



Field Day 2000

A Great Time Was Had By the Young

Volume XLIV Issue 8, September 2000



The MICROVOLT

Periodicals Postage Paid

PLEASE SEND DUES TO:
U.A.R.C.
c/o Gregg Smith
7546 S. Uranium Dr.
West Jordan, UT 84084

SEND TO:

THE MICROVOLT (USPS 075-430) is published monthly except August for \$15.00 per year or \$1.50 per issue by the Utah Amateur Radio Club, 3666 South State St. Salt Lake City, UT., 84115-4848.. Periodicals Postage Paid at Salt Lake City UT. POSTMASTER: Send address change to "The Microvolt", c/o Gregg Smith, 7546 Uranium Dr., West Jordan, UT 84084-3942.

Prologue

UARC 2000 Board

The Utah Amateur Radio Club was organized under its present name in 1927, although its beginnings may date back as early as 1909. In 1928, it became affiliated with the American Radio Relay League (club #1602) and is a non-profit organization under the laws of Utah. It holds a club station license with the call W7SP, a memorial call for Leonard (Zim) Zimmerman, an amateur radio pioneer in the Salt Lake City Area.

Meetings: The club meets each month except July and August. The meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM in the Bonneville Medical Building located at 1255 East 3900 South in Holladay, across the street from St. Marks Hospital.

Membership: Club membership is open to anyone interested in amateur radio; a current license is not required. Dues are \$15 per year, including a *Microvolt* subscription. The *Microvolt* and membership cannot be separated. Those living at the same address as a member who has paid \$15 may obtain a membership without a *Microvolt* subscription for \$9. Send dues to the Club Secretary: Gregg Smith, KD7APW, 7546 S. Uranium Dr., West Jordan, UT 84084--3942. ARRL membership renewals should specify ARRL Club #1602.

Contributions: Monetary contributions are gladly accepted. Send directly to the Club Treasurer: Chuck Johnson, 1612 W. 4915 S. Taylorsville, UT 84123-4244. For in kind contributions, please contact any board member to make appropriate arrangements.

Repeaters: UARC maintains the 146.62- and 146.76- repeaters. The repeaters are administered by the UARC Repeater Committee. Comments and questions may be directed to any Committee member. The Lake Mountain repeater (146.76-) has autopatch facilities on both the Orem exchange (covering Santequin to Lehi) and the Salt Lake City exchange (covering Draper to Layton). The 449.10 repeater has autopatch facilities into Salt Lake City only available to UARC members. Due to the volume of traffic, only mobiles should use this autopatch. Autopatch use is open to all visitors to our area and to all club members. Non-members who wish to use the autopatch are encouraged to help with the cost of maintaining the equipment by joining the club.

Ham Hot-Line: The Utah Amateur Radio Club (UARC) has a Ham Hotline, 583-3002. Information regarding Amateur Radio can be obtained, including club, testing, meeting, and membership information. If no one answers leave your name, telephone number and a short message on the answering machine, and your call will be returned.

Publication: The *Microvolt* is the official publication of the club. Deadline for submissions to the *Microvolt* is the 10th of each month prior to publication. Submissions by email are preferred (wmgooch@concentric.net), but other means including diskettes and typewritten submissions can be mailed directly to: Manford Gooch, 6344 S. Shenandoah Park Ave., Holladay, UT 84121. All submissions are welcome but what is printed and how it is edited are the responsibility of the Editor and the UARC board. Reprints are allowed with proper credits to The *Microvolt*, UARC, and authors. Changes in mailing address should be communicated to the Club Secretary: Gregg Smith, 7546 S. Uranium Dr., West Jordan, UT, 84084-3942.□

President: Maurine Strektenfinger, K7HOZ	254-1536
Exec VP: Alan Seyboldt, N7OI	572-8112
Vice Pres: Gordon Smith, K7HFV	582-2438
Secretary: Gregg Smith, KD7APW	255-0344
Treasurer: Chuck Johnson, WA7JOS	268-0153
<i>Microvolt</i> Editor: Manford Gooch, AB7PM	272-7380
Asst. <i>Microvolt</i> Editor: Bruce Leonard, KJ7HZ	576-9162
Program Chair: Dick Abbott, K7MZ	943-0370
Program Chair Darryl Hazelgren, AF7O	942-3817
Imm. Past Pres: Gary Openshaw, KC7AWU	484-3407

Committee Chairpersons and Members

"Book Lady": Fred Desmet, KI7KM	485-9245
Historian: Ron Speirs, KC7MYS	968-4614
Field Day Chair: Open	

Repeater Committee

Trustee: Tom Schaefer, NY4I	501-0899
Engineer: Randy Finch, K7SL	277-7135
ATV Engineer: Clint Turner, KA7OEI	566-4497
Board Liaison & Autopatch Engineer: Gordon Smith, K7HFV	582-2438
Provo Autopatch Host & ATV Engineer: Dale Jarvis, WB7FID	224-3405
Repeater Monitor: Allen Wright, N7QFI	268-8482

Contents

Prologue	2
UARC 2000 Board & Committees	2
QST from the Prez	3
Member of the Month	4
Proper Repeater Protocol	5
Field Day 2000	5
September Meeting	8
Revised Morse Code Testing Standards	8
Get Involved!	9
Kudos from Our Past President	9
The Missing Q Signals	10
First 136 kHz QSO	10
Phonetics	11
Station Submersible	11
Examination Schedule	13
Contesting Calendar	13
Silent Keys	14

For late breaking news listen to the UARC Information Net Sundays at 21:00 on 146.62 or set your browser to:

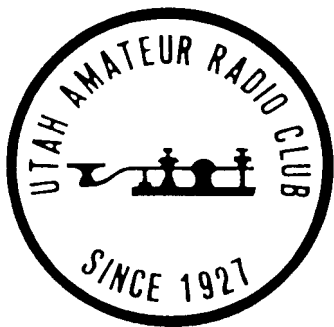
www.xmission.com/~uarc/announce.html □

We are grateful to the management of XMission, our Internet Service Provider (ISP), for the donation of this Web-Page service.



