



West Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc

P O BOX 1573 Sun City, Arizona 85372-1573

SHORT SKIP

SHORT SKIP is published monthly, except July and September.

Deadline for items is 2nd Saturday of previous month. Submission by electronic mail preferred. E-mail: shortskip@yahoo.com. West Valley Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL affiliated club and an Arizona 501(c)(3) not for profit corporation.

Send business mail to PO BOX 1573 SUN CITY ARIZONA 85372

CLUB OFFICERS

Pres	David Cain	AC7CS	623-910-4191
V-Pres	Rich Haworth	W7MDQ	623-933-2191
Sec'y	Vern De Witt	AD7AM	623-582-5919
(Ass't	Kristy De Witt	KD7CSM)	
Treas	Phil Walker	W1PW	623-298-5178

CLUB DIRECTORS

Randy Helfrich	KD7ZAA	623-556-2228
Ron Phillips	AE6QU	602-369-4242
David Morrill	N7TWT	623-925-0680
Stan Swartz	K7PLO	623-933-4073

Ellsworth Campbell AA7TU, Editor 623-975-0646

e-mail: shortskip@yahoo.com

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

WVARC CALENDAR

Monday	March 6	Monthly Meeting	St. Clement Catholic Church Social Hall	7 PM
			(15800 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City)	
Saturday	March 4	VE Testing	DeVry University	7:45 AM
			(2149 W Dunlap Ave, Phoenix)	
Saturday	March 11	Club Breakfast	Lou's Tivoli Gardens	8:00 AM
			(14635 Del Webb Blvd Sun City)	
Thursdays		Breakfast, Coco's	(98 th Avenue & Bell Road)	8:00 AM
Daily		Call-in Net	147.30 MHz	9:00 AM

PREZ SEZ

We had a terrific auction this year. I want to thank everyone who brought items for sale, the buyers, and especially the volunteers that spent so many hours making things work. (See page 4 for a list of volunteers). A total of 238 lots or items were auctioned in the three hour period for a total of over \$4700. Twenty four club members contributed over 123 hours of time the day of the auction to make everything work. An additional 60 to 70 hours of work by the treasurer and some board members was required later in the week to finish all of the paperwork. We appreciate all the people that attended the auction, because without you, our "party" would be rather dull.

One item that we want to include in the March meeting is to give some of you a chance to describe your ham experiences. Topics could include "How you became a ham", "Your favorite hamshack", or some neat DX or public service experiences. We will want to have you come to the microphone so everyone can hear you and should keep it to about 5 minutes each. This can be of particular interest to hams that are new to the hobby.

See you at the March 6th meeting!

David Cain AC7CS

FCC LICENSE EXAMS

Next exam session at DeVry University Saturday Mar 4, 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. ARRL VEC Exam Fee is \$14 for all elements taken once. An additional fee applies for a retest of any element. Retest is at the option of the VEs. **Pay fee by check to ARRL/VEC or exact amount in cash. Volunteer Examiners cannot make change.**

The Feb 4, session at DeVry – 8 candidates were examined:

- 2 Failed Code
- 4 earned Technician license
- 1 earned Credit for General
- 1 earned Extra License

Administering VEs

Robert Miner KA7NPQ Liaison

VE Team:

Ralph Adair – W7JU
 Edward H. Beyer – WU7A
 Joseph Cutitta – W0SLL
 Robert Fairfield – K7RQN
 Robert Knight – N7LPD
 Richard Koch – W7DIC
 Wayne Lougher – AD7HT
 David Morrill – N7TWT
 Shelly Newman – AB7LQ
 Ken Peloquin – N7PHO
 Yoshi Sano – K7YS
 Harold Taylor -W7HVT
 Dwight Yard – KB7KON

SPECIAL VE EXAM 11 MARCH 2006

Sponsor: WEST VALLEY ARC

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

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

Email: ka7npq@arrl.net

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Scottsdale Community College,
 Room BU 127
 9000 E Chaparral Rd & Route 101
 Scottsdale, AZ 85021

