



WEST VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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

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 Editor Randy Carlson (days) 623-546-7015 - (evenings) 623-934-4366.

CLUB OFFICERS

Pres.	Ron Rasmussen	K6OP	SCW	623-546-5710
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CLUB DIRECTORS

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David Cain	AC7CS	PEO	623-561-6228
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Club web page (tnx Chuck W7K1V): <http://home.az.rmci.net/chuckh>
Short Skip Editor Randy Carlson N5WMO: knight@pgtv.net

MAY WVARC CALENDAR

SATURDAY	MAY 5	LICENSE EXAMS, DeVRY INSTITUTE, PHX, 8 TO 10 AM
MONDAY	MAY 7	MONTHLY MEETING, ST. CLEMENT SOCIAL HALL, SC, 7 PM
SATURDAY	MAY 12	CLUB BREAKFAST, TIVOLI GARDENS, SC, 8 AM
WEDNESDAYS		2m HAM NEWSLINE NET, 147.30 MHz, 6:45 PM
THURSDAYS		BRUNCH, COCO'S, 98 th Ave. & Bell Rd., 9:00 AM
DAILY		CALL-IN NET, 147.30 MHz, 9 AM

MEMBERSHIP IN WEST VALLEY ARC is open to anyone with an interest in Amateur Radio. One \$10 annual fee includes all family hams at same address; only one Short Skip mailed to each address.

PROGRAM FOR MAY MEETING

Marty Shapiro (club member) KA7GKN, will discuss the history of the West Valley Repeater Site selections and also give us some words of wisdom regarding telephone and television interference.

Future Repeater Tone Access

The WVARC Board of Directors met April 9th and after much discussion it was voted to activate a tone access (PL) for both of our repeaters in the near future after all of our other updates are completed. The vote was 7 for and 1 abstained.

Some of the reasons for the PL are as follows:

1. We are a dues paying member of A.R.C.A. (Amateur Radio Council of Arizona) and regard their judgment in repeater operation as correct. Their 2 meter coordinator, Lance Halle, KW7LH, states the following in their publication; "Under the correct conditions, mobiles and bases hundreds of miles away can bring up a high level repeater. The old excuse of users not having a PL is pretty much a thing of the past. Many years ago the repeater owners of Arizona voted to implement the use of PL in order to minimize interference and allow best utilization of our frequencies. We need to clarify and reaffirm that policy requiring PL protection on repeater inputs."

(Continued on page 2)

Renewals received too late to appear in printed edition of 2001 Roster:

James L. Allen	AA7WO	1619 N. 73 rd Drive,	Phoenix, AZ	85035-4511
E.H. Carlstrom	N7SPX	15865 W. Bridgewood Drive,	Surprise, AZ	85374-5510
Lee Drake	N8GZ	13745 W. Summerstar Drive,	Sun City West,	85375-5241
Ted Drake	N8GZ	13745 W. Summerstar Drive,	Sun City West,	85375-5241
Vernon P. Lewis	W7VPL	9838 N. 103 rd Avenue,	Sun City, AZ	85351-4702
Julia Korytkowski	KC7ZVO	P.O. Box 9478,	Phoenix, AZ	85068-9478
Vincent Korytkowski	N7UZN	P.O. Box 9478,	Phoenix, AZ	85068-9478
Frank R. Smith	AH0W	P.O. Box 1036,	Sun City, AZ	85372-1036

Phone Numbers and Email Addresses:

For phone numbers and email addresses consult Web edition of 2001 Roster. Hand in changes or corrections to your listing at a meeting, or mail them to the Club's post office box or use the form on the Web edition of the 2001 Roster. Please do not submit changes orally or by telephone.

CLUB NOTES:**FCC License Expirations:**

K7AQ	Charlie Cox	6/01
N7SKR	Betty Smith	6/01
N7SPX	E. Carlstrom	7/01
N0NIZ	Herb Carson	7/01
KC1BL	Gerald Gomolak	7/01

New Licenses and License Upgrades:

Bill Pflugstad	KD7LNX	Upgrade to General.
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Member(s) inadvertently left out of printed 2001 Roster:

Paul Playford	W8AEF	35639 N. 3 rd Street, Phoenix, AZ	85027-7405
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New Members:

James A. Haveron Sr.	KA7UND	4725 N. 103 rd Lane,	Phoenix, AZ	85037-5024
Jim Wzorek	K1MEA	316 Main Street,	East Hampton, MA	01027-2035
Michael Powers	KC7ARA	11334 W Seldon Ln.	Peoria, AZ	85345-3442

Address Change:

Dan Heffner	WB2SQE	190 N. Tegner Street, PMB 238, Wickenburg, AZ	85390-1455
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Consult the 2001 Roster on the WWW for addresses and phone numbers.

