

The *Microvolt*

July, 2015



Steak-Fry July 11

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 Kedddington, 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 Kedddington, 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 Kedddington, 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 2015 Board

President: Clint Turner, KA7OEI	801 566-4497
Executive VP: Rick Asper, AC7RA	801 865-1693
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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: (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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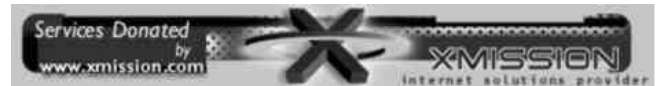
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IRLP Information

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: <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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July Meeting: Steak-Fry

Instead of a meeting in our usual building, our July event will be the annual UARC steak-fry to be held at "The Spruces" campground in Big Cottonwood Canyon on Saturday, July 11. Cost is \$12 per person and needs to be sent to our Secretary by July 4. If you have a PayPal account, one way to make a reservation is to send a multiple of \$12 (for the number of people in your party) to uarc@xmission.com. Otherwise, check page 2 for the Secretary's address and send a check made out to Utah Amateur Radio Club.

The steak-fry is an annual event that has been going on since the 60's. It's a great chance to get together with other hams and enjoy some cool air up one of our canyons.

Getting there: The Big Cottonwood highway (state highway 190) starts up the canyon at the intersection of Fort Union Boulevard and Wasatch Boulevard. One approach is to take the 6200 South exit on eastern I-215, go east, and follow the signs to the Brighton Ski Resort. At about 10 miles up the canyon look for a sign on the right announcing "The Spruces." If you get to the Solitude or Brighton resorts, you've gone too far. Tell the folks at the entrance station that you're with the radio group in Area 7.

Parking: Parking that goes with our area is limited. Car pooling is recommended. If you arrive after our allocation is all used, you can either pay for additional parking or park on the highway and walk in. If you can easily do a 10-minute walk (and it's probably less than that for most people), you might want to consider parking outside and leaving spaces for those not so fortunate.

People usually start arriving about 2 P.M. If you want to bring items to swap/sell, 2 P.M. might be a good time to arrive. Steaks usually go on about 5 P.M. If you would like to cut your steak on something more solid than a paper plate, you might want to bring your own table service. If you stay much into the evening hours, you might also consider a jacket. It cools down fast after sunset.

We hope you can join us!

Latest News

Our Cover

Steak-Fry is coming up soon. Our cover photo this month is from a prior year's event and shows Elaine Jones, N7BDZ, taking her turn at tending to the cooking in Big Cottonwood Canyon.

Oops!

Our appologies to Ken King, N7KMK, our June Member of the Month, for getting his callsign wrong. The "KMK" sequence is Ken's initials and N7KMK is the correct call.

No Meeting in August (But There *Is* a Convention)

UARC does not meet during the month of August. We encourage everyone to attend the ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention, July 31 through August 2. The event comes to Utah approximately every four years, and 2015 is one of those. This year's event will be held at Ruby's Inn, near the entrance to Bryce Canyon National Park. For full details see <http://utahhamfest.com/>.

KF7BSF, SK

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of Gene Deal, KF7BSF, on Sunday, June 28. Gene passed away after a long battle with cancer. Gene's area of expertise was linguistics and he frequently had interesting ideas to contribute to various discussions on UARC's 146.62 repeater. Gene had sounded cheerful in recent weeks and most of the hams were unaware of how serious his condition was. Funeral arrangements are not known at this writing.

Have You Written Congress?

Do you suffer from antenna restrictions because of CC&R's and HOA's? Would you like to see a solution to this problem for all U.S. hams? The solution is up to you! Now is a time when a letter may help change the course of history.

Our Division Director, Brian Milesosky, writes:

"As of this writing, the Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 (H.R.1301) currently has 77 co-sponsors in the House, a huge increase of 22 from just last month due in no small part to ARRL members across the nation writing and emailing their Representatives to request their support. ARRL is currently working with members of the Senate to introduce a companion bill there.

"For background, H.R.1301 was introduced in the US House of Representatives. This legislation would require the FCC to amend its Part 97 Amateur Service rules to apply the three-part test of the PRB-1 federal pre-emption policy to include homeowners' association regulations and deed restrictions, often referred to as 'covenants, conditions, and restrictions' (CC&Rs). At present, PRB-1 only applies to state and local zoning laws and ordinances. The FCC has been reluctant to extend the same legal protections to include such private land-use agreements without direction from Congress. This bill would accomplish that.

