

1/01

Ahhh, the Holidays!!!



Volume XLV Issue 1, January 2001



The MICROVOLT

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West Jordan, UT 84084

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Prologue

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 first Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM in the Infinia Medical Building located at 1255 East 3900 South in Holladay, across the street from St. Marks Hospital.

Membership: Club membership is open to anyone interested in amateur radio; a current license is not required. Dues are \$15 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 \$15 may obtain a membership without a *Microvolt* subscription for \$9. Send dues to the Club Secretary: Gregg Smith, KD7APW, 7546 S. Uranium Dr., West Jordan, UT 84084. ARRL membership renewals should specify ARRL Club #1602.

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 the 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-) has Autopatch facilities on both the Orem exchange (covering Santaquin to Lehi) and the Salt Lake City exchange (covering Draper to Layton). The 449.10 repeater has autopatch facilities available to UARC members into Salt Lake City only. Due to the volume of traffic, only mobiles should use this autopatch. Autopatch use is open to all visitors to our area and to all club members. Non-members who wish to use the autopatch are encouraged to help with the cost of maintaining the equipment by joining the club.

Ham Hot-Line: The Utah Amateur Radio Club (UARC) has a Ham Hotline, 583-3002. Information regarding Amateur Radio can be obtained, including club information, testing, meeting information, and membership information. If no one answers, leave your name, telephone number and a short message.

Publication: The *Microvolt* is the official publication of the club. Deadline for submissions to the *Microvolt* is the 10th of each month prior to publication. Submissions by email are preferred (uarc@xmission.com), but other means including diskettes and typewritten submissions can be mailed directly to: Tom Schaefer, NY4I, 11678 Littler Rd. Sandy, UT 84092. All submissions are welcome but what is printed and how it is edited are the responsibility of the Editor and the UARC board. Reprints are allowed with proper credits to The *Microvolt*, UARC, and authors. Changes in mailing address should be communicated to the Club Secretary: Gregg Smith, 7546 S. Uranium Dr., West Jordan, UT 84084. □

UARC 2001 Board

President: Dick Abbott, K7MZ	943-0370
Exec VP: Dave Player, KC7NGH	561-2585
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ATV Engineer: Clint Turner, KA7OEI	566-4497
Board Liason & Autopatch Engineer: Gordon Smith, K7HFV	582-2438
Provo Autopatch Host & ATV Engineer: Dale Jarvis, WB7FID	224-3405
Repeater Monitor: Allen Wright, N7QFI	268-8482

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For net times and frequencies, testing details and late breaking news listen to the UARC Information Net Sundays at 21:00 on 146.62 or set your browser to: www.xmission.com/~uarc/announce.html □

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The Microvolt

The Official Publication of the Utah Amateur Radio Club, Salt Lake City, Utah

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QST From the Prez

After all the holiday festivities are over most of us have given some thought to what we accomplished or how our lives were affected by the year 2000. Some of us might be asking ourselves how could a year have gone by, and there are still things on the "to do" list that were there last year at this time. Did that antenna ever get put up, did the code elude you another year, did you really find out why your rig was not putting out anything but a hum regardless of which power supply you used? The list would be as varied as the many aspects of our great hobby. One of the great things about our hobby is that it affords us the opportunity to expand our horizons in many directions. When we started in the hobby our knowledge of electronics and radios may have been limited, but for some reason the hobby appealed to us. It was then that we decided to get a license. The doors began to open. First came the study to gain

the knowledge to pass the written examination, and then there was the code. Some of us struggled with the code or the theory, or both. But with perseverance, we passed the exam and were licensed.

But as you all know, that was only the beginning. Through your study for the examination you were exposed to various aspects of the new hobby. If you took the challenge, you began your journey into a new, exciting world. At the end of your first year as a ham, you probably felt you had barely scratched the surface of the hobby. After 15 years as a ham, I still feel there is a tremendous amount to be learned, and I haven't even touched the area of satellite communications.

Much of the excitement of this hobby for me is learning new things and having new experiences. Add to that the camaraderie, and you have a hobby that is hard to beat.

