

WEST VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
P.O. BOX 1573, SUN CITY, AZ 85372

AN ARRL-AFFILIATED
SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

APRIL 1996
VOL XXIII, NO 4
SHORT SKIP

SHORT SKIP is a periodical published monthly (every 2 months in summer) by WVARC. Deadline for items is 2nd Saturday of the month. Mail to PO Box or call Ed. Ray Sumner 972-8733.

CLUB CALENDAR

(Please mark YOUR calendar)

MARCH 23-24, HAM DAZE, AZ SCIENCE CTR
APRIL 1, GEN MEETING, ST CLEMENT HALL
APRIL 5, LICENSE EXAMS, SC POSSE HQ
APRIL 6, LICENSE EXAMS, DeVRY PHOENIX
APRIL 13, BREAKFAST, BRANTLEY'S, PEO.
APRIL 17, CARL BOARD, RED CROSS HQ.
APRIL 27, AARC HAMFEST, PHOENIX COLL.
6am-3pm.

1st MON. WVARC Gen. Meeting, 7:15pm
2nd MON. Exec Board, 6:30pm
1st SAT. License Exams, DeVry, 8am.
2nd SAT. Bkfst, 8am.
TUESDAYS. CARL NET 8pm, 145.35 MHz.
WEDs. NEWSLINE NET 6:45pm, 147.30.
THURs. LUNCH 11am, Denny's, Surprise
DAILY: CALL-IN NET, 9am, 147.30.

APRIL PROGRAM: HAM RADIO ON INTERNET

West Valley ARC will meet on MONDAY APRIL 1 at St Clement Social Hall, Del Webb Blvd, Sun City. Doors open 6:30, meeting begins at 7:15pm. After a short business, Frank Smith AH0W will provide a demonstration of Amateur Radio on the Internet. It will be a tour in real time of the various facets of the Internet, highlighting areas of interest to hams, including the DX and Low Band Reflectors, local ham radio BBS lines, the World Wide Web, telnetting onto packet radio, the OH2BUA Webcluster; the CompuServe Ham Net Forum, ham radio newsgroups, and so forth. Handouts will be available after the presentation.

If Short Skip readers would like to suggest specific internet areas they are aware of and would like to see presented, contact Frank at 876-2718 or electronically at ah0w@primenet.com.

At the March meeting, door prizes were won by Arline Watling (a 24-hr clock), Al Kutchik, Ray Welley, and Nancy Teel.

CLUB OFFICERS - 1996

PRES	GEORGE WATLING	N7JSA	933-0854
VPRES	JOHN KORNBECK	WA9HBT	566-2018
SEC	MERRILL BUTTERMAN	KF8DZ	930-5534
TREASURER	ERNIE BREWER	N7EBN	848-1875
DIRECTORS:	TIM HAYES	KF7XY	878-1728
	RICH HAWORTH	W7MDQ	933-2191
	BRUCE STUART	KB7ZFF	412-0694
	LARRY BENJAMIN	AA2SC	972-8328
PAST-PRES	RALPH BARR	W0DNO	582-8208

HAM DAZE MARCH 23-24

The Arizona Science Center will be the site of Special Event Station KC7LUL, the ham station of the Center for Amateur Radio Learning. The station will be celebrating HAM DAZE, an event aimed at getting youngsters interested in ham radio and science in general. HF operators will work the 10m Novice band, and 15 and 20m. Amateur TV, packet and VHF will be demonstrated as well as a two-way laser communications device. Merit badge sessions will be held. Exams for NO-CODE TECH LICENSE ONLY will be available at 10am Saturday. Operators who contact the station will be awarded an attractive QSL card and certificate.

Everyone is invited to drop by. The AZ Science Center is on the SW corner of Adams/2nd Sts. Access to the parking garage just south of the corner on 2nd St. Time 9-5 Sat, noon to 5 Sunday.

The ham station and the Science Center itself will be in the process of moving to the new building on Washington and 6th Sts this summer. There are no plans to operate the station after HAM DAZE until the new building opens.