"This is a critical issue to the future health of Amateur Radio. While you personally may not be subject to CC&Rs, many amateur radio operators are, and the amount of those affected is increasing significantly. In 1970, there were approximately 2.1 million residents affected by CC&Rs. By 2011, a mere four years ago, 62.3 million were affected. Whether or not you are currently affected by CC&R's, I ask that you support this effort on behalf of all amateur radio operators in the United States.

"If you have not already written or emailed your Congressman, please spare a few minutes to do so.

"ARRL staff, officers, Directors, and Vice-Directors have been busy personally visiting members of Congress and their staff in Washington DC to convey the importance of this legislation and to seek their support as co-sponsors. An equally strong grassroots effort from each Representatives' constituents (that is, *You* and every ARRL member back at home) is the other crucial part of the equation needed for H.R. 1301 to gain the visibility and support it needs to move through the political process on Capitol Hill.

"How can you help? By sending (1) a signed hard-copy letter to ARRL for personal delivery to your Representative, and (2) a follow-up email directly to your Representative. The suggested template for each, which was distributed via Division-wide email last month, can be used or you may certainly

compose your own personal correspondence. If you misplaced the template that was distributed, please contact Brian, N5ZGT, for another copy.

“(Note: Letters and emails do not need to be sent to Rep. Ed Perlmutter since he is already a co-sponsor of the bill.)

“Because it takes an extremely long time for snail-mail to be delivered to Congress due to security screening, and because ARRL officers, Directors, and staff who are making personal visits to Congressional offices in Washington DC can personally deliver packets of constituent letters directly, we recommend sending your hard-copy letter to:

ARRL
Attn: HR 1301 grassroots campaign
225 Main Street
Newington CT 06111

“If you don't know your Congressman/woman, or to locate the web form for sending your follow-up email, please use this link:

<http://www.house.gov/representatives/find/>

“At present only one Representative within the Rocky Mountain Division — Ed Perlmutter (CO-7) — has signed on to the bill. It is highly likely that Representatives of other Congressional House districts within our Division will sign on as well, but only if first prompted by their constituents via letter and email. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Dues Increase?

As mentioned in last month's *Microvolt*, the UARC Board of Directors is recommending an increase in annual dues from the current \$17 to \$20. This will help replenish money from our reserves that was used to do antenna repairs on the '76 repeater and make our Field Day equipment more usable, and also to allow us to undertake some new projects

such as a remote HF station that would be available to members with the appropriate licenses.

We will likely have a discussion and a vote at one of the fall meetings, with notice to everyone at least a month in advance. Think about it and watch for further announcements.

Field Day Report

The annual ARRL Field Day contest (uh, that is “Operating Event”) took place on June 27 and 28. UARC entered from its usual site in the mountains near Payson Lakes. After a few Murphy's Law glitches in getting all the equipment in place early, things seemed to go pretty well.

Our A-4 Yagi for 20, 15, and 10 meters got a bit of tuning and repair work, mainly by UARC President Clint Turner, KA7OEI; and Treasurer Chuck Johnson, WA7JOS, at 6:30 A.M. on Saturday. Replacement of old feedline, cleaning of balun connector, and retuning trap spacing seemed to work wonders.

In rough whole numbers, we worked about 1100 stations on single sideband and 900 on CW for a total a bit over 2000 contacts.

This appears to give us a better score than in 2014 when we had closer to 1300 SSB QSO's and 400 CW, for a total of 1700.

CW contacts count twice as much as phone contacts, so the increased CW percentage should work in our favor.

John Brewer, N7MFQ, and Bruce Fereday, KF7OZK, did a masterful job of preparing brats and hamburgers. When combined with numerous other contributions, they made the Saturday night pot-luck a complete success.

More information about our score will be on the web site in a few weeks.

Beginner Tip of the Month

We often hear an interesting series of transmissions that goes something like this:

- WG7AAA announces that he is “monitoring.”
- WG7BBB announces that he is also “monitoring.”
- Nothing further happens.

We assume that the intent of one or both operators was to have a QSO with someone, but somehow, no QSO results. Was this because neither operator knew what to do next, or was “monitoring” simply an announcement that their respective receivers worked and no further transmission was necessary?

Well, if it was the latter, maybe no help is necessary, but if the former, maybe we can help.

Hams seem to use “monitoring” for several different purposes, but often it’s a substitute for “CQ.” To find out how to answer a CQ we need look no further than the current Technician question pool. Question T2A05 asks,

“How should you respond to a station calling CQ?”

The correct answer is:

“Say the station's call sign then identify with your call sign.”

Simple, huh? Just say something like

“WG7AAA, this is WG7BBB.”