So on your "to do" list this new year add something new - explore a new technology such as PSK31 (the topic for the January meeting); upgrade your license, and get into the world of HF; volunteer for the field day committee, and learn how to organize the annual event; learn how to run a logging program; volunteer to support the Friendship Cruise (the ultimate field day); raise your skill level to support the Olympics; or bring others into this hobby. The list is almost endless.

The most important thing is to make a commitment to improve, and you and the club will be better for it.

73,
Dick, K7MZ

Featured Member of the Month

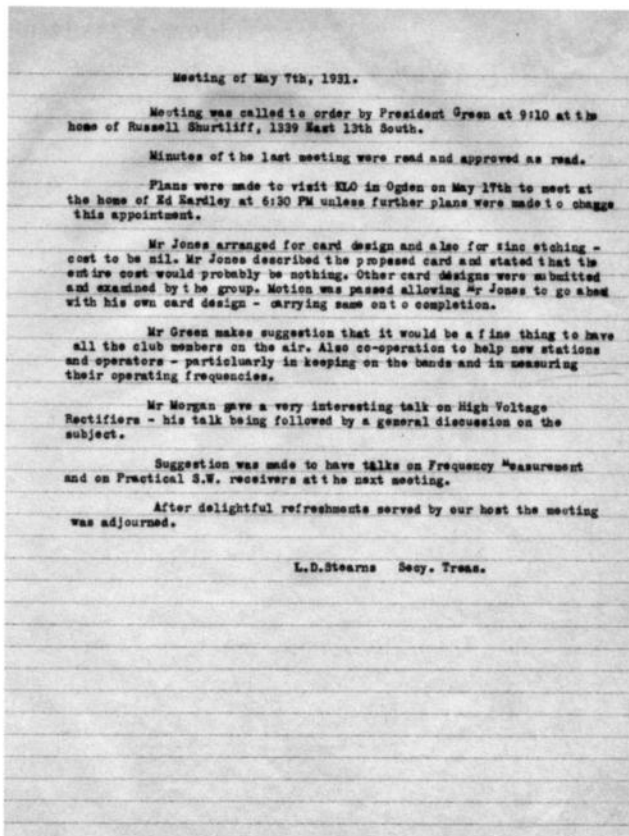
This month we are featuring Charles Kimball KC7QQD. Charles has been interested in radio communications since he was in junior high school. Charles and his family would visit the Lakes Region in New Hampshire every summer. Charles was always interested in finding things. One day when he was hiking around the lakes he saw something bright and shiny laying on the ground. When he got closer he discovered that it was a new 40 channel crystal CB radio. That was back in the days when you had to have a license to talk on CB radio. He said that CB radio wasn't bad like it is today. He had a lot of fun with it. It wasn't until years later that his interest was rekindled when Allan Arveseth KB7WVR gave a talk on the use of amateur radio in emergency situations. He attended Allan's class and received his technician license in April 1996. He obtained his general license in February 2000. Charles is very active in amateur radio. He enjoys talking on 2 meters. This is an excellent way of communicating. He says that hams are a wonderful group of people. They are so friendly and willing to help. Charles is a member of the Emergency Radio Response System (ERRS). He is also a member of UARC and is net control on the second Sunday of each month for the UARC information net. Charles works for Evans & Sutherland as a computer programmer. He has a degree in electrical engineering. He has two children - a nine year old son and a 14 year old daughter. His wife passed away six years ago. He says he is "available" [One more reason to join UARC - the dating service? Ed.]. He was so excited when his daughter Alicia obtained her technician license in December of 1999. Her call sign is KD7HEC. This summer Charles and his two children Alicia and Billy attended field day at Payson Lakes and had a wonderful time. Charles, thanks for your participation in UARC.

