



# CROSSTALK

A Publication of the TRW Amateur Radio Club



APRIL 1993

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## CALENDAR :

Every Monday: DCS Net on 145.32 Repeater @ 7:30 PM

Every Wednesday: Emergency Communications Team Net on 145.32  
Repeater at Noon

Every Friday: Club Breakfast in Bldg S Cafeteria, 7 to 8 AM

Apr 6: Eyeball QSO meeting, 5:30 PM, at Upper Crust Pizza, corner of Manhattan Beach Blvd and Inglewood Ave, informal get together to discuss club business and present new ideas for club activities, all members welcome and encouraged to attend

Apr 13: Emergency Communications Team meeting, R3/1413, Noon

Apr 13: Executive Board Meeting, E2/1200, 5:30 PM

Apr 16: Technical Chairman's Meeting, Bldg 65 Shack, Noon (see notice on page 3)

Apr 23-25: Dayton HamVention, Dayton, Ohio

Apr 24: Swap Meet, parking lot on NW corner of Aviation and Marine, 7 to 11 AM

Apr 24: T-Hunt following the Swap Meet @ Noon, Meet in O3 parking lot near the Porta Potties

Apr 27: Club Meeting, E2/1200, Noon

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**EDITORS NOTES :** The deadline for Crosstalk submissions is the eyeball QSO meeting the month before publication. Please plan ahead if you want your contest team attempt or activity publicized in our club newsletter.

The attendance at the eyeball QSO meeting has been great. It's good to see so many members interested in club activities (or is it the free pizza). 73 de KJ6GR.

# Club Meeting Notes

by Rich Sauer, N6CIZ

Thanks to all of you who made it to our February meeting. A series of events led to a series of mishaps. First, aside from the rain, our usual meeting room in E2 was booked so we had to move to R10. Chatty Charlie was programmed to announce the change on the 2-meter repeater and most folks found it OK. But it was a hassle signing in all the visitors and retirees. The room problem has been solved and future meetings will be in E2/1200 (I hope...).

At the last minute, the scheduled speaker noticed that he had a conflict between our meeting and a long-scheduled vacation trip. Guess which one he chose? Oh well, we made out OK with a long discussion about where the club is headed and how to attract more members to our ranks.

Greg, N6RRY, has been doing a great job providing doorprizes for the meetings and February was no exception. I won a new Anli rubber duck antenna for my HT so I *can't* complain!

For the March meeting, I've scheduled Dave Corsiglia, WA6TWF. He will present a program on repeaters and remote HF stations. These permit the operation of a high-powered HF station from a handheld or mobile UHF transceiver. If you have antenna restrictions, TVI problems or just don't have the space for an antenna, this may be the answer. I was a member of David's "SuperSystem" for a couple of years and highly recommend it. David has over twenty years experience in installing repeaters and remote bases. He organized the Catalina Repeater Association and installed the repeater on Catalina Island. I hope to see you at the meeting at noon on March 30th.

In April, our guest speaker will be John Bohner, KJ6AW. John is also known as Charles Zero Two on the Monday night DCS net. John is Assistant District Communications Officer for the Disaster Communications Service. If you've been thinking of getting involved in emergency communications, John is the guy to talk to. He'll tell us about DCS, what it does and how to join. He'll also share some of his war stories and promises to show a video tape on earthquakes that will scare the \_\_\_\_\_ out of us. Sounds like fun! The April meeting is on April 27th at noon in E2/1200.

If you have any ideas on programs for club meetings, let me know. I'm always looking for ways to entertain the troops.

## EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

The economy may still be on shaky grounds but the Ham Radio is growing at a healthy rate. That's good news for old timers and newcomers alike. New equipment is being introduced continuously and in most cases we are getting more features for the same (or lower) price. A few examples are the new crop of dual band HT's and the new entry level HF rigs. The new Kenwood TS-50 may be the beginning of increased interest in HF-mobileing. I have an HF mobile CW setup and believe me its a lot of fun.

