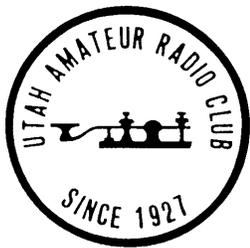




Bob Craven, N7GTE and Richard Evans, N7PCE, gave us a very informative presentation on emergency communications.



Volume 49, Issue 4, April 2006

Periodicals Postage

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 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 \$17 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 \$17 may obtain a membership without a *Microvolt* subscription for \$9. Send dues to the Club Secretary: Dick Keddington, KD7TDZ, 1992 El Dorado Drive, 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 Drive, Holladay, UT, 84124-1652.

UARC 2006 Board

President:: Roy Eichelberger, W7ROY	571-2447
Executive VP: John Brewer , N7MFQ	837-5646
Vice Pres: Gordon Smith, K7HFV	582-2438
Secretary: Dick Keddington, KD7TDZ	274-9638
Treasurer: Chuck Johnson, WA7JOS	268-0153
<i>Microvolt</i> Editor: Telvin Mills, KB6BYU	968-5089
Asst. <i>Microvolt</i> Editor: Bryan Mogensen, W7CBM	281-1752
Program Chair: Brett Sutherland, N7KG	298-5399
Program Chair: Dave Jeffs, KK7WI	538-3506
Imm. Past Pres: Glen Worthington, WA7X	272-8825

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"Book Lady": Fred Desmet, KI7KM	485-9245
Historian: Ron Speirs, K7RLS	968-4614
Field Day Chair: Bryan Mogensen, W7CBM	281-1752
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

IRLP Information

For information on using the club's IRLP node on the 146.76 repeater, check <http://www.utaharc.org/irlp>.

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

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

For account information go to:
<http://www.xmission.com/>
Or call 801 539-0852





The Microvolt

April 2006

QST From the Prez

Here it is four months into the year already! We (UARC members) have had a chance to help with the first youth project of the year (Scouting for Food). What a great way to help, not only our scouts, but our community as well.



We're looking forward to two more programs to participate in. On May 6th, we (UARC Club) have the opportunity to set-up and operate stations for the Scout-O-Rama. This will assist scouts who are earning their Radio Merit Badge. Later in the year (October 20th and 21st), JOTA will give us another opportunity to help scouts achieve this badge. Hopefully, Hams will assist to make these events successful and fun.

If you are interested in helping with either of these events, please contact Marty Olsen or myself. Marty can be contacted at 281-0661 (home) or 268-5835 (work) or at GMOS@USSC.COM. My numbers are 571-2447 (home) or 381-6374 (cell) or W&ROY@NETZERO.NET.

“Hide not your talents, they for use were made. What’s a sun-dial in the shade?”

Benjamin Franklin



73 de W7ROY

May Meeting, May 11th

The May meeting for the Utah Amateur Radio Club will be held on the second Thursday, May 11th at 7:30 PM. The change in date is due to the university holding final exams the first Thursday in May and the room we meet in is usually being used by students to take their finals.

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Special points of interest:

- ♦ 7th Call Area QSO Party May 6—7
- ♦ WIMU 2006, Jackson Hole, August 4, 5, 6, 2006
- ♦ IRLP on 146.76 Operational
- ♦ May meeting has been moved to May 11th





Member of the Month

This month we are featuring Aaron Ferdig, KE7GHA. Aaron is a brand new ham. He received his Technician license at the end of January 2006. Aaron is 9 years old. Aaron has been exposed to amateur radio all of his life.

When Aaron's family lived in New Mexico his Uncle Michael Cobbley, KC5SUT, who now lives in Chicago, had his Ham license. Aaron's grandfather Ernest Cobbley, KC5RUQ, also has his ham radio license.

