



Alvino Rey and Woody Woodward at the April Meeting.

The
Microvolt

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June 2003

Please Send Dues to:

UARC

c/o Gregg Smith

7546 S. Uranium Drive

West Jordan, UT 84084-3942

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Prologue

The Utah Amateur Radio Club was organized under its present name in 1927, although its beginnings may date back as early as 1909. In 1928, it became affiliated with the American Radio Relay League (club #1602) and is a non-profit organization under the laws of Utah. It holds a club station license with the call W7SP, a memorial call for Leonard (Zim) Zimmerman, an amateur radio pioneer in the Salt Lake City Area.

Meetings: The club meets each month except July and August. The meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM in the University of Utah Engineering and Mines Classroom (EMCB) building, Room 101.

Membership: Club membership is open to anyone interested in amateur radio; a current license is not required. Dues are \$15 per year, including a *Microvolt* subscription. The Microvolt and membership cannot be separated. Those living at the same address as a member who has paid \$15 may obtain a membership without a Microvolt subscription for \$9. Send dues to the Club Secretary: Gregg Smith, K7APW, 7546 S. Uranium Dr., West Jordan, UT 84084-3942. 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: Tom Schaefer, 11678 Littler Rd., Sandy, UT 84092. 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: Gregg Smith, 7546 S. Uranium Dr., West Jordan, UT, 84084-3942.

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ATV Engineer: Clint Turner, KA7OEI	566-4497
Board Liaison & Autopatch Engineer: Gordon Smith, K7HFV	582-2438
Provo Autopatch Host & ATV Engineer: Dale Jarvis, WB7FID	224-3405
Repeater Monitor: Allen Wright, N7QFI	268-8482

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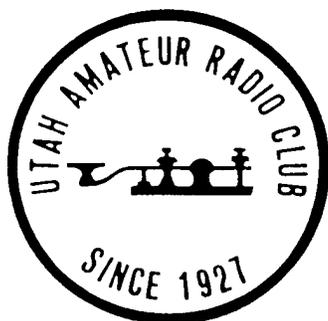
For late breaking news listen to the UARC Information Net Sundays at 21:00 on 146.62 or set your browser to:
www.xmission.com/~uarc/announce.html

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



The Microvolt

The Official Publication of the Utah Amateur Radio Club, Salt Lake City, Utah
Volume 47, Issue 5, June 2003



QST from the Prez

Brett Sutherland, N7KG

I talked about Field Day last month, and this is my last chance before the event to discuss it (June 27-28). "Mac" McCreary, K7LMM is still very much in need of help with anything and everything. Please give Mac a call or send him an email at K7LMM@arrl.net. While you are at it, congratulate him on his pending wedding to his lovely fiancée Beth.

Field Day is a terrific learning opportunity. You can volunteer for help with antennas/feed lines, networking, station setup, power, filtering, facilities (haul the potties), and whatever comes up. We will be short a number of regulars this year, so an extra effort is needed by all. We will also be trying a new antenna arrangement. Always plan on cooking without an open fire. If there are no restrictions on open fires, consider it a bonus. We will have up to the minute updates on Field Day on the information net the Sunday before.

IMPORTANT – I would like to have a dinner on the Friday night of Field Day. It will either be an all you can eat shrimp or hot wing affair. You can help me decide. I like both. It will be by confirmation only. I need to know how many will attend. Let me know ASAP. Cost is yet to be decided. The goal will be to just pay for the food and break even, without me going in the hole and playing chef all night.

As for frequencies, no doubt you've heard about the new 5 MHz allocation. It will become effective 30 days after the publication in the federal register. Power restrictions will be 50W ERP, which includes antenna gain over a dipole. Should you just want to listen in, the five spot frequencies are 5332, 5348, 5368, 5373, and 5405 kHz. We would all be interested in hearing about it. If you get on the new frequency, please write a little article about it and submit it to Tom Schaefer, NY4I. And while I'm at it, we need articles on any ham related subject you would be gracious enough to write.

