



WEST VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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

OCTOBER 1998
VOL XXV, NO 8

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.

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CLUB CALENDAR

OCT 2 START OF NO-CODE TECH CLASS, SC POSSE HQ, 7-9pm
3 LICENSE EXAMS, DeVRY INSTITUTE, 8-10am
5 CLUB MEETING, ST CLEMENT SOCIAL HALL, SC, 7:15pm
10 CLUB BREAKFAST, TIVOLI GARDENS, SC, 8am
12 EXEC BOARD MEETING, WODNO QTH, 7pm
23 LADIES NIGHT BANQUET, SC COUNTRY CLUB, 7pm

WEDNESDAYS 2m HAM NEWS NET, 147.30 MHz, 6:45pm
THURSDAYS BKFST/LUNCH, LINDA L'S, SUN VILLAGE (Surprise), 10:30am
MON & FRI VACATION NET, 14.240 MHz, 10am local time (ends 9/16)
DAILY CALL-IN NET, 147.30 MHz, 9am

MEMBERSHIP IN WEST VALLEY ARC is open to anyone with an interest in Amateur Radio. Dues are \$10/yr, payable January; \$5 after July 1. All family hams at same mailing address included in one fee.

PLEASE MAIL IN YOUR LADIES NIGHT RESERVATIONS as early as possible to Treasurer Shirley Barr, 3301 W Wescott Dr, Phoenix AZ 85027-4893 (See attached flier). This event is an effort on the part of the members to acknowledge the patience of our spouses. Let's continue to make it a success. There will be door prizes, and the committee is working on an entertainment program. Club HAM-OF-THE-YEAR presentation will take place at this event.

PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER 5th: AUTOMATIC PACKET REPORTING SYSTEM (APRS) by Dave McCarthy KC7AYX. The West Valley ARC meets the FIRST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH at St Clement Social Hall, 15800 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City. Doors open 6:30pm and session starts at 7:15 with a brief business meeting. Everyone is welcome. Come early and enjoy a cup of coffee with your colleagues.

At press time no program has been confirmed for the November meeting. The December meeting, which will feature refreshments in the holiday spirit, is expected to welcome our SW Division Director Fried Heyn WA6WZO, who will bring us up to date on the FCC's efforts to restructure the Amateur Radio Service, as well as other ham radio news. Fried and Art Goddard W6XD were recently reelected to 3 year terms as SW Div Director and Vice Director.

A WARM WELCOME HOME to members who have returned from cooler regions. Have you any ham-related stories to share with us regarding your summer? Al Cocha N7XPY reports that he had an interesting visit to the Manitoba Amateur Radio Museum, home of a full Amateur Radio Station VE4MTR. The Museum was founded in 1984 (although officially opened in July 1992) by Dave Snyder VE4XN and contains a workshop and exhibits. It is located in Austin, Manitoba, on the grounds of the Manitoba Agriculture Museum. The 2m repeater is on 146.31/91.

LICENSE EXAMS AT DeVRY ON 1ST SATURDAY OF MONTH IN OCT, NOV, DEC. Exams for all classes of Amateur Radio licenses are given at DeVry Institute, 2149 W Dunlap Ave, on the first Saturday of the month, except for holiday weekends, sponsored by the WVARC and DeVry ARC. Registration 8 to 10am. Bring photo ID, original and copy of appropriate CSCE or license (if any). Fee of \$6.35 entitles you to one exam in as many different Elements as you wish; a second fee is charged for a second try in any Element. (There is no charge for Element 1A and Element 2 tests.) FCC Form 610 is available at registration.

ARRL-Accredited volunteer examiners are most welcome at these sessions. If you would like to become a VE, call Liaison and Session Manager Rich Piggott at 546-4300 or email to him at noble@starlink.com.

The exams on August 1 were held in the DeVry Library because Rooms 101-103 were assigned to other activities. Check the Library on the second floor in the east corridor if there is no exam activity in the usual location. There were 18 candidates at the August 1 session, with a surprisingly low 50% pass rate. Licenses earned: 1 Extra, 1 Advanced, 2 General, 4 Tech Plus and only one Tech! VEs participating:

Ed Beyer	WU7A	Bob Johnson	KE7LZ	Jack Richards	KB7WPH
Merle Bodine	KC7OGU	Jeff Johnson	KJ7LO	Yoshi Sano	K7YS
Joe Brian	AB7VY	Robert Knight	N7LPD	Hal VanDyke	KD2PH
Jack Dow	KE7ZQ	Shelley Newman	AB7LQ	Charles Wallace	W1OSV
Dwight Yard	KB7KON	Rich Piggott	WB2LKU	Liaison and Session Manager	

The revision of the Advanced Class question pool, which was scheduled to become effective next July 1st, has been tabled in anticipation of changes in the structure of Amateur Radio licenses. More on this subject later.

