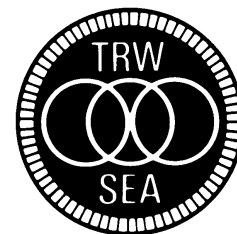




# CROSSTALK

News Bulletin of the TRW Amateur Radio Club



Volume 99 Number 9

September 1999

## **1999 ARC Banquet**

Yep, it's that time again, the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Awards Banquet coming in November. The best part is that the price is the same as last year.

This year's Guest Speaker is none other than Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF.

Bill is a Broadcast Engineer with KTTV Fox 11 Television in Los Angeles. He is the co-founder and volunteer Managing Editor of the Amateur Radio Newsline bulletin service and Creator/Administrator of the annual "Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award" program that each year honors the accomplishments of a radio amateur age 18 or younger with a trip to Space Camp in Huntsville Alabama. Bill and his wife Sharon (KD6EPW) reside in Santa Clarita California.

He is the author of three books, co-producer of several educational films and videos, writes a monthly column for Worldradio Magazine and is a frequent contributor to CQ VHF Magazine.

Bill can be reached by e-mail to [billwa6itf@aol.com](mailto:billwa6itf@aol.com) or [newsline@arnewsline.org](mailto:newsline@arnewsline.org)

Don't miss this opportunity to attend a first class event with great food also, and of course door prizes and also that chance to see your fellow ham that you might have not seen in a long time.

***See Page 3 and 4 for more details***

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## **A note from the Membership Chairperson AB6DU**

All members with a change of email address, please send your new email address to the Membership Chairperson, Dave Nelson, AB6DU, at [davide.nelson@trw.com](mailto:davide.nelson@trw.com) to keep receiving the current new bulletins. Newly retired members often overlook this, but we like to be in touch with you.

**Welcome new members, Mathias Menrath, AB6ZE, Mike Hart, N6JSS, Stacy Polk, KF6WYU  
Gordon Yee, KE6IHZ, and John Orr, KX6A**

### **In This issue:**

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# TRW ARC Monthly Calendar of Events

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

## Weekly Events

|   |            |  |
|---|------------|--|
| Every Monday Night<br>(Except the 1st & Holidays) | 7:30 pm    | <b>Disaster Communication Systems (DCS) Net</b><br>DCS Members: Check in on 2 Meter Repeater                 |
| Every Wednesday                                   | 12:00 noon | <b>ECT Net on 2 meter Repeater</b><br>All Amateurs Welcome   |
| Every Thursday                                    | 7:00 pm    | <b>Space Hams Net on 2 meter Repeater</b><br>with N6SHI and W6EKK  |
| Every Mon, Wed, Fri                               | 2:00 pm    | <b>TRWARC Retirees Net</b><br>7185 KHz   |
| Every Friday Morning                              | 7:30 am    | <b>TRW Amateur Radio Club Breakfast</b><br>Building S Cafeteria - Everyone is invited<br>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 2 & 3, 1999 (Sat. & Sun.) bldg. 4

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

September 11, 1999 (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

September 12, 1999 (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)

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

**CAL POLY** - 3rd Sat. ea. mo. 7-11am in lots F8,F9 and F10 @ CAL Poly Pomona at 3801 West Temple.

Talk-in TBD (if you know, please email me... ed.)

# **TRW ARC 33rd Annual Awards Banquet**

**Saturday November 20, 1999**



**Featuring Guest Speaker  
Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF  
Broadcast Engineer with KTTV Fox 11 Television  
and co-founder and volunteer Managing Editor of  
the Amateur Radio Newsline bulletin service.**

**Buffet style dinner  
Awards, Fun, and Prizes**

**5:30 pm to 10:00 pm  
See reverse side for sign up form**

# TRW AMATEUR RADIO CLUB BANQUET RESERVATION REQUEST

Join us for the 33rd Annual TRW/ARC Awards Banquet  
Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 1999 5:30 PM to 10:00 PM

Buffet Dinner, Awards, Guest Speaker, Door Prizes, and Fun!

