



West Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc

P O BOX 1573 Sun City, Arizona 85372-1573

SHORT SKIP

SHORT SKIP is published monthly, except July and September.
 Deadline for items is 2nd Saturday of previous month. Submission by electronic mail preferred. E-mail: shortskip@yahoo.com. West Valley Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL affiliated club and an Arizona 501(c)(3) not for profit corporation.
 Send business mail to PO BOX 1573 SUN CITY ARIZONA 85372

CLUB OFFICERS

Pres	David Cain	AC7CS	623-910-4191
V-Pres	Rich Haworth	W7MDQ	623-933-2191
Sec'y	Vern De Witt	AD7AM	623-582-5919
(Ass't	Kristy De Witt	KD7CSM)	
Treas	Phil Walker	W1PW	623-298-5178

CLUB DIRECTORS

Randy Helfrich	KD7ZAA	623-556-2228
Ron Phillips	AE6QU	602-369-4242
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Ellsworth Campbell AA7TU, Editor 623-975-0646

e-mail: shortskip@yahoo.com

Club Web Page: <http://www.qsl.net/wvarc>

WVARC CALENDAR

Monday	April 3	Monthly Meeting	St. Clement Catholic Church Social Hall	7 PM
			(15800 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City)	
Saturday	April 1	VE Testing	DeVry University	7:45 AM
			(2149 W Dunlap Ave, Phoenix)	
Saturday	April 8	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

We had a very good March meeting with 58 people attending. Quite a number of business items needed to be taken care of since the February meeting was the auction. One of the items was the presentation of eighteen Certificates of Appreciation to the Officers, Board members and those that make each month's meeting a success. It takes a lot of volunteers to make a club function effectively and we are blessed with a terrific group of people that help in many ways, even though they may not be in the spotlight and visible. A great big "Thank you" to all who make this club so successful.

Ron Phillips, AE6QU, gave a very interesting presentation on Amateur Television. The video provided some technical insights through discussion of some of the stations in California. Ron then discussed the ATV repeaters and frequencies that are used here in

Phoenix. He also presented some ways to get operational on ATV without spending a great deal of money (through careful shopping at hamfests and building your own equipment). Thank you Ron, for that presentation.

Our April meeting will have the topic of computer hard drives. These are the key mechanical components in computers that will eventually fail and leave you with that "Oh-Oh" feeling. Come to hear how to you can take care of that hard drive and how a USB drive may be an answer. (I recently had a major failure and a copy of my hard drive on an external USB drive really saved my bacon!)

See you at the April 3rd meeting!

David Cain AC7CS

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Robert Nelson	W9EXG	Sun City
Jerry Reed	W5RCQ	Sun City

CALL SIGN CHANGE

Robert Rigdon	W8FOG	was KE7FGG
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EXPIRING LICENSES

WI0W	Lynn O'dell	June
KD7CSM	Kristy De Witt	June
K6OP	Ron Rasmussen	July
W1OSV	Charles Wallace	July
W7EOY	Del Young	July

HAMFESTS**Saturday April 8**

Sponsor: Arizona ARC
 Location DeVry University
 2149 West Dunlap Avenue
 South Parking Lot
 6:00 AM to 2:00 PM
 \$1 Admission includes hourly prize ticket
 Tailgating - \$10 per space
 Talk-In: 147.06+ (No Tone)
 Contact: George Cooney, KQ7C
 Phone: 602-274-6212
 Email: georgie@aztecfreenet.org
 Contact: Gary Hamman, K7GH
 Phone: 602.996.8148
<http://www.qsl.net/w7io>

Saturday May 6

Cochise Amateur Radio Association
 Location: Green Acres
 2756 Moson Road
 Sierra Vista, AZ 85650
 Talk-In: 146.76 (PL 162.2)
 Contact: Pat Thies, KD7HAB
 Phone: 520-227-0142
 Email: patkd7hab@aol.com
<http://www.qsl.net/k7rdg>

May 6 - May 7, Saturday, Sunday**7TH CALL AREA QSO PARTY (7QP)**

Sponsor: Central Oregon DX Club
 Work all 259 counties of the eight states in the 7th call area. The states are Arizona, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming
 This is the inaugural year for 7QP.
www.codxc.com/new/Page.asp?Content=dryland7s

FCC LICENSE EXAMS

Next exam session at DeVry University Saturday April 1, 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 Mar 4, session at DeVry – 7 candidates were examined:

- 1 earned Code
- 1 failed Technician
- 4 earned Technician license
- 1 failed General
- 1 earned General Credit Only
- 1 failed Extra
- 1 earned Extra License

Administering VEs**Robert Miner KA7NPQ, Liaison**

VE Team:

Edward H. Beyer WU7A	Joseph Cutitta W0SLL
Robert Fairfield K7RQN	Richard Koch W7DIC
David Morrill N7TWT	Shelly Newman AB7LQ
Kenneth Peloquin N7PHO	Yoshi Sano K7YS
Harold V. Taylor W7HVT	

Scottsdale Ham Fest March 11, 2006

- 13 candidates were examined
- 1 earned Code
- 1 failed Technician
- 5 earned Technician license
- 2 earned General License
- 1 earned General Credit Only
- 2 failed Extra
- 2 earned Extra License

Administering VEs

Richard Koch W7DIC	David Morrill N7TWT
Kenneth Peloquin N7PHO	Yoshi Sano K7YS
Joseph Cutitta W0SLL	Ted Samplin KA7RGF
Edward H. Beyer WU7A	

AZ HAM LICENSE PLATE PROPOSAL

John Lanza KC7IM of Sierra Vista and Ingo Radicke of Globe have been negotiating with the Arizona Department of Motor Vehicles (AZDMV) for an Amateur Radio Operator license plate on behalf of ARRL Arizona Section and Amateur Radio Council of Arizona (ARCA).

