



The Transponder



The monthly newsletter of the Hughes Amateur Radio Club, W6HA
- An ARRL affiliated club -

September 15, 2017 Rptr 445.620 – PL 127.3 Web Site: vsummits.com/W6HA Vol. XLIV, No. 9

Note: There was no August issue of the Transponder

***** CLUB MEETING *****

Where: El Segundo Library - Friends of the Library Conference Room, El Segundo, CA
Location: 111 Mariposa Ave (near Main Street)

Brother, can you spare a dime?



Meeting Notice:

Date: Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2017 (3rd Tuesday)

Presentation: Software Defined Radio, by Brian, AB6UI

Up Coming Events:

- July 1st Dues are Due for 2017 – 2018 (If you joined after Jan 1st 2017 your good till June 2018)
- September 15 - 17, 2017 HamCon – Torrance Marriott
- October 7, 8 – California QSO Party – 9 AM Saturday to 3 PM Sunday
- October 14 & 21 - Technician Class
- December 2 – Ray Miller 50/50 Ultimate Race
- December 9 & 10 - ARRL 10 meter Contest

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Lunch: Pizza will be available at 11:55: 1 Large Pepperoni, 2 Large Olive and Mushroom (\$3.50 per slice)
Prices 2 slices of pizza w/salad, \$7; 1 slice of pizza w/salad \$4; Salad only \$1.00
Sodas: Coke, Coke Zero, Ginger Ale & water (\$1 each)

Web Site: vsummits.com/w6ha

Transponder Deadline for Submittal of Articles: Wednesday, before next meeting

Club News:**Special Saturday Meeting Oct 28, 2017 – 11:30**

This is the Last Saturday of October and so, this is immediately after the TRW Swap Meet. See Flyer attached.

Manhattan Beach 10K Run – Sat., Oct. 7th

Saturday, October 7th is the date of the Manhattan Beach 10K Run. George Eldridge, N6RVC, has already confirmed he will be “The End” again this year.

The race begins at 7:30 AM and usually takes about 35 minutes for the fastest runner and about 2 hours for the slowest walker. We should be on station at 7:00 AM.

We meet at the Kettle Restaurant before the race for last minute instructions and the passing out of the safety vests and T-Shirts. Be there about 6AM if you are going to have breakfast and no later than 6:45 AM if you are going to just pick up a T-shirt and a vest.

I will be getting out more information and position assignments the week before the race. Please let me know as soon as possible your availability.

If you are new to this list please send me your telephone number and address.

John Keller, N6JLS

[310-753-4764](tel:310-753-4764) cell (text messaging OK)

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HNLB–Hughes Net Lunch Bunch, 9/5/17

Well, I missed last month's lunch. It was on the calendar, but we had an adventure in the Sierras and didn't make it home on time.

We had 9 at this month's lunch, including Esther Ross. I tried to talk her into coming more often. Attending were N6AIN, N6IC, K6MGIO + Esther, W1MII, WB6MMQ, W6RFI, N6VZF, and NY6Y. Dick is recovering from artherosopic rotator cuff surgery (he tells me he can't do the dishes yet - should I believe him?). I missed a lot of the other QRM, but lots of subjects were discussed, as usual.

Our Sierra Adventure (for those who are interested)
We have a Sportsmobile camper, which is a

modified Dodge van. My brother, his daughter, and her family invited us to join them at Lake Edison. For those who haven't been there - turn East at Fresno, go past Shaver Lake and Huntington Lake. Go 20 mi up the curvy, bumpy, one-lane road to the end and you'll be there. On the one-lane road a truck coming toward us didn't yield at all so I pulled off the road a bit to give him room. BUMP! Oh no! A rock! We made it to the campground and found axle grease all over the front tire - I'd broken a wheel bearing.

The week of camping was great. My niece got a lake-side site and we enjoyed dips in the lake and short hikes. THEN... no cell coverage in the camp - 2 mi to a hot spot. I called Good Sam several times because their towing coverage is: free to the closest facility. We were supposed to drive home on Monday (so we could have lunch on Tue.) but finally got a tow truck on Tue. 5 hours to Fresno with a very good, and nice, driver. 107F in Fresno. We left Fresno at 4:30pm on Thurs. An adventure I don't want to repeat, but everything turned out OK.

I hope everyone else's adventures turn out at least as good as ours. Betty, N6VZF

Ed.Note: The Hughes Net Lunch Bunchers (HNLBers) meet in Westchester, at the Coffee Co. La Tijera Blvd & Sepulveda East way, at 11:30 am. They meet on the 1st Tuesday of the Month - since the mid 70s - 40 years!

ARRL 10 Meter Contest - Dec. 2016

Last December three members of the Club, Dale, WB6MMQ; Mike, N6MDV and Ron, AC6RW entered the ARRL 10 meter contest, in spite of the low sun spot numbers. We sent in our logs indicating that we were Hughes ARC members. In the published results, except for the top ten in each category, individual logs are not listed. But all club entries are listed and believe it or not, we were NOT LAST on that list. With a score of 3,646, we were Second - - from the bottom. There were very interesting other results from that contest.

There was a Double Hop Es opening from Washington state all the way into Florida. Also, apparently an F2 opening from the San Francisco area into the New England states and also, Florida into the upper Midwest.

Reports from various Hams indicated that openings were often brief. If you just sat and listened, there

is a good chance that you miss it. As it turns out, calling CQ on a dead sounding band is how you may find out that the band is actually open. If everyone is listening and no one is calling CQ, you'll never know that the band is actually open.

Here are some interesting time laps videos of QSOs as they happen during the two days.