Five years ago Aaron's father passed away. The family moved to Utah because Aaron's mother Monica wanted to live close to her family. After the family had moved to Utah, Monica decided to get her ham license so that she could talk to her dad on the radio. Her call sign is KD7PXW. Aaron enjoys attending all of the ham radio activities with his grandfather Ernie, KC7RUQ. For the last two years Aaron and his grandfather have attended Field Day at Pason Lakes and Aaron has had a blast making contacts. They have also attended the steak fries. Aaron says he loves to attend the UARC ham radio club meetings. His favorite meeting was the one about DXing. Aaron thought that would be so much fun. Aaron is all excited about trying out IRLP. Who knows maybe he can contact his uncle Michael, KC5SUT, in Chicago. Aaron was a member of UARC before he obtained his ham license.

Aaron says he has always been interested in amateur radio, but he was concerned about taking the test. Then Aaron saw an ad in *The Microvolt* about an amateur radio class that was being taught by Russ Scholz, K7MRS, and Eugene McWherter, N7OVT, and decided to go for it. It was a four-week course on Wednesday and Thursday evening. When the class had ended and Aaron passed he was so excited. Aaron got on two meters and was logging every contact he made. Aaron says his favorite thing about amateur radio is talking to people.

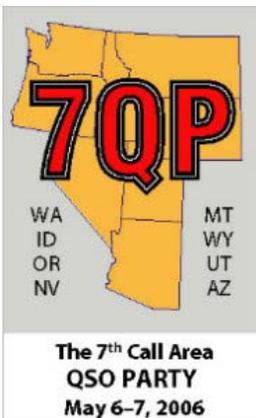
Aaron is a Cub Scout. Jay Shepherd, KE7DZE, who is a member of an older Scout group thought it would be fun to surprise Aaron and give him a chance to talk to their scout group on the ham radio. Jay made arrangements to have his group meet at Jim Harvey, KE7FMN, house. Aaron was already having a QSO with Scott Thomson, KD7VFP, when Scott said he needed to sign off. Then Jay broke in and the fun started. Aaron was so excited to add the contacts of Jay's scout group to his log.

Aaron attends Altaview Elementary School and is in the fourth grade. His favorite subject is math. In October of last



year Aaron found out that he had cancer. He has been fighting this for several months now. Aaron says he is almost done with his chemotherapy. Then he will have to have radiation treatment. After he is finished with that his cancer should be in remission.

Aaron, we wish you all the best and hope you will get well soon.
73, Linda Reeder, N7HVF



7QP - 7th Call Area QSO Party

The first running of the 7th Call Area QSO Party (7QP) has been scheduled for the first weekend of May, 2006. Building on the success of other regional QSO parties, the founders believe that the eight states of the 7th Call Area will offer a fun and challenging operating event. The mystique of the "wild west" will be included as the theme of the event.

86), Tom Taormina, K5RC, is chairing the Steering Committee. 15 hams from all of the 7th Call Area states have agreed to be State Captains and Lieutenants.

Central Oregon DX Club is the sponsoring organization for the 7QP. We also acknowledge the outstanding support that has been offered and provided by members of CADXA, SDXA, NACHO, CODXC, UDXA, WWDXC, NCCC and FOC to make this event a great success.

Our objective is to activate all 259 Counties. That goal will require a combination of fixed stations, mobiles, expeditions

