



WEST VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
P.O. BOX 1573, SUN CITY, AZ 85372

AN ARRL-AFFILIATED
SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

JUNE/JULY 1996

VOL XXIII, NO 6

SHORT SKIP

SHORT SKIP is a periodical published monthly (every 2 months in summer) by WVARC. Deadline for items is 2nd Saturday of the month. Mail to PO Box or call Ed. Ray Sumner 972-8733.

CLUB OFFICERS - 1996

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PAST-PRES RALPH BARR WODNO 582-8208

WEST VALLEY ARC MEETS THROUGH SUMMER

The West Valley Amateur Radio Club will continue to meet at St Clement Social Hall on the 1ST MONDAY of each month during the summer. The JUNE 3rd program will be a presentation by the ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPT on Fishing, Hunting and Recreation in Arizona. We hope that the topic will appeal to a large number of our members. Bring a friend or two and enjoy this interesting subject.

The JULY 1st program will also be a change of pace from technical subjects: All Aspects of Organ Donation, by someone from the Donor Network of AZ.

Doors open at 6:30pm and at 7:15 a brief business meeting is held. At the June meeting, members will vote on a change in the Constitution that would provide staggered terms for directors on the Executive Board:

Section 1(a). All officers shall be elected for a term of one year except the four directors, who shall hold office for staggered terms of two years each. In order to implement staggered terms for the directors, at the election for the year 1997 two directors shall be elected for a one year term and two directors for a two year term. Thereafter each director shall be elected for a term of two years.

CLUB CALENDAR

(Please mark YOUR calendar)

1st MONDAY: GENERAL MEETING, 7:15pm
2nd MONDAY: EXECUTIVE BOARD, 6:30pm
DAILY: CALL-IN NET 9am, 147.30 MHz.
WEDNESDAY: NEWSLINE NET 6:45pm, "
THURS: LUNCH 11am DENNY'S, SURPRISE
1st SAT, LICENSE EXAM 8am (June, Aug)
2nd SAT, BREAKFAST 8am.

MAY 25 HAMFEST KINGMAN, City Park Rte66
JUNE 1 LICENSE EXAMS, DeVRY, PHOENIX
JUNE 3 WVARC MEETING, ST CLEMENT'S
JUNE 8 BKFST BRANTLEY STEAKHOUSE, PEO
JUNE 19 CARL BOARD, RED CROSS BLDG
JUNE-22-23 FIELD DAY
JULY 1 WVARC MEETING, ST CLEMENT'S
NOTE: NO LICENSE EXAMS DeVRY JULY 6
JULY 13 BKFST BRANTLEY STEAKHOUSE, PEO
JULY 17 CARL BOARD, RED CROSS BLDG
JULY 19-21 FT TUTHILL HAMVENTION, FLAG
JULY 19-21 NW DX CONV. PORTLAND OREGON
OCT 11-13 ARRL SW DIV CONVENTION, MESA

The West Valley ARC meets the FIRST MONDAY of every month at St Clement Social Hall in Sun City. Anyone with an interest in ham radio may join. Dues are \$10/yr (\$5 after July 1) and include all family hams at same mailing address. Mail check to PO Box or pay at meeting.

Please welcome the following members who have joined since the last issue of Short Skip:

Don Cooley AB4NM Sun City West
Harry ("Josh") Joslin KC7QKA Sun City
*W L (Pete) Pedersen W7KTK Glendale
John Prather KC7QKB Sun City
Don Thomas KA1CWM Sun City West

* Late renewal

This report starts as one of the year's biggest DXpeditions signs off: ZL8RI from Raoul Island, Kermadec. I hope that everyone got it on the bands they needed. QLO to PO Box 56099 Tawa, Wellington, New Zealand.

Twenty meters has been opening up quite nicely to Europe during our daylight hours and 30m is booming. Look for Kyoko (YL) from Nepal, signing 9N1KY. Other 9N stations are heard/worked daily at approx 14180-14190 SSB.

For 80 and 160m fans, look for Ruben as 9H3II from Malta as well as Bill NH6D from Midway Island signing /NH4.

Other good DX that is workable now includes: Jan Mayen JX7DFA by LA7DFA, Ethiopia ET3BN, Fiji 3A2JA, Tonga A35IG, Niue ZK2YY, Monaco 3A/IK1QBT, Western Kiribati T3/ZL1AMO, Cocos Keeling VK9 and many many more.

