



CROSSTALK

News Bulletin of the TRW Amateur Radio Club



Volume 98 Number 10

October 1998

Editor's Corner:

Well, we made it to October, and the Annual Banquet is just around the corner. We are working on a guest speaker, some say it's gonna be hard to top last years', but I'm sure this years' will be just as enjoyable, besides, it's a great time for all of us to get together. Stay tuned, as soon as the details are worked out, I'll let you know.

New addition

Jim Harrison and Josephine are the proud parents of Alexis Harrison

Born: Monday, August 31

Weight: 8 lbs.

Congratulations!!!!

ECT/Club Van

The ECT/Club Van has been getting a lot of work done lately thanks to a group of dedicated club members known as the "Van Working Group". They currently meet in the evenings at 5:30pm on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and on Saturdays at 9:00am on the west side of Building S where the Van is parked. They can always use an extra hand, so if you have some spare time, stop by, take a look a give them a helping hand.

Duane Park WA6EIK Crosstalk Editor

Southern California ACS Emergency Response Institute:

The Southern California ACS Emergency Response Institute is set for October 10-11 at the Ben Clark Public Safety Training Center in Riverside, California. The theme will focus on the theme "D2K: Dealing with the Disasters of the Next Millennium." The sessions are open to both volunteers and professionals from organizations and agencies with an interest in promoting better emergency services operations. To register, visit the Office of Emergency Services site at <http://www.qsl.net/races/eri>. Registration is \$35.

Ariane Launch success

And while AMSAT's Phase 3D ham satellite still waits for a ride into space, western Europe's 109th Ariane rocket lifted a communications satellite into orbit Tuesday August 25th after a textbook launch. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, reports:

The Ariane 44P rocket, equipped with four solid strap-on boosters, lifted off at 8:07 p.m. local time from the European Space Agency launch center in Kourou, French Guiana.

Twenty one minutes after liftoff, space officials said the ST-1 satellite that's jointly owned by Singapore Telecom and state-owned Chunghwa Telecom of Taiwan successfully separated from the rocket.

The new 7000 pound satellite will provide direct-to-home television, radio and data broadcasting throughout Asia. This includes mainland China, India and the Pacific rim. This was the fifth Ariane rocket launch this year and the 37th consecutive successful launch of an Ariane-4 rocket.

(Arianspace)

TRWARC Monthly Calendar of Events

First Tuesday of each month	5:30 pm	Executive Board Meeting, R4/2041 (All Club Members are invited)
Second Tuesday of each month	12:00 noon	Club Meeting Pollywog Park, the white gazebo near Manhattan Beach Blvd.
Second Tuesday of each month	12:00 noon	Emergency Communications Team Meeting R3 Emergency Operations Center
Last Saturday of each month	7:00 am	TRW/ARC Swap Meet Marine and Aviation (Northeast Corner)
After the Swapmeet	12:00 noon	T-Hunt Swap Meet Parking Lot - 144.72 MHz

Weekly Events

Every Monday Night (Except the 1st & Holidays)	7:30 pm	Disaster Communication Systems (DCS) Net DCS Members: Check in on 2 Meter Repeater
Every Wednesday	12:00 noon	ECT Net on 2 meter Repeater All Amateurs Welcome
Every Thursday	7:00 pm	Space Hams Net on 2 meter Repeater with N6SHI and W6EKK
Every Mon, Wed, Fri	2:00 pm	TRW Retirees Net 7185 KHz
Every Friday Morning	7:30 am	TRW Amateur Radio Club Breakfast Building S Cafeteria - Everyone is invited Talk-in on 2 Meters

Other Events

Computer Fair Hours: 10:00 to 17:00 (get a \$25.00 annual pass see:

<http://www.lacomputerfair.com/annpass.html>)

POMONA \$6.00 admission

Live Broadcasts: KFI-Jeff Levy "On Computers", KZLA, Y-107FM

October 3 & 4 (Sat. & Sun.) October 24 & 25 (Sat. & Sun.)

Fairplex Exposition Complex Exit Highway 10 at Fairplex Drive.

