



# The Short Circuit

The November meeting of the United Radio Amateur Club will be held Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm in the break room of the Los Angeles Maritime Museum, located at Berth 84, foot of Sixth Street in San Pedro. **Please see the current parking situation from the Maritime Museum, below.** The entrance to the break room is through the gate on the north side of the museum (towards the bridge and the IOWA). There will be a greeter on the gate.

## Program:

The presentation is on direct sampling software defined radios, theory and practice. The “hottest” (in popularity, not thermally) HF transceiver now on the market is Icom’s IC-7300. Presenting will be PVARC members Ray Day, N6HE, and Clay Davis, AB9A, who both own this radio. Ray brought his IC-7300 to Two Harbors on Catalina Island for our recent IOTA DXpedition and his IC-7300 was heavily used. Even during our non-stop participation in the North American RTTY QSO Party the IC-7300 never got warm to the touch. Ray and Clay will also discuss some new developments in SDR radios announced at the Dayton Hamvention.

Clay, AB9A, lists the following: First Licensed in 2010. Extra Class License in 2011. Interested in DX and DMR. DXCC both Phone and CW. Interested in SDR Radio technology. Own a Flex 3000 and iCom 7300. Retired as VP Engineering of an international entertainment company where he Commissioned, installed and operated large scale (100 channel) DSP systems.. Member of the Southern California DX Club and the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club



Ray, N6HE was first Licensed in 1962. Ray has been a URAC member continuously since 1975, was Sec’y and Pres a couple or 3 times each...been at every K6AA FD that I was in the country for since then, and participated in the many circuit-board convention give-aways we did and headed up the IARU Project Goodwill effort (from which he’s still recovering!), and is active on: DXCC: CW, SSB, RTTY, About 20 different flavors of WAS (incl’g) 5BWAS and WAS with the IARU Project Goodwill receiver (that was work!). ARRL Triple Play (CW and SSB and DIGITAL LoTW-only WAS)

**Los Angeles Maritime Museum  
Visitor Access- Parking Update: October 2017**



[Due to the Harbor Boulevard Realignment project](#), access to Sampson Way (the road parallel to the Museum) is now restricted.

**Driving Directions from the 110 South Freeway:** Take the Harbor Boulevard exit. At the bottom of the ramp, bear right, get in the left lane, and continue one mile to the intersection of Harbor and 6th Streets. Bear left at the 6th Street traffic light, and make an immediate right onto Sampson Way. You will see white concrete barriers marking the end of Sampson Way. The entry to the parking lot will be on the left, directly in front of the barriers. Parking is free!

**Directions coming from the West:** Head east on 22nd Street and bear left onto Miner Street, which becomes Harbor Boulevard. When the road splits, keep left. Take a right at the intersection of Harbor and 6th Streets, and follow the parking directions above. Vehicles will no longer be able to access Sampson Way by driving through Ports O'Call village. Pedestrians will still have access.

Parking for visitors with disabilities remains available across the street from the Museum entrance.

Please note: the Museum will be open regular hours, Tuesday - Sunday 10-5, throughout the construction project.

*Thank you for your support and patience: you will continue to receive regular updates via e-mail, [museum website](#), and social media.*



### ***QST de President Doug, W6HB...***

Thanks all who donated goods and to those who bid at the October White Elephant Sale to support the Holiday Party prize pool.

The URAC Holiday Party will be at the Think Cafe on Saturday, December 16 along with the swearing in of officers and the Thieves' Exchange. The cost is \$35 per head and your payment needs to be received by Treasurer Gary, N6HMR, NLT December 11. Make your checks out to URAC. To participate in the Exchange bring a wrapped gift valued at \$20.

Make sure you attend the November 17th meeting to vote for your 2018 officers. We have a full slate although John, WA6SDK, has withdrawn from the directors "race."

Ray, N6HE, and Clay, AB9A, will present on the new SDR radios with the Icom IC-7300 as their poster child. Come and learn about the new toys looking to sneak onto your holiday wish list.