1996 WVARC ROSTER

The club roster for 1996 is being issued with this month's newsletter. The club has 415 members. As in past years a significant number have not renewed. We hope that many of them will return.

CLUB DISPLAY AT COMPUFEST

The club Packet Radio booth at Compufest '96 drew many interested viewers. LARRY TEEL KJ7QP dismantled his Packet station and installed it at the fair, with help from LARRY BENJAMIN AA2SC. Along with NANCY TEEL KC7FKT, they did a fine job promoting Packet and West Valley ARC. Attendance at the Paradise RV Resort was so great that the event may be held in larger quarters next year.

VANITY CALL SIGNS

The FCC has said that it will wait at least until mid-year to announce when it plans to open the first gate of the long-awaited vanity call-sign program. The deadline to file comments has expired. There are four Petitions for Reconsideration filed last fall. One of these is of interest to WVARC.

The Hill Country ARC of Kerrville TX requests the FCC to permit a club station that was issued a license after March 24, 1995, to apply for the call sign of a deceased member under gate 1A. Under present plan, club stations issued licenses after March 24 would use Gate 2 (if trustee is Extra Class). West Valley ARC plans to request the call sign of Silent Key Sam Lewbel (W7JHQ) for its 70cm repeater; Tom Watts NY7S is trustee.

INTERMOD ON 2 METERS

A Product Review de Marty Shapiro KA7GKN

Intermod is aggravated when you have a radio that covers in excess of 4 MHz of the 2m band, or even the entire band [120-174 MHz]. VHF commercial activity typically from 152-154 MHz is the main culprit (AKA "Intermod Alley"). All of the local high power pagers near the 2m area are the "boop" and "beep" of the issue.

If you purchase a radio that only works 2m, or if you reduce the spectrum of the receiver, the intermod will not be present. But reality is: we want to hear it all.

I came across a filter (VHFDN152) that works, from PAR ELECTRONICS, Lantana FL. This "passive band stop (notch) filter" attenuates signals from 152-154 MHz by as much as 50 dB. By doing this, your radio amplifiers and filters can accommodate the intermod and almost eliminate it completely. Unit is 2 x 2 1/2 x 1. It can handle up to 50W and will pass 70cm.

Living in Glendale, direct line to Shaw Butte Mountain and near some high power pager transmitters I find the filter excellent and worthwhile. The cost is \$66.00, including shipping.

CQ DX de FRANK SMITH AH0W/OH2LVG

These next few weeks should be as DXciting as the GOP primaries once were! Heading this month's report is the long-anticipated operation from North Korea P5 being put together by Martti Laine OH2BH. According to Wayne N7NG, this operation should be completed by the Visalia DX Convention in mid-April. Currently there are only 20 DXers who have P5 confirmed, so this will be as big as the ZALA operation was in 1991. Meanwhile, look for Martti as VK9XM from Christmas Island just before the P5 operation.

Several members of the Central AZ DX Assn have announced plans to activate the Union of Myanmar (Burma) as XZ1N, 2-11 April. The team will include Phoenix area hams Vince K5VT, Millie WY7K, Jack WA7LW, Mike AA7NO, John AA7WP and Warren KF7AY. This will be an all-band/mode operation. QSL via KD7E. You can follow the progress of this DXpedition on

<http://www.getnet.com/~kf7ay/myanmar.html>

There's a lot of rare DX out there to be worked. Almost on a daily basis there is a station from Crozet Island signing FT5WE on 7007.2. QSL via F5FTW. Look also for Mendonca PY1UP, who is operating from Trindade Island as PY0TI until June 12th. He has been workable on several different bands, both SSB and CW. Another rare one is Sudan ST1AP, usually active around 22:00 UTC on 14178.

Barry Fletcher G3MFW/ZS1FJ has postponed his Chatham Island DXpedition, so you can probably work him as you read this. QSL via KALJC. Barry has announced plans to activate Bouvet Island 3Y later this year. He is also working to go to sorely needed Bhutan A5.