*The Blue Moon*  
207 North Harbor Drive  
*Redondo Beach*

An Employee Member may invite up to 2 guests. Non-Employee Members (including Retirees) may invite 1 guest. Due to limited seating, 2nd Guests *may* be bumped to make room for club members.

All reservation requests will be confirmed by mail no later than November 6th. If you do not receive a confirmation, please call Duane, WA6EIK, at (310) 813-4219 or Wendy, KQ6CG, at (310) 374-0795 to insure we received your reservation!

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*Return this portion of form ASAP! Reservations are First Come - First Served!!!*

Club Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_

1st Guest's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Guest's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

TRW Mail Station: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner Buffet includes Entrees, Salads, Side Dishes  
**Enclose \$12 for each TRW/ARC Member dinner.**  
**Enclose \$15 for each Non-Member dinner.**

Make checks (no cash please) payable to: **TRW Amateur Radio Club**

Send Reservation Requests to: Wendy Crawford  
1637 Nelson Ave.  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266



Slow scan images received from MIR Space Station on 2m FM

The Russian space station MIR has been a wonderful asset to the amateur radio community over its 13 year existence. It is the easiest "amateur satellite" to contact, and they have had a packet radio TNC running almost continuously for years. Unfortunately it is all scheduled to end on August 27 when the last cosmonauts leave MIR and power everything down. MIR will then burn up in the atmosphere sometime in early 2000.

I started listening to the Thursday 7PM Space and Information Net on the W6TRW 2-meter repeater about 2 years ago. At the end of the net Stan W6EKK and Ronnie N6SHI always give the times when MIR will be passing overhead. I made it a goal of mine to make a contact with MIR, but since very little voice activity had been heard for a long time, I assumed that my contact would have to be by packet. I started monitoring MIR around the beginning of this year and only heard packet signals. Unfortunately, I didn't have a TNC and knew nothing about packet. When the last crew arrived on MIR in February with French astronaut Jean-Pierre Haignere who has an amateur radio license, it was reported that there was beginning to be some voice activity again. They also took up a slow scan TV system and were sending SSTV pictures once in awhile.

On the Fourth of July weekend I decided to really try to monitor every pass. I also started setting up my mini-disc recorder to record a contact if I got lucky. On Saturday morning, July 3, I heard a cosmonaut taking call signs, he said he couldn't understand English so he didn't want any messages, he was just taking one call sign after another. I tried to call him but he didn't hear me. I anxiously awaited the next pass at midnight, but there was only packet operation.

There was another pass at 2AM so I decided to stay up for it. This time there was nothing, not even packet, so I thought they had shut everything down. I was about to give up and go to bed when suddenly out of the silence I heard "This is R0MIR, how do you read?" I quickly punched the record button on my recorder. I didn't hear anybody else on the air, so I grabbed the mike and sent my call sign, and heard "K6OUE you are loud and clear, this is MIR." I just about fell out of my chair and thought "oh oh, now what do I do?" It was Jean-Pierre Haignere, FX0STB, though he was using the R0MIR call sign. He speaks very good English, and we had a full five minute conversation! That's the advantage of staying up til 2AM (though he said it was noon MIR time). The signal was very good, just like a good line-of-sight simplex contact on the ground. I wasn't prepared with anything clever to say, I had expected to just exchange call signs in a pile-up, but he was very friendly and told me a lot about the station and his ham contacts. While I was talking to him I kept thinking how bizarre it was that I was sitting there in my pajamas talking to an astronaut on MIR while everyone else in the house was asleep! At least I had the presence of mind to record the whole conversation on my mini-disc recorder, so I have proof that it wasn't a dream! When I finally signed off, some other stations must have called him right away and he started another QSO.

As I write this during the last week of MIR, I am desperately trying to learn enough about packet to make a packet contact. I have also recorded several SSTV signals and will try to decode them into pictures some day. This is definitely the end of an era. But we have the amateur radio station aboard the International Space Station to look forward to.

This is a transcript of my recorded conversation with FX0STB.

Transcript of contact with MIR space station on July 4, 1999.