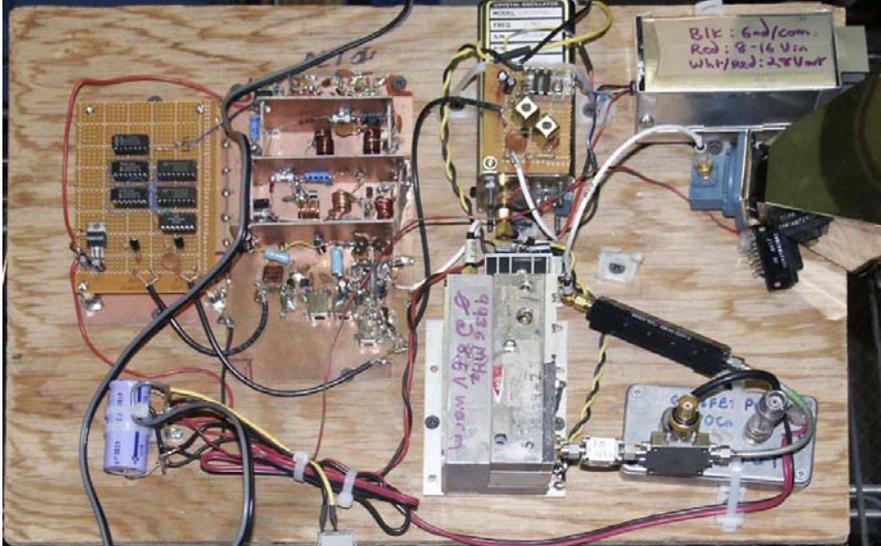
Please see 7QP on Page 5

One of the founders of The Great Armadillo Runs (1983-

Microwave Group Meeting



The Microwave group had their bi-monthly meeting at Some Dudes Hobby Shop. Pictured left to right; Brian Mogensen, W7CBM, Ron Jones, K7RJ, Clint Turner, KA7OEI, Patrick Schouten, K7LNP (proprietor), Dave Felgar, NJ7A, Dave Williams, WA7GIE, Dale Heisler, WJ7L, and John Long, KW7A.



7QP

Continued from page 4

and county-line portables. There is a lot of "wide open space" in the 7th Call Area that will challenge the State Coordinators. We are looking for support from local radio clubs to make 7QP a success and a fun club project. There is an informative and entertaining Power Point presentation available to help stimulate interest in 7QP. State Coordinators and Lieutenants will make every effort to visit as many local clubs as possible over the next few months. Club program chairs may also request a copy of the Power Point from their State Captains. Chairman K5RC also is available to help with ideas that have worked in the past to encourage local participation, intra-club competitions and fun portable operations.

We need lots of volunteers to activate all 259 counties. Please contact your State Coordinator or Lieutenant to join the roster

of 7QP'ers.

We have also scheduled the 7QP to complement the MARAC CW County Hunter's Contest, New England QSO Party and a number of other operating events that use counties as a multiplier. We have made every attempt to make the rules and exchange compatible with the other events of that weekend. We encourage feedback from participants and computer logging designers to ensure that each event maximizes participation by having complimentary contests. Please direct any questions about the rules/exchange to Dick, K4XU, k4xu@arrl.net.



Product Review

DX-Pro FFT-1 Fully Featured Kilowatt Transceiver

We were fortunate to get our hands on a beta test model of the new DX-Pro FFT-1, full-featured, all-band kilowatt transceiver. This new transceiver addresses the many requirements today's modern Hams require. Our initial evaluation is that no other Ham transceiver on the market today has these unique and useful features. The designers have applied practical technology to create a truly outstanding rig.

First Impressions

When we pulled the FFT-1 out of the box, we were impressed with its size and weight. Weighing in at a hefty 97 pounds, it is truly a staggering unit. All controls are accessible and easy to use. With its own self-contained power supply, it is completely portable; getting its power from the built-in generator operated by a hand crank.

Sensitivity and selectivity are superb. I was very impressed with some of the new features, particularly the built-in, hydraulically operated, telescoping tower topped by a vertical antenna.

Features

The features of the FFT-1 are almost too numerous to mention. The designers addressed the needs of Hams that previously have been overlooked in nearly all other modern transceivers. Here is what I found:

Telescoping tower and antenna-What a great idea! No more dealing with antenna restrictions and locations. When needed, the antenna emerges from the cabinet. Finished operating? The tower neatly retracts and a door flips down to cover it. Hand crank-operated power generator-Turn the crank for about one hour and it powers the rig at up to a kilowatt for a full five minutes! You can even use the FFT-1 outdoors.

Green tuning-eye tube-Remember them in the pre-WWII Zenith radios? A feature missing from other contemporary transceivers, but incorporated into this unit. The green eye closes as the signal is tuned in-It gave me the creeps when it stared back at me.

Two-slice pop-up toaster-I found this feature appealing. I like to operate before breakfast, and it is nice to be able to enjoy some fresh toast right at the rig.

Slide-out silverware tray- Really handy. This will encourage eating in the shack. Features compartments for knives, forks and spoons. The xyl might not like this feature.

