

Volume XLV Issue 9, October 2001



# The MICROVOLT

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U.A.R.C.

c/o Gregg Smith

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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 Infina 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](mailto: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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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](http://www.xmission.com/~uarc/announce.html) □

We are grateful to the management of XMission, our Internet Service Provider (ISP), for the donation of this Web-Page service. □



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# The Microvolt

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

Volume XLV, Issue 9 October 2001



## QST From the Prez

As I sat looking at the blinking cursor on my computer, I wondered what I could say to the members of the club this month. Writing the monthly article for the *Microvolt* can be both a pleasure and a challenge. It is a pleasure when we have had a great activity - the words come easily; it is a challenge when I see a need to raise enthusiasm or enhance your individual contributions to the hobby.

This month the challenge is to try to say something in light of what happened on September 11, 2001. There is both good and evil in the world today and probably has been since the beginning of time. The face of evil showed its face in the horror experienced by those in New York and Washington, D.C. this month. On the other side of the struggle between good and evil, we have seen the good side of humanity rise to the surface after these depraved acts of the terrorists.

Although ours is a "hobby" which brings a lot of enjoyment to us individually, both in the social as well as the technical aspects of the hobby, we have seen the good side of the ham community rise to the surface in this tragedy. The members of the ARES/RACES groups in the New York and Washington areas quickly provided communications support to the Red Cross in shelter operations, the New York Office of Emergency Management, and to the Salvation Army in their humanitarian aid to the victims of the attack. The American Red Cross closed all shelters that remained open in New York City on September 23,

and the New York City Office of Emergency Management terminated ARES support on September 24. Other support operations are scaling down and will be handled by the local hams in the New York City area. The New York City-Long Island Section Manager, George Tranos, N2GA, estimated that some 500 Amateur Radio volunteers helped out with communications support for the disaster.

September 11, 2001 was a wake-up call for many of us. Given the intense hatred that exists in the terrorist cells and their threats against America, we as ham operators need to ask ourselves if we will be prepared to assist if such a disaster were to occur here.

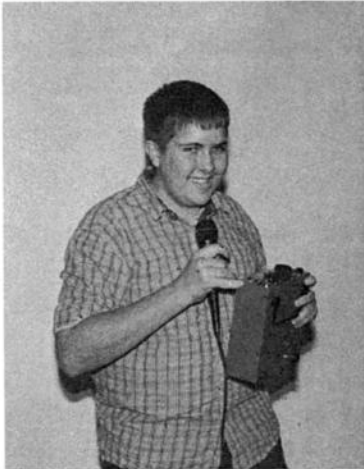
With the Winter Olympics only five months away and the world press which will be here, it is not hard to imagine that terrorists would see this as an opportunity to demonstrate their resolve and power to disrupt the games. Communications during times of crisis are extremely important to effective reaction to a threat. Our role in support of the Winter Olympics could be extremely important whether we are providing support to UOPSC, the National Guard, or the Red Cross. All of these organizations are looking for ham operators to help during the Olympics. If you can provide that support, it will be your contribution to the nation and the Olympic spirit.

I apologize to those of you who may see this QST as too "heavy" for our club newsletter, but I feel as hams we are people with more than just a hobby - we are a tremendous resource!

73

Dick Abbott, K7MZ

## Featured Member of the Month



This month we are featuring Andrew Madsen (AC7CF). Andrew has been in amateur radio for two years and has his extra class license. Andrew has been exposed to amateur radio all of his life, because his father Ron (WB7OCB) is in the hobby. His younger brother Kenneth (KM7KEN) wanted to take a class that was being offered and his father asked Andrew if he would go to the class with his brother and help him. This class was being taught by Russ Harman (KC7WVQ). When Andrew went to the class he really got interested. In fact, he received his tech plus license before the class was over. This was in August 1999. On April 1st, 2000 Andrew received his extra class license. Andrew helped teach the women's class which was held in March of this year. He taught radio wave propagation and amateur radio practices. What does Andrew like best about amateur radio -- CW and homebrew night. He loves to build radios and is looking forward to this years home brew night which will be October 4th. Andrew is a member of UARC, ARRL, and several QRP groups. One of them is the Adventure Radio Society which is a group of hams who operate QRP in the wilderness. Andrew is also a member of the League of Young Radio Amateurs (LYRA) -- available on the web at [www.youngradioamateurs.com](http://www.youngradioamateurs.com). This is an organization to promote youth in amateur radio. They also help young people who are not yet licensed, but are interested in amateur radio. This organization is structured similar to the ARRL. This a worldwide organization and Andrew is the section manager of Utah. There are ten members in Utah and Andrew hopes to get more. They have a net every Saturday at 12 noon on 20 meters 14.280 to 14.294 depending on where they can find a clear spot. Andrew hopes that once they get established they can stick to one frequency. Everyone is