Other DX to look for in the next few weeks include Marion Island ZS8, Market Reef OJ0, Tonga A5, Sint Maarten PJ7, Madagascar 5R, Ghana 9G, East Malaysia 9M8, Vietnam 3W, Belarus EV, the Galapagos HC8, Jan Mayen JX, Svalbard JW, Kampuchea XU and much more. And prefix hunters will be pleased to work Hungarian stations sporting an "M" at the end of their prefixes. Look for such calls as HAM5AWH, HAM5HO, HAM8FJB, etc., all in celebration of the 1100th year anniversary of the founding of the Hungarian state.

Don't forget the WPX/SSB contest during the weekend of March 30-31.

73, GD DX, Good luck in the contest and CU in the pileups!

HAM LICENSE PLATE BILL DEAD

Arizona amateur radio operators will continue to pay \$25 PER YEAR for their ham license plates. The state senate approved a bill that would relieve hams of this burden after paying the initial \$25 charge but the bill died of neglect in the House Transportation Committee, chaired by District 15 representative Jerry Overton of Litchfield Park. Many operators from the club and around the state phoned and wrote to Mr Overton's office, asking that the bill be put on the agenda. We understand that Senate Bill 1018 was gutted and the same assigned number was given to another bill through the mysterious machinations that take place in our legislature.

We thank club members RICHARD JACKSON K7VCI and RICH PIGGOTT WB2LKU for keeping track of the progress (or the lack thereof) of the bill.

FOR SALE

OUTBACK ANTENNA, 7 BANDS, (tuned for mobile operation, but not used), original cost, \$275; yours for \$175.

George KE7DH 974-3361

CUSHCRAFT R7 VERTICAL ANTENNA; \$200.
DUAL BAND VHF/UHF MAG MOUNT ANT; \$50.
CLIPPERTON LIN AMP w/811 tubes; \$300.
TRANSMATCH ANTENNA TUNER; \$50.
HEATHKIT ELECTRONIC KEYS; \$25.
HEATHKIT HM-2140 OUTPUT/SWR METER; \$15
WILSON TRIBAND BEAM, 40' Crankup tower
w/CDE rotator, control; \$500.

Ray W7LQM 974-1322

KENWOOD TS-120S, 10-80m, Solid State, digital readout, all Knwd accessories, AC supply, mic, mobile mount, all manuals; \$400.

Ted KB7MMT 566-8372

AEA COMPUTER PATCH CP-100; \$50.
ICOM 751A, HM36 mike; \$850.
CUSHCRAFT R-5 vert ant; \$175.
MFJ 948 Deluxe VERSA TUNER; \$50.
SWR - OUTPUT METER (dual); \$35.
YAESU YD-148 Desk Mike; \$25.
HEATHKIT DUMMY LOAD 1KW; \$25.
ASTRON 35M Dual Meter 12V PS; \$125.
ASTRON 7.5W PS, 12V; \$30.
LOW PASS FILTER; \$10.

Excellent Condx; all manuals.

Ken WA0IOK 815-7107

ICOM P2T 2m (like new, in box); \$200
DENTRON CLIPPERTON L, KW LINEAR; 250
Wally AE7Y 933-7011

Short Skip, April 1996, p.3 LICENSE EXAMS APRIL 6 AT DeVRY

Amateur Radio license exams will be given on SATURDAY APRIL 6, at DeVry Institute, 2149 W Dunlap Ave. Registration begins at 8am; no tests to start after 10am. Exams are held the FIRST SATURDAY of each month (except holiday weekends). Bring original and copy of license and/or appropriate CSCEs, and photo ID (e.g., driver's license). No charge for Elements 1A & 2 (5 wpm code and written Novice tests). A charge of \$6.05 will cover all other tests taken once.

If Saturday is an inconvenient day to take an exam, there will be a test session at Sun City Posse HQ, 10861 Sunland Dr, on FRIDAY APRIL 5, at 6:30pm (no tests to start after 7pm). Tests for every class of ham radio license will be administered. LARRY BENJAMIN'S No-Code Tech class will take their test at this time.

There is also VE testing on the THIRD MONDAY of each month at 7115 E Adobe Rd in Mesa at 6pm, conducted by the Superstition ARC. Info: 898-4066.

