



Southwestern REACTer



SEPTEMBER 2017



The USS Iowa (BB-61) is now a museum at the Port of Los Angeles. There is an amateur radio station aboard the ship, using the call NI6BB. A tour of the ship, including a visit to the radio room (not on the normal tour) and a catered dinner was one of the events at HAMCON 2017 in Torrance, CA September 15-17. HAMCON was also the 2017 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention. For a full report on the convention see Page 3.

John Wright, SWR 042



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SWR's mission is to prepare for communications during emergencies and disasters. This preparation is accomplished through working community events such as: The Lakeside Western Days, and North Park Toyland parades, the Midnight Madness Bicycle Ride and Fiesta Island Time Trials, the Silver Strand Half-Marathon, the San Diego International Triathlon and the Descanso Endurance Horse Ride

The Southwestern REACT General Meeting is held the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at:
2650 Melbourne Drive
San Diego, CA

Reactive Team Net

The Team net is held on the first and fourth Thursdays of the month at 8:00 PM on the 449.440 Community based Repeater with a negative offset and a PL tone of 107.2 (Mt. Otay)

MEMORIES OF THE PAST THAT LEAD TO TODAY

By Roger McCullough, SWR 098, President

And The Days to Follow

**Summary: Training-Need-
Past-Upcoming-Special-Event
Elements-mystery item-etc...**
...or read the article.

While preparing for this month's meeting and this message, the TV in my office played a commercial that caught my ear. It was for the upcoming Bayfair, or as we called it, Thunderboat Races. To those of you that don't go back that far with the Team, we rallied upwards to 60+ members and volunteers to cover three venues for three or more days. It was a learning experience we may never match. Our history for the event goes back over 35 years. Over those years, at this event, we improved our knowledge and methods in working with the public, emergency response, leadership and command. Lessons well learned but requiring refreshment and updating.

We work under the assumption that each event is a training opportunity; the chance to put into action the basics of our past training and experience. At the next General Meeting Mike Bailey will share his knowledge of emergency medicine to control hemorrhages after an accident. Mike will explain the "why" and "how-to" of bleeding control. You could save a life or regret your lack of ability to respond.

In any event, either emergency or non-emergency, several key factors come into play, such as knowledge, experience, training, practice, command, and control. The longer you have been with us, the stronger your background in employing the fullness of these factors. To those that have been on the team through many different past events, this is old news for you,

but others without the experience, see this as guide to your goal to be a pro. And you old timers of this stuff, lead on by example and support at every opportunity.

Now, about that part about training. We have adjusted the general meetings to allow a larger training portion and a shorter administrative period. Also the meetings have been held to about a half hour shorter. We don't feel we should put requirements of training on members. We try to make it interesting and useful. If you have anything to offer, let me know. We will work something out and thank you for your effort. Everybody has the responsibility of team improvement. If you read the article you discovered there is no mystery item, so read on.

**Summary: Now stuff-Unabashed
and unashamed promotion.**

Now Item #1. We have a very special training upcoming this Thursday at the general meeting (mentioned above). Mike Bailey brings to us a quality chunk of his medical background to prepare you for a real medical emergency that could face you anytime. We put out the notice last month, so it must be on your calendar.

Now Item #2. This Saturday and Sunday we have the Iron Horse Ride near Anza. We currently have less than the minimum needed workers. Please don't be a hold-out. Call me for one or both days of the event.

"Nuf said..."

LET'S GIT 'ER DONE!!! ♦

pres@southwesternreact.org

American Red Cross Communication Team Report

By June McCollough, SWR 054

The ARCCT meeting was held on Sept. 9, 2017. Bob Birch will be the new Activity Lead as of October 1st. Red Cross has been busy with the Hurricanes on the east coast; they had a training class for 60 new volunteers, 40 of which were deployed to Texas.

ARCCT has a net every Tuesday night at 2000 hours (8:00 PM) on the ACS Frequency: 147.195; all amateur radio operators are welcome to check-in.

There will be a Shelter HOT (Hands on Training) on September 30th in Poway. Communication team may be asked to participate.

Disaster Cycle Services has requested our support for the Sound The Alarm events scheduled for September 23rd and October 7th. The purpose of the project is to save lives by installing smoke detectors in residences that currently don't have them. It's part of a nationwide campaign to install 100,000 smoke detectors in

100 cities. Locally, the chapter has selected the Logan Heights neighborhood for the project. We've been requested to supply four (4) communicators each day to provide communications between the staging area (located at the Memorial Preparatory School for Scholars and Athletes) and three (3) mobile Logistics units supporting the volunteers canvassing (9/23) or installing smoke detectors (10/7). The events are scheduled from 0900 to 1500 each day; volunteers will be fed. Radio Mobile modeling indicated VHF HTs will be adequate; volunteers can use their own equipment (assuming it's programmed using the RCCT fleet map) or one of the team's HT go kits. This is a very good opportunity to practice your "shadowing" skills.

The next meeting will be Oct. 7, 2017 at 9:00 AM at 3950 Calle Fortunada, San Diego CA 92123. These are open meeting for anyone unless they are discussing confidential ARC business. ♦

Auxiliary Communications Services (ACS)

By June McCollough, SWR 054

The ACS meeting was held on Sept. 11, 2017 at the Office of Emergency Services.