Other Phoenix area test sessions: THIRD MONDAY 6pm, Mesa Utilities Office, 7115 E Adobe Rd, Mesa; sponsor Superstition ARC (Denise AB7KG, 898-4066). FOURTH SATURDAY 7pm, Red Cross Bldg, northbound frontage road of I-17, just north of Bethany Home Rd; sponsor AZ ARC (Gary K7GH, 996-8148).

[Note: There will be a test session held at the Arizona Science Center, 600 E Washington St, Phoenix AZ in Training Room #1 on Saturday, November 21, 1998, at 9am. Walk-in candidates will NOT be accepted. The information is posted here to conform to the rule that notice of all VEC exams will be publicized. For test information, candidates should call Bob Burleson KG7QJ 961-1109.]

OBITUARY. MARTHA McCOY, wife of Lew W1ICP, passed away on Sept 4, following a brain tumor operation. Martha was a familiar figure at the Ft Tuthill Hamfest every year, selling knick-knacks at the table just outside the entrance to the main hall, while her husband of over 50 years peddled his magazine subscriptions. Lew is a former member of the ARRL HQ staff and a ham radio writer of note. We extend our sympathies to Lew and the family.

AMATEUR TV TO HAVE REBIRTH. The ATV group has activated a phone 2m repeater on Shaw Butte at 146.84 MHz. Listen on that repeater for reports of their progress in setting up a TV repeater in the near future. (Tnx Tom NY7S.)

A TIP OF THE HAT TO.....CHUCK IMSANDE W6YLJ, who has been named Vice President of the International 10-10 Club.

CLUB NOTES

Please welcome the following new members:

Vern De Witt	KA9TAA	Glendale	Kristy De Witt	KD7CSM	Glendale
Ted Drake	N8GZ	Sun City West	Ken Hopper	KD7KH	Phoenix
Chet Karpinski		Surprise (SC Grand)			

KNOW ANYONE WHO WANTS TO BE A HAM? Candidates for the entry level NO-CODE TECH CLASS will meet EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT from 7 to 9pm from OCTOBER 2 through NOVEMBER 27, at Sun City Posse HQ, 10861 Sunland Dr. [From Bell Rd go South on Del Webb Blvd 2 blks, West on Hutton Dr 1 mi to Sunland Dr. From Grand or TBird, go North on Del Webb to Meade Dr, West to Aqua Fria Dr, right 3 blks to Sunland Dr.] THERE IS NO CHARGE!! The textbook is ARRL License Manual "Now You're Talking", available at Ham Radio Outlet or Radio Shack.

At the end of the 9 sessions, if there are a dozen or more candidates ready to take the test, a special exam session will be scheduled for FRIDAY DEC 4 at Posse HQ. Otherwise, the DeVry December 5th session will be used.

Our instructor is Dan Pierson W6NTX. Call Merle KC7OGU 546-1737 or Ray NW7R 972-8733 to register for the class or to volunteer as a standby instructor.

VACATION NET TO END OFFICIALLY FRIDAY, OCT 16th. Most of the hams who have checked into the Vacation Net this summer will have returned to the Valley by the middle of October. The Net was very active on 14.240 MHz on Mondays and Fridays at 10am local time. Keep in touch with the stragglers, some of whom return after Thanksgiving Day. Thanks to Chuck Bailey W7YU and his committee for their efforts in running the Net.

SEVERAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN ARE RETIRING. Like all clubs, the West Valley ARC has members who work hard to make this club work for its members and the community. We take them for granted until they find their efforts too taxing and no longer enjoyable and they ask to be replaced. We wish to thank the following members for their years of service, and hope that others will volunteer to take up these important functions. Please call President Ralph Barr at 582-8208 if you can help on any of these committees.

Chuck Bailey W7YU has been SILENT KEY Chairman for most of the 37 years that the club has existed. With a little help from friends, Chuck has taken inventory of the ham gear of Silent Keys, established appropriate prices and arranged for their sale. It is a job that is most appreciated by widows of our members. Chuck has reached the age where he wants more time to enjoy his retirement.

