



# WEST VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

P.O. BOX 1573, SUN CITY, AZ. 85372

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 1996  
VOL XXIII, NO 7

## 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

1st MONDAY: GENERAL MEETING, 7:15pm  
DAILY: CALL-IN NET, 9am, 147.30 MHz  
WEDNESDAYS: NEWSLINE NET 6:45pm, "  
THURS: LUNCH, 11am, DENNY'S, SURPRISE  
2nd SAT, BREAKFAST 8am, BRANTLEY'S  
3rd SAT, LICENSE EXAM 8am (AUG ONLY)

AUG 5, WVARC MEETING, ST CLEMENT, SC  
AUG 10, BKFST BRANTLEY'S, T.BIRD RD.  
AUG 17, LICENSE EXAM, DeVRY, PHOENIX  
SEPT 2, WVARC MEETING, ST CLEMENT  
NOTE: NO LICENSE EXAM at DeVRY in SEPT  
SEPT 14, BKFST BRANTLEY'S  
OCT 11-13, ARRL SW DIV CONVENTION MESA

AUGUST PROGRAM: ALL ABOUT ANTENNAS  
SEPTEMBER PROGRAM: SPARK-GAP MEMORIES

The West Valley Amateur Radio Club will meet at St Clement Social Hall, 15800 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City on MONDAY, AUGUST 5 and SEPTEMBER 2 (Labor Day). Door opens 6:30pm; brief business meeting at 7:15, followed by program. The August program is a video: Everything you always wanted to know about antennas. We expect to have a panel of local hams to answer any questions not covered by the video. Any volunteers?

The September program will be a trip down memory lane for some of our veteran hams: Spark Gap; a brief history of early wireless communications. We hope that some of you will add your memories to this presentation.

Other topics tentatively scheduled for the rest of the year include Amateur Radio Disaster preparations, and a DX-pedition -- videotapes from the ARRL Library. Feel free to offer suggestions to the board for other subjects.

### LICENSE EXAM AT DeVRY AUG 17, NONE SEPT

Because of special activities at DeVry on the first Saturday in August, they have offered us AUGUST 17 in exchange. Since there is NO EXAM slated for SEPT, our VE Liaison (man in charge), Rich Piggott WB2LKU, has accepted their kind offer. Please spread the word about the change. We understand that Tri-ARC will be giving tests at Tempe Public Library on this date also. East Valley hams pls check with Dave AA7TQ (963-3527).

Exams for all classes of radio licenses will be held at DeVry Institute, 2149 W Dunlap Ave, on AUG 17. Registration is from 8 to 10am; no tests to start after 10. Bring photo ID plus originals and copies of appropriate licenses/CSCEs. Charge is \$6.05; no charge for Elements 1A, 2. Retests available for additional charge for those failing by one or two questions. REMEMBER, THERE WILL BE NO TEST AT De-VRY IN SEPTEMBER.

There was another excellent turnout of Volunteer Examiners (21) at the June 1 session. There were 34 candidates; 3 earned Extra Class, 2 General, 1 Tech Plus, 13 Technician and 1 Novice. Several others earned partial credit toward an upgrade or no-code tech ticket. Thanks to these VEs who participated:

Willie Berry KB7STF	Ed Beyer WU7A
Jack DeWitt AB7AX	John DiSalvo NX1I
Jack Dow KE7ZQ	Bob Johnson KE7LZ
Stan Kieffer N7GEZ	Bob Knight N7LPD
Bill Kuchinski KB7MDX	Art LaFleur KI7ZR
Doug Mason KG7OB	Shelly Newman AB7LQ
Rich Piggott WB2LKU	Mike Ruther AA7QA
Yoshi Sano KE7NC	Leo Staley NS9Y
Ray Sumner NW7R	Rick Tannehill W7RT
Glenn Wade N7JWF	Charles Wallace KC7GHK
	Dwight Yard KB7KON

As the monsoons are either winding down or winding up, lots of DX activity is going on in spite of "poor" band conditions.

