

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. West Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc. is an Arizona 501(c)(3) not for profit corporation.

An ARRL Affiliated Club

CLUB OFFICERS				CLUB DIRECTORS		
President	Ron Phillips	AE6QU	602-369-4242	Pat Lynch	K7NFB	623-221-0230
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Randall Helfrich KD7ZAA: Editor Email:shortskip@yahoo.com Club Web Page: http://www.westvalleyarc.org						

WVARC CALENDAR

Saturday	May 7	VE Exam Session	DeVry University 2149 W Dunlap Ave, Phoenix	9:00 AM
Monday	May 2	Monthly Meeting	St. Clement Catholic Church Social Hall 15800 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City	7:00 PM
Saturday 2 nd . Sat	May 14	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
Mon-Thur		Call-in Net	147.300 MHz, Tone 162.2 Hz	8:00 PM

PREZ SEZ

We had a good attendance at the April meeting. Miguel Enriquez, KD7RPP gave great insight into the state of education in the public schools. He stands ready to work with the WVARC and educators in our area. He presented some specifics on helping educators introduce wireless technologies into the classrooms. Through his work with the ARRL Teachers Institute program, hundreds of teachers have received hands on experience with Robots, microprocessor programming, and Amateur Satellite communications. Fliers are available from me to present to teachers who may be interested in learning more about these fully paid programs.

We continue to look for program ideas. Call or email me with your ideas, along with the contact information.

I plan to be at the DeVry Ham fest on Sat; hope to have seen some of you there.

Ron Phillips, President
AE6QU 602-369-4242 cell

PROGRAM FOR MAY 2 MEETING

Our guest speaker will be Randy L Hatfield, who will present information on the Mormon Ham Radio activities worldwide.

**WOXUN DUAL BAND HT (2 METER / 440)
CLUB PRICE \$100 PLUS SHIPPING**

Those members interested in purchasing one of these may order by phone -- 1-800-585-7710 -- and ask for the WVARC special. There are several web sites with info on the radios, including www.totalradioservice.com.

Submitted by Ron Phillips

VALLEY LICENSE EXAM OPPORTUNITIES***Saturday, April 23***

Sponsor: Arizona Amateur Radio Club

Time: 7:00 PM: No walk-ins

Contact: Gary M. Hamman

(602) 996-8148

Email: ghamman@aol.com

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: American Red Cross

6135 N Black Canyon Hwy, Phoenix

Contact Gary by Friday Night April 22

Saturday, April 30

Sponsor: Thunderbird ARC

Time: 9:00 AM: Walk-ins allowed

Contact: Alfred T. Johnson

(623) 980-5853

Email: AE7GM@cox.net

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Thunderbird School of Global

Management

15249 N 59th Ave Glendale

Room 29 Snell Bldg

Look for "VE TESTING" sign

Saturday May 7

Sponsor: DeVry ARC and West Valley ARC

VEC: ARRL VEC

See details elsewhere in this issue

Monday May 16

Sponsor: East Valley VE Team

Time: 6:00 PM Walk-ins allowed

Location: City of Mesa Bldg

640 N Mesa Drive, Mesa Arizona

Contact: Steve Gurley

(480) 704-3666; email: kj7wk@cox.net

VEC: ARRL VEC

Saturday, May 28

Sponsor: Arizona Amateur Radio Club

Time: 7:00 PM: No walk-ins

Contact: Gary M. Hamman

(602) 996-8148

Email: ghamman@aol.com

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: American Red Cross

6135 N Black Canyon Hwy, Phoenix

Contact Gary by Friday Night April 22

Note:

ARRL VEC test fee \$15. Bring photo identification, test fee - *exact change-please*, original and copies of current license and Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) to examination.

HAMFESTS***Saturday May 7***

Larry Warren Memorial Hamfest

Sponsor:

Cochise Amateur Radio Association (CARA)

Location: Green Acres

2756 South Moson Road

Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

Website: <http://www.k7rdg.org>

Contact: Dale Chidester NJ7C

Phone: 520-227-1823

Email: dalechid@cox.net

Saturday June 4

White Mountain Hamfest

Sponsor:

Kachina ARC and ARCA

Location: Northland Pioneer College

1001 West Deuce of Clubs

Show Low, AZ 85901

Talk-In: 145.31 (PL 110.9); 146.52 Simplex

Public Contact: Richard Gurk KE7EDP

1020 North 22nd Avenue Show Low, AZ 85901

Email: ke7edp05@cableone.net

Website: <http://www.whitemountainhamfest.com>**NEW MEMBERS**

Richard Moore, N7IYT, Peoria

Rick Palmer, N7QZN, Surprise

RETURNING MEMBER

Delos P Young, W7EOY, Sun City West

EXPIRING LICENSES

June W0OWY Bill Nash

July W7HX Lou Caldwell

MEMBER F.C. (RED) MALONEY, KE7XY, SK

Red Maloney, KE7XY, went silent key on January 28, 2011. He was born in Jamestown, NY on April 23, 1916. After high school, he went to work for the Bell Telephone Company and he work for Bell for 42 years, starting as a telephone pole hole digger and working his way up to 2nd Level Engineer. He was the third generation employee at Bell. He and his wife Frances were married for 70.5 years. They traveled the world to all continents except Africa and were avid campers, preferred over staying in hotels. He was an amateur radio operator, woodworker, telephone Pioneer member, the company retirees' club and Sun City Computer Club member. In 1982 they moved to Glendale, AZ and in 2008 to Sun City, AZ, now close to their family which includes 2 daughters, 1 son, 6 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren and 7 great-great-grandchildren.

