

Field Day 1999 Reports



Photo: Ron Speis, KC7MYS

One of the three tri-bander beans is field assembled and raised into position at the UARC Pason Lakes Field Day site.

Volume XLIII Issue 8, September 1999



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 Doxey-Hatch 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: Russell Smith, KC7ZDZ, 3267 East 3300 South #115, Salt Lake City, UT 84109 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 following repeaters: 146.62 (-), 146.76(-), and 449.10. 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. 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 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 (bbergen@xmission.com), but other means including diskettes and typewritten submissions can be mailed directly to: Bruce Bergen, 3543 Fieldstone Cir., SLC, UT 84121. 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: Russell Smith, KC7ZDZ, 2493 South 1700 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84106. □

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□	

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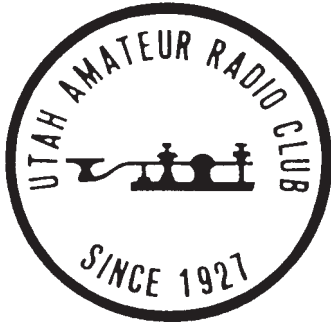
For late breaking news listen to the UARC Information Net Sundays at 21:00 on 146.62 or set your browser to:
www.xmission.com/~uarc/announce.html □

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The Microvolt

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

Volume XLIII, Issue 8, September 1999



Photo: Ron Speils, KC7MYS

QST From the Prez

As we are about to enter the last quarter of 1999, I would like to ask all of you to consider who you would like to serve on the UARC Board. There will be many positions that will open up this year. The nominating committee will be interested in hearing who you would support or maybe even consider a position yourself. The first condition in serving on the board is desire. But keep in mind, as a common courtesy, you must obtain the individual's permission prior to nominating them. Even persons now serving, due to many circumstances, may not be able to serve, so any person you consider, please get their permission.

Also the club is undertaking some major projects. The site of the 146.62 repeater on Farnsworth is going to have to be moved to a different building on Farnsworth. Some extra help may be needed and we will try to keep you informed when that will be. Please listen to the Sunday night UARC information net or contact Gordon Smith, K7HFV.

The work on Scott's Hill is progressing. If you are interested in helping please contact Bruce Bergen, KI7OM. Bruce maintains an email list to which he sends periodic reports and work party notices for those interested in helping.

Thanks to all those who supported, helped, and attended Field Day and the UARC Steak Fry. We have received many comments about both of these events and some suggestions we could do to make it better.

Just a note about the Swap Meet on September 2, 1999. We will not sell anything until 7:00 PM so everyone has the same chance to look and buy.

Thank you for your continued support and interest.

73

Gary Openshaw, KC7AWU □

QTX From the SM



Photo: Ron Speirs, KC7MYS

Mel Parks, N5UVP, newly elected ARRL Section Manager for Utah

Thank you for electing me to represent you as the ARRL Section Manager for the State of Utah. I look forward to taking on this very important responsibility and hope that I can fill the very big set of shoes Jim Rudnicki, NZ7T, will leave behind as he stepped down on 1 July, 1999. I would like to just take a moment to thank Jim for the many contributions and accomplishments he has made to amateur radio here in the State of Utah during the last four years he has served as our ARRL Section Manager. As Jim steps down I wish him much luck on six meters and hope as he dusts off the HF Rigs that he will fill many pages in his log book, now that he will have some extra time.

My present plans are to make an effort to visit as many clubs in the state as possible, as I do so, I want you to talk with me about your feelings and ideas about amateur radio and what you want to see done in the future. First I hope that all those who presently fill any of the appointed ARRL positions will continue to serve as they have in those positions, if you have questions about ARRL or would like to help out please feel free to let me know. I would like to encourage those who are not ARRL Members to give some thought to joining ARRL and becoming more active in your local amateur clubs or organizations.

Thanks again I look forward to serving all of the amateur radio community in Utah and please feel free to contact me if you have any suggestions or comments, my email address is: n5uvp@arrl.net. I usually check my E-Mail every day unless I'm out of town on business.

