



The Short Circuit

September 2019

since 1927

Volume 92, Issue 9

The September meeting of the United Radio Amateur Club will be held SATURDAY, September 7th, with the First Saturday Breakfast, 8 am at the Think Café (302 W 5th Street) in San Pedro.



SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

An overview of the KC-135 refueling squadron mission at March AFB, from the point of view of a combat photographer.

Please note that our original speaker, Tech Sargent Christopher Ruano is on assignment due to Hurricane Dorian; Staff Sargent Daniel Snider will be sitting in for him.



REMINDER, per the By-Laws: Our process for electing next year's slate of officers starts this month:

- 1. September meeting, Sam appoints a Nominating Committee;**
- 2. October meeting, Nominating Committee presents selection of nominees;**
- 3. November meeting, election;**
- 4. December Holiday Party, installation**

DXpedition to use FT8 robot? ***... Dan Romanchik KB6NU***

It's inevitable. At some point, machines are going to render humans irrelevant. It's been a recurring theme in science fiction since before I was born (1955), and there are numerous predictions of the Singularity, the point in time when machines will be smarter than humans, occurring between 2030 and 2045.

It may happen in amateur radio sooner than we think. A couple of days ago, one of my readers, sent me a link to a blog post by John, AE5X: [Automated FT8 "FoxBot" in upcoming DXpedition – confirmed](#). He wrote:

"A DXpedition to Tokelau will take place from 1 to 11 October and it will be your chance to work an FT8 robot operating in Fox/Hound mode.

"Stathis SV5DKL has been working on a "FoxBot" for some time now, is listed as a partner to this DXpedition and has confirmed that the DXpedition will be using his FoxBot."

John has since updated this post, noting "The SV5DKL logo has now been removed and the DX team will be in 'full compliance' with the mode." Full compliance meaning following the rules set up by the ARRL DXCC rules.

The ARRL is, of course, against the use of robots. A recent ARRL Letter noted:

"ARRL has incorporated changes to the rules for all ARRL-sponsored contests and DXCC, prohibiting automated contacts and requiring that an actual operator is initiating

and carrying out a contact. These changes also apply to Worked All States (including Triple Play and 5-Band WAS), Fred Fish W5FF Memorial, and VUCC awards. The changes are effective immediately and affect the rules for both HF contests, and VHF/UHF contests as well as DXCC.

"A resolution at the July ARRL Board of Directors meeting pointed to 'growing concern over fully automated contacts being made and claimed' for contest and for DXCC credit. The rules now require that each claimed contact include contemporaneous direct initiation by the operator on both sides of the contact. Initiation of a contact may either be local or remote."

As AE5X says, however, the use of FT8 robots in the future is a certainty. Sooner or later, some DXpedition is going to use an FT8 robot without saying anything about it. How is the ARRL going to know that a DXpedition is using robots if the DXpedition operators don't tell them?

I'm wondering when some DXpedition is going to give up on SSB and CW altogether. Why bother with those modes when you can make hundreds or thousands more contacts by just operating FT8?

Another thought just occurred to me. If the ARRL gets its way and Techs are awarded HF digital privileges, how long will it take for some enterprising Tech to make the DXCC Honor Roll using FT8 exclusively. Oh, the horror of it all!

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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 often appears on the ICQPodcast (icqpod-cast.com). When he's not wondering when robots are going to take over the world, he likes to (manually) operate CW on the HF bands.

