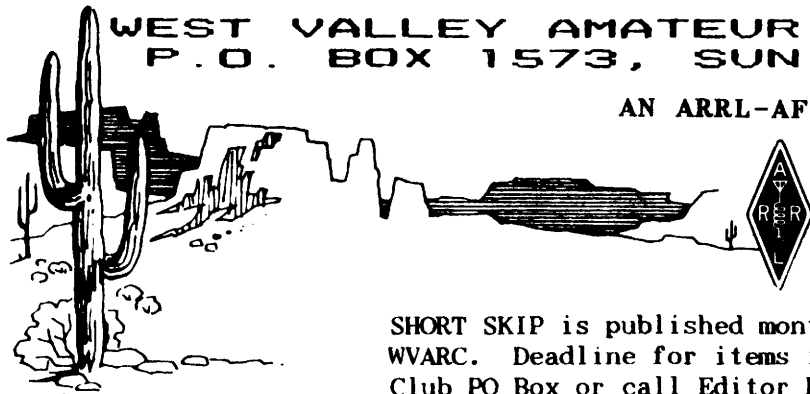


SHORT SKIP



SHORT SKIP is published monthly (every 2 months in summer) by WVARC. Deadline for items is 2 weeks before meeting. Mail to Club PO Box or call Editor Ray Sumner NW7R (972-8733).

FEB 3rd WVARC MEETING HAS 2 SPEAKERS

West Valley Amateur Radio Club will meet MONDAY FEB 3 at St Clement Social Hall, 15800 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City at 7:15pm, with two featured speakers.

1st, Paul McCorkle KA0YMK will describe his recent voyage on a Soviet nuclear-powered ship across the North Pole. Paul was given permission by the ship's Russian commander to bring along his Kenwood TS-940S and a dipole allowing him to make world-wide contacts.

2nd, guest speaker Lee Finkel KY7M, one of the country's top CW contesters, who recently operated from the QTH of Joe Rudi NK7U (of the world champion Oakland A's of yore), will speak about designing and constructing an 80-meter antenna system by shunt-feeding your own tower. Using minimal, low-cost parts, Lee constructed such a system with which he has already worked over 180 DXCC countries, including some of the rarest ones, on 80 meters. Since 80 meters has become one of the most productive bands, given inconsistent propagation patterns on the tri-bands, this will prove to be a timely subject.

At future meetings the club hopes to have supplemental speakers describing a feature of their installation which may interest us. For example, Dave Williams KG7PR uses a J-Com Magic Notch filter, which takes out heterodynes automatically and suppresses CW QRM without attenuating sideband signals; it also has a 2W amplifier. Bert Davidson W2GOB has a spectrum emission monitor, operating through a computer, which detects transmissions at various frequencies in a portion of a band. If you have a gadget that would be of interest to hams, let one of the club's Board members know.

1992 CLUB ROSTER IN MARCH SHORT SKIP

This year's club roster is in process at present, for publication in 2 weeks. Please renew your membership now, if you have not done so.

WVARC OFFICERS FOR 1992

Pres	Frank Smith	AA7FM	876-2718
V Pres	Ralph Barr	W0DNO	582-8208
Secy	Ray Van Skiver	W7LQM	974-1322
Treas	Shirley Barr	KB4HSP	582-8208
Directors:	Don Burk	KE0EU	972-4607
	Bob Gormley	WA1MHZ	843-2193
	Jerry Haigwood	KY4Z	486-2756
	Bert Davidson	W2GOB	584-6260

[Note: Jerry KY4Z's phone no. was incorrect in last month's newsletter.]

DeVRY VEC EXAMS FEB 1st, APRIL 4th

VEC Exams will be held at DeVry Institute, 2149 W Dunlap on SATURDAY FEB 1st and APRIL 4th from 8:30am to noon. MARCH 7 exams will be held in Scottsdale at the Senior Citizens Center; for information call Ed Couch 952-9596.

