

Bob Armstrong, N7XJ giving a QRP in the wilderness presentation.



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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's Warnock Engineering Building in room 1230, The "Duke Classroom."

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, 1933 Woodside Drive, Holladay, UT 84124-1632. 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 for Provo which are currently disabled due to abuse and for Salt Lake which is in need of reworking to be compatible with IRLP.

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: Tony Naef, 4585 Sunstone Rd. #327, Taylorsville, UT 84123. 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, 1933 Woodside Drive, Holladay, UT, 84124-1632.

UARC 2008 Board

Table listing UARC 2008 Board members and their contact information, including President John Brewer, Executive VP Andrew Madsen, and various committee chairs.

Committee Chairpersons and Members

Table listing committee chairpersons and members, including "Book Lady" Fred Desmet, Historian Ron Speirs, and various engineering and liaison roles.

Contents

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



The Microvolt

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Volume 51, Issue 1, January 2008

Letter from the Editor

Here we are, a new year. The nominations are over, the vote taken, and I've won by a landslide. ;)

For those who don't know me, I'll introduce myself as UARC's new *Microvolt* editor:

I'm Tony Naef, KE7BBG. I've been a ham since June of 2004, when I earned my Technician license. Around July of 2007, I upgraded to General class. I'm planning on finishing my Extra here in the next few months. I'll take some editorial space in the future to share some of my adventures in Amateur Radio.

My background is in electronics, an interest that started very young. First by taking everything apart I could get my hands on, both mechanical and electronic (not always able to put back together...).

Then came the new and exciting thing called a "microprocessor," or computer chip. I was in high school when these electronic wonders first arrived on the hobbyist market. This is before the Personal Computer even existed, for those too young to remember. Bought a single board computer kit, assembled it, and learned to program in machine language.

Now microprocessors are in almost everything: cars, cell phones, microwave ovens, ATM cash machines, and-- amateur radios. The joke these days that even a toaster has a microprocessor in it!

So, what does this have to do with Amateur Radio? Well, this all led to a career in electronics and RF communications. With such an interest in electronics, I was aware of the existence of amateur radio. It fascinated me, as all things electronic did, but I didn't know anyone who was

directly involved in amateur radio. I had read about amateur radio, but that bit about having to learn Morse Code kind of scared me away. Code always sounded hard to me back in those days.

My career path has kept me exposed to RF communications of one sort or another for more than two decades now. Everything from TV signals, satellite communications to Broadcast FM. All along the way, RF has been involved in or central to the systems I've dealt with over the years.

My present employment is directly linked to my having an Amateur Radio license.

Several years ago, after first earning my Tech license, I started attending the UARC monthly meetings, and by the end of 2004, I joined UARC. Being the type of person that likes to get involved in things, I soon offered to put on a presentation for the club.

Many of you remember my presentation on making our own Printed Circuit Boards. Wow! That was almost two years ago; how time flies. Later on, I put on a surface mount soldering presentation. That was a fun demonstration.

That second demonstration along with a recommendation from fellow ham KA7TGR (thanks John) started the process by which I'm now with my present employer working with tracking systems for hunting dogs and falconers.

Being a ham helps tremendously in my work, and I enjoy being able to hang out with my fellow hams here in UARC.

All for now, and 73.

Tony Naef, KE7BBG

UARC Elects New Officers for 2008



UARC offices for 2008 were elected at the annual election meeting, on December 6th, 2007. Once again, most of the offices were not contested with only a single nomination, though there were some contested ones, primarily the Program Chair Person positions. It seems that Program Chair positions are more interesting and seem to garner more interest. Not surprising; that's where the fun is! Linda Reeder, N7HVF along with Jed Petrovich, AD7KG, and Howard Armstrong, KE7KNN, were vying for the two open positions. The club chose Howard and Jed for Program Chairs. I'm sure that they will do a great job. That being said, I'm sure Linda is bound to continue to be very active in the club.

The 2008 officers continuing in their positions are:

- President:** John Brewer, N7MFQ
- Vice President:** Gordon Smith, K7HFV
- Secretary:** Dick Keddington, KD7TDZ
- Treasurer:** Chuck Johnson, WA7JOS
- Assistant Editor:** Bob Rollins, WB7DPA

The newly elected officers are:

- Executive VP:** Andrew Madsen, AC7CF
- Microvolt Editor:** Tony Naef, KE7BBG
- Program Chairperson:** Jed W. Petrovich, AD7KG
- Program Chairperson:** Howard Armstrong, KE7KNN

The above officers plus the Immediate past President, Roy Eichelberger, W7ROY, make up the Board of Directors.

Brett Sutherland, N7KG continues as the trustee for the W7SP station license and chairman of the Repeater Committee.



