



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 Summer NW7R (972-8733).

MAY MEETING/LINE NOISE/INTERFERENCE

The West Valley ARC will meet at St Clement Social Hall, 15800 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City, on MONDAY MAY 3rd at 7:15 PM (gavel time). Doors open at 6:45. Ron Durham of Arizona Public Service will discuss "Line Noise and Interference" as it relates to our hobby. Ron has been solving interference problems for the past 20 yrs and presents an interesting program. At this writing the June program has not been selected. The club does meet the FIRST MONDAY of each month through the year. There will be no Short Skip for the June meeting. The July-August issue will also be combined and we'll resume monthly issues in September.

A near record 120 sign-ins turned out for the April meeting on Valley Repeater Links. Excellent presentations by Dan Hughes N7FHQ (Northlink), Mike Zussman WA7NIY (Zia Link) and Jerry Wyatt N7QVU (ARA Repeaters) were enjoyed by all. For those who did not get all of the hand-out literature, copies will be available at the May meeting.

Membership in the West Valley ARC is open to anyone with an interest in ham radio. Dues are \$10/yr and include all family hams at same mailing address. Come out to one of our meetings and join the club, or send check to our PO address.

REMEMBER: LUNCH EVERY THURSDAY 11 AM,
BREAKFAST 2nd SATURDAY 8 AM, DENNY'S,
BELL RD, just W of El Mirage Rd.
2m NEWS NET 145.29 6:45 PM WEDNESDAYS
CALL-IN NET 145.29, 9 AM DAILY.
VEC EXAMS at DeVRY 9 AM 1st SATURDAY.

LOCAL HAM RADIO SHOW STIRS HAMS UP

Len Winkler KB7LPW is host of the radio show "HAM RADIO AND MORE", heard on 1510 AM (KFNN) on Sundays from 2 to 4 PM. On Apr 11 he startled his audience by announcing that the FCC had proposed a change in license requirements: there would only be two classes of licenses, TECHNICIAN and GENERAL, with no code skill needed above 5 wpm. Turns out it was a belated APRIL FOOL exercise intended to stimulate a discussion on what requirements should be needed for ham licenses.

Obviously we don't NEED to know code to communicate on the air, any more than we NEED to know what a resistor or capacitor is. (I pack up my rig and send it back to the factory when something is wrong.) So should we just pass a test on the RULES and REGULATIONS to be a ham?

ELECTRONIC FILING FOR HAM LICENSES?

An Oct 1992 amendment by Congress permits the FCC to accept electronic filing of license applications. This should speed up the processing of new licenses from VEC to FCC.

Any changes to come will only be after the FCC has established procedures; for now, amateurs (and others) are still bound by the handwritten signature requirement.

[Info from ARRL Letter, Apr 13, 1993]

WVARC 1993 ROSTER HAS 400 MEMBERS

This mailing should include the 1993 Roster, if we get everying together by press time. We picked up many new members, but a number of others dropped out. We hope to get them back when the newsletters stop coming.

WVARC SWAPMEET SUNDAY MAY 2nd

SET-UP at 7 am. OVER at noon.

MERRILL LYNCH Parking Lot
NE corner Bell Rd and 98th Ave
(Buyers park in other corner lots)
Ham related gear only
No commercial vendors
Talk-in 145.29-

WIND PROFILERS vs CLUB 440 REPEATER??
(Info from W5YI Report 4/15/93)

FCC has issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and a Notice of Inquiry in which it's proposed that wind profiler radar stations be assigned on primary basis the frequency band 448-450 MHz, centered on 449, with a bandwidth not to exceed 2 MHz. [The WVARC Repeater on 449.8 MHz is in this range.] These stations collect automated weather information including data on severe storms that threaten life and property that is not obtainable in any other manner.

W5YI reports that wind profilers are planned primarily for rural areas where electrical noise is reduced and land is cheaper. Studies indicate that a separation of 20 to 30 miles would be needed to preclude interference from an amateur station. However, studies also show that interference may be alleviated by use of RF screens such as perimeter fences or beams at the profiler site and by altering repeater antenna radiation patterns.