Special Event Stations First Half of September

- **09/02/2019 | Hiram Percy Maxim 150th Birthday Sep 2-Sep 3, 1200Z-0000Z, K4M**, Pittsboro, NC. Nick Szydleki . 14.265 14.035 7.265 7.035. QSL. Nick Szydleki KA1HPM, 165 Foxcroft Drive, Pittsboro, NC 27312. HPMaxim150@gmail.com
- **09/02/2019 | The Brickyard 400 Sep 2-Sep 9, 0400Z-0400Z, W9IMS**, Indianapolis, IN. The Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club. 18.140 4.245 7.245 3.840. Certificate & QSL. Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 30954, Indianapolis, IN 46230. www.w9ims.org
- **09/05/2019 | HamXposition Sep 5-Sep 8, 0000Z-2359Z, W1UE**, Marlborough, MA. New England Division convention. 14.200. QSL. Dennis G Egan, 166 Wilson St, Marlborough, MA 01752. egan.dennis88@gmail.com
- **09/06/2019 | 9-11 New York City Memorial Station Sep 6-Sep 12, 0000Z-0300Z, WA2NYC**, Staten Island, NY. Wireless Association Of New York City. 28.450 21.350 14.390 7.238. QSL. Wireless Association Of New York City, 233 Wolverine Street, Staten Island, NY 10306. This station will remember the 18th anniversary of the attack on the World Trade Center in New York City. We remember the over twenty nine hundred people that lost their lives on that day.
- **09/06/2019 | Queen Wilhelmina Hamfest Sep 6-Sep 7, 0200Z-0800Z, W5Q**, Mena, AR. Queen Wilhelmina Hamfest Association. 146.50 14.250 7.250 3.950. Certificate & QSL. James Carnathan, 200 Loftis Creek Ln., Mena, AR 71953. First 25 contacts will receive a certificate; rest will receive a QSL card. www.menahamfest.net
- **09/07/2019 | 150 Years of College Football Rutgers University Sep 7-Sep 21, 0100Z-2300Z, K2R**, Somerset, NJ. Marconi Radio Club. 7.225. QSL. Tony Ricicki, 9 Laird Ter, Somerset, NJ 08873.
- **09/07/2019 | 3rd Annual William Becknell Heritage Days Special Event – Founder of the Santa Fe Trail Sep 7-Sep 8, 1400Z-2200Z, KC0VYS/WB0SFT**, Overland Park, KS. William Becknell Santa Fe Trail Heritage Days. 21.365 14.265 7.265 3.865 1.830 SSB/CW/FT8. Certificate. See website for information on receiving, certificate. See website for information; certificate and QSL available via website after the event. www.wb0sft.org
- **09/07/2019 | Egyptian Radio Club 90th anniversary Sep 7-Sep 28, 1400Z-0200Z, W9AIU**, Granite City, IL. Egyptian Radio Club. 14.245 3.535 7.035. Certificate. Bob Evans, P.O. Box 13, Saint Jacob, IL 62281. Come celebrate Egyptian Radio Club's 90 years of continuous service to the community and fellow Hams. Every Saturday in September from 9am to 9pm Central US Time W9AIU will be on the air. Stations making contact may request a special 90th anniversary certificate be emailed in PDF form to them. Our Website is W9AIU.ORG WEBMSATER@W9AIU.NET Our Secretary Bob Evans AA9FQ@ARRL.NET www.w9aiu.org
- **09/07/2019 | K1B Celebrating the Life and Legacy of PT Barnum Special Event Station Sep 7-Sep 8, 1330Z-2100Z, K1B**, Westport, CT. Greater Bridgeport ARC, Westport Astro Society ARC, Housatonic ARC. 20, 40, 80 meters; SSB, CW and FT8. QSL. Ken Johnson, NE1CU, P.O. Box 421, Stratford, CT 06615.
- **09/07/2019 | Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome's R/C Jamboree Weekend, with the Mid-Hudson Radio Control Society Sep 7, 1300Z-2100Z, K2A**, Red Hook, NY. Overlook Mountain Amateur Radio Club. 21.300 14.230 7.220; DMR TG31630. QSL. Overlook Mountain Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 48, Hurley, NY 12443. <http://www.olderhinebeck.org/mid-hudson-r-c-jamboree-history-of-flight-air-show-2/> or www.omarcclub.org
- **09/07/2019 | State Line Radio Club Annual Picnic Sep 7, 1400Z-2000Z, N3SLC**, Holtwood, PA. State Line Radio Club. 21.280 14.240 7.240. QSL. Ted Reichenbach, 108 Park Circle, Elkton, MD 21921. n3slc.org


Special Event Stations September ... continued

- **09/13/2019 | Indiana Military Vehicle Show Sep 13-Sep 14, 1418Z-1418Z, W9JCA**, Portland, IN. Jay County Amateur Radio Club. 14.325 7.280. QSL. Francis Betts, 3351 W. SR 26, Portland, IN 47371. Looking forward to honoring all vets. www.w9jca.com
- **09/13/2019 | K4MIA – National POW MIA Recognition Day Sep 13-Sep 22, 0000Z-2359Z, K4MIA**, Loxahatchee, FL. PBSE . 18.150 14.265 7.180. QSL. Michael Bald, 6758 Hall Blvd, Loxahatchee, FL 33470. Observances of National POW MIA Recognition Day are held across this country on the third Friday in September each year. This year it will be on September 20. This will be the 11th year this special event station has been activated. The day was established to honor our prisoners of war and those who are still missing in action. There will be sister stations K4MIA/5 K4MIA/7 K4MIA/8 in operation some days. Also contacts will be made on the LEO satellites and digital modes. See QRZ for a copy of this years QSL and for additional information. Because of volume of requests you MUST SEND SASE to get a returned QSL. Please take time to remember our POW's and MIA's as well as their families www.qrz.com/db/k4mia
- **09/14/2019 | Ashland, NH Railroad Station 150th Anniversary Sep 14, 1300Z-2200Z, W1A**, Ashland, NH. Ashland, NH Railroad Station Museum. 14.125; SSB & CW on 80M, 40M, 20M. Talk-in on 146.52 Simplex. QSL. John Dufrat, 519 Norwich-Salem Turnpike, Oakdale, CT 06370. Celebration to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Ashland, NH Railroad / Telegraph Station. WB1CFY@arrl.net
- **09/14/2019 | Commemorative Air Force AIRSHO 2019 Sep 14-Sep 15, 1330Z-1930Z, W5CAF**, Midland, TX. Midland Amateur Radio Club . 14.245 7.265. QSL. Midland Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 7532, Midland, TX 79708. This special event station will be on the air in conjunction with the CAF AIRSHO 2019 held at the Midland International Air and Space Port in Midland, TX. The AIRSHO displays flying and static World War II era aircraft. There is also an assortment of more modern aircraft. www.w5qgg.org
- **09/14/2019 | Harvey Houses on the Air Sep 14, 1500Z-2300Z, KC5OUR**, Peralta, NM. Valencia County Amateur Radio Association. 21.380 18.155 14.280 7.260; all modes, all bands (except 60 meters). QSL. Valencia County Amateur Radio Association, For QSL,, send contact info to station contacted;. This is the 3rd annual event and hoping to get more HHOTA operating stations involved. Harvey Houses are located from Kansas to Texas and west to California. Any mode, any band except 60M. Those who contact 25% of the listed HHOTA stations can get a nice pdf certificate by sending a list of their HHOTA station QSO's to the HHOTA Coordinator at vcara@qsl.net Please put HHOTA in the Subject line. QSL SASE direct with contacted station. <https://www.qsl.net/vcara>
- **09/14/2019 | Harvey Houses on the Air Sep 14, 1500Z-2200Z, N5H**, Belen, NM. Valencia County Amateur Radio Association . 14.280 7.260. Certificate & QSL. VCARA KC5OUR, P.O. Box 268 , Peralta, NM 87042. Look for other HHOTA special events. www.kc5our.com
- **09/14/2019 | Special Event Station celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Mining Amateur Radio Club (formerly The Scotch Hams and The 3M St. Paul Amateur Radio Club) Sep 14, 1600Z-2359Z, K3M**, Saint Paul, MN. The Mining Amateur Radio Club. 14.288 7.288 3.860. Certificate & QSL. David Steinberg, 13618 Grand Avenue S, Burnsville, MN 55337. Please send email address to W0MR@ARRL.NET. Certificate and QSL will be returned in pdf file w0mr@arrl.net

