Mel Parkes, AC7CP, gave us a very informative presentation on the ARRL and what they have been working on this past year.
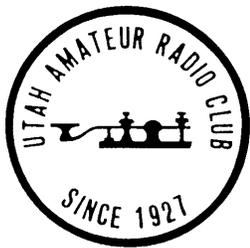
Volume 49, Issue 2, February 2006

Periodicals Postage

## The
# Microvolt

Please Send Dues to:
UARC
c/o Dick Keddington
1992 El Dorado Drive
Holladay, UT 84124-1652

**SEND TO**

# Prologue

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 University of Utah Engineering and Mines Classroom (EMCB) building, Room 101.

**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: Dick Keddington, KD7TDZ, 1992 El Dorado Drive, Holladay, UT 84124-1652. 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 (uarc@xmission.com), but other means including diskettes and typewritten submissions can be mailed directly to: Telvin Mills, 6864 Beargrass Rd., West Jordan, UT 84084. 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: Dick Keddington, 1992 El Dorado Drive, Holladay, UT, 84124-1652.

# UARC 2006 Board

## IRLP Information

For information on using the club's IRLP node on the 146.76 repeater, check http://www.utaharc.org/irlp.

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.

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

Services Donated by www.xmission.com XMISSION internet solutions provider

## QST From the Prez

Well, another month has come and gone. This month I would like to chat with you about the internal workings of your Board of Directors. We, the Board members, are here to serve you. We meet the second Thursday of each month. At this meeting we review the previous meeting's minutes. We discuss what the upcoming meeting topic is and review matters of importance to the club--repeaters, both use and progression, net business, web site business, etc.

The board meetings are open to all. If you have a subject, concern, question or anything at all that you would like to bring before the board please do so by e - m a i l (uarcboard@yahoogroups. c o m ) o r (w7roy@netzero.net). You may also slip a note to one of the board members requesting a time to address the board. You may wish to indicate what your topic of concern is. However, please don't ask us to try to change something that is impossible to change; such as, Field Day or JOTA. If the item warrants we will take it to the membership for a vote. We only ask that you e-mail us prior to the meeting in order for us to put you on the agenda. Remember, it's your club and your hobby.
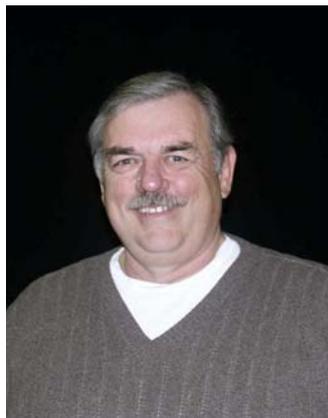
Please don't forget-"it's only a hobby" – Keep Having Fun!!!

73' de W7ROY

## Membership Dues to Increase

At the December 1 meeting of the Utah Amateur Radio Club, the club unanimously approved a recommendation of the board of directors to raise the annual dues from $15 to $17. Additional family memberships will remain at $9.00. Expenses have been running very close to income for the last several years and the change should allow more margin. It will also make it possible to investigate allowing dues payments on line and to cover the extra cost involved.

The $17 rate will become effective on March 1, 2006. Up until that time new memberships and renewals can be paid at the old rate for any desired number of years in the future. Anyone who would like to take advantage of the one-time opportunity should contact the Secretary.

See Dick, KD7TDZ, at the February meeting or send in your dues by March 1, 2006 to:

Utah Amateur Radio Club
C/O Dick Keddington
1992 El Dorado Drive
Holladay, UT 84124-1652
Phone: 274-9638

AMATEUR RADIO

# February Meeting: How To Work DX

Since the earliest days of radio, people have been asking the question "How far will it go?" Trying to contact people at great distance by radio continues to hold great fascination to operators of the present day. The name "DX," derived from the CW abbreviation for "distance," is the name given to the hobby of contacting operators in foreign countries, usually on the HF bands.

We are fortunate to have booked a very experienced DXer for the next UARC meeting, which will be held Thursday, February 2. Dennis Utley, AF7Y, will be telling us the ins and outs of working DX. Dennis has had experience on both ends of the DX circuit, having operated from several places in the US as well as from remote DXpedition sites. He knows what it takes to work DX in the way of station equipment and operating skill, and even knows first-hand what it takes to be the first-place winner of a major worldwide DX contest.