E-Cloud Drift: <https://vimeo.com/213927996>

Day 1 QSOs: <https://vimeo.com/213927084>

Day 2 QSOs: <https://vimeo.com/213927356>

Enjoy, Dale

P.S. Just got a nice surprise in the mail. WB6MMQ took 1st Place in the 10 Meter Contest in the LAX Section. I got a nice Certificate from the ARRL. Top Score in LAX Section was 990. I'll be out to beat that this coming Dec.

California QSO Party 2017: Club Competition Rules Finalized

Dear Contest Club Official:

To encourage more small-medium club participation for 2017, we've created three new **Size-Categories**:

Small = the 10 highest scores from a club will count for this competition category

Medium = the 35 highest scores from a club will count for this competition category

Large = clubs may combine the scores of any number of their members

Override: To avoid the problem of members selecting the wrong **Size-Category** — or no category at all — during log submission, we encourage your club to choose a Size-Category and notify us in advance of the contest. With this override, club members would **only** have to select your **Club Name** from a drop-down menu, since all logs submitted from your members would be entered into the same Size-Category.

Please submit your Club Name and Size Category before 1600 UTC on October 7, 2017.

Send note to: CLUBS@CQP.ORG

Further details can be found on the CQP website: <http://www.cqp.org/Clubcomp.html>

We hope to see many members of your club on the air soon in the 52nd running of the California QSO Party!

1600 UTC October 7, 2017 to

2200 UTC October 8, 2017

73, John, K6MM, CQP Chair

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT September 15, 2017

To all radio amateurs

QST de W1AW ARRL - Bulletin 18 ARLB018

FCC Opens 630- and 2200-Meter Bands; Stations Must Notify UTC Before Operating

The FCC has announced that the Office of Management and Budget has approved, for 3 years, the information-collection requirement of the Commission's March 29 Report and Order (R&O) that spelled out Amateur Radio service rules for the two new bands - 630 and 2200 meters. The R&O in PDF format can be found at,

https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-17-33A1.pdf. Notice of the action appears in today's edition of the Federal Register. Before using either band, stations must notify the Utilities Technology Council (UTC), formerly the Utilities Telecom Council, that they plan to do so, and if UTC does not respond within 30 days, they may commence operation.

The website to notify the UTC is, <https://utc.org/plc-database-amateur-notification-process/>. Last March 27, the FCC adopted the 2012 World Radio communication Conference (WRC-12) implementation Report and Order (ET Docket 15-99), amending its Amateur Radio rules to - in the FCC's words - "provide for frequency-sharing requirements in the 135.7-137.8 kHz (2200m) and 472-479 kHz (630m) bands."

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<https://utc.org/plc-database-amateur-notification-process/>. Last March 27, the FCC adopted the 2012 World Radio communication Conference (WRC-12) implementation Report and Order (ET Docket 15-99), amending its Amateur Radio rules to - in the FCC's words - "provide for frequency-sharing requirements in the 135.7-137.8 kHz (2200m) and 472-479 kHz (630m) bands."

Section 97.313(g)(2) of those rules requires that, prior to starting operation in either band, radio amateurs must notify UTC that they intend operate by submitting their call signs, intended band(s) of operation, and the coordinates of their antenna's fixed location. The new rules do not permit any mobile operation.

"Amateur stations will be permitted to commence operations after a 30-day period, unless UTC notifies the station that its fixed location is located within 1 kilometer of Power Line Carrier (PLC) systems operating on the same or overlapping frequencies," the FCC said. PLC systems are unlicensed. "This notification process will ensure that amateur stations seeking to operate [on

630 or 2200 meters] are located beyond a minimum separation distance from PLC transmission lines, which will help ensure the compatibility and coexistence of amateur and PLC operations, and promote shared use of the bands."

The FCC announced that it is making effective immediately the Part 97 rule amendments, Part 97.3, 97.15(c), 97.301(b) through (d), 97.303(g), 97.305(c), and 97.313(k) and (l), which do not require OMB approval. NNNN /EX

ARRL Letter – excerpts of possible interest

ARRL Contest Rule Changes, Clarifications Reflect "Best Practices" in Radiosport

Just ahead of the 2017-2018 contest season, ARRL has announced [rule changes and clarifications](#) to League-sponsored contests. These include an improved process for submitting logs and reporting scores. Unless otherwise noted, these changes become effective starting with the September VHF Contest.



"These changes reflect current 'best practices' in the contest community and help us improve the quality of the competition and reporting of results," ARRL Contest Branch Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, said. "For example, getting the log data into log checking more quickly will allow us to post preliminary results online for nearly all contests."

Log Submission

Log submission in the "General Rules for All Contests" has been simplified and revised. Individual contest rules will no longer include a log-submission section.

Online log submission: Except for the EME and 10 GHz and Up contests, electronic logs should be submitted through the [web app](#). E-mail log-handling "robots" will continue to operate until they can no longer properly handle the logs without revision. They will then be deactivated and submitters redirected to the web app.

Log submission deadline: Effective immediately, except for the 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest (2 weeks) and the EME and 10 GHz and Up contests (30 days), the log submission deadline for ARRL HF contests will be 5 days from the end of

the contest (this includes the IARU HF Championship). For ARRL VHF contests, the log submission deadline will be 10 days from the end of the contest. An extension may be requested, explaining the necessity to the ARRL Contest Branch Manager, at any time before the submission deadline.

Logged frequency: HF contest entries competing for awards as category leaders are encouraged to specify frequency with 1 kHz resolution. Logs used for log checking will be posted for public inspection. ARRL will continue to accept paper logs, but these are only eligible for awards at the discretion of the Contest Branch Manager. Logs may be withdrawn up to 10 days following the log submission deadline.

