



The Short Circuit

LCPWCT[201;

since 1927

Volume 94, Issue 1

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

RECAP: HOLIDAY PARTY ON THE FOURTH'UCVWTF C[.F GEGO DGT'44ND'423:



Janet Meek, our new
Club Secretary



The Thieves Table, BEFORE



Here we mostly all are
... also BEFORE



URAC Officers 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!

Guest Column:

Make ham radio a habit

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Every week, I get an email newsletter from Penguin Random House called Signature. Signature includes links to articles about books and writing. Being a writer, I clicked on the link to "5 Good Writing Habits You Need to Learn Now." As I was reading the article, it occurred to me that the advice could also apply to amateur radio.

So, with apologies to the author, Lorraine Berry, here are five things you can do to make ham radio a habit:

1. To get on the air more, or to do more building, set up a time to do it. If you enjoy getting on the air or homebrewing, but never seem to be able to find the time to do it, you need to put it on your schedule. Set aside the time a couple of days, or a week, or even a month in advance, and you'll be more likely to do it. If you set up a regular time every week, pretty soon it will be a habit.

2. If ham radio is important to you, create an environment that encourages you to do ham radio. To make ham radio a habit, you really need a place that's set up to do ham radio. If you have to dig out and set up your equipment every time that you want to get on the air, you're just not going to do it. You need a "shack" that makes it easier for you to engage in the hobby. Richards, K8JHR, gave me some great advice back in 2012 on where and how to set up a shack (<https://www.kb6nu.com/building-a-new-shack/>).

3. Create temptations that reward you for your new habit of ham radio. For me, being able to make interesting contacts, or building some new gizmo, is reward enough, but you may want to reward yourself with a beer or some ice cream after an operating session.

4. Make it easy to do what you like to do. This is related to #4. Your shack should have everything you need to easily do whatever ham radio activities you enjoy doing. If you enjoy operating, then it should have a nice operating desk. If you enjoy building, then set it up so that all of your tools are readily accessible. The easier it is to do, the more likely it is that you'll do it. If you enjoy operating portable, then build up a kit that has all the stuff you need, and have it ready to go when you're ready to go.

5. Start with the Two-Minute Rule for new habits and continue from there. The "two minute rule" (<https://www.lifehack.org/articles/productivity/how-stop-procrastinating-and-stick-good-habits-using-the-2-minute-rule.html>) is a tool to help you overcome procrastination. The idea is to allot just two minutes to a task that you'd like to complete or a skill that you'd like to develop. It's a small commitment, but enough to get you started, and the idea is that once you're started on a particular task or project, continuing work on that task or project becomes a lot easier. Those two minutes could easily become a half hour or an hour once you've gotten the ball rolling.

Armed with this advice, I'm expecting you to be a more active ham in 2019. I'll be listening for you on 40m.

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Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, is the author of the KB6NU amateur radio blog (KB6NU.Com), the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides (KB6NU.Com/study-guides/), and one of the hosts of the No Nonsense Amateur Radio Podcast (NoNonsenseAmateurRadio.Com). His wife sometimes thinks that amateur radio has become too much of a habit for him.