K6OUE, home station: ICOM IC-820H, 45W. Comet GP-3 vertical antenna.  
145.985 MHz FM

July 4, 1999 2:09 AM PDT 09:09 UTC

FX0STB: This is ROMIR speaking, how do you read?

K6OUE: This is K 6 O U E.

FX0STB: K6OUE from ROMIR, reading you fine.

K6OUE: Good evening to you on MIR, this is K6OUE in Los Angeles, California.

FX0STB: OK, nice city indeed. It's in fact morning for us, we have local time, well 12:09 on the station time.

K6OUE: OK, it's 2 AM here, so I stayed up late just to hear you pass over. You are coming in about S5 on my signal strength meter here.

FX0STB: OK, thanks a lot, I have switched the SSTV. Do you have SSTV?

K6OUE: No, I don't. But I can record your signals and maybe I can decode the picture later.

FX0STB: Well, OK, maybe then on the next pass, I don't know. Because I have a picture that I would like to save now. Yes, in fact I hear that you tried to connect my modem but it is... oh no it's switched on in fact but not connected with the station because I have the SSTV on at that time. OK, anyway everything is going well on board. Thank you for trying so late to contact the MIR space station, thank you for your faithful presence on the frequency and you have the microphone now, thanks a lot.

K6OUE: OK, thank you very much for the contact and good luck up there in space. I am really glad to contact MIR and glad to see you guys keeping the MIR space station operating.

FX0STB: OK, to explain the situation, we are supposed to go back to Earth at the end of August and at the present time we are preparing the Progress cargo which is docked to the station for its return to Earth, well, it's going to burn anyway, around the eleventh of July and then the following day, the twelfth of July, we receive the next cargo with a lot of things you are looking, waiting for, like food, mail, and so on.

K6OUE: OK, yeah, that's great. We will be really sad to see the MIR space station end, a lot of people down here have really been interested in following it, and the amateur radio community has really enjoyed it, so sorry to see it come down, but glad that things are going well up there and I am sure you will be glad to get back to Earth.

FX0STB: Yes, uh yes I do. But you know concerning MIR, I think this is history, everything has an end some time and what is good on the other side is the International Space Station is already flying and thru the International Space Station we will have a lot of contacts as well, especially the very first time because they will be in the very narrow module, I'm speaking of the first crew, Shepard, Krikalev, and Grigenko. I think they will be very pleased to be in contact with the ground and to carry on this good experience we have to contact the world, aten ne pas. I just had a contact with a young lady from Venice, afterword I had contact with people in Auckland, a French maid who lives in Nouvelle Calédonie, uh New Caledonia, and now with you in Los Angeles. You know it's a big dream, it gives a significance to the word "mir" in fact.

K6OUE: Oh yeah, yeah, that's true, that's definitely true. So, do you think that you will be flying on the International Space Station some day?

FX0STB: Well, you know I am already 51, it's my second flight, a six month flight. I think if I can, maybe I get in charge of the European astronaut training center. If I have this opportunity I probably will do it, to leave the place for the young ones. Because the next opportunity for a European on the International Space Station are quite far away and I have no patience now to wait. I want to next maybe be in charge of something probably.

K6OUE: OK, yeah, I understand that, that's great. OK, well, I am glad that, uh, I am really really excited to be making this contact, this is my first contact with the MIR space station, so I definitely hope that I will be able to get a QSL card, and uh, hope that things are going really well up there.

FX0STB: Sure, thanks a lot. Maybe you leave your name so that next time I recognize you. My name is Jean-Pierre.

K6OUE: OK, the name here is Jim, Jim Harrison.

FX0STB: OK Jim, thanks a lot for this contact. 73, have a good night!

K6OUE: OK, 73. Yeah it's starting to fade out here, you are going down, you are only about 6 degrees above my horizon so you are starting to fade out, so definitely good luck Jean-Pierre and thanks again for the contact. This is K6OUE.

FX0STB: Bye bye Jim.

