

The *Microvolt*

October 2021



CoCoRaHS COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE RAIN, HAIL & SNOW NETWORK
"Reduce every drop counts!"
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Welcome to CoCoRaHS! "Volunteers working together to measure precipitation across the nation."

Who uses CoCoRaHS Observations?

Reports received today 9/9/2021 as of 8:58 PM EDT

Units	Hourly	Events	Total	Conditions	Count
11,575	129	13	0	14	124

24-hour Precipitation
Sep 9, 2021

- Rain
- Hail
- Snow
- Ice
- Sleet
- Total
- 0.00 - 0.19 in.
- 0.20 - 0.77 in.
- 0.78 - 1.99 in.
- 2.00 - 2.99 in.
- 3.00 - 4.99 in.
- 5.00 - 9.99 in.

Things to know about:

- Rain
- Hail
- Snow

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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: 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 2021 Board

President: Morris Farmer, AD7SR	801 278-4966
Executive VP: Lonnie Oaks, K7LO	801 255-1225
Vice Pres: Bruce Fereday, KF7OZK	801 883-9428
Secretary: Tom Kamlowsky, WA7ZRG	801 505-9134
Treasurer: Chuck Johnson, WA7JOS	801 268-0153
<i>Microvolt</i> Editor: Gordon Smith, K7HFV	801 582-2438
Asst. <i>Microvolt</i> Editor: Rick Asper, AC7RA	801 865-1693
Program Chairperson: Robert Jelf, KG7OHV	385 252-7900
Program Chairperson: Mary Jelf, KG7QNG	385 347-7900
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

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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>. If you are a UARC member, check with the club secretary for the prefix code.

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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Latest News

October (Online) Meeting: Homebrew Night

The October UARC meeting follows a long tradition of reserving October’s meeting as *Homebrew Night*, an evening when those who have been building their own amateur radio equipment can show it off to other hams.

This year’s event will take place on Thursday, October 14, the normal UARC meeting time on the second Thursday of the month. The chance to show off some homebrew equipment is open to anyone who has constructed one or more items that are usable in amateur radio. That can include transmitters, receivers, antennas, antenna tuners, keyers, frequency converters, power supplies, microphone preamps, and interfaces between a computer and a transceiver for digital modes.

It’s always been a problem for the person who had constructed a five-element 160-meter Yagi to get it to our meeting place, let alone get it through the door of the building. Things that were too big, too heavy, or too hard to disconnect from their normal positions could be shown using photographs, diagrams, graphs, log pages, or other items that could show the group what had been done.

Statistics showing that spread of the Covid virus is still increasing have convinced the UARC Board that we should continue holding our meetings on-line. This means that everyone will need to show off their homebrew entries using photos, video, etc. This could be a big advantage. There’s no need to disconnect your project, get it out to the

car, or, if it’s the 160-meter Yagi, take it down from its 150-foot tower.

Everyone planning to show something should contact the club President well ahead of time at: <mailto:homebrew@utaharc.org>. Those presenting homebrew projects can be accommodated in several ways:

—Using a Zoom invitation:

- You can present your project(s) by sharing them on Zoom using your local cameras and computers.
- If you don’t wish to do the photo presentation on Zoom (that is, you aren’t a Zoom “power user” and aren’t comfortable doing so) you can forward photos/videos to the above email address and have one of the UARC officers present the photos/videos while you talk over them.

—If you have a video to show, you may present it in one of several ways:

- Put it on YouTube and provide the UARC folks a link so that it may be played. (It takes special configuration of Zoom — and a rather powerful processor — to “show” videos via Zoom.)
- Send the video file (or a link to it). The use of Google or Dropbox is suggested — or any other way to make a large file like that, which is probably too big to be emailed — to allow it to be downloaded for the presentation, and to later be incorporated in the edited video that will be posted on YouTube.

Our Cover

Our cover this month shows Mickey Applebaum, KE7NZA, who presented a program on “Skywarn” at our September meeting. Skywarn is a nationwide program that involved the National Weather Service and ARRL working together to take advantage of amateurs’ ability, after some training, to communicate valuable information about local conditions and observations. Amateurs’ weather equipment might be far inferior to that of the NWS, but amateurs’ ability to communicate situations over a large area in a very short time can be quite valuable, even resulting in lives being saved.

Information is Needed From Our Members

Our President, Morris Farmer, is looking for help from the membership on some important matters. First, with nominations for office coming up next month, we need to know of folks who are willing to run for office.

