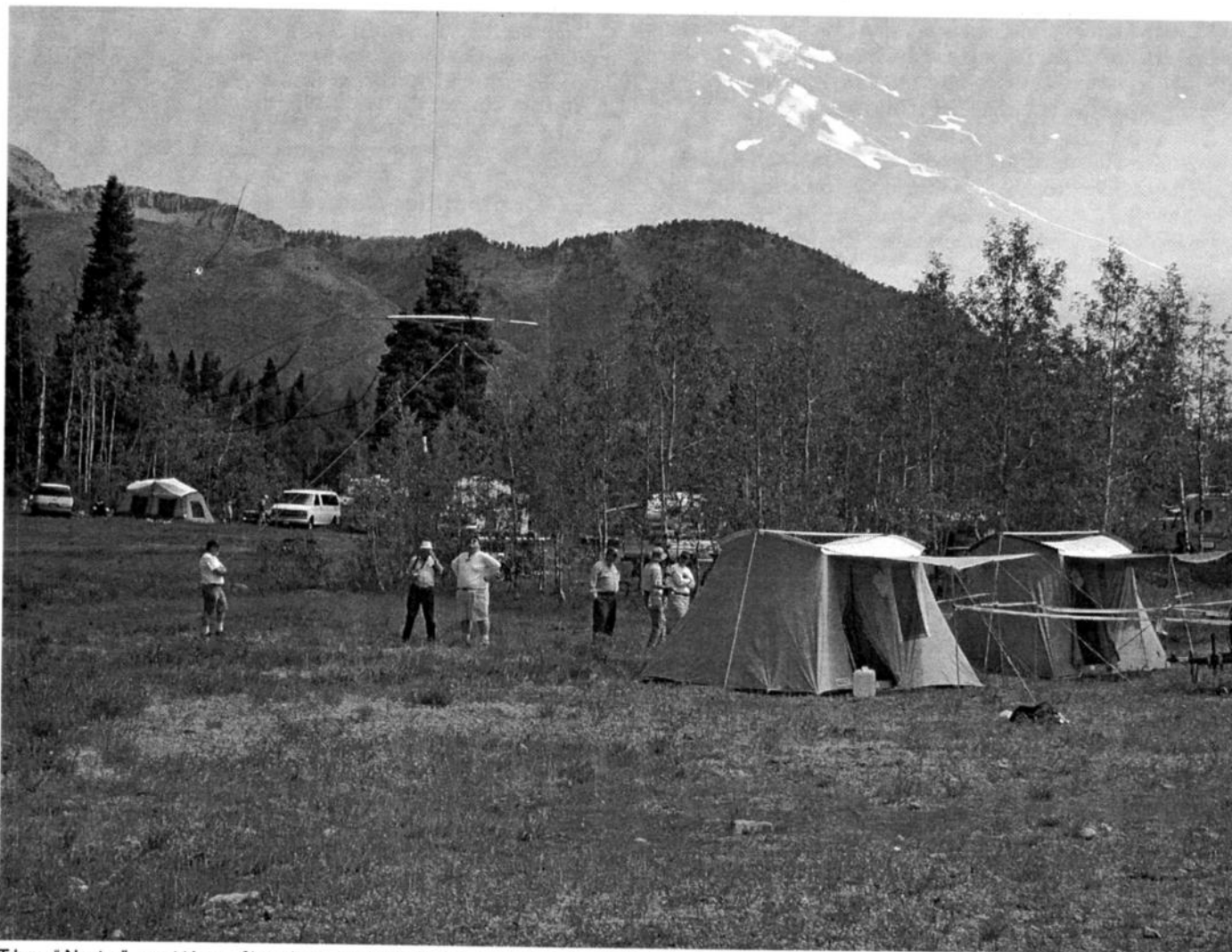


UARC Field Day 2001

7/01



Photoby Bruce Leonard, KJ7HZ

The "Nuts" putting final preparations on the UARC Field Day Operation.

