

# The *Microvolt*

September, 2014



## 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, 5474 Hews Place, Taylorsville, UT, 84129-1416.

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, 5474 Hews Place, Taylorsville, UT, 84129-1416.

**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, 5474 Hews Place, Taylorsville, UT 84129-1416.

**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 2014 Board

President: Clint Turner, KA7OEI	801 566-4497
Executive VP: Rick Asper, AC7RA	801 865-1693
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Imm. Past Pres: Linda Reeder, N7HVF	801 364-7006

## Committee Chairpersons and Members

“Book Lady”: Brett Sutherland, N7KG	801 298-5399
Historian: Ron Speirs, K7RLS	801 904-3587
Field Day Chair: (To be determined)	
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

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# September Meeting: Hams and Emergency Management

Our scheduled speaker for the September UARC meeting had to leave town unexpectedly but our Program Chairpersons have arranged a program that should be of interest to many. Bob Craven, N7GTE, works in Communications for the Utah Division of Emergency Management. He is involved with the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), a radio service established by the FCC in 1952 which allows amateurs to provide emergency communications even at times when normal amateur radio may be forced off the air in wartime. (For more information about RACES see: [publicsafety.utah.gov/emergencymanagement/RACES.html](http://publicsafety.utah.gov/emergencymanagement/RACES.html).)

Bob will be telling us about the relationship between the state and the amateur radio community and how we can prepare ourselves to help in time of emergency. Many amateurs say that one of their main objectives for getting licensed was to provide emergency communications, and we believe this program could be quite helpful to them.

The meeting will be on Thursday, September 11, at 7:30 P.M. in room 1250 (main floor, south side of the main corridor) of the Warnock Engineering Building.

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. The fall, 2014, meetings will be in room 1250 on the ground floor. See the [map](http://user.xmission.com/~uarc/meetmap.html) at <http://user.xmission.com/~uarc/meetmap.html> for information on finding the building. The room number varies depending on availability.

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 September get-together will be at “Su Casa,” 516 E. 300 South in Salt Lake City.

## Latest News

### Our Cover

Our cover this month shows images from our two summer events, Field Day and Steak-Fry. The upper scene, provided by Doug Bosen, KG7GOV, shows one of the junior ops at the "GOTA" station at Field Day. The lower one shows Bruce Fereday, KF7OZK, and Brett Sutherland, N7KG, getting the grill ready for steaks at the July Steak-Fry.

### Homebrew Night October 9

Homebrew Night is coming soon! It's time to get your project ready for presentation!

Our October meeting will be "Homebrew Night," a chance for those who have been building various kinds of amateur radio equipment to show them off to the club. If you have been working on a project, it's time to get the finishing touches on and get ready to bring it in on October 9. If you're not a homebrewer, you will probably want to come and see what others are doing.

Anything that can be used in amateur radio operation is acceptable. If your project is too big or too permanently installed to bring in, just bring in drawings, photos, specifications, or whatever is necessary to show what you've done. We will have a computer projector available and can display material in most common formats.

If possible, let one of our chairpersons know if you plan to show an item. Their contact information is on the inside front cover.

### Swap Meet September 13

The annual tri-club swapmeet will be taking place on Saturday morning, September 13, at Bountiful City Park.

This annual event is sponsored jointly by the Davis County Amateur Radio Club, the Ogden Amateur Radio Club, and UARC. It runs from 8 A.M. to approximately noon, and is totally free, i.e. no charge for entry, for table space, or for transactions. It starts at 8 A.M. and typically runs until about noon.

To get there from the Salt Lake Valley, go north on I-15 to the Bountiful 400 North exit. Go east to 200 West and you should see the park appear on your left.

### Technician and General Classes Coming

Morris Farmer, AD7SR, and Bill Rouleau, AE7UI, will be teaching a *TECHNICIAN* course beginning Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, and a *GENERAL* course beginning Wednesday October 15<sup>th</sup>. Both courses last about six weeks and will be taught at the Farmer home on Wednesdays from 7 – 9 P.M.. If you are interested, or know someone who is interested, contact Morris at [f.morris1@comcast.net](mailto:f.morris1@comcast.net), or Bill at [wrouleau@comcast.net](mailto:wrouleau@comcast.net) for additional information.