Club Competition

The new toolset for clubs to comply with the Club Competition rules ([Section 8 of the General Rules for All ARRL Contests](#)) has been very well received. For more information and tools for submitting your club's eligibility list, visit the [Contest Club Competition -- Club Eligibility Changes](#) page.

Log-Checking Penalties

Penalties for "zero-point" contacts, such as US-to-US contacts in the ARRL DX, will not be assessed during log checking. Operators may continue to log and submit zero-point contacts.

Remote Entries

Acting as the control operator for a [remotely controlled station](#) in the US or its possessions requires that the operator hold a US license and have sufficient privileges for all operation. CEPT/IARP reciprocal operating authority does *not* include remote control of a US station. If another operator acts as the on-site control operator, the entry must be in a multioperator category. The location for the entry will be the location of the station, not the operator.

Operating Rules

Multiple in-band CQing: Maintaining two or more frequencies to solicit contacts (i.e., "run") on the same band and mode is prohibited. (The IARU HF Championship and the ARRL 10 Meter Contest prohibit this practice, regardless of mode.)

Call sign and ARRL November Sweepstakes exchange: The station's call sign must be sent as part of the exchange, e.g., "W1AW, number 123, Alpha, W9JJ, 79, Connecticut."



US operators in Canada: The reciprocal operating treaty between the US and Canada requires that the call sign be sent with the Canadian prefix *following* the call sign, e.g., W9JJ/VE1.

Single Operator, FM Only: Cabrillo QSO lines must specify FM as the mode for all FM contacts.

For more information, [contact](#) the Contest Branch Manager.

Group Selected to Pursue DXpedition to Baker Island National Wildlife Refuge

The Pacific Islands Refuges and Monuments Office of the US Fish and Wildlife Service ([FWS](#)) has selected the Dateline DX Association ([DDXA](#)) -- the DXpedition group that activated Howland Island in 2009 and Wake Island in 1998 -- to pursue a DXpedition to Baker Island. Dates have not yet been determined. Baker and Howland Islands (KH1) are part of the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument ([PRIMNM](#)), created by former President George W. Bush in 2009. Baker and Howland is the fourth most-wanted DXCC entity on Club Log's [DXCC Most Wanted List](#).

The group will announce planned activation dates and other details once a vessel has been selected and the FWS has approved the vessel and dates. DDXA co-leaders are Don Greenbaum, N1DG; Tom Harrell, N4XP, and Kevin Rowett, K6TD.

In early June, the FWS agreed that a DXpedition to Baker Island would be an acceptable use of the Baker Island National Wildlife Refuge, but detailed strict conditions under which it would issue a special use permit (SUP) to allow such use. Earlier this year, the FWS conducted a [Compatibility Determination](#) for Amateur Radio operation on the ecologically sensitive island refuge. Baker Island is 1,830 nautical miles southwest of Honolulu -- an 8-day voyage.

"While...not a wildlife dependent public use according to National Wildlife Refuge Administration Act of 1966, as amended, Amateur Radio operation is a use that assists in the management of the resources indirectly," the FWS said in its *Compatibility Determination*, released on June 8. A DXpedition to the refuge may last up to 14 days, with only 12 days of radio operation and

allowing time for setup and breakdown on each end of the visit.

ARLP036 Propagation de K7RA

QST de W1AW

Propagation Forecast Bulletin 36 ARLP036

From Tad Cook, K7RA

Seattle, WA September 9, 2017

To all radio amateurs

Wow! What a week for solar activity. Although the solar cycle trend is down over the past few years and moving toward a solar minimum around the year 2020, we will still see notable upticks in activity, such as this week's surprising events.

On August 31, <http://www.spaceweather.com> reported a G-1 Class geomagnetic storm. Planetary A index was 59. The following day Spaceweather.com reported geomagnetic unrest with a planetary A index of 19. Planetary A index was 26 on September 2 when Spaceweather.com reported sunspot group AR2674 "rapidly growing, increasing in both area and sunspot count."

"As the sunspot grows, its magnetic field is becoming unstable, posing a threat for M-class solar flares." Planetary A index was 9 on September 3, when Spaceweather.com reported two huge sunspot groups facing Earth.

"Behemoth AR2674 has been growing for days, while newcomer AR2673 has suddenly quadrupled in size, with multiple dark cores breaching the surface of the Sun in just the past 24 hours. This movie from NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory shows sunspot genesis in action:

<http://bit.ly/2vOgnZ6>

On September 4, the planetary A index was 18, and Spaceweather.com reported: "Huge sunspot AR2673, which materialized with shocking speed over the weekend, is seething with activity.

A few days ago in Romania, solar photographer Maximilian Teodorescu captured this snapshot of plasma currents surging inside the sunspot's magnetic canopy, apparently on the verge of an explosion":

<http://bit.ly/2wKVmvK>

Note the recent emergence of large sunspot areas:

<http://bit.ly/2eN4Xh0>

We also saw the largest solar flare in over a decade

launch Thursday night.

Predicted solar flux is September 16-17, 88 on September 18, 92 on September 19-21, then 95, 98, 100 and 105 on September 22-25, 110 on September 26 through October 2, 105 on

October 3-5, then 100, 95, 90, 85 and 80 on October 6-10, 85 on October 11-14, 88 on October 15, 92 on October 16-18, and 95, 98, 100, 105 and 110 on October 19-23.

