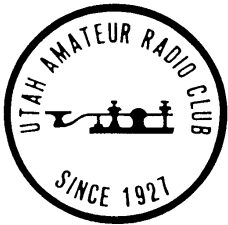




From left to right; Chuck, WA7JOS, John, KA7TGR, Clint, KA7OEI, and Ned, K7ELP, work on their Junkbox project at the September UARC meeting.



Volume 48. Issue 9. October 2005

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The
Microvolt

Please Send Dues to:
UARC
c/o Dick Keddington
1992 El Dorado Drive
Holladay, UT 84124-1652

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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 University of Utah Engineering and Mines Classroom (EMCB) building, Room 101.

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: Dick Keddington, KD7TDZ, 1992 El Dorado Dr., Holladay, UT 84124-1652. 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 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 Santequin to Lehi) and the Salt Lake City exchange (covering Draper to Layton). The 449.10 repeater has autopatch facilities into Salt Lake City only available to UARC members. 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, 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.

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: Telvin Mills, 6864 Beargrass Rd., West Jordan, UT 84084. 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: Dick Keddington, 1992 El Dorado Dr., Holladay, UT, 84124-1652.

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- President: Glen Worthington, WA7X 272-8825
Executive VP: Roy Eichelberger, W7ROY 571-2447
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Secretary: Dick Keddington, KD7TDZ 274-9638
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Asst. Microvolt Editor: Bryan Mogensen, W7CBM 281-1752
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Program Chair: Scott Thomson, KD7VFP 918-3141
Imm. Past Pres: Brett Sutherland, N7KG 298-5399

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- "Book Lady": Fred Desmet, KI7KM 485-9245
Historian: Ron Speirs, K7RLS 968-4614
Field Day Chair: Brett Sutherland, N7KG 298-5399
Club Trustee: Brett Sutherland, N7KG 298-5399
Engineer: Randy Finch, K7SL 277-7135
ATV Engineer: Clint Turner, KA7OEI 566-4497
Board Liaison &
Autopatch Engineer: Gordon Smith, K7HFV 582-2438
Provo Autopatch Host &
ATV Engineer: Dale Jarvis, WB7FID 224-3405
Repeater Monitor: Brett Sutherland, N7KG 298-5399

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For 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
Volume 48, Issue 9, October 2005



QST from the Prez

Glen Worthington, WA7X

What a great hobby we have and last month's meeting showed us some more of the talents of our local club members. "Junkbox Wars" again took us from a concept to working receivers using common salvageable components. Clint Turner, KA7OEI, and Ned Stevens, K7ELP, were one team and John

Bradshaw, KA7TGR, and Chuck Johnson, WA7JOS, were the other. Clint and Ned built a direct-conversion 40-meter receiver that had stability and sensitivity that, while only working on a single frequency, was as good as many commercial receivers. John and Chuck built a TRF detector that covered from 2 to 8 MHz. John focused on mentoring of a prospective ham who John unselfishly gave his "prize" multimeter to, asking that he just bring any project to next month's Homebrew meeting. This is a true mark of capturing the exciting opportunity to share with an interested young person. Good on you, John!

This "contest" was not to see so much who could build what the fastest, etc., but a demonstration of the skills and innovations that ham radio can teach us all. Thanks for participating this year.

Homebrew night promises to be one of the highlight meetings where we can see the handiwork of our club members. In recent times many of the projects have been so large (towers, antennas) that a Powerpoint presentation was the only way to share them with the club. Be sure and come on October 6th and see the projects!

Speaking of innovation, Chuck, WA7JOS, has solved a problem we often have on Field Day with our computer network and has designed and built an auto sensing circuit to bypass unused ports (we use the serial ports of PC's in series for networking on Field Day) that are either disconnected or the PC is off. This will greatly improve our "hassle factor" next Field Day, great job Chuck!

We are soon coming up to nominations and elections for UARC Club officers and we encourage anyone who is interested to let us know ASAP. While filling these jobs is very enjoyable we need to spread the fun around; please take the opportunity.

Thanks again to all the supporters of the club, the Book Lady (and those who help each meeting and event with sales and moving heavy objects), the board members and those who support the events we have each year.

73 de WA7X Glen



October Meeting: Homebrew

The October meeting is UARC's annual homebrew night, an opportunity for those who have built home-constructed radio gear to show it off. There's still time to complete your favorite project, so get going! The meeting will be Thursday, October 6.

Anything that can be used in amateur radio is reasonable to show. It should be something you built yourself and that has not been shown at a previous UARC homebrew night. Keyers, amplifiers, receiving converters, transverters, preamps, and ATV transmitters are examples of good projects.

Antennas also can be displayed. If your array is too large to bring in, come with pictures and diagrams that will show everyone what you have done. Everyone will get a few minutes to show off his piece of work and tell everyone what its purpose and features are.