On the Libyan front, Brendan G0UCT has announced plans for an operation from Libya where he'll sign 5A1A, including a multi-station operation scheduled for later use. On the same subject, the long-awaited 5A1A cards are being received and QRZ DX? editor Carl Smith N4AA has volunteered to QSL manage 5A1A's July 1995 operation -- good news for American hams.

Local hams Tony N7BG, Mike AA7NO, Vince K7VT and Mike KC7V, the Voodoo contest group, have announced plans along with British teammates for large multi-multi operation from Togo 5V to take place this fall. More on this as details develop. QSL via G3SXW.

Other local hams, including Jack Reed WA7LNW, Frank Schottke W2UE and yours truly, will go to Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge (formerly Midway Island) August 18-25 as AH00H/AH4. This will be an all-band, all-mode operation with several HF stations operating simultaneously. The Midway DXpedition team will be aboard the inaugural flight that opens Midway to limited numbers of public visitors for the first time in over 100 years. Much assistance was lent this effort by Arizona's US Senator John McCain. QSL to Bob Johnson KE7LZ of Glendale.

Other recently announced DXpeditions include a DXpedition to Comoros D68 and Mayotte FH by Dieter DL3KDV, Cythera Island (Greece) by Andreas SV1BKN, the Aland Islands OH0 by Matti OH3MHT and Lars OH0RJ, Swaziland 3DA by Dave WJ20 and Maldives 8Q by Joseph EA3BT and wife Nuria EA3AOK.

Look for a lot of additional island activity including quick trip to Sable CY0 by Don VE1AOE Cape Verde D4 by Veronica IK3VAW, Babuyan (OC-092) DU2 by Jim N3GKY, Guadaloupe FG by F6FUM, Timbalier Island (NA-119) by Roy AB5EA, Amelia Island (NA-138) by Vance W51JU, Texel Island (EU-038) by David ON4BDS, Maddalena (EU-041) by Gianni IK6CGO and many more.

Finally, Gary WA1JBB has announced a move to Namibia V51, where he'll be located for some time. QSL via W3HCW. Don't forget to be on the lookout for Warren who operates during our nighttime hours from McQuarrie as VK0WH and Chris who has been workable from Marion Island as ZS8IR, both very rare DX countries.

73, good Luck, Good DX and CU in the Pileups!

As many of you already know, it is the goal of the Amateur Radio community to provide a "hands on" amateur station in the new Arizona Science Center. This station will be used to demonstrate amateur radio to the public and particularly to the school-age children who regularly tour the facility. This is one of the best ways I know of to perpetuate our hobby.

The Science Center has already allocated the physical space, and all we need to do at this time is to provide the radio equipment to fill the space. The intent is to acquire "state-of-the-art" equipment, estimated to cost about \$40,000. This money MUST be raised and the equipment available by January 1997, to meet the Science Center's opening date of April 1997.

We need your help. We need donations, either cash or in good, used equipment. (We do have a preferred equipment list.) All donations, money or cash are tax deductible. If you make a donation to the Arizona Science Center, be sure to attach a note stating that the donation is for the Center for Amateur Radio Learning, and also let Ralph Barr, (602) 582-8208, know.

Thank you for helping expose the younger generation to amateur radio through this program.

FORT TUTHILL NOTES de Ray NW7R

Clear skies and 85 degree temperature were on hand for the annual Hamvention at Ft Tuthill. We dropped in for a couple of hours on Saturday July 20 and enjoyed seeing old friends and making new ones. ARRL Section Manager Cliff Hauser was one of those manning the ARRL booth; Fried and Sandi Heyn were back east for an ARRL board meeting. Cliff is running for SM again and asks your support.

Met Mike Petera KJ7KS, registration chairman for the SW Div Convention in Mesa. He was happy to hear that the West Valley club was mailing out 440 registration forms with this newsletter. Let's make him happier by getting our registrations in early.

Enjoyed chatting with Lew McCoy and XYL. His booth always guards the entrance to the main hall, so you can't get by without seeing him.

Saw several club members among the tailgaters and pedestrians. Understand more were there on Friday. XYL and I left early to visit Cliff Casino on way home. Should have stayed.

