



# *The Short Circuit*

The January meeting of the United Radio Amateur Club will be held Friday, January 20th, at 7 pm in the break room of the Los Angeles Maritime Museum, located at Berth 84, foot of Sixth Street in San Pedro. Parking is available in the lots adjacent to the Acapulco Restaurant just south of the Museum. There is limited handicapped parking on the street across from the museum. 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: ALVIN, the Deep-Submergence Research Vehicle***

ALVIN is a Deep-Submergence Research Vehicle owned by the U.S. Navy, ONR (Office of Naval Research).

The original ALVIN was launched 50+ years ago. The current iteration (2014 rebuild) will eventually be capable of submerging to over 20,000 feet - deep enough to survey 99% of the ocean's depths.



We will take a tour of ALVIN and see some of what ALVIN saw...



David Ziskin, AG6E, is now retired (unless the Navy calls) and currently involved with the Iowa, the Lane Victory, teaching the occasional STEM class, and - of course - RPA's and AUV's, which are areas of specialized robotics. He has even been known to operate amateur radio, but very rarely these days.



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

Happy New Year and welcome to URAC's 90th year. Let's hear your ideas on how best to celebrate and commemorate the event.

Ever wanted to dive to the depths of the briny deep? Come learn about "Alvin" at the monthly URAC meeting on 1/20. David Ziskin, AG6E, will have all of us holding our breath as we crash dive to 20,000 feet below.

The club's trailer tower has been a bone of contention ever since we inherited it from former member Charlie Waddell. Stored in the maintenance yard at Angels Gate, it has been subjected to the rigors of the environment for over 20 years. After years of finger pointing, interim repairs and even an under-engineered Eagle Scout project, it remains serviceable but with limitations and perceived risks. The bottom line is that it needs some TLC. Gary, N6HMR, and I met with the safety officer with Bragg Crane last year and basically adjudged it as sound but in need of cosmetic upkeep and suggested hardware and chain replacements. Later Bill, KB6WKT, and I did a full material takeoff of all items to be purchased for the job. None of this addresses the cosmetic needs, tires or what would have to be done to make it street legal. Bill has been putting in lots of overtime at work but is still willing to spearhead the project. Steve, K6NT, and Larry, KK6TXN, have agreed to coordinate the project with Bill. Please contact any of these three to volunteer your help. If the project has not been completed prior to Field Day it will be my unfortunate duty to mandate that the tower not be used until service has been completed. Enough said.....

Bill, W6AJ, as your Vice President is responsible to provide and schedule all programs and events for 2017. If you have leads or ideas do not hesitate to contact him.

Dues for 2017 are now due and payable to URAC to maintain your membership. See Treasurer Gary, N6HMR, if you have any questions.

All new board members please see Gary, N6HMR, to have your picture taken for the Short Circuit and Web site.

See you on the air Thursday nights on 145.510 simplex.....

**73 - Doug - W6HB**

## January First Saturday Breakfast



RAIN, in Los Angeles (...imagine), and 17 members and guests braved the downpours for the first breakfast of the year. Here's what we heard:

Homer, K6HKT admitted his oops moment in leaving a battery attached to a power tool in the back of his truck.

Sure enough, it switched itself on and ran down the battery. Lesson, disconnect!

Steve, K6NT couldn't say enough about the Rose Bowl game, so he deferred to....

Bill, W6AJ, who pretty much replayed the game for us...

David, W6KL said it was raining hard in Burbank when he left there this morning.

John, KC6JHV recently celebrated his 54<sup>th</sup> Birthday...many happy returns.

Martin, N6UB, who with his xyl, recently (a few days ago) returned from 3, (yes that's THREE), back to back cruises, gave us some of the highlights...(Bora Bora is as good in person as it looks in pictures; The Amazon is hot, big and impressive, and the Panama Canal new locks are now open). We are looking forward to more.

John, WA6SDK, did the certificate drawing early for us: David, W6KL, won.

Scotty, K6ZNL, is nearly done with the house flip for her brother in Corona. Never Again.

Tom, KJ6JPZ, celebrated his Birthday two days ago. We sang. He has embarked on a low-carb diet, to slim down for summer travels.

Mary, Martin's xyl wishes everyone a Happy New Year!!

Gary, N6HMR told us about the country that is about to eliminate FM broadcasting (Norway). Is this the future?

Treva, N6HMS is involved in the re-badging on the Iowa.

Sam, KK6HMP, is our guest driver for...

