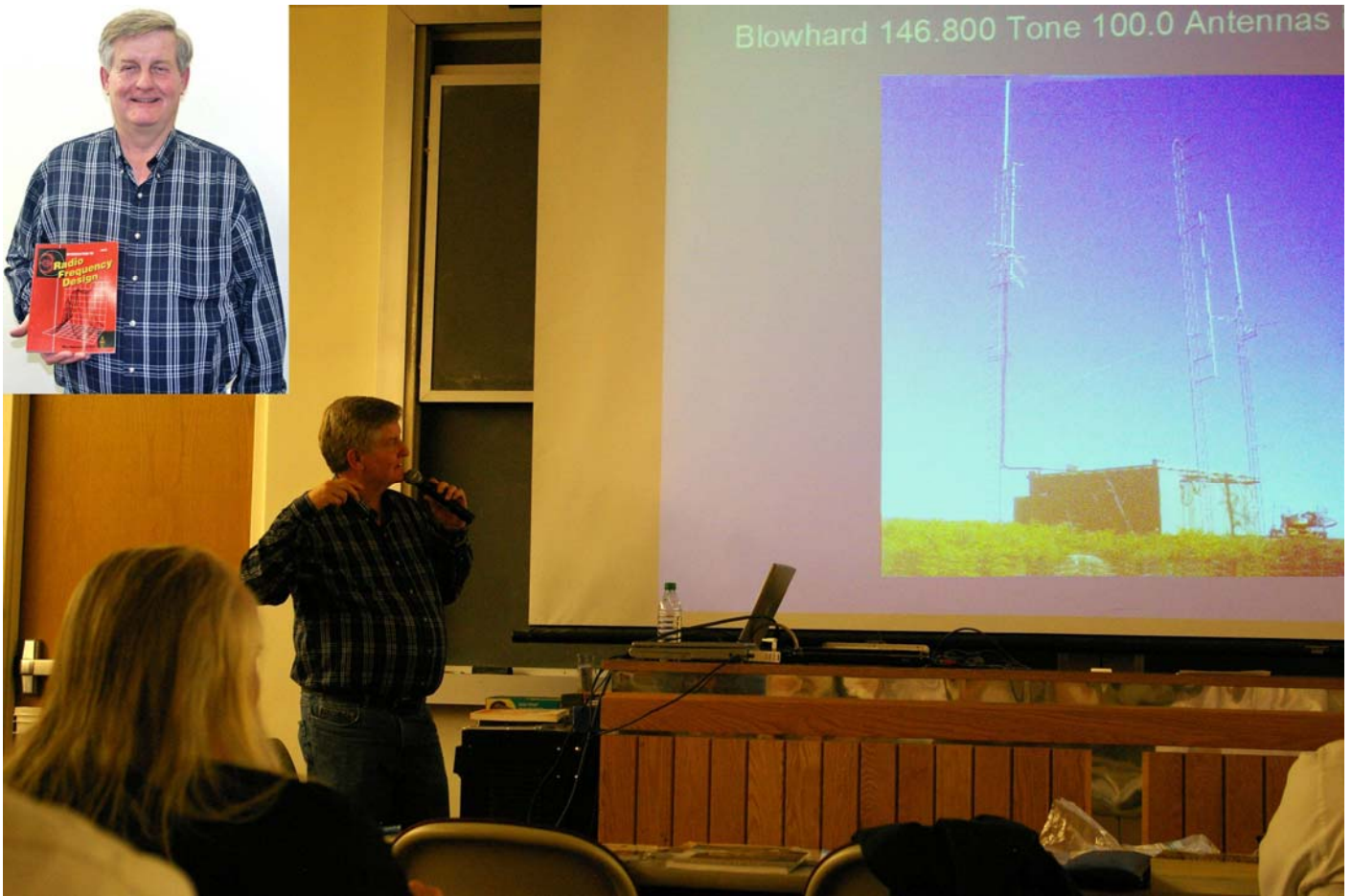


# The *Microvolt*

May, 2013



## Prologue

**Publication:** *The Microvolt* (USPS 075-430) is the official publication of the Utah Amateur Radio Club, Incorporated, 699 E. South Temple Ste 100, Salt Lake City, UT 84102-1282. It is published monthly except August. Subscription is included with club membership at \$17 per year. Single copy price is \$1.50. Periodicals postage paid at Salt Lake City, Utah. Postmaster: send address corrections to *The Microvolt*, c/o Dick Keddington, 1783 Woodside Drive, Holladay, UT, 84124-1620.

Deadline for submissions is the 24th of each month prior to publication. Submissions by email are preferred (k7hfv@arrl.net), but other means including diskettes and typewritten submissions can be mailed directly to: Gordon Smith, 632 University St., Salt Lake City, UT 84102-3213. 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, 1933 Woodside Drive, Holladay, UT, 84124-1632.

**Club:** 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 second Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM in the University of Utah's Warnock Engineering Building, generally in room 1230 or 2230., sometimes in 2250 or 105.

**Membership:** Club membership is open to anyone interested in amateur radio; a current license is not required. Dues are \$17 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 \$17 may obtain a membership without a *Microvolt* subscription for \$9. Send dues to the Club Secretary: Dick Keddington, KD7TDZ, 1783 Woodside Drive, Holladay, UT 84124-1620.

**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-) is IRLP node 3352. Instructions for IRLP use are on the club website.

**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.

## UARC 2013 Board

President: Clint Turner, KA7OEI	801 566-4497
Executive VP: Rick Asper, AC7RA	801 865-1693
Vice Pres: Brett Sutherland, N7KG	801 298-5399
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<i>Microvolt</i> Editor: Gordon Smith, K7HFV	801 582-2438
Asst. <i>Microvolt</i> Editor: Mary Alexander, KF7QVL	801 347-3220
Program Chairperson: Morris Farmer, AD7SR	801 278-4966