Tests are held at Tempe Library, 3rd SATURDAY, 9:30am, by Tri-City ARC.

Also, AARC holds exams at Red Cross HQ, 6135 N Black Canyon Hwy, 4th SATURDAY, at 7pm. (No tests June - Aug.)

Tests were administered to 31 candidates at the February 3rd session at DeVry. Volunteer examiners participating:

Ed Beyer WU7A	Jack DeWitt AB7AX
Jack Dow KE7ZQ	Bob Johnson KE7LZ
Stan Kieffer N3GEZ	Art LaFleur KI7ZR
Shelley Newman AB7LQ	Yoshi Sano KE7NC
Rich Piggott WB2LKU	Leo Staley NS9Y
Ray Sumner NW7R	Glenn Wade N7JWF
Roy Woodruff W2HTX	Dwight Yard KB7KON

Rich Piggott is the new VE club Liaison with ARRL. We are pleased to report that the health of former Liaison Ed Blaszczyk N7EB is much improved with a change in his medication. In addition to heading up the DeVry test sessions for several years, Ed also ran the VE tests for the Sun City ARC when the program was in its infancy. Ed says he will be available from time to time to serve as a VE.

At press time BARRY RIETZ N9DXC had reached Hilo HI in the 30' sloop D'Brenda, with a dead engine and other problems. Barry left San Diego for Tinian island in late January, and we have been kept aware of his progress by JOHN SHETLER WA7JPV of Phoenix and TOM WATTS NY7S. Barry is expected to fly back to AZ for some R&R while the boat is being repaired in Hawaii. Contacts with N9DXC were made on the Pacific Maritime Net (14.313 MHz) at around 0300Z.

CLUB REPEATER NEWS

The Repeater Maintenance team has received new components for the 400 MHz repeater (449.80-MHz) and will be assembling the machine soon. It will be tested at a home QTH before being reinstalled at Boswell Hospital. There will be an AUTOPATCH; instructions for its use will be available in the next SHORT SKIP, along with use of the tone pad test, etc. Once the unit is on line, the maintenance group urges us to use it. New hams should consider buying a dual bander as their first purchase.

Our 2m repeater on Del Webb Hospital continues to be our primary source of activity. Be sure to listen to Newline, W5YI Reports, ARRL Letters and local QSTs on 147.30+ MHz on Wednesdays at 6:45pm. Also, check into our daily Call-In Net at 9am for any late breaking news and a cheerful "good morning".

CLUB NOTES

Club Awards Manager RAY VAN SKIVER W7LQM will validate QSL cards for Worked-All-States and VUCC awards. You need not be a club member, but must belong to ARRL. Call him, 974-1322. Ray is pretty much house-bound and enjoys contact with other hams.

Congratulations: CLIFF FAY K7BQ, for 75 years as QCWA member. The award will be presented at the West Valley ARC April meeting.....RUSSELL IVERSON KJ7KN, who passed his EXTRA class test on March 9th at the Handi-Ham Camp at Malibu Beach CA. Russ is the club Handi-Ham rep. If you know any disabled people with an interest in ham radio, have them call him at 979-7032.

It's not too soon to plan your visit to the FT TUTHILL HAMFEST, which is on the THIRD WEEKEND in July this year (July 19 -21). For reservation package send legal size SASE to ARCA, PO Box 32756, Phoenix AZ 85064-2756 or see your editor; we'll have a few copies at the April meeting. For hotel accommodations, special rates and arrangements have been made with several hotels in Flagstaff. Call ARCA voice line 440-2039 for info.

REPORT ON HAM STATION RF MEASUREMENTS

The FCC has released the final report of its examination of the RF levels at amateur stations, based on measurements made in 1990. The FCC observes that there are more than 500,000 licensed amateur radio operators in the US and many more throughout the world. Consequently, there is potential for human exposure to RF electromagnetic fields due to amateur radio stations. The FCC has an interest in ensuring that the FCC-regulated transmitters do not expose the public to levels of RF energy in excess of accepted RF safety guidelines.