The other bright spot I've noticed lately is the increased availability of books. The ARRL, NARA and others are publishing beginners guides to Pocket Radio, QRP, VHF/UHF, Mobile operating and other timely subjects that are well written and can be understood by less technical hams as well. The new beginners articles in QST are another encouraging sign. The ARRL is adapting to these changing times, if you're not a member pick up a copy of QST and you might decide to join.

I recently bought one of the ARRL beginners books "Low Profile Amateur Radio" by Jim Kearman, KR1S. This book is written for those interested in operating from apartments, condos, dorms, cars and on camping trips. Jim, an apartment dweller himself, presents lots of helpful hints on setting up a station, antennas and operating techniques.

I hope to see you all on the bands. 73 de KJ6GR.

## TECHNICAL CHAIRMAN'S MEETING

Do you know what OSCAR, TCPIP, or G3RUH modem are? If you want to find out more come to the Technical Chairman's meetings in Bldg. 65 Club Shack the 3rd Friday of each month. This month I will be showing the club's OSCAR equipment and have an eye ball QSO with the TRW ARC BBS. So come to the club shack at 12 noon and bring your lunch. If you have any questions give me a call, Chris x31506.

Oscar 13 Transponder Schedule March 8 to May 10, 1993

<u>Mode</u>	<u>MA counts</u>	<u>Note</u>
B:	0 to 120	
S:	120 to 130	Mode B off
LS:	135 to 150	
B:	150 to 256	
Omnis:	230 to 40	

attitude 180/0 Oscar 13 points to the earth at MA count 128

### Repeater News

The W6TRW 2 meter repeater is working well thanks to many members in the club! I would like to thank several members who have helped with the repeater the past few months. Roger, KC6ROQ, as back up control operator and digital voice recorder cable fabrication, Rich, N6CIZ, digital voice recorder and N connector specialist, and Ray, KD6IGI, earth quake hardening on the E2 machine and WD6DJI, Mike, built the backup repeater. Thanks to all. Chris

## TRW/ARC Ancient History Department - Chapter 2

As many of you may recall, our company name in the 1960's was Space Technology Laboratories (STL). During those early years, the club built and delivered OSCAR II, one of the first amateur radio satellites. I don't have any real details as to who the key people were on that project as it was before my time. The only real fact I have is that OSCAR II didn't make it to orbit due to a malfunctioning booster. Maybe some other old timer could fill us in on those details.

When I joined the club in 1964, Bill McClellan, W6VB (ex W6BJU) was President. Earlier club presidents included Al Lee, W6KQI and Mac McGrew, K6RL (ex W6YCZ). There were probably others, but I don't have any names. Anybody who knows, please let me know.

Bill McClellan kept the club going with regular monthly meetings and outside speakers. Bill also got the club involved with helping a young man in the Phillipines to get involved in electronics. The club collected tools, parts and clothing for this young man, and with some assistance from the company, shipped the material to him. His name is Benjamin Cantaros and he lived in a leper colony. Bennie was very appreciative of our help and we exchanged letters and photographs with him from time to time. Later he was able to move to Manila and open a small electronics shop.

Don Schweitzer, WB6TES became president after Bill's term of office. During Don's stint in office in 1967 - the club acquired the space on the mezzanine in Building 65 for the club station. Along with that, we acquired our first club call - WB6WPO, with Carl F. (Rocky) Rothrock, W6MYC as station trustee.

Many members pitched in to help get the shack organized and get a station on the air. Al Lee, W6KQI loaned the club his Swan 500 SSB Transceiver while he made the great last voyage of the Queen Mary. Someone scrounged an old 14AVQ vertical antenna that we mounted on the roof of Building 65 and put WB6WPO on the air for the first time. Fred Reed, W6UMC and myself managed to work Al on the Queen Mary while it was off the west coast of South America!

Through the efforts of Rocky, W6MYC the club acquired two used 60 ft towers, a TH6DX multiband antenna and a Ham-M rotator. Big plans were started to mount these on the roof. Also, the club, not being well supplied with cash, decided to approach the TRW Credit Union for a loan to purchase gear for the shack.

We also held our very first club dinner under President Schweitzer. Ray Myers, W6MLZ Ham Radio Editor of the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner, was our guest speaker.