Volume XLV Issue 7, July 2001



The MICROVOLT

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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, K7APW, 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 □

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Field Day Chair: Gary Openshaw, KC7AWU	484-3407

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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

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Volume XLV, Issue 7 July 2001



QST From the Prez

June's meeting focused on Field Day preparations with Gary Openshaw, KC7AWU, Field Day Chairman, explaining the plans for Field Day at the site near Payson Lakes. Each of the hams who had assigned responsibilities spoke about their plans for the weekend. Ron Spiers presented a slide show composed of some of the more recent Field Days. For those who had not been, it gave them a look at what to expect. For those who had been to previous outings, it was a chance to reminisce about the events associated with the slides. It was an entertaining and informative evening.

Theron Johnson won the Yaesu, dual-band handi-talkie donated by Eugene Christensen. Again, thanks to Eugene for his commitment to the young hams.

For those of you who did not make it to Field Day this year, you missed a great one. The porta-potti's arrived on schedule, and the site was ready for the influx of the club members and their families. By early Friday afternoon the GP medium tent provided by Lonnie Oaks, K7LO was up, and the radios and computers were in place.

Since we were competing in class 4A, the antennas were next. The beam on the south end of the site was a bit of a challenge since we didn't have a good mast for the tower that Tom Schaefer brought up. Being that it was Field Day, we improvised. With the help of a small hack saw, we "modified" an old, damaged push-up mast to serve as a mast for the tower. The only problem was the new "modified" mast was much smaller than the hole in which it had to be mounted. Charlie, KC7QQD, one of the antenna czars happened to have a roll of rebar wire with him which made it possible to center the mast and still allow it to

rotate. Can you imagine anyone other than a ham operator who has a roll of rebar wire in his car? The tower was short a few bolts, but Myron, KC7AWW, came up with enough quarter-inch bolts and vice-grip pliers to complete the tower. That beam went up the next morning without much of a hitch.

Someone had taken down the pulley rope we left last year in the pine tree on the north end of the site. Steve, N7SWP climbed to the top of the tree and threw a rope out to provide the end support for the Carolina Windom antenna. Steve commented he now had a greater appreciation for Carla's, KC7HON, effort to put the first rope up in that pine tree. Saturday morning, with the usual confusion, we got the wire antennas up, and the forty-foot mast was reasonably straight.

Gary called a meeting twenty minutes before the contest started to brief everybody on the operating procedures. Everything was looking good. Six minutes before the contest was to start, the club generator died from fuel starvation. The assigned generator czars plus the generator wizards from previous years descended on the ailing machine. After some fitful starts and stops accompanied by tapping on the carburetor and jumping up and down on one foot while holding their left ear, the czars and wizards prevailed. The generator ran quietly throughout the rest of the contest.

The dutch oven dinner put on by Jerry and Virna Bennion was the highlight of Saturday evening. In fact the dinner was so great, everybody, including the hard-core contesters, left their operating positions to get in line for dinner.

This year many, new hams were involved in planning and executing Field Day as well as operating HF for the first time. New members and new hams are what keep our club running. Field Day is a great training ground for future board members and officers of the club. The more hams become involved in the activities of the club, the more they will get out of it. It also gives them the background to serve in various club positions. A successful club is made up of successful hams.

Don't forget the Steak Fry July 21, 2001 at the Spruces campground. Contact Gregg Smith for tickets.

73 Dick, K7MZ



Photoby Ron Speirs. KCTMYS

Featured Member of the Month

This month's featured member is Kay Platt KD7CQH. It will be three years in August since Kay has been in the hobby. Her husband David Platt KD7BEP has been interested in radio all of his life and thought it would be fun to get a license so they decided to take a class and study together. She has her technician class license and her husband now has his extra class license.

