



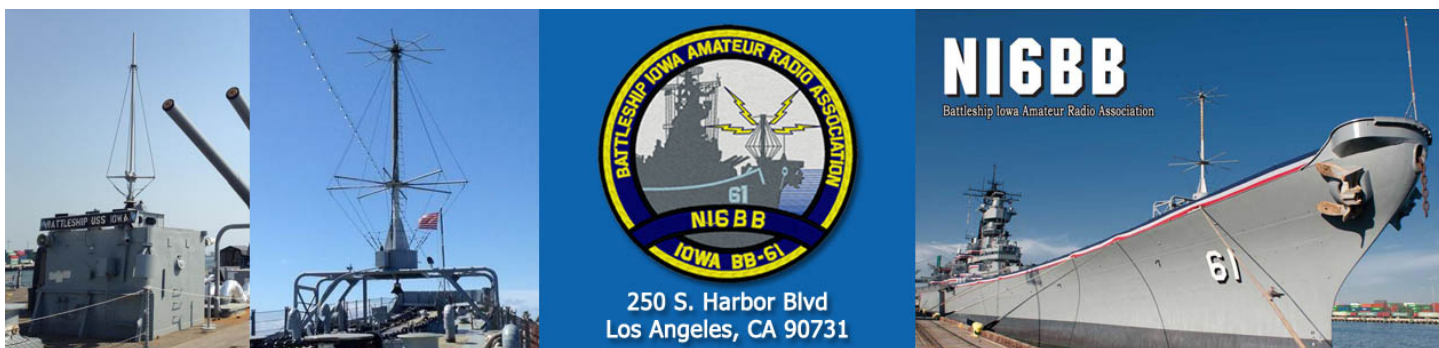
The Short Circuit

FEBRUARY 2019

since 1927

Volume 92, Issue 2

The February meeting of the United Radio Amateur Club will be held SATURDAY, February 2nd with the First Saturday Breakfast, 8 am at the Think Café (302 W 5th Street) in San Pedro.



Program

David Ziskin, AG6E, and Doug, W6HB, will present on the Battleship IOWA Amateur Radio Association. Time permitting they will narrate a Power Point presentation followed by a video of legacy equipment operations as well. Feel free to view much more at biara.org.

Doug, W6HB signs his e-mail with the following bio: Battleship Iowa Amateur Radio Association (BIARA) -- President / Founder, United Radio Amateur Club (URAC) -- Past President / Director / K6AA Trustee, Southern California DX Club (SCDXC) -- Past President, QCWA - Chapter 7 -- Past President.

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.

Amateur radio (illegally) aiding yacht racers **... Dan Romanchik KB6NU**

The Golden Globe Race (<https://goldengloberace.com>), a 30,000 mile, non-stop solo yacht race to celebrate Sir Robin Knox-Johnston's historic 1968/9 world first solo non-stop circumnavigation. There are 18 sailors in the race, which started on July 1, 2018 from Les Sables-D'Olonne, France.

Amateur radio is at the heart of the latest controversy surrounding the race. Scuttlebutt Sailing News reported (<https://www.sailingscuttlebutt.com/2019/01/21/maintaining-information-barrier/>) on January 21, 2019 (day 205 of the race):

"Sailors have been making use of the Amateur Radio net (ham radio) for decades, and while National telecommunication authorities have often turned a deaf ear to unlicensed operators using made-up call signs while at sea, warnings from a National regulator to Golden Globe Race skippers has created intrigue into an exciting finale for race leaders.

"Modern navigation and routing tools are restricted from use in the 2018-19 contest, limiting GGR skippers to the type of equipment available for the inaugural Sunday Times Golden Globe solo non-stop round the world race in 1968-69. That includes Amateur Radio.

"The skippers have been using this free communication system to gain weather forecasts and maintain contact with their teams, which is allowed under the Race Rules. However, it is the responsibility of each skipper to ensure that they abide by National and International regulations which Jean-Luc Van Den Heede and Mark Slats, in first and second in the race, have not been doing. [[Neither Van den Heede or Slats have valid amateur radio licenses...Dan]]

"Said the warning, 'You use an amateur callsign and are making connections with amateur radio operators. The call sign letters are not registered, and thus illegal. I ask you to stop. If you have a legal amateur callsign then I urge you to present it.'"

