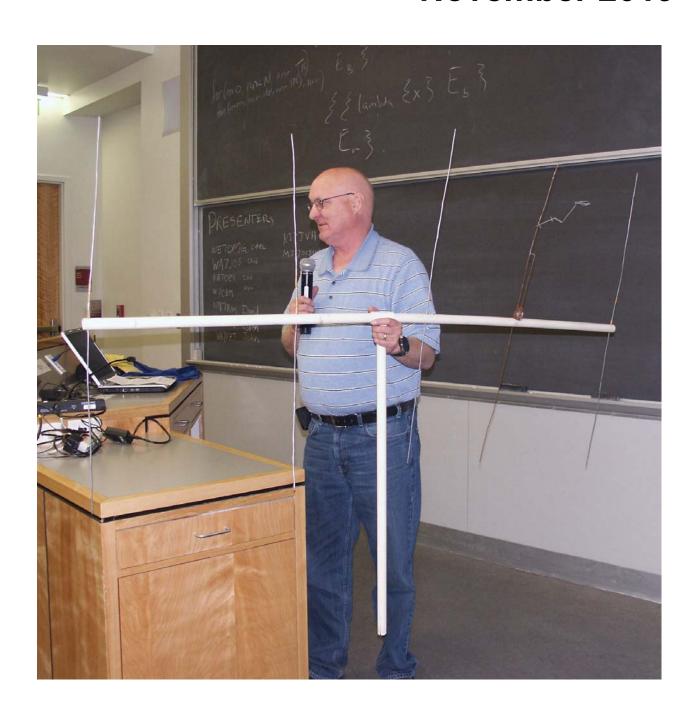
# The Microvolt

## November 2019



#### **Prologue**

**Publication**: *The Microvolt* (USPS 075-430) is the official publication of the Utah Amateur Radio Club, Incorporated, 632 S. University Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84102-3213. 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: Ton 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 2019 Board**

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Imm. Past President: Clint Turner, KA7OEI	801 566-4497

#### **Committee Chairpersons and Members**

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

#### Contents

November Meeting: FM Operating Practices	. 3
Plus Nominations	. 3
Our Cover	.3
Latest News	4
License Examination Schedule	6
Member of the Month	7

#### **IRLP Information**

For information on using the club's IRLP node on the 146.76 repeater, check <a href="http://www.utaharc.org/irlp">http://www.utaharc.org/irlp</a>.

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

The Official Publication of the Utah Amateur Radio Club, Salt Lake City, Utah Volume 62, Issue 10, November 2019

## November Meeting: FM Operating Practices Plus Nominations

What's the right way to operate on VHF and UHF FM? There are a lot of opinions floating around the country, many at odds with one another. At the November UARC meeting, Thursday, November 14, we will have a chance to discuss these issues. Is it OK to call CQ? How do you tell the difference between weak signal strength and low audio? Why are some stations not giving legal identification?

Gordon Smith, K7HFV, will be presenting. Having been licensed for over 60 years, he has had plenty of time to develop bad habits and he tells us he will be happy to share them with everyone and encourage them to adopt them. He will discuss different influences such as FCC requirements, standards set by ARRL, influx of CB'ers, and tradition.

The November meeting is also time for nomination of officers for 2020. The Board will present its choices and there will be an opportunity for nominations from the floor. Be thinking about who you would like to have lead the club in the coming year.

The meeting will take place Thursday, November 14, at 7:30 P.M., in room 1230 of the Warnock Engineering Building on the University of Utah campus.

UARC meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month. The room number varies with availability. See <a href="http://user.xmission.com/~uarc/meetmap.html">http://user.xmission.com/~uarc/meetmap.html</a> 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.

#### **Our Cover**

Our cover this month is from the October meeting which was "Hombrew Night." John Gardner, WA7PZJ, shows his portable five-element two-meter Yagi made from PVC and copper wire. Thanks to Ron Speirs, K7RLS, for the photo. More of Ron's homebrew photos can be found at: http://user.xmission.com/~uarc/homebrew19.html.

