

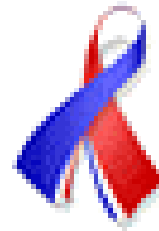
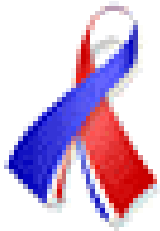


CROSSTALK

News Bulletin of the W6TRW Amateur Radio Club

Volume 33 Number 10

October 2001



Since the attack on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, some 500 Amateur Radio volunteers have helped out with communications support for the disaster. RACES/ARES organizations stepped in the morning of September 11 and many are still supporting the effort to put New York and Washington back to normal. REACT International continues to seek additional Amateur Radio and licensed GMRS users, primarily to support the Salvation Army's relief efforts in New York City.



Kodiak Star Launch is a Success

Following several delays, the Kodiak Star launch vehicle took off into space from Alaska early Sunday, September 30 UTC. The Athena I rocket boosted three Amateur Radio payloads into orbit. Initial indications are that all satellites deployed properly and have been monitored on the ground. The payloads included the APRS-equipped PCSat, built by midshipmen from the US Naval Academy under the guidance of Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, the acknowledged "father of APRS."

Duane Park, WA6EIK Crosstalk Editor/Webmaster

In This issue:

- 2001 Banquet Announcement – Page 3,4
- Salvation Army still needs volunteers in NYC – Page 5
- ULS News – Page 6
- 2001 Digital Conference – Page 7

W6TRW ARC Monthly Calendar of Events

Third Tuesday of each month	5:30 pm	Executive Board Meeting, R4/2020f (All Club Members are invited)
Second Tuesday of each month	5:30pm	Club Meeting Round Table Pizza, (Redondo Bch. & Hawthorne)
Second Tuesday of each month	12:00 noon	Emergency Communications Team Meeting R3 Emergency Operations Center
Last Saturday of each month (Rain or Shine & Holidays)	7:00 am	W6TRW/ARC Swap Meet Marine and Aviation (Southeast Corner)
During the Swapmeet	10:00 am	VE Sessions in Cafeteria

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	W6TRW Retirees Net 7185 KHz
Every Friday Morning	7:30 am	W6TRW Amateur Radio Club Breakfast Building S Cafeteria - Everyone is invited Talk-in on 2 Meters

Other Ham Swap meets:

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

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)

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

ANNOUNCING

The 2001 W6TRW ARC Annual Awards Banquet

(NOTE: This event is for active Club members and their guests only)

**Saturday November 10, 2001
at the Blue Moon Restaurant
207 North Harbor Drive
Redondo Beach 5:30 PM to 10:00 PM**



Featuring Guest Speaker Hap Holly, KC9RP

Radio Amateur Information Network

www.rainreport.com

Buffet Dinner, Awards, Guest Speaker, and Door Prizes

SALVATION ARMY STILL NEEDS HAM VOLUNTEERS IN NEW YORK CITY

(Reprinted from the ARRL Letter Vol. 20 #40)

Although the Salvation Army has cut one shift of radio operators to support the organization's World Trade Center relief operation in New York City, it still needs fresh Amateur Radio volunteers. "We are still short of people," said Jeff Schneller, N2HPO--who's coordinating the Salvation Army Team Emergency Response Network, or SATERN, operation.

The midnight to 8 AM shift has been suspended, but SATERN still needs six Amateur Radio operators per shift--a total of 12 per day--for the indefinite future. Schneller said the SATERN volunteers who have been there the longest now "are getting weary."

SATERN needs operators at the Kennedy Airport warehouse with their own base station set up from about 8 AM until about 9 PM--possibly broken into shifts. In addition, SATERN needs operators to ride with trucks to provide communication. Operators start and end shifts at Salvation Army Division HQ on 14th Street in Manhattan, which also needs operators.

