

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. Deadline for items is the second Saturday of previous month. Submission by electronic mail is preferred; email: shortskip@yahoo.com. West Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc. is an Arizona 501(c)(3) not for profit corporation.
An ARRL Affiliated Club

CLUB OFFICERS				CLUB DIRECTORS		
President	Charles Deschais	KE7IBG	623-933-5998	Pat Lynch	K7NFB	623-544-9282
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Randall Helfrich KD7ZAA: Editor email: shortskip@yahoo.com Club Web Page: http://www.westvalleyarc.org						

WVARC CALENDAR

Saturday	Feb 6	VE Exam Session	DeVry University 2149 W Dunlap Ave, Phoenix	9:00 AM
Monday	Feb 1	Annual AUCTION	St. Clement Catholic Church Social Hall 15800 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City	7:00 PM
Saturday 2 nd . Sat	Feb 13	Monthly Breakfast	Lou's Tivoli Gardens 14635 Del Webb Blvd Sun City	7:45 AM
Thursdays		Weekly Breakfast	Lou's Tivoli Gardens	8:00 AM
Daily		Call-in Net	147.300 MHz, Tone 162.2 Hz	9:00 AM
Mon-Thur		Call-in Net	147.300 MHz, Tone 162.2 Hz	8:00 PM

PREZ SEZ

I am always intrigued by the informal polls that show up on the ARRL website. Sometimes it is interesting just to look and see how folks answered. One fairly recent poll asked the question "As we enter a new year, how do you feel about the future of Amateur Radio?" The results were as follows: Optimistic -- The future looks bright 33.4 %, Concerned -- We face some challenging problems 40.5 % and Pessimistic -- Our best years are behind us 20.3 %. It looks to me like the majority foresee a good future for amateur radio. I would have to tend to agree. Hams have always been faced with challenges, whether there is poor propagation, shortages of "parts", poor propagation, HOA restrictions, lack of "proper antenna facilities" or threats to the available spectrum. It seems that Hams by nature are over-comers. We can always scrounge parts from somewhere, find something that will radiate RF and can still work some DX

despite a bottomed out solar cycle. Are our best days behind us? Probably not. Will the amateur radio of tomorrow be that of today? I certainly hope not. If it is then we have stagnated, and we will have ceased to be the innovators that have made amateur radio both fun and a service to the community. While technology may change the way we do amateur radio, I hope that one thing does not change and that is the rich heritage of the "Elmer". Those mentors who in many cases have not only instructed young men and women in the art of amateur radio but have also served to challenge and direct these young folks into challenging careers that they might not otherwise thought themselves capable of. My hat is off to you that have given your valuable time to be an Elmer. I suspect that whatever technological changes occur in amateur radio that the spirit and role of Elmer – Mentor will remain. 73, Charles Deschais, KE7IBG

UPCOMING HAM EVENTS

Monday February 1

WVARC 2010 Ham Equipment Auction

Sponsor:

West Valley Amateur Radio Club

<http://westvalleyarc.org/>

Friday-Saturday February 19-20

Yuma Hamfest & Emergency Preparedness Show

Sponsor:

Yuma Amateur Radio Hamfest Organization

Yuma County Fairgrounds

2520 East 32nd Street

Yuma Arizona

Talk-In: 146.840(-) PL 88.5

<http://www.yumahamfest.org>

Contact: Richard Palaszynski, KC2LGR

Phone: 928-305-0715

Email: rp8690@yahoo.com

Saturday, February 27

Lost Dutchman Days

W7W Special Events Station

Sponsor:

Superstition Amateur Radio Club

Email: <http://wb7tjd.org/W7W/>

Saturday March 13

Scottsdale Spring Hamfest

Sponsors:

ARCA and Scottsdale Amateur Radio Club

Location:

Fort McDowell Casino

Highway 87 & Fort McDowell Road

Scottsdale, Arizona

Talk-In: 147.36 (PL 162.2)

Contact: Ed Nickerson, WU7S

Scottsdale, AZ 85257-4302

Phone: 480-949-5161

Fax: 480-292-8789

Email: enickerson427@aol.com

<http://scottsdaleamateurradioclub.ning.com>

Saturday March 27

RST Desert-Fest '10

Sponsor:

Radio Society of Tucson

Location:

Kino Sports Complex

Forgeus Avenue & Ajo Way

Tucson, Arizona

Talk-In: 146.800- (PL 156.7)

<http://www.tucsonhamfest.com>

Contact: Randy Malick, KF0X

Email: info@tucsonhamfest.com

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Thomas Smith, W0OFO, Surprise, AZ

Dave Nivison, KC2TFX, Peoria, AZ

Robert (Bob) Armstrong, K0BT, Peoria, AZ

John Bednarik, AD7ZK, Prescott, AZ

LaROY Cadiz, KD7CKJ, Peoria, AZ

RETURNING MEMBERS

Charles R Breeding, W7ENP, Sun City West, AZ

Edwin Eiting, WA6PNJ, Chandler, AZ

EXPIRING LICENSE

KB7SRC Bruce Kabana March

FCC LICENSE EXAMS

Next exam session at DeVry University Saturday Feb 6th Exams start at 9:00 AM and all tests must be concluded by 11:00 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 can not make change.