Robert and Mary Jelf will not be able to continue as Program Chair-persons in 2022, so there is a need for others willing to step into those offices.

Morris, himself, may be getting a bit tired of the responsibility of the presidency and would love to find some energetic folks willing to take over.

Morris is also looking for something else. He initiated the “Member of the Year” award last year and is looking for nominees for this year. Who do you know who has done something productive for the hobby? Maybe someone who helps newcomers get started, someone who donates money and/or equipment for good amateur causes, someone who helps the elderly and disabled install good antennas, someone who faithfully keeps nets running, someone who puts many hours into public service, someone who makes cases to people in government involving antenna

restrictions, or people who faithfully perform behind-the-scene duties for a club or net to keep it running. Please think about it and let Morris know your ideas for this year’s Member of the Year.

One More Swap-Meet

Everyone loves swap meets. September was a time for events in Davis and Utah counties. What is likely to be the last one of the year is the annual “Swaptoberfest” in Cache County.

This year the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club’s Swaptoberfest will be held on Saturday, October 9, at 9 A.M. Location is the “Cache County Fairgrounds Pig Barn” at 558 S 500 West in Logan. For more information go to: <https://barconline.org/swaptoberfest/>.

Two Hams, SK

Two well-known hams passed away during September within a few days of each other we will surely miss them both.

Don Blanchard, W7GTU, who lived in Cedar City, passed away on Saturday, September 4, at about 11 A.M.

Mel Parkes, NM7P, VHF Society President writes:

“This morning at about 11:00AM, I dropped by the home of my good friend Don Blanchard, WA7GTU, to pick up some equipment he had requested that we pick up to use for the Utah VHF Society. I was very saddened to hear that he passed away peacefully at his home with family members present earlier this morning. I spent some very special moments with his family and assisted his daughter, Leann Blanchard, KU7GRL, announce his passing on the Beehive Utah Net as it began today.

“Don has devoted significant part of his life helping hundreds if not thousands of individuals

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learn about electronics and how to become an amateur radio operator. He was responsible for setting up one of the earliest repeaters, if not the first, in Utah. His repeater was issued the first FCC repeater call sign WR7AAA in the seventh call area. Working with repeaters became his passion for amateur radio setting up repeaters and keeping them on the air, he played a key role in establishing the Intertie system many of you have used and enjoy. He has assisted with input to almost every repeater in the state of Utah. He has served as the Vice President of the Utah VHF Society for over twenty years and provided many significant contributions to the Utah VHF Society.

“Don was one of the original members of the Beehive Utah Net and served for many years as one of the net control offices managing this ARRL Traffic Net. All the members of the net knew and respected Don. He was always there ready to help and assist.

“We have lost a giant of a man and I know he will never be forgotten.

”We will all miss Don.”

Fred DeSmet, KI7KM, died on Tuesday, September 7, at age 77.

As a General, Fred was N7OZP. He upgraded to the Extra class license in 2000 and became KI7KM.

Fred graduated in Electronic Technology in Pasadena California and later moved to Salt Lake City.

Fred served for several years as an officer for UARC and was quite generous with his equipment donations toward the remote station. He had a sense of humor that was greatly appreciated.

Upcoming Licensing Tests

Opportunities to visit volunteer examiners and test for the various classes of amateur radio license

City	Date	Day of Week	Contact Person	Call	Phone	To Sign Up Go To:
Logan	10-07-2021	Thu	Richard .D. Elwood	KE7GYD	(435) 770-7050	https://hamstudy.org/sessions/5ffbbcdb950ee6430c4afc0/1
Hurricane	10-09-21	Sat	Gary Zabriskie	N7ARE		https://hamstudy.org/sessions/5ffbbcdb950ee6430c4afc0/1 Scroll to “License Exams”
Provo	10-16-21	Sat	Steve Whitehead	NV7V	(801) 465-3983	https://hamstudy.org/sessions/613d6c0d8f06a82a8b9b26d7/1
Provo	10-20-21	Wed	Steve Whitehead	NV7V	(801) 465-3983	https://hamstudy.org/sessions/613d6165f808e3b71aa50c93/1
Murray	10-25-21	Mon	Garth Wiscombe	W7PS	(801) 558-5936	https://hamstudy.org/sessions/5ffe5de5944df881f6d4ab04/1

Hams Help Wasatch-100

After skipping a year for the Covid epidemic, the Wasatch 100-mile Endurance Run took place this year September 10 and 11. As has been the case for several decades, amateur radio operators provided communiations. This is not entirely trivial as the run begins and ends on opposite sides of the Wasatch Mountain Range.

