



# WEST VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

P O BOX 1573 SUN CITY, ARIZONA 85372-1573

## SHORT SKIP

**SHORT SKIP** is published monthly except July and September. Deadlines for items is second Saturday of previous month. Submission by electronic mail preferred. E-mail [shortskip@yahoo.com](mailto:shortskip@yahoo.com). West Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc. is an Arizona 501(c)(3) not for profit corporation.  
An ARRL Affiliated Club

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

### WVARC CALENDAR

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

#### PREZ SEZ

As many of you have experienced, when our weather begins to cool down, friends come to visit us in beautiful Arizona. We have a high school buddy visiting us for our 50th high school reunion this week. One of the fringe benefits of having an able bodied guest, is he is helping me to get my antennas reinstalled on my tower. My ulterior motive is to be able to get back on HF before they have to return to Seattle. Now that the weather is getting cooler, it is a good time to check out the antennas and coax cables that have baked in the summer heat.

There is still a little time to get your tickets for Lady's Night Out. This is our once a year chance to show appreciation to our spouse's for their tolerance of our ham hobby. Ron Rasmussen, K6OP, has arranged a great program at a new location. Some members

have already checked out the new location at Westbrook Village and say the restaurant and view of the golf course are great.

Bob Gormley, WA1MHZ, has been very busy getting a noise baseline established prior to the start of BPL in Surprise. As of Oct 12th, he and a group of three helpers have made 235 measurements. We still need more fixed location monitors that are near Bell road between El Mirage road and Grand Avenue. Also needed are fixed locations along the east side of El Mirage Road. If anyone knows of any amateurs that are within the BPL area of "old Surprise", let us know. See the BPL link on our web page at [www.qsl.net/wvarc](http://www.qsl.net/wvarc) for the map and more information.

Hope to see you at the November 6th meeting.

David Cain AC7CS

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Larry Purchase Phoenix

**EXPIRING LICENSES**

WD0EIH	TOM JOHNSON	November
NY7S	TOM WATTS	November
W7HX	LOU CALDWELL	January
W7RTA	AL ELLIS	January

**UPCOMING HAMFESTS**

December 2

Superstition Amateur Radio Club  
Mesa Community CollegeLocation: Dobson Road and US Route 60  
Talk-In: 147.120 (PL 162.2) & 449.200 (PL 100)  
Contact: Ron McKee, KD7FGY  
773 West Tumbleweed Road  
Gilbert, AZ 85233  
Phone: 480-510-3025, Email: kd7fgy@cox.net  
<http://wb7tjd.org/hamfest/>

January 13

Westfest by Thunderbird ARC  
Glendale Community CollegeLocation: 5900 West Olive Avenue  
Glendale, AZ  
Talk-In: 146.70 - (PL 162.2)  
Contact: Steve Grouse, W1ADW  
7523 West Ironwood Drive  
Peoria, AZ 85345  
Phone: 623-521-1036, Email: w1adw@cox.net  
<http://www.w7tbc.org>**BPL: BASELINE NOISE SURVEY**

The Old Town Site (OTS) of the City of Surprise is a one square mile area bordered on the north and south by Bell and Greenway Roads and on the east and west by El Mirage and Dysart Roads. The City plans to bring BPL Internet service to the 984 homes in the area in January.

The ARRL says it will be helpful to know what the current noise levels are in and around the area. Base line noise level measurements on the HF bands and the signal strength of WWV should be collected now. Later, BPL noise levels will be compared to these baseline measurements.