Kay really enjoys being able to help out with the parades such as the Wasatch 100. She also helped with the I-15 parade and the Walkathon for the March of Dimes. She said it is really great to be able to provide communications for these events. Kay loves field day. She and her husband have attended all of the UARC field days at Payson Lakes since they got into the hobby three years ago. But, this year they are going to the ARES field day at Wheeler Farm.

Kay and her husband David went to the Dayton hamfest with Eugene (N7OVT) and Carol (KC7LLW) McWherter.

Kay and her husband David have five children two boys and three girls. They have seven grandsons and eight granddaughters. None of her children are in the hobby, but two of her son-in-laws are. David Gettins KD7GYH and Steve Garlitz KD7JFZ.

Kay really enjoys helping out with the testing for the ham licenses. She has been helping the

McWherters with their testing session on the last Tuesday of the month. She signs the people in and ensures their forms are filled out correctly. Kay also helped with the womens class. She said she was there to provide encouragement and to help wherever she was needed.

Kay really appreciates all of the friends she and her husband have made since they have been in the hobby. Kay we wish you the best in all of your endeavors.

73, Linda, N7HVF

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Bob Wood W7OAD, UARC Member

UARC Steak Fry

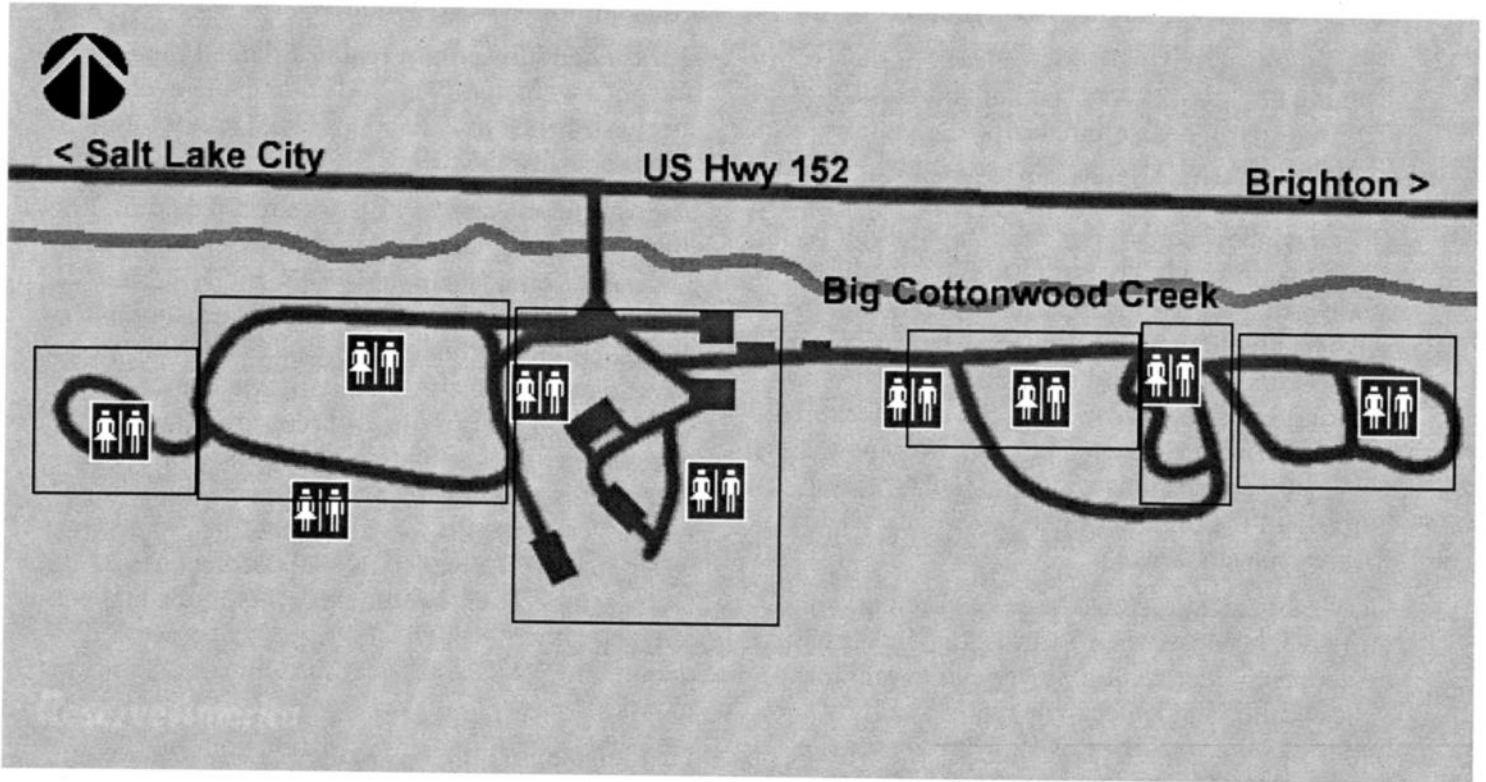
The summer Steak-Fry and swap meet will be held on Saturday, July 21, at "The Spruces" campground in Big Cottonwood Canyon. The steak-fry and Field Day are UARC's two biggest events of the year. The full meal will be provided; all you need to bring is a plate and eating utensils (since steaks, steak-knives, and paper plates sometimes don't get along well). Tickets must be purchased by July 14. Prices are as follows:

UARC Members:	\$3.00
Non-members:	\$10.00
Children (12 or under):	\$4.00

Since we are very close to the actual Steak Fry, payment arrangements **must** be made by calling Gregg Smith, at 255-0344.

Parking is limited, so car pool as much as possible. There is a large parking lot at the mouth of the canyon (Wasatch Boulevard and Fort Union Boulevard) where extra cars may be left. Tell the people at the gate that you are with the radio amateurs in area 7.

People typically start arriving about 2 P.M. for swapping and eyeball QSOs. Dinner will get underway about 5 P.M.



2001 UARC Field Day

It's all over, although some of the operators may still have "CQ Field Day" ringing in their ears. UARC's 2001 entry in the annual Field Day contest was a major undertaking, but in most respects it turned out very well.

Gary Openshaw, KC7AWU, acted as Field Day Chairman, and following Dick Abbott's lead from 2000, organized the committee into various subcommittees to handle rigs, computers, antennas, power, bonus points, safety, publicity, personnel, etc.

Some parties arrived as early as Wednesday to stake out the site and provide talk-in assistance on two meters. Dave Player, KC7NGH, was available for assistance almost the entire period from Wednesday night to Sunday night.

The author started out for the site on Friday evening after work and got an urgent call about the need for 16 coarse-thread 1/4-inch nuts. Should I also get washers? No, just nuts. I found and purchased the nuts (hoping cashews would be OK since they were out of walnuts) and felt good about making a vital contribution. By the time I made it to the site, it was well after dark and most folks had gone to bed. Gary Openshaw, however, was as good as his word and had left a red blinking light to guide me into the area occupied by the Openshaw party. (The next morning there were several questions about the meaning and purpose of the blinking light, but we are unable to list the answers here.)

Gary's organization must have been remarkably effective, because when Saturday dawned, masts, beams, computer cables, power cables and lots of yellow caution tape began appearing as if by magic. As the zero-hour of 12 noon approached for the contest to begin, everything appeared ready to go.

Well, almost everything. At about 10 minutes to 12, the generator died and required a fair amount of cranking and cajoling before it would consent to keep running without attention. Daland Speirs, KC7LNR, and Chuck Johnson, WA7JOS, rose to the occasion worked to get it to start feeding fuel again. Finally, raising the gas supply another foot in elevation seemed to help the gravity feed enough that all was happy again. Everyone resolved not to let it run out of gas again.

Operation got underway with two stations for beginners operating in a large tent (the famous

"GP Medium") and two stations for more experienced operators using phone and CW, respectively, in separate tents.

