



WEST VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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

JANUARY 1999
VOL XXVI NO 1

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 web page (tnx Chuck W7KIV) <http://www.starlink.com/~chuckh>
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CLUB CALENDAR

MONDAY	JAN	4	CLUB MEETING, ST CLEMENT SOCIAL HALL, SC, 7:15pm
SATURDAY		9	CLUB BREAKFAST, TIVOLI GARDENS, Sun City, 8am
SATURDAY		9	WESTFEST, GLENDALE COMM COLL, 6am
MONDAY		11	EXEC BOARD MEETING, President's QTH, 7pm
SATURDAY		23	C.A.R.L. GROUP ANNUAL MEETING, DeVRY INST, 9am

WEDNESDAYS 2m HAM NEWSLINE NET, 147.30 MHz, 6:45pm
THURSDAYS BRUNCH, LINDA L'S, SUN VILLAGE (Surprise), 10:30am
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, starting Jan; \$5 after July 1. One fee includes all family hams at same address; only one Short Skip mailed to each address. The club badges that most members wear (black on yellow, AZ-shaped) are available for \$5; the "Emergency Communications" sign for the side of your car, identifying you as a club Public Service amateur, is \$7 (see Ray NW7R).

The West Valley Amateur Radio Club meets the **FIRST MONDAY** of EVERY MONTH at ST CLEMENT SOCIAL HALL, 15800 N DEL WEBB BLVD, SUN CITY. Doors open at 6:30pm; meeting starts at 7:15 with a brief business session, followed by a program usually related to Amateur Radio. On JAN 4th, the program will be presented by DICK STOUT KE7RD, who will talk about restoring vintage radio equipment. Dick will bring several examples of radios he has restored and explain how he does it. The highlight of the evening will be a carpool trip to Dick's home in Sun City to see the extensive collection of restored radios, victrolas, juke boxes and all sorts of ham gear that are on display in his home. Dick does incredible restoration work and a walk through his display is a real nostalgia trip to the early days of recorded music and broadcast radio.

The meeting on FEBRUARY 1 is the ANNUAL AUCTION. Doors will open at 5:30 to begin logging in the merchandise. Helpers are asked to show up at this time. Even numbered lots will be displayed on one side and odd on the other; lots will be offered in sequence. Please place a realistic minimum bid on your gear. The club gets 10% of the selling price. Those who are donating gear to the club can receive an acknowledgement form for charitable contributions. The auctioneers will be Frank Smith AHOW and Paul Playford W8AEF. Everyone is welcome. Bidding starts at 7pm.

NO LICENSE EXAMS on JAN 2; NEXT TESTS AT DeVRY FEB 6. Amateur Radio License Exams are given on the FIRST SATURDAY of every month EXCEPT HOLIDAY WEEKENDS. The place: DeVry Institute, 2149 W Dunlap Ave, Phoenix. The time: 8-10am (no tests to start after 10). Bring photo ID and copy and original of appropriate licenses/CSCES. The fee is \$6.45 and permits you to take one test in as many different elements as desired. If you fail any test by one or two questions, you may repeat that element for an additional fee. There is no charge for Elements 1A and 2. FCC 610 Forms are available at registration. Tests are held in the Library, 2nd floor east hallway, unless otherwise posted.

At the December 5th session there were 3 Technician Class licenses earned, and 1 Tech Plus, 2 General, 1 Advanced and 1 Extra. Some partial credits were also earned. Volunteer Examiners who participated were Ed Beyer WU7A, Elzie Campbell AA7TU, Jack Dow KE7ZQ, Bob Johnson KE7LZ, Yoshi Sano K7YS, Ray Sumner NW7R, Roy Woodruff N2HTX and Session Manager and Liaison Rich Piggott WB2LKU.

The exams are sponsored by West Valley ARC and DeVry ARC, who invite all ARRL-accredited VEs to participate. If you wish to become accredited, contact Rich WB2LKU at 546-4300.