Also, please remember, we don't have regular club meetings in July or August. We may, however, be having a substitute meeting in August. Please listen to the UARC Information Net for further information.

Our July opportunity to meet is Steak Fry. It is a great opportunity to bring your families for an inexpensive meal in the mountains! Gregg Smith, K7APW is the contact person for tickets. There is a small contingent of folks camping. The reserved space for camping is now full, but you can make your own camping reservations at 877-444-6777 and ask for Spruces-Utah. Again, for Steak-Fry tickets, talk to Gregg, K7APW

There is another opportunity to meet July 11-13th. It is the Utah Hamfest. It will be held at Bryce, UT. I will be attending and look forward to seeing you. Early registration saves a little money. More information can be found at <http://www.utahhamfest.org>. (Ed. Or look on page 8 of this issue]

If you've been missing the meetings, please make an extra effort to attend. We have had fantastic speakers and the environment for learning is top notch. Contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at 298-5399

73 de N7KG Brett

Elmer List

Brett Sutherland, N7KG

Topic	Elmer Name
Antennas	Available
APRS	Steve Baxter - K7SRB Tom Schaefer, NY4I
ATV	Clint Turner – KA7OEI
Awards	Available
Circuit Design	Available
CW	Gary Openshaw – KC7AWU
DF'ing	Jerry Wellman – W7SAR
DSP	Available
DX'ing	Available
EME	Available
EMI	Available
Emergency Communications	Jerry Wellman – W7SAR
HF Contesting	Available
HF Digital	Ron Speirs – K7RLS
HF Mobile	John Hays – K7VE Brett Sutherland – N7KG Jerry Wellman – W7SAR
HF Propagation	Available
HF Station Setup	Dean Lang – WA9AZK
Homebrew	Chuck Johnson – WA7JOS Ron Speirs – K7RLS
IRLP	Available
License Upgrade	Available
Linux for Radio	Brent House – KD7ICT
Mobile Installation	Jerry Wellman – W7SAR Tom Schaefer – NY4I
Mountain Topping	Available
Operating Practices	Dean Lang – WA9AZK
PSK31	Tom Schaefer, NY4I
QRP	Andrew Madsen – AC7CF
Repeater Construction & Maintenance	Clint Turner KA7OEI John Lloyd K7JL
RFI	Available
Satellite	Ron Speirs – K7RLS
Slow Scan ATV	John Hays – K7VE
Software Defined Radio	Available
Special Events	C Wesley Wilkinson, JR. – W7WES
Spread Spectrum	Available
Traffic Handling	Available
VHF Contesting	John Hays – K7VE
VHF Digital	John Hays – K7VE Ron Speirs – K7RLS
VHF Station Setup	Ron Speirs – K7RLS

Steak Fry Date Set

Gordon Smith, K7HFV

UARC's annual steak-fry will be held on the afternoon of Saturday, July 19. Tickets will be available starting at the April meeting.

The steak-fry is one of the club's most popular activities each year. A steak dinner in the mountains is combined with a mini swap meet and a chance to get acquainted or re-acquainted with the people we talk to on the air.

The event will be held again in the campground called “The Spruces” in Big Cottonwood Canyon. (That's the canyon that goes to Solitude and Brighton.)

Prices will be the same as last year:

Members	\$3.00
Non-member adults	\$10.00
Children	\$4.00

Contact the club Secretary, Gregg Smith, K7APW, to get your reservations.

