

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	Ron Phillips	AE6QU	602-369-4242	Pat Lynch	K7NFB	623-221-0230
V-President	Richard Faust	K9IVB	623-875-6653	Ken Peloquin	N7PHO	623-877-3987
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Randall Helfrich KD7ZAA: Editor Email: rjhelfrich@aol.com Club Web Page: http://www.westvalleyarc.org						

WVARC CALENDAR

Saturday	Oct 1	VE Exam Session	DeVry University 2149 W Dunlap Ave, Phoenix	9:00 AM
Monday	Aug 1 Sept 5	Monthly Meeting	St. Clement Catholic Church Social Hall 15800 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City	7:00 PM
Saturday 2 nd . Sat	Aug 13 Sept 10	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 (from Maui)

ARRL Field Day has come and gone, and although many groups had to make changes in their plans due to fires and forest closures; still many set records. Ham Nations <http://www.twit.tv/hn> site may be worth looking at for Field Day News.

The next ARRL contest that several of our members will be in is the 10 GHz and up contest, in August and September. We will spend the first weekend of the contest on Harquahala Mountain near Wickenburg.

For more information go to the website: www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/recreation/autotour/harq_summit.html).

If you are interested to join us, contact myself or Kevin Jacobson, AD7OI, and we will help you get started on 10 GHz this year! Kevin found paths into California and Southern Arizona last year, and is planning a larger group this year. The more

stations we can put on Harquhala, the more excitement we get from others.

Dick Faust, K9IVB, will be presenting a program on his antenna for the August meeting. Unfortunately, I will be back from Maui after the meeting, in time for the 10 GHz contest. See you all in September. We always need program ideas. Keep them coming!

Ron Phillips, President
AE6QU 602-369-4242 cell

ECHOLINK

I have good news for the snow birds and others. Echolink is currently up and running. It is under the call NY7S-R, Node 598882 and is linked to the 2 meter repeater. At this time it is in a developmental phase but seems stable. Hopefully, in the near future more permanent arrangements will be made. For more information on Echolink, please visit www.echolink.org.

Submitted by Charles Deshaies, KE7IBG

VALLEY LICENSE EXAM OPPORTUNITIES

Monday August 15

Monday September 19

Sponsor: East Valley VE Team
Time: 6:00 PM Walk-ins allowed
Location: City of Mesa Bldg
640 N Mesa Drive, Mesa Arizona
Contact: Steve Gurley
(480) 704-3666; email: kj7wk@cox.net
VEC: [ARRL VEC](#)

Tuesday September 20

Sponsor: Boy Scout Troop 127
Time: 8:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: John H. Kelly
(602) 264-6854
Email: kellyj127@aol.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: St Francis Xavier School
4715 N Central Ave Phoenix

Saturday October 1

Sponsor: Devry ARC&West Valley ARC
Location: Devry University-Library
See details elsewhere in this issue

Note:

ARRL VEC test fee \$15. Bring photo identification, test fee - *exact change-please*, original and copies of current license and Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) to examination.

HAMS HELP WHEN PHONES FAIL AT SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL

03/25/2011

By Joe Moell, K0OV, ARRL ARDF Coordinator

When nurses and other caregivers picked up their phones at Children's Hospital of Orange County ([CHOC](#)) in California in the early morning on March 21, there was no dial tone. A power surge caused the central processor in the hospital's phone switch to fail. Following established procedures, the Lead Operator at the CHOC switchboard immediately activated the Hospital Disaster Support Communications System ([HDSCS](#)), using an off-switch tie-line to reach April Moell, WA6OPS, head of this ARES® group that specializes in helping hospitals when their communications fail.

Moell established a 2 meter net and initiated a call-out of HDSCS members via telephone and pager. Ken Simpson, W6KOS, and Clay Stearns, KE6TZR, soon arrived at the hospital to help

establish a link with the outside world. Soon, more operators were at the hospital to communicate for its most important units, including the emergency department, neonatal intensive care, pediatric intensive care and the pharmacy.

She then contacted the supervisor at Orange County Communications to report the outage and to provide her telephone number for incoming calls to CHOC. This resulted in Moell receiving several urgent messages for the hospital, including one regarding the transport of a young patient coming in for an appendectomy. Message handling continued through the morning, with some of the first-to-arrive operators being relieved by other HDSCS members when they had to leave for work or other commitments.

By 10:45 AM, some phones were working, but spare parts were on their way from a supplier. HDSCS continued to provide unit-to-unit and hospital-to-community messaging as needed, including coordination of patient treatments and a request for blood. At 1:02 PM, the repair crew announced that the phone system was back to normal, except for some voicemail functions. HDSCS members remained on station for 30 more minutes, as they always do to insure that phone systems are stable before securing.

This is the 31st year of HDSCS service to medical facilities in Orange County and the 114th activation to provide communications support when telephones have failed or overloaded. The reasons for HDSCS involvement have ranged from equipment failure, to cut cables, to natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods and wildfires. Each member has their own go-kit that is ready to take to any of the 36 supported hospitals to establish communications. The HDSCS is familiar with CHOC because the group has participated in drills and communications emergencies there before, including an external phone outage that lasted 22 hours in August 2006 when a construction accident severed fiber optic cables.