Left to right: Andrew Madsen-AC7CF, Chuck Johnson-WA7JOS, Gordon Smith-K7HFV, Tony Naef-KE7BBG, John Brewer-N7MFQ, Howard Armstrong-KE7KNN, Jed W. Petrovich, AD7KG

Feature of the month

This month we are featuring Mike Porter AD7MY previously KE7GOJ. Mike says he has been interested in amateur radio almost all of his life. He has always been interested in electronics. Mike says the more knobs and switches the better. In fact, when I asked him what his favorite thing about amateur radio was, Mike said the ability to experiment and find out what makes these radios tick. Mike loves to make new things and figure out how to make them work.

Mike finally bit the bullet and got his amateur radio license. He received his Technician license in Feb. of 2006. Mike also passed the general theory test but he hadn't studied the Morse code at all. A year later when Mike went to get his Extra he thought now that the code was no longer required, since he had already passed the General theory, he would just need to pass the Extra Class. But, his bubble burst when he discovered that his certificate of completion had expired two days earlier. He had to take the General theory all over again. Mike was not a happy camper, but he passed the General and Extra that day. When Mike was studying for his amateur license he checked out the Technician book and the General book at the library. The library didn't have the Extra class book so he had to buy it. While Mike was studying for the extra Class license he was teaching a Technician class in Wendover, Nevada. Mike said there aren't any ham radio clubs in Wendover, so he is trying to start one.

Mike lived in Salt Lake for 15 years and worked in Provo as a web developer. Then he got a job offer to be a sound engineer for a concert hall in Wendover, Nevada, so Mike and his family moved there. Mike really loves this job. This job is right up his alley, because the mixer that he operates has all kinds of knobs and switches. Mike and his wife Kelly have a 6-year-old son. His name is Bryan. Mike said his son Bryan is a

definite future ham. Mike is also trying to get his wife in the hobby as well.

Mike has been a member of UARC since November of 2006. Even though he lives in Wendover, Nevada, he comes to the UARC meetings. Mike says there is no excuse for people to complain about having to drive all the way from West Valley to come to the UARC meetings because he drives all the way from Wendover, Nevada. Mike said it works out quite well for him because there aren't any concerts on Thursday and Thursday just happens to be the day he has to come to Salt Lake to pick up equipment for his company.

For an HF rig Mike has an old Kenwood all-mode radio. It has A.M., two-meter F.M., and single sideband. Mike has currently started a new project. He was so impressed when John Hays, K7VE, showed his homebrewed software-defined 40-meter and 80-meter radios at this year's homebrew night he went and got the software kits. This software can also be used for CW and PSK31. Mike says if anyone is interested in this, feel free to contact him.

Mike, I wish you the best in all of your adventures.

73, Linda Reeder, N7HVF

Editor's note – Alas, we don't have a picture available. Take the time to meet Mike by QSO, on the air or off.

December Presentation

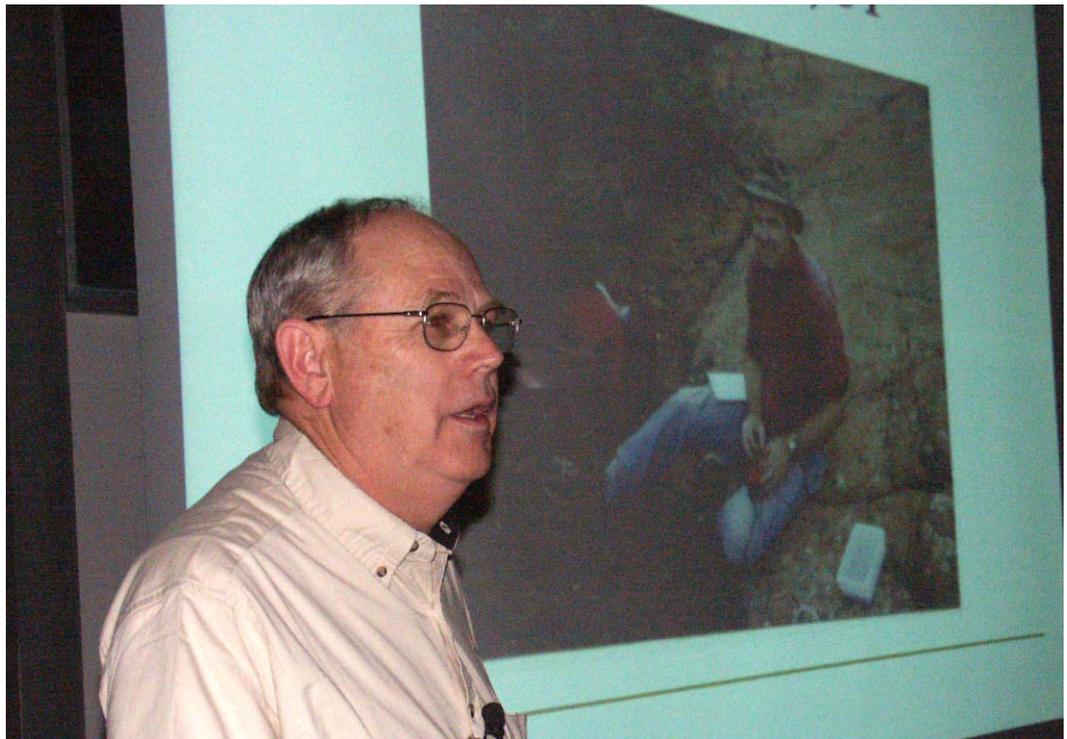
Bob Armstrong, N7XJ gave us an excellent presentation covering his outdoor camping & hiking adventures with his portable ham rigs that he used over the years, covering all of the major aspects of packing a portable communication setup deep into the back country. Radios, power sources, antennas and support equipment were all covered.