Schneller said the word he has from Salvation Army is that the organization is happy with the Amateur Radio support it's been getting. "They want us to keep going," he said. So far, he said, some 40 Amateur Radio operators have turned out to help support the Salvation Army relief effort--some from the New York City area but others from as far away as Missouri, North Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

"Response from around the nation and the world has been heartwarming," Schneller said, "especially those amateur operators who were willing to put their life on hold, so that they could come help out for a few days or weeks in NYC."

Schneller requested that potential volunteers contact him directly: Home, 718-461-0370; Cell, 917-226-1339; Page, 718-939-3939 (give message to operator); Ham radio, Call N2HPO on the 147.270 repeater (141.3 or 127.3 CTCSS).

The Salvation Army said this week it's sending additional personnel from the Midwest to New York City to assist those who have been on duty since September 11. Members will offer grief counseling, coordinate food service, be on-site in Salvation Army emergency disaster vehicles and organize supplies and volunteers.

CORES/FRN "MASS CONVERSION" PLANNED FOR ULS REGISTRANTS

(Reprinted from the ARRL Letter Vol. 20 #40)

Before the switchover to mandatory Commission Registration System (CORES) registration on December 3, 2001, the FCC plans to do a "mass conversion" from its Universal Licensing System (ULS) database.

Once CORES becomes mandatory in December, everyone doing business with the FCC--licensed or not--must obtain and use a 10-digit FCC Registration Number--or FRN. The FCC called the move is "a first step" toward streamlining fee collection and tracking. Many amateurs registered with the ULS were assigned an FRN by CORES in a mass conversion last year. Affected amateurs were notified by mail.

An FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau spokesperson told ARRL this week that another mass conversion will be done prior to December. As a result, anyone who has registered a Taxpayer Identification Number--typically an individual's Social Security Number--with the FCC will be assigned an FRN, which will appear in the FCC amateur database.

The requirement to obtain an FRN extends to applicants for an Amateur Radio license as well as to anyone required to pay a fee to the FCC, such as those applying for a vanity call sign. An FRN will not be needed to file comments in rulemaking proceedings, however.

Amateur Service licensees not already registered in the ULS are encouraged to register their TINs soon, to save the step of a second CORES registration after December 3. To register, visit the FCC's ULS Web site <<http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls>>; and click on "Register TIN/Call Sign." (NOTE:

The Universal Licensing System will be down for scheduled maintenance from 10 PM Eastern Time Friday, October 5, until 8 AM Eastern Time Monday, October 8.)

The FCC established CORES last year and has been in the process of implementing it. The FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau concedes that a lot of issues remain undecided regarding how CORES/FRN will work for the Amateur Service. For more information on CORES/FRN, visit the FCC CORES Web site <<https://svartifoss2.fcc.gov/cores/CoresHome.html>>;.

Texas ARES/RACES teams activate following bridge collapse:

(Reprinted from the ARRL Letter Vol. 20 #40)

Disaster struck in South Texas early on the morning of September 15 when a 240-foot section of the Queen Isabella Causeway between South Padre Island and Port Isabel, Texas, collapsed after barges slammed into the bridge supports. The mishap sent several vehicles plummeting into the water 80 feet below and claimed 11 lives. The Texas Department of Public Safety contacted John Teer, AK5Z, to request Amateur Radio assistance with communications, because all phone lines between South Padre Island and the mainland had been severed. "I called around to get volunteers to place on the Island EOC and the Port Isabell EOC," Teer reports. The DPS provided boat transportation to the Island for an operator. "We provided 2-meter communication for government and Red Cross officials on Saturday and Sunday until landline telephone and cell phone communications could be re-established," Teer said. Participating in addition to Teer were Pat Patterson, N5SLI, Virginia Scarth, KC5SAM, Ed Scarth, W8AHU, and Gregg Sargent, KA0ARS.