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

WVARC MAY HOLD TECH AND GENERAL CLASSES IN FEB/MARCH. To date, some six hams have expressed an interest in GENERAL CLASS instructions, which would be held one night a week in February and March. Please call Ray NW7R (972-8733) to register; we need a few more candidates. We are also looking for at least a dozen people to enroll in the NO-CODE TECH CLASS to be held those same two months. Three students from the October/November Tech class earned Tech Plus licenses; others in the class have not passed any exams so far. Teacher Dan Pierson W6NTX did an excellent job of instructing and he hopes to have a larger group of dedicated pupils in his next class. There is NO CHARGE for these classes, which are held in Sun City.

A ten-week TECHNICIAN CLASS will be held at Arizona Science Center on Saturdays from 9 to 12am starting January 16. Cost is \$20, and includes the textbook "Now You're Talking". Due to size of classroom, the class is limited to 15 people. Call Bob Burleson KG7QJ (961-1109) to register. The previous class produced four new Technician Class hams.

ANNUAL MEETING of CENTER FOR AMATEUR RADIO LEARNING is JAN 23. The group in charge of the operation of the Arizona Science Center AMATEUR RADIO STATION W7ASC will meet at 9am on SATURDAY, JANUARY 23rd to elect officers for the coming year and discuss plans for improving the station. Everyone is invited to attend. Several new volunteers have been added to the staff at W7ASC. If you would like to help, call Station Manager Bob Burleson (see previous item for phone number). An R-7000 vertical antenna has been installed at another level on the roof of the Center. The HF rig also has a sloper and a beam antenna.

WESTFEST TO BE HELD ON JANUARY 9. The Winter Swapmeet in the west Valley is small, but growing. It will be held again at Glendale Community College on Olive and 59th Avenues, beginning at 6am. Enter at the northeast parking lot on 59th Ave. For information, call Mark Kesauer N7KKQ at 843-0960.

SCOTTSDALE SPRINGFEST SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 13th. Scottsdale Community College at Chaparral and Pima Rds will be the scene of the annual Springfest, from dawn to 2pm, on the second Saturday in March. More information in the next Short Skip.

CQ DX de FRANK SMITH AHOW/OH2LVG

The New Year 1999 starts off with a big-scale operation from Campbell Island ZL9, staged by a large international team headed up by Ken ZL2HU, as an all-band/all mode operation. They could be QRV any time after January 10th, depending on their time of arrival.

Christmas Day may bring more than Santa. Gilles F5AGL is expected to fire up from Crozet Island December 25th as FT5WH.

Currently another rare entity operation is underway from Amsterdam Island as FT5ZH by two French operators. Although they have been concentrating on more traditional bands, they are soon expected to be QRV on WARC bands.

Other DX includes Palau T8, Kazakhstan UN3G, Burkino Faso XT, Martinique FM, Minami Torishima JD1, South Shetlands LZ0A, Tonga A3, Cambodia XU5NRY, Ghana 9G5MG, Antarctica KC4AAD, Botswana A22, Morocco as CN8NK, Diego Garcia VQ9QM and much more.

Pekka OH1RY and Jaakko OH1MA will also soon activate the Marquesas Islands as FOOKOL and FOOSIL.

Look also for special IOTA stations, including Toxa Island EF1IAT (EU-080) and Paz Island PV5 (SA-027)

Be sure to work the Cotopaxi DXpedition HD6DX from the "Snow-White Volcano Cotopaxi" in Ecuador. There is also some special events activity coming up from Yugoslavia in celebration of the 800th year anniversary of the Hilandar monastery on Mount Athos. Look for special prefixes, such as YU800-, YT800- and YZ800-.

Your DX editor wishes to take the opportunity to wish all Short Skip readers the happiest of holidays and a most prosperous New Year.

NOVEMBER, DECEMBER PROGRAMS PRAISED. We did not have room in the last Short Skip to report the many complimentary remarks expressed concerning the program in November about the DXpedition to the Maldive Islands, presented by Warren Hill K7WX. The remarkable pictures and the account of the customs and lives of the people of that region were most interesting. Equally fascinating was the December program by Frank Smith AHOW on the just-completed DXpedition to Cambodia. Both speakers emphasized the culture and natural aspects of the areas and not the number of contacts made on the air. Several blind hams who could not enjoy the slides were charmed by the accompanying commentaries.