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

Saturday March 11, 2006 6AM

Scottsdale ARC Hamfest

Scottsdale Community College
 9000 E Chaparral Rd & Route 101
 Parking \$2 , vendor table \$10 donations
 VE testing, coffee and doughnuts, Hot Dogs,
 soda and chips
 Contact: Ed Nickerson WU7S
 enickerson427@aol.com; (480) 949-5162

SPECIAL EVENT

Saturday Feb 25, 7AM - 5 PM,
 W7W: Lost Dutchman Days Celebration
 Superstition Amateur Radio Club,. Mesa, AZ.
 Bands: 28.263 21.363 14.263.
 QSL. SARC--W7W,
 PO Box 21522, Mesa, AZ 85227-1522.
 www.wb7tjd.org

Saturday Feb 25 8AM

Arizona Antique Radio Club Winter Swap Meet
 Catalina United Methodist Church, 2700 E.
 Speedway, Tucson.
 The meet is open to the public but you must be an
 AARC member to sell. You may join the club at the
 meet. For more info contact Steve Lew:
 SLew2969@aol.com.

FOR SALE

MFJ 941E Antenna Tuner, with manual. Cost
 new \$109.99. Used (AEA price) 93.99. Will
 sell for \$40.

Faye Delaney KC7TOJ – 623-815-7347.

SERVICE FOR HAMS (Advertisement)

*Due to insurance considerations I can no longer
 move towers for others. If you have a
 tower/antenna that you want to get rid of I will
 remove it: the salvaged material will belong to me.
 Paul Playford, W8AEF. 623-466-4195.*

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@arrl.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 BILL SIMONS W9BB

I am proud to announce that after 64 years of Ham Operation I have now received these awards from the ARRL:

ARRL #1 DXCC Honor Roll, 7 Band DXCC, DXCC on Phone, CW, and RTTY, I have also been elected to the ARRL A-1 Operator Club.

I was first licensed in 1941, at age 14, so it only took me 64 years.

NEW MEMBERS

Vinny Klemmer K7VIN	Mesa
Warren Mays K7SA	Scottsdale
Steve Mc Cully W7TZ	Sun City
Kenneth Ronkainen KE7DTK	Sun City
Paul Rumford K6IMZ	Surprise

CALL SIGN CHANGE

Mike Adams AD7HQ was KD7ZAB

LICENSES EXPIRING SOON

WI0W Lynn O'Dell	June
NW7R Ray Sumner	June
KD7CSM Kristy De Witt	June
W1OSV Charles Wallace	June
W7EOY Del Young	June
K6OP Ron Rasmussen	June
KB9PJ Sara Jackson	June

Suggestion made at the February Board Meeting: that all new persons joining WVARC be given a list of activities for which they can volunteer, and that they be encouraged to choose one. (Ed. Note: *sounds like a great idea.*)

DAVID MORRILL N7TWT –NEW WEBMASTER

Rich Piggott WB2LKU, who has been our Internet Webmaster since the passing of Chuck Hilliker, has now turned this duty over to David Morrill, who responded when a call went out for volunteers. The Webmaster administers the WVARC web page.

It should be noted that the Webmaster cannot accept members personal changes - address, callsign, home, email addresses, etc. Those should be sent to the Membership Chairman, either in writing or by using the web-based change form on the club's web page at <http://www.qsl.net/wvarc/changer.htm>. Written changes can be mailed to the Membership Chairman at PO Box 1573, Sun City, AZ 85372-1573 or handed to any Board Member at any regular club meeting. No other procedure (E-Mails, phone calls, etc) will effect any change in the Membership database.

(Ed note: Many thanks to Rich, for a big job extremely well done!)

EXAMPLES OF EMERGENCIES INVOLVING AMATEUR RADIO

- Hurricanes Katrina and Rita -- 2005
- Hurricanes Charlic, Frances, Ivan, and Jeanne in Florida -- 2004
- Severe weather in Virginia -- May 2004
- Tornadoes in Illinois -- April 2004
- Amtrak train accident in Mississippi -- April 2004
- Earthquake in Central California -- December 2003
- Hurricane Isabel -- September 2003
- Northeast blackout -- August 2003
- Midwest tornadoes -- May 2003
- Shuttle Columbia recovery effort -- February 2003
- Wildfires in Colorado -- June 2002
- Tornado in Maryland -- April 2002
- Flooding in Kentucky -- March 2002
- World Trade Center and Pentagon terrorist attacks -- September 2001

NOTE--Deadline for providing input to the next Short Skip is Saturday March 11, 2006
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ANNUAL WVARC AUCTION

SATELLITES

Suitsat-1 was deployed successfully from the International Space Station on Friday, February 03, 2006. It appears to be operating, but the signals are extremely weak. Suitsat-1 downlink is 145.990 MHz FM. It is expected to orbit the earth for six weeks. Telemetry information and signal reports may be submitted to: Suitsat QSL, ARRL Headquarters.

