



SHORT SKIP

SHORT SKIP is published monthly (except July and September) by WVARC. Deadline for items is second Saturday of previous month. Submission by electronic mail preferred. Email to: shortskip@yahoo.com.

West Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc is an ARRL affiliated club
Post Office Box 1573, Sun City Arizona 85372

WVARC is a 501(c)(3) not for profit corporation

CLUB OFFICERS

Pres	David Cain	AC7CS	623-910-4191
V-Pres	Augie Allen	KB0RUL	623-572-4102
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e-mail: shortskip@yahoo.com

Club Web Page: <http://www.qsl.net/wvarc>

WVARC CALENDAR

Monday	October 3	Monthly Meeting	St. Clement Catholic Church Social Hall 7 PM (15800 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City)
Saturday	October 1	VE Testing	DeVry University 7:45 AM (2149 W Dunlap Ave, Phoenix)
Saturday	October 8	Club Breakfast	Lou's Tivoli Gardens 8:00 AM (14635 Del Webb Blvd Sun City)
Thursdays Daily		Breakfast, Coco's Call-in Net	(98 th Avenue & Bell Road) 8:00 AM 147.30 MHz 9:00 AM

REMINDER FROM RON RASMUSSEN K6OP

It's never too early to mark your calendars, so please put down Wed. November 9, 2005 for Ladies Night Out. Location will be Palmbrook Country Club, 9350 W. Greenway Rd, Sun City. Great entertainment, prizes for the ladies, and great food. See registration form included with this edition of Short Skip!

SPECIAL EVENT

October 1, 2005 Special event station at the Historical Titan Missile Museum Green Valley AZ, from 8am - 4pm. Sponsored by the Green Valley Amateur Radio Club, N7GV.

Frequencies 7.250, 14.250 and 21.350 MHz. Certificate available. Contact Gene Schouweiler, W0KAD, theschou@cox.net.

COFFEE CLUTCH NET

This net, which has been in operation for approximately 20 years, is now operating on different repeaters – 147.120 from 7:00 to 7:30 a.m., and 145.350 from 7:30 to 8:00 a.m.

Net controls are needed for both nets. Information is available from Julie – KC7FQI -

NEW MEMBERS OR LATE RENEWALS

Daniel Ford	K2LH	Peoria
Roger Matschke	WA9MSR	SCW
Charles Breeding	W7ENP	SCW
Richard Kemp	W7JIH	Sun City

CALL SIGN CHANGE

David G. Peterson KE7KK was NH7TG

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Gordon Stanger KB7GS 12919 Copperstone Dr. SCW

EXPIRING LICENCES

KC7NWN	Christine Miner	Nov
W7FPG	Joe Nowakowski	Oct

To all Volunteer Examiners, this is our exam schedule for 2005 - 2006. Please mark your calendar! 73's **KA7NPQ - Bob**

Ham Radio Exam Schedule At DeVry U

Sponsored By: DeVry Amateur Radio Club and West Valley Amateur Radio Club.

Exams start at 7:45 AM and all tests must be concluded by 9:45 AM. Check-in at the library on the second floor, southeast corner of the school. Bring photo ID and the original operator license and CSCEs and photocopies of each if applicable. Exam fee is \$14.00 for all elements taken once. An additional fee applies for a retest of any element. Retest is at the option of the VE's. Pay fee by check to ARRL/VEC or exact amount in cash – Volunteer Examiners cannot make change.

Thank You!

Robert Miner KA7NPQ Liaison/Manager

01-Oct-2005

Sponsor: DEVRY ARC&WEST VALLEY ARC

Time: 7:45 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Robert N. Miner
(602) 997-2465

Email: ka7npg@msn.com

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Exam location: DEVRY UNIVERSITY 2149 W DUNLAP AVE PHOENIX, AZ 85021

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

Saturday, October 15 Old Pueblo Radio Club Kino Sports Park 2500 East Ajo Road Tucson Talk-In: 147.30 PL 110.9

NEEDED Net Control Operators for the Morning West Valley Call In Net! We have lost a Net Controller who did the Net Two Days a week so we need you! Please take a little time and become a Net Control Operator on the 9:00 AM daily West Valley Call In Net held on the 147.300 MHz West Valley repeater. Call Lee Chrisman AB7HW 480-483-6584 or email me at ab7hw@arrl.net

SATELLITES**Hamsat, OSCAR VO-52**

AMSAT India and the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) have launched HAMSAT on May 5, 2005. This is India's first and latest amateur radio satellite. HAMSAT was placed in a polar sun synchronous orbit with an approximate altitude of 632 KM (392 miles). The new satellite has been assigned the new OSCAR designation VO-52.