welcome to join, but only those ages 19 to 22 can vote and hold an office. If you have any questions about the League Of Young Radio Amateurs you can send email to Andrew [ac7cf@qsl.net](mailto:ac7cf@qsl.net). Andrew we wish you the best in getting more young people in to the YLRA.

73 Linda Reeder, N7HVF

(Addendum from the Editor)

As Andrew and many of you, I received my ticket while in High School. This is a great time to become a ham because it opens so many avenues of interest to young adults. Computers, robotics, electronics, public service - all great things to expose someone to at a critical time in their lives. If you have a high school age teenager in your house (or you kids' house), it is a great time to introduce them to amateur radio. Oh, yes, Andrew is also the one that keep your editor hopping to keep up on the CW station at Field Day.

### Homebrew Night in October

The famous UARC homebrew night will be at the October meeting this year rather than the November meeting. Yes, that means you will have to get those projects finished early this year. If you have never been to a homebrew night, you are in store for quite a show. UARC has some of the best homebrew people in the state. The projects range the gambit from "off the wall" to truly clever. Best of all, it is all fun. So, get out that soldering iron, and make a point to attend the UARC homebrew night. You will be glad you did.

Tom NY4I

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Bob Wood W7OAD, UARC Member

## Opportunity to Learn Corel Draw

### Wanted

Highly-motivated, Self-Starter to edit the UARC *Microvolt* for the 2002 calendar year. This is a highly rewarding job as well as opportunity to guide the direction of the Utah amateur radio club. Requires strong desire to learn a new page layout program, and collect information for publication. Also requires familiarity with Internet tools such as email, and web browsers. Support provided during transition phase from current editor. If you have a desire to run for the post of *Microvolt* editor, please see the nominating committee chairperson, Maurine (K7HOZ).

Note: Realistically, it takes about 10 hours per month to assemble the *Microvolt*. The assistant Editor takes care of the labels and mailing. It is an interesting position for someone that has experience with computers.

PS: I understand Maurine is looking for others to run also. Made obvious by my remarks, I will not be seeking another term as *Microvolt* editor. I have enjoyed serving as the editor, but time commitments have made it impossible for me to do this to a standard the club deserves.

### Hams lost in World Trade Center

The ARRL reports the following hams are missing in the wreckage of the World Trade Center:

(1) Steven A. "Steve" Jacobson, N2SJ, 53, of New York City, a transmitter engineer for WPIX TV, and an ARRL member.

(2) William V. "Bill" Steckman, WA2ACW, of W Hempstead, New York, a transmitter engineer for WNBC TV.

(3) Robert D. "Bob" Cirri Sr, KA2OTD, 39, an ARRL member from Nutley, New Jersey. A Port Authority police officer, Cirri was helping to evacuate workers from the building when it collapsed.

(4) Michael G. Jacobs, AA1GO, 54, an ARRL member from Danbury, Connecticut. Jacobs worked at Fiduciary Trust Company International, which had offices in the World Trade Center.

From the ARRL website.

