



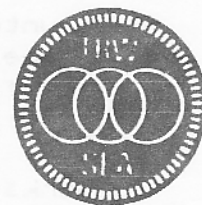
CROSSTALK

News Bulletin of the TRW Amateur Radio Club

MEMBER ARRL CLUB NO 1658 MEMBER LAACRC

W6TRW REPEATER: 145.320/-0.6 (PL 2A)

UHF: 442.000 IN/447.000 OUT



CALENDAR FOR LATE OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER, 1989

Every	Friday	Club Breakfast -- Building S Cafeteria	7AM
Every	Wednes	Emergency Communications Team Check-in	Noon
Oct.28	Satur.	TRWARC Swapmeet: Marine & Aviation	8-11AM
Oct.31	Tues.	Club meeting: E2/1200	Noon
Nov. 7	Tues.	EBM at Pizza Hut: El Segundo ^{EL SEGUNDO} & Oceangate	530PM
Nov.10	Friday	Deadline for Dec. Crosstalk articles	1130PM
Nov.25	Satur.	TRWARC Swapmeet: Marine & Aviation	8-11AM
Nov.28	Tues.	Club meeting:use HOTLINE for the latest	

FROM THE PRESIDENT By Rich Sauer, N6CIZ

Well, the year is winding down, but there's still a lot of Club activities going on that you might want to get involved with. As always, there's the swapmeet the last Saturday of each month and Club meetings the last Tuesday of each month and breakfast get-togethers every Friday and ECT Checkin's every Wednesday. But there's more!

November 18th is the date of our Club's annual banquet. This year, our guest speaker will be Julian Macassey, N6ARE. Julian, among other things, writes a monthly column for Popular Communications magazine. He's a very entertaining speaker and we're looking forward to a great time. Please join us by filling out the form elsewhere in this newsletter and sending it to Chris Wachs, WA2KDL.

If you'd like to get more involved in the Club and decide how things are run, the end of the year brings a golden opportunity. In November, we'll be accepting nominations for Club officers. There are four positions that our members will be voting to fill in December. These are President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. These folks make up the core of the Club's Executive Board and play key roles in deciding the direction of the Club for the coming year. If you'd like to take on the challenge of leading the Club into the next year, let me know and I'll make sure your name is on the ballot.

Of course, elective office is not the only way to help out the Club.

Volunteers are always welcome. I won't bore you with any long pleas for help. Just look at the back of Crosstalk to see how many slots need filling. If you're interested in any aspect of Ham Radio, we've got a job for you!

Thanks to the fine work of Jeff Shields, N9CZA, and Chris Wachis, WA2KDL, our OSCAR station is just about ready for MicroSat. Those of you who attended our evening Club meeting in September heard an interesting talk by Harold Prince, NK6K, who gave us an overview (and some inside dope) on the MicroSat project. W6TRW is going to be a control station for the four MicroSat satellites just after their launch so we really need a first class station. And thanks to the work of Jeff and Chris, we've got one. If you're thinking of working some dx on the birds, give Jeff a call and he'll give you a quick checkout.

I'd like to take some space here for a personal note. As many of you know, Bill Dews, K6AWO, retired from TRW recently. I'm sure that if you've been involved with the TRW Amateur Radio Club for any length of time, you've run into Bill. And he's probably put you to work, too! Bill is known around the Executive Board as "The Great Delegator" because of his ability to get people to do things that they really don't want to do. With his retirement, Bill will probably be keeping a lower profile but, hopefully, will still be involved with the Club. I can't imagine the TRW/ARC without Bill's hand (firmly planted in someone's back pushing him in a direction he doesn't want to go).

Bill is the reason why I'm writing this President's column. I was innocently attending Club meetings with no thought of doing much else when Bill detected that I might be interested in getting involved in some Club activities. The rest is history. Bill, I'd like to take this opportunity to say thank you for myself and for all the other folks who you've pushed beyond their limits.

Well, the deadline is drawing near so I'll sign off now. I hope to see you at the banquet or Club meeting or some other function. 73 for now.

BANQUET ON NOV.18 (SAT)

SEE FLYER IN THIS ISSUE

GUEST SPEAKER: N6ARE

DOOR PRIZES: (TS-950?)

NOMINIATIONS FOR OFFICERS

November is the time to nominate Club members for the elective positions in the Club. If you'd like to become more involved in the Club's activities, now's the time to speak up.

Positions to be filled are: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

If you (or someone you know is) are interested in running for office, please send a note to Rich Sauer, N6CIZ, at the address on the back of the newsletter.

