



CROSSTALK

A Publication of the TRW Amateur Radio Club



JULY 1993

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

July 6: Picnic at Poliwog Park, near the Gazebo at Noon

July 10-11: IARU HF World Championship

July 10-11: CQ WW WPX VHF Contest

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

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

July 16: Technical Chairman's Meeting, Bldg 65 Shack, Noon

July 27: Club meeting, E2/1200, Noon

July 31: Swapmeet, NW corner Aviation & Marine, 7-11 AM

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.

BY-LAWS CHANGE : SEA rules state that we must charge retirees and family members more than the regular employee dues. The Board is recommending a change to \$6/year for both categories. A vote and discussion will be held at the July 27 club meeting.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS TEAM NEWS

Rich Sauer, N6CIZ

Thursday morning at 9:40 am on May 27th, alarm bells went off in Buildings M1 and M2 alerting everyone to evacuate. All work stopped as employees streamed through the emergency exits and grouped together in assembly areas in the parking lots. Moments after the alarm sounded, pagers worn by ECT members went off showing the message "145-32": the notice to come up on the repeater and stand by.

It could have been a fire or hazmat incident. What it was, was a drill. TRW Security and Health and Safety personnel conduct periodic building evacuation drills to test alarms, response times and employee's awareness of emergency evacuation procedures. The difference this time was the involvement of the TRW/ARC Emergency Communications Team.

Greg Martens, N6RRY, is not only one of our ECT members but he is also a member of the TRW Emergency Assistance Team (EAT) in Building M1. The EAT members are volunteers trained in first aid, CPR, fire fighting and building evacuation. When planning on his building's evacuation drill began he thought it would be a great idea to combine the drill with an ECT exercise and show how the Radio Club can assist during an emergency.

When the evacuation bells began ringing, Greg dialed a phone number and a page was sent to all ECT members with pagers. Pat Anderson, KB6YPI, was working in M2 and grabbed his radio as he left the building. Rich Sauer, N6CIZ, came over from his building across the street. Also checking in on the radio were Dave Lee, WA6MPF, in Building 75, Joe Zboril, WB2DRH and Svein Thordarson, KD6NCP, from R9 and Chris Wachs, WA2KDL, from M4. Had this been a real emergency, other ECT members would have been called on the telephone and those on frequency would have been dispatched to the emergency location.

The three members on the scene stayed close to the EAT members and security personnel in the assembly areas. Through the use of our radio gear, we were able to maintain contact between all the groups and everyone knew what was going on at all times. After security cleared the buildings and reset the alarms, they gave the OK for employees to reenter the buildings. This was relayed by the Hams to the EAT members who helped get everybody back in.

After the drill, a debriefing was held with EAT members. We were happy to learn that they unanimously thought that the Radio Club did a great job and provided a valuable service. "Usually we're like mushrooms out there," one EAT member said. "But this time the Radio Club guys kept us informed of what was going on and where people were. It was great!"

Arlene Molesky, who heads up the EAT effort for TRW agreed and invited us to take part in future drills. Eric Tatnall the TRW Emergency Preparedness Coordinator was also on hand and complemented the Radio Club on a job well done.

The TRW/ARC Emergency Communication Team is open to any licensed amateur who works at the Space Park facility. Members receive special identification badges and are allowed to carry their handheld radios into TRW facilities. Members must take part in drills and monthly meetings are held in the Emergency Operations Center in R3. For information on becoming an ECT Member, contact Rich Sauer, N6CIZ.

TECHNICAL CHAIRMAN MEETINGS JUNE 18 th and July 16 th.

During the meetings I hope to demonstrate the new 9600 baud modem for the clubs TNC. Packet radio at 9600 baud is something to see! If OSCAR 23 is in range I will also try to receive the 9600 baud packet downlink.

Other big news I would like to report to the readers of the CROSSTALK was the successful launch of the ARSENE AMATEUR RADIO SATELLITE on May 12 th. The Main downlink is on 145.975 MHz. When the satellite checkout is complete it will transmit AX.25 packet FM modulated. Arsene is in AOS for up to 12 hours every two days or so. The orbit apogee is 36,000 KM and the perigee is 17,000 KM with an inclination of 1 Deg. If you don't know what I just wrote about come to the meeting on June 18th in the Bldg 65 shack!

P3D Satellite Frequencies

Downlink frequencies

1. 10.451000 - 10.451500 GHz
2. 2400.500 - 2400.900 MHz
3. 436.000 - 436.400 MHz
4. 29.310 - 29.350 MHz

Uplink frequencies

1. A: 1268.500 - 1269.000 MHz
B: 1269.000 - 1269.500 MHz
2. A: 435.200 - 435.700 MHz
B: 436.000 - 436.500 MHz
3. 145.800 - 145.975 MHz

All bands except the 29 MHz band are switched in a matrix and allow any configuration of operational modes. The reason for not having any 2 meter downlink frequencies is because of QRM.

For Sale:

Accessories for Commodore 64 computer: Color monitor, Power supply, Okidata printer plus cables and misc software. Make offer.
Bill Shanney, KJ6GR 310-542-9899 evenings.

