

Cathay February 2020

www.cathayradio.org

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Mission: The Cathay Amateur Radio Club is basically an active social club of Ham Radio Operators and their spouses. We support local community requests for HAM emergency communications. Several of us are trained in CPR/ First Aid and are involved with community disaster preparedness.

Monday Night Net Time: 9 PM Local Time/PST, Repeater: WB6TCS - RX 147.210, TX 147.810, Offset +0.6 MHz, CTCSS/Tone PL100 Hz

Please note: Repeater: N6MNV UHF 442.700 Mhz, Offset +5MHz, CTCSS/Tone PL 173.8 Hz in South San Francisco is cross linked every Monday Night Net at 9 p.m. to WB6TCS 2-meter repeater.

The CARC Monday night net is the best way to find out the latest club news. All check-ins are welcome.

Message from the President: George Chong, W6BUR

Hello CARC Members and Friends;

Wish you all had a very 2020 Happy Chinese New Year, Gung Hay Fat Choy!

Many thanks to Mr. Denis L. Moore – WB6TCS for the use of his repeater for our CARC Monday Night Net.

For those that missed the CARC January 2020 newsletter a recap is provided:



Chinese New Year for 2020 is on Saturday January 25, 2020, the Year of the Rat (metal element).

According to the Chinese calendar, folks born in the year of Rat are in 1924, 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984, 1996, 2008, and 2020

Folks born in the year of the Rat are optimistic, energetic, clever and adapt quickly to new environments. They are creative and are great at taking advantage of opportunities. They are sensitive to other's emotions but are stubborn with their own opinion. Their personality is kind but on occasion their words may seem impolite and rude.

On the financial side, they like saving and can be stingy. They tend to be reliable and live a stable life. They may hold power and are able to turn unlucky events into fortune. They also pay attention to fine detail. They are a good fit for technical work, such as engineering and architecture.

The best mates for born in the year of the Rat, Ox, Dragon, and Monkey.

NEW Announcement - Save The Date: 11:00 am – 1:00 pm Saturday March 7, 2020- CARC Annual Chinese New Year Luncheon

The CARC will host the CARC Annual Chinese New Year Luncheon at 11:00 am – 1:00 pm Saturday March 7, 2020 at the newly opened: "The One" restaurant (formerly KOMÉ Seafood) is located at 1901 Junipero Serra Blvd., #A, Daly City, CA 94014.

Additional details are at the bottom of this newsletter.

Of Special Note Introduction

I am very pleased to announce that our esteemed CARC member, **Ron Quan - KI6AZB** has just released this 3rd electronics book: **Troubleshooting Electronic Circuits: A Guide to Learning Analog Electronics**, now available on Amazon

(https://www.amazon.com/Troubleshooting-Electronic-Circuits-Learning-Electronics/dp/1260143562/ref=sr_1_1?keywords=ronald+quan&qid=1578988409&sr=8-1).

Ron Quan is a long time respected CARC member and has over 30 plus years in the electronics industry and holds numerous electronic patents. He is currently a lecturer at the Electrical Engineering Department at Stanford University, mentors Stanford PhD students, and an author of very well received electronics books that are used at the University level.

We are fortunate to have an exclusive CARC Q&A with Ron Quan that provides additional insight into his latest book. See the Q&A write up toward the latter part of this newsletter.

Additional Thoughts

I wish to thank our CARC members that set aside their valuable time to participate in our Monday night's nets.

Chat sub s'em to all you CARC members! - George W6BUR.

Public Service Announcements

HAM CRAM / HAM Licensing

For upcoming HAM Licensing locations please refer to:

<http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>

Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS)

The Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) was organized by the San Francisco Office of Emergency Services (OES) following the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake to support the communications needs of the City and County of San Francisco when responding to emergencies and special events.

The Auxiliary Communications Service holds General Meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at the San Francisco Emergency Operations Center, 1011 Turk Street (between Gough Street and Laguna Street), from 1900 hours to 2100 hours local time. All interested persons are welcome to attend.