For Sale

ICOM 738 HF radio. Great shape, 400 Hz CW filter, Homebrew Rig control interface, Homebrew PSK interface FM, memories, Speech Processor, Great PBT and Notch filtering. Great CW rig as it has a key jack and paddle jack. \$700

ICOM IC271A 2m Base CW/SSB/FM (with the preamp). Great condition. \$450

Cushcraft R7 vertical. No radial _ wave HF antenna 40m – 10m. \$150

Contact Tom Schaefer, NY4I ny4i@arrl.net or 801-736-2062

June Meeting

Gordon Smith, K7HFV

Ham radio's biggest contest, Field Day, will be coming up on June 28 and 29, and UARC will be entering as a club. The coming meeting on June 5 will be a chance to see some images of previous Field Days and make plans for the one coming up.

Field Day is a contest for portable and mobile stations, and UARC will be following the tradition of combining the contest with a family campout. We will be going to the same site as the last several years, near Payson Lakes.

For those who have never been to a Field Day, this will be a chance to see what it's all about and learn some of the operating tricks. For those who have been to Field Days in the past, this will be a good opportunity to remember why they don't come any more.

Tickets will be available for the annual club steak-fry to be held July 19. For UARC members this means a full steak dinner for just \$3.00. This is the last chance to buy tickets in person. (We don't hold a first-Thursday meeting in July.)

Member of the Month

Linda Reeder, N7HVF



is treasure hunting by way of GPS. This involves transmitter hunting and keeping track of individuals. She also enjoys amateur radio when hiking. Shari says that amateur radio is an excellent way of making a variety of friends. Shari spends a lot of time on 70 centimeters and 2 meters. They do have a low band rig, but they haven't had time to set up the antenna. Another facet of amateur radio that Shari really enjoys is IRLP. She has been able to make contacts from all over the world with it. Shari is really excited about UARC getting IRLP up and running. Shari, we wish you the best in all of your endeavors.

Upcoming Testing Sessions

Date	Location	Contact
5/27/2003	Salt Lake	Eugene McWherter 484-6355
6/7/2003	Salt Lake	Gordon Smith 582-2438
6/14/2003	Logan	Clyde Best 435-563-9492
6/18/2003	Provo	Steve Whitehead 465-3983
6/24/2003	Salt Lake	Eugene McWherter 484-6355
7/2/2003	Farmington	Fred Villanueva 295-6560

This month's featured member is Shari Harvey (KD7GYD). She has been in the hobby since November 1999. It was her brother, Rodney Fowler (WA7GIV), who sparked her interest in amateur radio. In 1978, she really wanted to get her 9 year old son Larry involved in amateur radio. They worked hard and studied together. Larry passed but she didn't. Larry's call sign is KA7OXX. Shari said she felt intimidated so she didn't try again for quite some time. It was in 1999 after the tornado hit Salt Lake City that Shari was determined to get her ham radio license. Shari and her husband, Milt, took a class and they both passed. Milt's call sign is KD7GYI. Four months later Shari and Milt obtained their general class licenses. Shari's daughter, Jennifer, also has her amateur license Her call sign is KD7KQJ. Shari's brother Rodney tried for years to get his wife and daughter interested in the hobby, but it wasn't until after Shari and Jennifer had their license that they decided they would get their own licenses. Shari and Milt have 8 children; five boys and three girls and 15 grand children. Shari works for Olsen and Associates (which is a property development company) as an Administrative Assistant. What Shari likes best about amateur radio is Geo-Caching – which