Microsat Ground Station Nearing Completion

Work on upgrading the W6TRW Oscar station to serve as a Microsat ground station is nearing completion. Over the past few months, all of the remaining key tasks have been accomplished:

- Some much needed antenna work was performed: the mast mounted preamp were installed and tested, a reinforced fiberglass boom was put in place, and a control box was built to control the preamp power and the antenna polarity relays.
- The antenna tracking software has been installed and calibrated, and used to automatically track Oscars 11, 12, and 13. We had some problems getting the software running on the club computer, because it was designed to run on a color system. Since we have a monochrome system, the install program would crash. Rich, N6CIZ, loaned the club a new video card, and Chris, WA2KDL, called the software author, and he agreed to modify the program to run on our system. Within a week of Chris's call we were up and running.
- The PSK modem has been built and calibrated, and used to send and receive PSK packets, both locally and through Oscar 13. Actually, we have two modems up and running, one built by John N6JLS for the club, and one built by Jeff N9CZA and on loan to the club. The modems are available as a kit from TAPR and AMSAT. The calibration procedure is somewhat involved, but was made easier by a weekend loan of some commercial quality test equipment, arranged by Chris WA2KDL.

These were the remaining critical events that had to happen before we could use W6TRW as a Microsat ground station. There are several smaller tasks remaining, but they are considered to be fine tuning at this point.

Thanks to the hard work and dedicated efforts of the people who worked on this project, everything was completed well ahead of schedule, with at least a month remaining before the originally scheduled launch date of November 9. The launch has now been postponed until mid-January, so this will give us plenty of time to fine tune, practice, document, and - oh yeah - have fun! If you would like a demo sometime, or would like to join the team, please contact Jeff N9CZA, Chris WA2KDL, or Rich N6CIZ.

73's and CU on the bird! de Jeff n9cza

ARES/Data Version 1.0 is now available!

ARES/Data, the long-awaited enhanced version of ARES/Data, is now available.

ARES/Data is a multi-connect, multi-port generalized database accessible via packet radio, with a full-featured conference bridge. The program was written by Weo Moerner, WN6I, and Dave Palmer, N6KL, for use in a wide variety of emergency and public-service amateur radio

situations. For a paper on V. 0.1, see the Proceedings of the 7th ARRL Computer Networking Conference, 1988.

New features added to version 1.0 (beyond 0.1) include:

- o Multiple ports (up to 4, with 8-32 simultaneous connects each)
- o Support for DRSI PC*PA packet adapters
- o Enhanced config file processing with startup files for each TNC
- o Update of selected field in a record
- o Import/Export facility
- o List range instead of list all
- o Beacon facility
- o Download file facility from a public directory
- o Labels command, including a label for the message field
- o Separate paths for database, index files, public directory
- o Many enhancements for the sysop screen
- o Improved error handling of disk full and disk errors

The key idea behind ARES/Data is that it allows you to track any type of information as needed that can be organized as 4 20-character fields plus an 80 character message for each record.

Possible uses:

- * Track victims of a multiple casualty incident sent to hospitals
- * * Track ham manpower availability/assignments
- * Record evacuees & shelter enrollment
- * Track floats in a parade
- * Short-message database: Field1=To Field2=From Msg= 80 char.msg
- * House-by-House Damage Assessment
- * DX Spotting (!)
- * Etc. !

ARES/Data was written by Weo Moerner, WN6I, and Dave Palmer, N6KL, with the ideas and support of a committee of hams from the Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). It is a copyrighted, public domain program, available without charge to anyone interested. The program was written on the author's own time and equipment, and the authors have their employer's permission to contribute the program to the public domain provided that they do not receive remuneration for their effort.

Requirements:

ARES/Data runs on an IBM Personal Computer of most any type, using DOS 3.2 or later, and having 400 KB of memory or more. It's recommended that you have 2 diskette drives, or a diskette drive and a fixed disk.

To enable the remote packet access features, the sysop also needs at the least (1) a DRSI PC*PA packet adapter, or (2) a RS-232 serial port, cable, a transceiver, and a TNC containing with the WA8DED firmware for the TNC-1, TNC-2, or the AEA PK-87 or PK-88. (NOTE: the remotely connecting packet stations may use ANY AX.25 TNC).

How To Obtain ARES/Data:

Please send a blank diskette (360 KB 5 1/4, or 720 KB 3 1/2) with a return mailer and sufficient return postage to Weo Moerner at 1003 Belder Drive, San Jose, CA 95120.