Go north to McKinley Avenue, turn right. Turn left on White Avenue to Gate 14.

RESEDA \$3.00 admission

October 10 (Sat.) October 31 (Sat.)

Sherman Square Entertainment Center From the 101 Freeway take the Reseda offramp,

go north to Sherman Way and turn right. Go one block to Canby Street. 18430 Sherman Way.

BUENA PARK \$5.00 admission

October 11 (Sun.)

Sequoia Conference Center Take the Beach Blvd. exit off the 91 Freeway.

Go one block north to 7530 Orangethorpe.

All Shows Open to the Public 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Call for more information (408) 778-5200 or 800-800-5600 Fax# (408) 779-1374

Other Ham Swap meets:

Inland Empire ARC - 2nd Sat. ea. mo. 7:00 to 11:30 AM @ A.B. Miller High School, Walnut & Oleander in Fontana Talk-in 145.480 (-600 pl=77.0hz)

EI Cajon ARC - 1st Sat. ea. mo. 6:00 AM @ Santee Drive-in Theater, Woodside Ave. @ Hwy 67 in Santee Talk-in 146.52

NEW: CAL POLY swap meet – 3rd Sat. ea. mo. 7-11 am in lots F8,F9 and F10 @ CAL Poly Pomona at 3801 West Temple. Talk-in TBD

Contest Corral, Jim Harrison K6OUE

The September VHF contest (Sept. 12-13) had quite a lot of activity over the entire weekend this year. The first and last hours were really crazy, with people calling all over each other. There was no W6TRW effort this time, but I operated from home whenever I got the chance. I heard a lot of people on 2m and 440 SSB, and the FM simplex frequencies were practically always active. One of my contacts was with W6LV, the radio station on the SS Lane Victory, the restored WWII ship which was out on the ocean off of San Pedro. They were running a special event station the same weekend and will be sending out special QSL cards and certificates. (For more information on the Lane Victory see <http://www.lanevictoryship.com>)

Frank Bartel KC6ABS did another valiant rover effort, this time driving all the way to San Diego to activate grid square DM12. It seems like the number of rovers increases every contest, which makes sense given the prevalence of mobile rigs. There was pretty good activity on the bands, but Frank was disappointed to only get four contacts on 1.2 GHz. All you people with 1.2 GHz rigs, tune them to 1294.5 FM and let the FCC know that we are using this band, or I am sure there are companies who would be glad to use it for us. Maybe next year when the emergency communications van is finished, we can drive it to the top of a mountain, put up some yagis, and do a real contest effort. Look for the contest results in the January 1999 issue of QST.

Upcoming ARRL contests:

Nov. 7-9	November CW Sweepstakes
Nov. 21-23	November Phone Sweepstakes
Dec. 4-6	160 Meter Contest
Dec. 12-13	10 Meter Contest
Jan. 1999	January VHF Sweepstakes

CQ WW DX Contest (phone)

Sponsored by CQ Magazine, **0000Z Oct 24 until 2400Z Oct 25** (CW is 0000Z Nov 29 to 2400Z Nov 30).

Exchange R (T) and CQ zone. Classes: Single operator all band/single band/assisted, high power/low power (<100 W)/QRP (<5 W); multi single, multi multi. Multi-singles have a 10-minute rule. All classes may only have one transmitted signal per band. Work stations once per band. Team and club competition. North American stations score 2 pts/QSO w/ stations in different countries on the same continent and 3 pts/QSO w/stations on different continents; stations in the same country may be worked for zone credit, but no points.

Multipliers are CQ Zones and countries (DXCC +WAE). Final score is QSO points x multipliers. Awards. Send logs by Dec 1 (Jan 15 for CW) to CQ Magazine 25 Newbridge Rd, Hicksville, NY 11801; e-mail ssb@cqww.com; cw@cqww.com. On the Web see <http://cqww.com/cqww/>.