For those that can't quite manage the 75-foot tower and the 1500-watt amplifier yet, he will tell us about "DX on a Shoestring," what you can do in a low-budget operation. There are some new awards like the QRP DXCC (low-power DX Century Club) that may be more in reach for a newcomer. The QRP DXCC is different from many awards in that it is not necessary to collect and present QSL cards from all the stations worked. (The art of getting QSL cards can be almost as challenging as that of working the DX stations. Dennis will tell us some of those tricks.)

The program will also include a panel of experienced DXers from the newly reorganized Utah DX Association. The panel can likely answer most any question about DX. It will likely include Darryl Hazelgren, K7UT, and Mark Richardson, W7HPW, both former UARC officers.

Of course, the meeting will include the "standard" meeting features:

- Availability of ARRL books from Fred, the "book lady";
- An opportunity to join UARC or renew your membership
- An opportunity to join ARRL or renew your membership
- The chance to meet face-to-face the people you talk to on the air
- The "Meeting(s) after the meeting":

A chance to enjoy pizza or other gastronomic delights with other hams. One group goes to Litza's Pizza, 716 E. 400 South. Another group goes to a restaurant that varies from month to month, but will be announced at the meeting.

The "Meeting before the meeting": A similar get-together for those who can leave work early enough to get there by 5:15 P.M This time it will b at the "Subway," 421 East 400 South in Salt Lake City.

# WIMU Hamfest

The WIMU Hamfest will be held again, August 4-6, 2006, in Jackson Hole, Wyoming!

Hams who have been active in the Intermountain region for a decade or more may remember the WIMU (Wyoming-Idaho-Montana-Utah) Hamfest. For over forty years the event was held every summer in the Island Park area of Idaho. It later moved to West Yellowstone, Montana, and then to Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Responsibility for administering the hamfest rotated among the four states. During the period of 1992-1996, the location of the hamfest also rotated. The last known event was in 1996 in Park City, Utah.

The Teton Amateur Radio Club in Jackson Radio Club in Jackson is working to revive the event in 2006. More information is available at the official W I M U   w e b   s i t e , www.redgiant.org/wimu2006/, which will be updated as the event draws closer.

# Feature of the Month

This month we are featuring John Brewer, N7MFQ. John has been in the hobby since 1989. John passed his Novice and Technician test on January 15th, 1989 while he was on a business trip in Sunnyvale California. John received his license in the mail 5 weeks later. Within that same year, John upgraded to Advanced. In 2001, John obtained his Extra class license. John said he has always been interested in amateur radio, but it was a couple of co-workers and a neighbor who helped him get the ball rolling.

John works for Beehive Telephone Company. He takes care of the computers and the network and anything else they throw his way. John loves to bring people into the hobby. He practically has his entire family in the hobby. John's wife Susan, N7OVG, obtained her license one year after John obtained his first license. John purposely left a ham radio turned on in the house when he was gone so that she could hear him talk wherever he went. Susan also heard lots of other interesting hams talk on the radio. John and his wife Susan, N7OVG, have 4 children and 3 of them have their licenses. Amanda, KD7DEK, 18 years of age, was first. Then Stephanie, KD7ZKS, 16 years of age and Matthew, KE7AIV, 11 years old. He was the most excited about passing the test. Sharen who is 9 years old is still studying for her license. John's father Bill, N7QOL, and John's sister Nancy, N0UGR, and her husband Peter Harrison, N0TSP, have their licenses. They live in Missouri. John is a scoutmaster and he exposes the scouts to amateur radio. He loves to show them all of the things that amateur radio has to offer.

John is a pilot. He flies a 1967 Mooney M20C. John loves to take his family flying. A couple of years ago they went to Las Vegas, Nevada. Just recently they flew to Roseburg, Oregon for John's Aunt's funeral. John also flies for the Beehive Telephone Company. John is a member of Salt Lake County ARES, the VHF Society and he has been a member of UARC for several years. John was elected Executive Vice President of UARC for 2006. John really enjoys Field Day and the steak fry. Also, one of John's favorite things about amateur radio is public service. Several years ago John was the President of the Tooele Amateur Radio Club and he helped them get it going. He is really looking forward to being a club officer for UARC and he says it will be a great year.

John, congratulations on your new position. We know you will do a great job.

73, Linda Reeder, N7HVF

# IRLP on 146.760 Repeater

UARC now has IRLP operational on the 146.760 repeater. For information on using the club's IRLP node on the 146.76 repeater, check http://www.utaharc.org/irlp. UARC operates IRLP node 3352 on its 146.76- repeater. IRLP is the Internet Radio Linking Project that links radio repeaters around the world, as described with the current list of nodes at the web site http://www.irlp.net.