Special Event Stations September ... continued

- **09/14/2019 | Roger Williams Special Event Amateur Radio Station Sep 14, 1300Z-1600Z, KK1PMA**, Providence, RI. Providence Emergency Management Agency RACES. 147.42 53.02 14.275 7.275. Certificate. Barry S. Noel, P.O. Box 28091, Providence, RI 02908-0091. The Providence Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) Radio Amateurs in Civil Emergency Services (RACES) club will be holding a Special Event Station in the City of Providence Roger Williams Park on Saturday, October 13, 2018 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM to commemorate Roger Williams. The club call sign is KK1PMA. The ideal of religious freedom, a principle of the freedoms espoused in the founding of the United States, can be attributed to Roger Williams who advocated the separation of church and state in colonial America. Roger Williams was banished from the Massachusetts Bay Colony after speaking out against civil authorities who were punishing religious dissension and taking Indian lands. He fled from Massachusetts and founded the colony of Providence Plantation in 1636 after purchasing a settlement at Moshassuck from the Narragansett Indian Tribe Sachems Canonicus and Miantonomi, This settlement led to the founding of the City of Providence and State of Rhode Island. Contact the Roger Williams Special Event Station KK1PMA on September 14, 2019 13:00-16:00 UTC. Certificate. w1bsnpema@gmail.com <http://www.qrz.com/db/kk1pma> www.qrz.com/db/kk1pma
- **09/15/2019 | Family Prayer Day Sep 15, 1700Z-2000Z, N1P**, Taunton, MA. Saint Maximilian Kolbe Net. 7238 14.341 146.550 . QSL. Lloyd B. Roach, 120 W. Watson St, Bedford, PA 15522. Family Prayer Day Celebrates the Life of Father Patrick Peyton, "The Family that Prays together, Stays together" Museum of Family Prayer, Blessing and Dedication." at Father Peyton Center, Easton, MA www.hcfm.org

.....http://www.arrl.org/special_events/search/page:2/model:Event

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 URAC First Saturday Breakfast and Membership Meeting: 8 am, Think Café, San Pedro
	3 	4	5	6 URAC 2M simplex Roundtable: 8 pm, 145.510 MHz	7	8
9	10	11 Patriot Day	12	13 URAC 2M simplex Roundtable: 8 pm, 145.510 MHz	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 URAC 2M simplex Roundtable: 8 pm, 145.510 MHz	21	22
23 Fall begins (Northern H.)	24	25	26	27 URAC 2M simplex Roundtable: 8 pm, 145.510 MHz	28	29
30						

2019 URAC Executive Board

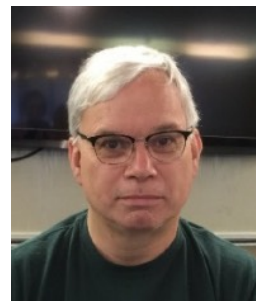
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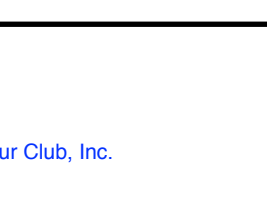


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IMPORTANT NOTES

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.

