

WEST VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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

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 Editor Tom Peterson (days) 602-233-3068 - (evenings) 623-872-3013.

VOLUME XXVII NO 10

DECEMBER 2000

CLUB OFFICERS

Pres	Ron Rasmussen	K6OP	SCW	623-546-5710
VP	Jerry Basso	W9JIF	SCW	623-214-8136
Sec'y	Pete Pedersen	W7KTK	SCW	623-544-0708
Tr	Allen Heneman	K0HOZ	SURP	623-975-4483
PPres	Ralph Barr	W0DNO	PHX	623-582-8208

CLUB DIRECTORS

Rich Piggott	WB2LKU	SCW	623-546-4300
David Cain	AC7CS	PEO	623-561-6228
Rich Haworth	W7MDQ	SC	623-933-2191

Club web page (tnx Chuck W7KIV) <http://home.az.rmci.net/chuckh>
Short Skip Editor Tom Peterson KK7KW: wvarcshortskip@earthlink.net

CLUB CALENDAR

SATURDAY	DEC 2	LICENSE EXAMS, De VRY INSTITUTE, PHX, 8 TO 10 AM
SATURDAY	DEC 2	ARCA SUPERSTITION HAMFEST, MESA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MONDAY	DEC 4	MEETING / ELECTIONS, ST CLEMENT SOCIAL HALL, SC, 7 PM
SATURDAY	DEC 9	CLUB BREAKFAST, TIVOLI GARDENS, SC, 8 AM
WEDNESDAYS		2m HAM NEWSLINE NET, 147.30 MHz, 6:45 PM
THURSDAYS		BRUNCH, COCO'S, 98th Ave. & Bell Rd., 10:00 AM
DAILY		CALL-IN NET, 147.30 MHz, 9 AM

MEMBERSHIP IN WEST VALLEY ARC is open to anyone with an interest in Amateur Radio. One \$10 annual fee includes all family hams at same address; only one Short Skip mailed to each address.

PROGRAM FOR DECEMBER 4 MEETING:

The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm at St. Clement of Rome church located at 15800 N. Del Webb Blvd. About three quarters of a mile south of Bell Rd.

The December meeting is the election of club officers for 2001 and annual Christmas party. There will also be a short program presented by Fried Heyn SW Div Director ARRL.

Slate for the elections at the December 4th meeting:

President	Ron Rasmussen	K6OP
Vice President	Jerry Basso	W9JIF
Secretary	Pete Pedersen	W7KTK
Treasurer	Allen Heneman	K0HOZ
Past President	Ralph Barr	W0DNO
Director	Del Young	W7EOY
Director	Ron Wamsley	W8QVG
Director*	David Cain	KB7WDD
Director*	Rich Haworth	W7MDQ

* Elected for a two year term last year

CLUB NOTES**FCC License Expirations:**

Ron Wamsley - W8QVG - 1/01
 Orly Stires - W7OOS - 2/01
 Art Dunnick - W0BSG - 2/01
 Richard Delaney - KG7MR - 2/01
 Bill Charvat - KA9PEV - 2/01

New licenses and license upgrades:

Sid Body - KC7DHR - Amateur Extra
 Bob Hubbs - W6BXI - Amateur Extra
 Mike Steinhauer - KD7KQU - Technician

NEW MEMBERS:

KG0VU	Melvin Hall	21655 N 131ST Way	Sun City West AZ 85375	(623)583-8815
K0CNB	Art Johnsen	19203 N 29TH Ave	Phoenix AZ 85027	(623)580-1648
KA7G	Jerry Mc Manus	21627 N 139TH Ave	85375	(623)556-9236
KD7KQU	Mike Steinhauer	15227 N 66TH Dr	Glendale, AZ 85306	(623)776-3530
KD9NQ	Dean Timmerman	10438 Roundelay Cir	85351	(623)583-9816
W7ADZ	Jack Yarger	2591 N 133RD Ave	Goodyear AZ, 85338	(623)935-9383

Consult Web edition of Roster for email addresses

RETURNED EMAIL ADDRESSES:

Email sent to the following members has been returned as undeliverable. If the member wishes to have his email address appear in the Roster send an email to wb2lku@arrl.net:

Howard Barnes - K6QWH

Charles Buell - N7WXO

Ross Vanasco

YEAR 2001 DUES:

The first rule of Roberts Rules Of Order is a dues payment is always in order. If the notation "1/02" appears at the end of the name line of your Short Skip address label, thank you for your very prompt payment of 2001 dues. The labels were printed before some payments arrived in the Club's post office box; if your payment was one of those, it will show on subsequent labels. Dues may be paid at a Club meeting or by mail. If you prefer to mail your payment and do not have an application/renewal form, send along the following information: name, call sign (if any), USPS mail address. The Club will publish them in the Roster of Members. If you would like your phone number and or email address to appear in the Roster include them in your letter. Please tell us if you are a member of the ARRL.

