



W6TRW **CROSSTALK**

Monthly news bulletin of the W6TRW Amateur Radio Club

December 2023

62 QSOs - Portable QRP



Work the US on 5 watts and a wire!
[and a mountaintop]

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- General Club Meeting
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Monthly General Club Meeting

When: Tuesday, December 12th at 6:30 PM

Where: Virtual Meeting on Zoom

The W6TRW Club Meetings are again being held virtually via Zoom until The Northrop Grumman Cafeteria remodeling is finished, by the end of 2023.

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:

“Backcountry Safety for the Portable Operator”

Adam Kimmerly, K6ARK

"That Others May Live" - These four simple words define the passion and drive Search and Rescue (SAR) people have, and adverse conditions they put themselves through, to save others in distress.

The talk will focus on ham operators taking part in portable activity. Adam, K6ARK, will show us planning & preparation, what to do in an emergency, and how search and rescue works.



Adam K6ARK has been a ham since 2010 when he earned his technician license. It all started because Adam wanted to learn more about the radios he was using on the SAR team he joined in 2005. Ham radio is found to be a slippery slope as Adam earned his general class, then extra class license, became addicted to Summits on the Air (SOTA), and went deep down the rabbit hole of antenna design and construction. He is still a member of that same SAR team and spends as much of his time as possible outside and in the mountains.

27-28 January 2024 - Winter Field Day !!

We're going to participate in the [Winter Field Day](#) in January 2024. This is a fun event, less formal and easier than the Summer ARRL Field Day. And the additional good news is, winter in Los Angeles is only about 20°F cooler than summer, so this will literally be like a walk in the park for us [we'll operate from a local park]. Come by and have some radio fun! Please contact Mark KD7DTS at carletonknight@gmail.com to RSVP and get further details.



Classified Ads

[Amateur Radio Equipment for Sale](#)

K4KIO HEX Beam, 6 bands, very good condition. \$300

CONTACT: Bill Shanney W6QR, w6qr@arrrl.net

[Amateur Radio Estate](#)

Vintage radio equipment for sale or donation:

- King KU-193 3-crystal Aviation Base Station (? Unicom radio at uncontrolled field)
Crystals for 123.12, 123.15, 123.4 MHz
- Swan ADF-100 Automatic Direction Finder
- Midland 13-895 CB radio
- Dynaco Stereo 400 vacuum tube pre-amp

CONTACT: John Cross WM2I, slimeagle@aol.com, 714-600-9492

W6TRW Discord Channel

Did you know W6TRW has an active online discussion of ham radio adventures, build projects, and event planning? This is an excellent way to keep up with hot topics in the club. If you haven't already, please join your fellow club members on Discord. You can sign up here: <https://discord.gg/9JMY9SydV3>

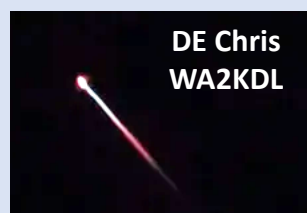
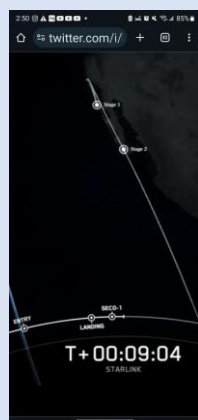
Recent posts on the W6TRW Discord:

Dylon N6MX — 11/28/2023 11:57 PM
We had a great How-To Radio training today in the shack for our new Tech Licensees! Everyone caught on quick and now know how to use their radio simplex and with a repeater



Check out our Discord New Hams channel
- advice and help for new members!!