John, AG6VO, who's Birthday is TODAY! He is currently going for his pilot's license for drones.

Larry, KK6TXN, brought in his first project from his new freeze-dryer apparatus: freeze dried banana slices: delicious. On Monday, he will be starting a City of LA CERT Class here in San Pedro.

Nick, N6EFI wants to thank everyone for his HAM of the YEAR AWARD:

This is the photo from the Holiday Party of Nick accepting his award for 2016 URAC Ham of the Year!



Doug, W6HB will be returning to the Cook Islands in May for 2 weeks, Bruce KG7MXL, and Marilyn will be participating also. Doug has been invited to go to Indonesia for their DX convention. And lastly, he took radios to Yaesu yesterday, and on the same trip stopped by the "Candy Store" and now has a shiny new antenna analyzer.

Faithfully submitted,

Scotty Butler, K6ZNL, temporary gossip guru





## Request for Bouvet DXpedition-2018 Financial Support

An experienced DXpedition team of 20 operators are in the advanced planning stages of a DXpedition to Bouvet Island (3YØZ). The DXpedition is scheduled for early 2018. This DXpedition may be the most expensive DXpedition ever! Bouvet Island is known as “The Most Isolated Island on Earth”, and is currently ranked #2 on the ClubLog’s “most wanted” list.

The DXpedition leaders are: Erling – LA6VM, Bob – K4UEE, and Ralph – KØIR. This is the same leadership team that brought you 3YØX-Peter I Island, K5D-Desecheo Island, HKØNA- Malpelo Island, FT5ZM- Amsterdam Island and, most recently, K1N-Navassa Island.

We have an extraordinary international team of 20 operators. These team members collectively have been part of scores of DXpeditions and have handed out an amazing 4,600,000 QSOs. The Antarctic and harsh climate experience of this team includes Heard Island, South Sandwich (twice) South Georgia (twice), the South Orkneys, and Peter I (twice). Non-Antarctic DXpeditions with these team members include places like Amsterdam Island, Malpelo, Navassa, Desecheo, Bhutan, Saba, Easter Island, Wake Island, Palmyra, Reunion, Midway, Kure, Fiji, Swains, Baker Howland, Conway Reef, Kingman Reef, Eritrea, Lakshadweep, Svalbard and others.

We have all the permits necessary for landing on Bouvet Island, establishing a camp and setting up our ham radio equipment and antennas. We first applied for a permit after 3YØX, so we have been working on this project for ten years. We now have the right combination of a ship, a helicopter, and a workable financial plan. Everything is in place except our financing. This is where we need your support---the support of your Club and individual members.

The DXpedition team expects to be away for about 7-8 weeks. The voyage to Bouvet will require about two weeks as will the return. We plan to be at the island for three weeks and weather permitting, expect to be on the air for 14-16 days. We will transport our team and equipment ashore by helicopter, setting up on the Slakhallet Glacier at approximately 200 meters ASL. This location is on the northeastern part of Bouvet. This area will maximize our ability to work all continents. We have deliberately chosen not to do a beach landing and operation, since beach landings are extremely hazardous and beach locations do not give clear, unobstructed paths to major population areas. Also, the Nyroysa site used by previous DXpeditions has been declared off-limits by the Norsk Polar Institute.

This will be an all-band, all-mode DXpedition with stations on every open band. Antennas will include Yagis for the high bands and verticals for the low bands. We will run maximum legal power. Our primary station and

hardware sponsors are Flex Radio Systems and DX Engineering. We are aware that the low bands will be of great importance, therefore Nodir – EY8MM is working with other low band enthusiasts from around the world to maximize our footprint on these bands. At a minimum, our station count will be nine with reserves in place. We believe we will be able to do EME without compromising resources on the HF bands.

Our QSL manager will be N2OO and his SJDXA crew. We will have an on-line log and submit our logs to LOTW within six months after our return.

Our total budget for this DXpedition is \$610,000. As with our previous DXpeditions, the team is committed to paying 50% of the expenses. The upfront cost for each operator is projected to be a minimum of \$15,000 plus travel to and from our embarkation and disembarkation point, likely to be Punta Arenas, Chile.

Club/Foundation and individual donors can be seen on our website: [www.bouvetdx.org](http://www.bouvetdx.org)

All donors will be acknowledged on our website. Clubs will have their logos posted with major contributors receiving proportionately more space. The contribution required for your logo on our QSL card is a minimum of \$500. For your club's name on the QSL the minimum is \$250. Individual DXer's contributions of \$100 or more will be listed on the QSL card.