This will be the last URAC meeting to be convened at the LAMM until the ongoing construction has been completed and nearby parking becomes available. Effective January 6 the URAC meeting will be integrated with the first Saturday of the month breakfast at the Think Cafe. It will be up to the incoming officers to determine how best to integrate programs and the auctions for 2018.

The club is still recruiting new operators for K6AA and new members for URAC. I requested the new LA Rec and Parks volunteer paperwork packages from the LAMM Director and have received them. See Gary, N6HMR, at any club function if you want to obtain one to sign up.

Thanks to Larry, KK6TXN, Bill, KB6WKT and associates for working to get the K6AA rotator repaired. The club has also ordered a new VHF/UHF antenna plus triplexer that will handle the 146 and 222 rigs plus 70cm if we decide to add one. The work party will be announced some time later.

The bands have been spotty but I was able to work the 3C and VK9 DXpeditions without too much difficulty. Here's hoping you have been on the air too.....

## **73 -- Doug -- W6HB**

### **November First Saturday Breakfast**



Wow, 21 members and guests showed up for the November First Saturday Breakfast. Here's some of the rag chew around the table:

Doug, W6HB reports that the K6AA website has been renewed and that there will be funds coming to URAC from the recent HAMCON.

Nick, N6EFI, passed on the information that there is another Tall Ship in the harbor this week; the Cuauhtémoc, located at berth 46, out in the outer harbor, near the Lane Victory. He reports also that Sal stopped by his qth to talk antennas. At his lunch with his group last week at the Acapulco Restaurant the staff said that they would be moving to their new location in 2020.

Larry, KK6TXN, reported on the K6AA rotator work party. Thanks to Bill Heather, Mike Frye, Sal Morelli (and Larry...) for a great job. (note from the editor: it works very well now; a big thanks to all from the Station).

John, AG6VO has recently lost 38 lbs. (on purpose); he reports that the Leisure World Radio Club is using GMRS and FRS. The VA club that he is in is doing well.

Ingo, KK6EWB, forgot the stuff for Bruce and will bring to the November Mtg.

Mary, xyl of Ingo, says it's nice to be back.

Treva, N6HMS, and Gary, N6HMR introduced their grandson, William, who says that he is in the second grade and likes to play with Legos. (Welcome to William...Legos are a great start).

John, WA6SDK passed

Scotty, K6ZNL reminded the group of the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium's Autumn Sea Fair, coming up on the 19<sup>th</sup>. We will have a booth.

Bruce, AG6BJ, enjoyed the CQ World-wide DX (phone) contest last week. He got to Europe for the first time in 2 years, along with Madeira Island and a Russian DX group in Morocco.

George, WA6YBR worked from K6AA on Thursday into South America. Thanks to the group for the new rotator. He is working CW but looking for help.

Homer, K6HKT reports that the parking lot near the Lane Victory is being used by the port as an event space.

Bill, W6AJ has had company

David, W6KL says Burbank is still there...

John, KC6JHV gave blood again recently. He is now 3 pints shy of 22 gallons in donations. Way to go John!

Norman, KG6FSA has made his second breakfast with us!

Sam, K1SL thanks to everyone for showing up. He and Norm just came from the Downey group. He says Ivan just had teeth pulled or he would have been here also.

Stuart; WX6ST enjoyed the contest last weekend.

