

# 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. Deadline for items is the second Saturday of previous month. Submission by electronic mail is preferred; email: [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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Randall Helfrich KD7ZAA: Editor email: <a href="mailto:shortskip@yahoo.com">shortskip@yahoo.com</a> Club Web Page: <a href="http://www.westvalleyarc.org">http://www.westvalleyarc.org</a>						

### WVARC CALENDAR

Saturday	June 7	VE Exam Session	DeVry University 2149 W Dunlap Ave, Phoenix	9:00 AM
Monday	June 2 July 7	Monthly Meeting	St. Clement Catholic Church Social Hall 15800 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City	7:00 PM
Saturday	June 14 July 12	Monthly Breakfast	Lou's Tivoli Gardens 14635 Del Webb Blvd Sun City	7:45 AM
Thursdays		Weekly Breakfast	Lou's Tivoli Gardens	8:00 AM
Daily		Call-in Net	147.300 MHz, Tone 162.2 Hz	9:00 AM

#### PREZ SEZ

Well, warm weather is here again with those triple digit temperatures. Hope all of you have your outside antenna work finished for the season. Also be sure that your home is grounded and ready for the monsoon storm challenges.

This is one of our "double month" issues of the Short Skip. Note the meeting dates mentioned elsewhere in this issue.

A big thanks to Paul Playford, W8AEF for his presentation on DX Expedition that he just got back from. It was very interesting and I think we all enjoyed it. I am not sure about you, but it is fascinating to know and see what it takes to do these events. In the June meeting we will have a presentation on Amateur Television (ATV) and watch the web page for our program in July.

VE testing will end on June 7<sup>th</sup> until October 4<sup>th</sup>. We have a great group of VE's working with the WVARC.

Not only do we do DeVry testing, but we also go other places in the valley to help others enter into the hobby. The Extra Class questions change on July 1<sup>st</sup>. We are still hoping to start some classes again for the Technician, General and the Extra Class licenses. Do you know of someone who has a special interest in sharing the hobby and enjoys talking about how things are done and operated in amateur radio? We are still looking for a teacher to share and teach others.

We urgently need a volunteer to take over the Membership position. Richard Piggott WB2LKU has done a fantastic job and has taken over the online Roster. Please see one of the board members if you can help or know of someone who may be interested in this position.

If you are going to be traveling this summer, be safe, enjoy the air waves across our country and see you again soon.

David Morrill N7TWT

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Ted Drake N8GZ Sun City West  
Lee Drake N8TNZ Sun City West  
David Lamb W6DEL Sun City West  
John Frank WF3K Sun City

**EXPIRING LICENSES**

WA7SMC Earl Finkbeiner August  
W7NSN Frank Horn August  
KA7UND James Haveron August  
KA7RGW Michael Miner August  
K7SA Warren Mays August  
Renew after 90 days before expiration date

**CORRECTIONS**

Jerry Basso's new call is W7JIF.  
Bill Martin's correct call is AI0D.

**LICENSE EXAMS**

*Valley of the Sun Locations*

**Saturday June 7, 9 AM**

Sponsor:  
DeVry ARC & West Valley ARC  
Location: DeVry University  
2149 W Dunlap Ave  
Phoenix, Arizona  
Walk-ins allowed  
Contact: David R Morrill  
(623) 925-0680  
Email: n7tw@cox.net

**Monday June 16 6 PM**

**Monday July 21 6 PM**

Sponsor: EV VE Team/Superstition ARC  
Location: City Of Mesa Bldg N/E RM  
640 N MESA DR  
MESA, Arizona  
Walk-ins allowed  
Contact: Steve Gurley  
(480) 804-1469  
Email: kj7wk@cox.net

**EVENING CALL IN NET**

Greetings to all. Just a short note to let you all know the Evening Call in Net, has switched to summer hours. The net will now meet Monday through Friday starting at 8:00 PM.  
Call frequency 147.300 MHz Tone 162.2 Hz  
Thanks for your support!

*Chris Merlau WB2IVU*

**HAM FESTS AND CONVENTIONS**

**Saturday May 31**

2nd Annual Prescott Hamfest & Swap Meet  
Granite Mountain Middle School  
1800 Williamson Valley Road  
Prescott, Arizona  
Talk-In 146.800 PL 100 Hz  
Sponsors:  
Yavapai Amateur Radio Club  
Verde Valley Amateur Radio Club  
<http://www.w7yrc.org/>  
Contact: Terry Pemberton KB7TRE  
Email: KB7TRE@cableone.net

**Saturday June 7**

White Mountain Hamfest  
Show Low Intermediate School  
500 West Old Linden Road  
Show Low, Arizona  
Talk-In: 146.61 PL162.2 & 146.52 simplex  
Sponsor:  
Kachina Amateur Radio Club  
<http://www.whitemountainhamfest.com>  
Contact: Richard Gurk, KE7EDP  
Email: ke7edp@cableone.net

**Friday July 18 – Sunday July 20**

2008 ARCA/Williams Hamfest &  
ARRL Arizona State Convention  
Grand Canyon Railway Trip on July 20, 2008  
Sponsor:  
Amateur Radio Council of Arizona  
<http://www.arca-az.org/arca/main/convention.asp>

**Friday September 12 – Sunday September 14**

AzHamComm - Southwestern Division Convention  
<http://www.az-arrrl.org/swdc2008>  
Mesa Convention Center  
263 North Center Street Mesa Arizona  
Contact:  
Rick Aldom, W7STS  
PO Box 27226  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255-0137  
Phone: 480-707-8423  
Email: natecf@gmail.com

## FCC LICENSE EXAMS

Next exam session at DeVry University Saturday June 7th Exams start at 9:00 AM and all tests must be concluded by 11:00 AM. Check-in at the Library on the second floor, southeast corner of the School. Bring photo ID and the original operator license and CSEs 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.

