

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: KD7JVW@cox.net. 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	Bill Roberts	KD7JMN	623-826-3097	Rosemary Kydd	N7PLN	623-877-3987
V-President	Ted Walker	KJ7V	417-260-7401	Ken Peloquin	N7PHO	623-877-3987
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		Alt. Board Member:		Dave Allard	KF7MCO	623-328-5458
<p>Cindy Morrill: Editor Email: KD7JVW@cox.net Club Web Page: http://www.westvalleyarc.org</p>						

WVARC CALENDAR

Saturday	June 2	VE Exam Session	DeVry University 2149 W Dunlap Ave, Phoenix	9:00 AM
Monday	June 4 July 2	Monthly Meeting	St. Clement Catholic Church Social Hall 15800 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City	7:00 PM
Saturday 2 nd . Sat		Monthly Breakfast	Have been cancelled due to low attendance	
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

Hello once again, This is not the time of year to be doing maintenance on our radio systems but a good time to make a list for cooler times to take care of. Take a few minutes to do a station inspection which should include transmission lines for age and deterioration and a check for loose connections. The sun in our area is murder on coax. It is tough but won't last forever. Lying on the ground amongst the rocks and exposed to gnawing beasts takes it toll and when the coax starts to go south, the next item in the chain suffers: the radio, tuner and other accessories. Connections can become loosened on their own, causing SWR problems and a strain on the transceiver. Towers need to be inspected on a regular basis with failing parts replaced. Guys need to be inspected

on the tower as well as on the ground. Always be on the alert for ways to improve your system. Not just the easy stuff but do it all. It is all too easy to put these chores off for another day so watch out for that trap. Improve that rat's nest of wiring around the station desk. Upon inspection of the station of a silent key several years ago, I found out that he had done a dangerous wiring job himself. He converted a 110 vac circuit to 220 vac at the lighting panel/fuse box and didn't change the receptacle. He installed a 110 plug in a 220 configuration for his linear amplifier, strictly against the electrical code and common sense. The only way I found this out was the buyer of the amp told me what he had found. I alerted the widow whose son checked it out and found the bear trap and corrected it. Think what would have

happened had the survivor used that receptacle to vacuum the room. She could have been severely harmed. Grounding to water pipes and gas pipes, used to be commonplace in the good old days, but isn't accepted practice these days. If you aren't sure of your electrical prowess, call on someone who knows proper electrical practices to do your inspection and make any necessary corrections. Shared with us by Ted Walker, KJ7V

HAMFESTS

- **06/02/2012 | [White Mountain Hamfest](#)**

Location: Show Low, AZ

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Kachina Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.kachina-arc.org>

- **07/20/2012 | [ARCA Williams Summer Hamfest](#)**

Location: Williams, AZ

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Amateur Radio Council of Arizona

Website: <http://www.arca-az.org>

FCC LICENSE EXAMS

Next exam session at DeVry University Saturday, **June 2, 2012**. An additional testing exam will be held on Saturday, **July 7, 2012**.

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. Bring photo ID and the original operator and a photocopy of your License, if you have one, and a pen and pencil. ARRL VEC Exam Fee is \$15 for all elements taken once. An additional fee applies for a retest of any element. Retest is at the option of the VEs. Pay the testing fee by check to ARRL/VEC or exact amount in cash – Volunteer Examiners can not make change.

Thank you Volunteer Examiners for helping others enjoy our hobby.

The May 5th, session at DeVry – 7 candidates were examined

- 2 Earned Technician Class license
- 2 Earned General Class license
- 3 Earned Extra Class License

Administering VE's

David Morrill N7TWT Liaison

VE Team:

James Skinnell K7EOG

Bill Martin AI0D

Joe Cutitta W0SLI

Ken Peloquin N7PHO

James Scherfling K8NAU

Robert Kettler Jr. WA6MIO

Robert Fairfield K7RQN

Ed Braatelen KF7EWP

What does a Volunteer Examiner (VE) do?

Volunteer Examiners (VEs) are licensed radio amateurs holding a General Class license or higher who offer their time to administer the FCC licensing tests. Learn how you can [become a VE](#) associated with the ARRL Volunteer Coordinator office (VEC) at the ARRL website.