California QSO Party

Sponsored by the Northern California Contest Club, **1600Z Oct 3 until 2200Z Oct 4**. Single op, multi-single, multi-multi, CA county expedition, mobile, and Novice/Tech. Send QSO number and CA county. If you're outside of California, send the QSO number and your state/province/DXCC country. Single ops are limited to 24 hours. Multi-singles have a 10-minute rule. Single ops and multi-single are limited to one transmitted signal at a time. CW QSOs must be made in CW subbands, except on 160 meters. Work stations once per band/mode, work CA stations again as they change counties. Score 2 pts/QSO on phone and 3 pts/QSO on CW. Final score is QSO points x CA counties (max 58). CA stations multiply by states and VE sections (max 58). Awards. See <http://www.cqp.com>. Send logs to Alan Maenchen, AD6E, 3330 Farthing Way, San Jose, CA 95132 or email to cqp@contesting.com.

ARRL International EME Competition

1. Object: Two-way communications via the earth-moon-earth path on any authorized amateur frequency above 50 MHz.
2. Date and Contest Period: Two full weekends, full 48-hour period UTC each weekend (October 10-11, 1998 and December 5-6, 1998).

(These are only a few contests that are going on, for further info see, <http://www.arrl.org> for more information.)
Ed

A NOTE FROM CRAIG GULLICKSON, N6ED

It has been over 5 years since I last felt the excitement of being on the other end of a DX pile-up from the remote reaches of Wake Island (KH9), and the Marshall Islands (V73) in the Fall of 1993. Ever since that time, I have wanted to return to DX-land and feel the high that I felt back in those days. After years of school, over a year of hard work and paying Uncle Sam an outlandish fraction of my salary, I am ready to hit the road once again to become DX.

I am thrilled to announce my much needed vacation to the Caribbean this October along with my SCDXC buddies to participate in the CQWW DX SSB contest. I will be headed to Puerto Rico (KP4) on the 18th of October for 2 days of R & R and possibly QRV if the chance exists. On the 20th of October, I will arrive on the Island of Guadeloupe (FG) in the French West Indies for a 7 day fun-filled stay which includes the CQWW contest and much operating during the week when I am not doing all the tourist stuff!! ;-p

Look for me signing FG/N6ED on 160-10 SSB/CW along with the others and say hello. There will be an 80m SSB shootout to see who is the loudest on the band one of the nights so stay tuned!! Our call for CQWW will be FG5BG in the Multi-single category so please work us on all bands!!

We plan 2-3 stations on the bands so there will be plenty of time to find me on. The station is a few meters off the beach with clear view to the USA, EU, and JA. Equipment includes an A4S on a 100ft tower and a C4 on a 60ft tower with wires on the low bands.

I will be designing a web page giving more detailed information and providing a log search for your enjoyment. Hopefully I will have a way to update it daily depending on availability of internet and cost. This page can be found at: <http://www.qsl.net/n6ed/fg.html>

For a glimpse of the station, see the FGShack page at: <http://www.nwlink.com/~ki6fe/dxshack/fg.htm>

I hope to work all of you from the island!!!

73 de Craig, FG/N6ED

OCTOBER CLUB MEETING

The next TRWARC meeting (2nd Tue in Oct., 5:30 pm) will be on the subject of Amateur Television. Greg Shreve will coordinate a special meeting of the ATV net, via the airwaves and the ECT van, during which Greg and the other ATV net members will illustrate the capabilities and features of ATV.

Transmitting Live! From Round Table Pizza!

FCC Adopts Universal Licensing System

(September 17, 1998)

Amateurs can say good-bye to the familiar FCC Form 610 series. The FCC has adopted its long-proposed Universal Licensing System, which will replace the Forms 610 with a new Form 605, the Quick-Form Application for Authorization in the Ship, Aircraft, Amateur, Restricted and Commercial Operator, and General Mobile Radio Services.