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## Committee Chairpersons and Members

"Book Lady": Brett Sutherland, N7KG	801 298-5399
Historian: Ron Speirs, K7RLS	801 904-3587
Field Day Chair: Brett Sutherland, N7KG	801 298-5399
License Trustee: Brett Sutherland, N7KG	801 298-5399
Repeater Engineer: Randy Finch, K7SL	801 556-7565
ATV Engineer: Clint Turner, KA7OEI	801 566-4497
Autopatch Engineer: Gordon Smith, K7HFV	801 582-2438

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## IRLP Information

For information on using the club's IRLP node on the 146.76 repeater, check <http://user.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: <http://user.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



## The Microvolt

The Official Publication of the Utah Amateur Radio Club, Salt Lake City, Utah  
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### May Meeting: Meet Your Division Leaders

The next UARC meeting, to be held Thursday, May 9, will be a chance to meet your Division Director and Vice-Director via Internet. ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Director Brian Milesosky, N5ZGT; and Vice-Director, Dwayne Allen, WY7FD, will tell us about themselves, their positions, and their activities within ARRL, with lots of chance for questions.

The American Radio Relay League (ARRL), the national association of radio amateurs, divides the country into 15 divisions. Utah is part of the Rocky Mountain Division, which also includes Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico. The ultimate governing body of the League is the body of 15 directors, one from each division. Thus, Brian is the direct representative to League administration for all Utah ARRL members. You can learn more about Brian and Dwayne at [www.rockymountaindivision.org/leadership.html](http://www.rockymountaindivision.org/leadership.html).

Also present will be our Utah Section Manager, Mel Parkes, NM7P. That's Thursday night, May 9, at 7:30 P.M. Location is the Warnock Engineering Building, Room 2230.

The May meeting will be one of only two chances to buy Steak-Fry tickets at a regular UARC meeting.

