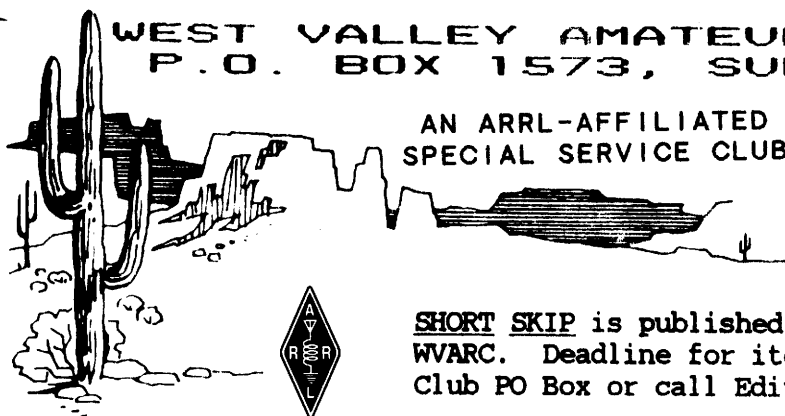


# SHORT SKIP



SHORT SKIP is published monthly (every 2 months in summer) by WVARC. Deadline for items is 2 weeks before meeting. Mail to Club PO Box or call Editor Ray Sumner NW7R (972-8733).

## WVARC OFFICERS -- 1994

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PPRES FRANK SMITH	AHOW	GLD	876-2718

## NOVEMBER 7th PROGRAM: PACKET BBS

West Valley Amateur Radio Club meets the FIRST MONDAY of each month at St Clement Social Hall, 15800 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City. Doors open at 6:30 PM and meeting starts at 7:15 with brief business session. Dan Meredith N7MRP will present a program on Packet Radio services, especially Bulletin Boards. The Nominating Committee will present its suggested slate of officers for 1995. Election will take place at the December "Holiday" meeting, which will have a non-ham program and refreshments; the family is invited.

Members are still discussing the October program on Propagation presented by Chris Saunders KF7YP. We have a group who prefer checking the charts and another who monitor the beacons, but the largest group appear to be those who turn on the rig and, if they hear nothing, turn it off.

## A TIP OF THE HAT TO.....

DICK SCHAER WA7BXX, who has just been accredited by our local ARRL Awards Manager, Ray Van Skiver W7LQM, for having Worked All States on 5 bands! Ray can also check the QSL cards of League members for VUCC (the VHF/UHF Century Club Award) for working 100 or more grid square locators per band. For rules on how to chase these and other awards (DX Century Club, Worked All Continents, Rag Chewers Club), write Awards Desk, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

## LOU GRUBB TO CHAIR HAM MUSEUM PROJECT

Footings have been poured for the Arizona Science Center to be located at 600 E Washington St. A state-of-the-art Amateur Radio Station will be one of the working exhibits at the Center. An organizational meeting for this project was held at DeVry Institute on Saturday October 15, with representatives of most Valley ham clubs in attendance. Lou Grubb WA7HZO, who was named honorary chairman of the effort, pointed out the need for such an exhibit as a showcase for promoting an awareness of all of the public services that Amateur Radio provides as well as encouraging people to become involved in the hobby.

Ralph Barr WODNO, moderator of the meeting, explained the organizational structure of the project. Attendees joined one or more of four clusters and selected a chairman and secretary for each:

MANAGEMENT: Gary Jarrette WA9TJV  
Al Lee W6KQI

FUNDING: Rick Checketts KA0KZB  
Christine Kesauer N7PVL

TECHNICAL: Dave Kelley AA7TQ  
Steve Thompson KJ7DN

COMMUNICATIONS: Dee Hester N6BQR  
Ray Sumner NW7R

Each cluster will have a member on the Management team, which will oversee all clusters.

Before adjourning, the group acknowledged with thanks the efforts of Dave Pollack KF7WW in promoting the concept of an Amateur Radio station at the Science Center.

Seven members of the WVARC were present.