There are no amateur radio stations in the OTS. Measurements at fixed stations located within a half

mile outside the border roads are very much needed. Also needed are volunteers with mobile rigs to take measurements at specified spots inside OTS. Some more operators and data are needed. If you can help please, contact Bob Gormley WA1MHZ 602-843-2193, wa1mhzbob@msn.com. Working with Bob so far are Ralph W7JU, Steve W7TZ, Andre KB5NWZ, and Scotty W7SW

**FCC LICENSE EXAMS**

Next exam session at DeVry University Saturday November 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 Oct. 7, session at DeVry -- 16 candidates were examined

- 2 earned Code Credit
- 11 earned Technician license
- 2 earned General License
- 2 earned General Credit
- 1 earned Extra License

**Administering VEs**

- Ralph Adair - W7JU
- Edward H. Beyer - WU7A
- Joseph Cutitta - W0SLL
- Robert Fairfield - K7RQN
- Robert W. Gormley - WA1MHZ
- Richard Koch - W7DIC
- James Monaghan - N7HKO
- David Morrill - N7TWT
- Shelly Newman - AB7LQ
- Kenneth Peloquin - N7PHO
- Yoshi Sano - K7YS
- Harold V. Taylor - W7VHT
- Glenn Wade - N7JWF

*Robert Miner KA7NPQ Liaison*

**ADDRESS CHANGE**

Thomas R. Cain KB8ZLSurprise, AZ 85374



**IN THE 109TH U.S. CONGRESS (2005-2006)**

H.R. 42: Freedom to Display the American Flag Act of 2000 also called the Flag Display on Residential Property bill. The bill passed in the House of Representatives by voice vote June 27, 2006; and passed in the Senate by unanimous consent July 17. On July 24, 2006 it became Public Law No: 109-243.

Look for sales of flag poles at Ham Radio Outlets, and tall tales about how DXCC was earned using a flag pole antenna.

**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 e-mail to: [w7sw@arrl.net](mailto: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](mailto:rahaworth@cox.net)

**NEED COMPUTER HELP?** *(Advertisement)*

Computer consultant: in-home tutoring, problem solving, hardware and software installations, virus detection and removal. Patient professional with 30+ years in the computer field. Call Larry at L.E. Purchase Computer Consultants, Inc. 1-888-922-9295.

**LADIES NIGHT OUT**

The big night is Friday, November 10, 2006! All of the pertinent information was in last month's issue of Short Skip. Get your reservation in now, if you haven't already done so. It will be a great evening of association with fellow-Hams and their spouses, lively entertainment, and the announcement of "Ham of the Year"!

**2007 DUES**

A renewal /application form for Year 2007 has been mailed with this issue of the Short Skip. Year 2006 memberships will expire next January. Members whose dues reach the Treasurer by February 5 will be listed in the printed edition of 2007 Roster of Associated Members and on the web page.

Those who renew or join after then will be listed on the web page. Application forms may be downloaded from the web.

**HAM RADIO IN GOODYEAR ARIZONA EOC**

Tri-City Amateur Radio Association and the City of Goodyear Arizona have established an amateur radio emergency communications station in the City's Emergency Communications Center, reports Jack Yarger W7ADZ the Association's Emergency Coordinator and Local Government Liaison. Jack says, "Emergency communication is the cornerstone of [Tri-city ARA] with the development of operating teams to provide volunteer backup emergency telecommunication support to the cities of Goodyear, Avondale, Litchfield Park, and the surrounding areas, whenever a disaster or local emergency is declared by our municipal governments. This service is for real and deserves our immediate action in developing a quality system all of our local citizens and local government administrators or U S Department of Homeland Security can confidently rely upon."

He adds, "Our major concern at this time is our need for more volunteers. We would be stretched beyond our capacity should an actual event occur. Membership in the Tri-city ARA is not mandatory, but highly encouraged because we have developed lasting friendships through our monthly meetings and social gatherings. We invite you to join us as we expand our horizons. YL's are most welcome as they have proven to be among the finest communicators."

Preliminary over the air tests have been made and the center is ready to serve the needs of the area. The Club is eager to add names to their roster of volunteer operators. So, please contact Jack at [w7adz@cox.net](mailto:w7adz@cox.net), (623) 935-9383, or on the Web at: <http://www.tricityara.com/>.

