

The *Microvolt*

July, 2019



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.

UARC 2018 Board

President: Morris Farmer, AD7SR	801 278-4966
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Bookseller: Rick Gregory ,KG7GOW	801 582-7783
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://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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For account information go to: <http://www.xmission.com/> Or call 801 539-0852



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September Meeting: Emergency Preparedness and Batteries

The topic of “batteries” is one of the most important for anyone who is involved with emergency communications to master. Disasters are frequently accompanied by power failures and communications are often needed in places where there was no available line power to start with. The solution to these power problems is often batteries. But what kind should you use? How do you get the best life? What kind has the best capacity to weight ratio? What is proper care and feeding?

At our September meeting, to be held Thursday, September 12, our guest speaker will be Dave Christensen, KD7UM. Dave has had considerable experience with emergency communications, batteries, and public service events. He will tell us how to take advantage of the latest battery technology and to give our batteries the best possible care.

The meeting will take place Thursday, September 12th at 7:30 P.M. Location is the Warnock Engineering Building on the University of Utah campus. The room number has yet to be determined. Check the UARC web site (<http://www.utaharc.org>) for updates.

Note that we do not meet in August. We hope everyone will attend the Rocky Mountain Division Convention in Ogden, August 8-10. See <https://rmdc2019.org> for full details.

UARC meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month. The room number varies with availability. See <http://user.xmission.com/~uarc/meetmap.html> for a map and information on finding the building.

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 this month features photos from our two big summer events, Field Day and Steak Fry. On the left is the layout at the Field Day site of three operating tents and the 85-foot tower with an A-4 tri-bander on top. Thanks to Ron Speirs, K7RLS, for the photo.

On the right is a scene from the July 13 steak-fry in Big Cottonwood Canyon. On the far right is Bruce Fereday, KF7OZK, UARC Vice-President, tending to the steaks. Bruce was responsible for much of the preparation for the event. Thanks to Gloria Larkin for the photo.

Homebrew Night Coming

It may seem early, but the annual “Homebrew Night” is going to be here before we know it.

Homebrew Night is a chance for hams to display items that they have built themselves for use in amateur radio. This year, it will take place at our October meeting to be held Thursday, October 10.

Home-built equipment has been around just about as long as has amateur radio itself, with folks building transmitters, receivers, and antennas.

Today the possibilities have expanded considerably. One might build an electronic keyer, a power supply for a mobile rig, a linear amplifier, a repeater controller, a microphone mixer or equalizer, a tuner and transmitter for the 2200-meter band, or a 160-meter beer-can Yagi.

Come prepared to give about a five-minute description of your project, what it does and what its good features are. Nothing is too large or too small. If your project is too large or too well tied down to bring in, just bring enough photos and diagrams to show us what it is and how it works.

RMDC2019

Just remember “RMDC2019” and you will be able to get the latest information about the upcoming Rocky Mountain Division Convention, to be held October 8-10 on the campus of Weber State University. The full URL is:

<https://rmdc2019.org/>.

The ARRL Rocky Mountain Division consists of four states: Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah. The annual convention moves among the four states and this year it is Utah’s turn to host the event. There will be swap meet, seminars, contests, famous speakers, DX University, and license exams.

Speaker at the Friday lunch will be Howard E. Michel, WB2ITX, who became the new CEO of ARRL just this year. The Saturday lunch will feature Bob Heil, K9EID, well-known for Heil microphones. Bob, who is an expert in many areas of sound, is the only non-musician to become a member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Accommodations are available at bargain rates in dorm rooms at the University.

Anyone with a Vacuum Variable?

For those who remember Steve Kleinlein, KE7G, who was active in UARC some years ago, we have a report that he is alive and back on HF using FT-8 and PSK-31.

Steve is currently working on a magnetic loop antenna and is in need of a vacuum variable capacitor. It needs to be about 500 pF at 10 kV. Anyone who can help should contact Steve at: <mailto:sklein38@gmail.com> or by phone at (801) 304-5944.

Field Day Results

UARC had a good time at this year's Field Day event, although we did not make as many contacts as in 2018. Despite fears to the contrary, our traditional site near Payson Lakes was unburnt, accessible, and worked well for us.. Lonnie, K7LO, kept the faith got our special use permit early in the season despite fears expressed by others. (The Utah Valley ARC even offered to let us join their Field Day in case our traditional site was not usable. We thank UVARC for the offer.)

Our message to the Section Manager (who, conveniently, happened to be visiting us) showed that at starting time we had 15 hams present along with 25 others.

The paradox remains that while 20 meters is consistently our best band for CW, the SSB operators get more contacts on 40 than on 20.

Below is a tabulation of our contacts and scores plus last year's data included for comparison.