That makes it clear to the other station that you are calling *him*, not just ignoring him and calling a CQ of your own. Be sure to put “this is” or “from” in front of your own call to satisfy the need in the rules for “clearly making the source of the transmissions from the station known to those receiving the transmissions.” [Part 97.119(a)] If you just give two calls with no way to tell which is which, the source of the transmissions is a bit less than clear.

Having a hard time understanding calls? You might want to do some practicing listening to call signs heard on the air and repeating them to yourself or writing them down. After awhile you will get used to the patterns and pick calls up more easily.

If you just couldn’t catch the other station’s call, say *something* to indicate you are responding to him. Maybe,

“To the operator that just said he was monitoring, this is WG7BBB. Could you give me your call phonetically?”

These procedures will help ensure that a QSO (i.e. a contact) that seemed destined to happen, actually takes place.

License Examination Schedule

Opportunities to test for new or upgraded amateur licenses

Date	Day	City	Contact Person	Phone
07/15/15	(Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983
07/15/15	(Wed.)	St. George ²	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	N/A
07/28/15	(Tue.)	Salt Lake City ³	Garth Wiscombe, W7PS	(801) 558-5936
08/01/15	(Sat.)	Salt Lake City ^{1,4}	Gordon Smith, K7HFV	(801) 582-2438
08/01/15	(Sat.)	Ruby’s Inn	Bret Mills, WX7Y	(435) 381-7001
08/08/15	(Sat.)	Hurricane ²	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	N/A
08/15/15	(Sat.)	Farmington	Gary L. Davis, KE7MQF	(801) 298-3127
08/19/15	(Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983

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08/19/15	(Wed.)	St. George ²	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	N/A
08/28/15	(Wed.)	Salt Lake City ³	Garth Wiscombe, W7PS	(801) 558-5936
09/02/15	(Wed.)	Clearfield	Mike Youngs, KK7VZ	(801) 573-3922

¹Preregistration required. Check with the contact person before the test session.

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

³New location: Senior Center at the Columbus Center, 2530 S. 500 East

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

Member of the Month

Paul Kartchner, KG7RVK

By Linda Reeder, N7HVF

This month we are featuring Paul Kartchner, KG7RVK. Paul is a new amateur radio operator. He received his Technician license in April of this year. Paul says he has always wanted to get into amateur radio, but education, starting a career, and family got in the way. Another obstacle that got in his way was learning that Morse Code. Paul was excited when he learned that Morse Code was no longer required.

It was Paul's friend, David Nelson, W1UTE, that got the ball rolling for Paul to get into amateur radio. Their ward and stake are involved in emergency preparedness. Their stake has a net every Sunday night at 8:30 P.M. on 146.48 simplex. They practice radio protocol and learn how to take messages during an emergency. A group took a license class in Davis County. After the class was over some VEs from Davis County went to their ward in South Jordan and gave them the test.

After passing the Technician class, Paul decided to try for the General since his friend David is a General. Paul only missed it by 2 or 3 questions. He said he is going to try again later.

One of the things that attracted Paul to amateur radio was being able to communicate from vehicle to vehicle at long distances while traveling. Family radio just didn't cut the mustard; you can't go very far with those radios. Paul is interested in autopatches because you can't use your cell phones when you are in the canyons and he wants to be

able to contact his family when he is camping and fishing. Paul says if he could just get his family into amateur radio he wouldn't need the autopatch. Paul is working hard on getting his family interested in amateur radio. He is hoping to get his wife, Kristin, to get her ham radio license. Paul and Kristin have an 8-month old son.

Paul enjoys talking on the repeaters. He has a Kenwood TH-F6A triple bander handheld. His first contact was KG7RDR, Bret Rather Anderson, in Garland, Utah, on the intertie. Paul talks to his friend, David, W1UTE, on the repeater on his way home from work. He loves to talk with the 76ers. Paul also does a lot of listening on the repeaters, because he wants to learn all he can about amateur radio.

Another thing that Paul loves about amateur radio is the fact that the people are so nice and willing to help out the new guys. Paul is a member of UARC and hopes to attend his very first Field Day this year. Other hobbies Paul enjoys are camping, fishing and reading.

Paul works for CDK Global, a company that sells computer software for motorsport dealers. Paul is the marine dealership administrator. Paul really enjoys computers. He likes working in Linux.

Paul, we wish you the best, especially getting your family into amateur radio and upgrading to General.

Field Day Photos



Enough hands to deal with an operating tent
(Photos by WA7ZRG)

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A Group that clearly knows the ropes



The 85-foot tower dominates the site



Dennis, N7FOD, operates; others log, watch



Wires need anchoring in trees