



The Short Circuit

December 2023

since 1927

Volume 96, Issue 12

The December membership meeting was held as part of the December Christmas luncheon on Saturday, December 2nd. There will not be a Skype membership meeting this month. See you in January. The January Executive Board meeting will be held on Friday, December 5th, at 7 pm, on Skype. Anyone having trouble using Skype, please [contact Tom K6IGY](#) for assistance.

Prez Sez

We had a very nice Holiday Luncheon this past Saturday, December 2nd. There were 18 people in attendance.

The winners of the HT prizes were Treva Forister, N6HMS, and Don Pico, KE6YTG. Ray Day, N6HE, contributed 3 additional prizes.

Scotty handed out Station Operator Appreciation certificates. Thank you to all who operated K6AA this past year. If you are not currently an operator, please sign up in 2024. We thank Scotty for all of her work as Station Manager.

Bill Heather, KB6WKT, received our Ham of The Year Award. We thank him for all of his work at both Field Day and the Lighthouse Weekend.

Rich Gerardi, AA6VX, a long-time member of URAC, was made a Life Member. He has contributed to our Field Day for many years.

A special thank you to Nick Katnich, N6EFI, for his work as our Control Operator on the Club's weekly 2m net.

Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year to all!

Steve Mandich, K6NT
President

New URAC Board elected by acclimation in November, per the By-laws

President: Steve Mandich K6NT

Vice President: Tom Marinello K6IGY

Secretary: John Linder KC6JHV

Treasurer: Gary Forister N6HMR

Directors:

Scotty Butler K6ZNL, Gina Mandich KF6MYQ, Martin Hochman N6UB, Bill Heather KB6WKT

Special Report on Field Day 2023 results:



ARRL has now put out both line scores (non-sortable) and a .csv file (sortable) for the 2023 FD event. With some Excel magic of the CSV file, my diddling shows (local club K6PV shown as reference):

LAX section (85 entries)

TRW #1 8980 pts 5A (QRP, by the way)

K6AA #2 8882 pts 3A

K6PV #4 5256 pts 2A

All entrants (4448 entries)

K6AA #57 8882 pts - top 1.3%

K6PV #208 5256 pts – top 4.7%

All entrants by their class

2A: K6PV 5256 pts #24 of 309 2A entries – top 7.7% of all 2A

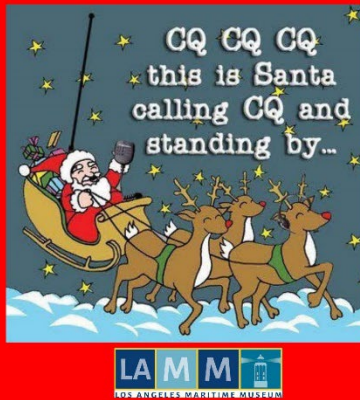
entrants 3A: K6AA 8882 pts #17 of 331 3A entries – top 5.1% of all

3A entrants Thought you'd want to know. ...well done, K6AA73,

Ray N6HE

Wishing you a Wonderful Holiday and THANK YOU
for all of the hours spent volunteering this year!

Happy 2024!



This Thank You Card was received from the Museum. Thanks to all our operators for the great work this year.

Getting cleared for the station is simple: fill out an application on the city website.

<https://www.laparks.org/volunteerapp>

Print and fill out form "Request for live Scan service" and bring it with you to a fingerprint session. When you have printed the above paperwork, make an appointment with Louise at the Museum(310-548-7618) to have your fingerprints done and when they are approved you are (almost) all set! You will

still have to show your vaccination for COVID 19 card...to Marifrances at the Museum if you do not do it online.

After that, get in touch with Scotty (text 310-748-3046 is easiest), and arrange for your date. Simple...Come join us. Try out the ICOM 7300 on loan to us by Ken W1NCA, FT-8 has been configured...the CW guys are going great guns on 10 and 12 especially, and phone is jumping on 10, 12, 15, 17, and 20...If your license does not have HF privileges, you can work with another operator (called the 'control operator'), using the control operator's license class and privileges

Currently we have 8 members who man the station on a regular basis. We would like to have enough operators to man the station on all days of the week that the museum is open (Wednesday through Sunday) without putting too much of a burden on any one individual.

Will AI help us have more fun with amateur radio?

by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

In this morning's email was a message from *Inc.* magazine with links to some articles in the magazine. At the top of the list was, "4 Unimaginable Ways A.I. Will Change Your Life Within the Next 5 Years, According to Bill Gates" (<https://www.inc.com/minda-zetlin/4-unimaginable-ways-ai-will-change-your-life-within-next-5-years-according-to-bill-gates.html>) Gates says that in the next five years, you will have your own artificial intelligence assistant, or agent, that will be a frequent voice in your ear and will help you with everything from deciding where to go on vacation to managing your friendships and more. Let's think for a minute about Gates '4 Ways and how they might help us enjoy amateur radio more.



1. You won't bother with software or operating systems anymore.

How cool would this be. You could simply tell your AI amateur radio assistant, "Hey, HAL. Let's operate 20-meter FT8 this afternoon," and the agent would set up the radio and begin looking for contacts. If the band wasn't open, it would come back and tell you, "I'm sorry, Dave, but propagation on 20 meters is terrible this afternoon. May I suggest 30 meters instead?"

Hey, HAL. Let's operate
20-meter FT8 this

2. Your agent will be a frequent voice in your ear.

Gates believes that most of us will wear at least one earbud most of the time so that our agents can talk to us whenever they need to. So, for example, it might be monitoring the activity on 6 meters and notify you when the band is open. Or, you might want it to notify you when a particular contest or operating event is coming up so that you don't miss it. "Dave," it might say, "remember that the 2-meter club net is at 8 pm tonight."

