

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).

JUNE MEETING FEATURES TALK ON REPEATERS

Stan Edgerton K8RAL, one of the chief gurus of the club repeater system, will speak to the members on the subject of, of course, repeaters. All you wanted to know about repeaters will be discussed in this informative session. Stan will cover a host of interesting repeater related topics from the technicalities to good operating practice. A question and answer period will follow. Many have commented that such a presentation is long overdue.

The time: 7:15pm, MONDAY, JUNE 1st.
The place: St Clement Social Hall,
15800 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City.

Plenty of parking on the north side of the hall in back of the church. Doors open at 6:45; come early, visit with your colleagues. Everyone interested in ham radio is welcome.

The May meeting has had rave reviews. About 90 ham radio devotees sat spell-bound while Al Gross W8PAL showed us top secret (!) radio gear developed in WW2. No longer classified, the miniaturized transceivers look much like the commercial counterparts that made their appearance many years later. He also displayed the prototypes of the "Dick Tracy" wristwatch transceiver (and its fully developed successor) and the original pager (beeper), which he says that he couldn't sell initially to any hospital because the doctors did not want their golf games interrupted. A film on the use of another of his patents, the proximity fuse, described how target and trajectory determined the choice of receiving antenna. His company is developing a satellite system that will locate anywhere in the world anyone equipped with their small xmtr. Tnx, AA7FM, for getting this speaker.

VEC TESTS AT DeVRY ON FIRST SAT IN JUNE

Volunteer Examiners will hold tests at DeVry Institute, 2149 W Dunlap Ave on JUNE 6; walk-ins only. The last session was well staffed and candidates had only a short wait for test results. Please arrive for registration by 8:30 AM or as soon thereafter as possible so that everyone can go home early.

DeVry Core Leader Ed Blaszczyk N7EB reports that the following hams volunteered for the May 2nd session:

Merrill Butterman KG7BZ	Al Lee W6KQI
Dick Schaer WA7BXX	Ed Beyer WU7A
Dwight Yard KB7KON	Jack Dow KE7ZQ
Larry Clark KF7PC	Ron Smith KF7JF
Bob Johnson KE7LZ	Leo Staley NS9Y
Bob Menefee K7HQR	Ray Sumner NW7R
Jack O'Keefe WJ7N	John Allen W7YR
Frank Smith AA7FM	Zeb Zebolsky KM7L

On June 20, Scottsdale ARC will hold exams at the Senior Center (Ed Couch N7JOR, 952 -9596), and TRIARC will hold exams in the Tempe Public Library (Dave WA7GPF, 963-3527). Exams will be held at the Ft Tuthill Hamfest on Saturday July 25, starting at 9am.

For all sessions bring original and copy of license and any appropriate CSCE; also photo ID, and \$5.40. No charge for NOVICE tests, unless you are NO-CODE TECH upgrading to TECH PLUS.

THERE WILL BE NO EXAMS AT DeVRY ON JULY 4TH (INDEPENDENCE DAY).

WHITE TANKS REPEATER WILL LINK w/CALIF

ARA Tech Committee Chair John Braden K7LKL reports that their 446.175 White Tanks repeater will be a 24 hour link to the Calzona System when interface boards are ready. PL tone is 100 Hz. Areas covered will include Yuma, San Diego, Palm Springs and the Imperial Valley. [from April Squelch Tail, which has lots of interesting info.]

DX REPORT de FRANK SMITH AA7FM/OH2LVG

Not much on the HF bands the past weeks, but with better propagation, the WPX contest and a few nice DXpeditions, things should get interesting.

A new one for many will be Uganda as 5X5CW --- operator is PA3CXL. Look also for Bhutan A5 by HA5BUS on their world tour.

Guyana will soon be active again by G5SMC signing -/8RL. Also Cambodia as XU7VK will be active until July, and Vietnam as XV7TH is expected to be activated mainly on SSB.

OH1VR Seppo Sisattø has NOT been to North Korea but betting has it that he will soon succeed in putting this exceedingly rare one on the air. Recent operations have all been pirates.

Another rare one now active is WA2WYR on the air from Pakistan signing AP/-.

DXers from Germany will soon be off to Liechtenstein (HB0).