That's Thursday, October 6, at the usual place.



Of course, the meeting will include the "standard" meeting features:

- Availability of ARRL books from Fred, the "book lady";
- 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(s) after the meeting": A chance to enjoy pizza or other gastronomic delights with other hams. One group goes to Litz's Pizza, 716 E. 400 South. Another goes to a restaurant that varies from month to month, but will be announced at the meeting.
- 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. This time it will be at the "KFC," 555 E. 400 South, in Salt Lake City.



Destination: Dayton 2005

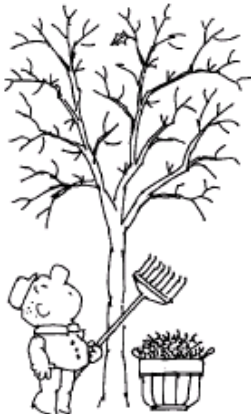
By Lauri "Mac" McCreary, K7LMM; Ted Cowan, KC7PM

On Thursday, May 19, we boarded a Delta airliner for the non-stop flight to Cincinnati, OH. After we landed we procured our rental vehicle (Hertz Gold Service is great) and drove the 50 miles north on I-75 to our hotel. The next day we drove a short distance to the Salem Hills Mall in Trotwood. The weather was cloudy with light rain. We parked at the mall and caught a shuttle bus to Hara Arena. The excitement was building as we picked up our programs and shuffled into the main hall.

ICOM was in their usual location just inside the entrance at the bottom of the ramp. We muscled our way to the front (not easy given the physical girth of most hams) in an attempt to get a glimpse of the new IC-7000. But we were told that the unveiling would be on Saturday at 10:00 AM. And to add to the anticipation, ICOM had about 10 young ladies dressed in bright pink terry cloth bathrobes, (fully clothed underneath), roaming the display areas and through the market handing out various trinkets.



Ted made his obligatory stop at Electraft to confess publicly to Wayne, N6KR, that his K2 purchase from last year was not completed. We placed our regular order for embroidered baseball caps and we continued to roam from vendor to vendor.

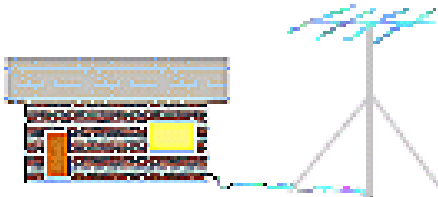


We visited the ARRL national convention area. We sent emails using their Wi-Fi Internet café, renewed our memberships and collected our free gift. We were able to meet many of the ARRL headquarters staff including Jim Haynie, W5JBP, and column authors. In fact we renewed with Dean Straw, N6BV. ARRL has partnered with Visa. They offer a credit card account that gives a percentage of purchases to various ARRL operations, foundations, scholarships, etc. Account signups were brisk. Seems like a good way to get some plastic (after all it is the American way) and support amateur radio at the same time.

The following picture is of Rebecca, KB0VVT, working the CW pileup at the IC-7800 in the ICOM booth. Oh, BTW, she is copying at 50+ wpm.



The IC-7800 was connected to the SteppIR MonstIR a top a US Towers 72' crank-up mounted on a trailer.





The flea market sightseeing was very pleasant this year because the weather cooperated for a change. Although the inclination to purchase is tempered by the reality of getting it home on the plane – like 100' of 1" hardline for example. And the bratwurst were outstanding this year.



The highlight of the trip was the contesting forum held at the Crown Plaza hotel in downtown Dayton (only 20 minutes from Hara by car). The facility was first rate and presentations

outstanding. Type “Dayton Hamvention 2005 Contesting Forum” into your friendly Internet search engine and see for yourself. The following topics and presenters filled the allotted time and then some: “Getting Started in RTTY Contesting” – Mike Sims, K4GMH; “Contesting from Oceania” – Saty Nakamura, JE1JKL/NH6J/9M6NA/KC6CS/521EZ; “Multi-op Contesting from West Africa” – Roger Western, G3SXW; “Who Needs Sunspots? A Comparison of the PC CW Contest Simulators” = Ulrich Ann, DL2HBX/KK8I; and “Recording a Whole Band in a Contest: The Time Machine” – Bill Coleman, N4ES.

This was my second Dayton excursion and Ted’s fifth. We will skip Dayton next year and replace it with an inaugural trip to the Visalia DX Convention in California. We will pen an article about that trip also.

73, and Happy Hamming

Member of the Month

By Linda Reeder



This month we are featuring Weston Taylor, KD7ZWC. Weston is new to the hobby. He has had his Technician license for only a year and one-half. Weston's father Steve, KD7YJI, got him interested in the hobby.

Weston's father Steve, KD7YJI, participated in the “Junk Box Wars” at the September UARC meeting last year and Weston won the cracker eating contest. The first one to eat ten saltine crackers and say their call sign in phonetics was the winner. Weston said he won a repeater directory.