### **Latest News**

### **Book Pre-Ordering**

It's time that the annual release of ARRL's two most popular reference books, the *ARRL Handbook* and the *ARRL Antenna Book*. Our Bookseller, Rick Gregory, KG7GOW, has announced that there is a pre-ordering plan available. Both books are available in more than one format. You can order either book in either format through the club at a savings. For full information go to:

http://user.xmission.com/~uarc/announce.html#books.

## W7MR, $\overline{SK}$

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of long-time UARC member Marv Zitting, W7MR. Marv passed away on Wednesday, October 23, at his home. He was 88 years old.

Mary got his first license at age 16, and was active almost continuously since that time. He was active in traffic-handling, VHF, and DX, and was always willing to help newcomers get started.

For many years Marv enlisted his family and church friends to make a very serious entry in the national Field Day event. They almost always scored near the top of the nation.

Marv's previous calls include W7MWR, K7OAD ("only after dark"), and K7BE. Marv's wife, Rhea, had her Extra-Class license and since 2000 has had the cleverly-chosen call to complement W7MR: W7MRS.

Mary's radio experience and expertise included broadcasting. For nine years in the late 50's and early 60's he was Chief Engineer among other duties for KWHO AM and FM.

Mary had his own ideas about what constituted good operating practice. He encouraged operators

to talk over the MCW repeater ID rather than wait for it to finish. Your editor will always remember his admonition:

"It is not necessary to stand at attention with your hand over your heart while the ID runs."

#### **Remote Site Escapes Fire**

A wildfire recently came right up to the fence surrounding the site of UARC's remote HF station near Leamingon, Utah. From what we can see from photos, it stopped there and left our equipment and antennas alone. There had been a report that the support for one end of the recently added end-fed half-wave 160-meter antenna had been broken, but Gary Crum, KK7DV, reports that the SWR on the feedline still looks as it had in the past. We will have to wait until someone has time to make a trip to the site to know with certainty the state of that antenna.

The remote station is available for any UARC member to use within the privileges of his license class. For more information about the station, how to use it, and how to sign up, go to:

http://user.xmission.com/~uarc/Leamington.html. Future plans include adding a Yagi for the upper DX bands.

#### No Change to ID Rules

The FCC recently denied a petition by KK8DX to loosen the ID rules for nets and operations for public service. He had proposed that a net control be able to satisfy the identification rules for all participants by announcing a list of calls every ten minutes. Comments on the petition were strongly negative. There seemed to be general agreement that the current rules did not present a burden or obstacle and are actually helpful in letting operators know when a channel is free.

#### The Microvolt November 2019

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## **License Examination Schedule**

#### Opportunities to test for new or upgraded amateur licenses

Date	Day	City	Contact Person	Phone
11/13/19	(Wed.)	Provo <sup>5</sup>	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983
11/20/19	(Wed.)	St. George <sup>2</sup>	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	N/A
11/25/19	(Mon.)	Taylorsville <sup>3,5</sup>	Garth Wiscombe, W7PS	(801) 558-5936
12/04/19	(Wed.)	Clearfield	Joe Giraudo, N7JEH	(775) 777-4798
12/07/19	(Sat.)	Salt Lake City <sup>1,4</sup>	Gordon Smith, K7HFV	(801) 582-2438
12/07/19	(Sat.)	Logan	Richard D. Elwood, KE7GYD	(435) 770-7050
12/07/19	(Sat.)	Hurricane <sup>2</sup>	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	N/A
12/19/19	(Wed.)	Provo <sup>5</sup>	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983

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

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>More information at <a href="http://www.dixieham.org/meetings.html">http://www.dixieham.org/meetings.html</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>New location is the Taylorsville City Hall, 2600 Taylorsville Blvd, Room 110

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>More information at <a href="http://www.utaharc.org/Exams/">http://www.utaharc.org/Exams/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Preregister by going to <a href="http://www.hamstudy.org/sessions/">http://www.hamstudy.org/sessions/</a> and finding the session date.

