



WEST VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

P.O. BOX 1573, SUN CITY, AZ. 85372

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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.

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OCTOBER PROGRAM: FASTNET FORCE SEVEN

West Valley ARC will meet on OCTOBER 7 at St Clement Social Hall, 15800 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City. Doors open 6:30pm and meeting begins at 7:15 with a business meeting (short), followed by video tape program entitled FASTNET FORCE 7, which we understand is about an interesting DXpedition. Come early to enjoy a cup of coffee with your colleagues.

The NOVEMBER 4 meeting is tentatively scheduled to review how HAM RADIO responds to DISASTERS. We hope to have input from local hams who are involved in ARES and other services, as well as tapes showing operators in action. In DECEMBER there will be a humorous video on hamming in keeping with our holiday spirit. Join us for refreshments and a night of good fellowship.

Our August program on ANTENNAS was very useful in showing how the various configurations produced different emission patterns; e.g., changing a horizontal antenna from a quarter wavelength above ground to a half wavelength makes a big difference in the radiation angle.

The September program on SPARK-GAP GENERATORS was most interesting, bringing back fond memories to some of our older members. How different from our modern gear!

CLUB CALENDAR

(Please-mark your calendar)

1st MONDAY: GENERAL MEETING, 7:15pm
 DAILY: CALL-IN NET, 9am, 147.30 MHz
 WEDNESDAYS: NEWSLINE NET 6:45pm, "
 THURS: LUNCH 11am DENNY'S, SURPRISE
 1st SAT, LICENSE EXAM, 8am, DeVRY
 2nd SAT, BREAKFAST, 8am, BRANTLEY'S

OCT 1, 7pm, Start NO-CODE TECH CLASS
 5, LICENSE EXAM, DeVRY, PHOENIX
 7, WVARC MEETING, ST CLEMENT, SC
 11-13, ARRL SW DIV CONVENTION, MESA
 12, BKFST, BRANTLEY'S, T-BIRD Rd
 19 OLD PUEBLO RC (TUCSON) HAMFEST
 25, LADIES NIGHT, SC COUNTRY CLUB

LADIES NIGHT BANQUET AT SUN CITY CC

The Annual club banquet that is held to express our appreciation to our spouses for their forbearance with our hobby is to be held on FRIDAY OCT 25 at SUN CITY COUNTRY CLUB, 9433 N 107th AVE. Reservation Form accompanies this newsletter and should be returned by Monday Oct 21. Please help us make this a success. You may order Beef Rouladen or Chicken Marsala entree. Cost is \$16.50 per person. Send check to VPres John Kornbeck, 9608 W Escuda Drive, Peoria AZ 85382.

NO-CODE TECH CLASS STARTS OCTOBER 1

This year our NO-CODE TECHNICIAN CLASS will be held on TUESDAYS, beginning on OCTOBER 1st, to accommodate those who have been unable to attend our Friday sessions. Classes will run EIGHT WEEKS, with test session scheduled for NOVEMBER 26. Larry Benjamin AA2SC is the Instructor. Classes will be held from 7 to 9pm at Sun City Posse HQ, 10861 Sunland Drive, Sun City. To register, call Larry at 972-8328 or Ray NW7R 972-8733. THERE IS NO CHARGE! Spread the word.

CQ DX de FRANK SMITH AH4/AHOW

Highlighting this month's report is the news that the Voodoo Contest Group will be activating Togo 5V in November. Readers will recognize the names of Voodooists Mike Bill AA7NO, Mike Fulcher KC7V Tony Rogozinski N7BG & Vince Thompson K5VT who along with some British allies go out faithfully every year to give rare contacts to the world. They'll be participating in the CQWW/CW contest Thanksgiving weekend.

Martti Laine OH2BH will again be activating Myanmar (Burma) as XZ2BH during Scandinavian Activity Contests. Martti broke ground in Burma and put XZ1A on the air; he has now paved the way for members of Central AZ DX Assn who will activate Burma also in November. These will include Millie Thompson WY7K, Warren Hill KF7AY, Jack Reed WA7LNU, John Arthurs AA7WP, and many more hams from northern Arizona. Their callsign will be XZ1N; QSL via W1XT.