Weston is in the ninth grade and attends Wasatch Junior High. That is the junior high school that burned down, so now they will have to share a building in the Granite School District. Weston has three brothers and he is trying to get them interested in the hobby. Weston is a member of UARC, Salt Lake County ARES and the ARRL.

He is also very active with the scouts. One of the activities that the scouts are involved in is the "Scouting For Food" program. This takes place in March. This is a very competitive activity between the scouting districts. They like to see who can collect the most food. After they collect the food, they then take the food to the Utah Food Bank and help them sort the food.

This summer Weston worked for Camp Steiner working with the scouts. Weston says it would be very helpful if there could be a repeater on Bald Mountain Peak. He said that the scouts kind of get lost up there. Speaking of Camp Steiner, Weston was there when a scout was killed by lightning and three others were injured. This was a trying time for the scouts and some of them were up most of the night after this incident.

This was a challenging summer for Weston with the burning down of Wasatch Junior High and that incident that happened at Camp Steiner. Then on his birthday, of all days, August 18th, he got stuck in the middle of a river with no radio for 3 and one-half hours. They were kayaking and canoeing and several of the boats tipped over and went rolling down the river. Weston's boat was the only boat that didn't tip over. One of the search and rescue workers was a ham radio operator. Fortunately no one was hurt.

Weston's favorite thing about amateur radio is being able to talk all around the world. He just loves talking on the 147.12 linked repeater and he has worked some hams with IRLP. When he is in Idaho he talks on the Island Park repeater which is the 145.28 machine with a PL of 100.0. Weston is hoping to upgrade to General soon so that he can talk on the low bands.

Weston, we wish you the best in all of your endeavors.

73, N7HVF Linda Reeder.

Utah DX Association 

In 1999 the Great Salt Lake Contest Club was formed by Darryl Hazelgren, AF7O (now K7UT), his son Kerry Hazelgren, KC7DWN, and a few others. The club call sign N7WU was obtained. This call sign was used in only a few contests. The club's best effort was from the middle of the Great Salt Lake on Antelope Island in the 1997 ARRL Field Day contest operating as AF7O. Subsequent field day efforts were from Wolf Creek Pass.

The club was reformed August 4, 2005, as the Utah DX Association. A group of eight amateurs (some charter members of the original UDXA club active in the 1960s) decided to adopt the name and restructure the existing club as a DX club rather than a contesting club. The call sign K7UM has been obtained to honor a good friend of ours, Morley Naylor, who

became a silent key in June of 2003. Morley was one of the charter members of the original Utah DX Association.

Membership is open to any amateur interested in HF DXing or contesting. The purpose of the club is to bring together those radio amateurs interested in working DX, to promote and encourage HF DX activity from the state of Utah, to enhance the DXCC totals of the members, and to promote good DX operating practices.

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month at a place designated by the officers. The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 21, 2005 at the home of Dennis Utley which is 7820 Caballero Drive, Sandy, UT.

If you are interested in joining, visit the UDXA website at: <http://www.udxa.org> and download the membership application or contact one of the officers for more information.

- Darryl Hazelgren, K7UT, President (801)580-9636
darryl@hazelgren.net
- Dennis Utley, AF7Y, Vice President (801)733-5995
dennisutley@gmail.com
- Laurie "Mac" McCreary, K7LMM, Secretary (801)766-4132
k7lmm@arrl.net
- Dick Abbott, K7MZ, Treasurer (801)943-0370 k7mz@arrl.net



Fall Ham Radio Class



UARC in conjunction with Utah Army MARS will be holding an Amateur Radio course on Friday, October 28th, 29th and November 4th and 5th. Classes will be held At Camp Williams FEMA Building on Friday evenings from 5:00 PM – 8:30 PM, and Saturdays from 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM. For more information contact Roy, W7ROY, at w7roy@netzero.net, or Steve Carver, N7VWV, at n7vww@att.net.

Roy, W7ROY

Nominations For Office Are Open

Remember nominations are coming up in November. If you are interested in serving please contact any of the officers. It's nice to have hams take part and serve so the same people don't have to carry the load all of the time.



Letter From the Editor

It seems that I just finished last month's letter when I have to start on this one. Boy does time fly when you're having fun. Ha Ha.

I hope that you enjoy the articles that some of our members send me for **YOUR** newsletter. It is encouraging to me to see and hear from the talented people we have in our club. I am sure that the resources we have for ham radio are the most varied and complete for any club in the nation. I know that those who are capable are more than willing to share their expertise. If you would like to see articles on individual topics, let our board know. They need and want your input. That is how a club works. I am just the conduit that puts it all together. Please send me your stories, announcements and other articles to cover the white spaces!