Reported by Scotty K6ZNL

## Catalogs are about possibilities

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

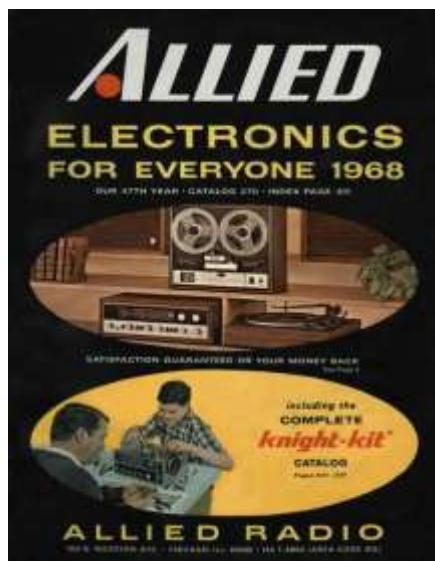
When I was a kid, I used to regularly get catalogs, such as the Allied Radio and Lafayette Radio catalogs shown below, and pore over them for hours. Even if I couldn't afford to buy the latest Knight-Kit or Lafayette shortwave radio, I could imagine what it would be like. These catalogs

were chock full of possibilities.

I spent many hours poring over the Allied and Lafayette catalogs as a kid.

These two are from 1968, when I was 13 years old.

So, you can imagine how I felt when, last Thursday, I found both the Autumn/Winter 2017 DX Engineering catalog and the 2018-2019 Newark Electronics/element14 catalog in my mailbox.





[DX Engineering](#) has really taken the amateur radio world by storm over the last ten years or so. I probably don't have to tell you about that. If you're an active amateur radio operator, I'm sure that you have heard about—and probably ordered from—DX Engineering.

I think that DX Engineering did a very smart thing by investing the money in a print catalog. There's something about browsing a print catalog that is just more satisfying than browsing online.

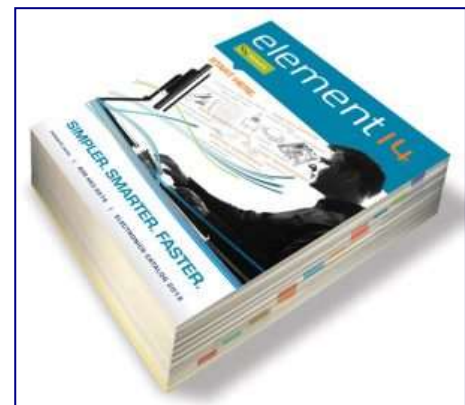
DX Engineering has just about everything you need to have fun with amateur radio. The one glaring omission? They still don't carry my study guides!



The [Newark/element14 2018-2019 catalog](#) is a completely different beast. Amateur radio operators are only a small part of Newark/element14's market, but one nonetheless. They have, for example, attended the Dayton Hamvention for many years.

As such, the catalog is not a “ham radio” catalog, but if you build stuff at all you'll find something of interest in its 1,799 pages. It includes nearly any kind of electronic part that you might need.

The section that might you might want to start with is the “makerspace” section. In this section, you'll find Raspberry Pis, BeagleBones, and even micro:bits. They really have everything, though, including passive and active components, connectors, cable, and enclosures.




Like I say, these catalogs are all about possibilities. You can search each company's website and find the parts they carry quickly and easily, but that experience is just not the same as browsing a print catalog and daydreaming about what you might find there.

So, get your own copies—they're free—and page through them. I'd be surprised if you didn't run across something that you didn't know about before, and it gave you some ideas about your next amateur radio project.