73 N7HVF Linda Reeder

A Blast from the Past

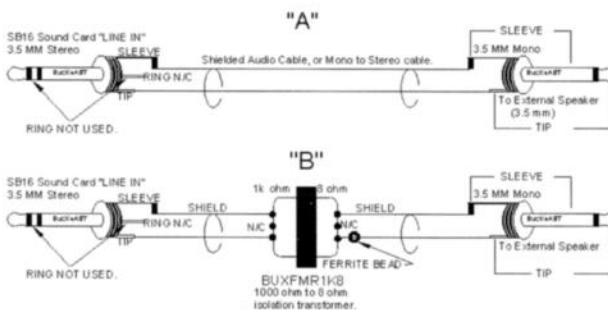
This month's Blast is from May 7th, 1931

Thanks to Alan, N7OI, for this great feature □



PSK 31 Soundcard Interface

The picture below is the soundcard interface to connect your radio up to your computer for operating PSK31. This is only a single connection -- there are many other ways to do it. For all the details, please attend the January 2001 UARC meeting where PSK31 will be explained and **operated**. See you there.



UARC 2000 Officers

At the December 2000 UARC meeting, UARC elected its slate of officers for 2001 (the first year of the millennium)

Note: Individuals with multiple jobs within the club, will only have the full listing of information on the first such job on this list.

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Photo: Steve Perry, N7SWP

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Photo: Steve Perry, N7SWP

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Gordon Smith K7HFV

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Field Day Chairperson:

Open

Club Historian:

Ron Speirs KC7MYS

Book Lady:

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For its first meeting of the new year (and, come to think of it, of the millenium), UARC will be presenting Tom Schaefer, NY4I, to tell us about the hot new digital mode: PSK-31. (That means phase-shift keying at 31.25 baud.) PSK-31 was devised as a modern replacement for radioteletype (RTTY) to make keyboard-to-keyboard QSOs on HF. It boasts narrow bandwidth and excellent performance under poor conditions.

One particularly attractive feature of PSK-31 is that, assuming you have a radio and a computer, you can get on it practically free! There is free software available that uses the sound card in a reasonably recent PC to create and demodulate PSK-31. All you need to do is make up some cables, and possible build a simple circuit to actuate your push-to-talk line.

Tom will be telling us about the unique features of this mode, and how you can go about putting it on the air.

The meeting will be on Thursday, January 4, at 7:30 PM at the Infinia Medical Center (see page 2 for address). The meeting will also feature the perennial features such as a chance for "eyeball QSOs", the latest ARRL books available for sale, an opportunity to join the ARRL or renew your membership, and your choice of pizza or non-pizza parties after the meeting. Don't miss it!

Gordon, K7HFV □

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Bob Wood W7OAD, UARC Member**

Where's the Rest of my Microvolt?

Perhaps you have noticed that this edition of the Microvolt is a bit "lighter" than usual. Well, I am afraid to say it is a figment of your imagination. It is really three times the normal size, but that was in the universe it was written. In this universe, it appears to be eight pages. Relativity has many applications!

But seriously, this edition is smaller for a few reasons: First and foremost, with the recent 20 page issues we have exceeded our expected budget for Microvolt printing by quite a bit. But more importantly, with the move towards electronic distribution of content to web sites, it seems time to scale back the Microvolt a bit and publish more of the "list" type content only on the website. Specifically, I am talking about every test session, other club, horse auction, stock car race, and square dance in the state. For several years, UARC has maintained one of the most complete amateur radio websites on the Internet. If it is happening in Utah, odds are it is on the web site. That site is www.xmission.com/~uarc. Now, we certainly realize that not everyone has Internet access, so UARC still offers the ham hotline and the information net for updates on things concerning amateur radio in Utah.

The intent is to concentrate on quality information and articles in the printed Microvolt and save the reference information for the website. We hope that everyone understands and looks forward to receiving an action-packed Microvolt each month.

On the topic of the website, if you are familiar with PHP, Perl, MySQL, or HTML, the UARC webmasters want to talk to you. If you have the skills and the time, please contact the editor at uarc@xmission.com. We are planning some great things for the website!