73, Telvin, KB6BYU

Ten Undeniable Ham Truths

1. That antenna is only temporary.
 2. If my wife ever finds out what this stuff costs, I'm a dead man.
 3. The worthless stuff thrown away today, shows up on E-Bay tomorrow!
 4. If you can't sneak it through the basement window, bring it in the front door, wrapped in a fur coat.
 5. You have absolutely no trouble finding your car in a parking lot. Unless you are at a hamfest.
 6. One of your antennas or pieces of gear, that you seldom if ever use, develops a problem. Now, all of a sudden you must fix it, as if you use it daily.
 7. The XYL will ALWAYS need help with something DURING a QSO, never before or after the QSO.
 8. During tornado watches and warnings, we are more concerned with our antennas coming down than we are with our house being torn apart.
 9. Computer nerds think that Hams are the real weirdos.
 10. Christmas and Birthday come about 15 times a year. (Or whenever an unbudgeted radio purchase comes up.)
- Technically, I shouldn't be getting any more "presents" for the next 10 years.

Reprinted from the 20/9 Club News, 3/05
(How true it is!)



KG7GR, SK

We regret to announce the passing of Bob Finch, KG7GR, the father of our Repeater Engineer, Randy Finch, K7SL, and a long-time friend of UARC. Bob died on the evening of August 8 of cancer. He was just short of 84 years old.

Bob was a patent attorney and, with his legal expertise, could often get things done that others could not. He helped us on several occasions to revise our bylaws in ways that were clear and fair. On another occasion we got ready to set up for Field Day at a site in Daniels' Canyon when a group of sheep herders, obviously annoyed at our presence, announced their intention to run a large herd of sheep right through the middle of our camp. Bob went over and talked quietly to the leader for a few minutes and then came back to report "They decided that wouldn't be a good idea." We never knew exactly what was said, but it was certainly effective.

Bob was also instrumental in establishing the Utah VHF Society and arranging its incorporation. Many remember him best for his success, during the 1970s, in getting the FCC to prosecute an amateur operator who had planted a jamming device on the site of the first FM repeater in Salt Lake County. The ham also appeared to have been involved in vandalizing the repeater and creating repeated malicious interference. A number of local hams flew to Washington to present evidence in the case.

We will miss Bob very much.

WB7AMR, SK

By Clayton Hughes, KB7PHB



Francis Bertrum (Bert) Hughes, WB7AMR, became a silent key on the evening of Aug 28, 2005 at the age of 94. Bert had been an amateur radio operator for 73 years. He first received his amateur license on 13 May 1933 as VE5IO, after completing his proficiency exams in B.C. Canada, and also received the "Old Timers" Award from the ARRL in 1976 for more than 20 years of service.

Bert was a long time member of the Utah Amateur Radio Club till he became ill but never gave up his love for the hobby. He also was the instrument in my interest in gaining a license myself, because of the long days I watched him operate his radios talking to many people from around the world and conducting as net control for the U.A.R.C.



Bert as VE5IA

My Grandfather will be missed very much. I am thankful to all who were a part of his life.

Exam Schedule

10/01/05¹ (Sat.) Salt Lake City
Contact: Gordon Smith, K7HFV
Phone: (801) 582-2438

10/05/05 (Wed.) Ogden
Contact: Mary Hazard, W7UE
Phone: (801) 876-3905

10/19/05 (Wed.) Provo
Contact: Steve Whitehead, NV7V
Phone: (801) 465-3983

10/19/05 (Wed.) St. George
Contact: Ronald C. Sappington, W17Z
Phone: (435) 673-4552

10/25/05¹ (Tues.) Salt Lake City
Contact: Eugene McWherter, N7OVT
Phone: (801) 541-1871

11/02/05 (Wed.) Farmington
Contact: Rena Skeen, AD7BX
Phone: (801) 773-7048

1/16/05 (Wed.) Provo
Contact: Steve Whitehead, NV7V
Phone: (801) 465-3983

11/16/05 (Wed.) St. George
Contact: Ronald C. Sappington, W17Z
Phone: (435) 673-4552

11/17/05¹ (Thu.) Roosevelt
Contact: R. Chandler Fisher, W7BYU
Phone: (435) 722-5440

11/29/05¹ (Tues.) Salt Lake City
Contact: Eugene McWherter, N7OVT
Phone: (801) 541-1871

12/03/05¹ (Sat.) Salt Lake City
Contact: Gordon Smith, K7HFV
Phone: (801) 582-2438

12/10/05 (Sat.) Logan
Contact: Heidi Black, AC7ZC
Phone: (435) 753-7487

¹ Pre-registration required. Contact the contact person prior to the examination date.

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

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"Hams do it till it Hertz!"
++++



Chuck, WA7JOS, trying to remove parts for his Junkbox project.



Chuck, WA7JOS, and John, KA7TGR working on putting together their Junkbox project.

