

SHORT SKIP

SHORT SKIP is published monthly (except July and September) by WVARC. Deadline for items is second Saturday of previous month. Submission by electronic mail preferred. Email to: shortskip@yahoo.com.

West Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc is an ARRL affiliated club
Post Office Box 1573, Sun City Arizona 85372

WVARC is a 501(c)(3) not for profit corporation

CLUB OFFICERS				CLUB DIRECTORS		
Pres	David Cain	AC7CS	623-910-4191	Rich Haworth	W7MDQ	623-933-2191
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Ellsworth Campbell AA7TU, Editor 623-975-0646
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Club Web Page: <http://www.qsl.net/wvarc>

WVARC CALENDAR

Monday	November 7	Monthly Meeting	St. Clement Catholic Church Social Hall 7 PM (15800 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City)
Saturday	November 5	VE Testing	DeVry University 7:45 AM (2149 W Dunlap Ave, Phoenix)
Saturday	November 12	Club Breakfast	Lou's Tivoli Gardens 8:00 AM (14635 Del Webb Blvd Sun City)
Thursdays		Breakfast, Coco's	(98 th Avenue & Bell Road) 8:00 AM
Daily		Call-in Net	147.30 MHZ 9:00 AM

PREZ SEZ

It is fall and the lower temperatures are here again. With many of our traveling members back, we are looking forward to a busy year of ham activities without enduring the triple digit weather! We warmly welcome both our returning members and new folks to our club.

There are public service events, Ladies Night Out, and fall programs to experience. As usual, we have many good volunteers that make it all happen, but need more to make the programs really successful. I recommend that you find a "nitch" that uses your expertise and helps the club. Both you and the club will be better for it. One of the axioms of life is that we

feel better about ourselves when we are helping others. What better way to do this than through ham radio that we enjoy as a hobby. Any of the board members or I will be glad to talk to you about ideas or volunteer slots that will make this a really good year.

David Cain AC7CS

REMINDER FROM RON RASMUSSEN K6OP

I hope you are remembering Ladies Night Out. The date: Wednesday, November 9, 2005. Location will be Palmbrook Country Club, 9350 W. Greenway Rd, Sun City. Great entertainment, prizes for the ladies, and great food.

CLUB MEETING PROGRAM NOVEMBER 7

John Van de Water KD7EBR has made arrangements with members of the Robotics class at Carl Hayden High School to present a program on Robotics for the Club on November 7. Some of today's High School students are doing some amazing things these days. This has all the earmarks of being a very interesting and unusual program!

FCC LICENSE EXAMS

Next exam session at DeVry University Saturday Nov 5, Exams start at 7:45 AM and all tests must be concluded by 9:45 AM. Check-in at the Library on the second floor, southeast corner of the School. Bring photo ID and the original operator license and CSCEs and photocopies of each if applicable. ARRL VEC Exam Fee is \$14 for all elements taken once. An additional fee applies for a retest of any element. Retest is at the option of the VEs. **Pay fee by check to ARRL/VEC or exact amount in cash – Volunteer Examiners cannot make change.**

The Oct 1, session at DeVry – 7 candidates were examined:

- 1 earned Code
- 4 earned Technician license
- 1 Failed Technician
- 1 earned General License
- 1 earned Extra License

Administering VEs**Robert Miner KA7NPQ Liaison**

VE Team:

Edward H. Beyer - WU7A

Bob Bianca - KN7E

Joseph Cutitta - W0SLL

Robert Fairfield - K7RQN

Robert Knight - N7LPD

David Morrill - N7TWT

Shelly Newman - AB7LQ

Kenneth Peloquin - N7PHO

Jack Richards - WA9TV

Harold V. Taylor - W7HVT

Glenn M. Wade - N7JWF

EXPIRING LICENCES

KC7NWN Christine Miner

N7IAU Loyd Waite

W7MAJ Frank Green

KB0UYT Bruno Berg

November

January

January

January

ELECTION OF OFFICERS COMING UP

Nominations for various Club offices will be announced at the November 7 Club meeting, with voting to take place at the December Club meeting. Gordon Willis K7GSW has agreed to be chairman of the nominating committee.

