



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).

JAN MEETING: AMATEUR SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS

The West Valley ARC will meet on MONDAY, JANUARY 3rd, at St Clement Social Hall, 15800 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City. Doors will open at 6:30 PM and a brief business meeting will begin at 7:15, followed by a program entitled "Getting Started in Amateur Satellite Communications", presented by Floyd Smithberg NQ7X. At the conclusion of a film on the subject, Floyd will answer your questions. This program should be of special interest to our No-Code Technicians, who have little opportunity for long-distance communications. Everyone interested in the subject is welcome. Come and meet the newly elected officers of the Club.

Door prize will be the 1994 edition of the ARRL Handbook for the Radio Amateur.

DECEMBER MEETING WAS WELL ATTENDED

The December get-together is a holiday session of good cheer and some 130 people enjoyed refreshments and fellowship at our last meeting. ARRL SW Director Fried Heyn WA6WZO and wife Sandi WA6WZN shared in our festivities. Fried showed a dramatic 20-minute video, "Last Voice from Kuwait", in which a Kuwaiti ham provided information, via Packet, of the Iraqi actions during the occupation of his country prior to Desert Storm. Fried also brought us up to date on actions pending at FCC and ARRL Headquarters (see separate article on another page).

A number of ARRL publications were presented as door prizes (thanks to Fried). Winners were Tom Ivy KA7ESP, Don Munden KA7AAD, Ed Balaker WK7L, Eiric Oyen N7ZZT, and Rex Tynes N7EWV.

Treasurer Walt Schwiebert K7HGZ had a busy evening collecting dues. About half the members have already paid and turned in their renewal forms, which makes Walt's task easier. If you do not plan to attend the January meeting, please mail in your dues (\$10) and form to our PO Box 1573, Sun City, AZ 85372. The club appreciates your support.

WVARC OFFICERS -- 1994

Pres	Ralph Barr W0DNO	PHX	582-8208
VPres	Paul Playford W8AEF	SCW	546-2119
Sec'y	George Watling N7JSA	SC	933-0854
Treas	Walt Schwiebert K7HGZ	SC	974-3387
Directors	Bill Pauley KB7RRE	PHX	938-6163
	John Kornbeck WA9HBT	PEO	566-2018
	Clarence Reid K0BHJ	SC	876-8780
	Merrill Butterman KF8DZ	PEO	878-4651
Past Pres	Frank Smith AH0W	GLD	876-2718

STRANGE TRAFFIC ON OUR 147.30 REPEATER

Those of you who monitor the KE7DH repeater (147.30 MHz) in Sun City West have undoubtedly heard the Luke Air Force Base traffic on our frequency. The problem began when a new squadron arrived at the base recently, bringing its own communications gear and frequencies. Tom Watts NY7S has been in touch with base personnel, who tell us that they are looking into the problem. Apparently we are not getting into their receivers or the situation would have been corrected by now. Our members who are closest to the base can hear them on the input frequency. We all hear a clear, strong message on the output frequency. We hope that the problem will be resolved shortly.

NO LICENSE EXAMS AT DeVRY IN JANUARY

Because DeVry Institute will not be open on holiday week-ends, no VEC exams will be held on the following days in 1994: January 1st, July 2nd and September 3rd. Also, rooms will not be available to us on DeVry Registration Day, March 5th. We will hold sessions on the other FIRST SATURDAYS OF THE MONTH, with registration starting at 8:30 AM. VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS and CANDIDATES FOR TESTING please mark your calendars.

Fee is \$5.75 per individual per session, regardless of the number of elements taken. We normally allow candidates one retake of an element, if they are close to passing on the first try.

NEW FCC FORM 610 IS BIG IMPROVEMENT

Subscribers to the W5YI Report have received a copy of the new FCC Form 610, which has an expiration date of 8/31/96. This version is expected to be in service in February or March of 1994; at that time, earlier versions will be obsolete.

The new form is compact, with all information on the front page, including designations for both Technician and Technician Plus class (earlier forms made no distinction between the levels). Your station address is no longer required - only a mailing address. VEs won't have to check candidates' previous credits on the form (but will include copies of these credits with the submitted form).