WVARC club VEs who participated in the exams at DeVry on January 4th were:

John Allen W7YR	George Thompson AA7LA
Leo Staley NS9Y	Merle Butterman KG8BZ
Ray Sumner NW7R	Richard Schaer WA7BXK
Larry Clark KF7PC	Bob Johnson KE7LZ
Eva Karnatz KC7RY	Monte Nelson NX1Z
Ed Blaszczyk N7EB (who is taking over for Jim Chilcote WU7V as Core Leader.)	

In addition to Jim WU7V and XYL Freda WU7I, others taking part were:

Ed Beyer WU7A	Rick Tannehill W7RT
Ron Smith KF7JF	Dwight Yard KB7KON

HAM RADIO ESTATE SALE SATURDAY JAN 25th

Silent Key Dave Byers WW7V had a humungous amount of ham radio gear, test equipment, computers, desks, etc, that is being sold from his QTH at 5040 West Soft Wind (north of Pinnacle Peak Rd, off 51st Ave), beginning at 10am on Jan 25th. Check it out.

WANTED: Fifteen year old candidate for Novice with limited resources would appreciate any gear to get started in ham radio. Marcus 566-1692

RADIO CLASSES

Radio Classes for all but Extra Class are under way.

NOVICE: George Hands KE7DH (974-3361) reports that 8 candidates have signed up so far. Classes began Jan 14.

TECHNICIAN: George Thompson AA7LA (977-9855) will begin on Jan 31.

These Tuesday and Friday night sessions respectively are held at Vencor Hospital, 12207 113th Ave, Youngtown, from 7 to 9pm.

GENERAL CLASS: Rick Tannehill W7RT (435-9584) started this 9-week class on Jan 8 at DeVry Institute, 2149 Dunlap, at 6pm. These Wednesday sessions are held in Rm 208, 209 or 210.

ADVANCED: Awaiting a volunteer instructor, but Ray Sumner NW7R 972-8733 will begin classes in the back of the Youngtown Clubhouse Auditorium, starting Thursday Jan 23 at 7pm, for 8 weeks.

FOR SALE

HEATHKIT MONITOR SCOPE HO-10, w/manual; \$35. WILSON 6-ELEMENT TRIBANDER #S4-36 (10-15-20 meters), has been stored indoors; \$150. Ed KD7KX 977-7187

WILSON TT45 TUBULAR TOWER with concrete base raising fixture, tilt over, crank up or down. For sale or will trade for Packet station. Bill W7DTA 932-1315

HALLICRAFTER HT-33B LINEAR AMPLIFIER, a real heavy-duty workhorse.

Ed N7EB 972-2646

Are you interested in a Hammerlund HQ-100A Receiver with matching speaker and manuals? Call Ed KF8CG 974-1799.

SITE CHANGED FOR CLUB 2nd-SAT BREAKFAST

After last month's Short Skip mailing we learned that Michael's was no longer available for our breakfasts on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Despite short notice, 51 turned up at the new place: Denny's Restaurant in the Town of Surprise, on Bell Rd one block west of El Mirage Road. These breakfasts are for 8am; those who arrived much earlier had to wait a while. Other than the long wait, everyone appeared to be satisfied with the fare. We are scheduled at the same location on February 8 (cross your fingers).

The Thursday luncheons (11:15) at Ritters (Youngtown) are well attended. Spouses are welcome at both events.

Note: Ray VanSkiver W7LQM will validate QSL cards for VHS and WAS awards for ARRL members. Call 974-1322.

DX de FRANK SMITH AA7FM/OH2LVG

Perhaps the biggest DX happening of 1992 will be a major DXpedition to the South Sandwich Islands, now scheduled for March 14 through April 28. Using the call VP8SSI, the team, which is now headed by Martti Laine OH2BH, includes one JA and six Americans. Bad news for Phoenix hams is that Dr Vince Thompson K5VT is no longer on the team. The team will run 4 HF stations simultaneously round the clock plus EME, RTTY, 6-meter and satellite transmissions. QSLs via AA6BB for SSB contacts, and all others to KA6V.

