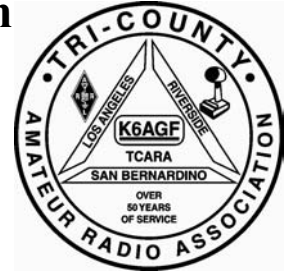




# TRI-COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO Association

P.O. BOX 75 CLAREMONT, CALIFORNIA 91711



## AMATEUR SATELLITE BASICS

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Presented by Jim Jerzycke, KQ6EA, Introduction on how to get started working Easy-Sats" on January 08.

Jim, KQ6EA, was first licensed in 1964 as WN9THB, and upgraded to General class as WA9THB about 9 months later. Jim also was active on all bands from 40 through 10, and also on 2M and "1296" with some home-brew AM equipment and antennas.

Jim was too busy with College to renew his license when it expired in 1970, so he was out of the Amateur Radio Service until 1995, when he got back in as a Tech Plus with the callsign KE6ZDO. He upgraded to General class a month later, then Advanced class two months after that, and was issued a current callsign of KQ6EA. He kept his callsign when he upgraded to Extra class, as everybody knew him by that callsign.

Jim always has been interested in Amateur Satellites, and started to get active on the birds in 1997. He prefers the linear transponder (analog) satellites over the digital satellites, and his favorites are FO-20 (when it works!), FO-29, and AO-40.

He has been an AMSAT member since 1997, and an Area Coordinator since 2000.

### The Christmas Party was a success

Steven KG6SOF won the Grand prize drawing of one FT-2800M 2Meter Ham Radio, congratulations Steve! And Congratulations to all who won other great prizes, It was a fantastic Evening.

TCARA holds a monthly cash drawing at our meetings. \$10 will be added to the pot each month. All members' names will be put in the hat for the drawing. The member whose name is drawn must be present to win. If the member is not present the prize will be rolled over and added to the next month's pot. So plan to attend, the cash drawing will be \$10.

### MEETING PLACE

Brackett Airport Administration Building  
**1615 McKinley Ave., La Verne, CA**  
Exit I-10 at Fairplex, go North to the Fairgrounds, then turn left and follow the road along the South side of the airport to the Administration Building. The meeting place is in the Pilot's Lounge

### MEETING:

**Thursday, January 08, 2003 at 7:30 P.M.,**  
TCARA is an Amateur Radio Service Organization. Anyone interested is invited to attend. We meet on the second Thursday of every month.

### TCARA OFFICERS

**President** ----- Alvin Banman, **W6EKZ**  
**Vice President** ----- John Garcia, **KF6ZQN**  
**Secretary** ----- Brad Rachielles **KC6NNV**  
**Treasurer** ----- Jay Jones, **WB9FBM**  
**Program Chairman** Gabriel Provencio, **KF6HMN**  
**Publicity** ----- John Montanaro, **KD6IOX**  
**Emergency Coordinator** -- Clint Stone, **KQ6NJ**  
**Contest Chairman** ----- Dave Cioni, **KF6OQC**

### TCARA INTERNET HOME PAGE

TCARA has its home page on the Internet, and the URL is: **HTTP://www.qsl.net/k6agf**

### SUNDAY CLUB 2M NET

The TCARA Sunday net is held at 7:00 PM on the Baldy machine repeater: **FREQ: 147.210, + 600 PL 156.7** (the old Bomb Squad machine). Introducing the latest ARRL News Line broadcast, and Club Info."

### HEALTH AND WELFARE

Health and welfare information goes to Bob Embrey, **KD6DKV, AT 626-339-3402.**  
**If you have ideas for a program, let one of the officers now about it.**

## TCARA MEMBERSHIP

Membership enables you to receive membership prizes, vote, Place FREE "FOR SALE" ads in the QRM, receive the QRM, and run for an office. Dues: Regular - \$15/year. Family-\$20/year. All renewals are due by June 30th\.

All past members are urged to renew their membership. Visitors are welcome and invited to become members before the drawing. All paid up member names will be in the hat and if present will have a chance to win some of the \$120 that will be placed in the pot over the next 12 months.

## QRM Deadline

The QRM Newsletter deadline for **February issues** should be turned in by **January 19**.