Copyright © 1999 XMission L.L.C.

For account information go to:
<http://www.xmission.com/>
 Or call 801 539-0852.□



The Microvolt

The Official Publication of the Utah Amateur Radio Club, Salt Lake City, Utah

Volume XLIV, Issue 8, September 2000



QST from the Prez

Can you believe it is almost September? What a summer this has been. Yes, it has been hot and dry -- really hot and dry, but we have managed to make it one to remember. First came Field Day. It was a great success. We had six stations including 2 Advanced, 2 Intermediate, and 2 Beginners, and over 150 of us attended. The most popular stations were the Beginners. They were housed in a very large tent, and there was also a practice station where Elmers taught us how to run the Radios and Logging programs. We also had at least one Elmer there at all times to help. That gave dozens of us the nerve to actually take part. I have attended every year but one since becoming a Ham, and this was the first year I had the nerve to take a turn on the Radio. Many others said the same thing. It really tickled me to see so many young people, both licensed and unlicensed, take part and really become excited about the hobby.

Dick Abbot, K7MZ, and his committee, did an outstanding job of putting it all together. It was a tremendous undertaking and involved many hours of planning, then the huge job of gathering everything needed. Many people helped to put up

the towers, beams, antennas, tents, and much more. It couldn't have been done without everyone's help. If you didn't attend this year, put it on your calendar for next year. I can promise that if you attend just one, you will be hooked.

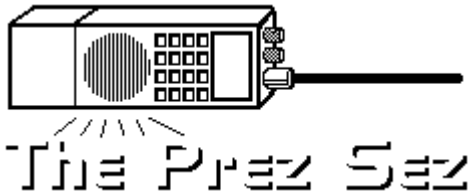


Our next big event was Steak Fry. That was also a great success, and a good time was had by all who attended. The steak was great, and the weather cooperated as well. I would like to thank all of those who worked so hard to make these events a success. It is amazing what can be accomplished when we all work together.



I am looking forward to seeing you at our September meeting. We will learn all about the KACHINA computer controlled HF transceiver. I understand that they will also demonstrate it. This is a real state-of-the-art radio.

See you there,
Maurine 73'□



Member of the Month

This month we are featuring Myron Rasmussen, KC7AWW. Myron has been in amateur radio since 1994. He has his technician license and says it is his goal to upgrade this year.

Myron was a radio repairman for aircraft in the Air Force for 8 years. He knew a lot of hams who served in the Air Force, and that stimulated his interest in amateur radio; but it wasn't until years later that his assistant scout master David Nelsen, KB7ZLN, convinced him to get into the hobby. David told him that it would be useful in scouting to help him keep track of the kids.

Myron prepared for his licensing examination by taking a MARA class, but he also studied on his own, and then he traveled to Provo and passed his first amateur examination.

Our featured member played a very important role in Field Day this year -- he was the logistics officer. He was in charge of all of the materials that were needed to get the stations up and running. He was also in charge of the porta-potties.

Myron got on the worldwide web and typed in porta-potties.com and found the companies that covered the Utah area. He found a company in Richfield that would deliver and pick them up when we were finished. What was really interesting about this was that they were cheaper than the amount UARC was paying another company that UARC had dealt with for years with no delivery and pick-up service. His efforts not only cost the

Club only 185 dollars plus tax, they also provided an answer to that dreaded question at the board meeting every year: "Who can we get to bring the porta-potties?" Myron says that Field Day was easy, because of his heavy involvement in scouting - it was just like getting ready for scout camp.

Myron's favorite aspect of amateur radio is emergency preparedness. He is a member of MARA, UARC, and the VHF Society.

He has worked for the telephone company for many years, and he is a computer technician for US West -- now called Quest. Myron and his wife Jolene have five boys. Jolene is a member of UARC also, but she doesn't have her license yet. Myron hopes that she will soon.

Myron, thanks for all of your help with Field Day this year, and I wish you the best in getting your upgrade. 73,

N7HVF, Linda Reeder □



KC7AWW Inside & Outside

Proper Repeater Protocol

All of us have seen guidelines and procedures for the use of repeaters, but in my opinion, it is sometimes good to review them. Below are some guidelines that I have followed and have heard others do the same. Hopefully, all of us can practice these so they might become routine for us, thereby helping us to develop better operating skills.

1. **PAUSES:** It is proper procedure and good etiquette to pause before transmitting. If you have just turned on the radio, you should make sure no QSO is taking place before you transmit. Also, if you are in a QSO, it is vital that you pause before transmitting to give an opportunity for another operator to break in. Also, another good practice is to make sure that you do not double with someone, because this makes it impossible for either to know what is being said. So make sure you pause before transmitting.

2. **PASSING TO OTHERS:** If more than two persons are in a QSO, make sure that each party passes it to another station each time after you end your transmission so they know who you're passing it to and who is to continue the QSO. Again, if that person is following procedure, a short pause should follow before the person transmits.

3. **CALL SIGN "FOR ID":** There is no reason to say the words "For ID" after you have identified with your call sign. Everyone should know the FCC Regulations about identifying with your call sign every ten minutes and after a QSO. Everyone also should know that your call sign is your identifier, and there is no need to say so.

4. **CLEARING WHEN NO CONTACT:** If you call someone and they do not respond, there is no reason to respond yourself. No contact was made, so you have no reason to come back and clear. After you have had a QSO and you are ending your transmission with the party or parties, it is procedure to give your call sign and clear, so that everyone is aware that you have finished..