Jamboree on the Air '98 is October 17-18

NEWINGTON, CT, Sep 15, 1998--On the third weekend of October, more than 400,000 Scouts around the world are expected to get together on the air during the international Jamboree On The Air (JOTA). The annual event gives ham radio veterans a chance to plant the seed of ham radio in the minds of Scouts gathered at stations set up in fields, parks, mountaintops, or even at the veteran op's own shack, to participate. Remember your first ham radio contact? Experienced hams can give that feeling to future ham radio operators during JOTA by showing Scouts the fun they could have if they embark on a "hobby of a lifetime." JOTA begins Saturday, October 17, 0001 local time to Sunday, October 18, 2359 local time. This means activity continues from Friday to Monday, because of the time differences. During JOTA, participating Scouts not only get a chance to talk to other Scouts in their community or state, but they might even be able to chat with Scouts in different countries!

Ten-Tec's Titan II delayed:

Ten-Tec's new Titan II amp won't be available until Christmas. "Other engineering priorities have unfortunately delayed the introduction of the Titan II," a company spokesman said. Ten-Tec introduced the single-ended (4CX1600B) full-legal-limit linear at the Dayton Hamvention and had hoped to have it on the market in time for the fall/winter "contest season." The Titan II (Model 416) also features a built-in power supply. The unit currently is undergoing FCC type acceptance. One Ten-Tec customer we know who's been eager to own a Titan II took advantage of the company's standard purchase policy. Ten-Tec is shipping him a Centurion linear for now; he'll turn that around for full price on a Titan II as soon as the new amp is available. Since going factory-direct a few years ago, Ten-Tec has permitted its customers to return items maintained in excellent condition within 90 days and apply the full purchase price on another item.

Kenwood VC-H1 "Visual Communicator."

With the rapid integration of the home computer into the modern ham shack, slow scan television (SSTV)—the transmission and reception of still pictures over Amateur Radio—is quickly gaining in popularity. Many hams are surprised to learn that they already own most of the hardware necessary to receive and retransmit pictures over the air. Getting started is often just a matter of making simple audio connections between their transceiver and their computer's sound card. A wide variety of SSTV software, including shareware and trial versions of commercial programs, is readily available for download from the Internet.

While receiving and retransmitting images created by others can be loads of fun, most hams soon will feel the urge to find a way to include in their repertoire pictures they've created themselves. The usual equipment for image capturing includes digital cameras, home video cameras with computer frame grabbers, or existing photo collections and a computer image scanner.

Now, what if you could squeeze all the features of the complete home computer based SSTV setup--the capture and storage of live images, the conversion of the stored images to audio for

transmission, and the conversion of received SSTV audio into viewable, storable pictures--into a unit about the same size as the average H-T? Enter the Kenwood VC-H1 "Visual Communicator."

The VC-H1 package includes everything you'll need (AA cells not included) to turn most Kenwood hand-helds into compact, portable, self-contained SSTV systems. One end of the included interconnect cable simply plugs into the two-pin speaker-mike jack on the H-T. The other end connects to the VC-H1 through a miniature 16-pin data jack. Plug and play! The VC-H1 even serves double-duty as a speaker-mike.



The main body of the VC-H1 features a 1.8" TFT color LCD display screen. This section also includes five jacks for connection to external equipment, six rubberized pushbuttons for controlling various operations, and a small sliding power switch. A front-mounted speaker and microphone and a side mounted PTT button provide the H-T speaker-mike function. A rotatable, removable, fixed-focus CCD color camera plugs into the top of this unit via a 3.5 mm stereo connector. A keyed interlock arrangement lets you rotate the camera 360° or easily remove it for remote mounting. The camera/display unit can be used much like an ordinary camera. If you are just looking to capture images for transmission at a later time, you can leave the radio behind. You can store up to 10 pictures in memory.

The VC-H1 is capable of eight different popular SSTV modes. An additional mode, Fast FM, also is available when using the right transceiver. You are certainly not limited to H-T use. The included documentation provides wiring diagrams for interconnecting the VC-H1 with several current Kenwood mobile transceivers and the TS-570 and TS-870 HF transceivers. While specifics on wiring for transceivers of other models or manufacture are not included, the needed connections are similar to those required for TNCs and multimode controllers. An accessory cable, the PG-4T, is also available for use with FM mobile radios that use the 6-pin mini-DIN accessory jack for 1200/9600-baud packet. You can connect the unit to a television set through an NTSC video output jack and enjoy viewing your pictures on a larger screen, or store them, slideshow style, on your VCR. You can even remove the camera unit or substitute your home video camera. This would allow you to use some of its advanced features--such as the telephoto lens-- to capture even better still pictures.