Before a wind profiler station is established, fixed amateur repeater stations that operate between 448 and 450 MHz (as indicated in the ARRL Repeater Directory) and that are located within 50 miles of the proposed site must be notified at least 120 days before wind profiler transmissions take place.

Interested parties may file comments on or before June 15, 1993.

VACATION NET BEGINS MAY 17th

West Valley hams keep in touch during the summer by checking into the Vacation Net on Mondays and Fridays at 10:15 AM (Arizona time) on 14.240 MHz (or as close as QRM will allow). The net will start on Monday May 17th.

Listen for Chuck Bailey W7YU, who is usually Net Control.

LICENSE EXAMS AT DeVRY, SATURDAY MAY 1

ARRL-sponsored amateur radio license exams are held the FIRST SATURDAY of each month at DeVry Institute, 2149 W Dunlap Ave, starting with registration at 8:30 AM. No tests will begin after 11 AM. No charge for Novice exam. A single payment of \$5.60 entitles you to take a test for as many different class licenses as you wish. If you fail a test by a narrow margin, you may repeat that test (different set of questions) for an additional charge.

Volunteer Examiners for April were
Ed Beyer WU7A Henry Hurrass KB7OCY
Jack Dow KE7ZQ Dwight Yard KB7KON
Ray Sumner NW7R Roy Woodruff W2HTX
Bob Johnson KE7LZ Hal VanDyke KD2PK
Larry Clark KF7PC Charlie Hall WB7E
Frank Smith AA7FM Ed Blaszczyk N7EB
Merrill Buttermann KF8DZ

The ranks of available Volunteer Examiners are beginning to thin out as summer approaches. All ARRL accredited VEs who can help during these coming months will be much appreciated.

FOR SALE

LINEAR AMPLIFIER, HENRY MODEL 2K-4A (floor model), new condx, w/extra blower fan and dolly; \$850. (Might trade for table model.)
Bert W2GOB 584-6260

SILENT KEY

LLOYD DASSONVILLE N7XPX of Sun City died March 28 in California. Our condolences are extended to his wife Lois KB7IFY and family. His son Brad KF7VT of Kent, WA, is a former member of the club.

PROJECT GOODWILL ALBANIA HEADLINED IN
WORLD RADIO ARTICLE BY FRANK AA7FM

Frank Smith's lead article in the May issue of Worldradio described the worldwide response to medical needs of Albania ham Marenglen Mema ZA1B, who was flown to the Phoenix area for life-saving kidney treatments. DXers are especially grateful for ZA1B's role in the return of Albania to Amateur Radio after a 45 year hiatus.

Swissair provided the round trip flight from Albania, and urologist Dr Peter Matthews and Valley Lutheran Hospital donated their services, while ham organizations (including WVARC) contributed to incidental expenses.

BUYING YOUR FIRST VHF/UHF TRANSCEIVER

[New NO-CODE TECHS, faced with buying their first rig, have asked some of our old timers for advice. The following are some thoughts offered by Bert Davidson W2GOB. Other comments are welcome.]

Buy a handheld, mobile or base station? Monoband, dual band, triband or multiband equipment? Latest state of the art, recent discontinued models or good used equipment? Buy at a swapmeet or from a "swap net", from someone you know or from a reputable dealer?

What you will buy, of course, is dependent on the extent of your commitment to your hobby, the fatness of your wallet and how well you have prepared your spouse. Having no desire to interfere in anyone's domestic affairs I will only suggest that you tell your spouse that your new-found interest will keep you out of bars and with no time to chase the opposite sex

Unless you have a knowledgeable guide, avoid swapmeets, swapnets and classified ads. Buy from a club member? Perhaps; they are usually fair, but try before you buy.

If you are totally committed and have a fat wallet, get a triband or multiband transceiver for your car and home, and a handheld. If you are cautious about buying, first buy a handheld that can, with attachments, be used as a mobile and base station. By attachments I mean regulated power supplies for car and for home, antennas for car and home, and a remote microphone or speaker mike.