On Dec 1, 1995, a new Extra Class question pool was released. The new pool must be used in all Extra Class examinations beginning July 1, 1996. New Novice and Technician question pool syllabi were released into public domain this Spring and will be used to develop any necessary updates to the Novice and Technician pools later this year..ARRL VE Express Spring/Summer 96

#### MORE CLUB NOTES

The time is approaching for nomination of officers for 1997. Many of our present board members have served for two years. If you would like to help the club as an officer next year, let our club secretary know at the next meeting or call him at 930-5534.....Executive Board will not meet during summer unless there is some emergency requiring prompt action.

#### LATE FOR SALE ITEMS UNSOLD AT TUTHILL

HEADPHONES (3 pr), Memorex, Radio Shack  
SWR/POWER METER PACE P5453/CB  
SWR/POWER METER QUEMENT #SWB-3/2m  
AEA COMPUTER PATCH INTERFACE MODEL CP-1  
TENTEC 2m HANDHELD (no PL)  
AEA PK-232 MBX TNC (Upgraded)  
POWER SUPPLY 13.7V DC, 3A.  
LOUDSPEAKER MATCHED PR (RS), sim.wood.  
LOUDSPEAKER MINIMUS 3 (RS)  
PANASONIC TELEPHONE ANSWERING MACHINE  
TVRO 900 MHz RCVR SIGMA VU MARK V  
COMPUTER XT-IBM KEYBOARD/MONITOR/PRNTR  
LAB OSCILLOSCOPE HEATH 10-30  
SCANNER ANTENNA RS MODEL 20-D12  
Tom NY7S 972-6589

From ARRL Letter 7/12/96.....Ham Radio plays a part in two recently released movies. One is the hugely popular sci-fi thriller Independence Day, reports Bob Inderblitzen NQ1R of ARRL's Educational Activities Department. "Briefly and without spoiling the plot, the US Space Command uses ham radio to disseminate instructions for a worldwide offensive against the bad aliens. Hams spread the word using none other than Morse code.".....Ham radio also figures in the plot of Phenomenon. ARRL advised a member of the movie's technical crew and supplied ham radio publications and other paraphernalia which are visible in the movie ham shack, reports QST Assistant Technical Editor Bob Schetgen KU7G.

#### EDITOR'S CORNER

The new masthead that graces this issue is courtesy of Ed Perjul KA7FQO, former editor of ARA's Squelch Tail. I think it is a marked improvement over the old cluttered one. Your editor would appreciate other suggestions for improving this Newsletter. We are short on Form and Long on Substance; that is, we have emphasized content rather than appearance.

I took over as editor temporarily ten years ago succeeding Eva Karnatz KC7RY, and have served ever since. I am sure that in that interval the club has acquired some member with greater skill and a better word processing program for publishing.

Would someone like to take over the function of editor? I would continue to serve as a reporter, providing copy as do our DX editor and other members. Call me at 972-8733 or see me at the next meeting....Ray NW7R.

#### WEB PAGE FOR WEST VALLEY ARC

Chuck Hilliker W7KIV reports that the club will have a Web page soon. He says that sometime after the first of August you will be able to get news about the club by accessing

<http://www.wvarc.com>

If you have anything for the club page, contact Chuck at 584-0918.

#### SILENT KEY

DR MILTON ROBINSON WA7YWX passed away in Sun City on June 11 at the age of 90. Dr Robinson was former Medical Director of the AZ Training School in Coolidge. He joined the club in 1980 and served as Secretary in 1982. We extend our sympathy to his family.

#### WANTED

KENWOOD YK-88SN narrow SSB filter.  
Allan KI7NF 262-1279(w), 582-1044(h)

#### NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome these new club members:

Fred Boughton	KB2CT	Sun City West
Marshall Esty	KC7QKE	Sun City
Mike Schuyler	KD7AFB	Glendale
Carol Winkler	KC6NXU	Sun City West

Dues are \$10/yr (\$5 after July 1). Mail check to PO Box or pay at meeting.

At the June meeting the members present voted to amend Article III of the Constitution to provide for club directors to serve two-year terms. For 1997, two directors would be elected for one year and two for two years. Pat O'Brien of the Arizona Game and Fish Department gave an excellent presentation on what the state of Arizona is providing us in the way of Hunting, Fishing and Recreational facilities. A spirited question session followed.