We encourage you to visit the Bouvet Island website (<http://www.bouvetdx.org>) and donate via the PayPal link. It's free and easy -- and you can contribute with a major credit card, even without a PayPal account. If that is not convenient, you may make a check or money order payable to DX Expeditions, Inc. - Bouvet and mail to Bob Allphin-K4UEE the address shown below. Remember to put your club's name or your callsign on the "for" line.

**Please make your check to: *DX Expeditions, Inc. – Bouvet***  
**and mail the check to:**

**Bob Allphin-K4UEE**  
**4235 Blackland Dr.**  
**Marietta, GA 30067**

If any members of your club have questions, I would be happy to address them personally. Our team would be honored to be considered for your support of the Bouvet Island DXpedition-2018.

73 and great DXing,

Bob Allphin-K4UEE

**Special Event Station K7Z will commemorate Zane Grey's birthday on January 28-31, 2017**

Payson, Arizona -- Sponsored by the Tonto Amateur Radio Association, Inc. and the Northern Gila County Historical Society that operates The Rim Country Museum and The Zane Grey Cabin. Members of our amateur radio association will be active from January 28 - 31, 2017 using the call sign K7Z from their own QTHs as well as from the Zane Grey Cabin in Payson, AZ.

Preferred frequencies will be in the General band segments. Like Us? Spot Us!

A special QSL card will be available for the event: <https://www.qrz.com/db/k7z>

**QSL INFO**

Direct Only - Your Card and SASE, Sorry No eQSL, LOTW or Bureau

Non-USA, Please enclose 2 US Dollars for return Postage

Send a SASE (self-addressed stamped envelope) for a commemorative QSL card to:

Tonto Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.  
PO Box 765  
Payson, AZ 85547

Zane Grey was an author and master of the American western novel. An Ohio born dentist, Pearl Zane Grey spent many years under the Mogollon Rim writing "To The Last Man" and a dozen other Westerns with Arizona settings and characters. His prolific writings popularized the American cowboy as a taciturn, romantic figure.

## 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 04 and 11 February 2017

**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 18 February 2017

At the start of the 4 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.



# ***2017 Arizona Section Convention***

## ***Yuma Hamfest***

***Yuma, Arizona***

***Feb. 17 & 18, 2017***

Yuma County Fairgrounds  
2520 East 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, Yuma, Arizona



***[www.yumahamfest.org](http://www.yumahamfest.org)***

Check the Website for Additional Information

Gates Open for Camping Thursday, 2 pm Vendor Setup Friday, 7 am - Noon	Event Hours Friday, Noon - 5 pm Saturday, 8 am - 5 pm	Hamfest Dinner & Grand Prize Drawing Saturday Night 6:00 - 8:00 pm
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**Vendors & Exhibitors  
Consignment Sales  
License Testing  
Hourly Door Prizes  
On-site RV Camping  
Hamfest Dinner  
ARRL Speaker  
Transmitter Hunt  
\$5.00 Admission**

**Tailgating (Swap Meet)  
Full Seminar Schedule  
DXCC Card Checking  
Incredible Grand Prizes  
Emergency Preparedness  
Admission Prize  
Hospitality Area  
Near Space Balloon Launch  
Antenna Clinic**

Hamfest Talk-In Frequency: 146.780 (-) PL 103.5 Hz

Email Contact: [info@yumahamfest.org](mailto:info@yumahamfest.org)



We are proud to have the Amateur Radio Council of Arizona (ARCA) as a sponsor of our event.

The Yuma Hamfest is an American Radio Relay League (ARRL) sanctioned event.



Presented by the Yuma Amateur Radio Hamfest Organization



**QCWA 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
CHARITY Cruise  
October 18 – 29, 2017**

*Join us aboard **Holland America's**  
new ship, ms **KONINGS DAM***

*Don't miss this exciting opportunity.  
Sail the seas with your family & QCWA  
friends to promote Amateur Radio World Wide*



**11-Day Southern Caribbean Wayfarer**  
Roundtrip Fort Lauderdale



*Enjoy sailing 11 days visiting St. Maarten, Guadeloupe, Barbados, Martinique, St Kitts & Nevis, St Thomas and the Bahamas before returning back to Ft Lauderdale.  
Be part of the group functions, enjoy a complimentary Pinnacle Grill dinner and the comradery.*