UARC meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M., in the Warnock Engineering Building on the University of Utah campus. See the [map](http://user.xmimssion.com/~uarc/meetmap.html) at <http://user.xmimssion.com/~uarc/meetmap.html> for information on finding the building.

Of course, the meeting will include the “standard” meeting features:

- Availability of ARRL books from Brett, 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 after the meeting”: A chance to enjoy pizza or other gastronomic delights with other hams. It happens at Litza's Pizza, 716 E. 400 South.
- 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. The May get-together will be at “Chuck-A-Rama,” 744 E. 400 South, in Salt Lake City.

## Latest News

### Our Cover

Our cover photo this month shows John Lloyd, K7JL, guest speaker at our April meeting, showing photos of some of the repeaters that make up the Intermountain Intertie. John is the architect of the Intertie, the largest linked system in our area. Thanks to Bruce Fereday, KF7OZK, for the photo. The inset (thanks to Ron Speirs, K7RLS) shows John holding the *RF Design* book, a tome that might be helpful to those aspiring to build repeaters and keep them running.

### Steak-Fry: July 13

It may seem as if we've barely escaped winter, but it's time to think about summer activities. UARC will have its annual steak-fry and swap meet on Saturday afternoon, July 13, at "The Spruces" campground in Big Cottonwood Canyon. It is a great chance to get away from the city heat and enjoy a steak dinner with fellow hams.

Tickets for the event are \$10 each and will be available at the May meeting. Note that this is one of only two chances to procure tickets at a meeting. There will also be a chance at Field Day. The final option is to get funds to the Secretary in person, by mail, or via PayPal at least a week prior to the event.

### Field Day

The annual "Field Day" operating event, the largest contest in amateur radio, will occur this year on the weekend of June 22 and 23. UARC plans to enter from our usual site near Payson Lakes. Contact our Vice-President, Brett Sutherland, N7KG, if you would like to be on the planning committee. Field Day is a change to combine a campout with a lot of radio operation.

A word about the dates. Field Day is *always* the *fourth* full weekend in June. In most years, the fourth weekend is also the last weekend and some people get in the habit of quoting the rule that way. But 1/7 of the time, there will be five full weekends in June, and Field Day is on the fourth, not the last. Now 2013 is such a year. Don't miss the event by being a week late as many have done. This warning is especially applicable this year because the fifth weekend is the ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention in Estes Park, Colorado.

The purpose of the Field Day event is to test our ability to set up quickly and operate away from normal fixed stations as we might have to do in an emergency.

The event runs for a full twenty-four hours with the object being to make and log as many QSOs (contacts) as possible during that period.

Field Day is a nationwide event sponsored by the American Radio Relay League. For full rules and details see <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>.

### T-Shirts Continue to be Available

UARC continues to have available T-shirts carrying the club logo and, optionally, personalized with your own callsign. Details are in the March issue of *The Microvolt*. You can find the web version at:

<http://user.xmission.com/~uarc/Microvolt/>.

### Net Help Needed

Extra net control and "Other Club Information" operators are sought for UARC's Sunday night "UARC Information Net." If you would like to help, get in touch with Mike Youngs, KK7VZ, at <mailto:kk7vz@hotmail.com>.

## From the Clipboard of the Editor

An editor seeks tirelessly for truth, justice, and a desk.

Everyone who has passed the Technician test in the last six or so years has probably come across this question in the question pool:

T2A04 (B)

What is an appropriate way to call another station on a repeater if you know the other station's call sign?

- A. Say "break, break" then say the station's call sign
- B. Say the station's call sign then identify with your call sign
- C. Say "CQ" three times then the other station's call sign
- D. Wait for the station to call "CQ" then answer it

Given that everyone should have encountered this question during study, if not in the particular test design they took, I'm a little baffled why I hear so many stations that start out by sending their own calls. That's not even one of the choices!

The only sensible answer, of course, is "B." But notice the order of the calls:

"Say the [other] station's call sign **then** identify with your call sign."

