



# *The Short Circuit*

DECEMBER 2018

since 1927

Volume 91, Issue 12

The December meeting of the United Radio Amateur Club will be held SATURDAY, December 1st with the First Saturday Breakfast, 8 am at the Think Café (302 W 5<sup>th</sup> Street) in San Pedro.

**THERE WILL ALSO BE A HOLIDAY PARTY ON THE FOURTH SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup> ALSO AT THE THINK CAFÉ. FESTIVITIES START AT 6 AND WIND DOWN AT 9 or 10.**



## Program for the Evening:

No host happy hour 6 PM – 7 PM  
Dinner is ordered at 7 PM and served as soon as prepared  
Officers sworn in at 8:30 PM  
Thieves' Exchange starts at 8:45 PM  
Event ends NLT 10 PM

Cost: \$35 per person

Payment deadline: *Received* no later than December 17th

Checks made payable to "URAC" may be mailed to the Treasurer:

Gary Forister

PO BOX 1612

TORRANCE CA 90505-0612 ... yes, the box number and 9-digit zip code differ.

Payment may also be made in person at the breakfast gathering..

Thieve's Exchange: to participate, bring a wrapped gift valued at \$20.

**Officers for URAC for 2019: the Officers for 2018 have agreed to stay on for 2019. Please see page 7 for their names and contact information...with the addition of a sorely needed SECRETARY: Janet Meek, Homer's daughter, who is working on her license. Thanks so much Janet!**

### **Thieves Exchange (Holiday Party) Game Rules**

Each person who wants to participate needs to bring a wrapped gift worth at least \$20. Each person will draw a number.

The game begins with the person who has number #1. That person will select one of the wrapped gifts, and then open it for all to see (gifts must remain in plain sight until the end of the game)

The person with number #2 then takes their turn. They have a choice: they may either choose one of the remaining wrapped gifts and open it (as did #1), or they may elect to "steal" #1's gift from them. In the latter case, #1 then has to choose a new wrapped gift.

The player with number #3 then begins with the same choice that #2 had: choose a wrapped gift, or steal one of the unwrapped gifts from someone who has already taken their turn.

This pattern continues until all players have a gift.

The following additional rules apply: first, a gift may only be stolen once in a turn. In the above, if #3 were to steal #1's gift, and #1 were to then steal #2's gift, #2 has to choose one of the wrapped presents; he or she can not steal #3's gift.

In addition to only being stolen once in a turn, a gift may only be stolen 3 times in total. The third time a gift is stolen, it is said to be "frozen." It belongs to the person who stole it the third time. To track this, we will have stickers which will be placed on a gift each time it is stolen. A gift with three stickers is frozen. \*\*\*



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Hey Vic!

Great to hear you today after all these years -- we need to follow up!

URAC folks -- this shall serve to introduce (or reintroduce) Vic Dobroth, WA7DXN, who was a VERY active URAC member back in the '70's when he was stationed and lived on lower Ft MacArthur reservation while in the Army -- we used to contest on 15 meters from his quarters on the post! Please post his info in the next Short Circuit so any old timers still above ground who knew him back in the day can be advised.



*73 - Doug Dowds -- W6HB & E51DL*

**WA7DXN  
VICTOR W DOBROTH  
16480 S Archer Dr  
Oregon City, OR 97045**

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## Guest Column:

# Big changes ahead for ARRL board



By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

The results are finally in. No, I'm not talking about the national mid-term election results. As I'm writing this, some of those votes are still being counted. I'm talking about this year's ARRL board elections. ARRL members have spoken, and they have elected four new faces to the board in what was the most hotly-contested election in a long time.

Three of the five incumbents, plus an incumbent vice director running for the Northwest Division director position, were defeated by candidates calling for more transparency and for changes in the way that the ARRL operates.

Here are the results:

### Central Division Director

- Kermit Carlson, W9XA 1,898
- Valerie Hotzfeld, NV9L 1,755

### Hudson Division Director

- Ria Jairam, N2RJ 1,292
- Mike Lisenco, N2YBB 1,239

### New England Division Director

- Fred Hopengarten, K1VR 1,432
- Tom Frenaye, K1KI 1,383

### Northwestern Division Director

- Mike Ritz, W7VO 1,589
- Bonnie Altus, AB7ZQ 1,308
- Horace Hamby, N7DRW 495

### Roanoke Division Director

- George Hippisley, W2RU 1,891
- Dr. James Boehner, N2ZZ 1,365

In the only two contested vice director elections, Mark Tharp, KB7HDX defeated Daniel Stevens, KL7WM and Delvin Bunton, NS7U in the Northwest Division and in the Roanoke Division, William Morine, N2COP defeated John Humphry, W4IM. All newly elected officials will take office at noon on January 1, 2019.