Electric hot plate-One of my favorite features. No longer do you have to tell your contact that you have to shut down the rig for awhile to go up to the kitchen for a cup of coffee. Brew it and keep it warm right on top of the rig.

Napkin dispenser-Speaks for itself. Handy to wipe off toast crumbs from your mouth.

"Kudos to the designers!"

QSL dispenser-Wow! What an idea. A push of a button delivers a QSL card already filled out with postage attached. (How do they do that?)

High-Tech speaker system-A handy, detachable, amplified ear trumpet. I really like this feature. Most Hams don't hear well anyway, so the detachable ear trumpet is great to take to the movies or Ham meetings etc. Kudos to the designers!

Built-in keyer/paddle and hand key-Don't worry where to put; these; they're built right into the cabinet.

Built-in mini color TV-Great idea! I like to watch Cubs' baseball games while operating. Now I can view them right in front of me without craning my neck to see the TV across the room.

Credit Card Slot-Worrying how you might pay for this unit? No problem. A handy credit card reader will accept your credit card and issue a receipt. (Accepts Visa, MC and AMEX only)

Non-slip rubber feet-My favorite feature. No more having the rig sliding around the desk. This rig has four solid feet. In keeping with today's casual look, the feet are wearing non-slip rubber flip-flops. This baby's going nowhere!

Bottom line. All I can say is I have waited for this unit for years. What a rig! I asked what the selling price is



**DX-Pro FFT-1 XCVR
(with apologies to
Rube Goldberg)**

and the engineer said, "If you have to ask, you can't afford it." I guess that tells you something.

[Editor's note: Since this article was written, the FFT-1 manufacturing facility in Outer Mongolia mysteriously burned to the ground. All tooling and components were destroyed. The company has since declared bankruptcy. Sorry, this unit is no longer available.]

RDXA, Apr 2000

Eldon Wiley Bates, AC7E, SK

Eldon Wiley Bates 1925 ~ 2006



Eldon W. Bates, born February 20, 1925 to the late Clement and Priscilla Bates, passed away at the age of 80 on Feb. 15, 2006 of kidney failure. Married Donna Poulton in the Salt Lake Temple, 1956. Faithful member of the LDS Church. The best decision of his life was to marry Donna. With her love

and support, he accomplished many things. Eldon will be remembered by his appreciation of classical music; dedication to HAM radio; and love of fishing. He enjoyed reading about his hobbies and interests and continued to learn throughout his life. Although he was in poor health for many years, dad went peacefully. Survived by his children, Edna (James) Beadles; Philip (Stacy) Bates; Janet (Bradley) Stewart; Staci Bates and fianc, Joseph Milillo; Donell (Curtis) Pons; 13 grandchildren; one great-granddaughter. Preceded in death by wife, son, Douglas, brother and parents. Eldon would want to thank the staff at the Wellington and Care Source Hospice for their kindness and good care.



Who's Leading Whom.....

For years, each morning at about 11:30 AM the telephone operator in a small Sierra Nevada town received a call from a man asking the exact time. One day, the operator summoned nerve enough to ask him why the regularity. "I'm foreman of the local sawmill," he explained, "every day I have to blow the whistle at noon, so I call you to get the exact time."

"That's really funny," she replied, "all this time we've been setting our clock by your whistle!"

FCC Enacts Internet Morse Code Requirement

The FCC, under pressure to clean up the internet, especially after the Communications Decency Act provisions regarding Internet content regulation were stricken as violating the U.S. Constitution, has decided instead to require a Morse code requirement for Internet users.

Citing the success of the Amateur Radio Service and the general belief that its requirement for operators to pass a Morse code proficiency exam and other technical requirements, has kept the A.R.S. "clean", the FCC will enact a 5 word-per-minute requirement for all internet users. They are leaving open the issue of whether there should be a codeless class of Internet user and are soliciting comments on this proposal. Persons wishing to develop a web site having only links to other web sites having links to other web sites, and so forth, must pass a 13 word-per-minute test and demonstrate proficiency in HTML, the Internet authoring language.