The Togo and Burma DXpeditions may be featured in future WVARC programs.

Look for Hans DK9KX and Dieter DJ9ON from Guinea-Bissau. Also Gerard 5R8EN will be active soon from Madagascar on RTTY. Not far away you may work Peter in Uganda as 5XIT and Alex from Angola D2/PA3DZN.

For those who missed the MacQuarie operation (VK0WH), Jim Smith VK9NS says that another operator will soon be active from this very rare location as VK0GW, who will have better equipment this time around.

Jim Smith has advised your DX editor that his operation to Andaman VU4, one of the rarest of them all, is around the corner, depending on the cooperation he gets from India's customs authorities. Last spring Jim was granted an operating license, and as soon as the equipment is approved, he'll be there, probably with one local ham, to operate. If you wish to donate to this operation please contact me at 876-2718.

Remember that the contest season will be here sooner than Christmas. The Scandinavian Activity Contests and CQWW contests (SSB and CW) are the favorites so have fun. GD DX, good luck in the contest and CU in the pile-ups.

VALLEY DXers ACTIVATE MIDWAY ATOLL
FIRST EVER DX TEAM TO KH4

Valley DXers Frank Schottke W2UE, Frank Smith AH0W/OH2LVG and Jack Reed WA7LNU recently participated in an historical DXpedition to the Midway Islands, now known as Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge. Also on the team: Andy Chesnokov UA3AB of Moscow and Patrick Guerin NH6UY of Honolulu, the team's satellite operator.

The team operated from Midway 18-25 August signing AH4/AHOW. They report that several WVARC members were logged in, with 15,000 others, including several thousand European stations where Midway ranked #5 on the "needs list".

The rarity of Midway Island contacts is explained by the refusal on the part of the US Navy to permit public visitors or "non-essentials" on the atoll until last month. Permission was granted to the AH4/AHOW team by Naval officials just as announcements were being made that Midway would be opened to very controlled and limited numbers of visitors. The team credits Arizona's Senator John McCain, certain US Navy officials and those of the US Fish and Wildlife Service for securing permission for the project.

Officials at Midway explain that the DXpedition team was the first group of public visitors allowed on the island in well over 50 years. It was also the first ever team DXpedition to Midway, once the scene of vicious naval and air battles that turned the tide of the War in the Pacific against the Japanese.

The Midway team donated 5 antennas to Midway to facilitate DX activity from the Atoll, making it possible for DXers and contesters to travel there and operate without the added burden and expense of hauling antennas to the site. Look for reports on this trip in a number of ham radio magazines and a presentation to West Valley ARC during an upcoming meeting. Those who worked the expedition: QSL via Bob Johnson KE7LZ.

NOTE FROM FRANK AH0W: Valley hams who lost towers or had severe damage to them should know that special arrangements have been made with one of the tower manufacturers for replacement at a discounted cost. Contact Frank at 876-2718 (w) or 938-8000 (h) for info.

Exams for all Amateur Radio class licenses will be held on SATURDAY OCT 5 at DeVry Institute, 2149 W Dunlap Ave. Walk-in Registration begins at 8am; no tests will start after 10am. Bring ID (photo; e.g., driver's license), plus originals and copies of appropriate licenses & CSCEs. Charge is \$6.05 (no charge for Elements 1A, 2). FCC Form 610s are available at the site.

There were 31 candidates at the testing session Aug 17. This was an excellent turnout since the session had to be re-scheduled from the first Saturday of the month with little publicity regarding the change. License classes earned included 1 Extra, 2 Advanced, 3 General, 3 Tech Plus and 13 No-Code Tech. Several others earned partial credit. Tnx to those VEs who participated:

Rich Piggott WB2LKU	Ed Beyer WU7A
Willie Berry KB7STF	Jack DeWitt AB7AX
Ballard Bullion AB7HH	Jack Dow KE7ZQ
John DiSalvo NX2I	Jeff Johnson KJ7LO
Bob Johnson KE7LZ	Allan Fusler KI7NF
Stan Kieffer N3GEZ	Art LaFleur KI7ZR
Bob Menefee AA7QJ	Leo Staley NS9Y

Other test sessions: Arizona ARC, 4th Sat, 7pm, Red Cross Bldg, 6135 N Black Canyon Hwy. George KQ7C 274-6212.