The ACS Net begins at 1930 hours (7:30 p.m.) local time each Thursday evening, on the WA6GG repeater at 442.050 MHz, positive offset, tone 127.3 Hz. The purpose of this net is to practice Net Control skills, practice checking in with deployment status in a formal net, and to share information regarding upcoming ACS events. Guests are welcome to check in. ACS Members should perform Net Control duty on a regular basis. On the second Thursday of each month, the net will be conducted on the output frequency of the WA6GG repeater, 442.050 MHz no offset, tone 127.3 Hz, simplex.

For more information, please attend an ACS meeting or check in on a net, or call 415-558-2717.

Upcoming meetings: Tuesday 7pm, February 18, 2020
Tuesday 7pm, March 17, 2020
Tuesday 7pm, April 21, 2020

Gilbert Gin (KJ6HKD)

Free Disaster Preparedness Classes In Oakland:
<http://www.oaklandnet.com/fire/core/index2.html>

CORE is a free training program for individuals, neighborhood groups and community-based organizations in Oakland. The underlying premise is that a major disaster will overwhelm first responders, leaving many citizens on their own for the first 72 hours or longer after the emergency.

If you have questions about the recertification process, you may contact the CORE Coordinator at 510-238-6351 or core@oaklandnet.com.

Free Disaster Preparedness Classes In San Francisco – NERT Taught by San Francisco Fire Department (SFFD).

<http://sf-fire.org/calendar-special-events>

Upcoming events

February 2020

6 Psychological First Aid for volunteer responders in NERT and Medical Reserve Corps

8 2MCM Ham Radio practice TBD

15 NERT Training Day - Third Saturday

Featured Trainings:

Coordinators Corner - for Neighborhood Coordinators and those interested - TBD

CPR/First Aid for NERT responders only (\$30)

22 NERT Recertification Day - NERT volunteers expired less than 3 months

March 2020

14 2MCM Ham Radio practice TBD

21 NERT Training Day - Third Saturday

Featured Trainings:

Coordinators Corner - for Neighborhood Coordinators and those interested - TBD

April 2020

- 11 2MCM Ham Radio practice TBD
- 18 NERT Citywide Drill, NERT graduates and victims needed

May 2020

- 9 2MCM Ham Radio practice TBD
- 16 NERT Training Day - Third Saturday
Featured Trainings:
Coordinators Corner - for Neighborhood Coordinators and those interested – TBD

June 2020

- 13 2MCM Ham Radio practice TBD
- 20 NERT Training Day - Third Saturday
Featured Trainings:
Coordinators Corner - for Neighborhood Coordinators and those interested TBD

***SFFD DOT** is the Fire Department Division of Training. All participants walking, biking or driving **enter through the driveway gate on 19th St.** between Folsom and Shotwell. Parking is allowed along the back toward the cinderblock wall.

Visit www.sfgov.org/sffdnert to learn more about the training, other locations, and register on line. Upcoming Special NERT Events.

San Francisco Police Department: Auxiliary Law Enforcement Response Team (ALERT)

The Auxiliary Law Enforcement Response Team (ALERT) is a citizen disaster preparedness program designed. The ALERT program is for volunteers 16 years of age or older, who live, work, or attend high school in San Francisco.

Graduates of the San Francisco Police Activities League (P.A.L) Law Enforcement Cadet Academy are also eligible to join.

ALERT volunteers will first complete the Fire Department's Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) (www.sfgov.org/sfnert) training and then graduate into an 8 hour Police Department course specifically designed for ALERT team members.

ALERT members will work closely with full-time and/or Reserve Police Officers in the event they are deployed after a disaster. The Basic ALERT volunteer will have no law enforcement powers other than those available to all citizens.

SFPD ALERT Training (New Members)

The next SFPD ALERT training class has been scheduled for Saturday February 01, 2020 from 8 AM – 5 PM. The class will be held at the San Francisco Police Academy, in the parking lot bungalow, from 8am-5pm (one hour lunch break) on Saturday.