Mel Parkes -N5UVP □

Featured Member of the Month



Photo: Ron Speirs, KC7MYS

Brett Sutherland, KC7WRR, at the consol of his Icom 706.

This month I interviewed Brett Sutherland, KC7WRR. Brett has been licensed since of May of, 1997. He has participated in Field Day for the last 3 years and loves to contest. He then obtained his General Class license in July of this year. He was excited about reaching this goal and really enjoys HF mobile with his Icom 706 and a screwdriver antenna.

Brett has been interested in amateur radio since he was a young, but never seemed to find the time to study. In 1989 he was seriously studying for it and was ready to take the test, but other priorities got in the way. Brett is originally from Fort Worth, Texas. His employer wanted to open up an office in Salt Lake City. Brett lucked out, was given the task of doing this and was subsequently transferred to Utah in June of 1989.

Brett is married and has two boys Nathan and Alex. His wife, Tina, is expecting a third child. Brett says his three year old son Alex likes to pick up a mic and say "CQ CQ CQ radio radio radio."

Brett is a member of UARC, Davis County Amateur Radio Club, ARES and MARS (MARS call sign AFT5EU). Brett is planning on participating this year in the communications support of the Wasatch 100 to be held on September 11th and 12th.

Another hobby Brett enjoys is sailing. While he'll sail anything, he prefers multi-hull boats.

Brett would like to see more young people become involved in amateur radio. He points out that one way to accomplish this is for more participation in the Boy Scouts of America's "Jamboree On The Air" or JOTA (October 15-17).

Operators are always needed to help out.

73 N7HVF Linda Reeder □

Field Day - UARC 1999

People, food, campers, tents, generator noise, and lots of people saying "CQ Field Day" --it was all there, all the elements of Field Day. UARC returned again to its site of the last six years, a clearing in the aspen near Payson Lakes, to enter ham radio's biggest contest. We entered the 3A category, meaning we had three simultaneous stations running: one on phone, one on CW, and one for practice and training on whatever mode the operator wanted to try. The rules also allowed us three "free" stations and we used all of those too: one on VHF (six meters), one for satellite contacts, and one set up and operated by Novice and Technician-Plus operators.



Photo: Ron Speirs, KC7MYS

A group of Hams help Bill, N7VM, assemble his VHF/UHF antenna array.

This year was a first in that the three primary stations all had tri-band beams. There was the club's beam of several years, originally donated by Ron Jones, K7RJ. Then there was the A4 donated by Alan Seyboldt, N7OI. Finally, Bill Ralston, N7VM, lent his A3.

Bill helped the score in several ways. Not only did he supply the third beam, but he also supplied a satellite station, getting us the satellite bonus points, worked 150 stations from all over the country on six meters, and was one of the best point-getters on the CW station.

The stations were all well-equipped. The CW station was Tom Shaefer's (NY4I) IC-738; the phone station used the club's TS-450 (normally part of the club station at Red Cross headquarters); the training station employed a TS-450 belonging to Ron Speirs, KC7MYS; and the Novice/Technician station used the club's IC-730.

The phone and cw stations were housed in a trailer supplied by Jerry Bennion, WR7N.

Check the final score tally for full details on how we did.

We are still collecting all the stories, so if you have some, send them along to K7HFV. The ones we do have are:

- Carla Pitsch, KC7HON, braved the spruce needles and made her way up two evergreens with the agility of a 12-year-old to anchor a long-wire antenna sixty feet in the air.



Photo: Ron Speirs, KC7MYS

Carla, KC7HON, up the tree

- The group trying to diagnose a generator failure thought a float valve might be stuck and a hammer tap might cure it. Sure enough, they found the dent marks from the last twenty years of the same fix being applied. The generator fired back up and purred happily for hours. (Tnx to KI7SLC.)
- The author worked to finish a couple of headphone distribution boxes before going to the site Saturday afternoon --just about the time the boxes were no longer needed. He did, however, take orders for speakers, paper plates, tableware, and ice along the way. He conveniently had his radio off when the call for toilet paper went out.
- Glen Worthington, WA7X, whose collection of tekkie toys would challenge most, supplied a direct satellite link to internet and a 3-kw uninterruptible power supply (UPS) to bridge any gaps when the generator might need servicing.