AUTOPATCH PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

1. Before accessing the UARC autopatch you must identify with your call sign. Example: "This is

KC7AWU for the autopatch."

2. Remember, you are not alone. Hundreds of people could be listening to you. Please do not make calls that are personal.

3. If you are sitting next to a telephone or cellular phone, please do not tie up the autopatches.

4.. Do not dial 911 to report an emergency on the autopatch. If you cannot get to a telephone, then have someone on a repeater take your emergency and call for you.

5. Before closing the UARC autopatch, please identify with your call sign, and state the date and the time. Example: "This is KC7AWU on August 8th, at 7:12 pm." After this, make sure you enter the right code to shut down the autopatch.

These are just a few suggestions that, if followed, would certainly improve the communication skills of all of us.

73,
Gary, KC7AWU

Field Day 2000

During Field Day 2000 at Payson Lakes, Gary Openshaw, KC7AWU, was overheard to have said "Your report is 11A? Are you nuts?" That comment may have been indicative of the Club's recognition of the amount of work required to set up our class 6A Field Day. To my knowledge, UARC has never in its history undertaken an entry in the 6A class. For those of you who may not know what class 6A means, it means the Club set up six separate radio stations all running from noncommercial power sources.

The work began many months ago with the selection of a Field Day Committee and a Field Day Chairman. Once a number of Club members had expressed an interest in helping with Field Day, the planning began. Since the program co-chairmen, Darryl Hazelgren, AF7O, and Dick Abbott, K7MZ, indicated they wanted to plow new ground, so to speak, the committee looked at entering one of the higher categories. In the past, UARC had entered in the 1A, 2A, and 3A categories. Since we wanted

to see if we could score near the top of our class, we figured the competition in 6A was workable. Competing in classes 1A, 2A, and 3A involved competing with hundreds of other Clubs, but competing in class 6A involved about 30 Clubs, which would give us a better chance.

Dick Abbott, K7MZ, volunteering Army-style by the committee, agreed to be the Field Day Chairman. He broke the activities down into functional areas of personnel, operations, logistics, radios, computers, antennas, and bonus points. Gary Openshaw, KC7AWU, was in charge of personnel; Ed Marshall, NT4TT, operations; Myron Rasmussen, KC7AWW, logistics; Alan Seyboldt, N7OI, radios; Tom Schaeffer, NY4I, computers; John Lloyd, K7JL, antennas; and Chuck Johnson, WA7JOS, bonus points.

We realized there were some real challenges associated with setting up that many stations, not the least of which was the logistics of getting all the radios, antennas, computers, tents, filters, stubs, and other equipment committed and moved to the site. Also, this year the plan was to network all the logging computers together.

More than one site visit took place by the committee to prepare the site plan. The plan was to have four beam antennas, one G5RV antenna, and one Carolina Windom antenna. The four beam antennas were to be on the outside perimeter of the Field Day site with the wire antennas bisecting the site. We would run coaxial cable from the antennas to the central GP (General Purpose) medium tent where a specially constructed panel allowed all antennas to be routed to the various operating positions. The two beginning stations were set up inside the GP medium. One operating position was set up in each of four tents, set up off the four corners of the GP medium tent. Those positions were designated for the intermediate and advanced operators.

With six stations on the air simultaneously, there was a major concern about the stations interfering with one another, a situation which had been a problem in prior years with even fewer stations on the air. Alan Seyboldt, N7OI, volunteered to be in charge of building stubs to eliminate that problem. This turned out to be a real labor of love involving many hours in constructing and testing the stubs. Alan was concerned about

how well they would work, but they worked like champs. In addition, the Club purchased some Dunestar filters to minimize interference. The filters combined with the stubs made it possible for the Club to operate with virtually no interference from our six stations. This was a great lesson learned from operating in class 6A!

As mentioned earlier, the logging computers were networked for the contest. Tom, NY4I, provided the computers, hooked them up, tested them out, and put together a board using twisted pairs which interlinked the computers. This was a great help for the operators who didn't have to deal with the other stations saying "Sorry Old Man, you're a dupe." The only minor problem was Saturday night when it rained, and the computers seemed to be doing their own thing.

One of the objectives of Field Day was to make it possible for all the new hams and hams new to HF an opportunity to operate in an HF contest mode. Gary Openshaw, KC7AWU, had the responsibility of signing up "Elmers" to assist at the two beginner stations. Many of the Club members volunteered to assist the beginners in getting their feet wet at HF contesting. Many members commented that the beginner station operation was the highlight of Field Day.

Although some of the new hams were a little timid in the beginning - one said she did not even want to operate - about an hour later she was seen racking up points like she was born to contesting. Maurine, K7HOZ and Club president, who had attended a number of field days, broke the ice this year and said she really enjoyed it. Gary Openshaw is commended for his willingness to accept noexcuses from the beginners.

The GP medium tent which was loaned to the Club by Lonnie Oaks, K7LO, was a great addition to the event. It provided a great central meeting place for many hams to congregate out of the sun or the rain (depending upon the time of day or night) and see the beginner stations in operation. Training was conducted on the TR logging program offline by Elmers in the tent. This gave operators new to that software program the chance to use the program without being under the pressure of responding to actual stations on the air. Again, thanks to the Elmers who made that training successful. Tom Schaeffer, NY4I, also conducted

a demonstration of PSK31 in the central area of the tent which made it possible for a lot of hams to see this mode in action.

Another big success at Field Day was the satellite station set up by Bill Ralston, N7VM. Bill did a super job of tracking the satellites and locking on to Oscar 10 which was 20,000 kilometers out in space. The satellite was so far out hams could hear their own voice coming back **after** they had transmitted! I'm sure that sparked some interest in those who worked with Bill on his station.