RETURNED EMAIL ADDRESSES:

Email sent to the following members has been returned as undeliverable. If the member wishes to have his email address to appear in the Roster, send an email to wb2lku@arrl.net.

Jim Wzorek	K1MEA
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EDITOR'S NOTE

Wow! What a busy past month. We have many things in the works here in the club and I wanted to write a note to let you know about one of them that will be affecting you all. The Editor's e-mail address! (*hint...hint..*)

For starters, please note that the address for the club newsletter has changed. Please e-mail all inquiries and submissions directly to my address listed at the front of this newsletter. Include a subject line of WVARC. The reasons for this change are numerous; however, they are spearheaded by the fact that my previous local ISP, Inficad, has shut down its doors to dial-up access. Many of you have had service supplied by them as well, and understand the frustrations involved with having to find a new ISP.

But don't be dismayed... there is life after having to change all your e-mail addresses! I took this as opportunity to experiment in the world of satellite delivered Internet service. I had to do a lot of searching, reading and learning - all in a short amount of time. Wow is there a lot to learn about this! Needless to say, I now have the new Pegasus Satellite System, and will write a short article soon for those interested.

But be sure to update your address books with the new e-mail. And look for other exciting changes that will soon be materializing with the Short Skip. 73's.

Randy Carlson, Editor N5WMO

AMATEUR FAST-SCAN TV

By: Chuck W7K1V

Several in the WVARC club have recently asked me "how do I get to watch the signals coming from the local repeater using just a standard TV set and nothing else?" The interest has gotten keener since we now retransmit the NASA downlink feed into our ATV repeater throughout every shuttle mission, live and nonstop from launch to return touchdown. To answer this question I have taken the information from the website of the largest U.S. Manufacturer of ATV equipment P.C. Electronics in Arcadia California, and it is as follows:

Any FCC Licensed Technician Class Amateur Radio operator can transmit and receive live action color video and sound to other hams just like commercial broadcast TV with our time proven equipment. Hams should be seen as well as heard. Show your station, projects, home video tapes, and computer graphics, to other hams. Do public service events like parades and races, emergency service for remote damage assessment, televise live or by tape the local ham club meeting to those who cannot attend in person, or put a video camera in a R/C model airplane, car, rocket, kite, balloon or make a hat cam!

Where do you start? With the 420-450 MHz (70cm) amateur band. It's the first Amateur band that will support a standard 6 MHz AM ATV channel and you only need a code free Technician class license or higher to transmit. Also since the lower the frequency, the farther the distance, given the same power and antenna gain, this is where 98% of ATV'ers operate. The 902-928 MHz band goes half the distance. The 70cm band is also lowest cost and easiest to get on.

To see your first picture it may be as easy as turning your cable ready TV to cable channel 57 and connecting it to a good outside 70cm antenna. Cable channel 57 is 421.25 MHz (not to be confused with over the air channel 57). Contact a local ATV'er on two-meter voice and have him send a picture your way. For more sensitivity or if you don't have a cable ready TV, consider getting a down converter or going all the way with a transceiver.

There are many ATV repeaters up, there is one in the Phoenix area on 421.25mhz = cable channel 57, re-transmitting space shuttle video or weather radar. Check the ARRL Repeater Directory for other areas. The ATV repeater in Phoenix is on Shaw Butte, so point your antenna towards Cactus and 29th Avenue. The signal is vertically polarized, have your beam elements oriented up and down vertically to avoid signal loss.

After you see your first picture, you will want to improve your reception for DX or get less snow with a sensitive down converter and high gain beam. There are 50-100 mw, 1.5 or 20 watt boards for those who want to package their own systems or use them for R/C, hat cam, rockets or balloon ATV.

P.C. Electronics in Arcadia California offer wired and tested down converter boards that start at \$49 and ATV transmitter boards at \$99. Their TC70-20, a 20-watt transceiver is capable of sending and receiving snow free video over 100 miles assuming line of sight between 14 dBd antennas. This is a ready to go all in one box "Plug in and Play" unit for those who want to get on right away, the cost is \$529.

It is really very simple to communicate ATV with other hams with the TC70-20 transceiver. It is no different than what you experience getting on two meter voice except that you also plug in your camcorder to transmit the picture, and your TV set to receive it. No special interface boxes or computers are necessary – this is live action color and sound just like broadcast TV, not like SSTV with still frame pictures.

To see equipment that is available and read a much more detailed description of all the related ATV gear, its installation, operation, and maintenance, and to get a free catalog connect to: <http://www.hamtv.com> or <http://www.w7atv.com>.

Connect to our own ATV website in Phoenix at <http://www.w7atv.com>.