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Bob Wood, W7OAD
UARC Member

2003 UARC Field Day

Mac McCreary, K7LMM

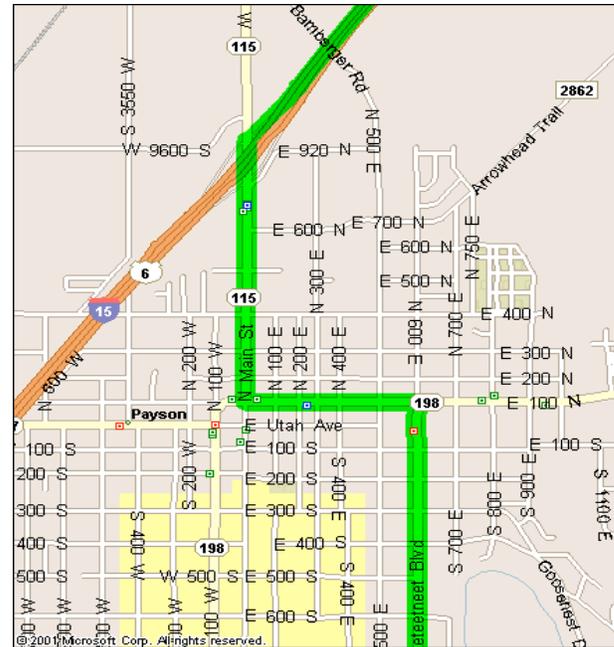
June 27th and 28th, 2003

Just past Payson Lakes Campground, Mt. Nebo Scenic Loop, Payson, Utah

All amateurs are welcome to attend the annual UARC field day. We will be setting up HF, VHF, and satellite stations to work hams from all over the US. Setup begins at noon on Friday June 26th. The operating event starts at Noon on Saturday June 27th and goes until Noon on the 28th. A BBQ is scheduled for some time on Saturday afternoon. The club will provide the meat, but everyone must bring a pot luck dish to share. For more information, contact Mac McCreary at 571-5759 or at k7lmm@arrl.net

So, How to get there? Go south on I-15 (approximately 65 miles from Salt Lake City), get off at the Payson exit (# 254) and go south into town (see map of Payson). Watch for the Mt. Nebo Loop signs (brown scenic loop sign). Turn left at the stop light in the center of town (you are now headed east) then turn right (head south again) by the old school with the odd playground equipment (Peeteetneet Blvd). BTW, closely obey the speed limit on Peeteetneet Blvd! Keep going up the winding canyon (you'll probably lose the 146.76 and 146.62 repeaters somewhere in here). Just _ mile past the turnoff for the improved Forest Service Payson Lakes Campground (right side) will be another turn off (left side) across the highway from the Forest Service Guard Station access road. We will have a sign here to guide you to our meadow (only a couple of hundred yards off the main road). You are welcome to choose your spot, first come first served. We generally

circle the wagons around the main antenna, operating positions and the generator. Talk-in will be on 146.76 until you get close (up and out of the canyon) and then on 146.54 simplex. We hope to see you there.



A Trip to Vietnam

Robert Voss, N4CD (courtesy of Worldradio)

It's fun to have DX chase you. How about a Ham vacation to an exotic location Vietnam?

Some might ask why Vietnam? Since 1990, Vietnam has turned to a stable economic growth-oriented society, once again allowing Amateur Radio. There are only a dozen licensed Hams in the entire country.

Many of you who read Worldradio know that I am a County Hunter, who zips around the country giving out counties on SSB and CW. Every now and then, the travel bug bites. As a county hunter, counties count no matter where you are operating, even as DX!

If you check the web and ads in the radio magazines you will find a dozen 'rent-a-shacks' around the world. Hiroo, JA2EZD, set up the station in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

Preparations for the trip began back in May, as the necessary procedures take months. Hau, 3W6LI, who maintains the station walked me through the necessary steps to get my 3W license.

First you must get a visa from the Vietnamese consulate - a 30 day process and \$65. Of course, you need a valid passport (\$80), and plane tickets (\$\$\$). Hau arranged the licensing in Vietnam (\$80). Visitors are usually only licensed for 10-, 15-, and 20-meter operation in HCM city. At other locations, 40M operation is allowed (7000-7100). I wish I could have had official license to operate WARC bands, but as far as I can tell, they do not currently issue licenses for those bands. The locals said the government really doesn't care where you operate, but rather than jeopardize future chances to officially get permission, I just listened occasionally on the WARC bands.