July 4, 1999 2:15 AM 09:15 UTC

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## ARC Board Member KS4IS Nominated for Achievement Award

*Reprinted from the "InfoWeb"*

TRW women will take center stage at the 22nd anniversary of the company's Women of Achievement Award celebration on Aug. 23 at the Space Park S-Patio. This year's six award recipients will be announced at the noontime celebration. Wes Bush, vice president & general manager of S&EG's Telecommunication Programs Division, will recognize the many nominees and present awards to the recipients.

A total of 36 outstanding women were nominated by their management and/or peers in one of six grade-level award categories. The nominees were judged by a panel of 23 managers representing S&EG and the Space & Information Technology Group. The nominees were judged on their professional and personal achievements and contributions to the company.

From the Space & Technology Division:

### Elizabeth Kunkee KS4IS

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## Georgia QSO Party by Elizabeth Kunkee, KS4IS

Two club members and a guest competed in the multi-op category of the Georgia QSO Party from the S-building shack. The ops, Dave Kunkee, K0DI, and Elizabeth Kunkee, KS4IS, are former Georgia hams (W4AQL, the Georgia Tech Radio Club), and Sandy Donahue, W4RU, is a current Georgia resident, member of the Georgia Tech Radio Club and is currently the ARRL Section Manager for Georgia.

The shack and antennas worked GREAT! Everything was ready to go when we got to the shack (about 7 minutes before the contest began). The "smart" self-tuning Alpha amplifier was just the thing for frequent band changes (15-20-10-20....). We made 208 QSOs, with a few more CW than phone. 20 meters was the best band for searching out stations, while 15 was best for calling CQ. There was one other California station who

was serious, N6MU, and we had sure hoped to beat him but it didn't work out that way. All in all, the QSO party was a fun way to get in touch with some of the ops we knew from Georgia.

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## **TRW AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

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### **ELECTED OFFICERS**

|                       |                         |               |                   |                       |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>President</b>      | <b>Greg Shreve</b>      | <b>KE6YEX</b> | <b>201A/3009</b>  | <b>(310) 812-2079</b> |
| <b>Vice President</b> | <b>Elizabeth Kunkee</b> | <b>KS4IS</b>  | <b>D1 / 1024</b>  | <b>(310) 813-0524</b> |
| <b>Secretary</b>      | <b>Craig Gullickson</b> | <b>N6ED</b>   | <b>R6 / 2529F</b> | <b>(310) 812-5389</b> |
| <b>Treasurer</b>      | <b>Steve Lambert</b>    | <b>KQ6ZC</b>  | <b>R6 / 2529</b>  | <b>(310) 812-5019</b> |

### **APPOINTED STAFF**

|                            |                  |        |             |                |
|----------------------------|------------------|--------|-------------|----------------|
| 447 Repeater Autopatch     | Duane Park       | WA6EIK | M2N / 1384b | (310) 813-4219 |
| Activities Chairman        | Greg Martens     | N6RRY  | M1 / 1275   | (310) 813-4049 |
| Crosstalk Editor           | Duane Park       | WA6EIK | M2N / 1384b | (310) 813-4219 |
| Emer. Comm. Coordinator    | Wendell Young    | KE6ASC | R5 / 1060B  | (310) 813-7691 |
| Librarian                  | Steve Papa       | KO6VF  | O2 / 1715   | (310) 812-5305 |
| Membership Chairperson     | Dave Nelson      | AB6DU  | R8 / 2144   | (310) 813-9775 |
| Past President             | Elizabeth Kunkee | KS4IS  | D1 / 1024   | (310) 813-0524 |
| 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 | M4 / 2375   | (310) 813-1506 |
| SEA Representative         | Nina Whiddon     | KN6FL  | O1 / 2020   | (310) 813-9351 |
| Swap Meet Manager          | Greg Martens     | N6RRY  | M1 / 1275   | (310) 813-4049 |
| Technical Chairperson      | John Cheatham    | KE6OJM | R9 / 2477   | (310) 813-5903 |
| 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                                       | <a href="http://www.w6trw.ampr.org/w6trw/">http://www.w6trw.ampr.org/w6trw/</a> |

TRW Amateur Radio Club  
S/1156  
One Space Park  
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

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**FIRST CLASS**

Deliver To: