



W6TRW CROSSTALK

Monthly news bulletin of the W6TRW Amateur Radio Club
OCTOBER 2022



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Monthly General Club Meeting

When: Tuesday, October 11th at 6:30 PM

Where: Virtual Meeting on Zoom

Due to continued COVID-19 public health guidelines, W6TRW Club Meetings will not yet be held in person. Instead, we are holding Virtual Meetings on Zoom.

**Click on the link below on your computer, tablet, or smartphone.
Same meeting link, 2nd Tuesday of every month, 6:30 PM Pacific Time.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82794654895>

Phone dial-in: 1 669 900 6833, Meeting ID: 827 9465 4895

Speaker Topic for This Month:

“External Filters for Ham Radio”

How to solve a problem, have fun, and make more contacts!

Dick Knight, N1OR

Hams often encounter interference that can be easily eliminated with the right external filter. Dick will discuss when this is likely to occur and share tips on how to select a suitable filter to solve the problem. Options to consider include purchase of completed filters, kits, and even DIY design. Dick’s talk will include an overview of these options with examples and sources. Tips will also be included for filter selection, construction, design and evaluation. Building a filter can be a very enjoyable activity as well as resulting in more contacts in challenging environments.



Like many University of Illinois graduates, Dick was drawn to the exciting California electronics industry of the 1970’s. He spent a career in government electronics (Watkins-Johnson), instrumentation (Tektronix) and a display start-up (Sarif). In “retirement” he served as Interim Dean of Engineering (Portland State) and other academic roles. In the ‘90’s Dick, his wife and two sons became hams and enjoyed communicating while hiking and climbing in the Oregon wilderness. More recently his son, KD7DTS, began using a Software Defined Radio in high interference areas and enticed Dick into the challenges and pleasures of designing, making, and using external ham radio filters.

2022 W6TRW Annual Awards Banquet

IMPORTANT! Please send in your Reservation!

Banquet 2022

Hi, all! We are holding the 2022 W6TRW Annual Awards Banquet in-person this year. The Banquet will take place in the Redondo Beach Northrop Grumman Cafeteria in Building S, on the evening of Saturday November 12th, 2022, 5 PM.

We will space apart the seating to reduce potential COVID exposure. We will follow applicable guidelines for an indoor banquet.

If you will attend the Banquet, please send us your RSVP / Dinner Reservation form (attached) and payment by check, by October 28, 2022. Full information is on the form. Thanks!

News and Announcements

W6TRW Repeaters Now Playing Newline & ARRL News

New, starting the past few months, is a regularly scheduled rebroadcast of [Amateur Radio Newline](#) ham radio news and the [ARRL weekly news](#) on the W6TRW repeaters on **Wednesdays and Sundays at 9:00pm Pacific time!** Newline is a free service that produces a weekly report of important goings-on in the ham radio community and is a great way to stay in the loop on current ham radio topics.

Take a listen and let us know what you think!

-- Shackmaster, Dylon N6MX

News and Announcements

QST de WA2KDL, Club President!

Another busy month in the club. September brought us the September VHF contest and another swap meet along with several Tower 2 R&R antenna work parties.

October has already gotten off to a great start with the launch of two AMSAT-EA satellites on the new Alpha Rocket. This was the second launch of the new rocket, and it was a 100 percent success. The AMSAT web page has all the info on the new satellites.

The Tower 2 R&R project is going along very well with the final push going on in the month of October. Check-in with Dylan if you can help. Most work parties are on the weekends. The club is providing lunch if you help. We have all the parts now, new six-meter beam and two-meter beam, refurbished rotator, and a brand new 40-meter antenna. This will put the club back to world class capability. Hope to see you at the next Tower 2 work party.

The other big news after many months of waiting the club new DMR repeater is here; will be installed this week. The club will have the best DMR repeater you can purchase. Let the club know if you need help getting on DMR. We have several experts in the club that can help get you on the air with this fun mode to use. Also, see our [W6TRW Repeater Page](#).

See you on the air DE WA2KDL ..

W6TRW Tower 2 Update – Craig N6ED

The W6TRW Club is refurbishing our bigger antenna tower at Space Park, taking advantage of Northrop Grumman Facilities work being done on the roof of Building S, where our W6TRW radio shack is located. We finished an intense phase of planning and ordering long-lead antennas, which are now delivered. To meet the contractor's schedule, we need to assemble, check out, paint, and install a number of new multi-element antennas, in a very short time.