Predicted planetary A index is: September 18-19, 8 on September 20, 5 on September 21-22, then 8, 5, 8 and 5 on September 23-26, 20 on September 27-29, then 12, 10, 8 and 5 on September 30 through October 3, 15 on October 4-5, 8 on October 6, 5 on October 7-9, 25 on October 10-12 then 20 and 10 on October 13-14, 5 on October 15-16, then 8, 5, 5, 8, 5, 8 and 5 on October 17-23.

Here is the latest geomagnetic activity forecast for the period September 8 to October 4, 2017 from OK1HH: "Geomagnetic field will be: Quiet on September 20, 24; Mostly quiet on September 11, 21; Quiet to unsettled September 12, 19, 22, 25, October 2-4 Quiet to active on September 10, 15, 17-18, 23, 26-27, 30, October 1; Active to disturbed on Sept. 8-9, 13-14, 16, 28-29"

Amplifications of the solar wind from coronal holes are expected on September 8-10, 13-19, 27-28, October (1,) 2-4

["Remark: - Parenthesis means lower probability of activity enhancement and/or lower reliability of prediction.]

"F.K. Janda, OK1HH Czech Propagation Interested Group" Lou, VK5EEE sent this, which I edited:

"Do not believe modern-day short-cut internet-gimmicks such as this (he included a reference to an online tool predicting propagation titled "HF Conditions"). "Have a listen to the propagation beacons, tune around the bands!

Remember there is NO SUCH THING generally speaking as a GLOBAL HF one-size-fits-all-situation in spite of the modern trend to paint that picture into their systems. Part of the world is in darkness, part in light. There are many grey areas. The K index varies from location to location. East-West and North-South paths are affected differently by events.

"Nor should we rely on advanced real-time

programs such as VOAProp by G4ILO. While useful, these also give sometimes wildly false readings. For example, as I write this, bands including 10m are having great propagation to all of America and to Asia, and perhaps to other places too, while showing that even with 4kW and a big high up Yagi at most S1 signals from a few isolated places north of Australia would be possible. **NOT**. I just need to tune in to 28200 to hear all the beacons coming in so nice and clear and they are running 100W to simple Ground Plane antennas.

"What does the Australian government have to say about conditions right now on the SWS website? 'Disturbed!' Again we may be tempted to take that at face value. 20-10m has not been open much from VK in recent times with very low solar flux and no sunspots at times. However, right now, 10m is open. 12m is open, 15, 17 and 20m. Little activity but the beacons are clear, and Costa Rica booming in on SSB on 20m even though the time here is high noon - the Sun high in the sky."

"If we look at the regional T index map, http://www.sws.bom.gov.au/HF_Systems/1/6/1 we see that in Australia and New Zealand conditions are actually enhanced.

"If we look at the world map, http://www.sws.bom.gov.au/HF_Systems/6/9/1 we see that conditions in most of the world are ENHANCED, most of the rest is NORMAL and only a few areas in parts of the Central Pacific and near to the North Pole (parts of Canada, part of Greenland) and northern Siberia are depressed. So why is there so much alarm and DEPRESSED shown as a 'one size fits all' on simple condensed gimmicks? Well, it is true for those few parts of the world. And somewhere the K index is indeed 8, somewhere it is worse, somewhere better.

"Bear in mind that while over today and tomorrow there is a possibility or even a probability of short wave fade-outs (not worldwide but generally on the Sun side of the earth) but the Solar Activity being high to very high means that when there is not a fadeout conditions are most likely to be enhanced! We should be SO HAPPY that solar flux is now well above 100, as that means HF openings occur on higher bands more often.

"With the current predicament of those few radio amateurs who are not hampered by various distract-

tions, the LOCAL NOISE levels are prohibitive on lower frequencies. When bands above 20m open up, we should not be scared off by a glance at the RED/POOR prediction and miss out on all the easy DX with simple antennas and low noise to be had while the higher HF bands are wide open. Let us not forget the IBP beacons, and to tune around and call CQ even when predictions would encourage you do to otherwise."

Lou makes some excellent points. The various propagation models used in the tools for predicting HF success are based on mean predicted sunspot numbers for the month, and cannot predict real time HF propagation. Lou included this URL: <http://30cw.net/>.

On September 7, Mark Lunday, WD4ELG in North Carolina reported great propagation to South America on 10 meters using the new FT8 mode.

More about FT8, which is from Joe Taylor, K1JT, can be found at:

<http://ve3wdm.blogspot.com/2017/07/ft8-from-zero-to-fifteen-seconds.html>

Jon Jones, N0JK in Kansas wrote on September 4: "10 Meters was back Sunday afternoon August 27 for intercontinental DX.

"I had been working the Hawaiian QSO Party on 15 and noted spots for Hawaiians on 10. I went to 10... unfortunately did not hear Hawaii but logged WP4JW FK68 on 10 SSB at 2307z followed by LU5XP FF97 Argentina at 2310z. The QSO with WP4JW was probably double hop Es as I saw many Es contacts spotted around this time on 10. The LU contact may have been Es link to TEP. LU5XP was very loud for about 15 minutes then vanished abruptly. HK1MW was spotted via Es to W3, W7 and W0.

"Stations in Hawaii did work North America on 10 meters August 27, I saw Hawaiians spotted by stations in Florida, Texas, California, Washington State, Oregon and New Mexico."

If you would like to make a comment or have a tip for our readers, email the author at k7ra@arrl.net.

An archive of past propagation bulletins is at <http://arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive-propagation>. More good information and tutorials on propagation are at <http://k9la.us/>.

Monthly propagation charts between four USA regions and twelve overseas locations are at <http://arrl.org/propagation>.