Next month we will have more information on how to use the IRLP.

# UARC 2005 Financial Statement

**INCOME**

| | |
|---|---:|
| ARRL Dues | $921.00 |
| Book Sales | 4,434.24 |
| UARC Dues | 4,363.00 |
| Auction Income | 958.00 |
| Steak Fry Reservations | 562.00 |
| **TOTAL INCOME** | **$11,238.24** |

**EXPENSES**

| | |
|---|---:|
| Administrative | $166.40 |
| ARRL Memberships | 794.00 |
| Books | 2,572.02 |
| Capital Equipment (C.O.W.) | 751.55 |
| Field Day | 1,205.70 |
| Ham Hot Line | 353.49 |
| Insurance | 379.00 |
| Meeting Expense | 100.96 |
| Microvolt | 1,997.13 |
| Repeater | 713.87 |
| Sales Tax | 559.45 |
| Steak Fry | 1,684.68 |
| **TOTAL EXPENSES** | **$11,278.25** |
| **TOTAL INCOME - EXPENSES** | **-40.01** |

**"In preparing the financial statement Chuck, WA7JOS, noticed that since 1995 (When Chuck started to keeping the records), Fred has sold $57,003.87 worth of books!."**

# VHF Society Swapmeet

The VHF Society will be holding their annual swap meet February 25, 2006 starting at 8:00 AM. at the Utah State Fairpark. This is located along the north side of North Temple at about 10th West. The festivities will be in the Zion building - *the same building as last year - and the year before that , and the year before that...*. The Zion building is located next to Gate B (see map below) in building 34. **If you have any doubt, just follow the crowd**.

The swapmeet is an annual event held by the Utah VHF Society where the members of the amateur community gather together and meet, swap/sell/trade stories and lies, equipment, and junque. It is also at this meeting that the UVHFS officers are chosen and elected and important matters of policy discussed/voted upon.

Admission is *FREE* for **current** UVHFS members, $2.00 for non member adults, and $1.00 for non members 12 years old and under.

For more information go to:

http://www.ussc.com/%7euvhfs/fairpark.html
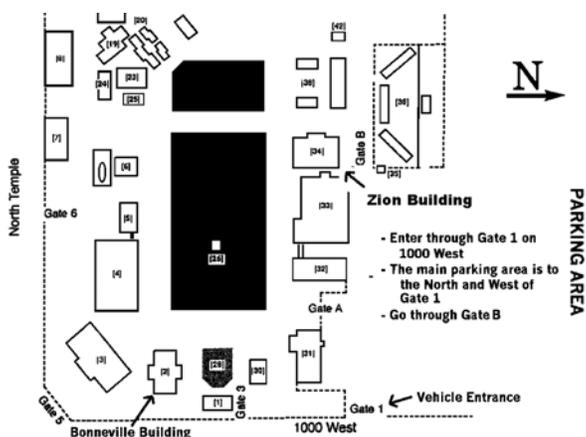
# Meeting Information

Meetings are held in Room 101 of the Engineering/Mines Classroom Building (EMCB) on the campus of the University of Utah. The building's address is 80 S. Central Campus Drive (1620 East).

If coming from the west, go east on 100 South. Follow it until it stops going east and makes a sharp left turn to become North Campus Drive. Follow North Campus Drive north and then east as it passes the Merrill Engineering Building (MEB) on the right. Take the first right turn after you MEB parking lot entrance, i.e. the second right turn since leaving 100 South. This road will be Central Campus Drive.

If coming from the east, enter the campus on Wasatch Drive and turn left at North Campus Drive, then left again onto Central Campus Drive. It is necessary to make a left turn to stay on Wasatch Drive just after you go under the pedestrian bridge. Otherwise you will find yourself headed uphill toward the University Hospital. Continue north Wasatch Drive until you come to Federal Way. Turn left on Federal Way until you come to Central Campus Drive. Turn left on Central Campus Drive.

The most desirable parking lot will be at the first left turn off Central Campus Drive after you pass Federal Way. This lot is immediately across the street on the east side of Central Campus Drive. Don't park in rows that say "'A' sticker required until 10 P.M."

The building barely looks like a building at all from the east, as most of it is on a lower level than the parking lot. The easiest access is likely to go around the building using the sidewalk on the south side and then approach it from the west. This route includes wheelchair ramps. From the west, the building has a courtyard with flowing water and benches. Our room is in the southwest portion of the building.

