

# The *Microvolt*

March, 2013



## Prologue

**Publication:** *The Microvolt* (USPS 075-430) is the official publication of the Utah Amateur Radio Club, Incorporated, 699 E. South Temple Ste 100, Salt Lake City, UT 84102-1282. It is published monthly except August. Subscription is included with club membership at \$17 per year. Single copy price is \$1.50. Periodicals postage paid at Salt Lake City, Utah. Postmaster: send address corrections to *The Microvolt*, c/o Dick Keddington, 1783 Woodside Drive, Holladay, UT, 84124-1620.

Deadline for submissions is the 24th of each month prior to publication. Submissions by email are preferred (k7hfv@arrl.net), but other means including diskettes and typewritten submissions can be mailed directly to: Gordon Smith, 632 University St., Salt Lake City, UT 84102-3213. 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.

**Club:** 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 second Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM in the University of Utah's Warnock Engineering Building, generally in room 1230 or 2230., sometimes in 2250 or 105.

**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, 1783 Woodside Drive, Holladay, UT 84124-1620.

**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-) is IRLP node 3352. Instructions for IRLP use are on the club website.

**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.

## UARC 2013 Board

President: Clint Turner, KA7OEI	801 566-4497
Executive VP: Rick Asper, AC7RA	801 865-1693
Vice Pres: Brett Sutherland, N7KG	801 298-5399
Secretary: Dick Keddington, KD7TDZ	801 274-9638
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Asst. <i>Microvolt</i> Editor: Mary Alexander, KF7QVL	801 347-3220
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## Committee Chairpersons and Members

"Book Lady": Brett Sutherland, N7KG	801 298-5399
Historian: Ron Speirs, K7RLS	801 904-3587
Field Day Chair: Brett Sutherland, N7KG	801 298-5399
License Trustee: Brett Sutherland, N7KG	801 298-5399
Repeater Engineer: Randy Finch, K7SL	801 556-7565
ATV Engineer: Clint Turner, KA7OEI	801 566-4497
Autopatch Engineer: Gordon Smith, K7HFV	801 582-2438

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## IRLP Information

For information on using the club's IRLP node on the 146.76 repeater, check <http://user.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: <http://user.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

The Official Publication of the Utah Amateur Radio Club, Salt Lake City, Utah  
Volume 56, Issue 3, March 2013

### March Meeting: March 14

The next meeting of the Utah Amateur Radio Club will be Thursday evening, March 14, at 7:30 P.M. The place is the Warnock Engineering Building, Room 2230 (on the second floor). At this writing, the program topic is not known. For the most current information, check the “Next Meeting” page on the UARC web site (<http://user.xmission.com/~uarc/meeting.html>).

UARC meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M., in the Warnock Engineering Building on the University of Utah campus. See the [map](http://user.xmission.com/~uarc/meetmap.html) at <http://user.xmission.com/~uarc/meetmap.html> for information on finding the building.

Rooms for the remaining Spring 2013 meetings are as follows:

March: 2230 (Second floor)

April: L105 (Choose “L1” in the elevator in the southwest corner)

May To be announced

Of course, the meeting will include the “standard” meeting features:

- Availability of ARRL books from Brett, 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 after the meeting”: A chance to enjoy pizza or other gastronomic delights with other hams. It happens at Litza's Pizza, 716 E. 400 South.
- 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. The March get-together will be at “Greek Souvlaki,” 404 E. 300 South, in Salt Lake City.

## Latest News

### Our Cover

Our cover photo this month shows Mark Richardson, W7HPW, who presented the program at the February UARC meeting on operating HF. Mark is holding his Five-Band DXCC award, given for working at least 100 countries on each of the five major HF bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. (Thanks to K7RLS for the photo.)

Mark's PowerPoint file used at the meeting is available for download at:

[http://media.udxa.org/clubdocs/ppt/2013-02-14\\_w7hpw\\_uarc.pptx](http://media.udxa.org/clubdocs/ppt/2013-02-14_w7hpw_uarc.pptx)

### VHF Society Holds Swapmeet

The Utah VHF Society, the statewide organization dedicated to maintaining Utah repeaters, held its annual swapmeet and business meeting on Saturday, February 23, at the Davis County Fairgrounds in Farmington. Attendance was noticeably lower than usual, likely due to the snowstorm that hit that morning as well as the change of venue. Still, there were many attendees from all over the state and many items for sale. Thanks to Brett Sutherland, N7KG; Chuck Johnson, WA7JOS; and Dick Keddington, KD7TDZ, UARC had a presence there offering ARRL books and UARC membership.