Several Arizona stations have found that patience has paid off and a much needed QSO and QSL card from VKOWH (Macquarie) is in the hands of many. Look for him in the early hours on 40 CW. He usually transmits exactly on 7009.2 and listens up.

73, GL, GD DX and CU in the Pileups!

FOR SALE

[FOR SALE and WANT items are published without charge to members and non-members as space permits. At present we do not published commercial ads.]

ICOM IC-735 w/CW FILTER; \$700.
Jerry W6IWR 584-5716

VERSA TUNER II (MFJ-949E), 300W; \$75.
ANTENNA ROTATOR Mod 15-1225, w/50' control cable, 5' HD Mast; \$38.50.
2m 4-ele YAGI Vert or Horiz Mounting; \$42.
MAG-MOUNT ANTENNA, 54' S/S whip, 17' RG58U Coax, UHF plug; \$19.
RG-8 COAX, new, 50' w/UHF Plugs (13 AWG CL2 75 C. (UL)); \$25.
Tom NY7S 972-6589

AEA PK-232 MBX plus AC-4 AC Adapter; \$175.
ALINCO 2m 25W Packet only TCVR; \$125.
1 w/manual; \$125.
Paul N7MYS 584-6422, call after May 29

CONGRATULATIONS TO JAMIE JOHNSON KC7MQY, who was recently inducted into the National Honor Society. She is the 16 year old daughter of Jeff KJ7LO.

DeVRY LICENSE EXAMS JUNE 1; NONE JULY

Exams for all classes of ham radio licenses, will be held at DeVry Institute, 2149 W Dunlap Ave, on JUNE 1st. Registration is from 8-10am. Bring photo ID plus originals and copies of appropriate licenses/CSCEs. Charge is \$6.05; you may take tests for as many different classes of license as you wish for this one payment. THERE WILL BE NO TEST AT DeVRY IN JULY.

It finally happened! At the May 4th VE session we had more VEs (22) than candidates (20) Some of our regulars have already left for summer vacations, but there was an excellent turnout of VEs to make the task easy. Two candidates earned ADVANCED CLASS, two TECH PLUS and six NO-CODE TECH. Another eight earned partial credit toward an upgrade or no-code technician license. These VEs participated:

Willie Berry KB7STF	Ed Beyer WU7A
Ballard Bullion AB7HH	Jack DeWitt A7AX
Allen Fusler KI7NF	Mark Cuizon WH6CJD
Bob Koons WE7T	Jack Dow KE7ZQ
Bob Johnson KE7LZ	Jeff Johnson KJ7LO
Stan Kieffer N7GEZ	Bob Menefee AA7QJ
Shelly Newman AB7LQ	Rich Piggott WB2LKU
Jack O'Keefe WJ7N	Yoshi Sano KE7NC
Mark Saunders KJ7BS	Leo Staley NS9Y
Charles Wallace KC7GHK	Glenn Wade N7JWF
Dwight Yard KB7KON	Ray Sumner NW7R

Last month's report omitted Ed Beyer's name on the VE list. We apologize. Ed is there each month on the CW side.

Other ham radio license exams:

3rd SAT 9:30am, TEMPE LIBRARY, Rural/Southern Roads. Tri-ARC. (1996 only).
4th SAT 7pm (except June-Aug), RED CROSS, 6135 N Blk Canyon Hwy. AARC George KQ7C 274-6212
3rd MON 6pm, 7115 E Adobe, Mesa. Superstition ARC. Denise AB7KG 898-4066
SATURDAY, JULY 20, 8:30am, FT TUTHILL HAMFEST

SILENT KEYS

We are saddened to report the death of CHUCK TRUDEL K8JVB at his home in Sun City West on May 8. A dedicated worker for the club, Chuck will be missed by all of us. We offer our sympathy to his wife Lenore K8YAI and to his family. A memorial service will be held at their home in SCW on Sunday June 2nd at 2pm.

GEORGE B CARTER Jr N7AQZ died on May 16 in Sun City, after a long illness. He joined the club in 1974 and served as chairman of the Silent Key committee for a number of years and as a club officer. George was a member of the Mid-week Lions Club of Sun City, which boasts a large number of hams. We extend our sympathy to wife Eleanora and family.