Joe Nowakowski W7FPG has been a vital cog in our PUBLIC SERVICE activities since the West Valley club expanded beyond Sun City. Joe has organized our SCW hams into 5 teams to serve Sun City West and help with other club Public Service functions. He has asked that someone else now coordinate the work of the team captains during events in Sun City West.

Ken Wakershauser N7OWP took over chairmanship of the RADIO FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE Committee several years ago from Bill Johnson W9WFV, whom he credits with setting up a system that is simple and effective. Ken's diplomatic skills have helped this committee to serve our members and their neighbors well. The club needs broad representation on this committee to service the various communities that the West Valley membership covers.

And your editor would like someone to take over the editing of the SHORT SKIP. I have been grinding out the same-o same-o for over a dozen years. We need someone with a fresh outlook to brighten up these pages.

The club is also seeking GREETERS for our Monday night meetings.

EDITOR'S NOTE: We apologize to the DXers for failing to get our DX Editor's column before he departed for an extended week-end out of town.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES. The local newspaper, the Daily News-Sun, recently ran an article featuring John Aller W3OJX and his hobby of Amateur Radio, including an excellent picture of John at his transceiver. A short time later an article reported on the work done by Al Gross W8PAL in developing the Handie-Talkie, which was first used behind enemy lines by the OSS in WW-II. The club Exec Board wonders if other members have interesting stories involving their activities in ham radio or the communications field. If you do, give club Director Rich Haworth a call. He would like to collect a number of such stories as possible feature articles.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999, FCC Form 610 will be obsolete and Universal Licensing System FCC Form 605 will be used for the Amateur Radio Service and other FCC license applications (Ship, Aircraft, Restricted and Commercial Operator, and the General Mobile Radio Services). The W5YI Report for April 15, 1998, contained draft copies of FCC Form 605 and a Schedule C attachment used by the Amateur Service. Missing from these forms, as pointed out by W5YI, was the newly required statement where an amateur certifies that he/she has read OST/OET Bulletin 65 and will comply with the FCC's new RF radiation safety rules. There was no provision for VE certification signatures or for telegraphy exam waivers for handicapped amateurs. And there was no indication of the class of license of the applicant. We look forward to seeing the new Form 605.

SCIENCE CENTER HAM STATION STRUGGLES TO SURVIVE. Amateur Radio Station W7ASC at the Arizona Science Center is manned from 9am to 5pm daily - that is, when there are enough volunteers to run the station. Recently, for the first time in almost 18 months, the shack was closed on one shift for lack of staffing. The station needs 28 volunteers a week to operate efficiently (2 hams x 2 shifts x 7 days). Most weeks Station Manager Bob Burleson KG7QJ is lucky to get 14 or 15; some pull double duty. At a time when Amateur Radio is losing relevance in the eyes of many people, the Science Center station is an attraction that stimulates the interest of many youngsters. Won't you help to keep it going! Call Bob at 961-1109 and volunteer for an occasional shift.

FOR SALE

ASTRON RS20 POWER SUPPLY, 13.8 VDC, 20A ICS, like new; \$75.
Fred W7MCP 584-6100

CUSHCRAFT R-5 VERTICAL ANTENNA; \$100. Dick W9LOC 584-4628

ICOM IC-3210 AE Two band mobile w/ant and all cables; \$300.
YAESU FT-470 Two band HT; \$200. Stan K8RAL 584-4287

MFJ 1278 PACKET CONTROLLER. Bill AA7RM 932-1315

KENWOOD TS-830S XCVR w/MC-50 mic; \$400. Alex NO7M 439-2875

MACO 2-ELEMENT BOOMLESS QUAD w/Fibreglass Arms (20 thru 10m).
Jerry W6IWR 584-5716

WANTED: MANUAL FOR HW-8 HEATHKIT XCVR. Ron W8QVG 584-7447

THE FCC HAS ISSUED A NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING, WT Docket No 98-143. It seeks comments by December 1 on (1) how many license classes should there be; (2) what should be done with Novice Class and bands assigned to that class; (3) should Tech Plus Class be phased out; (4) should Advanced Class hams be VEs for General Class candidates; (5) should RACES licenses be phased out; (6) how can Amateur Auxiliary help enforce rules; (7) what should telegraphy exam requirements be; (8) should 5wpm be only code requirement, as a way to eliminate waivers for handicapped hams; (9) what changes should be made to written exams. [from W5YI Report, 9/15/98.] More info in next newsletter.