- Ten meters was open well into the night and gave the Novice/Tech operators the chance for many contacts
- Derek Sheehan, W7REX, who at Field Day time had been licensed little longer than a week, came up to Field Day as his first encounter with UARC. When Derek arrived, President Gary Openshaw with a group of hams were attempting to erect a vertical antenna and were too busy to talk to him. He almost turned around and left, but the book lady, Fred, KI7KM, came to the rescue. Derek thinks a large banner and a welcoming station would be appropriate.
- The time of greatest attendance: Dinnertime on Saturday.
- The time of least attendance: Sunday afternoon when it was time to tear down.
- Gary, KK7DV, sent his regrets. He truly wanted to attend Field Day, but the fifth viewing of Star Wars: Episode I took priority.



Alan, N7OI, in Jerry's trailer working the phone station

Eugene Christensen, KC7CSE, deserves special recognition for service above and beyond the call of duty. He towed the porta-johns up to the site before Field Day and retrieved them afterwards, even though he was not able to attend during the Field Day period.

The training/practice station was a new wrinkle this year. The extra station undoubtedly reduced our ability to compete score-wise, but it is thought to have been beneficial. More operators got a chance to try their hands at contesting and they may be the

backbone of future Field Days. Training operators is, after all, the primary purpose of the Field Day event.

The Saturday night dinner was a real hit, although the number of people that magically materialized right at serving time seemed a little lower than in past years. Jerry Bennion's (WR7N) dutch-oven cooked main course was right up to expectations and was complemented by all sorts of interesting dishes from other participants.

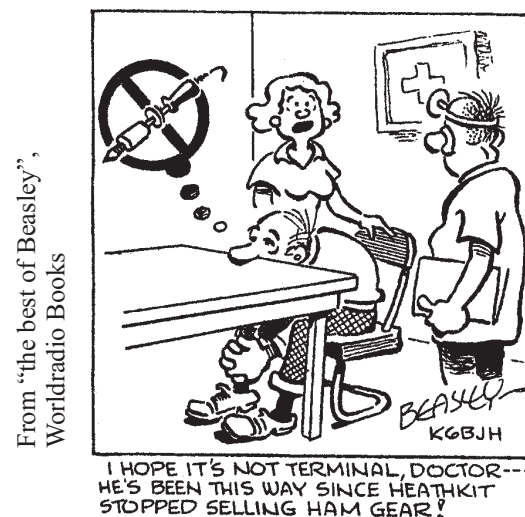


Bill, N7VM (ex-N1BR) working the CW station

UARC must be the only club around with a Saturday night slide show featuring slides taken the very same day. Thanks to Ron Speirs, KC7MYS, for recording the event on film and coming equipped to process the film on the spot.

Finally, thanks to Joel Neal, KC7UBP, this year's Field Day chairman. Joel put in countless hours rounding up permits, equipment, and people, to make sure all the pieces could come together on the site.

Gordon - K7HFV □



From "the best of Beasley",
Worldradio Books

I HOPE IT'S NOT TERMINAL, DOCTOR---
HE'S BEEN THIS WAY SINCE HEATHKIT
STOPPED SELLING HAM GEAR!

Field Day UARC 1999 - Midnight Dispatch



Photo: Gein Worthington, WA7X

The moon through the yagi at the Payson Lakes Field Day site

Well, Field Day is here (right now, in fact -it is past midnight on Saturday/Sunday) and as I am typing this, it is dark, the generator is running, it is getting quite cold, and the sensible people (a relative term I might point out since they are up here, too) have pretty much gone to sleep. A few intrepid hams are still awake, trying their best to get points from contacts with those that have as much sense as they.