** Class date indicated are only for new members who have not completed either SFPD NERT training or the SFPD Community Police Academy.

IMPORTANT- All participants must complete the background interview process in order to be eligible to attend the ALERT training class.

Eligible ALERT participants may register for a training class by contacting the ALERT Program Coordinator, Mark Hernandez, at sfpdalert@sfgov.org, or by telephone at 415-401-4615.

SFPD ALERT Practice/Training Drill

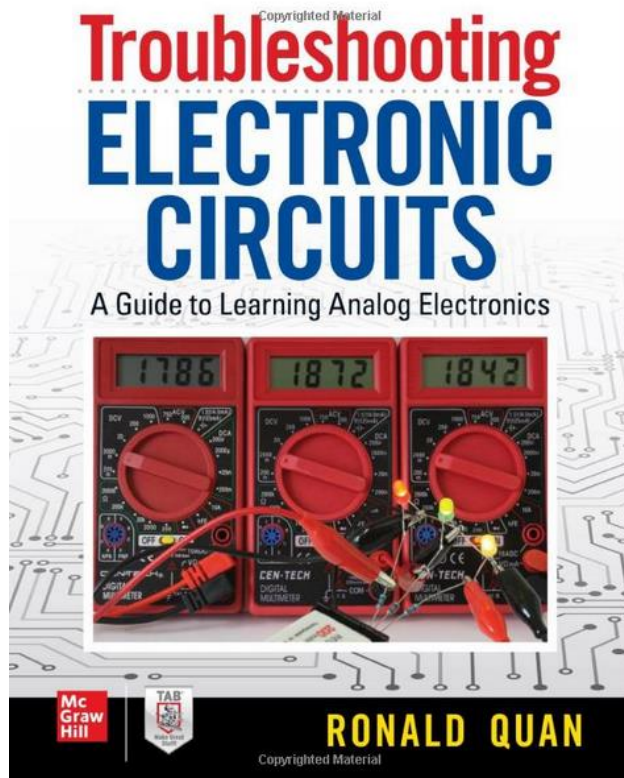
All active/trained ALERT members are asked to join us for our next training drill, scheduled for on Saturday February 8, 2020 from 9 AM – 1pm. Details will be emailed to active ALERT members, prior to the date of the exercise. Participation is not required, but strongly encouraged.

For more information on the San Francisco Police Department ALERT Program, email us at sfpdalert@sfgov.org, or call Sergeant Mark Hernandez (SFPD, Ret.), SFPD ALERT Program Coordinator, at (415) 401-4615.

For additional information on the web please refer to:

<https://sfgov.org/policecommission/alert>

CARC Exclusive - Question and Answers with CARC Member Ron Quan - KI6AZB, Author of Book: Troubleshooting Electronic Circuits.



Troubleshooting Electronic Circuits: A Guide to Learning Analog Electronics 1st Edition

by [Ronald Quan](#) (Author)

- **Paperback:** 464 pages
- **Publisher:** McGraw-Hill Education TAB; 1 edition (January 23, 2020)
- **Language:** English
- **ISBN-10:** 1260143562
- **ISBN-13:** 978-1260143560
- **Product Dimensions:** 7.2x1.1x9.1 in
- **Release Date:** January 2020
- **Shipping Weight:** 1.6 pounds ([View shipping rates and policies](#))

(https://www.amazon.com/Troubleshooting-Electronic-Circuits-Learning-Electronics/dp/1260143562/ref=sr_1_1?keywords=ronald+quan&qid=1578988409&sr=8-1).

Many thanks to Ron Quan who took time from his very busy schedule to sit down and do a rather lengthy question and answer session with CARC Editor (Rodney Yee – KJ6ZDI) that follows:

Question 1: *For whom is the audience is this book intended?*

Answer 1: *The book is intended for mainly advanced hobbyist. People who have already built a lot of projects, but would like a better understanding of how some circuits work, how to debug them, and how to improve them. But technicians, students, and engineers will find it useful. To assist the reader in understanding the trouble shooting concepts, over 100 photo/illustrations were provided in the book.*

Question 2: *Why one should buy Ron's latest book?*

Answer 2: *The book covers the common mistakes people make when building circuits such as putting in the wrong part, connecting the part incorrectly, or not paying attention to the limitations of parts (e.g., using a 5-volt part and connecting 9 volts across it that results in burning out of the part).*

Question 3 - What level of skill is required to build the kits?