New technologies being tested on VO-52 are gallium arsenide based solar panels, a processor based electronic bus management unit, and lithium ion batteries.

VO-52 will provide a reliable means of communication during earthquakes, floods, and other emergencies, as well as services to the amateur radio operators in the international community.

Modes of communication are SSB and CW, no FM on this bird. Transponder uplink: 35.250MHz LSB/CW, downlink; 145.900 MHz USB/CW (inverting) Mode B. Transmitter output is 1 watt. Satellite passes for VO-52 may be found on Heavens-Above.com under the satellite name HAMSAT.

SATELLITE HISTORY – OSCAR IV

OSCAR IV was launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, December 21, 1965. The satellite was built in Redondo Beach, California by the TRW Radio Club. The linear transponder operated with 3 watts on 144MHz uplink and 432 MHz downlink.

The top stage of the launch rocket failed, leaving OSCAR IV with a short life lasting only 85 days. Designed for a high circular orbit, (21,000 miles), the satellite went into an elliptical orbit and remained there until it re-entered April 12, 1976.

OSCAR IV was the only amateur satellite designed around a tetrahedral frame and provided the first amateur two-way communication between the Soviet Union and the United States. 73 – Robert, K7RQN AMSAT – NAArea Coordinator Peoria, Arizona

Bob Tauxe W6JTA – SILENT KEY

Bob Tauxe W6JTA became a silent key on Sunday September 4th and requested that the following be included in Short Skip:

"Dear Ham Radio Friends,

"I'm here in the hospice hospital bed in the last stage of my life. A good friend of mine, Scotty W7SW, is here with me writing down these few words. Ham Radio has sure been an important part of my whole life. I have very fond recollections of eating breakfast with many of the WVARC members. Those memories are a great help from the "drag" of being in bed all the time. I don't like living this way and when I die I'm going to heaven and I'm going to meet Jesus. We're going to share a BIG hug, 'cause he knows that I love him.

"I just want to let each of you know how much I appreciate our friendship. Each of you is a wonderful friend and knowing that sure helps me out. Thanks again and 73 old man! Bob W6JTE"

AN EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY

Helen E. Ferguson, mother of members Gary NF7F and Gary WF7F died August 10th. She is survived by her 3 sons, a sister, 7 grandchildren, and 5 great grandchildren.

HAM RADIO TO THE RESCUE (AGAIN)

(Editor's note: This story originally from Skip Cameron, was forwarded by Richard B. Murphey N7DIC to Short Skip. It is fascinating, to say the least!)

I witnessed an example today (July 24) of how HF communications aids a ship in distress. Ken Saijo, retired from Alhambra, CA, with another 60-something male friend on a 35 ft. sailboat out of Ixtapa, bound for Golfito in southern Costa Rica, got in a storm last night and lost his engine, then lost his steering, which left them floundering off the Pacific coast of southwest Mexico.

Ken was out of range of marine VHF radio stations which he had been attempting to reach since about 0900 UTC. Finally, in desperation he made a MAYDAY distress call on 14238.7 kHz, which was heard by Ralph W9CAR in Wisconsin at about 1430 UTC. Ralph was on a nearby frequency chatting with N6GJR near Dallas, Texas. Ralph, who has had professional experience in fire and water rescue, acted as emergency net control. He was joined by a number of US amateurs and Jorge XE1JP near Mexico City (who helped translate Spanish from the Navy stations into English for the sailboat crew).

Ralph contacted the US Coast Guard, which put him in contact with a Mexican Navy Yard in the area of the distressed ship. Ralph talked with them as they dispatched a ship and helicopter to the 15:10N 95:05W location of the

southwest coast of Mexico. I heard the Mexican Navy station contact the sailboat to try to get their coordinates. It was difficult as they did not hear each other that well. Jorge XE1JP clarified the coordinates in Spanish and advised the distressed sailors that a ship and helicopter were enroute.