HAM RADIO LICENSE EXAMS at DeVRY December 2. Register 8 to 10am; no tests will start after 10. Bring photo ID, original and copy of appropriate licenses or CSCEs. Form NCVEC 605 is available at Registration. Fee is \$6.65; please have correct change. For this fee you are entitled to one test in all desired Elements; a second charge is made for a repeat test in any Element.

The VE Team will not accept FCC Forms 610 and 605. Applicants will be given Form NCVEC 605 to fill out at the sessions. Applicant's social security number or FCC license identification number must be supplied.

The new license structure is in effect. Sections 97.501 and 97.503 of the FCC regulations specifies the following examination element standards and operator qualifications:

Element 1: 5 words per minute; Element 2: Tech class – 35 questions 26 minimum correct; Element 3: General class 35 questions 26 minimum correct; Element 4: Extra class 50 questions 37 minimum correct.

Requirements for an operator license are Elements 1,2,3,4 for Extra; for General class, Elements 1,2,3; Technician class Element 2.

EXAM SESSION 11/4/2000 AT DE VRY

10 candidates were served. Licenses earned: Technician: 3, General; 4, Amateur Extra: 3.

Exam element pass ratios: Code Element 1-100%; Technician Element 2-100%; General Element 3-67%; Extra Element 4-100%

Edward Beyer, WU7A

Bob Johnson, KE7LZ

Jack Richards, WA9TV

Dwight Yard, KB7KON

Joe Brian, AB7VY

Bill Kuchinski, KB7MDX

Yoshi Sano, K7YS

Rich Piggott, WB2LKU, Session Manager, Liaison

Ken Ehrhardt, KK7NU

David Morrill, N7TWT

Glenn Wade, N7JWF

ARRL VEC ANTICIPATES \$10 TEST FEE FOR 2001

ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, says the ARRL VEC plans to set its test fee for calendar year 2001 at \$10. The current fee of \$6.65 is based on a provision in the Communications Act, adopted in 1984. An FCC announcement of change in the law, is expected soon. When that happens, the ARRL VEC will make a formal announcement to establish the new fee. Until then, ARRL VEC volunteer examiners will continue to charge applicants at the 2000 test fee rate of \$6.65.

"The higher fee reflects the fact that the ARRL VEC is doing more of the work on behalf of the FCC" said ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ. "We're doing the data entry for all new and upgrade license applications that are handled by the ARRL Volunteer Examiners."

PUBLIC SERVICE NOTES

The Palo Verde Siren Test was held Wednesday November 8 with no problems reported. The following WVARC volunteers and guests participated in the siren test:

WA9HBT, John Kornbeck & Mary	KB7NLI, Richard Taubert & Lenore	N7IAU, Loyd Waite
N7DFH, Marilyn Waite	N3HP, Harold Polk	W2GOB, Bert Davidson
KD7KH, Ken Hopper	W0SLL, Joe Gutitta	KC7NJZ, Bob Hunt
KD7BJK, Charles Thompson	WA0GRV, Gene Metzger	KC5AC, Fred Jones
KS5X, Tom Gundlach	W7EOY, Del Young & Pat	N7JSA, George Watling
W8EPO, Walt Schwiebert & Peggy	K0HOZ, Allen Heneman	W7RD, Reuben Deerhake
K6QWH, Howard Barnes & Grace	K9CCX, Mit Thompson & June	W7FPG, Joe Nowakowski
W9JIF, Jerry Basso & Steffanie	AC7CS, David Cain & Connie	KD7DFU, Chet Karpinski
K7VCI, Richard Jackson	W7MCP, Fred Jones	AC7FC, Larry Penrod
N7QMU, Dennis Dannemiller	N7QHA, Eric Dannemiller	KC7WIZ, Ralph Adair
N7TWT, David Morrill	W7YU, Chuck Bailey	N7KXZ, Hal Zabel

Club badges (black on yellow, AZ-shaped) are \$5. See Lou Bennett, K7LOU to order.

YEAR END PARTY

The Club Year End party will be held at the December meeting on 12/4. Please everyone bring some "goodies" to share and the club will provide soft drinks and plates, etc.

BOB HUBBS W6BXI RUNS FOR SCW REC CENTER BOARD

Member Robert (Bob) Hubbs W6BXI is a candidate for the Governing Board of the Recreation Centers of Sun City West, Inc. The Governing Board manages and operates the recreation facilities and enforces the CC&Rs for all homes in Sun City West. He has served on the Rules, Regulations & Procedures subcommittee of the Governing Board's Chartered Club Committee. His XYL, Carol, is a past president of the Governing Board, and is a Maricopa County Planning and Development Commissioner. Home Owner Members of Sun City West are eligible to vote on Tuesday, December 12 at the Johnson Social Hall. There are early voting and absentee voting options also. Call the Sun City West Member Services office (623) 544-6100 for more information.