There is no charge for the course other than the book. We use the current ARRL *License Manual* which will be available at the class for \$25.00 each. The proceeds go to UARC, so if you pay by check please make it out to UARC.

### Net Help Needed

Some additional help is needed for the weekly UARC Information Net which takes place every Sunday evening at 9 P.M. Mountain time. The only requirements are to be able to read aloud and to be available one Sunday per month.. If you are interested contact Mike Youngs, KK7VZ, at [kk7vz@arrl.net](mailto:kk7vz@arrl.net) or (801) 573-3922.

## General and Extra Courses Finally End June 2

After what must have seemed like an interminable time, General and Extra courses taught by Ron Speirs, K7RLS, and Morris Farmer, AD7SR, finally came to a conclusion with the exams on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Extra course had begun way back in mid-January, so those students were especially anxious for the course to be over!

Here is the List of successful graduates:

### GENERAL

Brittany Christianson, KG7KEZ  
Erin Mortensen, KG7KFZ  
Janae Christianson, KG7KFA  
Karen McGregor, KF7ZDM  
Val Christianson, KG7KFB  
Ray Shook, KE7AQP

### EXTRA

David Earle, KD7LSX  
Doug Bosen, KG7GOV  
Philip Reid, KG7CEF  
Robert Holder, N2RN  
Bernard Schirmacher, N7AZC



There are a couple of interesting pictures: The first is the Christianson family, Val, Janae, Brittany, and Craig. Val and Janae took the Technician course with their son Craig, Brittany stayed home to baby sit, Craig walked her thru the material and she took and passed the Technician course with the rest of the family. Craig is an EE student and whizzed thru the Technician, General, and Extra exams in one sitting.



Here is David Earle's picture after finding that, after trying for several years he had finally been able to complete the Extra course and passed! Congratulations to all!

## Field Day Report

One of the biggest events of the year for UARC and for U.S. amateur radio in general happened on June 28 and 29, the annual Field Day event. UARC along with other groups from all over the U.S. and Canada tried their skill at operating for a continuous 24 hours at a portable location. UARC's entry included three "regular" stations, two on single sideband and one on CW, plus a "get on the air" (GOTA) station, and a six-meter station. Operators included some seasoned contest veterans, some who had never experienced multiple contacts per minute, and some participants who had never spoken on amateur radio before.

Weather at our site near Payson Lakes was good through the contest, but had been a bit rainy on the days leading up to it. Our efforts resulted in 1744 QSOs, 413 of them on CW. Some unusual results compared to previous years were more sideband than CW contacts, and more 40-meter SSB contacts than on 20 meters. (Good job, SSB operators!)

At the left is a table showing our contacts by band and how that translates to contest points. ("Contact points" are different from just "contacts" in that the number of CW contacts is multiplied by 2.) We had over 500 more points than in 2013, but not as many as in 2012.

ARRL shows 19 Utah stations entered in 2014.

UARC 2014 Field Day Scoring						
(2013 values in parentheses)						
Band	CW		SSB		Total	
80	60	—	66	(52)		
40	—	(334)	774	(35)		
20	353	(273)	396	(262)		
15	—	(4)	—	(89)		
6	—	—	57	—		
(GOTA)	—	—	38	(148)		
<b>Total Contacts</b>						
	413	(611)	1331	(586)	1744	(1197)
<b>Contact Points</b>						
	826	(1222)	1331	(586)	2157	(1808)
<b>Power Mult</b>						
				X2	4314	(3616)
<b>Bonus Points</b>						
	Emergency Power		300			
	Public Location		100			
	Message Origination		100			
	Alternate Power		100			
	W1AW Bulletin		100			
	Educational Activity		100			
	Web Submission		50			
	Youth Participation		60		910	(1030)
<b>Grand Total</b>					<b>5224</b>	<b>(4646)</b>



The A-4 tribander atop our 80-foot tower.