73, Tom NY4I□

Examination Schedule for January

01/10/2001 (Wed.) Mantua
Contact: Jim Jones, KJ7VO
Phone (435) 723-1947

01/17/2001 (Wed.) Provo
Contact: Steve Whitehead, NV7V
Phone: H 465-3983 B 225-5200

01/26/2001 (Fri.) Roosevelt

Contact: R. Chandler Fisher, W7BYU
Phone: (435) 722-5440

1/30/2001 * (Tues.) Salt Lake City
Contact: Eugene McWherter, N7OVT
Phone: 484-6355

2/03/2001 (Sat..) Salt Lake City
Contact: Gordon Smith, K7HFV
Phone: 582-2438

*Only Technician elements (1 and 2) given at this session.

For more detail either call the contact or checkout the information on our webpage
<http://www.xmission.com/~uarc> □

Jack Warren, KC7KEL (SK)

On December 15th, 2000, our good friend Jack, KC7KEL passed away. Jack was a tireless friend of UARC -- always willing to help someone in need on the repeater, or lend a hand at the Red Cross or the club meetings. Jack had friends all over the world via Ham Radio and he will truly be missed. If you would like to make a donation to Jack's family, his brother would sincerely appreciate it. Jack's friend, Dave Player, KC7NGH has offered to collect any contributions. Please send them to Dave Player, 8775 S. 1185 East, Sandy, UT 84094.

We can take comfort in the fact that for those of us who knew Jack -- knew a truly kind individual. Hopefully, we are all better people for knowing him. Let's hope 20 meters is open all the time where Jack is and there is never any QSB!

Tom NY4I



A Holiday Poem

Twas' the day before Sunday, and all through the ham store, creatures were stirring, one with a mouse. The hams were chatting about new gear and the like, one even said "This one's quite nice"

When what to our wondering eyes should appear,
but the UPS truck with all the new gear.
There was Kenwood and Icom and Yaesu and Ten-Tec,
Alinco and Standard and MFJ and Alpha.
When all of a sudden, there arose such a clatter,
our money sprang from our wallets like ducks into water.

We carted our boxes, our bags, and our packages
and came up with stories to tell to our spouses,
"There was this jolly fellow with whiskers on his
face, that made a ham store in Midvale your kind of
place. He slid down the tower, and went straight to
work." Selection and service were his mortar and
dirt.

His efforts were rewarded with loyalty and esteem
as my friends and I gladly handed him our green.
As we left the store, all buzzing like bees
carrying our goodies home for hours of glee,
One ham was heard to say "Now, this is how a ham
store should be!"

Happy Holidays - Tom NY4I ☐
With grave apologies to the original poem

2001 UARC Steak Fry

The date for the 2001 UARC Steak Fry has been set for July 21st, 2001. The location is back at the Spruces, Area 7 (Yes, the bigger one). Certainly more plans will be made public in the future, but this way you can plan your calendars.

Utah Hamfest 2001

The 2001 Utah Hamfest will be on the weekend of July 14th, 2001. The location will again be Ruby's Inn. More information is to follow, but for now, make your plans for that weekend. Check out www.utahhamfest.org for more information.

Contesting Calendar for January 2001

ARRL RTTY (w/PSK31) Roundup 1800Z, Jan 6
Kid's Day 1800Z, Jan. 6.
North American QSO Party, CW 1800Z, Jan 13
North American QSO Party, SSB 1800Z, Jan 20
ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes 1900Z, Jan 20
CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW 2200Z, Jan 26
Kansas QSO Party 1800Z, Jan 27
See www.contesting.com for detailed rules ☐

Field Day is Coming!



Just a reminder that even through the temperature is low and snow is on the ground, Field Day will be here before you know it. This is a picture from Field Day. Happy Shoveling! ☐

UARC Typographical Error Policy

Note that in an effort to please all our readers (especially the ones that have to find an error somewhere), the Microvolt has some intentional typographical errors. So, if you find an error, we know we have done a good job to ensure the needs of all our readers have been met.

Ham Hot-Line

The Utah Amateur Radio Club (UARC) has a Ham Hotline, 583-3002. Information regarding Amateur Radio can be obtained, including club information, testing, meeting information, and membership information. Leave your name, telephone number and a short message on the answering machine if no one answers and your call will be returned.