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At 1832UTC the sailors reported a helicopter overhead, and we heard more Spanish in a weak signal from the helicopter. Soon the sailors reported that they were going to be taken aboard the helicopter and the Navy ship would tow their sailboat into port. Congratulations were passed around and the emergency net disbanded.

Had Access BPL been ubiquitously deployed throughout Texas and the USA and other countries, this successful use of HF radio to rescue a floundering ship at sea would not have been possible due to the weak signals involved and the spectrum polluting and interfering nature of BPL as it is being deployed in Texas and elsewhere.

Skip W5GAI
Austin, TX

(Editor's note: This story illustrates not only the value of Ham Radio in emergency situations, but also the undeniable value of international cooperation, which has long been a hallmark of Ham Radio!)

ARRL SYNDICATES HAM RADIO NEWS

ARRL uses RSS - real simple syndication - to provide news feeds to websites and weblogs. The feed gives the titles, posting date and a sentence from each story. News is posted daily, and even hourly. A viewer may click on a title to read the whole story. A freeware program, ARRL NEWS FEED, will install an icon on your computer monitor. Click on the icon to receive the feed from ARRL.

To get the program go to
<http://www.arrl.net/download/offer.html>

EXAM QUESTION POOL CHANGE DATES

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) has announced new dates for question pool changes. Scheduled changes are: Technician (Element 2) July 1, 2006; General (Element 3)

July 1, 2007; Extra class (Element 4) - July 1, 2008.

FOR SALE

Portable (with carrying case) 6 band yagi , 250 watt rating, plus 21 ft collapsable mast and "drive on" mount. See details at. <http://superantennas.com...>\$295 New, never used, Ron k6op Ph 623-546-5710

SERVICE FOR HAMS

(Advertisement)

Have you found a good used tower but can't figure out how you're going to get it down and moved to your QTH? Here's your solution: call **Paul Playford, W8AEF at 623-580-0015**. He has the know-how, and the equipment to do the job right.

ANOTHER SERVICE OFFER

(Advertisement)

I buy used electronic and radio equipment. Also I can work for you as a Handyman doing antenna work or odd jobs, and am willing to take used equipment if you prefer, as payment. Please call **Scotty Rathjen W7SW at (623) 214-3303** or send an email to: w7sw@arrrl.net

HAM HOME REAL ESTATE

(Advertisement)

Are you or someone you know looking for a Ham Home? I can help you find a home with a tower or one where a tower can be added. Call or email me to get started.

Richard Haworth W7MDQ
Coldwell Banker Success Realty
602-370-1450 cell
rahaworth@cox.net

NOTE FROM EDITOR

In submitting items for Short Skip by e.mail, please put them into Microsoft Word, Word Pad or Notepad format and send as an attachment. Then I can more easily get them into our newsletter. Don't worry about type size or style, I can change that as needed.

NOTE--Deadline for providing input to the next Short Skip is Saturday October 15
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WEST VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

LADIES NIGHT OUT

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2005

**PALMBROOK COUNTRY CLUB
9350 WEST GREENWAY ROAD
SUN CITY, ARIZONA**

HAPPY HOUR: 6:00 to 7:00 P.M.

DINNER: 7:00 P.M. with **Program to follow**

Entrees:

Chicken Marsala	Chicken breast in a Marsala wine sauce with mushrooms
Baked Stuffed Pork Chop	Split pork chop stuffed with a corn meal dressing
Baked Salmon	Baked salmon with a white dill sauce

Each dinner also includes:

- **Rolls and beverage**
- **Caesar Salad**
- **Au Gratin Potatoes**
- **Broiled Tomato filled with creamed spinach**
- **Raspberry Swirl cheesecake**

Cost: \$15.00 per person includes meal, tax and gratuity.



Name(s):		Callsign:		
How many?	Entrees			
	Chicken Marsala	Dinner(s)	@ \$15.00	\$
	Baked Stuffed Pork Chop	Dinner(s)	@ \$15.00	\$
	Baked Salmon	Dinner(s)	@ \$15.00	\$
Total enclosed:				\$
Please RSVP by mailing your coupon and check, (payable to WVARC) to:				
Ron Rasmussen 21031 Desert Sands Drive Sun City West, AZ 85375-5445				
We must receive your coupon and payment no later than Tuesday, November 1, 2005.				