We had a number of visitors to the site. Gary Openshaw set up an information booth at the entrance to provide information to visitors about ham radio and our Field Day activity. The Forest Ranger came to see the operation and indicated he had an interest in ham radio. Another visitor arrived, but Gary declined to ask him to sign in - he was small, low-slung with white stripes down his back and responded to the name "SKUNK"! SKUNK enjoyed Field Day so much he stayed on and kept Dave Player, KC7NGH, company late into Sunday evening when Dave almost stepped on him coming out of his tent trailer.

Many thanks go to Dave Player, KC7NGH, for manning the talk-in station during the critical times when members were arriving at the site.

The Club had virtually all the antennas up by the start of the contest at noon on Saturday. Since we had started setup Friday, we were able to operate within twenty-four hours of the event. The beginning stations started off well and continued to do well throughout the contest. The band conditions were not the best for some of the intermediate and advanced stations. It seemed that those hams who wanted to operate had an opportunity to do so because of the number of operating positions available.

The two generators provided by Eugene Christensen, KC7CSE, provided a stable source of power throughout the contest and gave a much-needed rest to the Club generator this year. We didn't even have to gravity-feed Eugene's generators!

Saturday evening Club members joined together for a pot-luck dinner. Following the dinner, a slide show produced by Ron Speirs,

KC7MYS, was in progress when the rains came and the winds blew. When the projection screen almost became airborne, the slide show was cancelled, and everybody headed for the tents.

The most important part of the Field Day equipment was procured by Myron Rasmussen, KC7AWW. Due to his diligent efforts not a single Club member had to haul the porta-potti's to the site or return them. There should be an award for that, such as "Porta-Potti Procurer" (try saying that three times in a row).

The Club seemed to have problems getting out on the Mosely antenna. There were a lot of puzzled looks on the faces of those trying to solve the problem, but Murphy was smiling brightly at his triumph. It turned out that when the Club took down the coax to the Mosely, there was a barrel connector in the coax run in which the dielectric had separated from the center conductor and the shell. There were lots of "ah, ha's" heard, but by then it was too late. Oh well, our ground-mounted coaxial antenna did about as well as the 80 meter wire beam of a few years ago! It wouldn't be Field Day without at least one of these "head scratchers".

When the contest was over, and the transmitters fell silent, everyone pitched in to take the equipment down. We all went home feeling a sense of accomplishment for having done UARC's first 6A Field Day.

Tom Schaeffer, NY4I, assembled the logging information and submitted it to the ARRL. The Club made a total of 2,015 QSO's for a total of 6,880 points. See the Club website for more details of how our score was calculated. According to Tom, we contacted all the ARRL sections, except one, which is a great accomplishment. We won't know the final standings until the December issue of QST is published, so keep your subscription current.

Chuck Johnson, WA7JOS, did a great job seeing that we got all the bonus points we could. We got about twice as many points in that category this year as last year. We even made the newspaper this year!

As Field Day Chairman, my sincere thanks to all of you who pitched in to loan equipment, set up antennas and tents, and complete a myriad of

other tasks to make it all happen. It **was** a team effort! There are so many people that helped, I couldn't mention them all in this article.

In all seriousness, with all the sweat and effort of setting up six stations, there comes the satisfaction of knowing that the Utah Amateur Radio Club can be counted on in time of emergency to render significant communications support to the community.

73's

Dick Abbott, K7MZ□

September Meeting

The Utah Amateur Radio Club will be returning to its regular first-Thursday meeting schedule with the meeting on Thursday, September 7. Aubrey Stewart, W6ODG, the Amateur Products Sales Manager from Kachina Communications in Arizona, will be coming in to give a presentation about the Kachina 505DSP HF transceiver.

The Kachina transceiver is unusual in that it does not have a traditional control panel, but, rather, is controlled through the user's personal computer. This configuration is said to allow greater flexibility and more features than would otherwise be possible at the price. The presentation will include a demonstration of the 505DSP as well as a chance to buy one of the units at a substantial discount.

Aubrey Stewart was first licensed in 1953 in high school and has since had extensive communications experience in the military, industry, and several manufacturers of amateur radio equipment. His home station currently is built around a Kachina 505DSP.

For more information about Kachina and their products, go to <Http://www.kachina-az.com> or check recent issues of QST magazine.

Of course there will be the "standard" features of monthly meetings as well:

Availability of ARRL books from Fred, the "book lady";

A chance to sign up for badges, hats, and jackets;

The "Elmer Hour," a chance to get your questions answered by those who have been in the hobby a while; and

The "Meeting(s) after the meeting" -- A chance to enjoy pizza or other gastronomic delights with other hams.

Thursday, September 7. Don't miss it!□

NCVEC Advances Revised Morse Testing Standards

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators has voted to set up revised standards for the administration of Morse code examinations in the US.

Under the revised standards, examinees would have to show 25 character-count solid copy on test sheets or successfully answer seven out of ten questions of a fill-in-the-blank quiz on the sent text. The plan would bar multiple choice tests for Morse code testing.

Morse examinations would specify use of a Farnsworth "character speed" in the range of 13 to 15 WPM. Morse code audio pitch would have to be between 700 and 1000 Hz. Standard 5 WPM tests with 5 WPM character speed could be administered only as a special accommodation.

The new Morse testing standards are to be in effect by next July 1, but VECs may implement them sooner.

The NCVEC vote came July 21 during a meeting of VECs in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

ARRL□

[In light of the preceding news release...-Ed.]

Notice

Fred DeSmet, KI7KM, the UARC Book Lady has new manuals for all classes of license. He has the "Now you're Talking" for the Technician, the new General Class manual, and also the Extra Class

manual. He also has codetapes for the morse code. Please contact Fred if you need any of these or other manuals.□

Get Involved!

