



WEST VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

P O BOX 1573 SUN CITY, ARIZONA 85372-1573

SHORT SKIP

SHORT SKIP is published monthly except July and September. Deadlines for items is second Saturday of previous month. Submission by electronic mail preferred. E-mail shortskip@yahoo.com. West Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc. is an Arizona 501(c)(3) not for profit corporation.

An ARRL Affiliated Club

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WVARC CALENDAR

Saturday	March 3	VE Exam Session	DeVry University 2149 W Dunlap Ave, Phoenix	7:45 AM
Monday	March 5	Monthly Meeting	St. Clement Catholic Church Social Hall 15800 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City	7:00 PM
Saturday	March 10	Monthly Breakfast	Lou's Tivoli Gardens 14635 Del Webb Blvd Sun City	8:00 AM
Thursdays	Breakfast at Tivoli Gardens		Lou's Tivoli Gardens	8:00 AM
Daily	Call-in Net		147.300 MHz, Tone 162.2 Hz	9:00 AM

PREZ SEZ

Wow! What a fantastic auction! This has probably been our largest one yet. Over 350 lots were auctioned and over \$8000 in total sales. Is it any wonder that we didn't finish the last lot until 11:30 pm. A big thanks to the cleanup crew that stayed until 1:00 am and helped restore order to the hall. There will be a full tally of the auction results in the next ShortSkip, after our treasurer, Phil Walker, W1PW, finishes the many hours of paperwork. There was one lot that was sold and someone didn't pick it up. A hand truck was also left behind. Anyone missing these items and can identify them with either Phil Walker, W1PW, or myself can retrieve them. A great big thanks to our auction coordinator, Ken Solheim, WN7DRX, for arranging for such a great crew of 25-30 volunteers some of who worked from 3:30 pm in the afternoon and didn't finish until 1:00 AM!

We have an urgent need for a couple of volunteers. The first is for a program coordinator. We urgently need someone to coordinate our programs if we are going to have anything more than just a business meeting each month. This doesn't take a lot of time and anyone who knows people who are doing interesting things in the ham community could greatly help us.

The other urgently needed position is for an instructor for ham classes. Since Dan Pierson, W6NTX, passed away, we have been without an instructor. As a full service club, we need to have occasional classes. We have had several requests for classes in the last six months and have had to turn them down or send them to another club. For either of these positions, see any of the board members or the president if you can help.

David Cain, AC7CS

VEs NEEDED FOR SPECIAL SESSION

ARRL accredited VEs are needed for an exam session at the Scottsdale Ham Fest on March 10. The location will be Scottsdale Community College in the Business Building, Room BU27. Pre-Registration shall be at 8:45 AM; testing starts at 9:00 AM. Please contact Bob Miner KA7NPQ: ka7npq@msn.com 602-997-2465

FCC LICENSE EXAMS

Next exam session at DeVry University: Saturday March 3. 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.**

14 candidates were examined on February 3:

- 1 earned Amateur Extra license
- 2 earned General Class license
- 9 earned Technician Class license
- 3 earned Element 3 (General) Credit
- 1 earned Element 1 (Code) Credit
- 1 failed Element 4 (Extra)
- 1 failed Element 3 (General)

Administering VEs were Ralph Adair W7JU, Bob Bianca KN7E, Joseph Cutitta W0SLL, Robert Fairfield K7RQN, Robert Gormley WA1MHZ, Robert Knight N7LPD, Richard Koch W7DIC, David Morrill N7TWT, Shelly Newman AB7LQ, Harold Taylor W7VHT, Glenn Wade N7JWF. Bob Miner KA7NPQ was the session liaison.

JANUARY 23 SPECIAL EXAM SESSION

A special exam session was held at the Latter Day Saints Church in Glendale for 17 candidates. Technician licenses were earned by 15, 1 candidate earned Element3 (General) credit and 1 candidate failed the Technician written exam.