Just this time, send News/ articles to Alvin Banman E-mail address (Preferred) is: <[w6ekz@arrl.net](mailto:w6ekz@arrl.net)> Early submissions are always appreciated.

**Ken Berglof, kg6omz, QRM Editor**

## AMATEUR LICENSE TESTING

Last Saturday of each month, except December. TCARA ARRL TESTING SESSION: **Next session will be Saturday, January 31, 2004 at the Club's meeting place at Brackett Airport in La Verne**). Technician through Extra. Call **Carl Sanders, WJ6N, (909) 820-3442**, for reservations (if you have Caller ID blocking enabled, press \*82 before dialing the number to unblock your number for the one call). Leave on the answering machine the class of the test you want to take your name, address, and telephone number. Bring your current license and a copy, any CSCEs and copies, and a picture ID, and a \$12 FEE.

## SOME REPEATERS & EMERGENCY GROUPS IN THE AREA. COUNTY

Los Angeles County Disaster Communications Services:

145.300 MHz (-) PL 100 Hz (Mt Disappointment)

224.300Mhz (-)PL 100 Hz ( " " )

## Local Groups

**Azusa –**

ACS/RACES net Mon. 7:00 PM **144.970** MHz Johnstone PK.

**Glendora –** ACS/RACES net Tues. 7:00 PM 144.970 MHz Johnstone PK.

### Local Groups:

**La Verne** - La Verne Emergency Communications Team, K6LVN.

Nets Tuesday @ 7:30 PM, 144.970, Johnstone Peak.

Meeting 3rd. Tuesday, 7:30 PM @ La Verne Police Station.

### For more information contact:

Jack Swank, W6FAM

Jay Jones, and WB9FPM

**Claremont "CARDS"** net Mon. 7:15 PM 147.210(+) PL156.7 Hz Sunset Ridge.

### Johnstone PK Emergency & Red Cross

146.820Mhz (-) PL 100 Hz.

### Western San Bernardino County - SATERN

(Salvation Army) net Sun. 8:PM 146.985 MHz (-) 146.2 Hz Keller PK.

### Rancho Cucamonga ACS/RACES Monday Net.

7:00 PM 147.300 MHz PL123.

**Contact:** John Garcia KF6ZQN

**Chino Hills** - Chino Hills Auxiliary Radio Team (CHART) net is **every Thursday** except the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the Month, at **7:00 p.m.** CHART's tactical frequency is **147.480 simplex**. The City's 220 MHz repeater frequency is 224.720 PL 127.3-offset.

If anyone has anything to add to the Emergence group list, please contact Clint Stone KQ6NJ at: [cstone1@juno.com](mailto:cstone1@juno.com)

## Emergency Communications

S.A.T.E.R.N (Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network) of Riverside/San Bernardino Co. is looking for Amateur Radio Operators in Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga,

Corona and the surrounding areas. Contact Tony Stephen at (909) 628 2843 or E-mail at: [ke6jzf@surfside.net](mailto:ke6jzf@surfside.net) for info.

Check in on the SATERN Net Sundays at 8:00 P.M. on 146.985 (-) PL 146.2 (Keller PK). Clint KQ6NJ

## **All Ham's are welcome to use IRLP NODE 7170 POMONA**

Every Ham Operator is invited to experience the use of IRLP NODE 7170, FREQ 145.755 simplex with a PL 162.2. Contact Alvin Banman, W6EKZ for more info.

## **All Ham's are welcome to use ECHOLINK POMONA**

All HAM'S are welcome to join use on EchoLink to experience the fantastic communication it has to offer on FREQ 145.785 FM Simplex.

There are nice people from all walks of life & Countries, already getting to know one another.

If you are interested & want to try it out, don't hesitate, contact Gabriel Provencio KG6HMN on 145.785 FM simplex.

## **LOCAL SWAP MEETS**

**(Hrs for Swapmeets are usually 7 A.M. to 11 A.M.)**

Second Saturday of each month Fontana Swap Meet run by the Inland Empire ARC at A. B. Miller High School on Highland and Oleander in Fontana, 7 AM to 11:30AM.

Directions: take I-10 East to I-15 North, get off at Highland/Cherry Ave exit, and go East on Highland. A. B. Miller HS is about 2.5 miles down the road on the South side of the street. Talk-in is 145.480, down 600kHz, PL=77.0 Note: best place to park is on the East side of the school.