There was training on how the voted radio system works and things we need to know to operate the consult and how to check in from other repeater sites.

ACS has a net every Monday except First Monday or County Holidays at 1930 hours. It starts on frequency 147.195 and then moves to 223.800, 52.600 and 448.78 (not necessarily in that order). If you would like to check it out, please feel free to check-in as visitor when requested at the end of the formal part of the Net.

ACS upcoming event(s) and training:

Miramar Air Show Sept. 22-24, 2017 – two or three members daily to work in RACES1.

Earthquake & Tsunami Preparedness Classroom Training -- Sept 30, 2017 (0900-1300)

The Great California Shakeout/Message Handling Exercise Oct. 19, 2017 1019 hours.

The next meeting will be on Oct. 2, 2017 at 1830 hours (6:30 PM). All are welcome. ♦

HAMCON 2017

Article and Photos By John Wright, SWR 042

ARRL Southwestern Division Convention

The 2017 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention took place September 15-17, 2017 at HAMCON 2017. The event was held at the Torrance Marriott Redondo Beach Hotel in Torrance, CA.

I attended the event in my capacity as Section Public Information Coordinator for San Diego. Elected officials present at the convention were Division Director Dick Norton, N6AA; Vice Director Ned Stearns, AA7A;

San Diego Section manager Dave Kaltenborn, N8KBC; Arizona Section manager Rick Paquette, W7RAP; Santa Barbara Section Manager Jim Fortney, K6IYK and Los Angeles Section manager Diane Feinberg, AI6DF, who was also the convention chairperson.

Numerous appointed ARRL officials were present as well.

The first event of the convention took place on Friday. It featured a tour of the battleship Iowa, now a museum

at the Port of Los Angeles. Convention attendees were allowed to do the self-guided walking tour and then were escorted, in small groups, to the ship's radio room. The radio room is not a part of the normal public tour. In the radio room, attendees were allowed to operate the ship's amateur radio station, using the call NI6BB.

At the end of the tours, a catered dinner was provided in the ship's officer's wardroom.

If one has never toured an Iowa Class battleship, it is heartily recommended. These ships are very unique.

HAMCON also featured two days of technical talks, covering topics from soldering to ham radio's role during the Vietnam War.

ARRL Assistant Lab Manager Bob Allison, WB1GCM conducted HT testing for compliance with § 97.307(e) of the amateur radio regulations regarding suppression of spurious emissions. A large number of the inexpensive Chinese-manufactured HTs were non-compliant with the FCC regulation.

There were three banquet meals available (at an extra cost) during the convention. Each had its own speaker with some very interesting topics. Saturday's luncheon

speaker was Ned Stearns, AA7A, speaking on a recent expedition to the sub-Antarctic South Georgia/South sandwich Islands. Sunday's breakfast event featured Bob Allison, WB1GCM, speaking on the future of ham radio equipment.

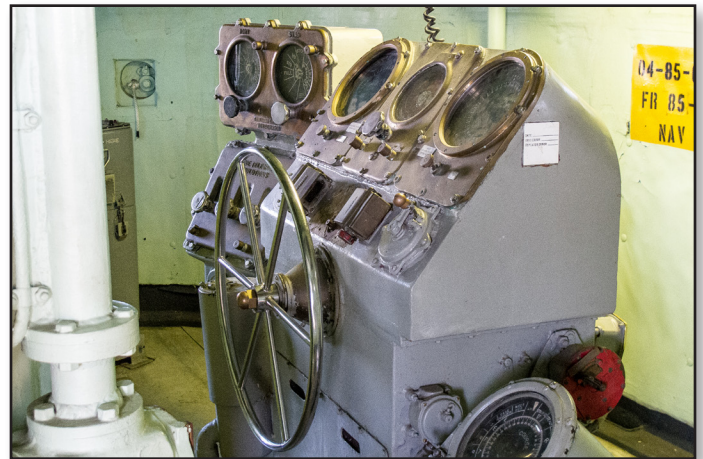
Perhaps the most fascinating talk came from Dr. Tamitha Skov at the Saturday evening banquet. Dr. Skov holds degrees in physics, physical chemistry, geophysics and space plasma physics. She is a Research Scientist at Aerospace Corporation in El Segundo and is a recognized authority on space weather. Her presentation gave an insight on how the sun really effects radio wave propagation. Dr. Skov has a large internet presence and can be found by searching for "Space Weather Woman" on the web.

For those with unlimited funds, there was a well-stocked vendor show featuring companies such as Yaesu, Flex Radio, Alinco, Ham Radio Outlet, Comet Antennas, and many others. Unfortunately, the Sunday morning swap meet had only four sellers.

It was an enjoyable convention at a nice hotel with excellent facilities and services. ♦



One of the ham radio positions in the Iowa's radio room.



The Iowa's steering station. This station is inside a conning tower with 17 inches of steel armor.



The interior of the Iowa's radio room.



Exterior view of a 5 inch 38 caliber dual gun mount on the Iowa.