**Rates start at \$1444\* per person including tax and may be combinable with current promotions.**

**Call WHITE TRAVEL for the best possible rate.**

**SPECIAL BONUS ON-BOARD CREDIT BOOKING INCENTIVE**

Book with WHITE TRAVEL (Monday to Friday) between January 30 and February 10, 2017

Inside staterooms will receive \$35 on-board credits\*\*

Outside Stateroom will receive \$50 on-board credits

Veranda staterooms will receive \$75 on-board credits

**Contact White Travel for all the details**

**Phone: 800-547-4790 / Email: [info@whitetravel.com](mailto:info@whitetravel.com)**

\*Rate is based on an inside Category J, double occupancy at the time of printing. Lower categories and/or a lower rate may be available at the time of booking. All rates and accommodations are based on availability \*\* Credits are per stateroom









~ January 2017 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> New Year's Day	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> URAC 2 Meter Roundtable. 8 pm 145.510 Simplex	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> URAC First Saturday Breakfast, 8 am, Think Café, San Pedro
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Human Trafficking Awareness	<b>12</b> URAC 2 Meter Roundtable. 8 pm 145.510 Simplex	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Martin Luther King	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> URAC 2 Meter Roundtable. 8 pm 145.510 Simplex	<b>20</b> Inauguration Day URAC membership meeting, 7 pm, Los Angeles Maritime Museum, San Pedro	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Australia Day URAC 2 Meter Roundtable. 8 pm 145.510 Simplex	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Chinese New Year
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

~ February 2017 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Groundhog Day URAC 2 Meter Roundtable. 8 pm 145.510 Simplex	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> URAC First Saturday Breakfast, 8 am, Think Café, San Pedro
<b>5</b> Super Bowl	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> URAC 2 Meter Roundtable. 8 pm 145.510 Simplex	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Valentine's Day	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> URAC 2 Meter Roundtable. 8 pm 145.510 Simplex	<b>17</b> URAC membership meeting, 7 pm, Los Angeles Maritime Museum, San Pedro	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Presidents Day	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> URAC 2 Meter Roundtable. 8 pm 145.510 Simplex	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>				

**DX OPERATIONS FOR JANUARY 2017****Per NG3K**

Madagascar, FR8: Is now operating thru 1/12/2017. QSL via DJ6SI.  
Qatar, A70X: Is now operating thru 1/7/2017. QSL via M0OXO.  
Aruba, P49X: Is now operating thru 1/9/2017. QSL via W0YK.  
Maldives, 8Q7AZ: Is now operating thru 1/11/2017. QSL via DL8AQZ.  
Laos, XW4XR: Is now operating thru 1/21/2017. QSL via AA4XR.  
Micronesia, V63: Is now operating thru 1/22/2017. QSL via JA3ARJ.  
So Cook Is, E51AMF: Is now operating thru 1/9/2017. QSL via nK7ADD.  
Laos, XW4ZW: Is now operating thru 1/21/2017. QSL via K4ZW.  
PE & Marion Is, ZS8Z: Is now operating thru 1/30/2017. QSL via ZS1LS.  
Bonaire, PJ4B: Will be operating from 1/8 thru 1/25/2017. QSL via PA8A.  
Cyprus SBA, ZC4SB: Will be operating from 1/11 thru 1/25/2017. QSL via G0GSB.  
No Cook Is, E51AMF: Will be operating from 1/11 thru 2/6/2017. QSL via K7ADD.  
Palau, T8: Will be operating from 1/12 thru 1/18/2017. QSL via JA6EGL.  
Cayman Is, ZF2PG:n Will be operating from 1/14 thru 1/22/2017. QSL via K8PGJ.  
Guadeloupe, TO7D: Will be operating from 1/19 thru 3/9/2017. QSL via F6ITD.  
Vanuatu, YJ: Will be operating from 1/20 thru 2/23/2017. QSL via JH2BNL.  
Iceland, TF: Will be operating from 1/20 thru 1/26/2017. QSL via PY2SEX.  
Guinea Bissau, J5UAP: Will be operating from 1/20 thru 3/3/2017. QSL via HA3AUI.  
Senegal, 6W2SC: Will be operating from 1/20 thru 3/3/2017. QSL via HA3AUI.  
Ivory Coast, TU5MH: Will be operating from 1/22 thru 2/2/2017. QSL via DF3FS.  
Dominican Republic, HI1UD: Will be operating from 1/25 thru 2/1/2017. QSL via HI3MPC.

<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@arrrl.net](mailto:W6HB@arrrl.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@arrrl.net](mailto:W6AJ@arrrl.net)

**Newsletter Editor**

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