Notice that your own call comes last, not first.

Back in the days when everyone got Novice licenses as their entry into the hobby and made their first few hundred QSOs on CW, they were already prepared for good phone operating procedure because phone procedures almost always mirror CW procedures and CW procedures are designed to require the fewest characters and the least time. If I were to call K7LID on CW, I would send:

**K7LID DE K7HFV**

Pretty simple, don't you think? The "DE" means "from" (coming from French) and is recognized internationally. So for consistency and efficiency, it makes sense to do the same on voice. Just substitute "from" or "this is" for the "DE" and your call is legal and standard.

What difference does it make? After all, the rules don't specify in which order the calls must be sent (although they once did). One pitfall comes if you get in the habit of sending calls in the wrong order and then get lazy and forget to add some words to indicate which call is which. Now you're out of compliance by not "...clearly making the source of the transmissions from the station known to those receiving the transmissions." (§ 97.119) The listener doesn't know which call belongs to you.

Another reason to stay standard is that if your signal is not being solidly received (for example if you're using a "rubber duck" antenna inside a metal car) the extra words to tell which call is which may get lost. But if the calls are in the right order, the listener has a much better chance of figuring out who you are.

The standard is consistent and that makes it easy to remember. It doesn't matter if you're calling a station, turning it over to a station, or calling CQ, always give your own call last. It doesn't matter if you're on FM, CW, or PSK-31, you should still give your own call last.

Now you're ready for nomination to the A1 Operator's Club.



## **Hams Active After Boston Marathon Bombings**

From the *ARRL Letter*, April 18, 2013

As has happened many times in years past, over 200 Amateur Radio operators participated in communications for the Boston Marathon on Monday, April 15, 2013. Unlike prior challenging situations such as very warm weather for the runners or other weather-related challenges, this year's marathon will be remembered for the bombings that took place at the finish line. Despite this heinous act, professional first responders, medical volunteers from the American Red Cross that staffed the route, and Amateur Radio operators performed magnificently in the face of adversity.

“Within minutes, cell phone systems became overloaded and making phone calls and text messages was difficult. Amateur Radio operators performed communication duties under duress and performed admirably. No Amateur Radio volunteers were injured on the course in this terrible act,” said Steve Schwarm, W3EVE, who is the Amateur Radio Course Communication Coordinator and associated with a consortium of clubs and groups known as Marathon Amateur Radio Communications ([MARC](http://www.mmra.org/marc/) at <http://www.mmra.org/marc/>).

“At the finish line net control, which was only 400 feet from the initial blast, we heard the explosion. I poked my head outside to confirm what I thought it was and saw the white smoke. We immediately knew what had happened and commenced a roll call of all ham operators and medical tents. State Police authorities initially ordered us to lock down and post a ham for security watch outside the net control trailer. Thankfully none of our people were hurt,” said Paul Topolski, W1SEX, Amateur Radio Finish Line Coordinator.

Following the explosion and roll call, Topolski stated that they began pulling together updates and sent the information via the Massachusetts

Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) Web-EOC software tool and provided updates via Amateur Radio. Shortly after sending a few updates both Boston Police and Massachusetts State Police gave the order for the tent area to be evacuated. “In my mind, the course end of things is where a lot of work needed to happen as runners eventually needed to be stopped, congregated and transported to safety and staging areas,” Topolski said. “At the finish line, our job was to check on the safety of our people, provide those initial updates and evacuate per police instructions. Three of our Amateur Radio operators redeployed to the Boston Marathon Course Net Control Center.”

Across the course outside of the finish line after the bombings occurred, first aid stations were consolidated to larger first aid stations to pool runners for pickup and to keep runners warm as there were enhanced tents along the route where runners could be kept warm and hydrated. At the Heartbreak Hill first aid station, amateur operators had a complete base station setup, including a computer, and were prepared to handle health and welfare traffic as required. Several shelters were set up along the route at churches and schools, and Amateur Radio operators from secured first aid stations went to those shelters, providing communications in those areas until runners were moved out of their locations.