The entire back of the form consists of a Physician's Certification of Disability and a lengthy explanation of accommodations that are made for a severely handicapped ham who seeks to pass 13 or 20 WPM code; e.g., deaf persons may be sent dots and dashes to a vibrating surface or flashing lights. If in the physician's professional judgement the candidate cannot pass the requirements, even when the tester pauses between each sentence or word or letter, then the physician may sign the certification. This new form thus attempts to minimize the abuse of the process.

NOVICE HAMS GET MORE PRIVILEGES ON 220 MHz

Currently Novices are permitted to operate between 222.1 and 223.91 MHz on the 1.25m band with a maximum of 25 watts PEP output. Effective February 1, 1994, Novices will be allowed to operate on the entire band (222.0 - 225.0). Novices may not own and operate repeaters in this band or the 23cm band.

In a separate action the FCC has set aside the subband 222.00 - 222.15 MHz for experimental work, where repeaters are prohibited. It is expected that this subband will be used for weak signal work such as moon-bounce communications. [Info W5YI Report, 12/15/93]

GENERAL and NO-CODE TECH CLASSES IN FEBRUARY

Classes for No-Code Tech and General Class Licenses will be held in February/March 1994. Classes will be one night a week for 8 weeks, and are expected to be held in Sun City. Ted Torrence KB7MMT has volunteered to teach the General Class. We need a volunteer for the Technician Class. We also need instructors for Advanced and Extra Class, if enough interest is generated. Call Ray NW7R 972-8733 to volunteer or to enroll in any class.

SILENT KEYS IN QST MAGAZINE

One of our local hams asked your editor how long it takes for QST to publish a name in its Silent Keys column after submission to QST by another ham. It seems he had sent an obit in a few months earlier and had seen no results.

When QST receives notification of the death of a ham (preferably a newspaper obituary), a notice is sent to the family at the last known address. If they receive no contrary information from their note, they proceed to publish. It takes four or five months from the time of the first receipt of an obit to the publication date.

CLUB NOTES

Paul Playford W8AEF has been added to the Repeater Maintenance staff and has already had a session working on the 147.30 MHz repeater. Seems the repeater had been getting into the 147.32 repeater!.....Paul was also recruited by the Nominating Committee for the office of Vice President, when Steve Pabin N7ZZS had to withdraw his name from the ticket.

Arizona Repeater Association has decided to sponsor Explorer Post 599 again in 1994. The West Valley club had offered to sponsor the Post if ARA bowed out. Rick Tannehill W7RT, Executive Advisor for the Post, expressed his appreciation of the offer and hopes we may be available in the future if needed.

Bill Kosanovich W8KFC, a former club president, was the lucky winner of the Grand Prize at FARE in September: a TS-50S HF Mobile rig.

Remember our luncheons every Thursday at 11 AM at Country Kitchen, 12535 W Bell Rd, Surprise, and our SECOND-SATURDAY OF THE MONTH breakfast at 8 AM, same place. Spouses welcome. Open menu.

Ham radio news from Newsline, ARRL Letters, W5YI Reports and local QSTs is heard every Wednesday evening at 6:45 PM on the 147.30 MHz repeater. Check in and keep informed.

Good Morning! Every day at 9 AM we have a Call-in Net, established especially for shut-ins, but everyone is welcome, particularly if you have a funny story to tell -- however a friendly Hello will suffice. (147.30 MHz.)

Plan to join or renew your ARRL membership? The club gets \$5 for new League members, \$2 for renewals. Call Jack Dow KE7ZQ for details (584-5284). Your support is appreciated.

OQ DX de FRANK SMITH AH0W/OH2LVG

DXers were saddened by the news that veteran DXpeditioner Lloyd Colvin W6KG became a Silent Key on December 13th in Ankara, Turkey. Lloyd and his dear wife Iris gave countless new ones to DXers worldwide and founded the YASME Foundation now well known as a major support group for costly DXpeditions. Iris and Lloyd were personal friends of many in our area. Our sympathies go out to Iris in this difficult time.