Transceivers that cover more than one band are more economical as far as accessories are concerned (unless you find several single-band transceivers that use the same accessories). Having a single transceiver for each band will take up more space, but you can still get on the air if something goes wrong with one rig. (Sending your multiband back for repairs grounds you.)

To a new TECH licensee anxious to get started on a limited budget and not wanting to inherit the problems of a used rig, I suggest that you visit your local Radio Shack and see if their 2-meter handheld will suit your purpose.Bert W2GOB

CACTUS KEYS

by Judy Pauley KB7SJJ

MAY-JUNE

[At last count the club had over 30 YL members, some of whom belong to the Cactus Keys. We wanted the rest to know more about the group....Editor]

The Arizona YL Cactus Keys was formed in 1986 to promote the same general principles as all Amateur Radio: to advance knowledge, to provide communication in case of emergency, and to promote good will between amateur radio operators and the general public. One additional concept is provided: "to promote friendship among licensed female radio operators and to encourage amateur operation on all bands and modes."

The Cactus Keys YLs sponsors three different nets, all on Tuesdays. One is at 7:00 PM on 147.36 on the Mt Ord ARA repeater and another at 7:30 PM on 146.88 on the Tucson Repeater Assn Mt Lemmon repeater. Both include YLs from Tucson, Green Valley, Phoenix, Mesa and Payson. The third is the Coffee Cup net at 8 AM on 3.933.

I listened to both evening nets for three weeks after getting my license before finally getting up enough nerve to check in. I found myself warmly welcomed by a group of other YLs for a 30 minute gabfest. Now Tuesday evening is one of the highlights of my week as I look forward to visiting with friends.

The Cactus Keys meets at least twice a year for lunch to make new friends and renew old friendships. And as usual, after talking by radio for a period of time, it is a challenge to match names and voices to faces!

So if there is any WVARC YL out there who is tired of her OM monopolizing the shack, push him out on Tuesday evening and join the Cactus Keys for a visit.Judy KB7SJJ

SPRING HAMFEST, AZ AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
SATURDAY MAY 15th AT CHRISTOWN MALL
6 AM to 3 PM

\$1.00 Admission, includes hourly prize
\$5.00/space, Tailgaters
Commercial vendors
To reserve space: George KQ7C 274-6212
Talk-in 147.280 +

CQ DX de FRANK AA7FM/OH2LVG

The DX Advisory Committee has recommended that Czechoslovakia be deleted from the DXCC list and that the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic be added. Hold off sending cards in for now.

A group of Italians (IK3CIE etc) will be activating Monaco 3A in the next few weeks. IK4IDW and friends will be going also to Corsica TK in mid May. QSL home callsigns.

Jakob HB9TL is heading out on a Pacific tour next month and will be on the air from Papua New Guinea P29TL, Vanuatu YJ, Solomon Island H44, Wallis Island FW, Tonga T3 and Western Samoa 5W and American Samoa KH8. QSL to his home callsign.

Uganda continues on the air as 5X1XA and 5X1XB and should be easy to work from Arizona on 15m and 40m.

Many are still awaiting the Spratley operation (Sparrow Island) headed by Martti Laine OH2BH as 9MOS. Best guess is that Martti will put this on the air a few weeks after Dayton.

Romeo 3W3RR/AHOM still plans to activate Libya 5A. Latest word is that he will go there after visiting Dayton. He plans also to go to Tunisia later on.

Eritreans just completed their UN-sponsored national referendum of independence from Ethiopia. It remains to be seen which group will get there first to put this new one on the air; probable prefix is 9E.

Others to look for in the near future are Bahrain A92WH, Syria 4U/OH3MIG, Liberia EL2YD, Chad TT8OBO, Saba PJ, Ethiopia (proper) 9F2DX and ET3TI, Angola D2BG, and Antarctica CE9OH. Markku OH4SR is once again back in Ivory Coast as TU4SR.