FCC TO BACKFILL HOLES IN 7th DISTRICT

Because of a computer programming snafu the FCC inadvertently skipped over a chunk of 7th district call signs in the sequence KC7RAA to KC7ZZY, and jumped instead to the KD7 block. The Commission intends to backfill the missing group C calls. ARRL/VEC Manager Bart Jahnke KB9NM explains: "The FCC intends to leave the current 149 grants as is and go back and fill in KC7RAA-KC7ZZY calls first." After that the FCC will pick up where it left off.

WISCONSIN PRB-1 BILL DEAD FOR NOW

Busy legislative agenda and political infighting are being blamed for failure of a bill in the Wisconsin legislature that would have gone further than PRB-1 in limiting local control over ham radio antennas. The bill had state Senate approval but never got to the floor of state Assembly. The bill would have prevented localities from restricting radio towers on the basis of height or aesthetics.....The bill was modeled after existing provisions of Wisconsin law that restrict localities from regulating certain satellite TV antennas.

[Above items from ARRL Letter, May 17]

HAM TOWERS IN SUN CITY WEST

Amateur Radio Operators who are considering the purchase of a home in Sun City West should be aware that there are some sections of that community where antenna towers are not allowed, including newer sections. Three or four older sections have had their deeds altered by vote of the majority of the section owners to disallow towers. Hams who had towers in place before the vote were "grandfathered", i.e., permitted to keep the tower.

One of the club directors, Rich Haworth W7MDQ has clarified the status of the tower when the property is sold to another ham. The Property Owners and Residents Assn, which helps resolve and adjudicate deed restrictions/violations in Sun City West, has agreed in writing that such tower shall continue to be exempted from any deed restriction imposed subsequent to its installation, even with a new owner.

At least one club member has had the experience of buying property without a restriction on towers and having the owners vote to impose the restriction before he could erect one. Purchasing a home with a tower already erected would help avoid the problem.

VACATION NET IN OPERATION

Valley hams who have headed for cool country can keep in touch with the rest of us MONDAYS and FRIDAYS on the VACATION NET at 10am local time on or near 14.240 MHz. CHUCK BAILEY W7YU or EVA KARNATZ KC7RY will be net control. The net will be operating through October 18th.

Short Skip June/July, p.3 GATE 1 TO OPEN FOR VANITY CALL SIGNS [From ARRL Bulletin 26, May 2, 1996]

The FCC has announced that Gate 1 of the Vanity Call Sign program will open MAY 31, and eligible hams may file applications ON OR AFTER THAT DATE. You can file for a previously held call or for a call formerly held by deceased close relative. You must already hold an unexpired amateur operator/primary station license to request a vanity call sign for your primary station. To obtain the former call of a deceased close relative your license must be of the proper operator class. To request a vanity call sign for a club station you must also hold an unexpired club station license listing you as the trustee. Use FCC Form 610-V to file.

Applicants should refer to the licensee data base to make sure that the requested call is not already assigned. A call sign is normally assignable two years following license expiration.

CLUB 70cm REPEATER NOW HAS AUTOPATCH

The WVARC 70cm Repeater KC7KLA is atop Boswell Hospital in Sun City, operating on 449.80-MHz. To access the autopatch, dial *83 and release PTT. When you hear the dial tone, push-to-talk and enter the number. To end the contact enter #D. Be sure to identify by call sign when accessing and leaving patch. The pleasant voice announcing the station ID and location is that of Connie N7WZA.

Many tnx to Don Shelley KD7BU for his expertise in setting the repeater on frequency, and to Tom Watts NY7S for his dedication in getting the machine back in operation. Tom would like any club members with experience servicing repeaters to join the Repeater Maintenance Team, which will be thinning out this summer. Call him at 972-6589.

WVARC IS ARRL SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

The West Valley ARC has renewed an affiliation with ARRL as a Special Service Club. Vicky at League HQ has sent us a renewal seal to attach to the attractive certificate of membership.

ARRL members are asked to renew membership through our ARRL rep Jack Dow KE7ZQ, 18810 N Zinnia Ct, Sun City West 85375. Send Jack a check (payable ARRL) for \$2 less than required amount and a check payable WVARC for \$2, along with renewal form. (The \$2 rebates help keep club dues at \$10.) Those joining ARRL through the club should make check to ARRL for \$5 less than required and check to WVARC for \$5. The club appreciates your support.