Administering VEs: Bob Bianca KK7UN, Joseph Cutitta W0SLL, David Despain K7DLD, Robert Fairfield K7RQN, Robert Gormley WA1MHZ, Richard Koch W7DIC, David Morrill N7TWT, Ted Samplin KA7RGF, Yoshi Sano K7YS, Harold Taylor W7VHT, Judith Thompson K0WGN, Raymond Thompson W0FVB, Glenn Wade N7JWF, Phillip Weaver W7DIZ. Bob Miner KA7NPQ was the session liaison.

EXPIRING LICENSES

WB2PPS	Pauline Deerhake	March
N7JFA	Stan Mintz	March
AK7N	Carol Melton	June

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Joel Clark W7EPA Wickenburg
George Kramer KE7KMH Sun City

UPCOMING HAMFESTS***Saturday March 10***

Scottsdale Spring Hamfest

Sponsors:

Amateur Radio Council of Arizona (ARCA)

Scottsdale Amateur Radio Club (SARC)

Opens 6:00 AM

Self contained RV parking-

Table space donation \$10

Parking donation \$2

VE Testing, Refreshments

Scottsdale Community College

9000 E Chaparral Road, Scottsdale AZ

East Parking Lots

Exit 46 Loop 101 and Chaparral Rd

Talk-In: 147.18 no tone

Contact: Ed Nickerson, WU7S

sarc2007@cox.net

Saturday April 14

Swapfest

Sponsor:

Arizona Amateur Radio Club

Begins at sunrise

Location:

DeVry University Campus

2149 W Dunlap Avenue Phoenix

South Parking Lot

Saturday May 5

Larry Warren Memorial Hamfest

Sponsor:

Cochise Amateur Radio Association (CARA)

<http://www.k7rdg.org>

Location:

Green Acres, Sierra Vista Arizona

Talk-In: 146.76 Tone 162.2

Contact: Pat Thies, KD7HAB

Phone: 520-378-6829

Email: patkd7hab@aol.com

HILLARD G. KOLZAK, WB9OAC , SK

We just learned recently about this member of WVARC who became a Silent Key on December 3, 2006. No other details available

KEN HOPPER KD7KH, SK

Ken died in hospice in the last week of January. He had suffered with cancer for three years.

He was a World War 2 veteran who had landed on Normandy beach, survived the Battle of the Bulge, and was a prisoner of war.

In addition to membership in WVARC, he was a member of Quarter Century Wireless Association, Central Arizona DX Association, and an ARRL Life Member. A memorial service was held February 2.

RUDOLPH STROTHMANN WA9RKI, SK

Became a Silent Key on December 21, 2006. No other details available.

STAN MINTZ N7JFA, SK

According to word received from his daughter, Stan became a Silent Key on January 10, 2007. No other details available.

HOW IMPORTANT IS HAM RADIO?

An article by John Driscoll in the Eureka Times Standard (California) recently pointed out the potential value of Ham Radio. He commented that an above ground fiber optic cable had been cut through by natural forces, resulting in Internet and long distance telephone services being wiped out. In situations like that Ham radio quite often comes to the rescue. Mr. Driscoll comments that "Comparatively, ham radio is low tech. But it is reliable." Take pride in the fact that you are a member of an organization which has over the years pulled the victims of disaster out of deadly holes, as Steve McCulley W7TZ demonstrated at our January Club meeting.

2008 SOUTHWEST DIVISION CONVENTION

To Be Hosted By Valley Of The Sun Clubs

Hi! My name is Rick Aldom, and I am the chair of the 2008 Southwestern Division Convention to be held in the greater Phoenix area. I am writing to all the area clubs to solicit candidates to be on the convention committee.

These individuals need to be self starters, know how to develop their own teams and in short, be able to hit the ground running.

With the technology available to us, I will try to limit the in person meetings to as few as possible to reduce the cost of commuting. I expect much of this project will be accomplished by e-mail, with once a month or every other month in person meetings.