And finally: it looks like Macedonia will be declared a new one, mainly in deference to United Nations rulings on the area. Look for 4N5GB; work it and you'll probably have a new one in your logs.CU in the pileups!

FOR SALE

HAM STATION OAK DESK (6') with two oak shelves; \$135. Jerry W6IWR 584-5716

EMERGENCY AND PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT

by Bill Johnson W9WFV

The recent full scale Emergency Drill at Thunderbird Samaritan Hospital included participation by 14 club members equipped with 70cm gear operating on 441.0 MHz (simplex). Additional traffic was handled on the 145.29 repeater.

Marty Shapiro KA7GNK was liaison communicator with the hospital staff and Bill Johnson W9WFV was Net Control. Tom Watts NY7S and Paul Johnson N7MYS handled outgoing traffic to the repeater, with Eva Karnatz KC7RY and Clarence Reid K0BHJ on the receiving end. Stationed in the hospital were

Hal VanDyke KD2PK; Mit Thompson K9CCX; John Kornbeck WA9HBT; Rudy Strothmann WA9RKI; Bill Pauley KB7RRE; Ray Van Skiver W7LQM; Joe Nowakowski W7FPG; Fred Cooper VE7JNJ.

Participants received T-shirts to mark the event, plus a hearty lunch.

Peoria's Pioneer Day 5K bike and road races, held on April 17, set some new records, with no accidents recorded. Simplex frequency 147.57 MHz was used, with the 145.29 Repeater as back-up. Stations on hand to monitor:

Marty Shapiro KA7GKN, Net Control
Tom Ivy KA7ESP Charlie Frankel N7NSY
Al Folden W7KAP John Kornbeck WA9HBT
Jim Capek KB7GTV Bernie Bailey N7BIE
Marvin Wood N7WIE Stan Edgerton K8RAL
Dick Harris N7XPS Chuck Waldron K0VEB
Paul Kummel N7MYS Russ Whempner K6CLK
Tony Cipolla W2QL Clarence Reid K0BHJ
Bill Miller N7DJV Mit Thompson K9CCX
Frank Green W7MAJ Fred Warrick KE7AK
Bill Johnson W9WFV Dave Pollack KF7WW

Call your team captain if you can take part in the Fourth Annual "OK Walk" in Sun City on FRIDAY MAY 14. As in previous years, amateur operators will be stationed along 107th from the start in Grand Center to the finish at Sun Bowl Plaza (Peoria Ave).

SPRING HAMFEST, MAY 1-2, COCHISE ARA
5 MILES E OF SIERRA VISTA ON HWY 90,
THEN S ON MOSON RD FOR 2+ MILES
\$5/Space (includes 5 raffle tickets)
VE Exams Saturday

Talk-in on 146.76- or 145.52 (simplex)
More info: 602-378-3155

MAY

West Valley Amateur Radio Club
Proudly Presents Their Spring

SWAPFEST

And Almost Next-To-New Amateur Radio
Fresh Air Sale

Sunday Morning
May 2, 1993
7:30 AM to Noon

Merrill Lynch Building Rear Parking Lot
N. E. Corner of 98th Avenue and Bell Road

No Charge For Looking, but
Bring A Big Bundle of Cash and a Wheelbarrow to
Cart Home The Goodies

Space Reservations-
Also At No Charge, Limited Availability

No Commercial Sales

Call Bob Gormley, WA1MHZ
843-2193



Frank Smith, AA7FM, 876-2718

WØDNO

June Presentation by WVARC--

Proper Grounding Techniques for Protection of Radios

Will be the subject of the June 7th meeting of the West Valley Radio Club.

The speaker, Cliff Bailey, WA7GBL, has been involved in grounding with APS for the last 15 years. He is a senior engineer in the Telecom Dept with an extensive background in microwave and 2 way radios.

The program will be presented at St. Clements Catholic Church, 15800 Del Webb Blvd., Sun City, following a short business meeting, planned to start at 7:15 PM. The doors will open approximately one-half hour before the meeting.

Invite a friend. The meeting is open to all who are interested in protecting their amateur radio and other equipment from lightening and other transient conditions.