Third Saturday of each month CMRA Hamfest (the old DeVry Swapmeet) now held at Cal Poly Pomona, 3801 West Temple Avenue, Pomona (right across the freeway from the old DeVry), in Parking Lots F8, F9, and F10. Admission and

parking are free. Take the I-10 and exit Kellogg Drive. For recorded information call: **(714) 537-4230**. Ask for Hugh or Greg at the gate.

Last Saturday of each month The TRW Swapmeet is located in Manhattan Beach, on the Northwest corner of Marine Ave. and Aviation Blvd. South of LAX, West of the 405 FWY. Take the 105 FWY. West to Aviation Blvd., South on Aviation 2.5 miles to Marine. Talk-in 145.32, down 600 kHz, PL=2A (114.8).

First Sunday of each month The Electronics Swap meet is located in Chino Hills, South side of 71 FWY right at Chino Hills High school, 16150 Pomona Rincon Rd. **Hours 6:30 a.m. through 11:30 a.m.**

"If your traveling South on HWY 71 turn off on Soquel Canyon Rd. exit, then turn right, and then turn left at the next stop light that is "Pomona Rincon Road." Just one block more, then look to your right.

Need more information regarding the Swap Meet? Contact Alan Sanders at (909) 597-3893 or visit our web site at:

**HTTP://www.chhsmusic.com/electswap.html**

## **GET THE ENTIRE SET –**

You know that these Southwestern Division e-Communicator editions are bound to become collector's items. You just know it. Get the back issues. Get the complete set at: **<http://members.cox.net/arrrswd/past.htm>**

BTW, the current issue of The e-Communicator in html format is available at: **<http://members.cox.net/arrrswd/>**

The current issue is usually posted within 24 hours of the text-based e-mail release.

Art, W6XD, Director, [w6xd@arrl.org](mailto:w6xd@arrl.org)

Tuck, NZ6T, Vice Director, [nz6t@arrl.org](mailto:nz6t@arrl.org)

## **Attention All Amateurs...**

**FEMA to FCC: BPL will "Severely Impair" Mission-Essential HF Operations** (Dec 8, 2003) -- Expressing "grave concerns" about likely interference from unlicensed Broadband over Power Line (BPL) systems, the Federal Emergency

Management Agency (FEMA) has told the FCC that BPL could "severely impair FEMA's mission-essential HF radio operations in areas serviced by BPL technology." FEMA filed comments December 4 in response to last April's FCC BPL *Notice of Inquiry*, ET Docket 03-104. FEMA expressed primary concern over BPL's potential impact on the FEMA National Radio System (FNARS), which operates on HF and serves as the agency's primary command and control backup medium as part of the Federal Response Plan.

**FULL STORE at:**  
<<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/12/08/1/?nc=1>>

## **International Morse Code Gets a New ITU Home, New Character**

The 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-03) may have eliminated the treaty requirement for prospective amateurs to demonstrate Morse code proficiency to gain HF access, but the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) hasn't forgotten Morse code altogether. In Geneva on December 5, the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) Study Group 8 agreed on the wording of a *Draft New Recommendation ITU-R M.[MORSE]* that specifies the international Morse code character set and transmission procedures. It also includes a new Morse code character to cover the "@" symbol used in e-mail addresses.

**FULL STORIE at:**  
<<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/12/10/2/?nc=1>>

## **FCC Announces New Universal Licensing System Interface (Dec 12, 2003)**

-- The FCC on December 14 will unveil a new on-line filing interface for its Universal Licensing System (ULS), which includes the Amateur Service. In order to implement the changes, the ULS on-line filing system will be down from 12 AM EST Saturday, December 13, until 10 AM EST Sunday, December 14. Among other features, the ULS's new look will include updated, easier-to-read on-screen forms that guide users through filing processes and simplify such routine tasks as applying for license renewal, address change or vanity call sign. Screens also will offer context-sensitive help and a list of "common

questions" for a given application process. The FCC says the introduction of its new system, called "ULS License Manager," is part of an ongoing ULS overhaul.

