



## 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).

### OCT PROGRAM: SOUTH SANDWICH ISLS DX-PEDITION

The West Valley Amateur Radio Club will meet on **MONDAY OCTOBER 4** at 7:15 PM at St Clement Social Hall, 15800 N Del Webb Blvd, Sun City. Following the business meeting, we will travel with a DX-pedition via videotape to the South Sandwich Islands. These islands are close to Antarctica in the South Atlantic (actually the Scotia Sea) and the weather there must be brutal. Frank AA7FM has also promised us a video on ham radio in a lighter vein. But our meetings are mostly an excuse to visit with colleagues and friends with mutual ham radio interests. Doors open at 6:45. All are welcome.

### LADIES NIGHT BARBECUE FRIDAY OCT 22nd

You are urged to mail in your checks for the **LADIES NIGHT OUT** barbecue (cost \$10 each) to Treasurer Walt Schwiebert at his home address or the club PO address, or see him at the **OCT MEETING**. Only a few weeks remain before our yearly social event, where we show our appreciation to our spouses for their forbearance with our hobby. Over 100 attendees were on hand last year. The place: Beardsley Rec Center in SCW. Bell Rd west to El Mirage Rd, north to Beardsley, then left a few blocks to the Rec Center. Serving from 5:30 to 7 PM (two lines). Music from the Big Band era by the Wally Storm Trio.

Remember the date: **FRIDAY OCTOBER 22nd.**

### HAM-OF-THE-YEAR

The **HAM-OF-THE-YEAR** Committee is still accepting nominations for this award, given at the Ladies Night Out event. Give Bert W2GOB your selection -- someone who has done a lot for the club this year. Cut-off date: Oct 12.

### SILENT KEY

**JOHN EVANS W6NLE** died in Sun City on Sept 9th. John has been a long-time member of WVARC and a regular on our daily 9 AM call-in net. We'll miss his cheerful greeting each morning.

### NEW FREQUENCY FOR CLUB'S PRIMARY 2m REPEATER

In addition to the 70cm (NY7S, 449.80 MHz) repeater on Boswell Hospital in Sun City, the West Valley ARC has maintained 2m repeaters on Boswell (K7NHR, 147.30) and Sun City West Del Webb Hospital (KE7DH, 145.29). K7NHR Don Starkey has moved to Georgia and the Spectrum repeater on Boswell is **FOR SALE** [call Dr Homer Dunford 979-8230 (H)]. The KE7DH repeater has been the club's primary repeater for emergency alerts, nets, public service, etc, because the K7NHR repeater was plagued with intermod problems at its Sun City location.

The KE7DH repeater in SCW has been retuned to **147.30 MHz** (PLUS 600) and the club has relinquished the assigned 145.29 MHz frequency, which is the frequency of the Green Valley repeater whose signal has opened the squelch on our receivers countless times. Our new frequency on Del Webb Hospital is on line and is working fine, except for hams close to Boswell Hospital who are still hearing the "grunge". The KE7DH autopatch is accessed as usual: You press \*83 and the 7-digit number in sequence, release and wait for the announcement "AUTO-PATCH"; you may PTT at this point or wait until the number is read back to you before you PTT (which you must do **IMMEDIATELY** after the last digit is announced). Use # to terminate.

Muchos gracias to the club repeater gurus Stan Edgerton K8RAL and Tom Watts NY7S, who spent loads of time and tire wear, taking the cavities to one place for tuning and the repeater to another place in the boonies for alignment, then putting everything together and getting it to work -- all withing a short space of time.

From now on, please monitor the 147.30 repeater whenever you are near your rig, and check into our Daily Call-in Net at 9 AM and our Wednesday Night 2m Net at 6:45 PM on this frequency. Also, those with 70cm rigs are urged to use the 449.8 repeater as much as possible. We need our 70cm repeater assignment for hospital emergencies, so let's use it.

Heading up this month's report is the Mellish Reef operation VK9MM which should be active as you read this. One of the year's most important DXpeditions, it includes Phoenix veteran DXpeditioner Dr Vince Thompson K5VT.

Miika Heikenheimo OH2BAD has announced that the OH DX ring has completed construction on a major contest station on Aland (Ahvenarmaa) Islands complete with several FT-1000's and 5-over-5 monobanders. The Finns have assigned the call sign OH0DX to the station. All QSLs via OH2BAD, who promises special cards.

The long-awaited Pratas Island DXpedition BV9P should be on the air beginning around the 6th of October and running for ten days.