At the end of September, it was off to the airport and over 9,000 miles of flying from Dallas, Texas to arrive in Ho Chi Minh City. With the rental places, all you need to bring is yourself, and your logging material/computer. There are no hassles with radio equipment' through customs as it is all there. Some countries are easy to bring in equipment while others are near impossible, and equipment is sometimes impounded or confiscated.

Hau met me at the airport. He held up a sign with my U.S. call and my Vietnam Call, 3W2DC. We were then off to the Hotel Kimdo. There, you get a regular hotel room, plus full 24 hour a day use of the Amateur Radio station located upstairs' in a separate room on the top floor. The station antenna is a tri-bander up 150 feet and the rig is a Yaesu FT900 with an available SB200 amplifier. Within minutes of arriving, 3W2DC made the first contact with BI5Q on 15M SSB.

Never having operated from the "other side of the world," which is 12 time zones different from Texas time, I expected things to be different, and they were! Lots of exotic calls came through - JT, DU, VR, YC, all calling me! Everything but Ws, Ks, and N calls. After a few contacts, it was time to sleep and recover from 36 hours of non-stop travel, only a few hours of sleep, and the big jet lag! Tomorrow would be the start of 10 days of intensive radio operations and some sightseeing.

One quickly discovers how different the bands sound. People call CQ on 14.020 § on SSB. On 40M, it's hard to find CW signals most of the time, and harder to find an English language QSO. The 10M band is full of extremely loud birdies and other garbage much of the day, making QSOs very difficult. The splatter you sometimes hear in the U.S. on 10M is 20 over S9 and all over.

During the day, when the band is open out a few thousand miles, you discover there aren't too many stations in Mongolia, Siberia, Indonesia, and those other exotic countries to work, especially on weekdays. All the real action comes when the band opens 5,000-10,000 miles in the evenings, and on the weekends. At 9 p.m. local time, the band opened to Europe for three hours. In the background, U.S. stations occasionally made it through. Special attention and calling "CQ USA" resulted in stronger U.S. stations making it through.

I was determined to give out Vietnam for those in the U.S. who needed it. That turned out to be a very tough assignment. The QTH is located right in downtown Ho Chi Minh City, formerly known as Saigon. Lots of local QRN made digging signals out challenging, but 200 U.S. stations went in the log over the 10-day period during the few daily hours of openings back to the states. Over 5,000 contacts were logged, mostly on CW due to the high noise. On CW, the S meter never dropped below S4, and on SSB, never below S7-8. And that was in the good' directions. Noise seems to be a big problem in third world countries!

There are many "starter" Ham radio clubs in Vietnam. For most locals, equipment is very expensive based upon an office worker's typical \$100/month salary. The 2-meter band is assigned to taxi cabs, end to end (not Hams). (Don't bring your HT - there won't be anyone to talk to, and you obviously won't get a license to use it!)

The pileups never ended, but my two weeks were soon up, and I headed back home to start answering the piles of QSL cards headed my way! Yes, it was definitely different and exotic. One quickly learns to appreciate the difficult job of working DX (the USA) from far away locations. Maybe the secret is to not go so far away, but still to 'rare' locations. That should make it a lot easier to work the U.S. stations!



Utah Hamfest 2003



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Grand Prize: Mobile HF Rig
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Registration Information: Mel Parkes, AC7CP – ac7cp@arrl.org
Before June 21st: Adult (18 and over) \$8.00, Youth (17 & Under) \$3.00 **(No mail-ins after June 21, 2003)**
At the Door: Adult \$11 and Youth \$5.00

Please Print Name: _____ Call sign: _____ Email: _____
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 Saturday Dutch Oven Dinner: _____ X \$12.50 = \$ _____
 Sunday Breakfast Buffet: _____ X \$10 = \$ _____
 Total = \$ _____

Names of Additional Attendees (Name and age of youth):

_____ Call sign: _____
 _____ Call sign: _____
 _____ Call sign: _____
 _____ Call sign: _____

Must have names and call signs (if applicable) of all registered attendees.

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