Just short of 300 runners attempted the run this year and 165 actually made the full 100 miles in 36 hours or less. The hams had the task of making sure that a computer at the finish line recorded each runner's arrival and departure time at each of 14 check points. That amounts to somewhere near 2300 pieces of data coming from various points in the peaks and valleys of the mountains, and needing to be recorded via amateur radio.

The secret to moving this data quickly and accurately was the combination of amateur Packet Radio and a piece of software written by Kirk Boman, KD0J. Each time a runner arrives or leaves a checkpoint, an operator keys the time into the finish-line computer via packet radio on the two-meter band or the 70 cm band. Other kinds of communication took place on FM using a portion of the Intermountain Intertie.

This year both the runners and those manning check points had to endure some bursts of rain and hail. This probably reduced the percentage of runners that were able to finish the course, but somehow the 166 people managed to make the entire trek.

John Moellmer, WB7SUB, was responsible for making sure there were enough hams to man all the checkpoints, and that they knew the, sometimes obscure, dirt-road routes to their checkpoints. The job of ensuring enough manpower and skill for each checkpoint may start as early as June each year.

Things are quite different today from the way they were when the very first Wasatch-100 was held in 1980. The route was simply a matter of lines drawn on maps. No one had checked to see that there was actually trail in all the marked areas. No one had checked to see if the entire route was on land open to the public. There were fully *five* runners who started. The number of finishers was zero.

The whole story is rather interesting and can be found on the event's website at:
<https://wasatch100.com/>

Celebrating the First Ham Transatlantic Success

(From the *ARRL Letter*)

ARRL and the Radio Society of Great Britain will jointly sponsor events to celebrate the achievement of transatlantic communications by radio amateurs 100 years ago.

In December 1921, ARRL sent Paul F. Godley, 2ZE, as its representative to listen for amateur signals from North America during the Second Transatlantic Tests. Setting up his listening station in Ardrossan, on the west coast of Scotland, Godley received the signals of more than two dozen US amateur radio stations, the first on December 12 (UTC) from 1BCG in Connecticut, operated by members of the Radio Club of America. The message read: "Nr 1 NY ck 12 to Paul Godley, Ardrossan, Scotland. Hearty Congratulations. (Signed) Burghard Inman, Grinan Armstrong, Amy Cronkhite."

These successful transatlantic tests and the ones that followed spurred technological advances and new global wireless distance records. Several amateur radio operating events this year and next will commemorate the centenary of these significant milestones that heralded the dawn of two-way international amateur radio communication.

ARRL and RSGB will activate special event stations for 6 hours (0200 - 0800 UTC) on December 12 for the 160-meter Transatlantic Centenary QSO Party. RSGB will activate GB2ZE from Scotland, with a team of stations from the GMDX Group sharing operating duties. ARRL will activate W1AW. The stations will operate only on CW. If transatlantic propagation holds up, the stations may continue to operate beyond 0800 UTC.

The GMDX Group of Scotland will award a *quaich* — a traditional Scottish drinking cup representing friendship — to the first stations in North America and the UK to complete contacts with both W1AW and GB2ZE during the QSO party. A commemorative certificate will be available for download.

RSGB and ARRL are also organizing an international amateur radio marathon on the HF bands to commemorate transatlantic tests held between 1921 and 1923. The Transatlantic Centenary Marathon will take place in December 2022. The objective will be to mark these historic events by encouraging all radio amateurs to get on the air. Event details are pending.

ARRL and RSGB have assembled a list of stations and groups that are also organizing events and activities to celebrate 100 years of amateur radio transatlantic communication. For more information, visit arrl.org/transatlantic and rsgb.org/transatlantic-tests. The sites also include links to many previously published articles and presentations covering the historic tests.

ARES Training

Alan Moffet tells us that state ARES is offering training in October for Winlink and EMCOMM, and other amateurs may be interested. He writes:

“If you missed it, the four videos are at wavetalker.com. They will be doing more training in October and will also have a training on AREDN mesh soon. You may be interested in that also.