Angola will soon be activated once again as WA4CDN/D2.

Listen for 7Q7JH with QSLs via K7UP.

Several Mongolian calls will soon be heard, including JT1BS, -CS, -BG, and -BR, which will give many another new one.

Iran has been on the air sporadically thanks to Hungarian and Russian operators who are using the call EP2/HA5BUS....an easy shot condx-wise so far for many Phoenix area hams.

DK6AS Andreas will be active from the Maldives as 8Q7XX towards the end of January and possibly into early February, CW only. QSLs via DJ8MT.

Watch also for an operation from Belau (KC6) by several Americans from Oklahoma before, during and after the ARRL DX contest March 7.

HZ1AB, Terry, has been operating from Saudi Arabia's Eastern Province on several bands, mostly SSB. Propagation has been, at times, +20 db, so this ought to be easy to get, including 80 meters and now 160 meters.

Kuwait (9K) continues to be active. If possible, try to work suffixes RA through NL the last week of February, for a special Kuwait Liberation Award. See me for details.

Finally, a group of Californians with French colleagues is planning a long-awaited DXpedition to Clipperton Island (F0), hopefully in March.

CU in the pile-ups!

TELEPHONE INTERFERENCE
de BILL W9WFV, ARRL ATS

This instruction outlines a telephone interference trouble shooting procedure using the TII Telecommunications Industries Incorporated filters that the WVARC has made available to members.

Elimination of telephone interference problems is very often not as simple as installing a filter on a telephone that is picking up the interference. This procedure describes the steps required to resolve a worst case interference situation. In some instances not all steps will be required because a solution may be discovered before all tests are completed. However, the tests described in the last two paragraphs must always be made.

By far the most effective location of this filter is at the telephone. However, the filter has often provided sufficient reduction when connected at the wall jack. If it does not provide enough attenuation there, try adding it at the telephone.

The West Valley ARC RRC has encountered two interference cases where the telephone has picked up interference when it was "on hook". The interference in these telephones was also eliminated with a TII filter.

If the TII W-1 filter needs to be installed at a wall-mounted telephone, a wiring modification must be made. Eight inch pigtailed will have to be soldered to the input and output of the filter in place of the modular connectors to accommodate attachment behind the wall jack. Make sure that the 3300 pf capacitor in the filter is connected to the line side of the phone wiring.

The first step is to check outside the home to see that the ground wire from the telephone connector block, or box, is intact and solidly connected to a good ground source. Usually the telephone ground wire is connected to the ground rod or cable at the AC power distribution panel. Any changes or correction to this ground should be done by the telephone company.

Next, determine if the telephone interference is equally audible on all of the telephones. Use the quiet line (dial 582-9997) and listen on each of the telephones one at a time as test IDs are transmitted on a most used frequency, at the maximum available power level and with the speech processor turned on. (The speech processor

usually increases the level of interference.) If operation in several bands is contemplated, you will need to test at those frequencies after you have found and eliminated the problem on this frequency. If the interference is louder in one of the phones it may be a clue, and it is worth trying a filter on that phone. If the interference is reduced or eliminated, you have solved the problem and are probably quite lucky. If no difference in interference level is detected, remove the filter, disconnect all but one of the telephones, and continue with the testing.

If there is an answering machine, cordless telephone, loud ringer bell or other special telephone devices in the home, disconnect them from the phone jack one at a time and listen for interference on the one phone still connected. If the interference is eliminated when you disconnect one of these devices, you may have found an offending device. You will then have to determine if the RF energy is being picked up on the AC line, the telephone line or in the cordless telephone receiver inputs. If the interference is reduced, try a telephone line filter. If the interference is reduced to an acceptable level, you have possibly found a problem. If no change, leave these devices disconnected and continue the tests with only one phone connected

The type of telephone, the location in the home, the length of line cord between the wall jack and telephone and the length of the handset cord all have an effect on the level of interference. Reducing the length of either of these two cords, if possible, is sometimes worth a try. Also, sometimes relocating the telephone in the home, if possible, could reduce interference in at least that phone. The location in the home that is nearest the service entry of the telephone line is sometimes the location that provides the best interference rejection.