JA3JM has announced a multi-country Pacific DXpedition to include Western Samoa AH8, Niue ZK2 and South Cook ZK1. It looks like he'll get competition from DJ3NY, whose Pacific tour also includes 3D and FO.

Jerry UT4UZ and Andy UB4LRQ are still on track to Nepal 9N, where they will operate RTTY as well as CW/SSB. QSL via PA3BUD.

Maldiv Islands 8Q will be activated by I4ALU, who will operate from Booluluthi Is. Hopen Is (EU-026), part of Svalbard, will be activated by Lars LA5EBA over the next 6 months as part of a meteorological monitoring station he will be in charge of. And if you have never worked Madagascar, look for 5R8KH, who has settled in more or less permanently. QSL via WB8LFO.

Ted NH6YK will be activating Palau as KC6YK through mid-January. Satellite DXers can work him on RS-10 and AO-13 in addition to 6 meters

Look for EK1700JJ and EK1700GK during January. These special events stations are celebrating the founding of Yerevan, Armenia. QSL via GW3CDP. Other good ones include Western Sahara A0RASD, Swaziland 3DA0BK, Hong Kong VS6BH (Martti Laine), Mauritius Is 3B8CF, Mozambique C9IJ, Saudi Arabia HZ1AB and Senegal 6W6JX.

Short Skip readers who have made contact with 9A or T9 stations this past year and still need a QSL card: bring me your QSO information and I will try to secure cards for you via Carl OH6XY, who is serving in Croatia with the UN High Commission for Refugees. Carl visited Phoenix recently and offered to get these cards for area hams via my office. You can fax the information to me at 977-5621. And speaking of cards, my Sint Maarten QSLs will be ready at the end of the month.

Looking into the holiday season and the end of 1993, your "DX Editor" wishes to thank everyone in WVARC for support and encouragement during some difficult personal times this past year. It is remarkable how our hobby, either on the air or off, brings people together in a spirit of goodwill and friendship. In that spirit, let me wish everyone Happy Holidays and a Great New Year in 1994!

THIRD-PARTY COUNTRIES

[A club member recently asked if Japan is a "third-party" country; i.e., is an amateur regulated by the FCC authorized to transmit a message from its control operator (first party) to another amateur station control operator (second party) on behalf of another person (third party) to any station within the jurisdiction of the government of Japan? The answer is "no".]

The necessary arrangements have been made with the US to permit an amateur station regulated by the FCC to exchange messages for a third party with amateur stations in the following countries:

Antigua and Barbudo, Argentina, Australia, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Federal Islamic Republic of Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, The Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Liberia, Mexico, Federated States of Micronesia, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, St Christopher and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Also United Kingdom special event stations with call sign prefix GB followed by a number other than 3, and UN stations 4U1ITU/Geneva and 4U1VIC/Viennaf. [from W5YI Report, 12/15]

An item in an earlier W5YI Report indicating that Cuba had been eliminated from the list proved to be incorrect.

SILENT KEYS

EDITH ROSNER W3AAU, of Sun City West died on Dec 2 at Boswell Hospital. She was a founder of the Pennsylvania/New Jersey YL Radio Operators Club and a former member of the Sun City West Posse. Until her recent illness, Edith attended our meetings on a regular basis. She is survived by a sister in North Carolina, Shirley Rosner Lukoff, to whom we extend our sympathy.

HARRY DANIELS W7DMO, of Happy Trails Resort, Surprise, died in Phoenix on December 11 at the age of 85. "Dan" moved to Arizona in 1985 from California and joined the club when it became the West Valley ARC. We offer condolences to his wife Elaine and their family.

ARRL SW Division Director Fried Heyn told hams at the WVARC December meeting of actions contemplated by the FCC and ARRL.

1) Assignment of amateur frequencies in the 219-220 MHz band is expected to relieve some of the problems resulting from the loss of 220-222 MHz, especially in southern CA.