After the June 7<sup>th</sup> exam, the next session will be held in October.

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The May 3rd, session at DeVry for 11 candidates.  
6 earned Technician Class license  
6 earned General Class license

Administering VEs  
David Morrill N7TWT Liaison

VE Team:  
Kenneth Peloquin N7PHO  
Robert Fairfield K7RQN  
Robert Miner KA7NPQ  
Bill Martin AI0D  
Robert Gormley KS7U  
Harold Taylor W7HVT  
Kelvin Graham KE7MCU  
James Scherfling WB8CMG

We did a Special VE Test session at a Church in Scottsdale on May 10<sup>th</sup> for 10 candidates.  
8 earned Technician Class license  
1 earned General Class license  
1 failed Extra Class license

Administering VEs  
David Morrill N7TWT Liaison

VE Team:  
Bill Martin AI0D  
Paul Jorgenson KE7HR  
Joe Cuttita W0SLL  
Kenneth Peloquin N7PHO  
James Scherfling WB8CMG  
Richard Bohman K7RRB

## FLY THROUGH THE IONOSPHERE

NASA-funded researchers released to the general public a new "4D" live model of Earth's ionosphere. Without leaving home, anyone can fly through the layer of ionized gas that encircles Earth at the edge of space itself. All that's required is a connection to the Internet.

"This is an exciting development," says solar physicist Lika Guhathakurta of NASA headquarters in Washington, DC. "The ionosphere is important to pilots, ham radio operators, earth scientists and even soldiers. Using this new 4D tool, they can monitor and study the ionosphere as if they're actually inside it."

Understanding the ionosphere is clearly important. That's why NASA's Living with a Star (LWS) program funded this work," says Guhathakurta, LWS program scientist. Space Environment Technologies, Inc. of California received the LWS grant and they partnered with Space Environment Corp. of Utah and the US Air Force to develop the 4D ionosphere.

"The best way to appreciate the 4D ionosphere is to try it," says W. Kent Tobiska, president of Space Environment Technologies and chief scientist of its Space Weather Division. He offers these instructions:

*Download and install Google Earth.  
Visit our web site<sup>1</sup> and click on the link 'Total Electron Content.'*

Using the intuitive Google Earth interface, users can fly above, around and through these regions getting a true 3D view of the situation. Make that 4D. "The fourth dimension is time. This is a real-time system updated every 10 minutes," he says.

The 4D model can be fun and even a little addictive, warns Tobiska, who likes to use it to pilot an imaginary plane over the Arctic. "A growing number of commercial business flights are crossing the Arctic Circle," he says. "It's the shortest distance between, say, Chicago and Beijing and many other major cities."

1. <http://terra1.spacenvironment.net/~ionops/ES4Dintro.html>  
*Credit: Science@NASA*

*Submitted by Rich Piggott WB2LKU*

**AZ SCIENCE CENTER RADIO SHACK**

The shack is moving to a different floor at the science center. The teardown scheduled for May 31, 2008 has been postponed. The move may possibly take place in early July.

We will have the W7ASC Shack open for the Field Day event June 28th - 29th. This will be an inside operation, so we don't have to swelter in the summer heat. "Summer Hours" (10:00AM - 3:00PM) start Memorial Day, Monday May 26<sup>th</sup>, and continue through Labor Day, Monday September 1st.

We plan to start up a General License Class at the Science Center July 26th, the weekend after the Williams Hamfest. Give me a call or e-mail if interested.

We are still looking for more W7ASC volunteers. Spread the word at your Ham Club. Call 480-961-1109 and volunteer now. A Volunteer sign-up page is available at [www.w7asc.org](http://www.w7asc.org)

*Bob Burlison KG7QJ,  
(480)-961-1109 [kg7qj@cox.net](mailto:kg7qj@cox.net)*

**BPL POWERS DOWN**

There is a very good article in Wi-Fi Networking News, discussing the future of broadband over power lines. This article can be accessed at the following website:

<http://wifinetnews.com/archives/008303.html>

I would like to thank Bob Gromley, WA1MHZ, for sending this information to the Short Skip editor.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE SUMMER**

At the June meeting, we will be asking for volunteers for the hospital emergency call roster. If you can not attend the June meeting and can volunteer, please contact:

For Boswell Hospital: Rich Haworth W7MDQ  
602-370-1450

For Del Web Hospital Randy Helfrich KD7ZAA  
623-556-2228

**WANTED FOR TEACHERS FOR HAM CLASSES**

The WVARC is looking for people to teach the Technician, General, and Extra classes. If you would like to teach one of these classes, please contact David Morrill, N7TWT.

**NEED COMPUTER HELP? (Ad)**

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; KE7JXQ at L.E. Purchase Computer Consultants, Inc. 1-888-922-9295 or 602-863-0502

**HAM HOME REAL ESTATE (Ad)**

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)

**WANTED:** Heathkits, (Amateur Radio related), and Manuals, Robert, K7RQN, 623 566-2320.

**Closing date for material for  
August-September Short Skip  
Saturday July12, 2008  
Email: [shortship@yahoo.com](mailto:shortship@yahoo.com)**