If there is still interference with the one telephone connected, install a filter. Hopefully this will eliminate or reduce the interference to an acceptable level. The WVARC RRC has encountered three telephones that could not be stopped from performing like all band receivers. If the telephone is still under warranty, try returning it for modification, or lacking that service by the manufacturer. return the

telephone for credit.

After one telephone with filter is cleared of interference, start adding phones and other devices one at a time. Make a transmission after each one is added to determine if the interference is still reduced. Add a filter to each telephone and other device as necessary to eliminate the interference.

You may discover that more than one telephone or other device is picking up interference and it will be necessary to install a filter on each one until the interference is eliminated or reduced to an acceptable level. In a worst case situation you could find that a filter will be required on each telephone.

After you have obtained an apparent solution with all phones and other devices connected, transmit at maximum available power levels on the other frequencies normally used, with the speech processor switched on. Listen on each telephone one at a time to verify that the solutions did reduce the interference levels.

Finally, make a test with two telephones off the hook at the same time and see if the interference is still eliminated. If not, additional filtering may be required on one or both of these telephones, if this type of telephone use is desired without interference.

Club Note: Dottie Brown K7ESA joined the Lunch Bunch at Ritters recently to introduce Miss Betty Henning N7VFW, a Peoria ham interested in becoming a club member.

Dottie's work with Handi-capable hams in the Valley is well known. The Handi-capable Amateur Radio Training Society is supported in part by the sale of HARTS T-shirts, personalized hats, visors, cups & jeweled ladies' badges (or ladies' jeweled badges, if you prefer). For prices/ order form send SASE to Dottie at 7045 N 15th Ave, Phoenix AZ 85021.

RETROSPECTIVE VIEW - 1991

New No-Code Technician license keeps Volunteer Examiners busy. Local VE's pass No-code Techs three-to-one over Novice applicants. Call letters do not distinguish between No-code Techs and Techs with 5 WPM credit. Candidates are entering ham radio at twice the rate of previous years.

Hams lost 220-222 MHz portion of the 1.25m band. ARRL has petitioned FCC for secondary use of frequencies in 216-220 MHz band on case-by-case basis.

Congress has buried Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act in committee, but is now aware that 500,000 hams are out there watching them.

Novice CW 80-meter subband was moved from 3.70-3.75 to 3.675-3.725 MHz to reduce interference with Canadian hams.

Disabled hams may qualify for waiver of 13 and 20 WPM code requirements with physician's certificate of disability.

FCC is looking into state laws banning scanners. Many ham sets are capable of receiving police communications and the FCC may require manufacturers to limit ham gear to ham frequencies.

Hams in space provided interesting contacts. Russian cosmonauts on "Mir" station were on Packet as well as voice and Shuttle Atlantis had 5 hams aboard on its April flight.

Ham stations which automatically retransmit Packet messages were cited for rules violations when a message asked hams to dial a 900 phone number to support a political group opposed to the war against Iraq. The FCC is still considering the degree of responsibility for such actions.

Albania (ZA1A) is on the air.

A neighbor of Joe Michaels W4DDV of Tucson has taken his complaints of RFI all the way to Arizona's Supreme Court after the FCC refused to blame Joe for the interference.

Decisions regarding towers are getting mixed results. Florida statutes require municipalities to conform to FCC requirements to accommodate amateur communications, but a California Court of Appeals has said that the FCC grants no right to its licensees to erect antennas. Further clarification is expected in the courts.

SILENT KEYS

GEORGE MOSS KA7EMW, on Dec 28, in Sun City. George joined the club in 1980. We extend our sympathy to his wife Wilma and family.

Claire (Jack) Twinam KB7BJJ, on Jan 13. Jack attended the club's Novice Class and got his ticket in 1987, but failing eyesight limited his enjoyment of the hobby. Our condolences to his family.