2) Candidates who pass their first ham test may be allowed on the air prior to issuance of an official license (using WZ prefix, number of region where test was taken, and candidate's initials as suffix, as a temporary call sign). This proposal is strongly opposed by ARRL as having the potential for much abuse.

3) "Vanity" call signs may be issued by the FCC for a fee, once their new computer system is on line late next summer. (Club and military recreation call signs - once expected to be issued by volunteer organizations - may be included in the process.)

4) ARRL plans to ask FCC to issue lifetime operator licenses. (Fried was asked how the FCC would keep track of Silent Keys; answer, they probably wouldn't.)

5) The FCC proposal that VEs study credentials of foreign hams applying for temporary US licenses (which would be issued through the VEC program) appears to have been tabled indefinitely. The League has suggested an International Amateur Radio Permit similar to that in effect in much of Europe. Such an action is working its way through channels and may be on the agenda at a future WARC.

6) The FCC has ruled that the content of messages relayed by high speed digital networks is the responsibility of the licensee of the originating station and the first forwarding station and not all subsequent stations. ARRL supports this narrower interpretation.

7) ARRL will ask for an exemption for amateur stations under the guidelines proposed by the American National Standards Institute for evaluating environmental RF radiation. ARRL has always urged prudent avoidance of prolonged exposure to unnecessarily high levels of RF energy. The new ANSI guidelines place strict limitations on automatic exclusions for low-power devices such as handheld radios.

8) The League continues to pursue an expansion and clarification of PRB-1, the preemption of state and local regulations by federal (FCC) law. They hope to have ham towers exempted from deed restrictions.

'86 Honda Accord 4-dr (52,000 mi), WIRED FOR 2m AND 220 MHz. Includes 2 RF Concepts amp-preamps, Larsen 2m on-glass antenna and 220 mag mount. Has \$400 Ungo security system.
Bert N6QLJ 546-1532

KNWD TS-940 HF XCVR w/automatic antenna tuner. New-from-factory 8-strand (#16) rotator cable, 35c/ft. MJF Signal Enhancer II CW/SSB audio filter/enhancer; \$30.

Frank AHOW 876-2718 (W), 938-8000 (H)

COMPUTER PACKAGE: COMMODORE C-64 w/2 power packs - APPLE VIDEO MONITOR - TWO 1541 DISK DRIVES - OKIDATA MODEL 120 Printer w/2500 sheets computer paper - Assortment of software. All in excellent condx. Price \$215.
HEATHKIT SB-220 LINEAR AMPLIFIER - \$500.
E.F. JOHNSON POWER/SWR METER - \$10.

Ed N7EB 972-2646

HENRY 2K-4 LINEAR 10-80m w/manuals; \$895 obo.
KNWD TS-120-S XCVR, PS-30 Power supply, MC-35 and Turner 454C mikes, manuals; \$450 obo.
40/80 DIPOLE; \$35.

Gary W10F 566-2272

REPORT ON "FAMILY AMATEUR RADIO EVENT" DAY
de Merrill Butterman KF8DZ, WVARC rep

On Nov 23rd the West Valley ARC received a check in the amount of \$129.73 from Len Winkler KB7LBW for our participation in 1993 Family Amateur Radio Event held at Rawhide on Sept 19th. FARE's total receipts were \$5954 and payments \$3609.79.

The seed money each club provided will be held by FARE for use in 1994, along with \$200 from the net receipts. (Seed money of any club desiring not to participate in 1994 will be returned.) Another \$200 has been put into a FARE scholarship account. No additional money will be required from present participants, but any new club wishing to benefit financially from FARE in 1994 will be asked to contribute \$100 to the seed fund.

Next year's event will be bigger and better than the first. Some changes have been planned and many more will come. FARE will take place next year on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17. The SWAP-MEET portion will begin at "normal" sunrise time and the main exhibit hall will open at 9 AM. Closing time is still undecided. Instead of a dinner, a BBQ lunch is planned, with entertainment and more.

[Editor's note: Merrill has volunteered to serve as club representative to FARE for the coming year.]