I was kind of surprised here that Valerie Hotzfeld, NV9L, failed to win in the Central Division. She has certainly made many contributions to amateur radio, both in the DX/contest community and on *Ham Nation*. Apparently, though, she made some statements that she was forced to retract, and that probably hurt her campaign, and as some pointed out to me, Kermit Carlson, W9XA, was well thought of in the Central Division and in the VHF/UHF community.

Overall, though, I'm very pleased with the results. Although some of the margins of victory were small—K1VR won by only 49 votes and N2RJ won by 53 votes—I think it's pretty clear that the members want change. Now, it's up to the board, including its newest members to effect that change. As always, I'm ready to help in any way that I can.

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When he's not keeping up with ARRL politics, Dan blogs about amateur radio, writes exam study guides ([www.kb6nu.com/study-guides](http://www.kb6nu.com/study-guides)), and operates CW on the HF bands, and lately some digital modes as well. Look for him on 30m, 40m, and 80m. Please email him your thoughts about the ARRL at [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

## Special Event Stations December 2018

**12/01/2018 | Illinois' 200th Anniversary of Statehood Dec 1, 1400Z-2100Z, W9VT**, Hazel Crest, IL. Tri-Town Radio Amateur Club. 14.340 7.270. Certificate. Tri-Town RAC, P.O. Box 1296, Homewood, IL 60430. [www.w9vt.org](http://www.w9vt.org)

**12/08/2018 | USS Arizona at Pearl Harbor Day Dec 8, 1400Z-2200Z, K7T**, Tucson, AZ. Oro Vallery ARC. CW: 7.040, 14.040; PSK: 7.070, 14.070; FT-8: 7.074, 14.074, 18.100; SSB: 7.200, 14.250. Certificate. Email request, for certificate , to [qsl@tucsonhamradio.org](mailto:qsl@tucsonhamradio.org). Operating from the USS Arizona Memorial on the U of A campus. Email request for certificate only to [Qsl@TucsonHamRadio.org](mailto:Qsl@TucsonHamRadio.org). [www.TucsonHamRadio.org](http://www.TucsonHamRadio.org)

**12/08/2018 | USS Midway Museum Ship Special Event: Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Dec 8, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW**, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV-41) Museum Ship. 14.320 7.250; 14.070 (PSK31); D-STAR on REF001C. QSL. USS Midway (CV-41) COMEDTRA, 901 N Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101.

**12/26/2018 | Battle of Trenton Dec 26-Dec 30, 1400Z-2200Z, W2T**, Trenton, NJ. Delaware Valley Radio Association. 14.200 7.200. Certificate & QSL. DVRA/W2T, P.O. Box 7024, Trenton, NJ 08628. Work both W2T(Battle of Trenton) and W2P Battle of Princeton) and get a certificate of Commission in the Continental Army Signal Corps. See website for details. [www.w2zq.com](http://www.w2zq.com)

**12/31/2018 | Battle of Princeton Dec 31-Jan 4, 1400Z-2200Z, W2P**, Princeton, NJ. Delaware Valley Radio Association. 14.200 7.200. Certificate & QSL. DVRA/W2P, P.O. Box 7024, Trenton, NJ 08628. Work both W2T(Battle of Trenton) and W2P (Battle of Princeton) and get a certificate of Commission in the Continental Army Signal Corps. See website for details. [www.w2zq.com](http://www.w2zq.com)

...<https://ke2yk.com/special-events/>

~ December 2018 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> URAC December First Saturday Breakfast, Think Café, San Pedro, 8 am
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> URAC Thursday simplex Roundtable, 145.510, 8 pm	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Human Rights Day	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> URAC Thursday simplex Roundtable, 145.510, 8 pm	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> URAC Thursday simplex Roundtable, 145.510, 8 pm	<b>21</b> Winter Solstice (Northern)	<b>22</b> URAC Holiday Party, Think Café, San Pedro, 6-9 pm 
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>Christmas</b> 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> URAC Thursday simplex Roundtable, 145.510, 8 pm	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>New Year's Eve</b> 					

## **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 2 and 9 February 2019

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

**General** 1:45 PM to 5:00 PM both Saturdays

The FCC tests will be 10:00 AM to noon on 16 February 2019

At the start of the 3 November 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, CA 90275

**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,

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

Paper copy of Walt's Power Point charts,

\$22 for the Technician and \$18 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.



## 2018 URAC Executive Board

**PRESIDENT**  
Sam Lollar  
K1SL

[k1sl@arrl.net](mailto:k1sl@arrl.net)



**VICE-PRESIDENT**  
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**SECRETARY**  
vacant

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AD7MM

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## 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 the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of  
the month in conjunction with our ...

## 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 <http://k6aa.org/licensing-exams/>

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.