A large congregation of people in the center of the tent area turned out to be the result of a visit by a reporter and photographer from *The Salt Lake Tribune*. Their story appeared in the June 26 issue of the *Tribune* on page B3.

Later in the afternoon, the sky clouded over (as it had been doing on alternating hours all day) and a rumble of thunder was heard to the south. We later found out that a lightning strike had started a fire to the southeast of us and the frequent helicopters going overhead were taking water from the Payson Lakes to dump on the fire. People from the Sheriff's office even told us there was a slight chance we might have to evacuate. Fortunately, evacuation was never required.

It was about this point I realized that all the antennas were complete and no one had ever asked for the 1/4-inch nuts I had procured. Gary told me it was because they were useless without washers.

The afternoon ended with a wonderful community dinner featuring Dutch oven roast beef prepared by Jerry and Verna Bennion, WR7N and N7LNL, along with many interesting side dishes supplied by others. Dinner is the time when it is possible to see how many people are actually in attendance at Field Day. (This is quite different from the time when someone is soliciting operators, a time when it appears we have only a half-dozen people to go with 27 campers.) It was clear that this Field Day was not as well attended as some of the ones in recent years. The line stretched only a few table-lengths, rather through a large percentage of the national forest. But service was quick and food was plentiful.

Up to this point, the CW station had been making more contacts per hour than any of the other stations. Only two people had operated the CW station: Tom Schaefer, NY4I, and Andrew Madsen, AC7CF. Possibly with the thought of changing that, Andrew invited the author to operate the CW station. So I got in two hours of operating, convincing many operators on the other end to send their call signs the fifth time, even slower than the first four.

(Continued next page)...

UARC Field Day 2001 (continued)

I understand that after this episode, Tom and Andrew never again made the mistake of letting anyone else operate the CW station. While I was operating, Andrew pointed out an easy way of finding the contact count of the whole W7SP operation: just look at the CW count and double it. It seems the CW station was making about the same number of contacts per hour as the three single sideband stations combined.

A new feature of this year's Field Day was a "web cam." Glen Worthington, WA7X, had set up a digital camera in a tree and was relaying its images to the UARC web site via satellite link. Anyone who chanced on the site during Field Day had a chance to check recent pictures of the area.

There was a light sprinkle after dark on Saturday, but generally, the weather was surprisingly comfortable night and day.

How did we do? Here is the preliminary estimate of the scoring as prepared by NY4I:

Description	CW	Phone	Total
Contacts	592	570	1162
Contact points (CW X 2)	1184	570	1754
Points after power multiplier (X 2)			3508
Bonus Points:			
Emergency Power		400	
Media Publicity		100	
Public Location		100	
W1AW Field Day Bulletin		100	
Information booth		100	
Message origination		100	
Non-traditional mode demo		100	
Natural Power QSOs		100	
Total Bonus Points		1100	
Grand Total			4608

If you have any tales or pictures to add we would love to hear from you.

Send them to k7hfv@arrl.net.

And who was it that wanted the 1/4-inch nuts?

73, Gordon, K7HFV

Examination Schedule for July/August

07/18/2001 (Wed.) Provo
Contact: Steve Whitehead, NV7V
Phone: H 465-3983

07/27/2001 (Fri.) Roosevelt
Contact: R Chandler Fisher, W7BYU
Phone:(435) 722-5440

07/31/2001 * (Tues.) Salt Lake City
Contact: Eugene McWherter, N7OVT
Phone: 484-6355

08/04/2001 (Sat.) Salt Lake City
Contact: Gordon Smith, K7HFV
Phone: 582-2438

08/08/2001 (Wed.) Mantua
Contact: Jim Jones, KJ7VO
Phone (435) 723-1947

08/15/2001 (Wed.) Provo
Contact: Steve Whitehead, NV7V
Phone: H 465-3983

08/28/2001 * (Tues.) Salt Lake City
Contact: Eugene McWherter, N7OVT
Phone: 484-6355