Photo: Gein Worthington, WA7X



Garth, KA7MHN, atop the tower installing the beam



Photo: Gein Worthington, WA7X

Jerry, WR7N, preparing the main dish for the traditional UARC feast.

The activity began in earnest on Friday with the installation of our antenna farm. The UARC generator trailer (complete with tower, beam, and (of course) the generator was hauled up and the antenna was installed and the tower deployed. Carla (KC7HON) donned a climbing belt and scaled one of the 60 foot tall pine trees so that we would have the benefit of a 750 foot long end-fed zepp (for use on the lower bands, primarily) and numerous other people did their parts.

As if on cue, the frenetic field day frenzy began at noon, local time and has been going on ever since. Not only is there the traditional HF station, but Bill, N7VM (ex-N1BR) brought his UHF/VHF/Satellite station and was busy with a pleasant (and unexpected)

double-hop opening on 6 meters. A few out-of-state stations were even worked on 2 meter sideband!

As is traditional, there was the Field Day Feast yesterday (Saturday) (you know, it is amazing how many people will suddenly appear on site when there is food...) and Jerry did his usual magic with Dutch oven, charcoal, and propane.

Photo: Gein Worthington, WA7X



UARC generator, tower and yagi at the Payson Lakes Field Day site.

A VSAT (Very Small Aperture Terminal) satellite earth station provides the Field Day site with high-speed Internet connectivity.



Photo: Gein Worthington, WA7X

Field day is an event that is designed to exercise the ingenuity of the amateur radio operator. In the event of some sort of disaster, it is expected that those lessons learned at Field Day will be put to use to get stations on the air and pass traffic. This is not to say that all hams are "roughing it." Reminiscent of the pioneer days, the trailer are circled about the generator, with numerous power cords converging on a central plug strip. This year, we decided to try something new: Glen, WA7X, brought up a surplus 3 kW UPS (that he happened to have laying around) and put that between most of the loads and the generator. This allowed the stations (and the other users) to continue uninterrupted during the inevitable downtime of the generator. Fortunately, its 3 kW capacity is a good match to the 3 kW capacity of the generator -at least at this altitude. Glen also brought something else: A VSAT earth station. VSAT stands for Very Small Aperture Terminal. What this means in English is "A Small Dish." This dish transmits to and receives from a satellite in geosynchronous orbit and provides connectivity with a data center in Murray (where, coincidentally, Glen works...) In fact, this very page was composed and sent (via satellite) from the Field Day site! It is impressive to realize that the total hop distance is almost 50,000 miles to get one bit of data to the data center, and another identical hop to get back!

Field Day is an event that everyone with an interest in Ham radio may attend. Even if you don't have a license, you can operate under the auspices of the club

callsign. Not only is it a radio event, but a social event as well. You get the chance to put of face to the voice you have heard for a long time as well as meet others that you might have never talked to on the air. If you have never worked HF, you can certainly get a chance here.

Clint - KA7OEI □

Willy's Report from the Friendship Cruise

Many thanks to all the repeater operators that provided the excellent links and it was nice to have 75 meters available also. AT&T's slogan, "just reach out and touch someone", was evident to all who used the system. Thanks to everyone in any job they fulfilled. High winds were a problem, but the winds didn't stop any communications.

Lessons:

If you can touch your radio but not see it, about all you can do is adjust vol and squelch. Be in the boat when the gear is loaded to enable access to your equipment and to get a comfortable seating position.

If you turn on your HT at night for a test and don't turn it off, the batteries will be dead the next day.

If you're tired, haven't eaten in 26 hours (blood sugar, whats that?), and suffer hypothermia, don't trust your sense of time or those perfectly logical thoughts you're having.

Never sacrifice jerky and power bars to provide space for a butane soldering iron.

If you paddle as hard as you can, bent over from 3 feet above the water, staring at a rock cliff in the moonlight, waiting to hear a cranking motor start for 10 min's, you will get a pain in the neck.