## DX OPERATIONS FOR NOVEMBER 2017

Per NG3K

Minami Torishima, JD1: Is now operating thru 12/15/2017. QSL via JA8CJY.  
Solomon Is, H44MS: Is now operating thru 11/30/2017. QSL via DL2GAC.  
Azores, CT8: Is now operating thru 11/10/2017. QSL via DL7ZG.  
Faroe Is, OY: Is now operating thru 11/11/2017. QSL via DK2AJ.  
Hong Kong, VR2: Is now operating thru 11/15/2017. QSL via KC0W.  
Guinea, 3XY3D: Is now operating thru 12/1/2017. QSL via F5OZC.  
Mellish Reef, VK9MA: Is now operating thru 11/16/2017. QSL via N7QT.  
Bardados, 8P9MT: Is now operating thru 11/10/2017. QSL via WT4BT.  
Bardados, 8P9MT: Is now operating thru 11/12/2017. QSL via N7BF.  
Mauritius, 3B8HC: Is now operating thru 11/28/2017. QSL via HB9ARY.  
Guadeloupe, TO2E: Is now operating thru 11/10/2017. QSL via K2HVN.  
Burundi, 9U4M: Is now operating thru 11/17/2017. QSL via IZ8CCW.  
Montserrat, VP2MDL: Is now operating thru 11/20/2017. QSL via DL7DF.  
Australia, VK9AR: Is now operating thru 11/11/2017. QSL via VK5CE.  
Tanzania, 5H3DX: Will be operating from 11/7 thru 12/4/2017. QSL via NK8O.  
Nauru, C21: Will be operating from 11/8 thru 11/14/2017. QSL via LA8VE.  
St Kitts & Nevis, V47FWX: Will be operating from 11/8 thru 11/15/2017. QSL via G0FWX.  
Svalbard, JW: Will be operating from 11/10 thru 11/13/2017. QSL via DL2JRM.  
San Andres & Providencia, 5K0T: Will be operating from 11/11 thru 11/25/2017. QSL via LU1FM.  
Canary Is, EA8: Will be operating from 11/13 thru 11/20/2017. QSL via IK2DUM.  
Guinea Bissau, J5T: Will be operating from 11/13 thru 11/26/2017. QSL via I1HJT.  
Micronesia, V63PSK: Will be operating from 11/14 thru 11/18/2017. QSL via JA1FMN.  
Vanuatu, YJ0JA: Will be operating from 11/15 thru 11/20/2017. QSL via JA1VND.  
St Barthelemy, TO2SP: Will be operating from 11/16 thru 11/30/2017. QSL via SP3CYY.  
Vietnam, 3W9CW: Will be operating from 11/17 thru 11/30/2017. QSL vi KC0W.  
Belize, V34AO: Will be operating from 11/18 thru 11/30/2017. QSL via DL7VOA.  
Ghana, 9G5W: Will be operating from 11/20 thru 11/29/2017. QSL via S54W.  
Colombia, 5K1B: Will be operating from 11/21 thru 11/28/2017. QSL via EA3BT.  
Virgin Is, KP2: Will be operating thru 12/5/2017. QSL via NE9U.  
Rodrigues Is, 3B9HA: Will be operating from 11/23 thru 12/12/2017. QSL via M0OXO.  
French Guiana, FY: Will be operating from 11/26 thru 12/7/2017. QSL via DL7BC.  
Galapagos, HC8LU: Will be operating from 11/29 thru 12/7/2017. QSL via IK2DUW.  
St Martin, FS: Will be operating from 11/30 thru 12/8/2017. QSL via K9EL

~ November 2017 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 URAC 2M simplex roundtable, 145.510 MHz, 8 pm	3	4 URAC First Saturday Breakfast, 8 am, Think Café, San Pedro
5 Daylight Saving Time Ends	6	7 Election Day	8	9 URAC 2M simplex roundtable, 145.510 MHz, 8 pm	10	11 Veterans' Day
12	13	14	15	16 URAC 2M simplex roundtable, 145.510 MHz, 8 pm	17 URAC membership meeting; 7 pm, Los Angeles Maritime Museum, San Pedro	18
19	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving Day 	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 URAC 2M simplex roundtable, 145.510 MHz, 8 pm		

~ December 2017 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 World AIDS Day	2 URAC First Saturday Breakfast, 8 am, Think Café, San Pedro
3	4	5	6	7 URAC 2M simplex roundtable, 145.510 MHz, 8 pm	8	9
10 Human Rights Day	11	12	13	14 URAC 2M simplex roundtable, 145.510 MHz, 8 pm	15	16 URAC Holiday Party and Thieves Exchange, Think Café San Pedro. Pay the Treasurer by Dec. 11
17	18	19	20	21 Winter Solstice (Northern) URAC 2M simplex roundtable, 145.510 MHz, 8 pm	22	23
24	25 	26	27	28 URAC 2M simplex roundtable, 145.510 MHz, 8 pm	29	30
31						