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

Superstition ARC Annual Fest

Saturday Dec 3 2005

Mesa Community College

1833 West Southern Avenue, Mesa, AZ

SW Parking Lot

Talk-In: 147.120+ (PL 162.2)

Contact: Mike Swiader, KA9E

PO Box 21522

Mesa, AZ 85277-1522

Phone: 480-984-8517

Email: KA9E@arrl.net

<http://hamfest.wb7tjd.org>

SERVICE FOR HAMS

(Advertisement)

Have you found a good used tower but can't figure out how you're going to get it down and moved to your QTH? Here's your solution: call Paul Playford, W8AEF at 623-580-0015. He has the know-how, and the equipment to do the job right.

ANOTHER SERVICE OFFER

(Advertisement)

I buy used electronic and radio equipment. Also I can work for you as a Handyman doing antenna work or odd jobs, and am willing to take used equipment if you prefer, as payment. Please call Scotty Rathjen W7SW at (623) 214-3303 or send an email to: w7sw@ARRL.NET

HAM HOME REAL ESTATE (advertisement)

Are you or someone you know looking for a Ham Home? I can help you find a home with a tower or one where a tower can be added. Call or email me to get started.

Richard Haworth W7MDQ

Coldwell Banker Success Realty

602-370-1450 cell

rahaworth@cox.net

AND YOU THOUGHT THE FCC WAS A FRIEND OF AMATEUR RADIO?

Attention All Amateurs...

ARRL Calls on FCC to Shut Down Virginia BPL System (Oct 14, 2005) -- In support of Amateur Radio complaints of interference, the ARRL today formally asked the FCC to instruct the City of Manassas, Virginia, to shut down its broadband over power line (BPL) system. Communication Technologies (COMTek) operates the BPL system over the municipally owned electric power grid. The League says the facility has been the target of unresolved interference complaints dating back at least to early 2004, none of which has resulted "in any action or even interest" on the part of the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) staff. In the meantime, the ARRL goes on to say, interference to local Amateur Radio stations continues. *(More about BPL page 4).*

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

The following list of equipment is from the shack of KM7L – Harold Zebolsky, and is being sold for him by K7PLO:

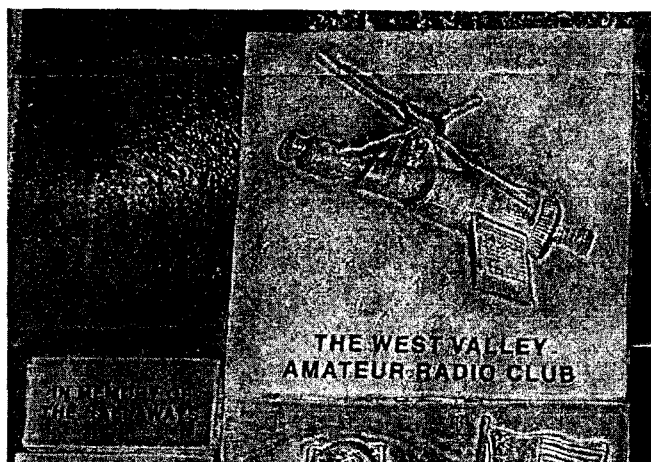
- Antenna, Cushcraft A3WS–dual band 18-24 Mhz \$150
- Watt Meter, Swan WM-3000 50
- Speaker, AFS Mobile 5
- Keyer Bencher, with AEWA Memory Keyer 70
- Low Pass Filter, Drake TV3300 20
- SWR/PWR Mtr Kenwood SW-100A Low band 50
- SWR/Power Mtr, Kenwood SW100B High band 50

 These items are for sale by WVARC:

- Transmitter Drake T-4X \$250
- Receiver Drake R-4 250
- Power Supply Drake MS-4 75
- PACRATT AEA – 232 80
- LP Filter Drake TV1000 25
- Keyer MFJ 546 45
- Transceiver Swan 500CX SS16A SPL 250
- Transceiver Swan 500CX SS16B SPL 250
- Power Supply Swan 117XC 45
- Antenna Larson 15

Portable (with carrying case) 6 band yagi , 250 watt rating, plus 21 ft collapsible mast and "drive on" mount. See details at superantennas.com. \$295 New, never used. Ron k6op Ph 623-546-5710

Ken Morrison W6SQ , a former member of the Club is no longer able to be on the air, so his friend, Walt Schwiebert W8EPO is selling his equipment. Call Walt at 623-972-0370. or e.mail: w8epo@juno.com.