What is the future of Amateur Radio? What is the prognosis for UARC? Will Amateur Radio even exist in the future? Whether you are an old timer, a new ham, or somewhere in between, these questions deserve some contemplation. We have come a long way since the first spark gap transmitter. Undoubtedly, further changes will be just as dramatic. With advancements in technology, there are many new ways for the public to communicate via other means than Amateur Radio. Our hobby is no longer as unique as it has been in the past. The FCC has warned us that demand for radio spectrum will put pressure on the Amateur community to justify its existence and use of spectrum.

How can we justify our existence? The easy answer is to use the spectrum we have been allocated. We also need to advance the state of technology through experimentation. This aspect of the hobby has received diminishing attention since we have mostly become appliance operators. We shouldn't be letting the engineers at Icom, Kenwood, and Yeasu have all the fun.

So how do we achieve these objectives? The adage that there is safety in numbers seems to be applicable. There are over 8000 hams in the state of Utah. How many of them do you know? How many are UARC members? How many are ARRL members? The ARRL and UARC have a stronger voice when there are more members standing behind them. Encourage your friends to become members. Come to the Club meetings. We've had some excellent programs in recent months. Step out of your shell and make some new friends via Amateur Radio. The ranks of Amateur Radio contain members from all walks of life. It is no longer a haven for just the techno-savvy person. We can learn a lot from others with different backgrounds and experiences.

If you are a newcomer, relax, take a deep breath, and call CQ. Nobody is going to bite you. If you are an old timer, answer a CQ from someone you don't know and make a new friend.

Build something! If technology is foreign to you, start with something simple. If you get stuck, ask for help. There's probably someone out there who has experience in the area you need and can give you advice. If you are experienced, become an "Elmer" and help someone learn something new. Our annual "Home Brew" night is coming up soon. Make something and bring it to share. It doesn't have to be a portable cold fusion unit that fits in your pocket. Some of the most memorable home brew projects were simple items that didn't take a lot of effort. They were memorable because of their simplicity and usefulness.

Be an Elmer. This doesn't stop at technical help. Newcomers have a lot to learn, and you can help, even if you are relatively new to the hobby yourself. Those who attended Field Day and took a turn at operating learned what an Elmer can do for them. Many operators who had never even considered operating at Field Day before experienced the excitement of making an HF contact.

Whatever your reasons were for becoming a radio amateur, you will find additional enjoyment through expanding your horizons. Participate in Club activities. Learn a new skill. Make a new friend.

Chuck Johnson – WA7JOS□

Kudos from our Past President

Many **THANKS** to all those who participated in the UARC Field Day at Payson Lakes and the UARC Steak Fry at the Spruces. Both of these events were a great success. All your support and attendance were very much appreciated. Special thanks to Jerry Bennion for his work on the Steak Fry and special thanks to Dick Abbott, Chairman of Field Day, and his staff for their outstanding work on Field Day. An extensive article on Field Day is in this month's issue of the Microvolt.

73, Gary
KC7AWU

The Missing Q Signals

Some Q signals have never made it to the ARRL's official list. Here are some that we may agree would be useful in appropriate situations. As with regular Q signals, each can be a statement or a question, depending on whether a question mark follows it.

- QLF
I am sending with my left foot.
- QLF?
Are you sending with your left foot?
- QRC
Warning, rag chewer on frequency.
- QRC?
Are you a rag chewer?
- QOK
Your last transmission was Okie Dokie.
- QOK?
Was my last transmission OK?
- QFH
This frequency is MINE! - go elsewhere.
- QFH?
Is this frequency hogged?
- QBS
It's getting deep in here.
- QBS?
Did I tell you about the one that got away?
- QZZ
I fell asleep at the mike.
- QZZ?
Is that a 60Hz hum, or are you snoring?
- QBA
My antenna is BIG!
- QBA?
How big is your antenna?
- QHI
I am jumping in quick to say hi, then going QRT.
- QHI?
Are you leaving after only one transmission?
- QBO
Don't sit next to that guy in the meeting.
- QBO?
Buddy, can you spare some soap?

- QNO
I am sending through a nonstandard orifice.
- QNO?
Are you sending through a nonstandard orifice?
- QCW
I am going to whistle Morse Code on FM (or SSB)
- QCW?
Why are you whistling Morse?
- QET
Phone home.
- QET?
Has anyone called me from another planet?

John Queen, KAØSEY & Mike Colyar, K7ITL
Olympia Amateur Radio Society, "Watts News"
Quoted in *Worldradio* □

Canadian Lowfers Report First 136 kHz QSO

Larry Kayser, VA3LK, and Mitch Powell, VE3OT, report that, despite poor to medium conditions, they successfully completed the first two-way QSO in Canada on 136 kHz at 1400 UTC on July 22. The distance was 431 km (268 miles). The pair used very slow-speed CW--QRSS--where dits are 3 seconds long and dahs are 9 seconds long!

VA3LK and VE3OT have received special letters of authorization for LF testing and evaluation. Frequency range is 135.7 to 137.8, and emissions permitted include CW, FSK and BPSK at a bandwidth of up to 3 kHz. Powell says VA3LK is operating on 137.710 kHz, and he is on 137.780 kHz.