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

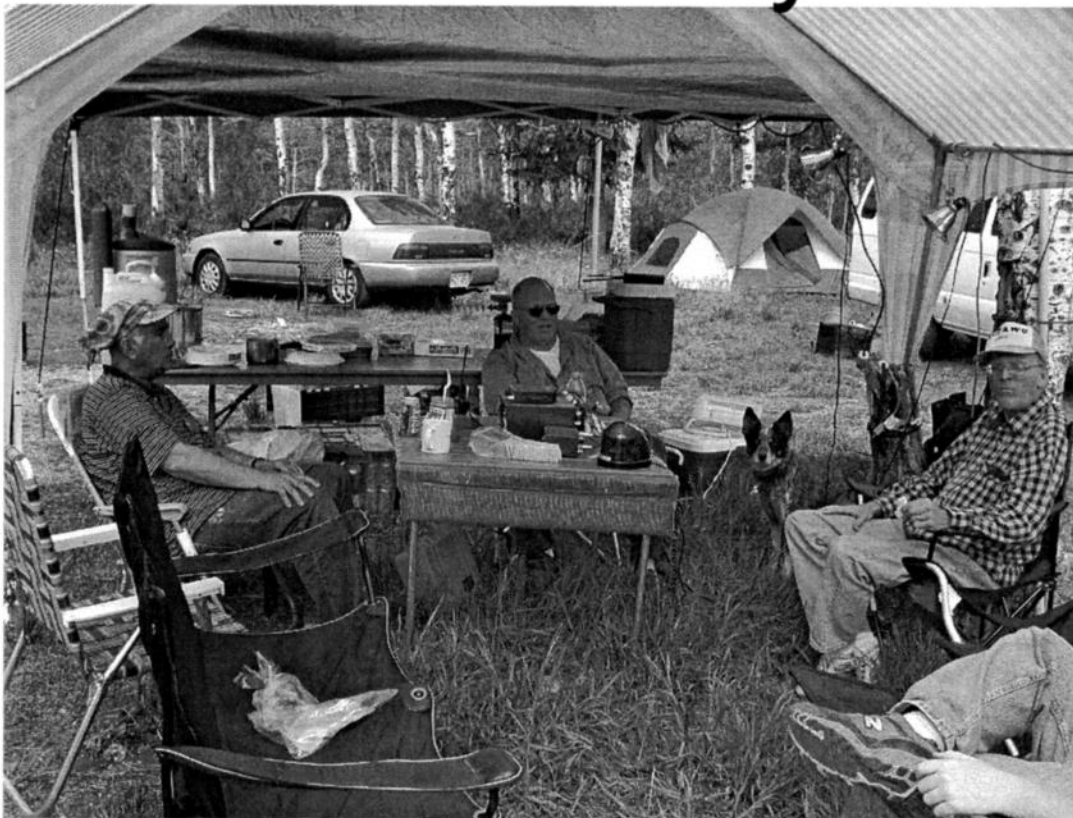
For more detail either call the contact or checkout the information on our webpage
<http://www.xmission.com/~uarc> □

Repeater Operation

Just a reminder to those the using the always busy '62 repeater. During the commuter times, please allow mobile stations to take priority over QSO's involving fixed stations on both sides. There are many people that commute and want to use the repeater during these times, so out of courtesy, please allow the mobile "roundtables" to go first. Having mobile traffic helps out everyone in that it lets everyone know what is going on out on the roads and it makes our members; commute a bit easier.

Thanks and 73,

UARC Field Day 2001



Photoby Bruce Leonard, KJ7HZ

(Clockwise: Fred DeSmet, KI7KM, Russ Smith KC7ZDZ, and Gary Openshaw, KC7AWU) at the Field Day Information Booth.

As there is no Microvolt in August, the
UARC Microvolt Staff wishes you a
Great Summer and we look forward to
seeing you again in September.

Tom Schaefer, NY4I
Bruce Leonard, KJ7HZ