As a result of this warning, Slats is considering dropping out of the race, even though the race is nearly complete. Yachting Monthly reports (<https://www.yachtingmonthly.com/boat-events/golden-globe-race/golden-globe-race-slats-considers-quitting-comms-row-68574>):

"Mark Slats, who is less than 50 miles from Golden Globe Race leader Jean-Luc Van Den Heede, has announced he is thinking about retiring from the race after being banned from broadcasting on the Ham Radio Net.

"Race organizers said the Dutch skipper does not have the required license, and has been warned by the Dutch authorities to stop broadcasting, which has left him unable to communicate with his shore team.

"Under the rules of the race, all of the entrants are able to use this free communication system to gain weather forecasts and maintain contact with their teams, but, it is the responsibility of each skipper to ensure that they abide by national and international regulations."

It's not only the yachters that are flouting the rules, it's the amateur radio operators who are communicating with them. According to Yachting Monthly, OFCOM, the UK regulator issued the following warning:

"Fair warning both to unregistered GGR skippers and to legitimate Ham radio operators communicating with them. In Britain, the Ham Radio net is controlled by OFCOM, which recently revoked more than 500 licenses for non-compliance. This includes communicating with unregistered Ham radio operators. The maximum penalty is 6 months in prison, a £5,000 fine and loss of their license."

This is a fascinating story, and I wish that I'd found out about this sooner. It would be interesting to listen in on some of these communications. One question I have is why these guys failed to obtain a valid amateur radio license? The Golden Globe Radio website notes, "[The

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race] will be sailed under the auspices of the Royal Nomuka Yacht Club in the Kingdom of Tonga. His Royal Highness, Crown Prince Tupouto'a Ulukalala is Patron of the Race."

They probably could have issued valid amateur radio licenses to all the racers.

If any of you have heard the communications or know any more about the technical details, I'd love to hear from you.

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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). When he's not thinking about operating maritime mobile, you'll find him on 30m, 40m, and 80m.

February 2019 Special Event Stations

- **2/01/2019 | JY1 Special Event Memorial Station 2019 Feb 1-Feb 28, 0000Z-2359Z, N9SES**, Lake Station, IN. Arab QRZ International Club. 14.250 10.103 7.0275 3.5275. QSL. Ayman Azar, 2861 Decatur Street, Lake Station, IN 46405. Look For World Wide Participating Stations, Some Call Signs: 7X5TV, OD5NJ, OD5YY, 4X6TT, SU1HZ, KK4OW, KK4OK, KA2HTV & N9SES www.arabqrz.com/jy
- **02/02/2019 | Space Shuttle Columbia Special Event Feb 2-Feb 3, 1500Z-2300Z, K5C**, Nacogdoches, TX. Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club. 14.265 14.074 14.035 7.215. QSL. Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club, 167 CR 2093, Nacogdoches, TX 75965. All contacts will be confirmed via LoTW. QSL requests must include SASE. www.w5nac.com
- **02/09/2019 | USS Midway Museum Ship Special Event: Mt. Surabachi Flag Raising Feb 9, 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 Dr., San Diego, CA 92101.
- **02/13/2019 | 2019 Daytona 500 Feb 13-Feb 17, 0001Z-2359Z, N4DAB**, Daytona Beach, FL. Daytona Beach CERT Amateur Radio Team. 14.260 14.076. Certificate & QSL. Steve Szabo WB4OMM, 536 Central Park Blvd, Ponce Inlet, FL 32127. n4dab.com
- **02/15/2019 | N6E – 80th Anniversary for the opening of the Golden Gate International Exposition, San Francisco, 1939 Feb 15-Feb 24, 0000Z-2359Z, N6E**, Healdsburg, CA. Will Pattullo. 21.265 14.265 7.265 3.815. QSL. N6E – Will Pattullo, 161 Presidential Circle, Healdsburg, CA 95448. 6E – special event commemorating the 80th anniversary of the opening of the Golden Gate International Exposition. The Exposition, held at San Francisco's Treasure Island, was a World's Fair celebrating, among other things, the city's two newly built bridges. The San Francisco–Oakland Bay Bridge opened in 1936 and the Golden Gate Bridge in 1937. The exposition opened on February 18, 1939. www.qrz.com/db/AE6YB
- **02/16/2019 | 15th Annual "Freeze Your Keys" Winter Operating Event Feb 16, 1400Z-2200Z, W0EBB**, Leavenworth, KS. Kickapoo QRP ARC. CW: 14.058 7.035 SSB: 14.325 7.240; If bands are open, 30, 17, 15, 12, and 10 meters – please look for us. QSL. Gary Auchard, W0EBB, 34058 167th Street, Leavenworth, KS 66048. w0ebb@juno.com