Another good one is Eastern Kiribati T32RA running until the first weekend in October. Not too far away will be an operation from the Marshall Islands V3110 towards the end of Oct.

Listen for Tristan da Cunha operation ZD9SXW the first of October and running for about 3 weeks. QSL via operator Roger Western G3SXW.

This is a good time to get your stations ready for some important contest weekends - always a good chance to work your DXCC in one weekend or to maybe chalk up some new band countries. The CQWW/SSB contest runs Oct 30-31 and the CQWW/CW contest Nov 27-28. Oct 2-3 will see the VK-ZL Oceana SSB contest. Check either QST or CQ Magazine for details.

Remember that during the CQWW/SSB contest, area hams including club member Tony Rogozinski N7BG will operate from the Gambia as C56V. QSL Gary McClellan KD7E in Phoenix.

Yours truly will also participate on a contest DXpedition for the same weekend and all of the preceding week. Our team, headed up by Victor Keller XE1VIC, president of the Mexican DX Club, will travel by boat to the island of Socorro in the Revillagigedos group (XF4-) where we'll operate for several days. The island is the site of minor volcanic activity and serves as an operational base for the Mexican Navy. The location is approximately 450 miles SW of Mexico's central western coastline into the Pacific ocean. Aboard our team are Romeo Step- anenko 3W3RR, Ed Kritsky NT2X, Andy Chesnokov UA3AB and several XEs. On our return we plan to stop at atoll Roca Partida and activate it for the first time as a new IOTA island. We'll need your QSO in the contest.

Once again, tnx to all who worked us at PJ8X. Good luck in the contests; CU in the pileups!

Peoria held its FIESTA DAYS bicycle and foot races on Saturday, September 18. Stations monitoring the event checked in around 6:45 AM. They included Net Control Joe Nowakowski W7FPG and

Bill Johnson W9WFV	Paul Kummel N7MYS
Ray Van Skiver W7LQM	Bert Davidson W2GOB
Norm Fulmer N7JQA	Ken Morrison W6SQ
Stan Edgerton K8RAL	Bert Keates N6QLJ
Tom Ivy KA7ESP	Art Simek WA0RFJ
Marty Shapiro KA7GKN	Rudy Strothmann WA9RK1
Mit Thompson K9CCX	Charlie Frankel N7NSY
Jack Dow KE7ZQ	Bernie Bailey N7BIE
and Walt Schwiebert K7HGZ.	

A new record was set for the 5K Masters bike race, when the lead biker averaged 25.7 mph and won by half a bike length. This was a remarkable speed, considering the number of sharp turns in the event.

The value of ham radio was affirmed when Tom KA7ESP discovered that his car battery was dead. Marty KA7GKN responded to his call and jumper cables soon had Tom on his way for a replacement battery.

The PALO VERDE SIREN TEST has been rescheduled for WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 3rd. Register with your team captains for this all-morning event that includes a box lunch at the Nuclear Generating plant site.

#### NO-CODE TECH RADIO CLASSES START OCT 5 IN SC

Candidates for a NO-CODE TECHNICIAN ham radio course will meet on TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS from 7 to 9 PM, beginning OCTOBER 5, thru DEC 3, at Sun City Posse HQ on Sunland Drive. Go south from Bell Rd or north from Grand and Thunderbird on DEL WEBB BLVD (equals 107th Ave) to MEADE DR, west on MEADE to AGUA FRIA DR, right on AGUA FRIA 4 short blocks to SUNLAND DR, and right past pet cemetery and recycling bins to HQ.

Instructors Dan Pierson W6NTX and George Thompson AA7LA will coordinate their classes to cover Element 2 on Tuesday and Element 3A on Friday. THERE IS NO CHARGE. Textbook is "Now You're Talking", published by ARRL and available at Ham Radio Outlet or Radio Shacks. Be sure you have the 1993 version with new questions. Call Ray NW7R (972-8733) to enroll.

A second NO-CODE TECH class may be set up in Phoenix, at the Kesler Elderly Care Home, 3829 W Thunderbird Road, if enrollment warrants. A few hams have expressed an interest in upgrading. Let Ray know if you would like to have GENERAL, ADVANCED or EXTRA classes. We need at least six or eight to start each class.

