthed "maybe."

ELEVEN--In response to your request, the seven sheep and four gallons of peanut butter are on their way, but the walrus trusses are not to be found.

TWELVE--In response to your request, I would if I could but I can't so I won't.

THIRTEEN--Your last message does not compute. Please check your data banks.

FOURTEEN--Okay, it sounds better than sticking my finger in an electric socket.

FIFTEEN--Please hurry home, I'm waiting for you.

SIXTEEN--Expletive deleted.