Business included re-electing the entire set of UVHFS officers, aligning the 147.12 repeater, and approving a change to 9 A.M. for next year's event. President Mel Parkes, NM7P, announced that over \$10,000 had been spent to maintain and upgrade various "aligned" repeaters throughout the state. (A repeater can become "aligned," i.e. eligible to receive financial assistance from the Society, by demonstrating to the members that it is open and provides a useful service.)

Many door prizes were given out to attendees, including VHF handheld transceivers and a VHF mobile rig.

### General Class to Start March 25

Morris Farmer, AD7SR, has announced that, starting on March 25, he will be teaching a class leading to the General Class amateur license. The class will be held each Monday evening at 7 P.M. for approximately seven weeks.

The class will be taught at Morris' home, approximately 5000 South and 1500 East in the Salt Lake Valley.

Anyone interested in taking the course should contact Morris at [f.morris1@comcast.net](mailto:f.morris1@comcast.net). There is no charge for the course except for the text, the ARRL *General Class License Manual*, which will be available the first night of the course for \$30.00.

### Your Help Desired

We would like to have more contributions from our members in *The Microvolt*. Have you done anything interesting lately? Have you tried out a new rig? How did you like it? What were its good and bad points? Did you enjoy participating in a public service event? How was it organized? How did it help the public? Did you discover a new trick for making an antenna or curing a problem with your rig? Others might benefit from your discovery. Let us know. Take a photo if that would help.

It doesn't have to be long or scholarly. It can be just a phone call. But if you've done something fun, we'd love to share in it.

# UARC “T” Shirts Now Available

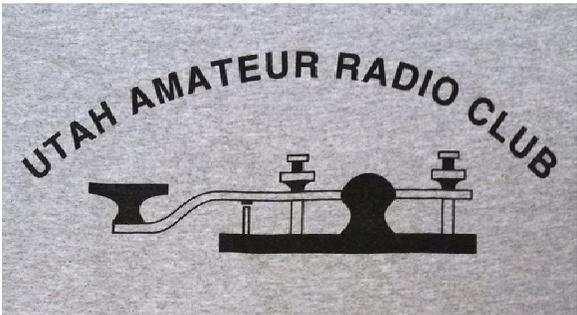
By Morris Farmer, AD7SR

UARC now has club “T” shirts available for purchase. They are available in sizes: Small, Medium, Large, XLarge, XXLarge, XXXLarge, and XXXXLarge. They are priced at \$13.50 for the shirts as shown below and an additional \$5 if you want your call sign on the sleeve. Payment can be made by check, PayPal, or cash.

If you would like to purchase them please send an email to Morris Farmer at [ad7sr@comcast.net](mailto:ad7sr@comcast.net). You can make payment by going to <http://www.paypal.com/> and directing the correct amount to [uarc@xmission.com](mailto:uarc@xmission.com). If we hear from you by March 6<sup>th</sup> we should have the shirts available for the UARC meeting on March 14<sup>th</sup>.



Front View 1



Back of Shirt 1

## License Examination Schedule

Opportunities to test for new or upgraded amateur licenses

Date	Day	City	Contact Person	Phone
03/20/13	(Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983
03/20/13	(Wed.)	St. George <sup>2</sup>	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	(435) 674-2678
03/26/13	(Tue.)	Salt Lake City <sup>3</sup>	Eugene McWherter, N7OVT	(801) 541-1871
04/06/13	(Sat.)	Salt Lake City <sup>1</sup>	Gordon Smith, K7HFV	(801) 582-2438
04/06/13	(Sat.)	Boulder <sup>2</sup>	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	(435) 674-2678
04/13/13	(Sat.)	Hurricane <sup>2</sup>	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	(435) 674-2678
04/17/13	(Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983
04/17/13	(Wed.)	St. George <sup>2</sup>	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	(435) 674-2678

<sup>1</sup>Preregistration required. Check with the contact person before the test session.

<sup>2</sup>More information at <http://www.dixieham.org/meetings.html>

<sup>3</sup>New location: Senior Center at the Columbus Center, 2530 S. 500 East

Check <http://user.xmission.com/~uarc/testinfo.html> for further exam information.