### GEORGE HANDS IS CLUB HAM-OF-THE-YEAR

At the Ladies Night Out BBQ on Oct 15th, George Hands KE7DH was named the West Valley ARC Ham-of-the-Year. As Frank Smith AH0W, the 1993 recipient, said in presenting the plaque: it has been long overdue. George was a prime mover in the expansion of the club to include the West Valley and served as first president under the new format in 1987 and 1988. He has been our ARCA representative for a number of years, and has helped to promote interest in newer facets of ham radio such as ATV and Packet. He serves on the RFI/TVI committee. One of his important contributions has been in presenting excellent technical programs on short notice at our meetings.

### RADIO CLASSES

The No-Code Technician Class sponsored by the West Valley ARC began on Friday Oct 14th with a turnout of 20 enthusiastic candidates. George Thompson AA7LA has conducted the class for several years. Instructions are held at Sun City Posse HQ on Sunland Drive from 7 to 9 PM every Friday thru Dec 2nd. To enroll, call George 977-9855.

Only one or two hams expressed an interest in each of our Upgrade sessions. Bob Koons WE7T has started Extra Class instructions on Tuesday nights with only two students. No classes for General or Advanced at this time.

On Friday Dec 2nd a VE license exam will be held for prospective No-Code Techs at Posse HQ. Testing for ALL elements through Extra Class will be available to those who pre-register. Call Ray Sumner NW7R at 972-8733 and tell him which exams you wish to take.

LICENSE EXAMS at DeVRY on NOV 5TH  
Tests for all classes of Amateur Radio licenses will be held at DeVry Institute, 2149 W Dunlap Ave, on SATURDAY NOV 5th and DECEMBER 3rd. Registration is between 8:30 and 10 AM. Bring photo ID, original and copy of appropriate license and/or CSCE, and filled-out FCC Form 610 (available at test site). A fee of \$5.75 is charged for all tests at one sitting; a second \$5.75 is charged for a repeat test (if you miss the first by only one or two questions).

Tri-City ARC is testing on Nov 5 and Dec 17 at Tempe Public Library (Rural Rd and Southern Ave); registration at 9:30 AM.

### WEST VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The West Valley ARC is a general purpose radio club, open to anyone with an interest in Amateur Radio. Dues are \$10 per year and include all family hams at same mailing address. Join now and be paid thru Dec 1995.

WVARC is an ARRL Special Service Club. We receive \$2 for each ARRL membership renewal and \$5 for each new ARRL member. Jack Dow KE7ZQ is our League rep in this area. Send your renewal form plus checks for \$2 (WVARC) and \$2 less than renewal amount (ARRL) to Jack at 18810 W Zinnia Ct, Sun City West 85375.

To join ARRL send enrollment form plus checks for \$5 (WVARC) and \$5 less than enrollment amount (ARRL) to Jack. For more info, call him at 584-5284. The club appreciates your support.

Members meet for lunch EVERY THURSDAY at Denny's Restaurant in Surprise, on Bell Rd one block W of El Mirage Rd at 11 AM, and for breakfast on the SECOND SATURDAY at 8 AM. Spouses welcome.

HAMFEST/COMPUTER SWAPMART - CRAFT SALE  
Sponsor/Trevor Browne High School Band  
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 5th 6 AM - 4 PM

\$10 per Space - \$1 donation per person goes toward door prizes  
Place: Trevor Browne HS Music Assn  
7402 W Catalina Dr  
1/2 block N of Thomas Rd

We understand that the Trevor Browne band will represent Arizona in the V-E Day 50th Anniversary Parade in Washington DC next April. The Swapmart is one of the band's projects to finance the trip. Let's give them our support!  
For more info: Donna Olson 846-7624.

### ATTENDANCE DOWN AT LADIES NIGHT BBQ

The food was good and plentiful, the entertainment enjoyable, and the company very pleasant --- but attendance at our Ladies Night Out was poor. Less than 70 people participated in an event which was supposed to express an appreciation of our spouses' tolerance toward our hobby. Members had shown in a survey that they preferred the BBQ by a 3 to 1 margin over a country club banquet at twice the price. Next year's executive board will have to determine how to create more interest in Ladies Night if it is to continue as a club function.