Submitted by Mrs. Francis Maloney

FCC LICENSE EXAMS

Next exam session at DeVry University Saturday May 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. Bring photo ID and the original operator license and CSCEs and photocopies of each if applicable. ARRL VEC Exam Fee is \$15 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 can not make change.

The April 2nd, session at DeVry – 8 candidates were examined

- 3 Earned Technician Class license
- 3 Earned General Class license
- 2 Earned Extra Class License

Administering VE's
David Morrill N7TWT Liaison

VE Team:
Joe Cutitta W0SLI
Jim Scherfling WB8CMG
Ken Peloquin N7PHO
Robert Gormley KS7U
Bill Martin A10D
Harold Taylor W7HVT
Jim Skinnell K7EOG
Robert Fairfield K7RQN

Sam Stratton, W5AGX, and Fred Wagner, KQ6Q.

DIGITAL INTERFACES

This is a summary of a presentation that I made at Quartzfest in January 2011 in Quartzsite, AZ on Digital Interfaces. The Interfaces that I have used are from Donner, Costal ChipWorks, MicroHam, RigExpert, Tigertronics, SCS and West Mountain Radio. With these Interfaces computer programs such as APRSPoint, MixW, Ham Radio Deluxe, N4PY, RMS Express, Paalink, Airmail, Digipan and Packet Engine Pro can be used. Both of the above lists are just samples of the hardware and software that is available to use with our ham radio equipment. Presently there are many different digital modes available with new modes being made available every year or so.

With the proper software and hardware, you can control most modern Ham Radio Transceivers, send and receive emails using Ham Radio equipment and make digital QSOs.

From my experience most of the problems in using Digital Interfaces is not with the Ham Radio Software and/or Hardware but with getting Microsoft's Widows setup properly.

(Digital Interfaces continued)

I have developed a short list of issues that can give problems in using Digital Interfaces. Of course your mileage may vary on all of these issues.

- Keep the antenna's as far away as possible from the computer.
- Have a good supply of Mix 31 snap-on-ferrite beads available when trouble shooting interface issues. As a general rule, a ferrite bead should be installed on every lead connected to the computer, the interface and the radio.
- Windows XP is preferred over Windows Vista and Windows 7 for beginners.
- Many USB-Serial Adapters will not work with Windows Vista.
- USB-Serial Adapters with the FTDI chip set will work with fewer frustrations. Since most of the newer computers do not have Serial-Ports, USB-Serial Adapters will be needed.
- Sounds Cards do not work with Windows Vista and Windows 7 as easily as they work with Windows XP.
- Learn to use Device Manager as most problems can be solved when the correct COM Ports is selected and is set up properly.
- Only install one USB-Adapter at a time and then reboot the computer.
- Reboot the computer after every change that is made with Device Manager.
- The USB-Serial Adapters must be plugged into the same USB Port every time.
- Keep good notes of a working setup as other Windows' programs have a way of changing the COM Port settings.
- Download and use a free program called PrintScreen to help document a working setup.
- Download and use a free program called QuickMix to save and to return the sound card back to settings that were working at a point in time. Other Window's programs have a way of changing the sound card settings.
- In general, external sound cards are easier to setup and use than using the Computer's internal sound card.
- Sometimes a Digital USB Interface will only work when plugged directly into the Computer and not into a external USB Hub.
- Not all USB Hubs will work with Vista.

Once Windows is mastered, most of the time, the setup for Digital Interfaces is just following the directions in the software and hardware instruction manuals.

Written by *Donald D Wilson N9ZGE*

FOR SALE: Ten-Tec Omni VII with internal antenna tuner and 500hz Collins filter. Excellent Condition. \$2000. Contact Ken Jenkins, WB6MMV 623 584-9113, klj623@cox.net

FOR SALE: Kenwood TR-751A, mike, manual, intermittent volume control good project radio, This is an all mode rig. Price: \$180
MFJ 949E Tuner, \$85
Contact Ted Walker, KJ7V, kj7v@arrl.net
Phone 417-260-7401

FOR SALE WVARC DONATED ITEMS
Contact Ted Walker, KJ7V, kj7v@arrl.net
Phone 417-260-7401

---**Yaesu YS-60 SWR/Power meter**, 1.5-60Mhz, lighted, avg/pk meter reading selected with LED indicator, power switch, light switch (need 12vdc supply to work this meter). This is a nice unit with high review on QST. Price: \$80

---**Kenwood 231A 2M rig**, no manual, no box, no mike, advertised output, everything works, tones. Price: \$90

---**IC-27H**, no mike, bad volume control good project radio, good output. Price: \$25.00

---**Heathkit SA-2040 tuner**, legal limit, 1.5-30Mhz. Fairly good shape. Roller inductor. Lots of silver inside, aluminum chassis, works almost as good as my TenTec tuner. Price \$130

FOR SALE OR TRADE:

Kenwood Transceiver TS450S, TS695s, for sale \$350 or trade for a newer model. Also for sale is about 50 ft. of rotator cable 8-strand

Wanted: Tower and will pay to have it installed. Call Gene Cardelli, WB7FJM, at 623-972-4500

WANTED: ANTENNA and TRANSCEIVER

I am looking for an antenna with no mast, to put on top of a ten foot pipe. A 10', 15' or 20' is okay. I'm also looking for a used Kenwood transceiver around \$300. Gene Cardelli, WB7FJH, 623-972-4500

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 Residential Brokerage
602-370-1450 cell, rahaworth@cox.net

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.

**Closing date for articles for
June-July Short Skip
Friday May 13, 2011
Email: shortskip@yahoo.com**

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