If you're standing on the bank handing gear into the boat for 10 min's, and someone hands you an 85-pound cooler, the bank will suddenly disappear from beneath you. The water pouring in your face from that same cooler as you flounder in the river is very cold. (Two other people donned their life jackets even though they were standing on the bank at this time.)

Elk steaks and ostrich eggs taste great!

73 de N7VVL □

The Amazon Connection

You may have noticed the link to "amazon.com" back on the club's home page. Why are we getting so commercialized? Well, the idea is that if anyone is planning to get a book (for example, to order a technical book), he can do it through the club home page link and painlessly make a small contribution to the club! Each time someone uses the link and actually makes a purchase, the club gets a little money back.

We like to take any opportunity to put off the next dues increase.

Tom - NY4I

Hamfest Scheduled For 2000

The Utah Hamfest Committee has announced plans for a major hamfest in the year 2000. The event will take place July 7, 8, and 9, at Ruby's Inn, near Bryce Canyon National Park.

Newcomers often ask what the difference is between a hamfest and a swapmeet. The answer is that a hamfest might have a swapmeet as just one of its activities, but it has much more as well. A typical hamfest might have displays from manufacturers and dealers, contests, seminars, dinners, awards, and open forums, all about amateur radio.

The committee reports that Ruby's Inn will not have as much space for hamfest activities as Weber State College did for previous Utah Hamfests, but it has more than the Olympia Park Hotel in Park City, site of the successful WIMU Hamfests of 1992 and 1996.

Ruby's Inn sits on a high plateau at the junction of Utah highways 12 and 63, within ten miles of the entrance to Bryce Canyon. □

Disaster Aid Reports Sought

Editors note: I would like very much to publish some reports on recent disaster aid activities of Hams in Utah specifically related to the Riverdale slide and the Salt Lake Tornado. Our Photographer, Ron, KC7MYS, has provided me some excellent photos of the Hams who worked at the Salt Lake Red Cross facility on August 14. Now what I need is a story. Anyone volunteering? □

Scott's Hill July 31st, 1999, Workparty Report

The small (six) workparty accomplished a great deal on the 31st, though it was a very long day. We gathered at the Park-n-Ride at 8:00 AM and were on the site about 45 minutes later. Don Rawlins - N7YUQ, Fred Westergard KB7VIL, Gregg Smith - KD7APW, Preston Brooksby - KC4GTL, Clint Turner - KA7OEI, and myself made up the party.

We had two primary objectives: 1- remove and replace the leaking roof; 2- finish the inside framing, insulating, and complete the sheet rock work. All this had been accomplished when we finally left the site at about 8:30 PM. Before I go any further I really need to thank both Gregg and Don for their unselfish professional help and the long hours of preparation in planning, selecting, procuring, and transport of materials for this phase.

There was a minimal (a few teaspoons full) amount of water on the floor, stored building materials, and wall insulation when we arrived. When we began tearing off and removing the old roofing materials though we found large puddles of water under the roll roofing and the entire roof substrate was generally saturated. In addition there was minimal bonding between the roofing material and the underlying substrate. It is our best guess that because the existing gravel embedded tar roof had not been removed, it left the roll roofing subject to easy penetration by the rock chips from even light foot traffic. Anyone there while we placed the towers last September will recall that we had as many as four or five people on top of the roof at times.

I have had many suggestions over the past few weeks regarding solutions to the leaking roof. I would like to thank all those who took the time to send me their ideas. There were several overriding considerations which led us to the decision to use the cold application of fiberglass reinforced modified bitumen roofing membrane.

- 1- It had to be fool proof (we seem to have no shortage of fools)
- 2- It needed to last more than 5 years.
- 3- It needs to be able to withstand 100 mph winds (Whatever was installed, it needed to have a 100 % bonding to the surface of the concrete roof to keep from being blown away).