ARES/Data Version 1.0 is also available for anonymous FTP from the SanJose TCP/IP gateway as file ARESDA10.ARC. It is also available for downloading via CompuServe's HamNET in data library 9. Of course, you may also obtain ARES/Data from anyone who already has a copy. Please feel free to distribute it further via friends or BBSs you may have access to.

We hope ARES/Data will prove useful to other amateur radio groups as they help fulfill their communities' emergency communications needs, and invite your comments and questions!

Regards,

Dave Palmer, N6KL Palmer at ALMVMC / N6KL @ KB6OWT CIS:
73357,3157 Weo Moerner, WN6I Moerner at ALMVMC / WN6I @ KB6OWT

..... Annual banquet

Did you notice the Flyer so beautifully composed by N6RRY in the last issue? It's about the Club's annual banquet on Saturday, Nov. 18 at Del Contes, Torrance. Guest speaker will be N6ARE who is very knowledgeable on telecom subjects. Sign-up with WA2KDL before Oct. 31 please.

..... Nominations

Nominations of officers for 1990. Please see separate message from the President.

..... Status of Oscar station

Jeff, N9CZA, has a status report of our Oscar station elsewhere in this issue. He, WA2DKL, N6CIZ, among others have been putting in a lot of time and efforts toward this project for the November launch. Read his report and see if you like to join in and help a little.

..... TRW Retirees

If you like to use the station or the library, it is required that you sign and return the slip on page 5 of last issue.

..... Request

Request for short technical subjects: Please share and send in short articles of your projects that we may be benefited by them. Please send them thru inter-company mail to the President or to the Club's BB, Transfer File section #10 for Crosstalk, or as E-mail to #85;tnx.

..... Ham news

QST reviews Heath SB-1400 HF Transceiver.

CQ reviews the Kenwood TS-790, an all mode VHF/UHF/OSCAR xcvr.

HR reviews the Kenwood TS-950 with its new Digital Signal Processor.

HR has an article for 10M operators: a 3-ele Vertical Driven Array picking up about 4.5 db gain with some 15 to 20 db F/B. Phasing will help to change the directivity.

Did you notice that AEA has a new line of antenna? Look at the pic of 6M, 2M, and 432 moonbounce installation on that tower in its ad. Very impressive!

Ten-Tec, now the only US mfr. of ham radio, has the new OMNI V 562. The spec. is very similar to that of the Paragon 585 except that it is a ham-band only transceiver with the xtal mixd osc. from the Corsair II, resulting in better phase-noise performance. Both receivers have the best selectivity of all for fighting QRM (2.4/3.36khz for standard SSB, or 1.8/2.9 with the optional 1.8 khz filter).

In the Oct. issue of World Radio, K7YHA evaluated back in March the 3 popular MMDC in the QRP section, namely the MFJ-1278, the KAM, and the AEA PK-232. There is also a matrix of features for his tests.

For your Christmas tree:

- * Kenwood is coming out a TS-950 with a 50v final.
- * Yaesu, after 3 yrs of engineering, is coming out another.
- * ICOM is adding the 726, a 725 with 6M built-in.

..... Visiting Canada

US amateurs visiting Canada should remember that the US shares an automatic reciprocal agreement with Canada and this makes your FCC license valid in Canada as long as the original license is carried. Should you had difficulty getting your equipment through customs, tell the officer to refer to Memoranda D2-1-1(page 7) and D19-4-2(page 4). This will remind him that you can take your equipment into the country as a part of your personal baggage. You'll also need to declare your equipment by completing US Customs Form 4457 so that you won't have to pay a duty tax when returning US. (QST 10-89)

..... Technical

Awaiting your articles before Nov. 10. These spaces are for you, Hi,Hi!

TRW AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INVITES YOU TO OUR...

ANNUAL BANQUET (11-18)

TIME: 6:00 - 7:00 PM DRINKS
7:00 - 8:00 DINNER
8:00 - 9:30 SPEAKER / DOOR PRIZES

WHERE: DEL CONTES
KING ROOM
2900 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY

PRICE: \$10.00 / PERSON , MEMBER AND ONE GUEST
\$16.50 FOR EACH EXTRA GUEST

SPEAKER: JULAIN MACASSEY N6ARE

SEND RESERVATION BY OCTOBER 31 st. to
Chris Wachs M4/2246 TRW ONE SPACE PARK
REDONDO BEACH, CA 90278

Name: _____

Number of Prime Rib _____

Number of Breast of Chicken _____