WANTED:

WANTED: One 10 foot section of Rohn 25 tower, one rotor plate for the top section of Rohn 25 tower, Base section of Rohn 25 tower.

Lee Chrisman, AB7HW and Scotty the Wonder Guide Dog!

Evenings and weekends 480-483-6584, weekdays 7:00 AM to 4:30 PM 480-655-5710

FOR SALE:

Icom 751-A All Mode 10 - 160 Meters Transceiver - \$600.00

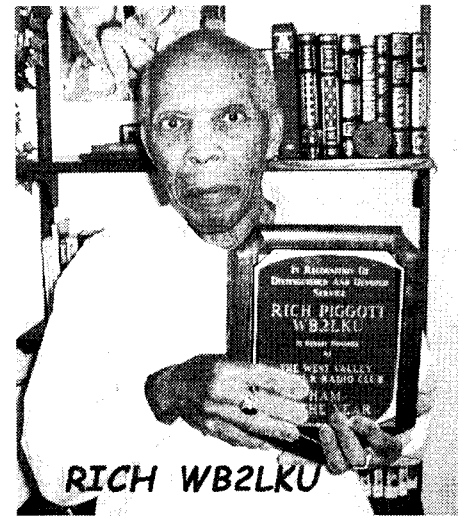
Cushcraft R-6000 6 - 20 Meters Vertical Antenna (almost new) \$240.00

Joe Nowakowski, W7FPG 623-584-6117

RICHARD PIGGOTT , WB2LKU RECEIVES THE WVARC's HAM OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR 2001

Rich became a Ham in 1965 and received the final step to his Extra Class in 1995. Rich has had a distinguished career as an engineer, receiving his bachelors degree from The New York Institute of Technology, Cum Laude, in 1976. A Masters of Science in Physics in 1981 and a Masters of Applied Mathematics in 1986 from the Long Island University. He retired from the Fairchild Camera & Instrument Co. in 1988, where he was Senior Staff Engineer.

Rich and his wife Myra moved to Arizona in 1993. In addition to being a Ham, He is a long time Amateur Astronomer and accomplished Computer Hobbyist.



Rich has assisted Ray Sumner for many years in keeping the club roster up to date and has been a club director for 4 years. These are behind the scene jobs that are vital to our club administration and survival.

From: "Travis W. Pederson" <n5tp@flash.net>

Friends,

A fellow I know is trying to solve this puzzle for a movie company that is going to make a PBS film about this lost aircraft. Your help is appreciated.

It was April of 1947. The converted British bomber was on a commercial flight into Santiago, Chile over the high Andes. The crew apparently did not know about the jetstream and associated headwinds and announced on the radio that they expected to land in 4-minutes. They were actually far from the airport and flying over the highest mountains in extremely bad weather with icing and snow. The aircraft crashed into one of the Andes at an altitude of 7200 feet, slid down an icy slope and disappeared into the cracks in a glacier. It was not found until last year. The final transmission from the radio operator on the plane was the repeated message: STENDEC STENDEC STENDEC. The word was repeated 3-times as shown.

PBS contacted me to try to make sense of this final transmission and I am passing the puzzle on to you. They have purchased the rights to produce the British film dealing with many aspects of this crash for a television special and they would very much like to be able to suggest what this message might have been.

On questioning, I obtained the information that the aircraft was not pressurized and that the crew had oxygen available for the higher parts of the flight. I suspect that the aircraft was probably not heated and that the radio operator was perhaps wearing heavy gloves which might have interfered with his accurate sending. In addition, it is possible that he might have been VERY afraid. As a result, he might have sent the message in such a way that the ground operator might have misinterpreted the dots and dashes somehow. For instance, the ST could have been a V ... etc etc. The message was received three times as STENDEC with the same spelling each time it was received. The BBC producer told me that they were communicating in English. Several newspaper articles have wondered if the operator was trying to say, "Stand by" or "S.O.S. ICE", or "Steep Descent"? The plane was flying at 7200 feet, to avoid a storm, in an unpressurized cabin. The crew and passengers were wearing oxygen masks. Unknown to the highly experienced pilot, they had been flying in the jet stream, and their calculations were off. Instead of landing in Santiago, they had yet to cross the Andes and would fly right into the side of a mountain as they descended. It is unclear if the crew had any time to realize their fatal error? The previous signal of the time of their arrival had been clear. Thanks again for your help!

More info found at this page: <http://www.coorong.demon.co.uk/advent%20air%20tales/aatcontents/stardust>.