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February 2019 Special Event Stations ... continued

- **02/16/2019 | George Washington's Birthday Feb 16-Feb 17, 1700Z-0900Z, K4US**, Alexandria, VA. Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club. 14.260 14.074 7.040. QSL. MVARC, P.O. Box 7234, Alexandria, VA 22307. www.mvarc.org
- **02/16/2019 | Ice Station W0JH (Frozen Lake Portable) Feb 16-Feb 18, 1600Z-2300Z, W0JH**, Stillwater, MN. Stillwater (MN) Amateur Radio Association – SARA. 21.360 14.260 7.260 3.860. Certificate. Shel Mann – N0DRX, IceStationW0JH2019@radioham.org, . . W0JH is operating portable from a frozen lake in Washington County, Minnesota (Grid Square EN34). Certificates will ONLY be sent via e-mail in PDF format. (Send requests with standard QSL confirmation info to: IceStationW0JH2019@radioham.org). There is no need to send a QSL card. Info: W0JH at <http://www.QRZ.com> & <http://www.Radioham.org> & www.radioham.org
- **02/16/2019 | MVARA 100th Anniversary Feb 16-Feb 18, 2300Z-2300Z, W8QLY**, Youngstown, OH. Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association. 14.220 7.220 3.922. Certificate & QSL. MVARA, 125 W McKinley Way, P.O. Box 14141, Youngstown, OH 44512. <https://goo.gl/forms/2uNZfO6zRx1YPoWw2> to request your certificate/qsl. <http://www.qrz.com/db/w8qly> or www.mvara.org
- **02/17/2019 | SES H L Hunley Commemorative Station N4HLH Feb 17, 1400Z-2100Z, N4HLH**, Charleston, SC. Trident Amateur Radio Club. 28.462 USB 14.262 USB 7.262 LSB 7.117 CW. QSL. John Satterfield KN4MBK, PO Box 60732, Charleston, SC 29416. tridenthams.org/hunley.htm
- **02/22/2019 | 14th Annual EagleExpo Feb 22, 1600Z-2100Z, W5BMC**, Morgan City, LA. Bayouland Emergency Amateur Radio Service. 14.280 14.265 7.280 7.265. QSL. Jackie, Price, 708 Front St., Morgan City, LA 70380.
- **02/22/2019 | President George Washington's Birthday Feb 22-Feb 23, 1600Z-1800Z, WS7G**, George, WA. Columbia Basin DX Club. 14.322 7.222 3.855. QSL. Brian Nielson, 11650 Road 1 SE, Moses Lake, WA 98837. We will be celebrating George Washington's birthday from the city of George, in the state of Washington. cbn.homestead.com/WS7G.html

~ February 2019 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Groundhog Day First Saturday Breakfast and Membership meeting; 8 am, Think Café, San Pedro
3 Super Bowl	4	5 Chinese New Year	6	7 URAC 2M Simplex RoundTable: 145.510MHz 8pm	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day URAC 2M Simplex RoundTable: 145.510MHz 8pm	15	16
17	18 Presidents Day	19	20	21 URAC 2M Simplex RoundTable: 145.510MHz 8pm	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 URAC 2M Simplex RoundTable: 145.510MHz 8pm		

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.

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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.