His present system and weight goals were impressive to say the least. It was also impressive to have him describe a few of his more memorable QRP contacts he could make with the rigs he's willing to pack in.

If you're interested in further details, here's some web links to try out:

<http://arsqrp.pbwiki.com/>
<http://www.azscqrptions.org/>
<http://www.4sqrp.com/>

Thanks, N7XJ – and 73.



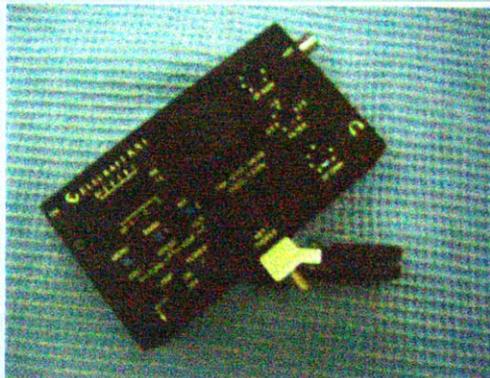
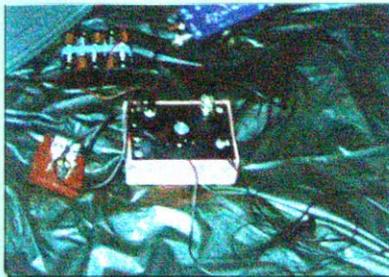


QRP Backpacking

- *ULTRA* light weight radio gear.
- Very small, highly portable design.
- Minimal accessories.
- Rapid setup and take down.
- Easily hidden from other lightweight backpackers.
- My current acceptable weight limit for a complete station is two pounds.

Rigs of dazzling success ...

Wilderness SST, SW40A, Elecraft KX1



UARC Event Calendar

2008 Date	Event	Speaker/Info
3-Jan	UARC meeting: Record Distances on a Light Beam	Clint Turner, KA7OEI
31-Jan	Special Presentation: Evolution of Amateur Light-Beam Communications	Chris Long, VK3AML (from Melbourne, Australia)
7-Feb	UARC Meeting: Radio Direction-Finding	Larry Jacobs, WA7ZBO
23-Feb	Utah VHF Society Swap Meet	
6-Mar	UARC Meeting: Homebrew Antennas	Jed Petrovich, AD7KG
3-Apr	UARC Meeting: HF Digital Modes	Doug Gallup, AD7BN
3-May	Seventh Call Area QSO Party	
8-May	UARC meeting (Note: Second Thursday)	

Utah Amateur Radio Examination Schedule

Date	Location	Contact Person	Home Phone	Fn.
1/16/2008 (Wed.)	St. George	Ronald C. Sappington, WI7Z	(435) 673-4552	
1/16/2008 (Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	465-3983	
1/17/2008 (Thu.)	Roosevelt	R Chandler Fisher, W7BYU	(435) 722-5440	1
1/29/2008 (Tues.)	Salt Lake C.	Eugene McWherter, N7OVT	541-1871	1
2/2/2008 (Sat.)	Salt Lake C.	Gordon Smith, K7HFV	582-2438	1
2/6/2008 (Wed.)	Ogden	Mary Hazard, W7UE	430-0306	
2/20/2008 (Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	465-3983	
2/20/2008 (Wed.)	St. George	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	(435) 674-2678	
2/26/2008 (Tues.)	Salt Lake C.	Eugene McWherter, N7OVT	541-1871	1
3/5/2008 (Wed.)	Clearfield	Mike Youngs, KK7VZ	573-3922	
3/20/2008 (Thu.)	Roosevelt	R Chandler Fisher, W7BYU	(435) 722-5440	
3/19/2008 (Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	465-3983	
3/19/2008 (Wed.)	St. George	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	(435) 674-2678	
3/25/2008 (Tues.)	Salt Lake C.	Eugene McWherter, N7OVT	541-1871	1
1. Pre-registration required. Contact the contact person prior to the examination date				