**FULL STORIE at:**  
<<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/12/12/3/?nc=1>>

## **NEW GENERAL CLASS QUESTION POOL RELEASED**

The Question Pool Committee (QPC) of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators has released a revised and expanded Amateur Radio General class (Element 3) question pool into the public domain. The new question pool becomes effective July 1, 2004, and must be used to generate all General written examinations administered on or after that date. "The pool has been expanded to 432 questions," said ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, a member of the Question Pool Committee, who notes that all sub elements grew slightly. "The largest increase in questions this time around was in our Operating Procedures and Amateur Radio Practices sub elements," he said. The General class question pool does not contain any diagrams or symbols.

The new Element 3 question pool is available on the ARRL Amateur Exam Question Pools Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/pools.html>> in Adobe PDF and ASCII text format. It includes all questions and answers relating to Element 3.

The Question Pool Committee now is turning its attention to developing an outline for an updated Amateur Extra class (Element 4) question pool, which will be revised over the next 24 months, Jahnke said. It will go into effect July 1, 2006. The deadline to submit input to the Amateur Extra question pool syllabus is May 1, 2004.

In addition to Jahnke, members of the Question Pool Committee are Chairman Scotty Neustadter, W4WW, Fred Maia, W5YI, and John Johnston, W3BE. Commenters may address specific Element 3 questions as well as inputs to the Element 3 syllabus and question pool to the Question Pool Committee via e-mail <[qpc@arrl.org](mailto:qpc@arrl.org)>.

## **HAM ANTENNA SUPPORT STRUCTURES NOT MIGRATORY BIRD HAZARD, ARRL SAYS**

The ARRL has asked the FCC to specifically exempt Amateur Radio antennas and support structures less than 400 feet tall from routine environmental processing relative to their impact on migratory birds. In reply comments filed December 1, the League said there is no scientific evidence that antenna structures below that height contribute significantly to migratory bird mortality. An FCC Notice of Inquiry, WT Docket 03-187, released in August seeking information on the effects of communications towers on migratory birds, drew more than 250 comments. The League told the FCC that the migratory bird issue often arises at municipal land use hearings and in the drafting of ordinances regulating antenna structures.

"At public hearings before city, town and county authorities, those who are opposed to communications antennas for aesthetic reasons typically raise issues such as migratory bird mortality as one of several arguments" against permitting antennas or limiting their placement," the ARRL comments said. "ARRL's research into the scientific literature reveals that communications towers below 400 feet are almost universally considered not to be contributors to bird mortality."

The League said typical ham radio fixed antennas and support structures are located mostly in residential areas and range from 50 to 120 feet--although some may go as high as 200 feet. The ARRL said amateur antenna installations rarely go any higher than that because of FAA approval, painting and lighting requirements, not to mention cost and siting restrictions.

"The comments in this proceeding to date support the conclusion that communications towers less than approximately 400 feet do not contribute substantially to migratory bird kills," the ARRL said, adding that no regulatory action is justified beyond what's already in place for aviation safety.

The ARRL also pointed to FWS guidelines released in 2000 that urge communications service providers to utilize towers less than 199 feet above ground level. The FWS concedes, however, that "tower height alone may not necessarily be a critical issue that results in mortality" and that bird kills documented at tall TV towers might be due to the effects of tower lighting rather than height.

Based on the record, the League concluded, "unlit Amateur Radio antennas cannot be considered candidates for regulation under any circumstances."

### **Foundation For Amateur Radio solicits scholarship applications**

(Dec 11, 2003) -- The Foundation for Amateur Radio Inc (FAR), a non-profit organization headquartered in Washington, DC, plans to administer 59 scholarships for the 2004-2005 academic year to assist radio amateurs. Comprised of more than 75 area Amateur Radio clubs, FAR fully funds seven of these scholarships with income from grants and its annual hamfest. The foundation administers the remaining 52 without cost to the donors. FAR invites Amateur Radio licensees planning to pursue a full-time course of study beyond high school and now enrolled in or accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school to compete for these scholarships. Awards range from \$500 to \$2500. Preference in some cases goes to residents of specific geographical areas or to those pursuing certain programs of study. FAR encourages Amateur Radio clubs--especially those in Delaware, Florida, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin--to announce these scholarship opportunities at meetings, in newsletters, during training classes, on nets and on Web pages. Additional information and an application form is available by sending a letter or QSL card postmarked prior to April 30, 2004, to FAR Scholarships, PO Box 831, Riverdale, MD 20738. The Foundation for Amateur Radio is an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. It is devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio and those scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.