The January 2nd, session at DeVry – 6 candidates were examined

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

Administering VEs

David Morrill N7TWT Liaison

VE Team:

Kenneth Peloquin N7PHO

Robert Fairfield K7RQN

Robert Miner KA7NPQ

Joe Cuttita W0SLL

Bill Martin AI0D

Robert Gormley KS7U

Jim Scherfling WB8CMG

Harold Taylor W7HVT

**Closing date for material for
March Short Skip
Tuesday February 9, 2010
Email: shortskip@yahoo.com**

ANNUAL HAM RADIO AUCTION**Monday Evening February 1, 2010**

The West Valley Amateur Radio Club annual 2010 Ham Radio equipment auction will be held on Monday, February 1, 2010 at the St. Clement of Rome Social Hall, 15800 N Del Webb Blvd., Sun City, Arizona.

Seller registration starts at 5:30 pm, Bidder registration at 6:30 pm and the auction starts promptly at 7:00 pm.

Sellers will need to fill out a Lot Ticket describing equipment being offered. The Lot Tickets will be available at Sellers registration.

Starting in January 2010 the Lot Tickets will be available at the WVARC meeting, anytime from an officer or board member and at the Thursday morning breakfast at Lou's Tivoli Gardens. Lot Tickets may be mailed to your home, email your name and USPS address to
ronk6op@cox.net .

WVARC shall retain 10% of the selling price for auction items sold for the general benefit of the club.

Sellers of items successfully auctioned will be paid their net proceeds by WVARC club check sent via mail within 14-days of conclusion of the auction.

Ron Rasmussen, K6OP

CLASSES for SKYWARN SPOTTERS

Maricopa County NOAA is starting to schedule this spring's SKYWARN classes for weather spotters. If you would like to participate, go to the following website to see the schedule and for further information.

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/psr/general/spotter/>

For further questions, please contact

Ken Waters, N4PBY,
ken.waters@noaa.gov
NWS Phoenix
(602) 275-0073 [push 5]

Randy Helfrich, KD7ZAA

TECHNICIAN LICENSE CLASSES

Starting Saturday, February 20th at Mesa Community College (Southern & Dobson in Mesa), room (TBD)

Instructor: Bob Burleson, KG7QJ

Saturdays Feb 20 – Apr 10th 10:00am to 1:00pm

Six 3-hour sessions MCC Fee \$31**

Amateur License **test** at MCC Saturday, April 10th

To register call MCC Community Education at 480-461-7493 -- Class Number 61164

**Required text "Ham Radio License Manual" (1st edition, third printing), will be available from the instructors at the first class for \$20. The fee for the FCC Amateur License test is \$15 and can be paid by cash or check at the VE Test session April 10th.

SPOTLIGHT ON AMATEUR RADIO 2009 SEES SURGE OF NEW AMATEUR RADIO LICENSEES

This past year was a banner year for new Amateur Radio licensees. According to ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, the FCC issued more than 30,000 new ham radio licenses. "In 2009, the demand for Amateur Radio exam sessions remained elevated and is still running at a higher rate than before the FCC's restructuring of the license requirements in 2007," Somma said. "This high level of exam session activity has produced an elevated influx of new applications, far outpacing recent years." A total of 30,144 new licenses were granted in 2009 -- an increase of almost 7.5 percent from 2008. In 2005, 16,368 new hams joined Amateur Radio's ranks; just five years later, that number had increased by almost 14,000 -- a whopping 84 percent!

Printed from the ARRL Letter, Jan 7, 2010

HAM HOME REAL ESTATE (Ad)

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 Residential Brokerage
602-370-1450 cell, rahaworth@cox.net

WANTED: TO PURCHASE AN ANTENNA

KA7G is looking to purchase a used antenna tower. MA-40 tubular crank-up is preferred, but will consider any other tower. Needed to support an antenna for a Sun City West/Sun City-area IRLP NODE. Please contact Jerry McManus, KA7G, at 623 523-2075 or mtsailor@cox.net.

FOR SALE: ANTENNAS

Antennas for sale. All with manuals from K4VM

- 1) Cushcraft Ringo Ranger 2m \$35
 - 2) Outbacker perth 75-10M Mobile or balcony \$200
 - 3) Cushcraft A147-4 4 el 2meter beam \$35
- Marty Colburn, k4vm@arrl.net 623-556-0112

HELP NEEDED:

Help is needed to assist on an antenna, 75' Tower, 7 element beam. Problem 10 unit element has moved and rotated to approximately 5 o'clock. I need help getting this fixed.

Contact Jim Haveron, KA7UND at 623-341-3233.

NEED COMPUTER HELP? (Ad)

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; KE7JXQ at L.E. Purchase Computer Consultants, Inc. 1-888-922-9295 or 602-863-0502.