Another ideal parking lot is located just to the north of the Joseph Merrill Engineering Building.



**The meeting place**
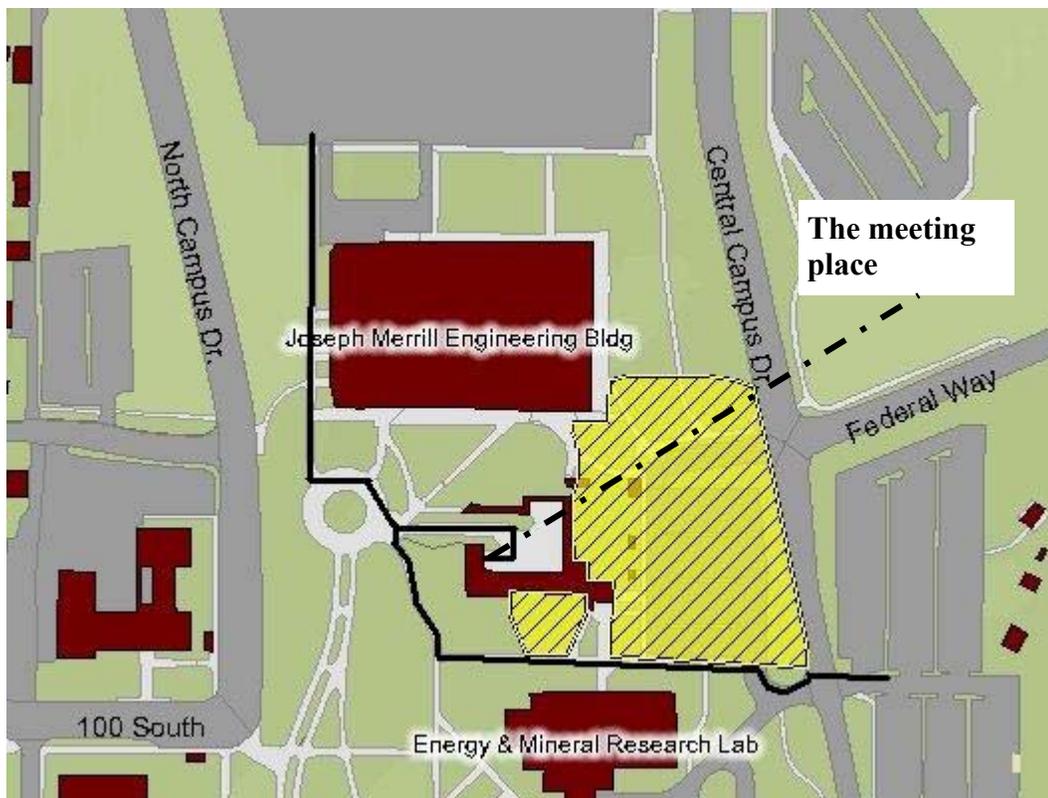
Under construction.

Recommended pedestrian route to the building entrance nearest our room.

# A Simple VHF Antenna Mount For Your Home

From Feb. 2001 RF Newsletter Larry, K6VDP

The easiest way to roof mount VHF vertical antennas is on a short mast attached to a roof vent pipe. However, two of the vent pipes here already hold antennas, and the other vent pipes are not convenient.

I wanted a mount that could be attached to the house anywhere I wanted, and one that would not put holes in the roof.

My problem was solved by building two mounts for my two-meter and 220 MHz Ringo Ranger antennas using one-inch galvanized water pipe parts. Assemble a floor flange, 3 inch length of pipe, a 90 degree elbow, and an 8 inch length of pipe. Assemble them using a vise so that the joints are very tight. Drill and tap a 1/4x20 hole near the top of the 8 inch vertical pipe. Mount the assembly to the face board of your house with the 8 inch piece of pipe pointing straight up. Mount the antenna on an eight foot length of 1-3/8 inch OD aluminum tubing and slip the other end of the tubing over the 8 inch pipe, fastening it with a 1/4x20 bolt. This procedure was used to mount both Ringo Ranger antennas. Both antennas have survived some pretty high winds with no damage and no guys.

Note that the exposed pipe threads are not galvanized and must be coated with RTV or paint to prevent rust. Wipe the threads with solvent to remove any oil. I prefer Zynolyte brand spray paint in machine grey. The Ringo antennas were also rtv'd and painted. They have been up for over 20 years with no sign of corrosion.



# Exam Schedule