Kenwood plans to offer a computer interface cable and software package.

Connecting the VC-H1 to the computer will allow expanded memory capabilities and will offer advanced control and additional text overlay capabilities.

Ham Radio Question pool changes on hold *(vis Newsline)*

There will be no changes to the ham radio test questions for the foreseeable future. This, according to Ray Adams, W4CPA, who is the Chairman of the Question Pool Committee for the National Conference of Volunteer Examination Coordinators. Rick Lindquist of the ARRL Audio News reports on the decision to put the process on hold: Citing "almost certain and imminent restructuring of licensing," the Question Pool Committee -- the group that formulates the questions that show up on Amateur Radio examinations -- has put further changes to the question pool on hold until restructuring issues are settled. ARRL - VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, says the decision includes postponing the Advanced class question pool update, scheduled for revision and release this year for implementation next July 1. The Committee says restructuring could cause anything from making a few rules questions unusable to total deletion of one or more question pools or even combination of two or more of the present question pools into a differently configured question pool. The decision to put further revisions to the question pool on hold had majority support of the National Conference of VECs. The QPC will postpone its current question pool review schedule until the direction of such restructuring is more certain said W4CPA. Once its known what restructuring of the Amateur Radio Service will bring with it, the question pool committee will resume its job.

The complete ARRL Audio News with Rick Lindquist is available at: www.arrl.org

New paper Vanity address

If you are filing for a vanity callsign, listen up. Effective September 14th, there's a new address at Mellon Bank for vanity callsign paper application filers only. Those are the people who submit a paper Form 610V and FCC Fee Remittance Form 159 and vanity fee using the US Postal Service. The new address is:

FCC Wireless Bureau Applications
P.O.Box 358130
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
15251-5130

Remember, that address is only for those filing on a paper Form 610. The FCC says that Electronic Form 610V Vanity Callsign filers should continue to send Form 159 with the vanity fee to:

FCC Amateur Vanity
P.O.Box 358994
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
15251-5994

(New paper Vanity address cont.)

Don't worry if you missed those addresses. You can find them in the printed edition at: www.arnewslines.org
Also this reminder. The vanity callsign filing fee dropped from \$50 to \$13 for applications filed on or after September 14, 1998.

DX *(via Newslines)*

In DX, keep an ear -- or better yet keep both ears open for a South Shetland Islands operation. Word from the area is that LU1ZI is active on Sundays on 3.630 MHz. at 02:30 UTC from Tenierente Jubany Base.

QSL only to:

Base Cientifica Jubany
Correo Argentino El Palomar
Via Base Marambio
9411 Antarctic
Argentina

(Daily DX)

And word that a number of operators from Radio Club Partizani expect to be active from Albania as ZA0IS using CW and SSB through September 15th. QSL via ZA1K.

On the VHF and UHF side, keep your ears open for a fall contest operation by VE2PIJ, VE2JWH and several other Canadians. The group will come on the air from atop Sutton Mountain in grid square FN35. Operation will be on 2 meters through 1296 MHz using CW and SSB.

Solar Update *(Reprinted from the ARRL Letter Volume 17, Number 36)*

Sun watcher Tad Cook, K7VVV, Seattle, Washington, reports: Solar activity still remains fairly high. The average solar flux for the past week declined a little over 8 points, but the daily value actually peaked again on Sunday at 164.6. The average solar flux for the previous 90 days went up another two points to 124, and the solar flux on every day last week was above this level, indicating a continued general upward trend.

Geomagnetic conditions were stable, so HF operators enjoyed good propagation.