Jack Norman KA3VIY won the door prize (a CallBook); other winners of modest prizes were Rich Haworth W7MDQ, Bert Davidson W2GOB and Cy Ackerman W7VNH.

Bob Bast KC7OMU of the Donor Network of Arizona spoke to the club on All Aspects of Organ Donation. Bob had undergone a heart/lung transplant from a 13 year old girl in late 1993, and he and his wife presented a powerful plea for people to be aware of the need for organ donations.

Your editor thought that Bob's name was familiar. In our records I found that we had scheduled Bob for a license exam at his home on November 6, 1993, but received a call cancelling the test as he was on his way to Tucson for the operation. We're happy to know that he not only survived the operation, but that he was recently able to get his ticket.

Door prize at the July meeting, an HRO \$25 gift certificate was won by William (Pete) Pedersen W7KTK; other hams whose names were drawn for prizes: Jim Hambright N7PPB, Ted Torrence KB7MMT, Ron Wamsley W8QVG and Bert Davidson W2GOB (what, again?).

Considering the fact that the programs were not of a technical nature for the past two months and many members have departed for the summer, attendance was very good.

CLUB NOTE: Club Awards Manager Ray Van Skiver W7LQM has been responsible for validating QSL cards for Worked-All-States and VUCC awards for several years. He is relinquishing the job because of failing health. Is anyone willing to take over the task? The job will be offered at the next meeting. Please help.

FOR SALE

MICRONTA REG. P.S. 13.8V @ 2.5A; \$6.  
 MIDLAND " " , 9.6 to 13.8V @ 2A; \$10  
 SIMPSON 27-4 VOM, man, leads, case; \$25  
 POWER ONE REG. P.S. 24V @ 3.6A; \$10.  
 HY-GAIN (portable, fixed or mobile) HF, VHF, UHF FM RCVR, 10 ch XTALS on 147.3, 449.8 + 162.55, w/120 VAC pack; \$30.  
 2 5-foot Heavy Duty Mast Sections; \$4.  
 Stan K8RAL 584-4287.

ANTIQUA RADIO TUBES, value \$8000; sell lot for 2500. List Available. Take all. FREEBIES: Scratch builders -- I have some items to give away; no list, take all. QSL collectors -- I have some to give away.  
 Bob W8EXG 972-6090

KENWOOD TS-820S w/CW filter, remote VFO-820, mike MC-50, manuals; \$475 obo.  
 Lou KF7BU 933-1091

ICOM 735 HF XCVR w/int. elec. keyer, CW filter, mobile mounting brackets, mike, power cord, manuals, very clean; \$700.  
 KNWD SM-220 STATION MONITOR, manuals; \$200. MFJ VERSA TUNER II (300W); \$45.  
 ROHN HAX (hvy) TRIANG. TOWER, 32 ft, 10 ft mast, all hardware, footing embeds for concrete footing; four 8' sections taken down; \$130. CDE HAM II ROTATOR w/control box, 90' cable; \$100. KENWOOD 25G 2m HT w/tones, 144.00-145.98 MHz, no number pad, around 1W, needs PB-7 battery; as is \$20.  
 Allan KI7NF 262-1279(w), 582-1044(h)

KENWOOD TS-120S HF XCVR, mobile brackets, ASTRON RS-20A Power Supply, HUSTLER mobile ant mast (w/bumper mount) w/antennas for 10-15-20-40-75m, LP filter HEATHKIT SWR METER, HEATHKIT elec keyer NO HASSLE PACKAGE DEAL - \$500.  
 Walt KA6EMG 546-1708

LADIES NIGHT OCT 25th AT SUN CITY CC

Each year members express their appreciation to spouses/significant others for their forbearance with our hobby with a Ladies Night banquet. The 1996 event will be held in the pleasant surroundings of the Sun City Country Club on Friday, October 25th. The price will be \$16.50 per person. There will be a choice of chicken or meat as the entree and more details will be available in the next newsletter and on the club repeaters. Please reserve the date.