FCC ESTABLISHES FAMILY RADIO SERVICE

On May 10 the FCC amended Part 95 of its rules to establish a new, unlicensed personal radio service, to be called the Family Radio Service (FRS). This service was created in response to a petition filed by Radio Shack requesting the Commission establish a new radio service aimed at providing small groups with an affordable, convenient means of direct, short range (up to one-half mile), two-way voice communications. FRS radios would use fourteen channels in the 462-468 MHz band. Transceivers would have to be FCC certified....ARRL Letter, May 17, 1996.

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY

Web browsing on your living room TV! Motorola has begun shipping its new cable-TV modem that allows high speed Internet access. Hewlett-Packard and others also have them coming. New modems will add \$25-40 to your monthly cable bill.....[W5YI Report 5/15/96].

The above article is related to the presentation by Bob Cosburn of Cox Communications at our May meeting. One of Bob's predictions was that we would soon be able to download graphic Internet at incredible speeds instead of the current snail's pace from the phone lines.

FT TUTHILL (FLAGSTAFF) HAMFEST

JULY 19 - 21, 1996

TOM WATTS NY7S, one of the club's ARCA reps, has tickets for the Main Prizes at the FT TUTHILL HAMFEST. See him at a meeting or lunch.

GRAND PRIZE is an ICOM IC-706 Mini HF XCVR, w/6 and 2m and SW receiver.

2nd prize: Kenwood TH-79AD dual bander

3rd prize: AEA PK-232 MBX Controller

4th prize: MFJ-259 1.8-170 MHz SWR Analyser

Early bird prize: Astron RS-35A Power Supply

FREE ADMISSION! Charge for tailgating is \$20 (\$15 before June 1); camping \$8; dinner (Saturday night) \$15.

Exhibit Hall open Friday noon to 5pm,
Saturday 9am to 5pm, Sunday 9am to 2pm.

Your editor has a few registration forms. See me at meeting, lunch, breakfast.

CLUB NOTE: Please remember our weekly THURSDAY luncheons at 11am at Denny's Restaurant, Bell Rd, 1 blk w of El Mirage Rd, in Surprise and our monthly SECOND SATURDAY breakfast at 8am at Brantley's Steakhouse, NW corner Loop 101 and Thunderbird Rd, Peoria. Attendance is waning as winter visitors leave.

Short Skip June/July, p.4 FCC FIELD OFFICE IN DOUGLAS IS CLOSED

The Douglas (AZ) office of the FCC will be closing this summer. As of May 1, Arizona will be under the responsibility of the San Diego Office. RFI Chairman Ken Wakershauser N7OWP has received a letter of appreciation and a certificate of recognition from District Director Stephen Y. Tsuya for the club's support of the RFI Resolution Program initiated several years ago by the FCC.

Previous RFI Chairman Bill Johnson W9WV was responsible for setting up the first cooperative effort between an Amateur Radio Club and the FCC to solve local RFI problems. Mr Tsuya expressed the hope that the association between FCC and West Valley ARC may continue for many years. Club RFI reports, or any questions we may have, will now be sent to Mr Hal Grigsby, FCC District Director, San Diego Office, or Ms June Butler, Public Affairs Specialist at Federal Communications Commission
Interstate Office Park
4542 Ruffner St, Rm 370
San Diego CA 92111-2216
(619) 467-0549

INCOMING QSL BUREAUS

Using an Incoming QSL Bureau is fun and it's free! You don't need to be an ARRL member to use this service. Send some self-addressed stamped envelopes to your area bureau -- 6x9" size is ideal. [The 7th Area Incoming QSL Bureau address is Willamette Valley DX Club, PO Box 555, Portland OR 97207-0555.] Postal rate is 32 cents for 1 oz, but only 23 cents for each extra oz. One or two ounces per envelope will keep the cards coming at frequent intervals. If you don't want to bother with envelopes, send your bureau cash or check to open an account. (The Willamette club provides the envelopes and deducts 50 cents for each ounce of postage used.)

The above info is from Bob Norin W7YAQ of the Willamette Valley DX Club, who invites us to attend the 1996 PACIFIC NW DX CONVENTION JULY 19 - 21st in the Portland OR area. (Your Editor has registration forms if anyone plans to be in the Portland area at that time.)

DX NOTES: Scottish Special Event station GBOLWL plans to be active from May 24-26 from an annual Cub Scout camp. Activity will be on 80 thru 10m and on most modes.....The first M series licenses have been issued in the UK. The Reading and District ARC obtained MOAAA, and Ian Oliver of South London was the lucky recipient of M1AAA. [ARRL Letter May 17, 1996]