All of the previous roofing materials were removed, roll roofing, flashing, the old tar and gravel right down to the bare concrete in most places. Some spots still had old tar that was well bonded to the concrete. This we chipped away and smoothed out. We applied an asphalt based primer to the dried out concrete and the remaining thin layer of residual asphalt. We then applied new flashing, re-primed, and then got rained upon. We had to wait for the rain to stop and for the roof to dry out completely before proceeding. A thick modified bituminous adhesive was spread completely over the primed roof and flashing followed by the 3' wide strips of 90# modified bitumen with a mineral coated top. Edges were caulked and lots of small fist sized rocks placed around the edges and seams to assure that it stays down till the cement cures.

While the work was going on up on the roof, inside Allthread was installed for hanging Unistrut. Corner flanges were installed and all the studs were soldered along with two copper strips leading out the cable passage to be ultimately connected to the cable bulkhead/single point ground. This will make the inside framing into a low frequency Faraday cage. The metal ceiling joists were installed and electrically bonded to the rest of the framing. Insulation was installed in the ceiling and then the sheetrock went on. Gregg fire taped the sheet rock and finished up at about the same time as the roofing was finished. It really looks great.

Remaining building details are scheduled to be completed on August 21st and are as follows:

- 1- PVA primer on inside walls and clean up interior.
- 2- Apply another coat of color latex to exterior (1 gal remaining from last summer) to cover up caulk touch ups and spilt asphalt primer.
- 3- Reinstall electrical cover plates, fluorescent light fixtures, control for heater.
- 4- Cleanup and reassemble dual rack. Install internal power strips and new side panel.
- 5- Bury a total of 300 feet of 4" wide copper strips to form a lightning ground dissipation grid.

Beyond these details the other remaining items are dependent upon what happens on Farnsworth, completion of the modules for the repeater, and availability of manpower and materials.

- 1- Install bulkhead/single point ground.
- 2- Connect up the ground field to the single point ground.

- 3- Install additional tower sections.
- 4- Install MOVs & ferrites.

Radios, power supplies, antennas, and feedlines are a separate part of the project and will be detailed in a separate report yet to be issued.

73 - Bruce - KI7OM □

Tigger's Corner

Summer's nearly over, Field Day and Steak Fry are behind us, and you've gotten all your summer antenna and tower work done (right??). It sounds like it's time to start looking forward to fall and its longer, cooler nights indoors "inventing" that new gadget you've spent the summer dreaming about putting together. That's right, Homebrew!, and guess what's coming up fast, Homebrew Night. This is my favorite UARC meeting of the year. Those of you who've known me for a while, know that this is the part of the hobby I enjoy most. I love to tinker and occasionally blow things up, (accidentally of course), but I still have fun even when I have to consider an idea a "successful failure".

Look around your shack, your workbench, your dashboard etc., surely you all have something you've "cobbled" together, that needs to be in the spotlight for it's five minutes of fame. It doesn't matter how simple or complex it is, this isn't a contest, it's "show-n-tell". Your invention doesn't have to look beautiful either, (alligator clip leads are totally acceptable here!) This isn't a beauty contest. The project doesn't have to be solid state, or even work as it was intended. Some of my favorite projects from past years have been the simple ones, like John Dinkelman's ultra cheap polarity indicator, Chuck Johnson's "noise inducer", Eugene's "tarp-tenna", Linda's automatic tape recorder for Newslines, and no one who was there last year will forget Robert's presentation of his 12 volt filmstrip projectors!

There were a number of you that I know are fellow homebrewers that didn't participate last year, well you can't get away with that twice, because **I know** you've been to the swap meets, and Dayton, and built things with the parts you acquired, so please bring them. Remember you're among friends, we'll all understand if something doesn't work "just right".

I believe homebrew night has been tentatively scheduled for November, so you've got plenty of time

to start working on something to bring. If you seem to be coming up dry with ideas, you might find something at the September meeting, because while at the time of this writing (Mid July) I can't be sure of the Fall Schedule yet, I keep hearing rumors from reliable snoopy sources, that the September UARC meeting will incorporate a swap meet. This is just the perfect place to find a homebrew idea.

So get busy, November's coming up fast. I hope everyone will consider participating. It really makes homebrew nite one of the most popular, heavily attended meetings of the year.