**Closing date for articles for
August/September Short Skip
Thurs., July 19th
Email: KD7JVW@cox.net
This will be a short time for me to get this
completed, due to another obligation, so
please have all articles, adds, etc. to me by
that date. Thank you.**

Now about You:

The March passing of a ham brought to mind another example of poor planning in not having a will. The family has almost no recourse in settling the estate of a person who has no will. The state steps in, assigns lawyers to do the legal work and the spoils are distributed as they see fit while the rightful heirs are possibly denied any access. An 'end of life' plan should be a continuous process. The plan should

be available to key family members, certainly in duplicate. This would include point of contacts, known insurance policies, who to notify in case of death, where to find a copy of the will or trust and the list goes on. The internet is a good source to draw upon for guidelines. A copy of the plan should be posted in a conspicuous place in the home and kept current with any revisions. This is especially important for those who live alone. A system of cross checking with key friends and family on a frequent basis should be part of the plan such as periodic phone calls between interested parties. When the papers and the mail start to pile up which triggers action from the postman and neighbors, here in Sun City and Sun City West the Posse is called to check on the residence. Fire and locksmith are called upon for entry. That isn't a pleasant experience for them but what is more perplexing is finding out who to notify. Often the deceased has no plan at all and that creates many problems. Take the time to include end of life planning in your busy schedule and save the clean up team some trouble. It isn't a pleasant thought for some to make these plans but it's a fact that we all will go someday....why not make it easier on the ones left behind? I am working on my plan. You never know when your time will be 'up'. The recent passed individual was only 62 and it is reported he died of natural causes. Many of us in the radio club are past that age with room to spare.

Submitted by Ted Walker

New Opportunity

Are you looking for new opportunities and an exciting challenge? Have you considered becoming a Net Controller? This is an excellent opportunity to be of service to the community and your fellow hams. We currently have a morning net on the 2-meter repeater that runs daily at 0900 hrs. There is also an evening net that runs Monday through Thursday at 2000 hrs. We are currently in need of Net Controllers for both the morning and evening nets. There are a variety days and times available and no previous experience is required. We train. If you are involved in emergency communications in any capacity this is an excellent opportunity to practice skills, which you would use in emergency communications. Or if you are new to the hobby it is both fun and an opportunity to get your feet wet. If you are interested in becoming a Net Control you can simply check into any one of the nets and let the Net Control know that you are interested.

Or you can contact WA6PNJ – Ed, AE7AD- Glen or myself KE7IBG – Charles. Our contact information is in the directory. Submitted By Charles Deshaies

+++ **Emergency Communications:** +++

In the event of severe weather or any other event, monitor the 2-meter repeater (147.300, Offset (+), PL 162.2). Also should the repeater become inoperative operations will move to 146.540 Simplex. Submitted by Charles Deshaies

Two Silent Keys

1. I'm sorry to inform you that my husband, Steve May, WAØASM, passed away suddenly April 12, 2012 in Lincoln, Nebraska due to a heart attack and resulting complications. Services were held in Lincoln on April 17. We so enjoyed being with you at the November Club meeting and the Holiday Party at Tivoli Gardens, as well as several breakfast gatherings in the past year. Thanks for your hospitality and friendship. There is a nice article on Steve in the May issue of our local Lincoln Amateur Radio Club newsletter, The Lincoln LOG, at www.k0kky.org if anyone is interested. Information shared with us by Dianna May, Steve's wife.

2. Dave Pollack, KF7WW of Sun City He passed on April 19, 2012 after a long illness. His last days were spent @ Royal Oaks Nursing home. (His wife is not doing well at this time) Phil Walker shared with us that he was a long time member of our club and was instrumental in setting up the club's original relationship with the Arizona Museum of Science. Our efforts can have a long lasting impact on our community.

For Your Information: FYI

1. **Tivoli Gardens** has moved to 12555 W. Bell Rd. in Surprise. Join the group for Thursday morning breakfasts. It is stated as starting at 8 a.m. but many show up after 7a.m. Join the group; bring a spouse, or someone interested in being a HAM.
2. **ARRL Field Day** is on June 23-24 this year. It's a good time to join others on the air waves.

Note to HAM Equipment Owners:

Club members can sell items free of charge by listing them in our newsletters. Send those to your editor by the submission date listed in the box above.

kd7jyw@cox.net

4 Items For Sale:

- 1. Icom 730 transceiver. works well
- 2. Astron P/S Rs 35a works well.
- 3. MFJ versa tuner M 949c
- 4. 10m ringo ant less than 4 mo. in the air

Asking \$400.00 won't separate. I can be reached at 602-810-8595

Thanks, Daniel Meisel Kb8jfp

Returning Members:

James Ranft, K6VJT of Surprise as of 5/17/12

Bill Pauley, KB7RRE and Judy Pauley,

KB7SJJ of Sun City as of 5/7/12 meeting

Warren Mays, K7SA of Cave Creek, as of

5/5/12

Welcome back to the club. We will enjoy having you learn and work with us.

HOME REAL ESTATE ADD

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

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.

NEW Member:

Harry Scholz, KF7TIM of Glendale as of

5/17/12

Thank you Harry for joining the club and Welcome. Please join us for activities and projects we may undertake.

Have an idea, please let an officer know. We welcome input, it makes our job easier.

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West Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
 http://www.westvalleyarc.org
 P. O. Box 1573
 Sun City, AZ 85372-1573
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