As of this time, the committee has the following positions filled:

Chair	Rick Aldom	W7STS
Co-chair	Brian Romine	KC5CAY
Registration	Jim Hoff	N7XXX
Web Design	Jim Hoff	N7XXX

I am looking for the following:

- Programs
- Finance
- Marketing
- Prizes
- Hotel
- Operations
- Flea Market
- Exhibitor
- Operations
- Legal

As in the past, volunteers will "earn" a percentage of the profit for their clubs : 50% divided between all the committee members for their club or designate and 50% will be shared as a percentage of hours worked by each club by all members who participate.

If you know of someone who would do a good job in one of these roles, please have them send me an email with a short bio-resume.

Cheers, Rick

THURSDAY MORNING BREAKFAST RELOCATED

After experiencing some problems with the Thursday morning breakfast, (basically very slow service) we are going to try another location. Augie Allen, has made arrangements with Tivoli Gardens at 15635 Del Webb Blvd in Sun City for a breakfast every Thursday, beginning February 15. Tivoli Gardens is about a half mile south of Bell road on Del Webb (107th) Blvd. While they open at 7:00 am, it is suggested that we have an 8:00 am starting time. Hope to see you folks there.

Deadline for material for next issue of Short Skip is Saturday March 10, 2007

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 e-mail 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

NEED COMPUTER HELP? (Advertisement)

Computer consultant: in-home tutoring, problem solving, hardware and software installations, virus detection and removal. Patient professional with 30+ years in the computer field. Call Larry at L.E. Purchase Computer Consultants, Inc. 1-888-922-9295.

SURPRISE BPL UPDATE

With nine participants we have now completed 205 mobile observations and 569 fixed observations. I have 2 more fellows to complete this test. Probably, for all intents and purposes we are 99% done. The next step in the process will up to the City of Surprise.

Last time I talked with Randy Jackson, IT director he mentioned something about 3rd generation chipsets being used. I know that 2nd are being used presently and some installations are being used with very little effect on Ham bands. I haven't heard anything about 3rd generation yet. Some cities are putting BPL above 30 Mhz to get away from Amateur Radio problems. Cincinnati is one that has complied with engineering that Masks the Amateur portions and, according to W1RF1 from ARRL,, the system has no interference problems. Lets hope we, for the benefit of all Amateurs concerned, will be as fortunate. 73 Bob WA1MHZ

BPL STUDY BILL (HR 462) GAINS COSPONSORS

A bill in the US House of Representatives calling on the FCC to study the interference potential of BPL

technology has been introduced by US Rep Mike Ross, WD5DVR (D-AR). Joining him in sponsoring the Bill are US Rep Steve Israel (D-NY) and US Rep Ron Paul (R-TX).

HR 462 would require the FCC to address several technical facets, including the degree of notching necessary "to protect the reliability of mobile radio communications".

Ross's bill focuses on some of the same issues the ARRL cited last October when it asked the US Court of Appeals – DC Circuit to review certain aspects of the Part 15 BPL rules. At that time the League asserted that the BPL rules "exceed the Commission's jurisdiction and authority; are contrary to the Communications Act of 1934; and are arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion and otherwise not in accordance with law."

HR 462 has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. If Ross's measure is adopted by both houses of Congress and signed by the President, the FCC would have to undertake a study of BPL's interference potential within 90 days of enactment and report to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

ARIZONA EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS PRESERVATION ACT HB 2595

This bill incorporates the Federal Communications Commission preemption known as PRB1 that requires local communities to make "reasonable accommodation" for Amateur Radio antennas and structures. It further applies that "reasonable accommodation" to HOA's. This bill also calls for no "special charge" on Arizona Ham Radio license plates. Your help is vital to this bill passing. Please contact your senator and representative now and ask them to support and co-sponsor HB 2595. Go to www.az-arrl.org for sample language to include in your emails and phone calls. Your district can be found by calling your local County Elections department.

The Arizona Legislature Membership Roster can be found at: <http://www.azleg.state.az.us>

Our thanks to Dan Brown, NA7DB, Mayor, City of Page for putting this together.