Tri-City ARC, 3rd Sat, 9:30am, Tempe Library, Southern/Rural Rds. (No tests after Dec 1996.) Dave AA7TQ 963-3527.

Superstition ARC, 3rd Mon, 6pm, Mesa Utilities Office, 7115 E Adobe Rd, Mesa (Denise AB7KG, 898-4066).

AUTOPATCH ACCESS ON WVARC REPEATERS

To ACCESS THE AUTOPATCH on 147.30 MHz, give your call, say "Accessing patch", and dial #83 plus the number you are calling. Release PTT, and when machine says "Autopatch", push and release PTT switch, OR allow repeater to read number back to you, then push and release PTT (immediately after last number). To clear patch, dial #. Be sure to ID at end of transmission.

To ACCESS THE AUTOPATCH on 449.80 MHz, give your call, etc, and dial #83. At dial tone, dial number and release PTT. To clear patch, dial #D. There is a 3 minute time-out on both machines. At 2.5 minutes, you will hear "30 seconds left".

WELCOME HOME to our members returning from cooler places! The 20m VACATION NET will close officially on OCT 18, but those who have not returned may still check in on 14.240 MHz MONDAYS and FRIDAYS around 10am. There may be a few foot-draggers around.

The club has a new AWARDS MANAGER to verify your contacts for WAS and VUCC awards. Allan Fusler KI7NF has volunteered to take over the job that Ray Van Skiver W7LQM has handled so well for a number of years. Ray's health status will no longer permit him to devote the time to the task. Call Allan (582-1044) to have your QSL cards authenticated. You need not belong to WVARC, but you must be a member of the League (ARRL).

Thanks to Chuck Hilliker W7KIV, WVARC has a CLUB PAGE on the INTERNET. We thank the page editors for naming this Short Skip Editor as Ham-of-the-Month for the first issue. The second Month featured Margie Tetmeyer AB5ZX as HOTM. Access the page with <http://www.starlink.com/~chuckh>

There is an excellent turnout at our 11 AM weekly Thursday Lunch at Denny's Restaurant on Bell Rd in Surprise (one blk W of El Mirage Rd); average 35, including spouses. Attendance at our monthly Second Saturday Breakfast at Brantley's Steakhouse in Peoria (Thunderbird Rd, W of 101 Loop) at 8AM has been much less. Please remember both sessions for good food and pleasant company.

At our September meeting the club voted to donate \$100 to NEWSLINE. Each WEDNESDAY at 6:45pm the NEWSLINE REPORT is presented on our weekly 2m Net (147.30 MHz), along with news from ARRL LETTER and W5YI REPORT, as well as QSTs from local sources. Chuck Bailey W7YU tapes Newsline from a telephone source for replay on the net. Check in each week to keep up with developments in amateur radio.

You can also stay in touch with local ham activity by checking into the daily 9am CALL-IN NET on 147.30 MHz. Originally established to keep track of shut-ins, this net is a popular meeting site for all West Valley hams. Get a cheerful start each day by joining us.

SILENT KEYS

ALEX KUTCHIK W9VYG, active member and friend of WVARC for 10 years, died Aug 25 in Sun City West. Al gave willingly of his time and energy to his club and friends. He is sorely missed. We extend our sympathy to wife Marie and family.

HAL EVERETT, Colonel (Ret'd), KA7YDU, formerly of Sun City West, passed away in Albuquerque NM on Aug 1 at the age of 73. Hal was a member of the club in the late '80s and kept in touch with us through friends in SCW.

WANTED

GAP ANTENNA. Bob WE7T 972-7749

SGC ANT TUNER. Ralph WODNO 582-8208

MORE CLUB NOTES

AL GROSS W8PAL, Senior Principal Engineer at Orbital Sciences Corp, was given the Pioneer Award for "landmark contributions to the wireless industry" at the Personal Communications Industry Association Conference in San Francisco September 19-21, 1996.