Cya - KA7TGR □

Letter to the Editor

Editors Note: John's letter was in response to a note from me regarding a PL tone change on a local repeater. My obtaining the information was quite incidental and I suspected that the repeater operator had not notified the State Frequency Coordinator, John Lloyd, K7JL.

Bruce,

Thanks for the update. No they did not send me this info. I will add this PL tone access to their repeater listing.

You might add something to *The Microvolt* to the effect that any and all changes and updates to any repeater such as this one needs to be sent to the frequency coordinator so it can be updated and listed correctly. If they don't send me the updates, then I guess they don't care to have their repeater listed correctly.

Usually I find out the changes needed by either someone like you who finds out during some communications or when the repeater owner calls me after the new ARRL directory comes out and they find out that there is missing information on their repeater listing. I'm sorry I can't read their minds!

Again, thanks for the update!

John Lloyd K7JL □

Call signs and Using Phonetics

Should you use a snappy mnemonic for your call sign or is it better to use the International Telegraphers Union (ITU) Phonetic Alphabet? What phonetics do you like better using my call sign? Is one easier to remember than the other?

This is Whiskey Delta Four Bravo India Sierra
This is Whiskey Delta Four Bug In Software

One I always remember is the phonetics of the call sign of WA8YCD, his melodious voice proudly came over the HF band as.....Willie Always Eight Your Chicken Dinner

When you first get your call sign and throw it out on the air, sooner or later someone is going to ask you to repeat it or use phonetics. Don't be scared of this. Use words rather than letters to give your call sign. There is nothing wrong with a snappy mnemonic, but snappy call signs and the use of the phonetic alphabet both have their place in amateur radio operations.

The phonetic alphabet has been changed and refined over time. It started like most of these things in the military. You would think that since we all speak English, this should not be a problem. But it proved to be so for the RAF when it began to use pilots from other nationalities. The first RAF phonetic alphabet consisted of the following

1924-1942 Ace Beer Charlie Don Edward Freddie George Harry Ink Johnnie King London Monkey Nuts Orange Pip Queen Robert Sugar Toc Uncle Vic William X-ray Yorker Zebra

This changed during W.W.II to accommodate other accents as well as the fact that radios were now in the planes

1942-43 Apple Beer Charlie Dog Edward Freddy George Harry In Jug/Johnny King Love Mother Nuts Orange Peter Queen Roger/Robert Sugar Tommy Uncle Vic William X-ray Yoke/Yorker Zebra

And yet again to accommodate the Yanks:

1943-56 Able-Affirm Baker Charlie Dog Easy Fox George How Item/Interrogatory Jig/Johnny King Love Mike Nab/Negat Oboe Peter/Prep Queen Roger Sugar Tare Uncle Victor William X-ray Yoke Zebra

And again:

1956 (NATO): Alfa Bravo Charlie Delta Echo Foxtrot Golf Hotel India Juliet Kilo Lima Mike November Oscar Papa Quebec Romeo Sierra Tango Uniform Victor Whiskey X-ray Yankee Zulu. (all phonetics from the "Source book of the RAF 1994)

By a strange coincidence the last set of phonetics has been adopted by the ITU. This set of phonetics is used world wide by anyone conducting net operations of any kind. In fact, all International pilots use English and this set of phonetics as a common language. These phonetics have borne the test of time and proven their value. They are widely used on HF operations world wide.

These phonetics are all carefully chosen, two or three syllable words that are hard to confuse with anything else. While it is true that we could create our own alphabet with other words, would they prove their worth? For example, a phonetic alphabet of my own using one syllable words (to save time and stop from running out of breath) might be:

Ack Bog Cue Dog Easy Fan Goo Hog Ice Jack King Land Mom Nice Own Pie Que Rat Sit Tom Us Vine Wine X-ray Yak Zoo

Sending a CQ now would be Cue Que., Cue Que or perhaps someone with the letters B,D,H in his call sign would enjoy using the phonetics of Bog Dog Hog, Or some one with letters Y,A would like to say Yak Ack or some one with the Letters R,N,I -Rice Nice Ice. From this example of my phonetic alphabet I think we could very easily tie up all of net time just trying to sort out call signs.