VEC LICENSE EXAMS at DeVRY on OCTOBER 2nd

Exams for all classes of license are held at DeVry Institute, 2149 Dunlap Ave, the 1ST SAT-DAY of every month, EXCEPT HOLIDAY WEEKENDS (usually January, July, September) and DeVry Registration Day (usually March). Exams start around 8:30 AM, with none handed out after 11 AM. Bring photo ID, an original and a copy of CSCE or ham license if appropriate. Especially bring a copy of Novice License or CSCE if you have a Code-Plus Tech License of recent issue. Also bring a check for \$5.60 (payable ARRL/VEC) To date, Novice-tests-only have been free at ARRL sessions but this practice of no-charge has been challenged by the W5YI VEC.

FOR SALE

100M IC-2410 Mobile/base XCVR (2m/70cm) with encoder/decoder and other extras.

John KB7SSS 974-4188

JACK DOW KE7ZQ IS NEW CLUB ARRL REPRESENTATIVE

After 5 years, Don Fenton W1JH will be getting a well-deserved rest from his services as club ARRL rep. Jack Dow KE7ZQ has offered to take over the task of renewing our memberships and signing up new ARRL members. West Valley ARC is an ARRL Special Service Club. The club receives \$2 for each ARRL membership renewal and \$5 for each new League member. When renewing, send check for \$2 less than required amount (payable ARRL) to Jack Dow KE7ZQ, 18810 N Zinnia Ct, Sun City West, AZ 85375 and a check for \$2 (to WVARC), along with renewal form. To join ARRL, send check for \$5 less than required amount (payable ARRL) and check for \$5 (to WVARC) to Jack. The club appreciates your support.

WVARC members are not required to belong to ARRL, but you are encouraged to support the League in their efforts on behalf of our hobby.

TUCSON OCTOBER FALLFEST - OLD PUEBLO RADIO CLUB

SUNDAY OCTOBER 17 (Our last letter said Oct 16) DeAnza Drive-In on Alvernon, south of Broadway. Talk-in 146.82. Info: Ted AA7HX (602) 790-3828

FIRST FAMILY-AMATEUR-RADIO-EVENT IS SUCCESS

Early reports indicate that a good time was had by all at the first FARE session at Rawhide on Sunday September 19. Bargain hunters were checking out the swapmeet area early, but the crowd was beginning to thin by noon. Attendance figures were not available at press time, but the SW Division Hamfest in Ventura did not appear to have affected the attendance significantly. That Convention is set for AUG 26-28 next year (in San Diego) and won't be a factor if FARE chooses Ham Appreciation weekend for a second effort. Congrats to Len Winkler, et al.

WVARC OFFICERS - 1993

PRES	RALPH BARR	WODNO	582-8208 (PHX)
V PRES	CLARENCE REID	KOBHJ	876-8780 (SC)
SEC	ERNIE BREWER	N7EBN	848-1875 (PHX)
TREAS	WALT SCHWIEBERT	K7HQZ	974-3387 (SC)
DIRS:	DAVE POLLACK	KF7WW	933-8771 (SC)
	BERT DAVIDSON	W2GOB	584-6260 (SCW)
	GEORGE WATLING	N7JSA	933-0854 (SC)
	MERRILL BUTTERMAN	KF8DZ	870-3848 (PHX)
PAST PRES	FRANK SMITH	AA7FM	876-2718 (GLD)

Membership in the WVARC is open to everyone interested in Amateur Radio. Dues are \$10/yr or \$5 after July 1.

UPDATE ON MARICOPA COUNTY TOWER ORDINANCE

de Frank Smith AA7FM

When Planning and Zoning met in July to deliberate the above issue, a directive was issued to citizens living in the Cave Creek area and ham radio representatives to meet and attempt to forge a compromise that would be mutually satisfactory. On Sept 14 the County was host to this meeting with neighbors and hams. The meeting lasted 2-3 hours. At first the neighbors aired their traditional grievances but as the afternoon progressed it turned out that they were willing to work with the hams and vice versa. As a result, a plan emerged that will now be presented for approval of the Planning Director and back to public hearings.

This plan is similar to the one I personally negotiated with the County in July. It is a three step zoning regulation as follows: 1) in R1-1000 through R1-6000 (e.g., Sun City sized lots) hams will be allowed up to 75 feet; 2) in areas in excess of around 18000 to 43000 sq ft three towers would be permitted with 100 ft maximums; 3) in areas in excess of category 2, three towers would be allowed up to 120 ft maximum. In the last two categories, if a ham needs to exceed those limitations, he may do so through a special use permit process. Verticals would NOT be regulated on any lots.

In exchange for their agreement on these terms Gary Capek K8BN and I assured the neighbors that we would help them in their desire to rezone their area into a yet-to-be-created zoning category which would likely be called "RE" - Rural Estate. Such a change is not expected to have an effect on hams.