Accomplished 10/9/22:

- 6M Boom Truss brackets built
- 6M BTM plates assembled (less the missing bolts)
- Comet 2M/440 Vertical assembled
- Rotor cable prepped, terminal block/box assembled, cable installed, weather-proofed
- M2 OR2800 Rotor hooked up, calibrated, tested OK

We need to buckle down to get the remaining tuning of the VHF antennas done and the 40M built asap. Building the 40m antenna is a huge project, scheduled for 10/14-10/16. We need help from a few additional members – shifts of 2 to 4 hours will be a big help! The club will supply lunch and (if needed) dinner, to all who come by to assist. Please reply to Christopher.Wachs@ngc.com or dylon.mutz@gmail.com to be added to the list of helpers, to keep up with the detailed work schedule. The W6TRW antenna towers are once-in-25-years projects – a chance to be part of a real club legacy. Thanks!!!

News and Announcements

SOTA and POTA – Summits on the Air, Parks on the Air

SOTA and POTA are great opportunities to make simplex contacts from your home station or car, and give contacts to hams operating portable from peaks and parks. For casual contacts on 2m FM, listen on the 146.58 MHz calling frequency – there are many peaks and parks in the Southern California area. For more exciting HF SOTA/POTA contacts (which are often CW), see the spotting reports at:

<https://hamalert.org/about>

<https://parksontheair.com>

<https://www.sota.org.uk>

<https://sotl.as/spots/sotawatch>

Next POTA weekend: October 15-16, 2022

<https://pota.app/#/events>

It's always a blast because there are so many folks on the air for these quarterly parties!

-- Mark KD7DTS

W6TRW Club Members SHOW 'N TELL

Please REPLY if interested!

W6TRW Club Members SHOW 'N TELL / DIY / Maker talks

At past and recent club meetings, we've had members of our club describe and/or demonstrate projects they have created or been involved in. We'd like to continue that tradition! We're all excited to hear what you've been doing. All you need to do is put together a few slides!

If you've been building something interesting, please send a reply to newsletter@w6trw.com, and we'll get you on the agenda in 2023.

Thanks!

News and Announcements

Silent Key estates - CLASSIFIED Ads – free to good home

From Kenn Clark, cell 602-284-0945: I have a friend whose father recently passed. He was an avid Ham operator living in Lakewood California. Many years ago he volunteered/manned the Queen Mary Radio room. I would like to contact a club member regarding his Equipment. it need a new good home.

Also, another Silent Key has left behind some older ham equipment, dipole antenna, and CQ magazines. If anyone is interested, please reply to newsletter@w6trw.com.

Mike Schettler, WA6MER

Sadly, a Silent Key, member of our W6TRW club: WA6MER, Mike Schettler, passed away in mid September 2022. Mike was a long-time TRW engineer in the RF Products Center, from 1977 to 2012, retiring as Manager of the RF and Microwave Products Dept.

Memorial Service will be held at St. Mel Catholic Church, 20870 Ventura Blvd. Woodland Hills, CA 91364, 818 340-6020

Date for Memorial Service at the Church for Mike Schettler is October 29th at 10:30am; lunch reception to follow at the church.

-- From WB6DJI

News and Announcements

Membership

The W6TRW 2022 Membership Form is on our [Membership](#) page. Be sure to renew for the 2022 club year!

Each year, when you renew or join the W6TRW Amateur Radio Club, we will send out a physical membership card via regular mail, as confirmation that you are a member for the year. We send these out approximately monthly, plus we typically check the club mailbox approximately weekly, so there may be a delay of a few weeks in receiving your card.

W6TRW Swap Meet

Our club puts on the largest monthly amateur radio swap meet in the Los Angeles area. The W6TRW Swap Meet has been held monthly for almost 40 years. The W6TRW Swap Meet is well known throughout the western US and even the world! It is always held the last Saturday of every month, rain or shine, holiday or not, from 7:00 AM until 11:30 AM, in the R2 parking lot near the southeast corner of Aviation Blvd. and Marine Ave. where the cities of Redondo Beach, Manhattan Beach, and Hawthorne meet. Talk-in on 145.320 -600 PL 114.8.

If you wish to sell at the swap meet, please visit our swap meet sellers' webpage for all the necessary information.

Our Swap Meet Manager, Rich N6CIZ, is always on the lookout for volunteers to help at the Swap Meet. If you'd like to get up early and help the club put on this event, email Rich at w6trwswapmeet@gmail.com to get more information.

The next swap meet will be the last Saturday of the month, from 7:00 am to 11:30 AM. See you there!