## License Examination Schedule

Opportunities to test for new or upgraded amateur licenses

Date	Day	City	Contact Person	Phone
09/17/14	(Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983
09/17/14	(Wed.)	St. George <sup>2</sup>	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	(435) 674-2678
09/30/14	(Tue.)	Salt Lake City <sup>3</sup>	Eugene McWherter, N7OVT	(801) 541-1871
10/01/14	(Wed.)	Ogden	Rick Morrison, W7RIK	(801) 791-9364
10/04/14	(Sat.)	Salt Lake City <sup>1,4</sup>	Gordon Smith, K7HFV	(801) 582-2438
10/09/14	(Thu.)	Logan <sup>1</sup>	V. Phillip Rasmussen, N7JFG	(435) 770-0630
10/11/14	(Sat.)	Hurricane <sup>2</sup>	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	(435) 674-2678
10/15/14	(Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983
10/15/14	(Wed.)	St. George <sup>2</sup>	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	(435) 674-2678
10/28/14	(Tue.)	Salt Lake City <sup>3</sup>	Eugene McWherter, N7OVT	(801) 541-1871
11/05/14	(Wed.)	Clearfield	Mike Youngs, KK7VZ	(801) 573-3922

<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

<sup>4</sup>More information at <http://www.utaharc.org/Exams/>

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

## “73 On 73” Award Available

Paul Stoetzer, N8HM, is sponsoring a new award for contacts made via the UK Amateur Radio Educational Satellite FUNcube-1 (AO-73) to promote activity on the satellite. The award period began on September 1. (See [funcube.org.uk](http://funcube.org.uk).)

Requirements are simple: Work 73 different stations on AO-73 (SSB or CW). There are no geographic restrictions on operating location, no QSLs are required, and the award is free, although Stoetzer encourages contributions to AMSAT-UK and to AMSAT-NA's Fox program.

E-mail log extracts containing the call sign of each station worked and the date/time (UTC) of each

contact to: <mailto:n8hm@arrl.net>. Include your mailing address.

The AO-73 inverting transponder uplink is 435.150-435.130 MHz (LSB). The downlink is 145.950-145.970 MHz (USB). Note that the transponder (like most linear transponders) inverts the frequency spectrum. As you increase your uplink frequency your downlink frequency will *decrease*. Use no more than five Watts to a 7 dB<sub>i</sub> gain antenna when accessing the AO-73 transponder. — *Thanks to AMSAT News Service via Paul Stoetzer, N8HM*

## Member of the Month

### Michael Smith, KM7TMS

By Linda Reeder, N7HVF

This month we are featuring Michael Smith, KM7TMS. Michael and his wife, Susan, obtained their Technician licenses in July, 2010, and in March of this year they both obtained their General class licenses. The main reason that Michael wanted his General class license is that the advanced emergency preparedness classes in which he is involved require a General class license.

Michael wanted to have a vanity call, one that would be unique to him, so Michael obtained a call sign with his initials in it, KM7TMS, for Thomas Michael Smith. He was excited to get this call sign. The funny thing that happened was that when Michael got his Technician license, he was issued the call sign KF7KSN. He never used it because the vanity call arrived at the same time the call sign he was issued.

Michael's favorite thing about amateur radio is the practical use of amateur radio in emergencies. Michael participates in emergency management drills. One red drill Michael was involved in was saving the ducks from the oil spill in Red Butte Canyon. One of the oil lines became cracked and spilled oil into the nearby creeks.

Last spring Michael and Susan participated in the "Save the Neighborhood" program. Both Mike and Susan used their amateur radios in this drill. They travel around the neighborhood and make sure everything is all right.

There will be another drill coming up in September. They also have multi-stake drills for safety. There will be an interstate management drill in November.

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Michael is heavily evolved in emergency preparedness. He wants to be ready for whatever disaster may come. He has had many CERT classes and he has worked on learning how to take messages quickly and efficiently.

Michael has a couple of Icom dual-banders. He has an IC-2820 dual-bander that has D-Star capability. He uses D-Star communications a lot.

Michael is an archaeologist and has worked for the LDS Church history museum for the past 35 years. He received his degree at BYU. He has done lots of research for the museum. Michael is fascinated with historical trails. It is one of his favorite hobbies. He said when he goes on these trails he takes his CB radio with him.

Michael is a member of the Crossroads chapter of the Oregon/California/Utah Trails Association in which he served eight years as the Preservation Director. Michael has also worked on historical trails for the museum and in collections.

Michael is a member of UARC. He enjoys traveling and visiting family.

Michael, we wish you the best in all of your endeavors.