Persons wish to develop web sites that have actual content, as compared to just links to other web sties, must pass a 20 word-per-minute Morse code proficiency test, demonstrate proficiency in HTML, and the Java programming language, and show that they have the mastery of at least one human language, such as English.

The FCC, which lacks budgetary authority to implement the testing program, has stated that it intends to create Volunteer Examiner programs for Internet applicants.

Editor's note: Note for the humor impaired this is satire. Please do not read this if you are not properly trained and certified in satire. This article was compliments of Jim Thompson -W3LAP

April Meeting: Official Observers

For many years ARRL has maintained a network of volunteer hams known as "Official Observers," or OO's. These people monitor the amateur frequencies and notify people, usually by postcard, when they hear a rules infraction that an operator should know about. The intent is simply to let people know when there is a problem, whether it is a misunderstanding of identification rules or a transmitter harmonic interfering with another radio service, before the matter is noticed by the FCC. UARC's Brett Sutherland, N7KG, is the OO coordinator for the Utah Section and is going to be presenting the program at the next UARC meeting, to be held April 6.

What do OO's do? How can one become an OO? What are the most common infractions that OO's must deal with? These are some of the questions that Brett will be answer-

ing for us. He will also tell us about some of the provisions of the FCC rules and how they might apply to us in different situations. If you order a pizza by amateur radio, is it a business communication? Can you let your boss know you'll be late to work? How about a commercial trucker asking for directions to take his load to the right place? Brett will help clarify some of the fine points of the rules and there will be time for questions.

There will also be a discussion (and, possibly, demonstration) of the club's new IRLP node on 146.76.

That's Thursday, April 6th, 7:30PM.

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 Litza's Pizza, 716 E. 400 South. Another group 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 "The Training Table," 809 East 400 South in Salt Lake City.

Exam Schedule

4/01/06¹ (Sat.) Salt Lake City
Contact: Gordon Smith, K7HFV
Phone: (801) 582-2438

4/19/06 (Wed.) Provo
Contact: Steve Whitehead, NV7V
Phone: (801) 465-3983

4/19/06 (Wed.) St. George
Contact: Ron C. Sappington, WI7Z
Phone: (435) 673-4552

4/25/06¹ (Tues.) Salt Lake City
Contact: Eugene McWherter, N7OVT
Phone: (801) 541-1871

5/17/06 (Wed.) Provo
Contact: Steve Whitehead, NV7V
Phone: (801) 465-3983

5/17/06 (Wed.) St. George
Contact: Ron C. Sappington, WI7Z
Phone: (435) 673-4552

5/25/06 (Thu.) Roosevelt
Contact: R. Chandler Fisher, W7BYU
Phone: (435) 722-5440

5/30/06¹ (Tues.) Salt Lake City
Contact: Eugene McWherter, N7OVT
Phone: (801) 541-1871

6/03/06¹ (Sat.) Salt Lake City
Contact: Gordon Smith, K7HFV
Phone: (801) 582-2438

6/07/06 (Wed.) Ogden
Contact: Mary Hazard, W7UE
Phone: (801) 430-0306

6/10/06 (Sat.) Logan
Contact: Heidi Bleazard, AC7ZC
Phone: (435) 753-7487

6/21/06 (Wed.) Provo
Contact: Steve Whitehead, NV7V
Phone: (801) 465-3983

6/27/06¹ (Tues.) Salt Lake City
Contact: Eugene McWherter, N7OVT
Phone: (801) 541-1871

7/05/06 (Wed.) Farmington
Contact: Mike Youngs, KK7VZ
Phone: (801) 573-3922

7/19/06 (Wed.) Provo
Contact: Steve Whitehead, NV7V
Phone: (801) 465-3983

7/19/06 (Wed.) St. George
Contact: Ron C. Sappington, WI7Z
Phone: (435) 673-4552

7/25/06¹ (Tues.) Salt Lake City
Contact: Eugene McWherter, N7OVT
Phone: (801) 541-1871

7/27/06 (Thu.) Roosevelt
Contact: R. Chandler Fisher, W7BYU
Phone: (435) 722-5440

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 web-page:

<http://www.xmission.com/~uarc>