UARC Field Day Scoring

Band	2019						2018					
	CW		Digial		Phone		CW		Digial		Phone	
	QSOs	QSO Points	QSOs	QSO Points	QSOs	QSO Points	QSOs	QSO Points	QSOs	QSO Points	QSOs	QSO Points
80m	65	130	18	36	104	104	117	234			111	111
40m	15	30			555	555	17	34			766	766
20m	597	1194	15	30	195	195	534	1068			187	187
6m			11	22								
Total	677	1354	44	88	854	854	668	1336			1064	1064
Grand Total Points	2296						2400					

	2019	2018
Source	Points	Points
QSO points x power mult.	4592	4800
100% Emergency Power	300	300
Message to SM	100	100
W1AW Bulletin	100	100
Natural Power QSOs	100	100
Educational Activity	100	100
Safety Officer	100	100
Social Media	100	100
Media Publicity		100
Public Information Table		100
Web Submission	50	50
Final Score	5542	5950



John Brewer, N7MFQ, operates in one of the Field Day SSB tents
(Thanks to K7RLS for the photo)

License Examination Schedule

Opportunities to test for new or upgraded amateur licenses

Date	Day	City	Contact Person	Phone
07/29/19	(Mon.)	Taylorsville ^{3,5}	Garth Wiscombe, W7PS	(801) 558-5936
08/03/19	(Sat.)	Salt Lake City ^{1,4}	Gordon Smith, K7HFV	(801) 582-2438
08/10/19	(Sat.)	Ogden ⁵	Garth Wiscomb, W7PS	(801) 558-5936
08/10/19	(Sat.)	Hurricane ²	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	N/A
08/21/19	(Wed.)	Provo ⁵	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983
08/21/19	(Wed.)	St. George ²	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	N/A
08/26/19	(Mon.)	Taylorsville ^{3,5}	Garth Wiscombe, W7PS	(801) 558-5936
09/04/19	(Wed.)	Clearfield ^{1,5}	Joe Giraud, N7JEH	(775) 777-4798

¹Preregistration required. Check with the contact person before the test session.
²More information at <http://www.dixieham.org/meetings.html>
³New location is the Taylorsville City Hall, 2600 Taylorsville Blvd, Room 110
⁴More information at <http://www.utaharc.org/Exams/>
⁵Preregister by going to <http://www.hamstudy.org/sessions/> and finding the session date.

More details at <http://user.xmission.com/~uarc/testinfo.html>

Field Day 2019 Draws Nearly 3,100 Entries

From *The ARRL Letter*

The 30-day deadline to submit ARRL Field Day entries via app upload and (timely postmarked) USPS mail is now past, and the ARRL Contest Branch reports 3,070 entries have been logged into the system. Last year saw 2,903 entries. ARRL Radiosport and Field Services Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, said the total does not include entries postmarked by July 23 and still in transit. A number of entries still show a status of "PENDING." These include 280 incomplete entries that are missing the required list of call signs by band/mode (also known as a "Dupe Sheet"), or a Cabrillo file.

"This requirement is to ensure that claimed contact totals do not include duplicate contacts on the same band and mode," Jahnke said. "These entries, if not complete, may end up as check logs in the final listings."

An additional 191 entries are missing something *other* than Dupe Sheets. "These entries are complete," Jahnke explained. "Their scores at present are not benefitting from certain bonuses, for which documentation is still outstanding," he said. "Confirmation for entries submitted online using the web app include a link to update your entry."

Editor's Comments on Field Day

We are happy to announce that the UARC entry was submitted and labeled "complete." At the deadline, 32 entries from the Utah Section had been received. Only nine of them (including UARC) were class A (club or group portable). Twelve were home stations (class D or E), two

were class F (Emergency Operating Centers), one was class C (mobile), and the remainder were class B (portable with one or two operators). We will look forward to seeing scores in December. The class A entries may be the most interesting to compare against our own.

Member of the Month

Dennis Church, KF7BUI

By Linda Reeder, N7HVF

This month we are featuring Dennis Church, KF7BUI. Dennis was exposed to amateur radio when he was growing up on a country chicken farm in Southern California where he lived with his family.

Dennis's uncle, Louis Brown, who is now a silent key, had a huge ham shack and a 50-foot antenna. Dennis said his uncle had the highest antenna in Winchester, California. Louis let Dennis talk on

his radios and Dennis really enjoyed it, but he was sufficiently busy working on the farm and going to school that he didn't think about getting his own amateur radio license. It wasn't until years later when Dennis finally obtained his Technician license. He was working for Garrick Gold Mines in Elko, Nevada. Dennis was a diesel mechanic and worked on haul trucks. He was also a certified trainer.

Brian Chatman, NB9BE, convinced Dennis to get his Technician license. Brian let Dennis talk on his radio. Brian had a hand-held radio in his pocket and he would take it with him everywhere he went. Brian also had antennas all over his truck. Dennis received his Technician license in 2009 and just recently renewed it for another ten years.

Dennis said he has worked on repeaters more than he has talked on the radio. Dennis worked on protecting those repeaters to keep vandals out. He had to shut some of them down. Dennis worked for the mines for 29 years and is still working there.

After Dennis retired he and his wife Susan moved to Salt Lake City, Utah. Dennis and Susan have two sons and one daughter. The youngest daughter lives in their basement which is like a second house. Dennis built it. Dennis loves to build things. He likes to make things out of metal and has a very nice workshop on his property. When I

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asked Dennis what he liked best about amateur radio he said it was talking to people, but he loves building things the best. Other hobbies Dennis enjoys are fishing and traveling.

Dennis is a member of UARC and the ARRL. He has a Yaesu VX-2R hand-held radio and is working hard learning how to program it. We hope Dennis can find someone who has this same model and can help him program it.

Dennis, welcome to the hobby. We wish you the best in your endeavors.



Dennis Church, KF7BUI