More information on LF Amateur Radio is available on the Radio Amateurs of Canada Web site, <http://www.rac.ca/infodx.htm>.
Mitch Powell, VE3OT/RAC
ARRL □



Phonetics

The standard ITU Phonetic Alphabet sure could help all of us whether on HF, UHF, or VHF, etc. The following is the Standard Phonetic Alphabet which Amateur Radio endorses and uses. The capitalized syllables should be emphasized:

A - Alfa (AL fah)
 B - Bravo (BRAH voh)
 C - Charlie (CHAR lee)
 D - Delta (DELL tah)
 E - Echo (ECK oh)
 F - Foxtrot (FOKS trot)
 G - Golf (GOLF)
 H - Hotel (hoh TELL)
 I - India (IN dee ah)
 J - Juliett (JEW lee ett)
 K - Kilo (KEY loh)
 L - Lima (LEE mah)
 M - Mike (MIKE)
 N - November (no VEM ber)
 O - Oscar (OSS cah)
 P - Papa (pah PAH)
 Q - Quebec (keh BECK)
 R - Romeo (ROW me oh)
 S - Sierra (see AIR rah)
 T - Tango (TANG go)
 U - Uniform (YOU nee form)
 V - Victor (VIK tah)
 W - Whiskey (WISS key)
 X - X-Ray (ECKS ray)
 Y - Yankee (YANG key)
 Z - Zulu (ZOO loh)

The pronunciations given to "Oscar" and "Victor" are recommended even though they may seem awkward to English-speaking people in the USA.

Gary Openshaw
 KC7AWU



Communication Products Amateur Radio Sales

7946 S. State St., Midvale, Ut.
 801-567-9944

**COME AND SEE
 SALT LAKE'S "NEW"
 HAM RADIO STORE**

**NEW OWNER, NEW HOURS
 EXPANDED INVENTORY
 FRIENDLY SERVICE**

KENWOOD, YAESU & ICOM

**<http://www.comm-pute.com>
 Bob Wood W7OAD, UARC Member**

UARC Jackets and Hats

Official Club apparel is now available through Joe Flurer, KD7EGY, owner of Custom Design Marketing. Hats are available with the UARC logo for \$10.65. If you add your call sign to the back of the hat, the price is \$13.85. Jackets with the UARC logo on the back and your call sign on the front are \$48.92. If you add a small UARC logo to the front, the price is \$52.11. Golf shirts are also available with a small UARC logo on the front for \$28.71.

All of the above prices include sales tax. You can order your apparel at club meetings or by contacting Custom Design Marketing, 6049 S. Highland Drive, 278-5258. REMEMBER ... a portion of all sales goes back to the Club to support the repeaters. Wearing the apparel also helps promote the Club.□

Station Submersible

A submersible station? Yes, there are several Amateur Radio stations able to go underneath the surface of the water. Of course, I am talking about installations on submarines..

The USS Pampanito, NJ6VT, is a fleet-type World War II veteran, now moored at Pier 45 and

open to the public in San Francisco. The boat was launched 12 July 1943. It's 311 feet long and 27 feet wide. The boat served with distinction during the war, making six war patrols including one of the rare wolfpack operations carried out by U.S. Submarines.

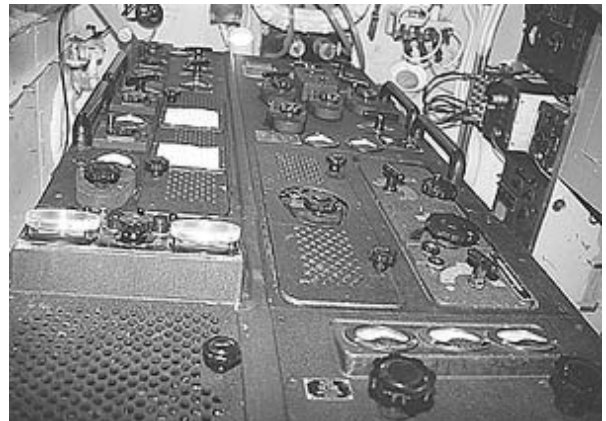


All of the original radio equipment is in working order. The transmitter is a TBL-7 with coverage on 175-600 kHz and 2.0-18.1 MHz. The transmitter is capable of 50 watts on AM phone, and 200 watts on CW. RAL and RAK receivers can still hear signals, sometimes better than modern receivers. Three long wire antennas are mounted on the port side of the conning tower, running aft to a stanchion near the stern. The original transmitter has been used on many occasions for QSOs and contesting on the amateur bands. With the long wire antenna mounted 20 feet above the salt water of San Francisco bay, signal reports are surprisingly good. The salt water acts as an excellent ground plane, and most stations are very impressed with the signal.

A very interesting piece of equipment is just inside the door to the radio room. Located on a swing-down shelf that's a part of the safe, is a "Sigaba" cryptographic code machine. Radiomen aboard the submarine copied messages in Morse code as five-letter coded groups. The message was then given to the communications officer and he would type the coded groups into the code machine. The code machine would decipher the coded groups into plain language text on a paper tape, provided the machine had the correct settings for the day. When the U.S. Navy was asked for one of the eight remaining code machines left in the world, the Navy sent this machine with practice code wheels installed. The real wheels are still held by the Navy, and will not be released.

The Amateur Radio call sign is unique in itself. When the Pampanito was commissioned, the boat was assigned the call sign of NJVT. When the vanity call signs became available, Pampanito was granted NJ6VT, with the "6" inserted in the original call.

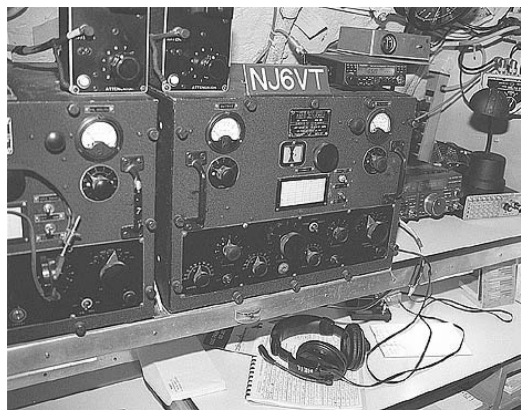
The photograph of the radio room does not show how small the room actually is. The room is about five feet wide, and eight feet long, bulkhead to bulkhead. Add the equipment installation, and it is tiny! The room makes a right turn to the operating console, with about a two foot by four foot space for the operator. Directly behind the operator is the transmitter, a deck-to-overhead monster taking up a big portion of the room. When the transmitter is on, the room gets very, very warm.