3. Your agent will get involved in your personal relationships.

We often don't think of amateur radio as having a personal aspect, but it really does. For example, don't we enjoy talking to some people more than others? Your personal agent could monitor your club's 2-meter repeater or 40-meter CW and notify you when your friends are on the air.

Gates also notes that you could have your AI assistant talk to your friends' assistants and set up lunch for you. If those friends are also radio amateurs, you could also use that capability to set up an on-air sked.

4. It might even help you solve personal problems.

The article notes, "One of the most intriguing predictions Gates made is that your agent could also become your therapist" While many hams probably do need therapy, I'm not so sure how applicable this will be to amateur radio.

What I could see happening is using an AI assistant to help you choose your next rig or maybe help you troubleshoot a problem. Here are some scenarios:

- You ask your AI assistant what rig you should buy next. Since it already knows what bands you like to operate—and the state of your finances—it can analyze all the options and find a radio that meets your operating needs and fits into your budget.
- You might describe your backyard and the bands that you want to operate, and your AI Assistant could come back with antenna suggestions.
- You ask your AI assistant about a problem that you're having with your rig. It comes back with, "Dave, if you would just RTFM, you will find the answer on page 67 of the operating manual." Or, after scanning the appropriate online forums, it would tell you, "Dave, several other owners seem to be having a similar problem. Here's what they've done...."

All of this sounds kind of fun to me, but I can understand some of you having reservations. What do you think? Can you think of other ways an AI assistant would make amateur radio more fun for you?

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, is the author of the KB6NU amateur radio blog (KB6NU.Com), the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides (<https://KB6NU.Com/study-guides/>), and often appears on the ICQPodcast (<https://icqpodcast.com>). When he's not trying to decide if artificial intelligence will help us have more fun with ham radio—or destroy humanity—he tinkers with electronics projects and works CW on the HF bands. You can email your AI comments to Dan at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.





~ December 2023 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 URAC BOD meeting, Skype, 7 pm	2 URAC Holiday lunch, 1:30 pm, Think Café, San Pedro 
3	4	5 URAC 2 meter Roundtable, W6MEP Repeater 147.240 +600, PL of 67 Hz	6	7	8	9
10 Human Rights Day	11	12 URAC 2 meter Roundtable, W6MEP Repeater 147.240 +600, PL of 67 Hz	13	14	15 URAC Membership meeting, 7 pm on Skype	16
17	18	19 URAC 2 meter Roundtable, W6MEP Repeater 147.240 +600, PL of 67 Hz	20	21 Winter Solstice 	22	23
24	 25 Christmas	26 URAC 2 meter Roundtable, W6MEP Repeater 147.240 +600, PL of 67 Hz	27	28	29	30
31 New Year's Eve 						

~ January 2024 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year's Day 	2 URAC 2 meter Roundtable, W6MEP Repeater 147.240 +600, PL of 67 Hz	3	4	5 URAC BOD meeting, Skype, 7 pm	6
7	8	9 URAC 2 meter Roundtable, W6MEP Repeater 147.240 +600, PL of 67 Hz	10	11 Human Trafficking Awareness URAC Lunch, Think Café, San Pedro, 1:30 pm	12	13
14	15 Martin Luther King	16 URAC 2 meter Roundtable, W6MEP Repeater 147.240 +600, PL of 67 Hz	17	18	19 URAC membership meeting, Skype 7 pm	20
21	22	23 URAC 2 meter Roundtable, W6MEP Repeater 147.240 +600, PL of 67 Hz	24	25	26 Australia Day	27
28	29	30 URAC 2 meter Roundtable, W6MEP Repeater 147.240 +600, PL of 67 Hz	31			

URAC 2023 Executive Board

<p>PRESIDENT Steve Mandich K6NT s.mandich@yahoo.com</p>		<p>VICE PRESIDENT/ WEBMASTER Torm Marinello K6IGY tom@marinellonet.com</p>	
<p>DIRECTOR Ken Ota W1NCA Jm1nca@yahoo.co.jp</p>		<p>TREASURER Gary Forister N6HMR n6hmr@k6aa.org</p>	
<p>SECRETARY John Linder KC6JHV Linder.john@yahoo.com</p>		<p>DIRECTOR/ SC EDITOR/ STATION MANAGER / TRUSTEE Scotty Butler K6ZNL butleal@aol.com</p>	<p>S</p> 
<p>DIRECTOR Gina Mandich KF6MYQ Gina.mandich@yahoo.com</p>		<p>DIRECTOR / STATION EQUIPMENT MANAGER George Nestojko NA6Q gnejstojko@gmail.com</p>	
<p>PAST- PRESIDENT Doug Dowds W6HB W6HB@aol.com</p>			

Check out the special events page on k6aa.org for the latest from ARRL and e-ham net.

Additional Calendar Notes

“VE/CE Session for Amateur and Commercial Licenses by appointment. Go to <http://k6aa.org/licensing-exams/> If no candidate schedules an exam, there won't be an exam team or exam material available.

Club Roundtable

Held weekly on Thursdays, at 8pm, on the
W6AM Repeater
145.480 MHz PL100 Hz

The Museum is at the Foot of 6th Street.
The museum is open Wednesday through
Sunday 12 to 5. K6AA is open when
the museum is open. To be cleared to
operate the station, please contact Scotty,
k6ZNL at k6znl@arrl.net

Club Meetings

**1..Lunch meeting at the Think Café,
2nd Thursday 1:30-4 pm**

2. Virtual meeting held monthly on
the 3rd Friday of the month, 7:00 pm,
via Skype. Link sent by Tom K6IGY; if
having difficulty, [contact Tom K6IGY](#).