RESULTS: The W6TRW Challenge

Rich Sauer, N6CIZ

It's been a few months since the April issue of *Crosstalk* featured the TRW CHALLENGE quiz which was designed to test your knowledge of little-known facts about our club. Contest entries have been streaming into Contest Entry Control since then. So far I've received a grand total of (drum roll, please) two. TWO! Oh well. I guess that only two people wanted a chance to win the Grand Prize of a brand new Kenwood TS-50 HF mobile radio! Oh...didn't I mention in the original article that the Grand Prize was a brand new Kenwood TS-50 HF mobile radio? Aren't you sorry you didn't submit an entry? Well, ok. I lied. The Grand Prize is *not* a brand new Kenwood TS-50 HF mobile radio. But it could have been. And since only two entries were received, I have decided to have two winners. What do they win? Well...I don't know yet. Let me take that up with the Executive Board (but I bet it probably won't be a brand new Kenwood TS-50 HF mobile radio - though it might have been...and if it was, and you didn't submit an entry...)

Now, the winners: For the I-Know-I-Sent-My-Entry-In-Late-But-I-Still-Want-To-Win-Something entry (another drum roll, please): Frank Cartier, WA6RAY, who sent his entry in two and a half weeks past the cutoff date. And for the I'll-Impress-The-Judges-By-Including-A-Lot-Of-Stuff-Along-With-My-Entry entry (another egg roll...er...drum roll): Norm Stockwell, N6NS, who not only answered all the questions on his entry form but included a map of St. Lucia, a photo of N6RRY drilling a hole in the roof of the van for *another* antenna, a photo of N6UXW and his Tesla Coil and a copy of an article from the *Daily Breeze* on the King Harbor Cleanup we supported last October featuring a picture clearly (?) showing N6NS's station wagon in the background!

For those of you who tried and tried, but couldn't come up with all the answers, here they are:

1. By reading Ed Thornley, W6RXD's article in the March edition of *Crosstalk*, you would have found out that the original call of the club was WB6WPO.
2. The speaker at the last club banquet was our very own Frank Cartier, WA6RAY (who somehow managed to get this answer correct on his entry).
3. Frank spoke about his dxPedition to St. Lucia where, as N6NS said on his entry, "Perry Mason issued the call J68-Frank-Gwen." (Frank got his one right, too).
4. The tricky question: How many stairs are there to the shack in Building 65? Norm said "Too Many" which is the correct answer to the *next* question. Frank wasn't fooled. He correctly answered 15 on the front stairway and 15 on the back stairway. Did you know there are two stairways? Yeah, sure you did!
5. How many antennas on the TRW emergency van? As Norm said above TOO MANY! But really, at the time I asked this question, lucky 13 was the correct answer. Since then I know that Ray, KD6IGI, and Dave, WA6MPF, have probably added some more. The ones I counted included the HF antenna and the BC antenna on the fender. Oh yeah, then there's the mast that holds at least one and sometime two more antennas...and...oh...I'm getting dizzy...Too many damn antennas...

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6. As everyone knows, W6TRW scored 12,250 points in last year's Field Day Contest. This year we will double that, right John Sheppard? Right?
7. The 2-meter repeater is located high atop Building E2. (Until the next 8.5 earthquake when it will be low atop the rubble of what was Building E2...).
8. How many total spaces are there in the TRW/ARC Swapmeet parking lot? Frank (who happens to be the Swapmeet Chairman) says 409. Norm said that the swapmeet rules say 409 but they should say 408 and there really are 413! What's the right answer? Well, as the guy who has to deal with irate sellers every month because we sell out all of the spaces, I say that there not enough! (You didn't expect me to count them, did you)?
9. Both guys knew that every Friday morning at 7:30 you can find some TRW/ARC members at the Building S Cafeteria enjoying breakfast. Why don't you join them some Friday?
10. To get a signal report back from the repeater you used to hit 92 on your touch-tone pad. Lately we've changed it because our Control Operators were getting tired of people playing with it all day and all night! (Give me a call on the telephone and I'll give you the new code).
11. Our Activities Manager last year was none other than Irv Zipper, WA6ZOU.
12. Our "shocking" speaker at the January meeting was Bill Wysock, N6UXW, who showed off a Tesla Coil in the E2 Presentation Room (and didn't electrocute himself or anyone else in the process, thank goodness - what would SEA have said?!).
13. There are 15 Ham Radio interests you can check off on the back of our membership application. Why 15? Who chose those 15? What do we do with information? Who knows?

Finally, the essay question. You were asked to complete the following in 50 words or less: "The TRW Amateur Radio Club is..."

From Frank, WA6RAY: "A very diverse and involved radio club. The club is active in a very wide range of activities ranging from a monthly Amateur Radio swapmeet to a Field Day with top scoring entries."

From Norm, N6NS: "A group with something for every ham. The young or old, the technical or non technical, the ragchewer or contester, the civic minded or the party animal all can find kindred spirits and/or just enjoy the company of other hams in the common activities of the club."

Isn't it interesting that both mentioned the diversity that can be found in our club? If you can't find some aspect of the radio hobby to enjoy in the TRW/ARC, you just aren't looking very hard!

Well, there you have it. The official results are...a tie! I hope that the next challenge will result in more entries. The Grand Prize just might be a brand new Kenwood TS-50 HF mobile radio! But probably not...