Chris WA2KDL — 11/20/2023 2:51 AM
SpaceX Starlink launch out of Vandenberg
— Get timely launch alerts on our Discord space-net channel



@Mike WB6DJI — 01/27/2023 12:27 AM
Aloha from the Volcano Mauna Loa on the Big Island of Hawaii de Mike WB6DJI



"Ham Radio – Don't Leave Home Without It"

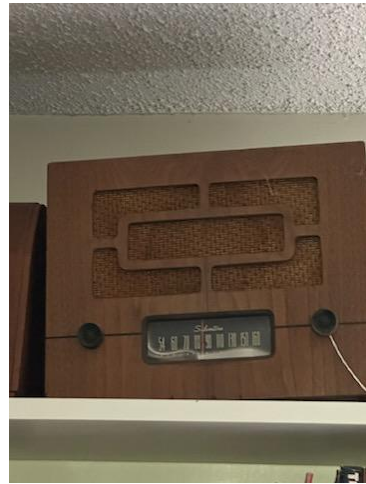
News and Announcements

Massive Amateur Radio Estate – Don Davis AD6PB, SK

Former W6TRW member Don Davis, AD6PB, became a Silent Key last year. He's left a huge estate of unique, well-cared vintage radio equipment, surely of interest to collectors, and a great DX station with tower and antennas. See the collection at

<https://w6trw.com/classified-ads/>

To obtain any of this incredible vintage gear, contact Linda Davis at (310) 871-9773, or email lcndavis@gmail.com



News and Announcements



Membership

The W6TRW 2024 Membership Form is on our [Membership](#) page. Be sure to renew for the 2023 club year! **Our annual participation fee for the W6TRW club is still \$5, as it always has been! You can now send the participation fee ELECTRONICALLY to Dylan N6MX – see the note in the new 2023 W6TRW Membership Form! And you can scan your signed ink signature pages and send to Dylan's email address on the form. We're going electronic!**

Our durable, high-tech magnetic club badges are now \$30, the real cost of making them. The badge, with your call sign, name & W6TRW logo, will last for many years!

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.

W6TRW Swap Meet – Last Saturday of Every Month !

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, Wendell KE6ASC, 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 important traditional activity, email Wendell at w6trwswapmeet@gmail.com to get more information.

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

W6TRW Club Members SHOW 'N TELL

W6TRW Club Members SHOW 'N TELL / DIY / Maker / Activity 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, or engaged in recent ham radio adventures or volunteering, please send a reply to newsletter@w6trw.com, and we'll get you on the agenda in 2023!

Please REPLY if interested!

News and Announcements

W6TRW Repeaters Now Playing Newsline & ARRL News

We're putting a regularly scheduled rebroadcast of [Amateur Radio Newsline](#) ham radio news and the [ARRL weekly news](#) on the W6TRW repeaters on Wednesdays and Sundays at 9:00pm Pacific time! Newsline 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

[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 may be able to hear: <https://www.amsat.org/status/>. For many satellites, the telemetry downlink or Morse code beacon is easy to receive with a simple dual-band VHF-UHF magmount antenna.

If you have a VHF/UHF SDR (software defined radio) connected to your computer, you can see the Doppler shift of the signal as the satellite passes over.

To find out when a satellite will fly over your location, go to <https://www.amsat.org/track/index.php>. Just put in your grid square or approximate latitude-longitude. One of the most reliable and easy downlinks is the ISS (International Space Station) on 145.800 MHz.

The next step is transmitting – making amateur contacts through the satellites. AMSAT satellites for amateur communications: <https://www.amsat.org/two-way-satellites/>.

[Amateur Radio Contests - Calendar](#)

There are many amateur radio contests during the year, for the full range of different radio interest areas. Click [here \(WA7BNM's Contest Calendar\)](#) for a listing of all the amateur radio contests.

Just listening to contests is a great way to hear a lot of stations from all over the US and even all over the world – better than just randomly tuning on any given day, hoping to hear something.

One popular contest is the [ARRL January VHF Contest](#) and the [ARRL June VHF Contest](#). The VHF contests are easy and fun – just find your grid square at [Amateur Radio Ham Radio Maidenhead Grid Square Locator](#) and then key up your VHF/UHF FM radio on the calling frequencies – 146.52 MHz and 446.000 MHz. The calling frequencies 146.52, 146.55, and 146.58 are busy during the contest and you can make many contacts just by answering contest calls. It's a great way to check out your VHF/UHF radios!

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

Tuesday Absolute Tech Net: Weekly

We retransmit the weekly [Absolute Tech Net](#) on Tuesday afternoons at 4 PM Pacific time. This is a great group of knowledgeable people who are enthusiastic to share their knowledge with others. Please see the [Absolute Tech Net web page](#) for the many topics they have discussed, and upcoming topics.

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!!

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.