Answer 3: *To build the kits does not take that much skill, just knowing how to connect wires or how to solder components on a printed circuit board. The fun comes in when if the original design is not reliable or does not live up to expectations. There are many examples in the book taken from electronic kits that are later improved design-wise. It also helps if the reader already knows how to read basic schematics.*

Question 4: How should the information in the book be best utilized?

Answer 4: *If you are a hobbyist, student, engineer, or educator, this book will give insights not found on other books. It is based on my experiences growing up in SF fixing radios and stereos back then, along with my time at KALX 90.7 FM (UC Berkeley) and KNEW AM 910 radio, a TV-Radio-HiFi repair shop I worked in the East Bay and another in SF, my experiences at Ampex and Sony (designing broadcast video and audio equipment), and finally the people on campus (students, fellow engineers, professors, etc.).*

Question 5: What can one expect after reading your book?

Answer 5: *One will learn how some circuit work, what to look out for in terms quickly troubleshooting, and how to organize a way to get circuits to operate as expected and how to improve it. So, the reader will get a small insight on how to properly design electronic circuits.*

Question 6: What is different from your book from the other electronic books out there?

Answer 6: *This book takes real life "bad" circuits published on the Web or in magazines and books and shows how to redo or modify them for much better performance.*

Question 7: What can members of the CARC Ham community can find useful?

Answer 7: *Those who build electronic projects on a regular basis will benefit from this book.*

Question 8: Break down of the various project kits and cost?

Answer 8: *This book does not concentrate on projects per se. However, the projects examined in this book typically cost less than \$10. They range from LED circuits, light transceiver circuits, audio circuits, sensing circuits, and some RF circuits related to Ham Radio such as crystal oscillators and circuits related to SDR (software defined radio).*

Question 9: How did you ensure accuracy of your information in your latest book?

Answer 9: *To ensure accuracy of my latest book as in my previous books, I actually custom designed, built and tested all projects in presented in the book to make sure they work in the real world! As were all formulas were carefully crafted and verified for completeness and accuracy!*

Question 10: For your latest book, how long did it take you to write this book?

Answer 10: *My latest book was written in two years between teaching classes at Stanford University and mentoring graduate students. The first 6 or 7 chapters were done in 2017 and the rest done by the middle of 2019. In all there are 448 pages (15 chapters).*

Many thanks for Ron Quan for sharing his thoughts and behind the scenes on his latest electronic book.

End of Q&A With Ron Quan

2020 CARC Annual Chinese New Year Luncheon



As for those of you that were able to attend the CARC luncheon in the past years, we enjoyed seeing each other and “yakking” it up. As word spread about our successful CARC luncheon get together, those who did not make it told us “We will be there for the next one”. This year it will also be a great opportunity to meet up with our newest club members and to renew our old friendships.

The time and date: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm Saturday March 7, 2020 (Note it is the first Saturday in March 2020).

Location: The One Japanese Seafood (formerly Kome Restaurant)
1901 Junipero Serra Blvd.,#A
Daly City, CA 94104
Tel Phone (415) 347-7095

Parking: There is free parking in the adjacent five story garage structure.

Cost: Special CARC Adult cost will be \$24.74 per adult.

Seniors over age 60 pay \$23.50

Children Pricing:

Age under 3: Free

Age 3-5: \$11.13

Age 6-7: \$13.60

Age 8-10: \$16.08

These Saturday prices includes: tax (9.25%), 15% tip, and reserved seating. As you know the cost of everything seems to goes up in price. So, this year's "The One" restaurant prices compared to the old KOMÉ Restaurant has raised the prices slightly from the prior year and charges for all beverages except water.