DXers and contesters everywhere are enthusiastically looking forward to the upcoming season, especially the CQWW/SSB contest (Oct 29-30). This is always a great way for newer DXers to get a good start on their DXCC and to add numbers to their totals.

Some of the more notable DX expected to participate in the contest are Comoros D68 by JA1ELY, Ghana 9G5, Guyana 8R1K by OH6DO, Ceuta and Melilla EA9OB, Luxembourg LX1NO, Aruba A40W by W2GD, Albania ZA1A by ZA1AJ, Ahvenanmaa/Aland OH0MM, Namibia V59T by NOAFW, Uganda 5X1HR, Curacao PJ9U by OH1VR, Martinique TO5MM by N3ADL, Guernsey GU by various French, Burundi 4U4U by F6EXV, Galapagos HC8A by N6KT and others, Ukraine UU5J by the Ukrainian Club, and truly many more. Almost all the contest DX-peditioners will be on the air before and after the contest so there will be a chance to work most of these stations especially on other modes.

Add to this list a DXpedition to Socorro Island (NA-30) of the Revillagigedos archipelago. Operators include Victor Keller XE1VIC of Mexico City, Russians Andy Chesnokov UA3AB and Igor "Harry" Booklan RA3AUU, Ed "the Red" Kritsky NT2X/RV7AA from Brooklyn, and your DX Editor AHOW. We will be signing XF4M (XF4M/mm en-route). Our journey will be by ship from the Sea of Cortez and will take about 48 hours each way. This DX-pedition takes with it both a "first" and a "last". It is the last group the Mexican government is going to

permit foreign participation on, and the first ever to conduct a contest effort from Revillagigedos. We will be looking especially for WVARC stations before and during the contest. We will also work RTTY and RS-12. Much of our concentration will be on 30m CW as well as Europe where XF4 is very badly needed. QSL manager will be stateside.

Other good DX expected includes Anquilla VP2EDK, Ascension Island ZD8K, Cambodia XU7VK (especially active on 80m CW around 1300Z), Cameroon TJ1JR, Cocos Island TI9JJP, Laos XW8KPL, Madagascar 5R8HP (especially on 15m), Monaco 3A/IK4WVG, Reunion Island FR/JA1OEM, Saudi Arabia 7Z500, Somalia T5AR, Svalbard JW5NM, Tuvalu T20XC, Western Kiribati T30XC, Zaire 9Q5AGD, Niue ZK2XN, and many more.

Remember also that there are 2 large teams from the Central AZ DX Assn going out to Ghana for both the SSB and CW CQWW contests. They will obviously be looking for AZ stations so stay tuned. It's a good idea to monitor CADXA's 147.320 repeater (K5VT) since it gives a voice repeat of all the DX spots transmitted on the club packet cluster system. Those spots will tell you the DX station as well as what frequency to monitor/work.

On a final note, I have available a listing of all the IOTA locations and numbers for use as a working checklist of the same. If anyone would like this list, please call me at 876-2718.

Good luck in the contests and CU in the pileups. 73...

#### TECH LICENSE RENEWALS

If you hold a Tech Class license issued BEFORE MARCH 16, 1991, then you are automatically a Tech with HF privileges. In some recent instances the FCC has processed the renewal or modification of such a Tech Plus license but has mistakenly issued a "Technician" (no-code) license. (Since June 8 1994, new and renewed Tech Plus licenses have been clearly labeled as such.)

If this has happened to you, write to the FCC, explaining the situation, including your current license status, with effective date. Include copies of both your before and after licenses.

If you no longer have a copy or the original of your previous license, say so in your letter.

Send to FCC, 1270 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg, PA, 17325-7245.