Satellite History

UoSAT-Oscar 11 (UO-11)

Oscar 11 was launched March 1, 1984 from Vandenberg Air Force Base, California, along with the Landsat-5 satellite. The launch vehicle was the Thor Delta 3920 rocket. The satellite was designed and built by the University of Surrey, Guildford, England. Oscar 11 was completed in only six months, because the UoSAT-B team was offered an unexpected launch opportunity. Once the satellite reached the 433 mile polar orbit, it was renamed UoSAT-Oscar-11 (UO-11). Oscar-11 has a mass of 27 pounds and a sun-synchronous 99 minute period (orbit)

On the third orbit, the spacecraft "went into hibernation" and stopped accepting commands. The Surrey crew renewed their control efforts using the updated orbital information and on May 14, 1984, they regained control of the bird."

Uo-11 was returned to life and is semi-operational, and can be monitored on the downlink frequency of 145.825 MHz. The spacecraft is in a poor solar attitude, and combined with battery problems produce a low voltage supply. The battery has endured over 100,000 charge/discharge cycles and this is always a problem with Nicad cells.

AMSAT Oscar-11 celebrated 20 years in space on
March 01, 2004.

*73 Robert K7RQN AMSAT-NA
Area Coordinator Peoria, AZ*

"Satellites provide another dimension to Amateur Radio"

HELD FEBRUARY 6 2006

This year's auction with an offering of 238 items is probably the biggest in the Club's history. Net gain to the Club from its 10% cut of auction proceeds, plus sales of donated gear was \$1,674.01. To make this all happen, 24 Club members spent the day getting ready for the auction, and some were still present until after 1:00 a.m. Now that's dedication! Following are the names of volunteers.

David Cain	AC7CS	Teller Desk
Richard Haworth	W7MDQ	Auctioneer
Vern DeWitt	AD7AM	Information
Kristy DeWitt	KD7CSM	Information
Phil Walker	W1PW	Treasurer
Stan Swartz	K7PLO	Auctioneer Ass't
Ron Phillips	AE6QU	Auctioneer Ass't
Ken Solheim	WN7DRX	Auction Coordinator
Lou Caldwell	W7HX	Monitor
Paul Playford	W8AEF	Auctioneer
Ron Rasmussen	K6OP	Auctioneer Ass't
David Morrill	N7TWT	Seller Registration
Cindy Morrill	KD7JVW	Seller Registration
Mike Smith	K7MMB	Monitor
Gene Melton	AK9N	Seller Registration
Carol Melton	AK7N	Seller Registration
Bill Young	AA7BY	Monitor
Mike Adams	AD7HQ	Monitor
Al Lee	W6KQI	Bidder Registration
Faye Delaney	KC7TOJ	Bidder Registration
Loyd Waite	N7IAU	Teller/Cashier
Marvin Nesius	K9MEN	Teller/Cashier
Scotty Rathjen	W7SW	Clean-Up
Rich Piggott	WB2LKU	Membership Table
Bob Gormley	WA1MHZ	Monitor
Jerry Basso	W9JIF	Auctioneer Ass't

Suggestions for the next Auction made by Ken Solheim, 2006 Auction coordinator, are:

1. That there be no Seller payoff during or immediately following the end of the auction. Payoffs will be done by mail within 2 weeks of the conclusion of the auction.
2. Sellers are encouraged to donate small items to the Club or combine many small items into larger lots under a single Lot Ticket. Note: on 20% of our sales the club net was just equal to or less than the printing cost of the Lot Ticket.

Thanks to the good crowd present which made this auction a great success!