Look for Chapter III next month - 73 - Ed Thornley, W6RXD

## Take the W6TRW Challenge

Here's a quiz on little-known facts about the TRW Amateur Radio Club. How many of these questions can you answer (or guess) correctly? Send in your answers to Rich Sauer, N6CIZ, at Mail Station R9/2849. Prizes will be awarded to the member with the most correct (or closest to correct) answers, the most creative answers and the best answer to the essay question. In the event of a tie, the winner will be selected by a drawing of all tied entries. Entries must be received no later than April 30, 1993. Answers and results will be printed in the May issue of *Crosstalk*. Good luck!

• • • • • OFFICIAL CONTEST ENTRY FORM • • • • •

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL STATION OR ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What was the original call of the club *before* W6TRW?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. At the club banquet held last November, which TRW/ARC member was the guest speaker?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. That banquet speaker told us about a trip to a rare dx country. What country was it?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. How many steps are there leading up to the shack in Building 65? (Careful, this is a trick question).  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. How many antennas are on top of the TRW/ARC Emergency communications van?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. How many points did W6TRW score in the last Field Day?  
\_\_\_\_\_

(Quiz continued on next page)

7. What building is home to the W6TRW 2-meter repeater?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. How many total spaces are there in the TRW/ARC swapmeet lot?  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. It's 7:30 A.M. Friday morning and you just have to see some TRW/ARC members. Where would you go to find a group at this time in the morning?  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. On the W6TRW 2-meter repeater, what DTMF code would you enter to check your signal strength?  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. Who was the Activities Manager for the club last year?  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. Who was the "shocking" guest speaker at the January, 1993 club meeting?  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. On the back of Club's Membership Application, it asks to indicate your interests in amateur radio. Besides "Other", how many interests are listed?  
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ESSAY QUESTION: In 50 words or less, complete the following:

The TRW Amateur Radio Club is:

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## Did You Know...

Did you know that the Club has all kinds of services and events just for its members? We are in the process of putting together a flyer describing all of the club's activities and I'll bet that there are some that you don't even know about. For instance:

- **Club Station:** In Building 65 we have just about everything a ham would want. A TS-940 with 2K amp for HF, VHF and UHF all mode transceivers, OSCAR and Packet stations and ATV. But did you know that there's also a full-blown station in Building R3? To use these stations contact one of the club officers for access.
- **Library:** The club has an extensive library of books and magazines in the Building 65 shack that club members may sign out.
- **Test Equipment:** From Bird wattmeters to deviation meters to oscilloscopes and DVMs, the club has it all. Members may sign out the equipment to tune up their home or mobile stations.
- **Club Meetings:** Held the last Tuesday of every month at noon, usually in E2/1200. Great speakers talking on ham radio subjects and fantastic door prizes. Did you know that we usually give away between \$75 and \$100 worth of goodies every month? Such a deal...
- **T Hunts:** Every month after the swapmeet we have a mini T Hunt. The hidden T is hiding somewhere around Space Park. Can you find it? Stop by at noon and give it a try. Beginners are encouraged.
- **Swapmeet:** For the past 12 or so years we've put on an amateur radio swapmeet the last Saturday of every month. You know that. But did you know that club members can get a free space? Yep, full, active members can sell their treasures and it won't cost 'em a cent.
- **Eyeball QSO:** The first Tuesday of month is PIZZA NIGHT! Come on out after work and the club will pick up the dinner tab. Plus you can enjoy the fellowship of your fellow hams. (Well anyway, the pizza's free...).
- **Repeaters:** Every ham must have a 2-meter radio, don't they? (You can pick one up at the swapmeet...). Program it for 145.32 MHz, transmit down 600 Khz and PL of 114.8 Hz. The repeater is a great place to keep up with what's going on in the club and just ragchew. And try the UHF repeater on 447.00. It has a 100 Hz PL tone. And, by the way, an autopatch just for club members. Why pay a humongous cellular phone bill? Call the XYL on W6TRW!

That's just some of what your club has to offer. Isn't it time you got involved and had some fun? See you at the next meeting or swapmeet or eyeball QSO or...

-- N6CIZ --