[From ARRL Letter, Oct 3, 1994]

## STATUS OF HAM RADIO PROCEEDINGS AT FCC

[The W5YI Report for Oct 1, 1994 brings us up to date on possible FCC action on several fronts.]

**VANITY CALL SIGNS.** FCC may rule on this as early as mid-October. Congress originally set a \$70 fee for a 10-year term "vanity" station call sign. You would submit a list of 10 calls in order of preference, and FCC would issue the topmost available one on the list. Your old call sign would be returned to the pool. Vanity call signs would be available on a first come - first serve basis. (Rules subject to change.)

**TEMPORARY OPERATING AUTHORITY.** This suggestion for eliminating the delay a new ham incurs waiting for a license would call for a temporary license issued at the test site. Although the proposal is still said to be under consideration, it may not be necessary, since electronic filing of applications appears to be imminent. The ARRL-VEC and W5YI-VEC are testing FCC software that would enable the information on an FCC Form 610 to be submitted electronically to FCC files in Gettysburg, with same-day issuance of a license.

**LIFETIME AMATEUR RADIO LICENSES.** An ARRL proposal would have operator licenses extended to lifetime (station license would still carry a ten year term). Under this plan, applicants who let their licenses elapse would not have to retest. However, they would be issued a new call after the station license had elapsed.

**RECOGNITION OF VE SUPERVISORS.** At present, three Volunteer Examiners sign the 610 Form and Certificate of Successful Completion and initial the test papers of a successful applicant. They are equally responsible for the accuracy and integrity of each test. The VEC Rules Committee wants one examiner (the VE Team Liaison, who oversees the operation) to be responsible. An NPRM may be forthcoming.

**RECIPROCAL HAM LICENSING.** The FCC is looking at both the European and Latin American plans for recognizing amateur licenses of other countries without further examination. Much work must be done by both FCC and State Dept before such a program is implemented.

### FOR SALE

HUSTLER COLLINEAR G6-144B 2 meter antenna, brand new in box; \$80.

A1 KF2PW 584-7797

**FAMILY RADIO SERVICE.** Tandy Corporation wants the unallocated spectrum between the current General Mobile Radio Service channels allocated to an unlicensed consumer radio service. GMRS users are opposed. Manufacturers say there is a need for short range unlicensed UHF-FM communications. FCC is studying the proposal.

**HF DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS.** HF Packet is very controversial. Unattended (automatic) HF message forwarding stations have the potential to interfere with existing communications. An NPRM issued this past June proposes to permit automatically controlled RTTY or data emissions only on certain segments of the HF bands. An exception allows HF data stations to be automatically controlled if they are responding to a station under local or remote control. FCC action expected next Spring.

**PACKET MESSAGE FORWARDING.** FCC has ruled that the first forwarding station (along with the originating station) is responsible for the content of messages it introduces into the amateur packet network. Phil Karn KA9Q says recent technology makes this difficult, if not impossible, and wants the FCC to review its thinking. No action to date.

**GOVERNMENT SPECTRUM SHIFT.** Congress has asked federal agencies to vacate some 200 MHz of radio spectrum to be auctioned off to the highest bidder. Of special concern to amateurs are 2390-2400 and 2402-2417 MHz, which hams share on a secondary basis with the government. Congress is on record as wanting the needs of amateurs to be taken into consideration when frequencies to which they had access are reallocated elsewhere. Verdict expected in the Spring.

**SHARING OF 219-220 MHz.** This spectrum is primarily allocated to maritime interests. ARRL wants secondary access to this band to construct a nationwide packet backbone network. It will partially replace spectrum lost when 220-222 MHz was reallocated in 1991 to narrow-band Land Mobile operations. Still being reviewed.

### SUPERSTITION ARC HAMFEST - DECEMBER 3, 1994

MESA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Dobson Rd and Southern Ave

Information: Tom Stafford KB7QVV 671-0635

### VACATION NET IS QRT

The summer Vacation Net, which met on MONDAY and FRIDAY from mid-May to mid-Oct was very active. Net Control Chuck Bailey W7YU says "Welcome home" to those who have returned.