During the July club meeting, a motion was made (and passed) "***That the WVARC make a contribution of \$1,000.00 to the Challenger Space Center***" in Peoria, AZ. The donation was made in August. We learned of the club's opportunity to have a tile on the center's "wall of honor" in appreciation for the donation. Separately, the board voted to purchase a smaller tile for \$100 to honor Baldwin and Millie Hallaway for their many contributions to the club both before and after their passing. Here is a picture of the tiles now mounted on the "wall of honor" in the Learning Center. More pictures will be shown at the November club meeting.

MORSE CODE (from LB3KB)

I decided to make a contribution to the continued use of Morse code, and have created a computer program that makes it easy to learn the code. Download the program from <http://justlearnmorsecode.com>

MORE ON BPL

"BPL is a Pandora's Box of Unprecedented Proportions," ARRL Tells FCC

By Rick Lindquist, N1RL
Senior News Editor
July 8, 2003

NEWINGTON, CT, Jul 8, 2003--Citing the potential for interference to and from Amateur Radio, the ARRL has called on the FCC to "take no steps" to permit Broadband over Power Line (BPL)-a form of power line carrier (PLC) technology.

"ARRL is unwilling to have the Amateur Service gored with the double-edged sword of an incompatible service that will at once (1) cause widespread interference, and (2) preclude any future changes in the amateur HF allocations," the ARRL said. The League said that based on "diligent and exhaustive research," it's concluded that BPL must avoid any and all amateur MF, HF and VHF allocations without exception. "This interference potential, as a matter of both law and fact, disqualifies access BPL as a potential future competitive broadband delivery system."

How will the radiation from BPL wiring affect other systems, such as telephone or cable TV?

So-called "access BPL" would use existing overhead medium-voltage power lines to distribute Internet and broadband

services to homes and businesses. Another form of BPL, "in-house BPL," uses electrical wiring inside a building to distribute digital signals. The League said that while it's aware that current Part 15 rules permit BPL, its interference potential remains untested and unrealized, since no access BPL systems are in operation. BPL proponents would prefer that the FCC authorize even higher power levels for such systems, however.

"BPL is a Pandora's Box of unprecedented proportions," the ARRL declared. It asked the FCC to modify its Part 15 rules to prevent interference to users of the HF and low-VHF spectrum from the start and "to prevent consumers' reliance on BPL as an interference-free broadband delivery system."

In announcing its BPL initiative earlier this year, members of the FCC could barely contain their enthusiasm for the technology. The League's comments point out, however, that the FCC had acceded to the utility industry by citing potential interference to and from unlicensed power company PLC power-grid control systems in turning down ARRL's petition for a 136 kHz allocation. ARRL had asked that hams be permitted to transmit on 136 kHz at less than 2 W effective isotropic radiated power (EIRP); the FCC had proposed 1 W EIRP.

Yet, the same industry, together with BPL manufacturers, is apparently contending now that at HF and VHF, where the power lines are better antennas than they are at LF, that BPL can co-exist with amateur stations using more than 10,000 watts EIRP," the League said. "Both arguments cannot be valid."

Studies appended to the League's comments suggest received signal levels of BPL broadband noise at typical amateur stations would be anywhere from 33.7 dB to 65.4 dB higher than typical ambient noise levels in the worst-case situations. "BPL cannot be deployed using amateur allocations in the MF, HF and VHF bands without severely high interference potential," the ARRL reiterated.

Electric utility companies would operate many, if not most, BPL systems. ARRL pointed out that some power companies have demonstrated a less-than-stellar record of cooperation in resolving complaints of power line noise to hams. "It is fair to say that power line interference to Amateur Radio has been a substantial regulatory burden to the Commission," the ARRL said. "It is a very substantial problem now for the Amateur Service, without the addition of BPL to the mix."

Ed.note: As you can see, ARRL has been following very diligently what could easily become a real crisis in Ham Radio.

NOTE--Deadline for providing input to the next Short Skip is Saturday November 12

2005 Memberships will expire January 2006