The photograph of the original transmitter is deceiving. It was taken from a storage area below the deck, looking up through the hatch. I had to photograph it that way because the room was too narrow for the camera to focus. Above the transmitter are three antenna leads, leading into a trunk with connectors for the wire antennas. An SGC antenna tuner mounted on the bridge tunes the long wires. Also mounted on the bridge, between the periscope shears is the only outside clue that there is modern equipment aboard. If you look closely, you can see a Diamond dual-band antenna for VHF/UHF on a magmount.

NJ6VT is active in several contests, as well as giving demonstrations of Amateur Radio for groups aboard for a tour of the Pampanito. The night before my visit, a group of Cub Scouts spent the night aboard the sub, and were treated to a demonstration of Amateur Radio during the

California QSO party on 40 Meters.



A unique feature aboard the fleet-type boats was the lack of room for the crew. There were 10 Officers and 70 enlisted men assigned to the Pampanito, but only 30 bunks or "racks" installed for the 70 men. They slept in shifts! If you were on watch, someone else occupied your bunk. The mess deck (dining room) seats 24, so meals also were eaten in shifts. An average patrol lasted 75 days, and there were no showers. By the end of a patrol the boat usually smelled very, very ripe.

Although moored as a museum, the Pampanito is capable of getting underway. Her propellers have been removed for restoration, and will be re-installed in early 1999. Three of the four main engines are started once a week with the remaining engine as a display with open viewing windows. The U.S. Navy has reservists coming aboard on a regular basis for training and maintenance of the boat.

If you are going to be in the San Francisco area, stop by for a tour of this unique Amateur Radio station. But be aware, if you suffer from claustrophobia, this may not be your cup of tea. For information about the USS Pampanito see: www.maritime.org/pamphome.html or call 415/775-1943.

Rick McCusker, KO6DJ/*Worldradio*□



Examination Schedule

09/13/2000 (Wed.) Mantua

Contact: Jim Jones, KJ7VO

Phone (435)723-1947

09/20/2000 (Wed.) Provo

Contact: Steve Whitehead, NV7V

Phone 465-3983

09/26/2000* (Tues.) Salt Lake City

Contact: Eugene McWherter, N7OVT

Phone 484-6355

10/07/2000+ (Sat.) Salt Lake City

Contact: Gordon Smith, K7HFV

Phone 582-2438; 534-8116

10/11/2000 (Wed.) Mantua

Contact: Jim Jones, KJ7VO

Phone (435)723-1947

10/18/2000 (Wed.) Provo

Contact: Steve Whitehead, NV7V

Phone 465-3983

*Pre-registration required. Contact the contact person prior to the examination date.

*Only Technician elements (1 and 2) given at this session

For more detail either call the contact or refer to the information on the UARC webpage:

<http://www.xmission.com/~uarc>□

Contesting Calendar

All Asian DX Contest-SSB	0000Z, Sep 2
AGCW Straight Key Party-CW	1300Z, Sep 2
IARU Region 1 Field Day-SSB	1500Z, Sep 2
N. American Sprint Contest-CW	0000Z, Sep 3
Panama Anniversary Contest-SSB	0001Z, Sep 3
MI-QRP Club Labor Day CW Sprint	2300Z, Sep 4
Worked All Eur. DX Contest-SSB	0000Z, Sep 9
SOC Marathon Sprint-CW	1800Z, Sep 9
N. American Sprint Contest-SSB	0000Z, Sep 10
End of Summer PSK-31 Sprint	2000Z, Sep 10
AGB NEMIGA Contest-CW/SSB	2000Z, Sep 15
Air Force Anniversary QSO Pty-All	0001Z, Sep 16
Scandinavian Activity Contest-CW	1200Z, Sep 16
Wash St. Salmon Run-CW/SSB	1600Z, Sep 16

QCWA QSO Party-CW/SSB	1800Z, Sep 16
Tennessee QSO Party-CW/SSB	1800Z, Sep 17
CQ/RJ World-Wide RTTY DX	0000Z, Sep 23
Scandinavian Activity Contest-SSB	1200Z, Sep 23
Fall Classic Radio Xchg-CW/SSB	1900Z, Sep 24
AL Heart of Dixie QSO Cntst-All	1800Z, Sep 25
Texas QSO Party(1)-All Modes	1400Z, Sep 30
Texas QSO Party(2)-All Modes	1400Z, Oct 1
German Telegraphy Contest-CW	0700Z, Oct 3
UCWC Contest-CW	0000Z, Oct 7
Oceania DX Contest-SSB	1000Z, Oct 7
F9AA Cup Contest-CW/SSB	1200Z, Oct 7
EU Sprint Autumn-SSB	1500Z, Oct 7
California QSO Party-CW/SSB	1600Z, Oct 7
Iberoamericano Contest-SSB	2000Z, Oct 7
Oceania DX Contest-CW	1000Z, Oct 14
EU Sprint Autumn-CW	1500Z, Oct 14
Pennsylvania QSO Party-CW/SSB	1600Z, Oct 14
FISTS Fall Sprint-CW	1700Z, Oct 14
Asia-Pacific Sprint Fall-CW	0000Z, Oct 15
Pennsylvania QSO Party-CW/SSB	1300Z, Oct 15

For more comprehensive listings and rules see:
www.sk3bg.se/indexeng.htm and
www.contesting.com/links/calendars and
www.arrl.org/contests□

[In recent months we have read notices of the passing of several prominent Hams Ed.]

Lew “Mac” McCoy, W1ICP

Amateur Radio legend and former ARRL Headquarters staff member Lew “Mac” McCoy, W1ICP, of Mesa, Arizona, died July 31 following a lengthy illness. He was 84.