A group of UAs and OHs will be on MV island or Ravansaari Island, 4J1FS late May thru early June. (This DX-reporter regrets having to decline two offers to join this group!) There are rumors of another operation there for the last week of July.

Others to watch for include TU4SR (op: OH8SR) mainly on CW, Burkina Faso XT2EW, Guernsey GU0ING, Tonga A35J/K, Tromelin FR4AI/T, Crete SV9-, Micronesia V63 and V62, San Tome S92IJ and Macao XX9GD.

Dave Heil, ex-9L1US, of the US State Dept, has moved from Sierra Leone to his new post in Botswana and will be very active as A22MN.

Island hunters will be interested in Majuro Island V73EU, Uji Island by JI6KVR and Tabarca Island by ED5EU.

CU in the pile-ups....AA7FM

[DXCC applicants must include QSL data on the rear side of the Application Form as per instructions when cards are to be checked in the field, but not when sent to ARRL HQ for checking. Please use latest version of Application Form, available in recent editions of the ARRL DXCC Countries List....We are not aware that any Phoenix area hams have been accredited as DXCC Field Managers as yet.

ARRL advises that QSL cards for the following operations will be accepted for DXCC credit:
VP8CIZ South Georgia Island, March 1992
EP/HA5BUS Iran, December 1991.]

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS de BILL JOHNSON W9WV

The Peoria Educational Enrichment foot and bicycle races on May 2nd were completed without injuries. A good share of this was due to the diligence and alertness of the 23 volunteers providing communication for the race directors and police. In my experience, this 8K course layout with a combination of residential areas, heavy traffic streets and many turns is the most dangerous of our public service events.

The volunteers took the necessary and correct action by relaying information on several potentially dangerous areas that developed, to the law enforcement and event directors. We must remember never to try to direct traffic ourselves when we see these possible dangers developing.

I did not believe that there were enough police to cover all of the potentially dangerous intersections and the event directors also needed to have volunteers at several more locations. I have already expressed some of my concerns to the traffic sergeant and one of the race directors. I hope that the course is modified next year.

Ham volunteers at the Peoria event:

Reuben Deerhake WA2OQU	Bill Johnson W9WV
Elliot Silverman K1FOC	George Watling N7JSA
Charlie Frankel N7NSY	Dean Timmerman KD9NQ
Chuck Waldron K0VEB	Russ Whempner K6CLK
Oliver Grieve W7WGW	Francis Glass N7KVZ
Harold Knipe KF7JO	Chuck Trudel K8JVB
Mark Chilcote W7PS	Art Simek WA0RFJ
Chuck Bailey W7YU	Frank Green W7MAJ
Bill Miller N7DJV	Larry Young W7DVC
Ed Balaker WK7L	Don Fenton W1JH
Tom Watts NY7S	Tom Ivy KA7ESP
Joe Nowakowski W7FPG,	Net Control

The OK Walk ("parade"), sponsored by the Olive Branch Senior Center of Sun City on May 6 was a leisurely paced event with no injuries. However, several walkers dropped out and were picked up by the trailing "straggler bus". The bus overlooked one straggler who chose Station 5 (W7MUV) location to quit the race. Sam called Station 6 (NW7R), requesting that the bus return for the dropout. The next transmission was from a very out-of-breath NW7R, who had left his comfortable lawn chair to catch the pick-up vehicle before it passed the next turn-around intersection. The bus returned, and it was determined that the dropout was OK and had just reached his walking limit; but speed is important in these instances. It could have been a dangerous situation. Nice work, public service communications volunteers.

Ham volunteers at the Sun City event:

Alex Kutchik W9VYG (NCO)	Art Simek WA0RFJ
Rudy Strothmann WA9RFI	Don Fenton W1JH
Sam Macdonald N7MUV	Ray Sumner NW7R
Bernie Bailey N7BIE	Frank Green W7MAJ
Mark Chilcote W7PS	Eva Karnatz KC7RY
Norm Fulmer N7JQA	Bill Johnson W9WV

ATV NOTES

Every third Tuesday of the month, a group of hams get together on 434 MHz and transmit video in the West Valley area. Interest in ATV has been growing quite fast so all club members may want to take a look to see if this type of activity would be of interest to them. For more details, contact Tom NY7S at 972-6589 or Chuck Trudel K8JVB at 584-6596.