The K7RA Solar Update

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: Over the September 7-13 reporting week, sunspot numbers and solar flux were lower, while geomagnetic indicators were higher. The average daily sunspot number declined from 87.3 to 45, and the average daily solar flux dropped from 114.1 to 97.6.



The average daily planetary A index increased from 18 to 27.3, and the average daily mid-latitude A index rose from 16.7 to 18.3.

Predicted solar flux is 75 on September 14-17; 77 on September 18-20; 85, 90, 92, 95, 98, 105, 110, 115, and 120 on September 21-29; 125 on September 30-October 1; 120, 115, 110, 100, 95, 90, 85, 83, 81, and 84 on October 2-11; 83 on October 12-14; 84 on October 15; 85 on October 16-17; 88, 90, 92, 95, 98, 105, 110, 115, and 120 on October 18-26, and 125 on October 27-28.

The predicted planetary A index is 28, 26, and 20 on September 14-16; 12 on September 17-20; 5 on September 21-22; 8, 5, 8, and 5 on September 23-26; 20 on September 27-29; 18, 15, 12, and 8 on September 30-October 3; 5 on October 4-7; 7 and 12 on October 8-9; 30 on October 10-12; 20 and 10 on October 13-14; 5 on October 15-16; 8, 5, 5, 8, 5, 8, and 5 on October 17-23; 20 on October 24-26, and 18 and 15 on October 27-28.

Here is a September 7 [video](#) from Dr. Tamitha Skov: Sunspot numbers for September 7-13, 2017 were 94, 89, 49, 38, 23, 11, and 11, with a mean of 45. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 128.5, 116.8, 107.2, 100.2, 79.9, 75.5, and 75.1, with a mean of 97.6. Estimated planetary A indices were 38, 96, 6, 7, 11, 18, and 15, with a mean of 27.3. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 23, 50, 6, 12, 8, 16, and 13, with a mean of 18.3.

[Tamitha was the Dinner Speaker at HamCon-ed]

[Send](#) me your reports and observations.

This weekly Solar Update is a preview of the Propagation Bulletin issued each Friday. The [latest bulletin and an archive](#) of past propagation bulletins is on the ARRL website.

Just Ahead in Radiosport

Sept 20 -- RSGB 80-Meter Autumn Series (CW)
 Sept 21 -- NAQCC CW Sprint
 Sept 23 -- CQ WW DX Contest, RTTY
 Oct 1 -- N. American SSB Sprint (5 -9 PM PDT)
 Oct 5 - NARU 10M Activity Contest (cw, ssb, dig)
 Oct. 7, 8 -- California QSO Party(CW, SSB)
 Oct. 18 -- RSGB 80M Autumn Series, dig (1.5 Hrs)
 Oct. 21, 2 -- Stew Perry TopBand Challenge, CW.
 Oct 28, 9 -- CQ WW DX Contest, SSB

All dates and times, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the [ARRL Contest Update](#), [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#) and the [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) for more information.

ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions / Hamfest and Events, in the West:

September 15-17 -- [Southwestern Division Convention, HamCon, Torrance, California](#)
 October 14 -- [Pacific Northwest VHF Society Conference](#), Moses Lake, Washington
 October 20-22 -- [Pacific Division Convention](#), San Ramon, California
 October 21 -- [Wisconsin ARES/RACES Conference](#), Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin
 October 22 -- [Connecticut State Convention](#), Meriden, Connecticut
 October 28 -- [Arizona State Convention](#), Maricopa, Az

Find conventions and hamfests in your area.

Selected DX News (QRV = Ready! or Are you Ready?) This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by CO7WT, QRZ DX, the OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX News, The Daily DX, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM. Thanks!

DX Stations QRV during the next month or so:

GEORGIA, 4L. Dmitry, R4WW will be QRV as 4L/R4WW from **September 17 to 29**. Activity

will be holiday style on 80 to 10 M on CW, SSB and RTTY. This may include an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide RTTY contest. QSL #1.

SAMOA, 5W. Al, K7AR will be QRV as 5W0RA from Apia, IOTA OC-097, from **September 19 to 29**. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB, RTTY and possibly FT8. QSL #1.

MAURITANIA, 5T. A group of operators are QRV as 5T5OK **until September 29**. Activity is on HF bands using CW, SSB and RTTY with multi-Ops. QSL via OK6DJ.

ALGERIA, 7X. Rodrigo, EA7JX will be QRV as 7U1X from Djelfa from **Sept. 18 to 25**. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters. This includes being an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide RTTY DX contest. QSL #1.

WEST MALAYSIA, 9M2. Members of the Kuala Lumpur DX Team will be QRV as 9M4IOTA from Indah Island, IOTA AS-074, from **September 16 to 18**. QSL direct to 9M4IOTA.

BOTSWANA, A2. Operators Pavel, R2AD, Yuri, RM0F and Elena, RC5A are QRV as A25BE, A25BI & A25SP, respectively, from Kasane until **September 25**. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW and SSB. QSL#1s.

TONGA, A3. Hal, JR4OZR will be QRV as A35W from Nuku'alofa from **Sept. 20 to 26**. Activity will be on the HF bands using RTTY and FT8. This includes working the CQ World Wide RTTY DX contest. QSL via JJ2VLY.

NIUE, E6. Grant, VK5GR is QRV as E6AG until **September 25** while on vacation. Activity is holiday style on 40 to 6 meters using mainly digital modes but also some CW and SSB. This includes being an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide RTTY DX contest. QSL via M0OXO.

ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON, FP. Operators G7VJR, G3ZAY, DH5FS, M0BLF, M0WUT, M0ZXA and M0INN will be QRV as FP/home calls from Ile aux Marins from **September 18 to 22**. Activity will be on 160 to 6 M using all modes, including FT8, with four stations active simultaneously. QSL #1.