**MORE ON BPL** (from ARRL)

Radio amateurs are not opposed to broadband services. On the contrary, they tend to be early adopters of new technology. However, there are ways to deliver broadband that do not pollute the radio spectrum as Broadband over Power Line (BPL) does. These include fiber-to-the-home, cable, DSL, and wireless broadband. The ARRL-- The National Association for Amateur Radio-- is supportive of broadband access for all Americans; however, it opposes BPL as a way to achieve this goal because of its high potential for causing interference to radio communication.



**SAM MacDONALD N7MUV - SK**

Samuel Ellis MacDonald II was born December 12, 1932, and was a resident of Belmont, Massachusetts prior to moving to Sun City West in 1989. In May 1989 his call sign was changed from WB1HGV to N7MUV. Sam died at Sun Health Hospice on May 13, 2006. He is survived by his wife, Anne, their two daughters: Julie-Anne Anthony; Karol Coles and six grandchildren, to whom the Club extends its sympathy. A memorial service was held on May 20, 2006 at Desert Garden United Church in Sun City West.

had used my self addressed envelope and \$1.00 to return my QSL cards and the other \$1.00 to send me their QSL cards confirming both QSO's with KH8SI.

*Bill Simons W9BB*

(Ed. note: "All's well that ends well!")

Do you have interesting experiences in your years of Ham Radio? Write them up as Bill did and send them to the Short Skip editor. [aa7tu@cox.net](mailto:aa7tu@cox.net).

**PROBLEMS IN WORKING ALL COUNTRIES**

After 65 years in Ham Radio and my interest in DXCC i had my big scare. I had all 345 Countries worked plus 9 Countries that no longer exist. Recently the ARRL added 2 new countries, Montenegro, YU6, and Swain Island, KH8. I managed to work both countries and received a confirming QSL from Montenegro.

**EQUIPMENT DONATED TO THE WEST VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB FOR SALE**

Current meter Palomar eng.PCM-1	50.00
Headset 2000 ohm (for crystal set ? )	10.00
Antenna tuner AEA AT-3000	175.00
Swr/power mtr. Autek WM-1	40.00
VTM Heathkit IM-5228	20.00
Transceiver Tempo model 2020 100watt	200.00
Xceiver HT Santek STL44 UP w/ mobile ps	40.00
Headphones Kenwood HS-5	25.00
Antenna Larson mag mount 2mtr	20.00
Antenna Isotron 80 mtr	40.00
Antenna Isotron 10 mtr	30.00
Microphone Kenwood MC-60	75.00
Xceiver Icom IC-2GXAT w/bp-174, like new	100.00
Scanner Realistic PRO-38 hand held	25.00
Scanner SBE ssb/am mobile unit	25.00
Mag mount base Larson lm-mm w/lm-150	40.00
Xceiver standard 2 band C5718a w/ manual	100.00

Call Stan K7PLO 623-933-4073 / e-mail [k7plo@cox.net](mailto:k7plo@cox.net)

I was waiting for a QSL card from Swain Island which I worked on both 17mhz and 14mhz but instead I received a letter from the JA station who was their QSL manager. He had looked at my first QSL card and wrote that this contact was not in their log. He also returned both of my QSL cards and my \$2.00 for postage. I found that on the first QSL card for 17mhz had written 14mhz instead of 17mhz. He apparently did not even look up the second card for 14mhz. He also included a note telling me to include a self addressed envelope.

I corrected the first card to show 17mhz, submitted a self addressed envelope, \$2.00 postage, my 2 QSL Cards, and mailed all to the JA QSL Manager.

About 3 weeks later I found in my mail my self addressed envelope and I was excited. Here at last were the QSL cards confirming my contacts with the KH8 country, the last country that I needed. I opened the envelope and inside a found both of the QSL's that I sent him and \$1.00 of my postage. I was confused, angry and scared. What do I have to do to get their QSL. I can't describe how upset I was because I didn't know what to do next.

Then I opened the rest of my mail and found a different envelope which contained the KH8 QSL cards confirming both QSO's. Apparently the JA



Deadline for material for next issue of Short Skip is Saturday November 11, 2006