Beverage prices other than water, not included with the luncheon price:

Soda\$2.79 – free refill

Hot tea\$1.86 – free refill

Juice.....\$3.41

Sake and Beer : TBD

Please note that any beverage other than water not included with the price of the luncheon. If you order beverages they are not covered, you are responsible for paying the additional charges. At the end of the luncheon, using the honor system, we will collect any beverages monies previously not collected.

At this time there is no official website for "The One" restaurant in Daly City, CA.

The luncheon money will be collected at the start of the luncheon, the beverage money will be collected at the end of luncheon and it is on a honor basis so please have exact change ready!

Upon receipt of payment at the restaurant you will be required to put on the CARC name tags that the CARC will provide. Your name tag must be visible.

The name tags are need to identify who has paid and for head count to satisfy the restaurant settlement of payment.

Please email CARC Editor: Rodney Yee (rodyee2000@yahoo.com) by Saturday February 29, 2020 if you are planning to attend the luncheon and names of your guest and senior status. If you don't wish to indicate senior status, then you can pay the additional dollar.

I need your name with call sign and the names of your guests (with call sign if available) to create the necessary names tags that you will be required to wear during the luncheon. The name tags will also help identify you for the pictures that we put into our newsletter.

Your cooperation is also crucial to assisting us with the money collection

Driving Directions:

If you are coming from Hwy 280 Northbound,

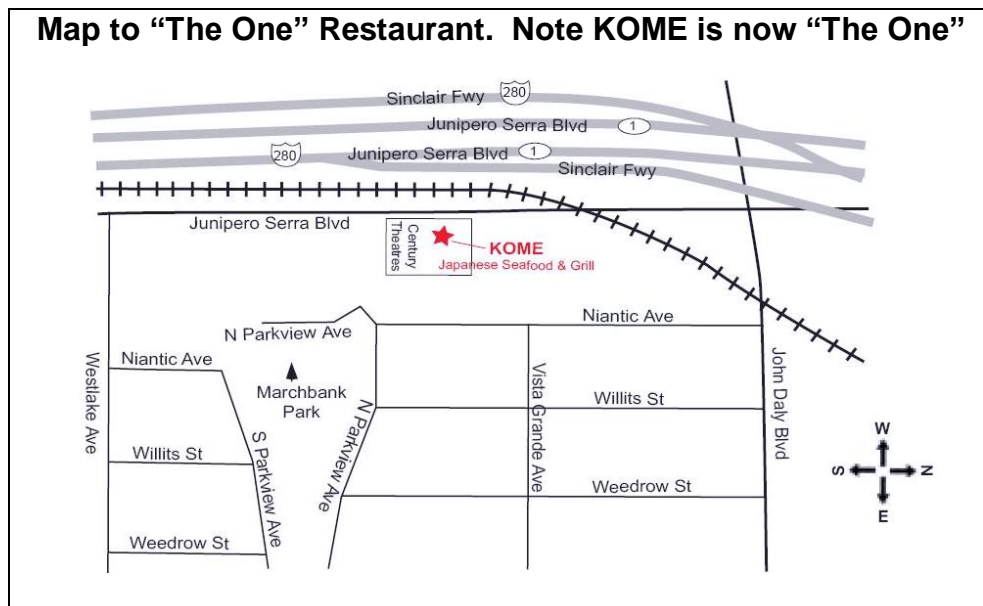
Then take the John Daly Blvd/Junipero Serra Blvd exit and continue north on Junipero Serra Blvd and side drive past the Century Theater ticket office.

After a series of small restaurants on the right hand side there is a 5 story parking garage, the entrance will be about 50 feet past “The One” restaurant entrance doors.

If you are coming from Hwy 280 Southbound,

Then take the John Daly Blvd/Junipero Serra Blvd exit. After crossing the traffic signal light intersection, in about 500 feet, turn left into the 5 story parking garage structure entrance.