## From the Clipboard of the Editor

Here are a few things heard on the club repeaters:

- A ham starts transmitting on an idle repeater to announce that there is a traffic tie-up on southbound I-15 at 7200 South.
- A ham in QSO announces that he is broadcasting from Farmington.
- Someone makes a single transmission out of the blue announcing a political position and why he thinks it is the “correct” one.
- A ham announces to his unlicensed wife that he expects to be home within ten minutes.

What do these situations have in common? In each case the operator is apparently unaware of rule 97.113(b) which states in part:

An amateur station shall not engage in any form of broadcasting, nor may an amateur station transmit one-way communications except as specifically provided in these rules;  
...

For two-way communication, the rules let us do pretty much anything we would like, provided it is not specifically prohibited. But for one-way communication it’s the other way around: we can only make kinds of transmissions that are specifically *allowed*. These include transmissions required to establish two-way communication (e.g. calling CQ or calling another station), short tests, code practice, net operation where everyone gets a chance to transmit, beacon operation, and remote control.

We need to be especially careful when we decide to make transmissions to no one in particular. If it is not one of the one-way communications specifically allowed, we need either to abandon the idea or figure out a legal way to do it.

For someone wanting to let folks know of a traffic tie-up, there is a simple solution. Just say something like:

“Is there anyone on frequency interested in traffic conditions on I-15 near 7200 South?”

That's perfectly legal as a transmission necessary to establish two-way communications. If someone answers, then you can give out the information as part of a genuine two-way QSO. If no one responds, then there's no reason to continue. If no hams are listening, then you're transmitting to the general public, an activity called "broadcasting" that is specifically outlawed.

I imagine that if an FCC monitor heard a ham in a two-way QSO say that he was "broadcasting," he would probably be able to figure out that it was a slip of the tongue, or a statement from someone that didn't understand that there is a very specific FCC definition of "broadcasting." Still, it probably isn't a good idea to make a practice of announcing on the air that we're doing something that is specifically against the rules!

Announcing a political opinion or a sports score without being in a QSO is just something we're

not allowed to do. Sending messages to non-hams is another no-no.

A one-way communication that we *are* allowed is something called "bulletins." This is the rule that makes W1AW bulletin transmissions legal as well as features like *Newsline*. However, these really need to be of specific interest to radio amateurs; otherwise, it's assumed they must be directed to the general public and are therefore *broadcasting*.

If you've never read our rules (FCC Part 97), you really should. To make it easy, the Government Printing Office has a new on-line service called "Electronic CFR." (In government-speak "CFR" means "Code of Federal Regulations.") Go to [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov) then select:

- Title 47 (in the pulldown)
- Parts 80-199
- Part 97

It's all there, up-to-date, and you don't even have to buy a book!

## **Member of the Month**

### **Ronald Hopkins, KF7CLO**

*(Photo on page 8)*

By Linda Reeder, N7HVF

This month we are featuring Ronald Hopkins, KF7CLO. Ron is a new member of UARC. He joined at the February meeting, which was his second time attending a UARC meeting. Ron has been in the hobby for three years. He said that Morris Farmer, AD7SR, was fantastic in helping him get his Technician license. Ron now has his General license and is working on his Extra Class license in the class that Morris Farmer, AD7SR, and Ron Speirs, K7RLS, are teaching.

Ron has his pilot's license and it was through flying that he got interested in amateur radio. Ron was in the Civil Air Patrol with two other amateur radio operators. One of them is Michael Mladejovsky, WA7ARK, who was a member of UARC and a long time ago was President of UARC. Mike now lives in Arizona. Ron was very

impressed with the ham radio equipment Mike has on his aircraft. The other amateur radio operator is Mike Knutson, KD7UHW. The three of them like to go to air shows. One of these is held in Wisconsin at the end of July every year. Ron thought it was neat to talk on repeaters all over the United States while flying in the airplane. The three of them own an airplane together. They are rebuilding it. Ron also enjoys camping and the out-of-doors.

Ron works for the state Department of Transportation where he is the supervisor over equipment maintenance. Ron also does motor vehicle construction work in Salt Lake City. Ron and his wife, Janet, have three children: two daughters and one son. They are all grown and

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married now. Ron is hoping to get his son interested in amateur radio.

Ron says what he likes best about amateur radio is friendship. He said there is so much to learn and he is going to learn all that he can. He said he wants to figure out the best way of communicating with Mike in Arizona through amateur radio.

Ron we wish you the best in all of your endeavors, especially in getting that Extra Class license.

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Ronald Hopkins, KF7CLO, at his station  
*(Photo by Ron Speirs, K7RLS)*