AMSAT - Amateur Radio in Space

The number of active amateur radio satellites keeps increasing. Here is the current satellite status, making it easy to find satellites you can receive or transmit to: <https://www.amsat.org/status/>. We'll be contacting satellites at Field Day - each flyover is an exciting and challenging opportunity.

Amateur Radio Contests - Calendar

There are many amateur radio contests during the year, for the full range of different radio interest areas. Here is the contest calendar for this month.

W6TRW Repeaters and Nets

W6TRW Repeaters

VHF 2 Meters • 145.320 MHz, Offset: -600 kHz, PL: 114.8 Hz; Located in Redondo Beach, CA • All-Star node 505680
UHF 440 MHz • 447.000 MHz, Offset: -5 MHz, PL: 100.0 Hz; Located in Redondo Beach, CA • All-Star node 505681
(Our VHF 145.320 MHz and UHF 447.000 MHz repeaters are linked – but may be disconnected for certain nets listed below)
UHF MotoTRBO DMR • 446.050 MHz, Offset: -5 MHz, Color Code: 2; Located in Redondo Beach, CA

Monday K6MBC Manhattan Beach MBCERT Net

Weekly; Monday nights at 6 PM *except* first Monday of the month, on the W6TRW 447.000 MHz repeater

Monday Lomita and South Los Angeles DCS Net: Weekly

Monday nights at 7:30 PM, on the W6TRW 145.320 MHz repeater

Wednesday W6TRW Emergency Communications Team (ECT) Net: Weekly

The ECT net is held weekly Wednesdays starting between 12:00-12:15pm on our 145.320 MHz and 447.000 MHz repeaters. The whole net only takes about 10-15 minutes.

The purpose of the net is to promote club participation and to increase the general awareness of hams to emergency communications resources. The net is open to all W6TRW members as well as any non-member visitors!

Check-ins reply with their name and callsign, general location, and their radio communication capabilities at the time.

During an actual emergency, the W6TRW 145.320 MHz repeater will be dedicated to DCS, and won't be available for open use, but it will be very useful to monitor! The W6TRW 447.000 MHz repeater should be available and open for use during an actual emergency, so please save a memory in your radio for our 447.000MHz repeater!

Wednesday Northrop Grumman HF Family Net

Also at noon Pacific Time on Wednesday is a long-running Northrop Grumman net on 14.270 MHz. Northrop Grumman and TRW employees / retirees are welcome to check in and represent the West Coast!

Thursday Space Net

Our W6TRW 145.320 MHz and 447.000 MHz repeaters host the long-running Space and Information Net every Thursday evening at 7:00 PM. Ronnie N6SHI (Space Hams International) is the net controller, taking check-ins and providing the best of the weekly space news, launches, and visual flyovers. Tune in and check in!!

Thursday Outdoors Net

Weekly; takes place immediately after the Space Net weekly on Thursday nights – via IRLP from Las Vegas net control – IRLP turns on at 7:45 PM every Thursday. Lots of good info for mobile and outdoors activities!

Newsline & ARRL Weekly News – Wednesday and Sunday

9:00 PM & 9:30 PM

News released every Friday

About Us – W6TRW

The W6TRW Amateur Radio Club is a non-profit organization that started in the early 1960s.

The W6TRW Amateur Radio Club started as the TRW ARC and held the club call sign WB6WPO. The club became an ARRL Affiliated Club in 1971, and the club call sign was changed to W6TRW in 1974. The club was formed at the TRW facilities in Redondo Beach California comprised of employees of the aerospace company.

Our club station is located in Building S and includes 2 Yaesu FT-1000's, Alpha 87a amplifier, and two towers with multiple HF antennas in Redondo Beach, California. We also have all-mode capability on 6m, 2m, 440, and 1.2 GHz. We have ATV, and satellite and packet stations.

W6TRW sponsors open repeaters on 2 meters and 440 MHz that serve the Los Angeles basin. We also have a Motorola MOTOTRBO Digital Repeater in Redondo Beach. IRLP node 7067 is connected to our open 440 repeater and typically is connected to the Western Amateur Linking Association LAX Reflector 9350. Please visit our repeater page for more information!

The Amateur Radio Club (W6TRW) offers a full range of radio related activities, including contest operating events, community public service events, picnics and classes for those wishing to obtain their first license. Stop by the Amateur Radio Swap Meet on the last Saturday of the month in the R2 parking lot from 7:00-11:30am – you'll be surprised by what you will find.