Submitted by Phil Walker, W1PW

**Closing date for articles for
October Short Skip
Saturday, Sept 13, 2011
Email: rjhelfrich@aol.com**

EXPIRING LICENSES

October KW7V Mike Johnson
 November W2QL Anthony Cipolla
 November W6KQI Al Lee

NEW MEMBERS

Bob Lucas, WA7DXZ, Sun City
 Marlene Lucas, KA5WXM, Sun City
 Donald Madison, W7WYZ, Congress
 John Steiner, KK7AAA, Glendale
 Martin Fitzpatrick, WB7X, Peoria
 Dominique Fitzpatrick, WB7DX, Peoria
 John Siepmann, N9NA, Buffalo Grove, IL
 Nanci Weinfeld, KC9RKE, Buffalo Grove, IL

RETURNING MEMBER

Joseph R Sculley, AE7CQ, Sun City West

FCC LICENSE EXAMS

Next exam session at DeVry University Saturday **October 1**. 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 license and CSCEs and photocopies of each if applicable. 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 fee by check to ARRL/VEC or exact amount in cash – Volunteer Examiners cannot make change.

FREE ONLINE HAM LICENSE PRACTICE TEST

I've written a set of free online FCC ham radio license exam practice tests that I hope you will find useful.

<http://copaseticflows.appspot.com/hamtest>

There are randomly generated practice exams for all three license classes in the U.S. as well as for the Canadian and New Zealand ham radio exams.

Online help topics are provided for many of the exam questions. The list of help topics is constantly growing as I get time to add to it. Users can track their test scores, as well as a count of how many of the question pool questions they've practiced over time. In addition to random practice exams, users can automatically practice exams with questions they haven't seen yet in each sub-element group, or questions they haven't gotten correct in each sub-element group.

Please let me know if you find it handy, or if you think of any ways to make it better. Thanks!

Submitted by Hamilton Carter, KD0FNR
 Hcarter333@gmail.com

Annual Banquet 2011

Wednesday, November 16, 2011

LOCATION: Lou's Tivoli Gardens • 14635 N. Del Webb Blvd • Sun City, AZ 85351

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS: 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM: Social Hour (Cash Bar will be available)
 - 6:00 PM: DINNER
 - 7:00 PM: Program and Entertainment

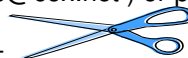
MENU ENTRÉE CHOICES:

Top Sirloin Steak	Baked Breast of Chicken Lightly breaded, served with a Sherry/Butter sauce.	Baked Fillet of Cod Lightly breaded, served with a Chablis sauce.
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Dinner includes a Baked Potato, Vegetable, Warm Bread and Salad. Dessert and Beverage

(All MENU Choices cost \$20, which includes tax and gratuity).

Questions? E-Mail to Dick Faust (k9ivb@cox.net) or phone at 623-875-6653



<u>Name(s) Please Print:</u>		<u>Call Sign(s)</u>		<u>Telephone #</u>
<u>Entrée Choice</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Cost</u>		
TOP SIRLOIN STEAK		@\$20.00	\$	
BAKED CHICKEN		@\$20.00	\$	
BAKED COD		@\$20.00	\$	
Total Enclosed:				
Please RSVP by mailing this completed coupon with your check (payable to WVARC) to: WVARC Banquet 2011 • P.O. BOX 1573 • SUN CITY, AZ 85372-1573				
We MUST RECEIVE your coupon and payment no later than Wednesday, November 9, 2011				

FOR SALE:

Kenwood TM-721A 144/440 MHz transceiver
w/tone board

Kenwood TM-2550A 144Mhz transceiver with
tone board and factory box (may need the volume
control fixed)

Astron RS-20A power supply

Larson mobile antenna with magnetic mount

Diamond X-50A antenna

Icom IC-24AT dual band HT with a bunch of
accessories (and factory box). Did not use for a
long time—may have to replace the internal battery.

All for \$399.

Contact Rick Palmer, N7QZN, 602-882-3770.

FOR SALE:

Antenna Portable 2 meter/440 - \$20

Mobile Speaker, ICOM SP-10 - \$35

Antenna Dual Band Larson NMO 2/70 SH - \$25

Antenna Mount, Comet RS720 - \$15

SWR/Power Meter Micronta 144/40 - \$40

Power Supply Duracom SS11, 11 amp - \$25

Contact: Stan Swartz, K7PLO, k7plo@cox.net

Phone: 623-933-4073

FOR SALE: The WVARC has several items for
sale. If you are interested in a list of items, you can
visit the club's website at www.westvalleyarc.com,
or you can send a simple request to Ted Walker,
Kj7v@cox.net, and Ted will put your name on his
send list.

FOR SALE:

Transceiver - Radio Shack HX 202 FM \$50

Transceiver – 2 meter ICOM, Model IC251,
144mg, all mobile transceiver \$125

Kenwood Model TS 520 SE, SSB-USB-CW, all
freq, 10-160 meters. Has mic and headset. \$300

Contact: Gene Metzger, WA0GRV

Phone: 623-546-8478

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.

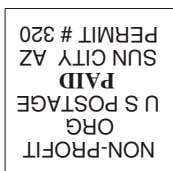
Richard Haworth W7MDQ

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

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.



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