“As part of the training, David KK6DA is coordinating a group buy for VARA HF/FM. It’s a lifetime license that enables all of the features, including the highest data transfer rates. Usually, the cost is about \$70 but with a group buy it’s reduced to about \$55.

“David is allowing me the opportunity to extend the group buy invitation to several Ham radio clubs in our area. If you think members in your organization (or the club itself) would be interested, would you let them know it’s available? Interested parties can register at <https://forms.gle/qEvCebWNfXV963Yx7>. The group buy will execute when we have more than 50.

“If you have any questions, please let me know.”

Alan can be reached at:
<mailto:amoffet@hotmail.com>

Member of the Month

Douglas Davis, AD7LO

By Linda Reeder, N7HVF

This month we are featuring Douglas Davis, AD7LO. This is a very interesting story on how Doug got involved in amateur radio. Doug has

been wearing the uniform of the Salvation Army for 50 years. A 12-year-old boy scout, Garrett Bardsley, was lost in the Uinta Mountains. There

was a huge number searching for him. The Salvation Army was there providing support for the searchers. The Salvation Army leader at the scene could not contact the Salt Lake County Headquarters for more food. The leader was finally able to borrow a satellite phone from the local Sheriff's office. Shortly after that, the search was called off. The sheriff suggested Doug get his amateur radio license to support the Salvation Army Emergency Services.

Doug said for most of his career he was an electrical engineer for the Federal Aviation Administration, so it wasn't hard for him to pass his Technician test. Doug received his Technician license in 2005. He upgraded to Extra when in 2006, the Morse Code was no longer required. Doug's first callsign was KE7DST. When Doug obtained his Extra Class license he changed his callsign to AD7LO. The examiners were Eugene McWherter, N7OVT, and Chuck Johnson, WA7JOS.

Doug's first UARC amateur meeting was the best meeting ever. The Utah Amateur Radio Club was having a ham radio equipment auction. Doug got his first handheld radio. It was a Radio Shack 420. He still has it and it still works.

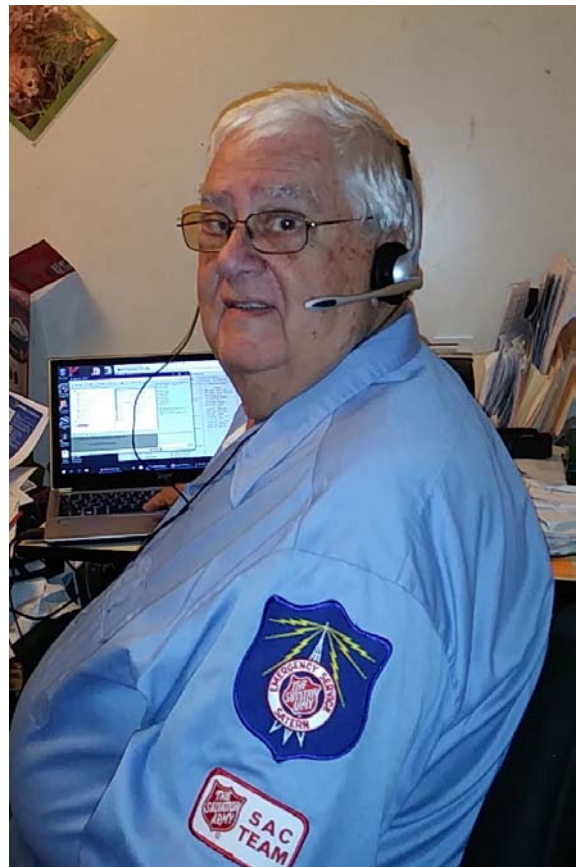
Doug is very active in IRLP. Every Sunday night at 7 P.M., Doug is on the IRLP conference Western Reflector on 9757. He talks on it all around the world and has talked as far away as Nepal, Australia, and Trinidad. In October, Doug is going to be training on IRLP and Echolink for the West Valley and Murray Amateur Radio clubs.

Doug's favorite thing about amateur radio is emergency communications. He is a member of the Salt Lake County ARES. Doug also enjoys participating in public service events such as news marathons and local parades. Doug said he is tapering off his activity in these groups because he is getting older.

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Doug said he retired from the FAA 18 years ago. He keeps busy following his wife Judy around. Doug and Judy have two adult daughters. One lives in Salt Lake and the other one lives in Tennessee. Doug and Judy have six grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Doug is a member of UARC and is involved with the Public Safety Society in Taylorsville.



Douglas Davis, KD7LO