At the holiday meeting in December some 115 people signed in and enjoyed the music and refreshments as well as the program. Many thanks to those who supplied the goodies, and to the YLs who served them. Fried and Sandy Heyn expressed regrets at being unable to attend the meeting and hope to make one in the near future. Fried is SW Division Director for ARRL, recently reinstalled for another three-year term. (Art Goddard W6XD was also re-elected as Vice Director.)

PLEASE WELCOME the following new members:

Don Peterson KF2QA, Sun City West	Fred Fitzgerald K0OJL, Peoria
Ron Richards WB0ICP, Sun City West	Bill Renfroe W7IOV, Glendale
Brian Smith KD7DMV, Glendale	Wm "Gunny" Robinson KC7LRZ, Sun City
	Leonard Weiss, Peoria

SILENT KEY.....We are saddened to report the death of Frank Goetz KB7CJJ of Sun City. He was a member of the club from 1987 to 1992. As a free-lance photographer, Frank suggested that we place a picture of each member in the roster, but the task of getting all of the pictures was too cumbersome. We extend our sympathy to his wife Betty and his sons Gary and Robert.

CLUB NOTES.....It was good to see Jason Eberhart ZL4KY (KD7KY) at our December meeting. A former club treasurer, Jason lives at 15 Linwood Ave, Dunedin, New Zealand, for those who wish to stay in touch.....Bill Kosanovich WA8KFC, former club president, and wife June KA8CRW now reside at 3 Pondview Dr, Saginaw, MI 48609, while waiting to move into a condo. Mike KB9RJ and Sandy Nelson now live at 303 Court St, Coon Valley, WI 54623. These (or subsequent) addresses will be in the 1999 Roster, which will be published in March. We shall miss the support of these active club members and wish them our best.....Another active member, Walter Dack KA7OGN (also answers to the name of Sidney), has moved to Lexington KY to be close to his son. We'll pass along his address when received.....Fortunately, the club continues to attract new members to take over the work of these departing colleagues.

The DOOR PRIZE at the club meeting is now a cash prize, equal to half of the raffle sales. Previously the prize was usually a gift certificate for \$25 to Ham Radio Outlet. At the December meeting, the first winner under the new system was Don Thomas KALCWM. The prize: \$46.50. Don spends a lot of time traveling back and forth between his homes in Sun City West and Coppell TX, where he is ARRL Section Manager of the North Texas section (at least until he can find someone to replace him).

At the December meeting, the new Officers were elected unanimously. In a vote for the two Director spots, Rich Piggott WB2LKU and Doc Greene AB7BD won in a close race over Allan Fusler KI7NF. Allan is the only member of the 1998 team not returning to the Board. He will continue to serve the club as Awards Manager.

FOR SALE: [FOR SALE and WANT ITEMS for ham-related gear are listed free of charge for members and non-members, when space permits.]

MFJ-1278 PACKET CONTROLLER, MFJ-941C VERSATUNER II.
Bill AA7RM 932-1315

TS-520S KENWOOD XCVR w/hand mike and electronic keyer; \$250.
BUTTERNUT VERTICAL (10-15-20-30-40-80m); \$50.
All in excellent condx with manuals included. Merle KC7OGU 546-1737

TS-430S KENWOOD XCVR (never been on the air), PS-430 POWER SUPPLY, AT-250 ANTENNA TUNER, SP-430 SPKR; also TBird TH6DX Hy-gain Antenna and 10-20-40 Vertical. If interested, must remove antenna from 35' tower.
Gene WB7FJM 972-4500

ICOM SM-8 two-connector DESK MIKE, up/down scan; \$100.
Herb NONIZ 972-4145

B&W VS200A TRANSMATCH (will match any revr, xmtr or xcvr 1.8 to 30 MHz to almost any ant (coax or balanced line), will read SWR and RF out, like new, with instruction book; \$150.
JOHNSON VIKING MATCHBOX #250-23-3 w/directional coupler built in, will read SWR and RF output, exc cond w/instruction book; \$100.
Al W8PAL 814-6387 (weekday am)

HY-GAIN TH5-DX 5-element antenna (10-15-20m)
Bob N7ZDB 977-4206

WANTED

MC-35S MIKE. Bill AA7RM 932-1315

KENWOOD PS-52 POWER SUPPLY.
Harlow "Bud" W0SDX 970-241-1808 (Grand Junction CO)