## Two Free Amateur Radio Courses

FCC **“Technician”** course (entry level)

FCC **“General”** course (2<sup>nd</sup> level)

Each course is 2 sessions

The sessions will be on 3 and 10 February 2018

**Technician** 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM both Saturdays (bring your lunch)

**General** 1:30 PM to 5:00 PM both Saturdays

The FCC tests will be 10:00 AM to noon on 17 February 2018

At the start of the 10 February Technician course, the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club will give a 30 minute presentation on how to get further involved with amateur radio.

The class location is at Fred Hesse Community Park,  
29301 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes.

**Confirm your attendance to Walt, K1DFO at [waltordway@juno.com](mailto:waltordway@juno.com)**

There is no fee for either course.

Taking the FCC test is \$15.

### Optional Material (sold at cost)

Gordon West books with all the FCC test questions,

\$22 for the Technician and \$26 for the General







Paper copy of Walt's Power Point charts,

\$22 for the Technician and \$22 for the General -

For courses sponsored by the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club, students thru grade 12 who pass their examination at a PVARC VE test session will, upon application to the Club, be eligible for reimbursement up to a maximum of \$50 to cover the cost of materials and the examination fee.

Everyone who obtains their first ham radio license through a PVARC VE test session, regardless of age, will receive a free membership in the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club for the remainder of the current calendar year.



<i>2017 U.R.A.C. Executive Board</i>			
PRESIDENT Doug Dowds W6HB		VICE-PRESIDENT Bill Carter W6AJ	
SECRETARY John Rockwood WA6SDK		TREASURER Gary Forister N6HMR	
DIRECTOR Steve Mandich K6NT		DIRECTOR Homer Meek K6HKT	
DIRECTOR Larry Fadden KK6TXN		DIRECTOR David Reid W6KL	

**Contact List**  
***For 2017***

**President**

Doug Dowds, W6HB  
310-834-1695  
[W6HB@arrl.net](mailto:W6HB@arrl.net)

**Secretary**

John Rockwood, WA6SDK  
310-753-8550

**Treasurer**

Gary Forister, N6HMR  
310-373-7537  
[n6hmr@k6aa.org](mailto:n6hmr@k6aa.org)

**Vice President**

Bill Carter, W6AJ  
310-503-6989  
[W6AJ@arrl.net](mailto:W6AJ@arrl.net)

**Newsletter Editor**

Scotty Butler K6ZNL  
310-833-2656  
[k6znl@arrl.net](mailto:k6znl@arrl.net)

**Webmaster**

Bruce Sperka KG7MXL  
(310) 528-9679  
[bsperka@gmail.com](mailto:bsperka@gmail.com)

**\*\*\* IMPORTANT NOTES \*\*\***

**K6AA Station** We can still use more operators for our K6AA station. See Doug, W6HB, and or Scotty, K6ZNL, for training and checkout.

Check out the special events page on [k6aa.org](http://k6aa.org) for the latest from arrl and e-ham net.

**Additional Calendar Notes****Club Roundtable**

Held weekly on  
Thursdays at 8pm  
145.510 Simplex

**Club Meeting**

Held monthly on 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the  
month (except August and December)

**No Host Breakfast**

Held monthly on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of  
the month at 8:00am. Location:  
Think Café on 5<sup>th</sup> Street in San Pedro

**“VE/CE Session for Amateur and Commercial Licenses**

Monthly on 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday **by appointment**. Go to [k6aa.org/licensing-exams/](http://k6aa.org/licensing-exams/)

Also available most Wednesdays, again ... **by appointment**.

If no one schedules an exam, there won't necessarily be an exam team or exam material available.



The Museum is at the Foot of 6<sup>th</sup> Street. To get to the Break Room, walk past the main entrance around to the north end (nearest the Iowa) until you see the gate. There will be a greeter at the gate to the Break Room.