## Member of the Month Linda Reeder, N7HVF

(Part 1)

#### By Linda Reeder, N7HVF

Last month when I interviewed Tammy Aho, KF7OGP, she said she would only let me interview her if I would tell my own story the next month. So, this month we will be featuring *me*, Linda Reeder, N7HVF. Here is my story.

In the 1980s I was working two jobs: one at the Salt Lake County Health Department where I am still working, and part time for KSL radio. I would screen the calls for the *Bob Lee Magazine*, *Public Pulse* and *Cougar Call-in*. It was Randy Finch, K7SL, one of the KSL engineers, who got me interested in amateur radio. One night Randy gave me a ride home from work and he demonstrated his amateur radio station. I was amazed at how good it sounded. It wasn't full of static like CB radio. I told Randy that I talked on my Grandfather's CB radio and I didn't like the filthy language. Randy said if anyone uses bad language on amateur radio they are fined big, big, bucks!

Randy wanted me to take an amateur radio class that met in the evenings but I couldn't because of my job at KSL radio. Instead, I took a correspondence class in amateur radio from the Haddley School for the Blind in Winnetka, Illinois.

During this time Randy Lawrence, KG7GI, and Otto Casal, KA7VTG, were hired into the KSL Radio Engineering department. Randy wanted them to get involved in amateur radio as well. We studied together and it was a lot of fun. In October of 1985 Randy gave me my Novice test. I passed the Morse Code but messed up on the theory. Randy said I had to wait 30 days and take the whole thing all over again, even the Morse Code. I was not a happy camper.

In November I took it again and passed. I started studying for the Technician test. Bill Gibson at the

Center for the Blind got his secretary to put the technician pool questions into braille. It was in two volumes. I still have it for memorabilia. On Saturday, December 14th, I passed my Technician test. After the session Randy whispered to Gordon, K7HFV,

"Should we tell her about the money?" They asked me if I would like to join UARC. I said yes. I think it was only 10 dollars a year back then.

I was soon having lots of fun talking on two meters. My first hand-held radio was an Icom which had only ten memories. It was a big thing to carry around but it went with me everywhere. One night at KSL, Randy told me to call Ron Jones. Randy told me his call sign, K7RJ. Ron used to work with us at KSL. Randy said:

"Don't tell him who you are. Let's see if he can figure it out." I kept calling him. Finally he said,

"Who keeps calling me?" I gave him all kinds of hints. Finally I told him who I was. He was quite surprised.

In the spring of 1986 I went to Californic to visit my friend, Pam Maton, who was graduating from a junior college in California. While I was there I talked on ham radio. I met Anne Wright who had a ham radio business. She made shirts with ham call signs on them. She also made mugs and hats. I called her on the land line and ordered shirts and mugs for Randy Finch, K7SL; Randy Lawrence, KG7GI; and Otto Cassal, WA7VTG, for helping me get into amateur radio.

#### The Microvolt November 2019



Linda Reeder, N7HVF at a club meeting

Anne and I became very good friends. She let me talk on her HF rig. We got on the Kiddlehopper Net on 7268.5. She introduced me to Roy McFall, KF6GPU. Roy got permission from Red Skelton to use the "Kadidlehoppers" name for the ham radio net. It was an informal net; they call it rag-chewing. I knew then that I wanted to get my General license so I could become a part of the Kadidlehoppers net. All I had had to do was pass the 13 word per minute Morse Code test.

However, my plans were interrupted by an aneurysm on the left side of my head. The doctors didn't think I would live. While I was recovering at my parents' house my friends would ask me "Why don't you get on the radio?" I was afraid I wouldn't remember people's call signs. Otto came to the rescue. He called my parents and asked if they could tell me to get on the 146.62 repeater. The operators there welcomed me back to the living. It was *so* good to talk to them.

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While I was recovering I discovered that I had to learn the Morse Code all over again. I was not happy about that. It had been a lot of work and I failed several tests.

(*To be continued*)



Tammy Aho, KF7OCP (October's Member of the Month) Thanks to Ron, K7RLS, for photos