December, 2017

ARALB Web Site: www.aralb.org
ARALB Facebook Page (Open)
ARALB Facebook Group (Members Only)
Editor: Bob NC6Q

Meetings

The next Friday Night General Club meeting:
Date: Friday, December 1, 2017
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: American Red Cross (map)
3150 E. 29th Street
Long Beach, CA 90806

The next ARALB Board Meeting: (map)
Date: Monday, November 27, 2017
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: American Red Cross (map)
Guest Speaker at Friday Meeting

YOU!

Because elections for new officers and directors for 2018 will be held during the December meeting, the Guest Speaker will be a special one: The guest speaker will be "YOU."

We are asking that members share their special moments in amateur radio, such as:

- First Contact
• Most Interesting Contact
• Most Unusual Contact
• Most Prized/Unusual QSL Card
• Your Shack
• Modes You Operate... DX, VHF/UHF, Digital, etc.

So, organize your thoughts and make a few notes.

This is the first time we have given YOU the opportunity to tell us what you enjoy about our hobby. Let's make this one of the best meetings yet. See you Friday December 1st!
Installation Banquet Guest Speaker Announced!

DXpeditions are always exciting to hear about--for the ham and the non-ham alike. "They went where? Where is THAT? To do what? OMG!"

At our next Installation Banquet, Art Goddard W6XD with tell us about his travels to Ascension Island!

You may have heard of Ascension Island or even worked it on the air, but what does the place actually LOOK like? Definitely you wouldn't go there for the cuisine or nightlife, but there are other attractions. And the island is changing slowly with the creation of Green Mountain National Park and renewed emphasis on conservation and the planned formation of a marine sanctuary.

Art Goddard, W6XD/ZD8G, will be our tour guide on an expedition to Ascension Island. Tune in to this presentation to get a feel for a remote place that has a rich history from Volcanic Eruption to Charles Darwin to Strategic Outpost to Ham Radio DXing.
Installation Banquet -- Get Your Tickets!

This year's Installation Banquet will be a dress-up affair! A change-of-pace event from the usual ARALB ham get-togethers. Coat and tie requested of the men. And ladies...well gosh, they always dress up anyway and look better than the men, don't they?! Come support your club and support the new Board members. The Banquet is open to members as well as non-members--all who would enjoy a ham-night-out, in style!

Tickets will be sold again at the Friday night Club meeting, so bring cash or your checkbook and reserve a couple seats. See Ken or Carina for tickets. Non-club members contact Bob NC6Q for tickets 562-889-3070.

Banquet details:

- Date: **Saturday, January 20, 2018**
- Location: **The Petroleum Club in Long Beach**
- Time: 6:00 pm, socializing with no-host, cash bar and light, live musical accompaniment
- Dinner and Program: 7:00 - 9:00 pm
- Ticket Price: $45, in advance (none sold at the door)
- Sit-down, plated dinner (choice of Chicken Marsala or Creamy Coconut Milk Vegan Korma)
- Program: guest speaker Art Goddard W6XD "Ascension Island--South Atlantic Outpost," installation of new club officers and directors, select awards presentation, and some great door prizes!

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**New CW Traffic Net?**

If you've wanted to get active once a week in handling traffic using Morse code but just couldn't take the time from your evening hours, here's an opportunity for you. Our Section Traffic Manager, Kate Hutton K6HTN and I, Bob NC6Q, have been discussing the possibility of an *afternoon* Traffic Net on CW once a week to supplement all of the other traffic nets taking place in the Los Angeles Section.
If the recent Health and Welfare traffic activity out of Puerto Rico on the ham bands has captured your imagination, and if you have an afternoon free, and if you'd like to get involved and sharpen your CW skills too, check this out and see if it's for you.

For a no-obligation chat, call Bob NC6Q for more details. 562 889-3070.

Announcing: The ARRL International Grid Chase!

Remember W1AW portable operations--all year long?
Remember NPOTA operations--all year long?

A new and exciting operating event will kick off on January 1, 2018, at 0000 UTC (New Year's Eve in US time zones), when the ARRL International Grid Chase gets
under way. The year-long event hopes to build on the success of the highly successful 2016 National Parks on the Air (NPOTA).

The objective is to work stations on any band (except 60 meters) in as many different Maidenhead grid squares as possible, and then upload your log data to ARRL’s Logbook of The World (LoTW). Registration is free, and it costs nothing to use LoTW.

Many hams are familiar with grid squares from the VHF/UHF and satellite realms, and everyone lives in one. Check it out!

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**Be a W6RO Operator on the Queen Mary!**

W6RO - The Nate Brightman Wireless Room aboard the Queen Mary - is the world
famous club station of the Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach. We strive to staff the station every day. There are a number of vacant shifts that we would like to fill. We need experienced hams who know HF operation and can represent amateur radio to visiting tourists. Volunteers are asked to commit to at least one regularly calendared four-hour shift each month. Interested persons are invited to contact station manager David Akins, N6HHR, at n6hhr@arrl.net.