

The *Microvolt*

October, 2018



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 \$20 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 Tom Kamlowsky, 4137 Clover Lane, Salt Lake City, UT, 84124-2711.

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: Tom Kamlowsky, 4137 Clover Lane, Salt Lake City, UT, 84124-2711.

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 \$20 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 \$20 may obtain a membership without a *Microvolt* subscription for \$12. Send dues to the Club Secretary: Tom Kamlowsky, WA7ZRG, 4137 Clover Lane, Salt Lake City, UT 84124-2711. Let the Secretary know if you prefer the electronic edition of *The Microvolt* instead of the printed version.

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.

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ATV Engineer: Clint Turner, KA7OEI	801 566-4497
Autopatch Engineer: Gordon Smith, K7HFV	801 582-2438

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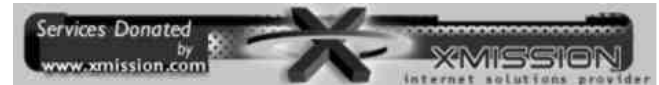
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IRLP Information

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>

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The Microvolt

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October Meeting: Remote Control

The October UARC meeting, Thursday, October 11, will be devoted to one of the most popular events of the year: Homebrew Night! This is the evening when everyone has a chance to bring in home-built equipment and show it off to the group. Likely projects include power supplies, antennas, linear amplifiers, transverters, speech processors, and schemes to switch antennas remotely.

Hams have been builders of their own equipment since the earliest days of amateur radio. Sometimes it was to save money, sometimes to create something that was not available commercially, and sometimes to experiment with a whole new mode. The October 11 meeting will be a chance to see what modern hams are doing. The only rules are that items to be displayed should have been constructed by the person showing them, should have some function in amateur radio, and should not have been shown at previous UARC Homebrew Nights.

Even if you haven't been homebrewing lately, you will want to see what others have been creating and perhaps get some ideas about things that are possible and even projects you might want to try yourself.

The meeting will take place at 7:30 P.M. on Thursday, October 11, in room L103 of the Warnock Engineering Building. To reach the "L" three-digit numbered rooms, take the elevator in the southwest corner of the main floor down to level "L1." (The elevators near the east entrance don't go there!)

UARC meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month (except August) at 7:30 P.M., in the Warnock Engineering Building on the University of Utah campus. The room number varies depending on availability. The meetings during the University's fall semester of 2018 will be in room L103 on the L1 floor.

See <http://user.xmission.com/~uarc/meetmap.html> for a map and 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 Rick, the book seller
- 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. It is held at "The Village Inn," 910 E. 400 South in Salt Lake City.

Latest News

Our Cover

Our cover show UARC's new remote-controlled HF station at a site near Leamington, Utah. At our September meeting, Gary Crum, KK7DV, gave a presentation about the new station and the work party that spent a day last May getting everything in working condition. More information about how to use the station and how to sign up to do so is expected to be coming soon.

Swaptoberfest

Fall seems to be a popular time for swapmeets. The next one coming up is in Cache Valley and is put on by the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club (BARC). It will be held on Saturday, October 13, beginning at 8:00 A.M. (Those setting up tables may come as early as 7 A.M.)

The location is the west campus of the Bridgerland Technical College, 1410 N 1000 West in Logan. Use the east doors. Admission and tables are free. Among the items for sale will be items from the estate of the late Bill Neville, WA7KMF.

More informaton is available at:
<https://baronline.org/swaptoberfest/>.

Jamboree on the Air

Help is needed for the annual Boy Scout event "Jamboree on the Air" (JOTA). The Utah National Parks Council is planning to set up for the event in the Orem Scouting Office and is looking for amateur operators to set up their equipment and demonstrate ham radio to scouts and their families. The event will be free.

JOTA is traditionally held on the third full weekend on October. This year that will put it on

Friday evening October 19 through Saturday, October 20.

Anyone interested in helping should contact Scott A. Anderson at (801) 770-1432.

Rocky Mountain Division Convention 2019

The coming year, 2019, will be Utah's turn to host the annual ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention. It will take place in the Shepard Union Conference Facility at Weber State University in Ogden. The dates of the event are August 8 through 10 (Thursday through Saturday). For those who might want to avoid commuting back and forth, accommodations will be available in one of the student dorm buildings at \$25 per person per night.

ARRL's Rocky Mountain Division is composed of four states: Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. The chance to host the annual convention rotates among the four states.

More details will be forthcoming, but you may want to put the convention dates on your calendar.

Evaluators Needed

We frequently get requests from families of deceased hams wondering what to do with the station equipment left behind. It would be nice if we had a committee of folks who would be willing to help these survivors. Hams that have a feel for value of equipment from different periods might enjoy helping these families. If you have an interest in such work, contact one of the UARC officers.



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 Gordon R. Smith, 632 S University St. Salt Lake City, UT 84102-3213

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 Rick Asper, 3915 S. 1915 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84106-3850

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Member of the Month

Randy Johnson, AG7HB

By Linda Reeder, N7HVF

This month we are featuring Randy Johnson, AG7HB. Randy was born and raised in northwest Iowa. He attended college at The University of Iowa and continued on for an M.S. in chemistry at South Dakota State. While at SDSU, Randy had a friend who had his ham radio license. Randy was interested but he didn't realize how diverse amateur radio really is. It wasn't until years later, when Randy did in-depth research on amateur radio, that he got interested enough to get his license.

After graduating from SDSU, Randy obtained his PhD in chemistry at Arizona State. He got his first job as a research chemist in nearby Goodyear, Arizona. He has also worked in eastern Pennsylvania and Albuquerque, New Mexico.

In 2002 Randy came to Salt Lake City for the winter olympics, and it was here he met his wife, Ann. Randy and Ann have one daughter who is married and provided one grandson to keep them busy.

When Randy retired, they moved up to Salt Lake City where they both now volunteer with the paleontology group from the Natural History Museum of Utah. This

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was when Randy decided to get into amateur radio. Randy obtained his Extra Class license in June 2017. He took his Technician, General and Extra exams in one session and passed them all. By this time Randy had completed his extensive research on amateur radio and wanted to get his ham license for safety reasons. He wants to be able to communicate when he and his group are out on field trips in the Grand Staircase and other remote locations.

Randy purchased a TYT TH-9800 mobile, which can be operated as a cross-band repeater. Randy also purchased a new battery pack, solar panel, and antenna that he will be using when setting up his transceiver in the cross-band mode. The repeater can be helpful when he is out on field trips with the paleontology group.

There was a complication. Randy originally ordered a 28-watt flexible folding solar panel from Bioenno, but they were out of those and sent him a two-panel folding 60-watt unit instead. It turned out that the charge controller in the battery pack that he had ordered was not compatible with that solar panel. To cure the problem, they sent him a 40-watt panel that does work fine with the battery pack. The company told him that, rather than send the 60-watt panel back, he could use it as a door prize at his local club meeting.

Randy was not going to be at the next meeting since he was heading out on a paleo field trip that day, so he arranged for another club member to pick up the panel

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and bring it to the club meeting where it became the grand prize.

Randy has lived in Utah for nine years and has been working with the paleo group for eight and a half of them. He is active in the lab as a fossil preparator as well as in the field, finding and digging up the fossils. A couple of months ago Randy was given the special honor of having a dinosaur named after him.

Randy's favorite thing about amateur radio is research, learning, and experimenting. He plans on getting involved in satellites. He also enjoys fly fishing and gardening. Randy is a member of UARC and The ARRL.

Randy, welcome to amateur radio.



Randy Johnson, AG7HG