Special Event Stations January 2019

- **01/02/2019 | 13th Annual Straight Key CW Event Jan 2-Jan 31, 0000Z-2359Z, K3Y**, Various Cities. SKCC – Straight Key Century Club. 21.050 14.050 7.055 3.550. QSL. SKCC c/o Jeremy Downard – KD8VSQ, 511 W. Pottawatamie St., Tecumseh, MI 49286. K3Y/0 thru 9 plus KH6, KL7, KP4 and DX member stations in six WAC areas operating straight key, bug and cootie keys. QSL card confirms one QSO per area, up to 19 for all-area sweep. See URL for sched, map, stats, etc. www.skccgroup.com/k3y
- **01/05/2019 | Picacho 50th Anniversary Jan 5, 1600Z-2000Z, K7T**, Picacho, AZ. Oro Valley ARC. CW: 7.040, 14.040; SSB: 7.200, 14.250; FT-8: 7.074, 14.074, 18.100. Certificate. No paper QSLs; please send email for PDF, certificate. No paper QSLs, please. Send email for PDF certificate. www.TucsonHamRadio.org
- **01/09/2019 | Lake Havasu City Balloonfest Jan 9-Jan 14, 0000Z-0000Z, K7B**, Lake Havasu City, AZ. London Bridge Amateur Radio Association. 18.145 14.245 7.200 3.890. Certificate. Garry F. Fisher, 1850 Rainbow Ave S, For Certificate, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403. www.lbara.org
- **01/12/2019 | USS Midway Museum Ship Special Event: Desert Storm Kickoff Jan 12, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW**, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV-41) Museum Ship. 14.320 7.250; PSK31 on 14.070. QSL. USS Midway (CV-41) COMEDTRA, 910 N Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101.
- **01/15/2019 | 4th Annual “RST” Special Event Jan 15-Feb 28, 0000Z-2359Z, VE8RST**, various, AK. North Country DX Association. All bands, all modes. Certificate & QSL. For QSL: John Reisenauer, 2573 Old Georgetown Rd W, Kershaw, SC 29067. For QSL, US please send \$1 and SASE, foreign send \$3 and SAE. See website for information on receiving a certificate, and for more information on this event. Participating calls: KL7RST, VE8RST, OX7RST, VY1RST, VY0RST, N1RAC, and K7ICE. www.qrz.com/db/k7ice
- **01/19/2019 | Quartzfest Jan 19-Jan 27, 0800Z-1200Z, W7Q**, San Luis, AZ. Quartzfest. 28.385 21.385 14.285. QSL. Kristyn Weed, 1519 N Camino Emiliano, Tucson, AZ 85745. quartzfest.org
- **01/26/2019 | Celebrating the Admission of the Kansas Territory in to the Union as the 34th State Jan 26, 1600Z-2100Z, KS0KS**, Olathe, KS. Santa Fe Trail Amateur Radio Club. 14.250 14.055 10.115 7.250. QSL. Santa Fe Trail ARC, P.O. Box 3144, Olathe, KS 66063. www.sftarc.org
- **01/26/2019 | Discovery of Gold in California 171th Anniversary Special Event Station Jan 26-Jan 28, 1700Z-0100Z, AG6AU**, Placerville, CA. El Dorado County Amateur Radio Club. 14.248 7.248. QSL. El Dorado County ARC, P.O. Box 451, Placerville, CA 95667. www.edcarc.net
- **01/26/2019 | See The Light Jan 26, 1200Z-2359Z, WA4TRS**, Fairview, NC. The Road Show Amateur Radio Club, Inc.. 14.240 7.074 7.072 7.070. Certificate & QSL. The Road Show Amateur Radio Club, Inc., 57 Echo Lake Drive, Fairview, NC 28730. The practice run for the 2019 Lightbulb QSO contest, March 9th 20:00 UTC through March 10th 20:00 UTC. Test your “Lightbulb Antenna” and work ours! www.wa4trs.org

BLAST FROM THE PAST

From: Brad Bradfield <k0fb@arrl.net>

Subject: HELLO!!!

Message Body:

From 1970 until 1972 I was stationed in the Shipyard in Long Beach aboard the USS Kansas City. When I reported aboard the Kansas City I found out that the Special Services ham station, WB6GUI, was not then in operation because they didn't have anyone to run it. So, a new friend and I talked Special Services into letting us run it in our free time, and when we weren't deployed or otherwise out to sea. Having access to this station was great, and most evenings and weekends would find me in the club station. One of the first people that I worked from there was George Fisher, SK, (Sorry, but I don't remember George's call.) in San Pedro. He told me about URAC and invited me to join, and from then on I attended most URAC meetings until getting out of the Navy in 1972 and returning to my hometown of Rapid City, SD.

Any of your members familiar with the old Naval Station, might remember the club station antennas, including a Mosely Classic 36 on a 60 foot tower on the roof of the Naval Station gymnasium. I installed the tower and beam in early 1972.

My original callsign was WB0CGH. I moved to Texas to work in the defense business in 1980, and in 1994 I got the vanity callsign W5CGH. Retired and moved back to South Dakota in 2012 and got W0CGH, then last year I was lucky enough to get K0FB, "Fine Business".

On my web page is an image of my old URAC name tag. I remember the many friends in URAC that I made in those years in Long Beach. If anyone wants to drop me a note please do so, especially anyone who might remember me.

73,

Brad Bradfield, K0FB

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on K6AA (<http://k6aa.org>)

Two Free Amateur Radio Courses

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

FCC **“General”** course (2nd 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

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.

2019 URAC Executive Board

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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 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 1st Saturday of the month in conjunction with our ...

No Host Breakfast

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

“VE/CE Session for Amateur and Commercial Licenses

Monthly on 1st 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 6th Street.