All communications carried out by Radio Amateurs in a controlled net environment use the ITU phonetics. This includes message handling for the National Traffic System and Emergency communications as used on the RACES and ARES nets. The ITU phonetics are a must to know for any amateur who is going to be involved in net operations. If your plans include some kind of net operations, these phonetics are a need to know.

There is nothing wrong with a snappy call sign mnemonic, just remember that their place is NOT in a controlled NTS or RACES net.

Good luck and 73, Gerry

Whiskey Delta Four Bravo India Sierra ◻

Examination Schedule for September

09/08/99 (Wed.) Mantua
 Contact: Niko Takahashi, AA7OL
 Phone: (435) 753-9544

09/15/99 (Wed.) Provo
 Contact: Steve Whitehead, NV7V
 Phone: (H) 465-3983 (W) 225-5200

09/24/99 (Fri.) Vernal
 Karl Swain, KJ7ZQ
 Phone (435) 789-3164

09/28/99* (Tues.) Salt Lake City
 Contact: Eugene McWherter, N7OVT
 Phone: 484-6355

*Only Novice and Technician elements (1A, 2, and 3A) given at this session.

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

September Meeting: Swap Meet

On Thursday, September 2, we will return to our regular meeting place in the Doxey-Hatch medical center for the annual swap-meet. It will start no earlier than 7 p.m. (This is a change from previous years when there was an early start.) Bring any amateur radio equipment you'd like to sell or swap.

People often ask us "What will be there?" but we haven't a clue. It's all up to the people that all their World War 1 equipment, and others may bring an excess handie-talkie for sale. Often there are some good bargains and chances to get something unusual. But we never know until we get there, so come and find out for yourself. If you have a basement of your own that needs cleaning out, this may be your chance.

Fred, KI7KM, the book lady, will also be there with the latest in ARRL books. The new owner of Salt Lake's ham store will be there to give an idea of what they are now offering. And there will be the "dime lime" or "meeting after the meeting" where you can enjoy pizza or other delicacies with fellow hams.

That's Thursday, September 2, at 7 p.m. □

Scott's Hill Project Donations

I'm afraid this epistle to the UARC membership will read like a comedic "good news - bad news" but perhaps it will give you some idea of the problems.

Thanks to the generous donations of several members of UARC we were able to raise an additional \$215 cash last Spring toward the insulating and sheet rocking of the Scott's Hill building. This has been in addition to several significant donations of materials made by Don Rawlins, N7YUQ (our electrician), Ed McGuire, KC7RUE, and Gregg Smith, KD7APW. Unfortunately this is far short of the \$700 estimated cost of making these improvements.

With few opportunities for appeals to the membership during the time period in which the work could be accomplished, the board authorized us to go ahead with the work. It was anticipated that we could continue the appeal for donations in the Fall and make up what we had not received in our Spring donation campaign. No one at that time anticipated that the move and changes at the Farnsworth repeater site (146.62), KSL now requires, would turn out to be as expensive as they now seem.

We are happy to inform you, the membership, that the insulation and sheet-rocking of the building are completed and came in well below our estimates, in large part because of the ingenuity of Gregg Smith, KD7APW, a licensed building contractor.

We seem to have been deviled with a leaking roof and despite any remedial efforts we tried, it continued to leak. A decision was made to apply what promised to be a fool proof (and hopefully leak proof) new roof. In order to do this it was necessary to strip the one-year old "new roof" off along with the flashing and also remove what remained of the original 30-year old tar and gravel roof. We are happy to report that at this time we have not seen any signs of leaking in spite of several heavy mountain rainstorms. This latest "new roof" came with a high price - about \$200 we had not originally planned.

The bottom line is we still need donations. Chuck, WA7JOS, UARC Treasurer, will gladly accept donations at the upcoming swap meet on behalf of this project.

73 - Bruce - KI7OM □