As a member of the ARRL Headquarters staff from 1949 until 1978, McCoy gained a national and international reputation primarily for his articles in QST and his early work to combat TV interference. “He became a hero of all the Novices and beginners because his stuff was so down to earth and easy to read,” said retired ARRL Communications Manager George Hart, W1NJM, a good friend.

ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, described McCoy as “one of a kind” and “versatile.” Sumner said McCoy “left his mark on future generations of amateurs as QST’s ‘Beginner and Novice’ editor.” When FM repeaters came along,

Sumner said, McCoy made it his mission to educate his ARRL colleagues about their potential.

An ARRL Life Member, McCoy was first licensed as W9FHZ and later became W0ICP. He arrived at ARRL Headquarters in 1949 to fill the job of assistant communications manager for phone. He went on to work in the Technical Department where he was able to take advantage of his ability to explain technical concepts in simple terms.

McCoy earned a reputation as a tireless traveler and goodwill ambassador for Amateur Radio. He first started hitting the road in the early 1950s after TVI had become troublesome for amateurs and soon became the League’s TVI expert. McCoy toured the country demonstrating TVI cures for hams and TV service personnel alike.

ARRL Lab Supervisor Ed Hare, W1RFI, credited McCoy with providing the foundation for the ARRL’s current RFI expertise in helping hams to deal with interference to consumer equipment and interference to hams from other sources. McCoy also was well-known for one of his projects, “The Ultimate Transmatch,” an antenna tuner he described in a July 1970 QST article.

After leaving the ARRL Headquarters staff, McCoy continued as a QST contributing editor. He subsequently was a major contributor to other Amateur Radio publications, including CQ.

During his active years on the air, McCoy was an avid DXer with more than 300 countries confirmed. More recently, he was active in the Quarter Century Wireless Association, had served as QCWA president and a board member and had just been elected again to the QCWA’s Board of Directors, something his daughters never got to tell him before he died.

McCoy’s first wife, Martha, died in 1998. Survivors include his wife, Clara Gibbs McCoy, and his daughters, Marsha Ashurst, W1HAQ, and Sharon Armann, ex-WN1GQR, as well as grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In accordance with McCoy’s wishes, there will be no funeral. The family is planning a memorial service for McCoy in early December. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting memorial donations in Lew McCoy’s name to Hospice of the

Valley, 1510 E Flower St, Phoenix, AZ 85014-5656. Condolences may be sent to the family care of Marsha Ashurst, PO Box 2260, Lakeside, AZ 85929.

ARRL□

HAMS REMEMBER BIG BAND LEADER "TEX" BENEKE, K0HWY, SK

Big band singer and saxophonist Gordon L. "Tex" Beneke, K0HWY, of Santa Ana, California, died at a rest home in Costa Mesa May 30, reportedly of respiratory arrest. He was 86.

Beneke took over the Glenn Miller Orchestra in 1946 after Miller's death during World War II, and he continued to capitalize on the Miller sound throughout his career. He later broke with the Miller estate and formed his own band, billing it as "Tex Beneke and His Orchestra: Playing the Music Made Famous by Glenn Miller."

A native of Forth Worth, Texas, Beneke joined Miller's orchestra in 1938. His southern-style vocals helped make hits out of Miller's "Chattanooga Choo-Choo" and "Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree," among others.

Fred Mason, W5SLT, recalls that Beneke operated 10 meters from his hotel room during his travels around the country, using a wire hanging out the window. Mason also remembers running phone patches in the early 1950s, so Beneke could talk with his parents in Fort Worth.

Tim La Marca, N6RNK--a younger-generation big band leader--says he met Beneke in the early 1990s--first on the air and later in person. A mutual acquaintance had told Beneke about the young musician, so Beneke gave him a call on the local repeater. "Imagine my surprise when one evening, just as I was about to turn off my radio, there was a voice I had not heard on the repeater before."

A few months later, La Marca got to meet Beneke when his band was performing in Pasadena. "After the performance, we went backstage to meet Tex--one of the highlights of my life," he said.

"You can't mention the Big Band Era without the name of Tex Beneke coming to mind," La Marca said. "Even though his key is silent, we still have the recordings of his wonderful music to remember him by."

Curiously, Beneke's role was omitted from the movie, "The Glenn Miller Story." Beneke himself appeared in films such as "Sun Valley Serenade" in 1941 and "Orchestra Wives" in 1942.

ARRL Newsletter□

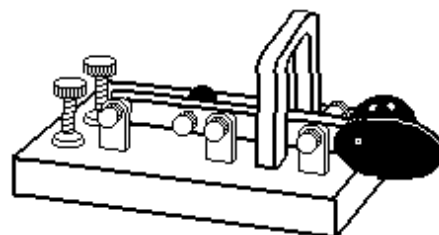
ANTENNA DESIGNER LOUIS VARNEY, G5RV, SK

The Amateur Radio world is mourning the loss of R. Louis Varney, G5RV, who invented the world-famous G5RV antenna. Varney died June 28, at his home in West Sussex. He was 89 and had recently been reported in failing health.

The G5RV multiband wire antenna for HF--typically 102 feet on the flattop section--is among the most popular of all antenna designs. Varney first described the G5RV in the November 1966 issue of the RSGB Bulletin. While models fed with coaxial cable have proliferated, Varney's personal recommendation was to use a balanced feed line and a matching network for bands other than 20 meters. (The G5RV dipole is discussed in Chapter 7 of The ARRL Antenna Book.) Varney had a full-size and a double-size G5RV, both fed with open-wire feeders, at his own station.

Varney was an RSGB member for 74 years, and he served as life president of the Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society. His wife Nelida is among his survivors. Services were set for July 4 in Brighton, England.--thanks to Bob D'Imperio, N4XAT, and RSGB for this information.

ARRL Newsletter□





... And the Not Quite So Young