In the last issue we reported that one of the cars in the Solar Electric Car Race on April 25th at the Phoenix International Raceway would be equipped with remote control TV camera. Those ATV hams who monitored the event in real time were disappointed in the picture quality except for a short stretch of track where the signal was received with reasonable clarity. We understand that even the taped version recorded at the scene was a trial to watch, because of the motion of the car. Only scenes taken at the pit stop were said to be of high quality.

On Sunday May 3rd in Fresno CA an incident took place that had hams from far and near working on 40m to aid in the dissemination of ATV information and help the flight of a balloon with ATV camera and transmitter get off the ground. The interest seemed to grow quickly as it came time to launch.

The nets were well organized and the controllers were very knowledgeable. They had help from many places including our area.

After several delays the time came for launching and the frequency went quiet. The balloon was launched. As the ascent was watched, the balloon rose and at about 1500 feet the release mechanism malfunctioned and released the total equipment package and down it came crashing to the concrete. The balloon soared even faster and several people could see all of the hours of work fail in just a few seconds. To the people who stayed up all night and the many others who worked on the project, our hats are off to you for just trying. While this event was not successful, without failures success would not be as fulfilling. Better luck next time and we will be waiting and watching for the perfect launch and recovery.

W6TL was control at the launch site, K00V was net control of the information net on 40m. Bill Brown WB8ELK was project coordinator. Checking in from the local area were Tom NY7S, Norm WV7K, Greg NT7L and Chuck K8JVB. Earl KS8J was plotting the path on a grid setup.

.....Info thanks to Chuck Trudel K8JVB

BUYING A NEW CAR? CAVEAT EMPTOR!

If you plan to install a mobile rig in that new car you are planning to buy, you must check out the precautions that the manufacturer advises. Literature on this editor's new Chrysler says that it was designed to provide immunity to RF signals. HOWEVER, two-way radios must be installed properly by trained personnel and the following conditions must be observed.

Power connections made directly to battery; fuses as close to battery as possible.

Antennas mounted on roof or rear area.
(MAGNETIC MOUNT ANTENNAS MUST NOT BE USED.)

Use fully shielded coax antenna cables, as short as practical and routed away from car wiring.

Match antenna and cable to radio for lowest SWR.

Power output greater than normal [whatever that means] may require special precautions.

Check installation for possible interference between communication equipment and vehicle electronic system...Chrysler Owner's Manual.

General Motors provides a more detailed set of instructions (3 pages) that generally concur with the above. (Tnx George AA7LA)

Interest in this subject has developed since the report about the ham who blew the computer in a new Toyota Camry by operating a 2m Kenwood 231 Mobile rig. According to the report, the shop manual states that you can't use more than 10W, regardless of how the rig is installed....A follow-up study reported that this computer had no protective toroids or bypass capacitors.

Another source claims that car computers, including the 1992 Toyotas, have reset buttons, and that repositioning the wires, antenna and ground can correct any problem.

Another ham was told by his dealer and Pontiac Motors that if he installed an HF rig in his Bonneville his warrantee would be no good. However, do not be dismayed. GM has a Department that may help you. Write

Electromagnetic Compatibility Dept
EMC Building 40
General Motors Proving Grounds
Milford, MI 48042-2001

Information relayed from WORLD RADIO by
SOLID COPY/INTERMOD, Tucson, March thru May.

PACKET RADIO CLASS ON MAY 23

Like the army recruit who stood fast when the sergeant asked for a volunteer, only to find that the others had taken a step back, Bert Davidson W2GOB appears to have volunteered to teach the Packet Radio Class that meets on the **FOURTH SATURDAY** of the month at Bank of America in LaRonde Center East on Del Webb Blvd in Sun City; time, 10am.

Bert has covered the first 5 chapters of the manual, Your Gateway to Packet Radio, by Stan Horzepa WALLOU, with many favorable comments from his students. Join the group.