CINCINNATI HOSTS 2001 DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE

(Reprinted from the ARRL Letter Vol. 20 #40)

Despite reduced attendance in the aftermath of the September 11 terrorist attacks, the 2001 Digital Communications Conference forged ahead in Cincinnati, Ohio, September 21-23. The conference was co-sponsored by the ARRL and TAPR--Tucson Amateur Packet Radio.

At the Friday afternoon Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS) symposium, Byron Garrabrant, N6BG, introduced the Tiny Trak II, a miniature TNC designed for portable applications. Its innovative features include "Smart Beacons" in which the Tiny Trak increases the beacon rate automatically according to the speed the tracked object--such as an automobile--is moving.

Smart Beacons also attempts to detect when the moving object makes a sudden course change and immediately sends a beacon to update the position. During public service events where many APRS stations are active in the same area, the Tiny Trak II provides a means to assign precise beacon intervals to each station to minimize interference.

Steve Bible, N7HPR, updated the audience on the evolution of the Easy Trak antenna rotator controller. He raised eyebrows when he introduced the Easy Trak Jr, a truly tiny rotator controller approximately the size of a human thumb. It's designed to plug into any PC serial port. Bible says the Easy Trak Jr should be available by year's end and sell for under \$100.

Saturday forums ranged from a satellite seminar courtesy of Steve Coy, K8UD to a humorous CirCad presentation by Jay Craswell, W0VNE. QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, discussed PSK31 and other innovative digital communications modes in two separate seminars Saturday afternoon. Bible and Gary Barbour, AC4DL, offered back-to-back forums on software-defined radios, DSP and digital voice.

At the Saturday banquet, Tony Curtis, K3RXK, spoke on the history of Amateur Radio in space. Curtis noted that the first Amateur Radio satellite--OSCAR 1--was launched nearly 40 years ago. Amateur satellite enthusiasts now are looking toward the possibility of landing a communications package on the lunar surface or even on Mars, he said.

The 2002 Digital Communications Conference will be held in Denver, Colorado.

Listening In: Scanners Becoming Popular at Races

Reprinted from Amateur Radio Newsline™ #1259 - 9/28/2001

The National Motorsport Racing Association says that some fans aren't content to just watch the action on the race track, they want to hear what's going on inside the cars.

And they're willing to pay to hear it. According to an NMRA press release, one man spent 189 dollars on a 30 channel racing scanner and headphones to listen in during the recent Pepsi 400 race at Michigan International Speedway. He explained that he wanted to hear what the drivers said while they jockeyed for position on the track. And at least one scanner expert says sales of these devices have boomed over the past five years on the professional motor racing circuit.

(NMRA)

W6TRW AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

ELECTED OFFICERS

President	Bob Briggs	KD6WYQ	O1 / 1260	(310) 813-2622
Vice President	Stuart Gorsky	KF6QHV	R5 / 1060	(310) 812-0255
Secretary	Craig Gullickson	N6ED	R6 / 2529F	(310) 812-5389
Treasurer	Jason Fujino	KD6ELS	R5 / 2130	(310) 812-5461

APPOINTED STAFF

447 Repeater Autopatch	Duane Park	WA6EIK	O1 / 1070	(310) 813-4219
Activities Chairperson	Mike Hamada	KF6UCN	M5 / 0435	(310) 814-2628
Crosstalk Editor	Duane Park	WA6EIK	O1 / 1070	(310) 813-4219
Emer. Comm. Coordinator	Wendell Young	KE6ASC	R5 / 1060B	(310) 813-7691
Librarian	Dave Nelson	AB6DU	R8 / 2144	(310) 813-9775
Membership Chairperson	Wendy Crawford	KQ6CG		(310) 513-2060
Past President				
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	Chris Wachs	WA2KDL	M4 / 2375	(310) 813-1506
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
Webmaster	Duane Park	WA6EIK	O1 / 1070	(310) 813-4219

BOLD=NEW

W6TRW 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://www.w6trw.com/>

W6TRW Amateur Radio Club
S/1156
One Space Park
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

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