### An Editor's Tale

It is doubtful if I or anyone could say much more about the tragic events of September 11. Suffice it to say that the country and New York may never be the same. I thought I would try and relate my experiences surrounding the World Trade Center and growing up in New York. I grew up in Brooklyn and Queens (across the East River from Manhattan). The twin towers (what the locals called it) were opened when I was about 7 years old. From the start, they were a constant reminder of the city in which we lived. To the people of New York, these were much more than buildings. They were a symbol; just as strong as the Empire State Building or the Statue of Liberty. Even through those of us living in the outer boroughs (all 10 miles away) considered Manhattan to be that place you went shopping occasionally, the twin towers were visible to all of us. The neighborhood I lived in was on a high point and had a great view of the city skyline. I cannot imagine how it will be the first time I return and do not see those majestic giants. I recall the first time I went to the Observation deck of the World Trade Center. I could stand on the roof and see the high school that I attended. It was magical. On a clear day you could see about 75 miles away. To stand on the building and imagine all it took to build was amazing. I think the first time I went up I was a ham. That offered an added attraction because on the next tower over was the antenna farm to end all antenna farms. Besides the main television antenna, there was a seemingly unlimited line of two-way antennas system lining the top of the building. It was truly a magical place. The next time I went back was the first time I

took my wife to New York. We just had to go up into the tower. Cheryl felt a bit uneasy being up that high - it was so windy that the outside observation deck was closed. This was the first time I had been up there at night and it was a stunning site to behold. The next (and last) time was in 1996. I was on a business trip in New York for the first time. As opposed to staying with relatives in Brooklyn, I decided to stay in the city at the Marriott at the foot of the twin towers. Imagine sitting in a restaurant with a glass ceiling, looking straight up and seeing the twin towers soaring above your head. Sadly, the hotel I stayed in was one of the buildings that collapsed in the disaster. That same hotel was seriously damaged in the blast in 1993 as well (it was the Vista hotel then). With fond memories I will always remember the constant reminders of the place I called home for so long. With bridled enthusiasm, I await the time when the phoenix will arise and I may return to a new set of landmarks with my own son. No one can keep a New Yorker down.

### WTC Antenna Information

Without diminishing the human toll of the World Trade Center attack, here is some information about the RF systems that were also part of the wreckage. The 360 foot antenna mast that was on the top of the World Trade Center was the master TV antenna for most New York television stations with the exception of the CBS affiliate (WCBS Channel 2) which was on the Empire State Building. The building also supported a master FM antenna with four stations on it as well as hundreds of two-way radio systems. There were some digital television systems on the tower as well.



## October 2001 Meeting

It's coming! Get out your soldering iron! October 4 will be the date for UARC's annual homebrew night. For the newcomers we should explain that this is not the time to bring the concoction you've been hiding from the federal agents, but rather the time to show off your home-built amateur radio equipment.

You can bring anything you've built (and not shown at a previous UARC homebrew night) that can be used in amateur radio. Transmitters, receivers, keyers, linear amplifiers, power supplies, and DF units are all fair game. Antennas can be entered too. If you can't get your 160-meter beer-can beam in the car, then bring enough pictures and diagrams that you can show the group what you did.

Each entrant will get at least three minutes to describe his project and its particular features. There may be a little more time depending on the total number of entries. If you are entering a project, be sure you get on the list before the meeting begins.

There's still time. Check out the latest *QST* for project ideas. And if you aren't planning to build anything, be sure to come anyway and see what the rest of the ham community has been doing.

The meeting will be Thursday, October 4, at 7:30 P.M. The rumors of the death of our meeting location were highly exaggerated. We will continue to meet in the same place.

## Member's For Sale Items

40 Meter 2 element Mosely Beam  
Call Wally AE7Y  
Phone 768-3636  
Wallylh@juno.com

*For sale items are accepted from UARC members and published on a space available basis.*

## Examination Schedule for October

10/6/2001 (Sat.) Salt Lake City  
Contact: Gordon Smith, K7HFV  
Phone (801)582 2438

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

10/17/2001 (Wed.) Provo  
Contact: Steve Whitehead, NV7V  
Phone: H 465-3983

10/30/2001 \* (Tues.) Salt Lake City  
Contact: Eugene McWherter, N7OVT  
Phone: 484-6355

11/07/2001 (Wed.) Farmington  
Contact: Marc Uhrey, AB7PL  
Phone:(801) 771-0105

\*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> □