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, HC8. Members of the 7163 Group are QRV as HD8M from Isabela Island, IOTA SA-004, **until September 21**. Activity is on 160 to 6M using CW, SSB, & digital modes, including FT8. QSL direct to WB2REM.

GRENADA, J3. Wayde, KD2NOP is QRV as J3/KD2NOP until September 20. Activity is on various HF bands using JT65, FT8 and possibly other digital modes. QSL #1.

WAKE ISLAND, KH9. Terry, K7ASU is QRV as K7ASU/KH9 **until September 17** while on work assignment. His is generally active on 40 and 20 meters at various times. QSL #1..

ALAND ISLANDS, OH0. Operators DK2DO, DL1ZBO and DL5FF will be QRV as OH0JWL from **September 19 to 25**. Activity will be on 80 to 10M on CW. This includes being an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide RTTY DX Contest. QSL CW contacts via DK2DO, and RTTY contacts via DL5FF. In addition, special event callsign OF100FI/0 will be QRV from Brando Island during the SAC CW contest to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the independence of Finland. QSL via OH2BAD.

CZECH REPUBLIC, OL. Special event station OL100SV is QRV until **September 23** to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Signal Forces of the Czech Army. QSL via bureau.

LAOS, XW. Champ, E21EIC will be QRV as XW1IC from **September 21 to 25**. Activity will be on 80 to 6 meters. This includes being an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide RTTY DX contest. QSL to home call.

ZIMBABWE, Z2. David, G4NRT is QRV as Z21NRT from Harare **until September 29**. Activity is on 80 to 2 meters using CW, SSB, PSK, JT65, JT69, FT8 and FM on 2 meters. QSL #1.

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, HC8. Geoff, G8OFQ will be QRV as HC8/G8OFQ from Isabela Island, IOTA SA-004, from **August 1 to October 30**. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters. QSL #1.

Long Term: (longer than 1 month)

EGYPT, SU. Christian, DM4DX is currently living in Cairo until at least **November**, 2017, and is QRV as SU0ERA from the Egyptian Radio Amateurs Society station. He is also active as SU/DM4DX. Activity is on 20 to 10 meters using SSB. QSL via operator's instructions.

ANGOLA, D2. Paulo, CT1FJZ is QRV as D2FJZ from Luanda. Activity is on 20 M ssb. His length of stay is unknown. [**listed Aug 2017-ed**] QSL #1.

NORTH COOK ISLAND, E5. Warwick, E51WL is QRV from Penrhyn Atoll, OC-082, and is occasionally active using JT65. [**no date - listed July17-ed**] QSL #1.

LIBERIA, EL. Dickson, EL2DT is active on 20 M CW around 1900z. [**no date - listed Aug 2017-ed**] QSL #1

COCOS (KEELING) ISLAND, VK9C. Andy, VK9CC is active on 160 and 80 M using CW at various times. [**no date-listed July 2017**] QSL#1

Until the end of 2017

SLOVAK REPUBLIC, OM. Members of the Secondary School of Electrical Engineering in Kosice are QRV with special event station OM50SPSEKE **until the end of 2017** to celebrate the school's 50th anniversary. QSL #2

SWEDEN, SM. Special event station SC40VIC is QRV until the **end of 2017** to celebrate the 40th birthday of Crown Princess Victoria. QSL via SM6JSM.

UKRAINE, UR. Special event station EO25P is QRV until the **end of 2017** to celebrate the 25 years of the Volyn Amateur Radio League. QSL#2

NORWAY, LA. Spcl Event station LA1742K is QRV until **end of 2017** commemorating the 275th anniversary of Kristiansund. QSL via LA6K

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, E7. The radio club of Zenica is QRV as E770BAB until the **end of 2017** for its 70th anniversary. QSL via E71EZC.

UKRAINE, UR. Members of the Druzhkivka Club of Radio amateurs are QRV with special event call

sign EN90IWA until the **end of 2017** to celebrates the club's 90th anniversary. QSL #2

BULGARIA, LZ. Members from the Headquarters of the Thracian Rose Club are QRV as LZ73TRC during **all of 2017**. QSL via LZ1YE.

BENIN, TY. Wynand, ZS6ARF is QRV as TY2CD **until end of 2017**. He will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB and digital modes. (QSL#1)

INDIA, VU. Special event station 8T1VWN is QRV **until the end of 2017** to honor K.R. Vasantha Kumar, VU2VWN. QSL via VU2ACC.

ANTARCTICA. Francois, F4HLT is QRV as FT3YL from the Dumont d'Urville Station Terre Adelie on Petrels Island, IOTA AN-017, until **February 1, 2018**. Activity is on 20, 15 and 10 meters using SSB and various digital modes in his spare time from 0900 to 1100z and after his work duties. QSL via F6KPQ.

PRINCE EDWARD AND MARION ISLANDS, ZS8. David, ZS8Z is QRV from Marion Island, IOTA AF-021, **until May 2018** and has been active on 20 M using SSB between 1200 to 1300z. QSL via ZS1LS.

Until the end of 2018

ANTARCTICA. Alan, MW0YCC is QRV as VP8DPJ from the Rothera Research Station on Adelaide Island, IOTA AN-001, until **April 2018** while on work assignment. QSL #2

MARQUESAS ISLANDS, FO. Patrick, FO5QS will be moving to Hiva Oa Island, IOTA OC-027, and plans to be there for **many years**. [listed Oct. '16 – ed] Activity will be on all HF bands using CW, SSB and various digital modes. QSL #1.