Personnel from the FCC and the EPA measured electromagnetic fields at several stations in California in July 1990. Measurements were made in areas near antennas and transmitting equipment in order to determine potential levels of exposure to RF radiation for amateur operators and other individuals.

ANSI/IEEE exposure guidelines are frequency-dependent and recommend the strictest exposure limits for VHF frequencies where the highest specific absorption rates occur for human beings. Therefore, although some measured field strengths at HF frequencies may be relatively high, the percentage of the exposure limits may be less than for lower field strengths measured at VHF frequencies.

It appears that vehicle-mounted amateur antennas can create the greatest possibility for significant exposure in publicly accessible areas. In fact in several cases involving vehicle-mounted antennas, the maximum levels measured approached or exceeded the electric field strength limits recommended for uncontrolled environments. This also occurred in one other case, a center-fed dipole.

For most of the stations surveyed, RF protection guidelines for field strength and power density were not exceeded in accessible areas. [Information from W5YI Report, March 1, 1996.]

Apropos the above article, the Tort and Insurance Practice Section of the American Bar Assn is offering a video tape entitled Power Line and Electromagnetic Radiation Field Liability, which reports the latest scientific research and explores developing theories of liability. [Info from Dave Allen KI7ZK.] Another area of litigation for us to be concerned about!

BREAKFAST/LUNCHEON. Remember our monthly club breakfast (8am, SECOND SAT) at Brantley Steakhouse, 8706 W Thunderbird Rd, Peoria and weekly luncheon (11am). Denny's Restaurant, W Bell Rd, Surprise (1 blk w of El Mirage Rd). Bring your spouse.

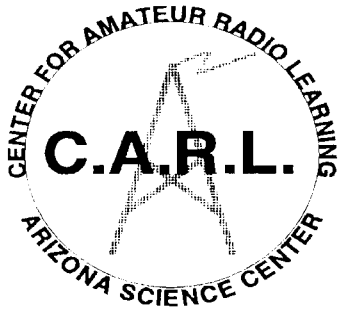
HamDaze



March 23-24

Arizona Science Center
147 E. Adams
Phoenix, AZ

\$1.00 Off Admission



C.A.R.L.

Center for Amateur Radio Learning

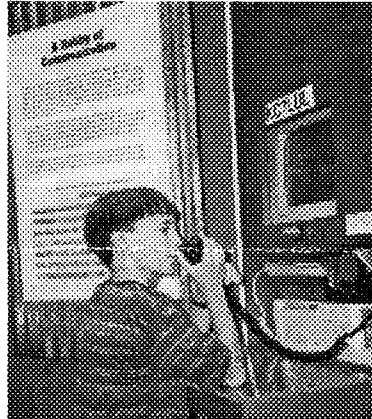
Sponsors

Lou Grubb
WA7HZO
Barry Goldwater
K7UGA

Supporting Clubs

West Valley ARC
Central Arizona
DX Association
Superstition ARC
Arizona ARC
Thunderbird ARC
Ahwatukee
Foothills ARC
Scottsdale ARC
TriCity ARC
DeVry ARC

HamDaze at Arizona Science Center: The Center for Amateur Radio Learning (C.A.R.L.) will be hosting HamDaze Weekend March 23-24. Several Phoenix area radio clubs will be setting up hands-on demonstrations and exhibits. Amateur Television, an HF station and a two way laser communications device will be just some of the attractions at the session. A test available for the License at urday March 23. on the air in the the novice 10 general 15 and 20 certificate send a SASE to Box 51048 85076-1048. will be able to under the supervision of licensed volunteer operators. The Arizona Science Center is located at 147 E. Adams. The hours are Saturday 9 - 5:00pm and Sunday 12 - 5:00. Adults \$4.50, Seniors and 4-12 yrs old \$3.50, 3yrs and less are free. For details call 561-8405.



Brian Kearns, KC7MLW
operating station.

at the session will be No-Code Techni-10:00 a.m. on Sat-KC7LUL will be phone portion of meter band, and meter bands. For a QSL and 9" x 12" C.A.R.L. P.O. Phoenix, AZ Visitors to ASC make radio contacts

HamDaze

March 23-24