From an ARES perspective, a heightened state of awareness on the Boston Marathon event is typical, but within 15 minutes of the bombings, Eastern Massachusetts ARES Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator, Carl Aveni, N1FY, issued an ARES Stand-By and requested that amateurs give availability for the next 24 hours. Within minutes, 20 amateurs offered their availability.

## License Examination Schedule

Opportunities to test for new or upgraded amateur licenses

Date	Day	City	Contact Person	Phone
05/15/13	(Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983
05/15/13	(Wed.)	St. George <sup>2</sup>	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	(435) 674-2678
05/28/13	(Tue.)	Salt Lake City <sup>3</sup>	Eugene McWherter, N7OVT	(801) 541-1871
06/01/13	(Sat.)	Salt Lake City <sup>1</sup>	Gordon Smith, K7HFV	(801) 582-2438
06/15/13	(Sat.)	Hurricane <sup>2</sup>	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	(435) 674-2678
06/19/13	(Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983
06/19/13	(Wed.)	St. George <sup>2</sup>	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	(435) 674-2678
06/25/13	(Tue.)	Salt Lake City <sup>3</sup>	Eugene McWherter, N7OVT	(801) 541-1871

<sup>1</sup>Preregistration required. Check with the contact person before the test session.

<sup>2</sup>More information at <http://www.dixieham.org/meetings.html>

<sup>3</sup>New location: Senior Center at the Columbus Center, 2530 S. 500 East

Check <http://user.xmission.com/~uarc/testinfo.html> for further exam information.

## Member of the Month

### Eldon Farnsworth, KF7YXL

*(Photo on page 8)*

By Linda Reeder, N7HVF

This month we are featuring Eldon Farnsworth, KF7YXL. Eldon is the Emergency Manager for South Salt Lake, a position he held before he ever obtained his amateur radio license. It was Jerry Bishop, W3JAV, who influenced Eldon to get into amateur radio. Jerry convinced Eldon that amateur radio is a wonderful hobby and showed him all of the wonderful things one can do with it.

Eldon received his Technician license in October of 2012 and is now working on getting his General license. Eldon wanted to take the class that Morris Farmer, AD7SR, and Ron Speirs, K7RLS, are teaching but his part-time job interferes with the class. Eldon's part time job is working in security for Energy Solutions. Eldon works full time for the South Salt Lake Fire Department as a fire fighter. He is a Battalion Chief. There are three stations who work under Eldon. In 1977 Eldon

started working part time for the South Salt Lake Fire department and in 1980 was hired full time. Eldon has now worked for the Department for 32 years.

After obtaining his Technician license Eldon, along with Jerry Bishop, wanted to start an amateur radio club. They did so and it is called the South Salt Lake Amateur Radio Team. This club is for emergencies and public service events such as parades and fireworks. On Saturday, March 23, the club participated in Scouting for Food. On April 17th, the club will be taking part in the Great Utah Shake Out. This club will also be involved in the Fourth of July Parade. Right now there are about 20 members of this club. The club meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7 P.M. at the Columbus Center in South Salt Lake. If anyone is interested in joining the club they can call Eldon's

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office number, 801-464-6724. This club has been in existence for six months. Jerry Bishop, W3JAV, is the President and Eldon Farnsworth, KF7YXL, is Jerry's assistant.

Eldon's favorite thing about amateur radio is being able to communicate with people near and far. Eldon likes to get on the Western Reflector (449.425). He said they have had people check in on the net from England, Germany, and Japan.

Eldon is a member of UARC, ARES and RACES. Other hobbies Eldon enjoys are metal detecting and coin collecting.

Eldon, we wish you the best, especially in getting that upgrade to General. Good luck, also, with your new club.

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Eldon Farnsworth, KF7YXL  
(Photo by Ron Speirs, K7RLS)