HOW NOT TO PASS 5 WPM CODE TEST

VECs allow local VE groups to exercise their own judgement to some extent when administering tests. Thus, individual VE groups may have different policies concerning a Novice candidate who copies the dots and dashes of a QSO and then translates them. Clearly, the candidate did not copy five words per minute but only sets of characters that are meaningless to a layman. The local DeVry VE team does not accept the use of this technique, except in the case of the handicapped or disabled whom we are enjoined to accommodate in any way we can. The ARRL VEC supports a similar position [from VE EXPRESS, 9/91]. W5YI VEC says, "If the VE permits it, so do we" [W5YI REPORT, 5/1/92].

TUCSON HAM CLEARS ANOTHER HURDLE IN RFI CASE

The Federal District Court of Arizona said that jurisdiction to control interference over the airwaves rests exclusively with the FCC and that this court does not have the jurisdiction to review FCC decisions, in an opinion given on 3/9/92 concerning a suit by neighbors of Joe Michaels W4DDV of Tucson, who asked that he be declared a common law "nuisance". The law of nuisance would obstruct the FCC's ability to regulate RFI matters, said the court.

The same decision had been rendered by an Arizona trial court and the Arizona Appellate Court. If the neighbors pursue this case further, the next level is the Federal Court of Appeals in San Francisco.

.....Information from W5YI REPORT, 4/15/92.

VACATION NET BEGAN MAY 15th

Area hams who are leaving for cooler places are reminded to check into the Vacation Net on 14.240 MHz (approx) at 10:15 AZ time on Mondays and Fridays from now through mid-October. Chuck Bailey W7YU coordinates the net, with lots of help.

Snowbirds are also reminded to report your summer QTH to the Short Skip editor, if you want your newsletter to follow you. Please include your 9-digit ZIP, if you know it.

449.8 REPEATER TO GET AUTOPATCH SOON

Stan Edgerton K8RAL and Tom Watts NY7S are expecting to have the autopatch on the 70cm repeater atop Boswell Hospital on line in one or two weeks. Information on its operation will be in the next newsletter.

Stan reports that the speed-dial Emergency 911 is back in operation on the 145.29 Del Webb repeater. Press push-to-talk, dial 1239, and release PTT. Tell the dispatcher that you are an amateur radio operator and describe the emergency. For the 147.30 repeater, dial the access code, wait for dial tone, then dial 911.

Stan is our program speaker for June. His presentation on repeater operation will be more relevant to the members if you would call him some time prior to the meeting about any special areas of concern that you may have. He would like to answer all of your questions at this meeting and not have to say, "I'll check it out and get back to you next month." His number, if you have mislaid your roster, is 584-4287 (SCW). He would appreciate your call.

NEW RFI BOOK RELEASED BY ARRL

The new RFI book, RADIO FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE - HOW TO FIND IT AND FIX IT, is available at local dealers. If you are having problems at your own QTH this book may help. If your problems are with your neighbors, ask our RFI committee for assistance: Bill Johnson W9WFV (584-2107) or your nearest committeeman:

Dan Ford WA2YNE	Phoenix	938-6688
Bill Thissell K7VZP	Phoenix	942-6352
Tom Ivan KF7GC	Phoenix	245-1974
Mike Nelson KB9RJ	Glendale	486-0967
Jerry Haigwood KY4Z	Peoria	486-2756
Tom Watts NY7S	Sun City	977-6589
George Hands KE7DH	Sun City	974-3361
Jerry Browne N9AEO	Sun City	977-1450
Dave Williams KG7PR	Sun City West	584-6350
Jack Dow KE7ZQ	Sun City West	584-5284

FT TUTHILL HAMFEST ON JULY 24,25,26

Major prizes have been announced for the Summer Hamfest at the County Fairgrounds in Flagstaff. 1st Prize, a Kenwood TM-741A Tribander (50W/2m, 35W/70 cm); 2nd, Yaesu FT-757GX II (9-band HF Xcvr); 3rd, Cushcraft R-7 Vertical Antenna; 4th, Diamond 5X-1000 SWR/Pwr meter.

Tailgaters \$10; Camping \$5/night.

More details next newsletter.

WANTED

COMMODORE 64

1541 DISK DRIVE

Reed Mitchell W7GWN, 1020 Cooper Basin Road,
Prescott AZ 86301

FOR SALE

PATROLMAN SCANNER Pro-54 (Realistic), vhf/uhf;
\$15. Ed N7EB 972-2646