To see a picture of the proposed plate, visit <http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=AZ>.

AMATEUR RADIO CRUISE to CARIBBEAN**December 3, 2006**

Come join us for 7 nights on the Caribbean Princess December 3rd – 10th out of Ft. Lauderdale, FL

OPERATE MARITIME MOBILE 24/7

Take your spouse on a vacation you can enjoy! Ham activities will abound during the cruise from beginning to end. Seminars for DX, Antennas and technical subjects too. Add this to the wonderful activities that the Princess Cruise Lines offer and you have a first class inexpensive vacation. You get the best of both worlds as they say.

Compare a cruise vacation with any first class resort area vacation and you will find that a vacation on a cruise ship is cheaper and offers more amenities. For as little as \$150 a day you can enjoy a cruise, whereas most resort hotels would cost this before you start to enjoy other activities. It is truly a resort on water that takes you to many exotic places.

Organized by Vernon Fix, W4THN Life Member ARRL, Member QCWA, w4thn@arrl.net

Cruise arrangements by "Cruises By Ashley"

Web: www.hamradiocruise2006.com

Email ashleytravel@cox.net Toll free 1-888-SEA-CRUZ (Sign up early)

Note: You must book your cruise through Ashleytravel to participate.

NOTE--Deadline for providing input to the next Short Skip is Saturday April 15, 2006

SERVICE FOR HAMS (Advertisement)

Due to insurance considerations I can no longer move towers for others. If you have a tower/antenna that you want to get rid of I will remove it: the salvaged material will belong to me. Paul Playford, W8AEF. 623-466-4195.

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"

Wanted: 2 Crank Up Towers

Two members of our West Valley Amateur Radio Club want to buy Crank Up Towers. If you have one for sale or know of someone who does please call Scotty W7SW at (623) 214-3303 or send email to W7SW@ARRL.NET

HERE'S AN OFFER

I want to put out an advertisement for a house sitter for my home in SAN DIEGO. The situation is that I leave San Diego 5 months a year and want someone to stay at my home and take care of it and my 2 wonderful Tonkinese cats. I normally leave Feb-April, July, and Oct- Dec. I have a 1700 sq ft home in a residential neighborhood, with a nice DX/contest equipped station. The situation should appeal to a retired couple that wants to come to San Diego and stay for free. I pay utilities and such. I can send a complete detailed advertisement, details on house, station, detailed dates.

Joe Hypnarowski, W6VNR, 3785 Mt Blackburn Ave San Diego, CA 92111

SATELLITES

AMSAT Phase 3 Program

Phase 3 spacecraft are in a high altitude-elliptical orbit around the earth and in view for long periods of time. These satellites cover about 40% of the earth surface as compared to the low earth orbit (LEO) Phase 2 satellites which cover approximately 10% at any given time. The Phase 3 spacecraft provide predictable, highly reliable, and consistent communications for VHF and UHF equipped amateur radio stations.

There have been four Phase 3 amateur satellites: Phase 3, Phase 3B (AO-10), Phase 3C (AO-13), and Phase 3D (AO-40). Two more Phase 3 satellites are slated for the near future, Phase 3E Express - AMSAT-DL Germany and Eagle - AMSAT-NA USA.

AMSAT Phase 3A

AMSAT Phase 3A was launched on Friday, May 23, 1980, aboard an Ariane rocket in Kourou, French Guiana, after nine years of planning and construction. Broadcast reports on several HF amateur bands were giving the status of Phase 3A and the launch vehicle before liftoff, then the count down and the Ariane rocket rose from the launch pad. Spirits were high for several minutes as amateurs monitored the launch. Then disaster happened, the words "non-nominal flying . . . problem in one rocket engine . . . rocket is going down." There was failure in the first stage of the Ariane rocket and the Phase 3A satellite never reached orbit. Splashdown was in the Atlantic Ocean.

The Phase 3A satellite was the first to have its own rocket motor. The kick motor as it was called would prolong the satellite's life by increasing the perigee of the spacecraft.

The Phase 3A satellite was very complex and more expensive than all previous amateur satellites combined.

"Satellites are not assigned a number until after they've been successfully placed in orbit.

*73 Robert K7RQN, AMSAT-NA
Area Coordinator, Peoria, Arizona*

DAN PIERSON W6NTX – SK

Dan died after a short illness on March 11, 2006. He will be long remembered for the Ham Radio courses he taught, and for the high success rate of his students. It was a great way to use his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering received from the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1953. Dan had 4 children. His oldest son was a Ham (call sign not known) and daughter, Marilyn Atherton KD7FVB, who donated all of his Ham station to WVARC. Dan was voted "Ham of the Year" in 2002.

RICHARD LEE CHRISMAN AB7HW - SK



photo by blindleader.com

Lee AB7HW and Scotty W7WOOF

Lee Chrisman became SK February 24 in California while attending Handiham Radio Camp.

RETIREMENT LIVING AND HAM RADIO

Having seen one retirement residence facility (Freedom Plaza) where one of our members lives (Walt Schwiebert W8EPO), your editor was wondering if there might be other similar facilities in the area offering a ham shack as one of its inducements. If you happen to know of other retirement communities with such facilities, please drop an e.mail to me, and in some future issue I'll list what we've discovered. I'm sure no facility will be offering cubical quad antennas but just an OK to engage in our favorite hobby would be a "plus"