Please refer to the “The One” restaurant location map that follows below:

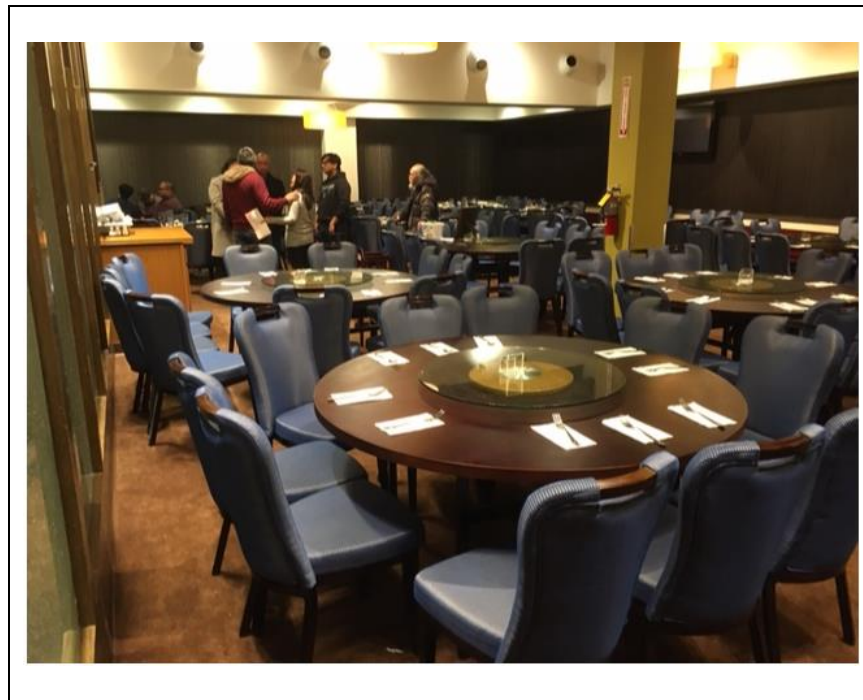


We have reserved one half of the back-area room at the “The One” restaurant for use of the Cathay Amateur Radio Club. **At the restaurant door please identify yourself as being with the CARC and a hostess will escort you to the back room. Please check in with both Vince Chinn aka Mingie W6EE and Hetty WB6SHU so they can check your name off the attendee list and collect the money to pay the restaurant bill.** Hetty WB6SHU will make sure those senior citizens will get their dollar discount. Be aware that the early bird gets the worm, no feeding after 1 PM; I hope we won't have to be booted out, hah-hah!

“The One” restaurant is an all you can eat Asian buffet style dining offering a large choice of foods. It is located at the site of the old KOMÉ restaurant where we held our previous Cathay Radio Club Chinese New Year Luncheons and it was a big hit with all the attendees. There is free parking at the adjacent 5 story parking structure. The Daly City Bart train stop is 2 blocks away.

Please arrive early; **the luncheon time (11:00 am-1pm) will quickly slip away while you are getting caught up with the latest news among our fellow club members, plus you don't want to miss the raffling of fabulous prizes.** The back room is fairly large is able to accommodate 120 guests. Note we will be only allowed half of the back room that will be assigned (left or right side) to us by the manager on the day of the luncheon. I doubt that our CARC members and friends would completely fill it, so feel free to invite and sign up additional guests.

The restaurant dining tables in the back area room used to have an outdoor picnic style long tables with individual chairs for seating..... this has changed as it now has round tables as shown in the picture below:



The layout of the food counters in the “The One” restaurant remain very similar to the old Kome restaurant, with buffet style dining.

One other hint: If you are a great eater and love food, try not to choose any tables where the opposite end is against a wall. I found that it was really hard to maneuver quickly for more goodies!

Now the part of the newsletter you all have been waiting for: The Raffle Prizes. At this time Ed Fong - *WB6/QN* is still in the process of gathering up several top-notch raffle prizes that will be listed in next month’s newsletter. Based upon Ed’s choices of past raffle prizes, I can assure you that you will not be disappointed. Of course, you need to attend and be present to scoop up your winning raffle prizes!

Your Hosts:

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