Until 2019

MALI, TZ. Laurent, F5IXR is QRV as TZ5XR **until 2019**. Activity is on 40, 20, 17, 12 and 10 meters using mostly CW. QSL #1

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO, 9Q. Fernando, EA4BB is QRV as 9Q6BB from Kinshasa until [**May 2019-ed**] QSL#2

Until 2020

RWANDA, 9X. Alan, KE4TA will be QRV as 9X0TA from Kimihurura, Kigali **for the next three years [until Aug. 5, 2020-ed]**. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands. He is currently active on 20 and 17 meters using SSB and digital modes as well as some CW. QSL via N4GNR.

CHATHAM ISLANDS, ZL7. Chris, ZL2DX and Catherine, ZL2QT are QRV as as ZL7DX and ZL7QT, respectively, for the **next three years [until May, 2020 – ed]** QSL #1

Notes:

1. QSL direct to home call.
2. QSL via operators' instructions.
3. QSL via bureau

Lunch Financials – July 18, 2017:

Attendance: 13

Starting Lunch Kitty:	\$141.25
Expenses: Pizza(3) & Salad	\$77.00
<u>Drinks: 10 @ 0.50</u>	<u>\$ 5.00</u>
Food Total:	\$82.00 \$59.25
Income: Lunch:	\$76.75 \$136.00
<u>XferTo/From General Funds:</u>	<u>\$0.00 \$136.00</u>
Starting Lunch Kitty for Aug:	\$136.00
[Loss of \$5.25 - \$10.00 for room rent= loss of \$15.25 1 & ½ pizzas left. Sold ½ for \$10 & 1 for \$20]	

Lunch Financials – August 15, 2017:

Attendance: 15

Starting Lunch Kitty:	\$136.00
Expenses: Pizza(3) & Salad	\$77.00
<u>Drinks: 8 @ 0.50</u>	<u>\$ 4.00</u>
Food Total:	\$81.00 \$55.00
Income: Lunch:	\$91.25 \$146.25
<u>XferTo/From General Funds:</u>	<u>\$0.00 \$146.25</u>
Starting Lunch Kitty for Sept:	\$146.25
[Gain of \$10.25 - \$10.00 for room rent= Gain of \$0.25]	

AMATEUR RADIO LICENSING EXAMS:

TRW Swap meet at the corner of Aviation Blvd and Marine Avenue in Redondo Beach. 10AM in the Northrop cafeteria. Always the last Saturday of the month – no reservation is required.

(www.w6trw.com)

ARRL Announces Free Exam Review Website

The ARRL has launched a web site that allows users to take randomly generated practice exams using questions from the actual examination question pool. [ARRL Exam Review for Ham Radio™](#) is *free*, and users do *not* need to be ARRL members. The only requirement is that users must first set up a site login (this is a different and separate login from your ARRL website user registration).

Other Free Exam Practice Sites:

<http://aa9pw.com/radio/technician/>

<http://www.eham.net/exams/>

This Practice Exam site Requires Registration

<https://www.qrz.com/hamtest/>

ARRL LAX Section Officers:

Section Manager: Diana Feinberg, AI6DF

PO Box 4678

Palos Verdes Peninsula. Ca 90274-9618

AI6DF@arrl.org or 310-544-2917

LAX SEC.: JIM STOKER AG6EF

4555 ENCINAS DR

LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE CA 9101

818 790 2832

LAX Section Traffic Mngr: Kate Hutton, K6HTN

For Radiogram formatting instructions go to

www.ARRLAX.org .

RF Safety – Power Density Web site:

http://hintlink.com/power_density.htm

Links: TRW license test

<http://w6trw.com/index.php/amateur-radio-license-testing/>

Stores / suppliers:

<http://www.impulseelectronics.com/> PowerPole

<https://elkantennas.com> - LPA VHF/UHF Ant.

<http://hamcity.com> - Local – Conn, cables, ants.

<http://www.aesham.com/>

<http://www.dxengineering.com>

<http://www.gigaparts.com/>

ARRL <http://arrl.org>

HARC Past Presidents

1973 Doug Erny, AK7E (former W6NPD)

1974 Orsen Just, K6JGV, sk

1975, 76 Tom Rothwell, K6ZT

1977 Tom McInnis, WB6ZEB, sk

1978,79 Sam Weise, W6LXR

1980 Bob Poole, AJ6F

1981 Russ Sanford, WA6NQQ, sk

1982, 83 Chuck Lobb, KN6H

1984 John Bennett,

1985 Scott Fraser, KN6F

1986, 87 Ed Wagner, K6GQV

1988 John Swancara, WA6LOD

1989, 90 John Bonner, KJ6AW

1991

1992 Bruce Forestal, WB6ARE

1993 Rick Stenlake, KD6DYN

1994

1995,6,7,8,9 Brian Johnson, AB6UI

2000,1,2 Bruce Shaphran, W6BLS

2004,5,6 Ed Gaitley, N6EG

2007 - 2015 Barry Colston, KG6NWJ

2016 – Dale Birmingham, WB6MMQ

PodCast – Amateur Radio News

(The above is a link to an MP3 audio feed)

Southern California Band Plans:

Tasma – 2 Meters

<http://www.tasma.org/TASMA-2m-Band-Plan.pdf>

SCRRBA – all others

<http://www.scrba.org/BandPlans/BandPlans.htm>

Morning Schedule:

Winter	Summer	Local	Mode	Days
1400 UTC	1300 UTC	(6 AM PDT)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1400 "	1300 UTC	(6 AM PDT)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2100 UTC	2000 UTC	(1 PM PDT)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2100 "	2000 "	"	CWs	Tue, Thu
2200 "	2100 "	(2 PM PDT)	CWb	Daily, CW Bulletin
2300 "	2200 "	(3 PM PDT)	DIGITAL	Daily, Digital Bulletin
0000 "	2300 "	(4 PM PDT)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
0000 "	2300 "	"	CWf	Tue, Thu
0100 "	0000 "	(5 PM PDT)	CWb	Daily, CW Bulletin
0200 "	0100 "	(6 PM PDT)	DIGITAL	Daily, Digital Bulletin
0245 "	0145 "	(6:45 PM PDT)	VOICE	Daily, Voice Bulletin
0300 "	0200 "	(7 PM PDT)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0300 "	0200 "	"	CWs	Tue, Thu
0400 "	0300 "	(8 PM PDT)	CWb	Daily, CW Bulletin

Frequencies (MHz)

CW:	1.8025	3.5815	7.0475	14.0475	18.0975	21.0675	28.0675	147.555
DIGITAL:	-	3.5975	7.095	14.095	18.1025	21.095	28.095	147.555
VOICE:	1.855	3.990	7.290	14.290	18.160	21.390	28.590	147.555

Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM

CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM

CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

DIGITAL = BAUDOT (45.45 baud) BPSK31 and MFSK16 in a revolving Schedule.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds.

W1AW Qualifying Runs:

7 PM PDT Mon Oct 2 (0200 UTC Oct 3) - on CW Frequencies listed above, @ 40 – 10 WPM.

1 PM PDT Wed Oct 18 (2000 UTC)

West Coast Qualifying Runs:

2 PM PDT Sat Sept 23 (2100 UTC) @ 3581.5, 7047.5, 14047.5, 18097.5 & 21067.5 by K6KPH

9 PM PDT Wed Oct 25 (0400 UTC Oct 26) @ 3590 & 7047.5 kHz by K9JM

The Straight Key Century Club (SKCC):

http://www.skccgroup.com/member_services/beginners_corner/

SKCC Beginner's Corner (Headings from the above Web site)

Section 1 - The Basics of Manual Morse Code

Section 2 - Basics of a CW QSO Pro-signs, Procedural Signals, and Abbreviations

Section 3 - A "Typical" CW QSO

Monthly Straight Key Night (SKN) is on the 1st of each month. It is *not* a contest. No logs are submitted. The event, was inspired by the ARRL's annual SKN. The SKCC's founders wanted to have SKN monthly. The tradition continues! (**And this month on New Years Eve.**)

The Elmer frequency for beginning operators is **7114 KHz**. It's a safe haven for CW new-comers. Elmers are encouraged to monitor the frequency and work the CW beginners, some of whom may have had a license for many years. Come one, come all.

2016 – 2017 CLUB OFFICERS**Officers:**

PRESIDENT: Dale, WB6MMQ W6HA at vsummits.com
VICE PRESIDENT: Steve, KI6GUY W6HA at vsummits.com
SECRETARY: Judi, KI6TKT W6HA at vsummits.com
TREASURER: Paul, KK6TAC W6HA at vsummits.com
STATION MANAGER: Brian, AB6UI W6HA at vsummits.com
PAST PRESIDENT: Barry, KG6NWJ W6HA at vsummits.com

Committees:

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Dale, WB6MMQ, W6HA at vsummits.com
WEB MASTER: Mike, N6MDV W6HA at vsummits.com
SCRRBA REP: Ray, WA6NVL W6HA at vsummits.com
FIELD DAY Committee: HF1, AB6UI; HF2 WB6MMQ; VHF, WA6NVL@mac.com,
 HF3, Jeff, N6TPN, Jeffrey.Laing@Boeing.com;
 GOTA, Ron, AC6RW rcwagner@ieee.org;
 Paul, KK6TAC

MEMBERSHIP: Dale, WB6MMQ W6HA at vsummits.com
CLASS MODERATOR: Mike, N6MDV W6HA at vsummits.com
RAYTHEON SAS ECT: Ken, KI6YDN, W6HA at vsummits.com
CLUB REPEATER: W6HA/R 445.620 MHz (-) PL 127.3 Hz Location: Bldg. R1 roof
Packet (node :hughes) 145.61s W6HA
HAC HF NET: HARC & Retired 14.233 Mhz, Tuesdays, 13:00 PDT – Currently Inactive

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS TEAMS

RES ECT Net: El Segundo, Thursdays at 12:05 pm, 445.620 MHz, PL 127.3 Linked to 146.550 (s)

Club Shack: The club shack is in E1, Lobby D. There is a Kenwood TS-520 HF radio connected to an 40 –10 meter antenna. This station is open to all club members. (I would be happy to give a tour of the HF station in "Lobby D" to club members. Brian Johnson, AB6UI)

Club Newsletter: If you have items that would be of interest to the club, any comments, letters, or items for sale or trade please email it to Dale Birmingham, dgbirmingham@gmail.com. If anyone needs a club application, please contact Paul, KK6TAC or Dale, WB6MMQ and one will be sent to you.

Club Roster: Hardcopy available at meeting or contact the club secretary, Judi, KI6TKT.

Web Site: vsummits.com/w6ha <<http://vsummits.com/w6ha>>

The Hughes Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL affiliated club for FCC-licensed amateur radio operators and their family members. Membership consists of former, or retired employees of the Hughes Aircraft Company, Hughes Electronics, Hughes Space and Communications, Boeing and Raytheon companies in El Segundo. Membership is open to all Amateur Radio Operators and those who are aspiring Amateur Radio operators.