BILL JOHNSON W9WFV received a lengthy letter from Congressman Bob Stump, responding to Bill's expressions of concern about the threat by the Low Earth Orbiting Satellite people to amateur frequencies on 2m and 70cm. Congressman Stump assured him that the studies are preliminary in nature and that he will do his best "to see that the Amateur Radio Services do not become a target for federal bureaucrats who are pressured to provide spectrum for other services."

And speaking of politicians, Richard Jackson K7VCI will be at our next meeting to review what happened to efforts to get our State Legislature to grant us Arizona callsign plates at a reasonable fee. The House Chairman of Transportation Jerry Overton of Litchfield Park refused to release the bill for a vote. (The Senate had already approved)

Hams who are subject to deed restrictions regarding antennas have great interest in the FCC's proposed rule that would allow homeowners to install TV receiving antennas one meter or smaller in size. Much interest also in proposed Maximum Permitted Exposure rules for Amateur Station emissions. More later.

FOR SALE

ICOM 751A XCVR; \$850.
ICOM PS-15 POWER SUPPLY; \$100.
Joe W7FPG 584-6117

YAESU FT-990 XCVR, MIC, HEADPHONES.
DONEGAN DA-4 OPTOVISOR
ICOM 2m XCVR, MIC, PWR SUP, PORT ANT.
STRAIGHT KEY (Ham Radio Center)
RADIO SHACK AC ADAPT. 5.4V DC @ 240ma
" AC ADAPT, 120v to 4.5, 7.5, 9v DC.
WELLER SOLDERING IRON 100/140w
WALL " " 40w
REGENCY SCANNER Model 10.
DRAKE T-4XC XMTR, SHURE MIC
DRAKE R-4C RCVR, MS-4 SPKR, Cables.
DRAKE MN-4 ANT TUNER
DRAKE AC-4 POWER SUPPLY
MAGMOUNT ANT, QUARTER WAVE 138-174 MHZ
RINGO RANGER 2m ANTENNA (w/10' pipe)
HY-GAIN 14AVQ ANTENNA w/coax.
Estate of Milton WA7YWX
Call Chuck W7YU 977-7427

COMET DUAL BAND ANT 2m/70cm; \$105.
BUTTERNUT BUTTERFLY BEAM ANT (Needs minor repair) 10,12,15,17,20m; \$150.
DAIWA RF PWR MTR, 2kw, 200w, 20w; \$90.
KENWOOD LP FILTER LF-30A; \$30.
ICOM IC-AT500 AUTO. ANT. TUNER; \$330.
ICOM IC-2KL LIN AMP w/POWER SUP; \$1140.
ICOM IC-701 SSB XCVR w PWR SUP; \$470.
ICOM IC-SM2 DESK MIKE; \$50.
KNWD HAND MIKE (up/down); \$30.
AC Power Distrib, 12 socket/sw/cir brk \$2.50.
GE AM/FM Clock Radio; \$4.
Princess type phone (Conair); \$5.
50' AC Extension Cable; \$2.
RG-8U Coax misc.; \$20.
All above; \$2650. Tom NY7S 972-6589

HTX-202 2m HT, Spkr mic, hd battery pack, wall charger, factory aligned recently; \$150
Dick KAOSKY 815-3730

KENWOOD STATION: TS-830 XCVR, AT-230 ANT TUNER, SP-230 SPEAKER, CURTIS KEYER (EK-430) W BENCHER PADDLE, CUSHCRAFT RT-7; PACKAGE DEAL ONLY \$850.
JERRY KB6UK 546-4078

REMNANTS FROM STORM, Hygain TH6DXX Tri-band beam - yours for picking up. Needs 3 elements replaced; traps are fine. I have info on replacement parts, costs. Also Autech Research Filter; \$35.
Heathkit HM15 SWR; \$10.
John W3OJX 972-6503 (John is author of "I SAW IT THROUGH", an infantry soldier's reminiscences of WWII; \$15).