Obviously we will continue to monitor the situation and notify you immediately of all meetings that will come up. At this point it would be helpful to inform your members about this situation and alert the hams in the area to the need eventually to attend public hearings, but NOT to plan to make presentations unless asked to by our committee or Attorney Neil Wake, who may speak on our behalf.

OCT 13

### EDITOR'S CORNER

The club has several members who for a variety of reasons have left the Valley. From time to time they write to tell us how much they miss the club, its programs, fellowship, services, etc. Latest to write is Hale Faris K6DFY, now of San Jose CA, who is especially grateful to Bill Johnson W9WV and his RFI Committee.

Seems that Hale was confronted by RFI complaints while in the process of trying to sell his house to another ham. Bill checked out the complaints "in a thoroughly professional, businesslike and ethical manner. He represented the FCC, the complainants and me in a thoroughly unbiased way. Thanks to Bill I was freed from the onus of these complaints."

We don't mention the RFI/TVI Committee in the newsletter as often as we should. We understand that complaints have fallen off sharply in the past year. If you do have a neighbor who reports interference to you, get in touch with Bill (584-2107), who will ask some of his tactful experts to check it out. Most problems can be resolved amicably if handled at the first sign of trouble.

We have to tell you that Hale's neighbors got in the last shot. In the dark of night they circulated a petition changing their unit's CR&R. Towers are now banned in that portion (some 90 homes). (It only takes a majority vote to make these changes.) However, we understand that the two hams with towers (including Dan Pierson W6NTX, who bought Hale's house) may continue to operate.

INTERNAT'L HAMFIESTA, EL PASO TX, OCT 9-10  
NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY, US 54/HONDO PASS DR  
TALK-IN 146.88-. REGISTRATION \$6.00.  
Forums: ARRL, Packet, DX, MARS, Emergency.  
License Exams SATURDAY, SUNDAY 9:30 AM  
SWAP TABLES or TAILGATE, \$12.00

FALLFEST - NW AZ HAM RADIO TRI-CLUB - OCT 2  
BULLHEAD CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FACILITY  
AZ HWY 95 - TALK-IN 146.76-, 146.52 SIMPLEX

Area hams who make frequent trips to Laughlin might want to take in this event across the river. Free admission. Tailgating is \$7.50.  
Free ferry service to and from casinos.

### NO-CODE TECH CLASSES FOR EAST VALLEY

TriCity Amateur Radio Club will sponsor NO-CODE TECH classes on Wednesday nights 7PM starting Oct 6 at Tri City Baptist Church, 2159 E Southern Ave (corner Price), Tempe.  
To register: John Robinett N7RAT 964-3509.

### FCC GIVES HAMS NEW PROTECTION VS SCANNER LAWS [Excerpts from ARRL Letter, Sept 14, 1993]

An FCC decision on Aug 20, the result of a 5 year ARRL effort, gives AmateurRadio operators a powerful tool to use against ill-conceived local and state laws and ordinances.

...The Commission's Memorandum Opinion and Order goes much further than simply saying that amateurs have a federal right to own and operate their radios. The Commission's decision supports at length the very essence of the purpose of the Amateur Service.

...The FCC's lengthy Order will be treated at length in November QST. The essence of their decision, based on the ARRL motion for a declaratory ruling, is:

"We hold that state and local laws that preclude the possession in vehicles or elsewhere of amateur radio service transceivers by amateurs merely on the basis that the transceivers are capable of the reception of public safety, special emergency, or other radio service frequencies, the reception of which is not prohibited by federal law, are inconsistent with the federal objectives of facilitating and promoting the amateur radio service and, more fundamentally, with the federal interest in amateur operators' being able to transmit and receive on authorized amateur service frequencies.

"We therefore hold that such state and local laws are preempted by federal law."....

### PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATION OF DISABILITY

[From W5YI Report, Sept 15, 1993]

VE teams take note! Many medical doctors who sign telegraphy exemption statements on their patients' FCC Form 610 applications are being written to by the FCC in Gettysburg concerning the alleged disability and potential exam accommodations.

The telegraphy exemption request is routinely denied if the doctor fails to respond within 30 days to three questions from the FCC. Many do not! Although the FCC notifies the applicant, the Form 610 application is not returned or acted upon by the FCC.

NOTE TO CLUB MEMBERS: There are many hams attending our FIRST-MONDAY-OF-THE-MONTH meetings for the first time. If you don't spot them before the meeting starts and they introduce themselves from the floor, make them welcome at the break after the business portion or at the close of the session. Remember how you felt at your first meeting.