Solar flux is expected to decline September 11-13 from 140 to 135 to 130. It should then bottom out below 130 early in the week, then rise above 145 after September 18, above 155 after September 23, and peak below 170 from September 25 until the end of the month. Look for unsettled geomagnetic conditions around September 18 and 19, caused by a solar wind stream from a coronal hole. These predictions are based on the previously observable regions now rotated off the visible surface of the sun, so a burst of new activity could raise these values.

VE2FLE sends along an interesting resource for current geomagnetic conditions. It is an ftp site, which can be accessed using a Web browser, and the downloaded file can be read with the same. Check

<ftp://suntwo.geolab.NRCan.gc.ca/pub/forecast/forecast.gif> to see current geomagnetic activity in the sub-auroral, auroral, and polar zones. In addition to current and recent activity, it also provides forecasts.

Sunspot numbers for September 3 through 9 were 117, 73, 101, 142, 138, 164, and 156, with a mean of 127.3. The 10.7-cm flux was 162.7, 154.7, 154.3, 164.6, 151.2, 153.5, and 145.3, with a mean of 155.2. The estimated planetary A indices were 9, 7, 6, 6, 7, 11, and 8, with a mean of 7.7.

A Note from Dave Nelson, AB6DU

At the last club meeting, the elected a new secretary to fill out the term of retiring (from the club, not from TRW) Pat Anderson, KB6YPI. The vote elected Craig Gullickson, N6ED, to the post. I believe his suave tones in the campaigning speech swayed the crowd. We wish Craig the best support for this short tenure, and hope he can continue serving the club next year.

And don't forget the **Friday AM** breakfast QSO. Its eyeball to eyeball, oatmeal to oatmeal, and muffin to muffin. Join the club in a large size coffee for your weekend early start.

TRW AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

ELECTED OFFICERS

President	Rich Sauer	N6CIZ	R9 / 2873	(310) 813-5869
Vice President	Elizabeth Kunkee	KS4IS	D1 / 1024	(310) 813-0524
Secretary	Craig Gullickson	N6ED	R6 / 2529F	(310) 812-5389
Treasurer	Steve Lambert	KF6KIC	R6 / 2529	(310) 812-5019

APPOINTED STAFF

447 Repeater Autopatch	Duane Park	WA6EIK	M2 / 1555E	(310) 813-4219
Activities Chair/Asst Swapmt	Greg Martens	N6RRY	M1 / 1275	(310) 813-4049
Crosstalk Editor	Duane Park	WA6EIK	M2 / 1555E	(310) 813-4219
Emer. Comm. Coordinator	Rich Sauer (acting)			
Librarian	Steve Papa	KO6VF	O2 / 1715	(310) 812-5305
Membership Chairperson	Dave Nelson	AB6DU	R8 / 2144	(310) 813-9775
Past President	Bob Briggs	KD6WYQ	M7 / 2939	(310) 813-2622
Publicity Chairperson	Dave Nelson	AB6DU	R8 / 2144	(310) 813-9775
QSL Manager	Bryan DeAro	KN6OW	120 / 1020B	(310) 812-4789
S.P. Packet/Internet Sysop	Chris Wachs	WA2KDL	R7A / 2100	(310) 813-1506
SEA Representative	Nina Whiddon	KN6FL	01 / 2020	(310) 813-9351
Swap Meet Manager	Rich Sauer	N6CIZ	R9 / 2873	(310) 813-5869
Technical Chairperson	OPEN			
Training Chairperson	Bryan DeAro	KN6OW	120 / 1020B	(310) 812-4789
Trustee of W6TRW License	Elizabeth Kunkee	KS4IS	D1 / 1024	(310) 813-0524

TRW/ARC Hotline (Club Answering Machine)	(310) 813-8569
W6TRW 2 Meter Repeater (Open Repeater)	145.32 (-600) PL 114.8Hz
W6TRW UHF Repeater (Open Repeater / Closed Autopatch)	447.00 (-5 MHz) PL 100 Hz
W6TRW-3 Packet Radio Internet Gateway and BBS (1200 Baud Port)	146.745 (-600)
W6TRW Internet Home Page	http://w6trw.sp.trw.com/w6trw/

TRW Amateur Radio Club
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 One Space Park
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FIRST CLASS

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