

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 others.

Committee Chairpersons and Members

Table listing committee chairpersons and members, including "Book Lady" Fred Desmet, Historian Ron Speirs, and various technical roles like Field Day Chair and Club Trustee.

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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

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The Microvolt

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September Meeting: GOTA

For those of you not familiar with the acronym “GOTA”, it stands for “Get On The Air.” Our September meeting, to be held Thursday, September 4, at 7:30 P.M., will be devoted to helping members and/or other interested parties start making radio contacts.

In order to make this a successful event, we need participation from everyone. Please invite anyone you know who may have an interest in the amateur radio hobby. Feel free to bring your radios and be willing to help someone make a contact. If you need help with your own rig, bring it to the meeting (with the instruction manual). It's likely somebody can give you a hand.

If the conditions are favorable, we will have some HF stations in operation. This will be an opportunity to try making an HF contact. Not ready to make that leap? That's fine. Just come by and observe.

Hope to see you there!

For information on how to find the meeting place, see <http://www.xmission.com/~uarc/meetmap.html>. The meeting will include the usual features of a UARC meeting including a chance to look over and purchase ARRL books, pay UARC or ARRL dues, and possibly win a door prize.

Latest News

Our Cover

Our cover this month features a belated photo to go with last month's “Member of the Month” article about Jerry Wellman, W7SAR. Among Jerry's many responsibilities, he is the Utah Section Emergency Coordinator for ARRL. Check last month's issue for full details. If you've already pressed it into litter box service, it can be found on the web at:

<http://www.utaharc.org/Microvolt/2008/Apr2008.pdf>.

Homebrew Night Coming

A reminder that October 2 will be UARC's annual homebrew night, a chance to show off homemade radio equipment. If you're working on a project, there's still time to get it finished up. Likely entries include amplifiers, preamps, keyers, power supplies, phone patches, and antennas. Anything that can be used in amateur radio and hasn't been shown at a previous homebrew night can be shown.

Utah Hamfest and Rocky Mountain Division Convention Bryce Canyon, Utah, July 11 to 13, 2008

By Jed Petrovich, AD7KG
Program Co-chair

I consider myself quite fortunate to have been able to attend the Utah Hamfest this year. It was also billed as the Rocky Mountain Division Convention. The Convention was held at Ruby's Inn, which is very near the entrance to Bryce Canyon. Granted, there were a few thundershowers, but this didn't deter us from having a wonderful time.

The ARRL was represented by Katie Breen, W1KRB, ARRL's Membership Manager. The Division Director, Brian Milesosky, N5ZGT, and Vice-Director, Dwayne Allen, WY7FD, were in attendance. The four Section Managers, Mel Parkes, N7MP (Utah), Chris Pritchard, WY7UPR (Wyoming), Jeff Ryan, K0RM (Colorado), and Don Wood, W5FHA (New Mexico), were also able to make the trip to Ruby's Inn.

Before going any further, I realize this event was scheduled at the same time as the UARC Steak Fry. Perhaps that's why I didn't see as many familiar faces as I had expected. Still, the event was well attended even with the higher fuel prices and the fact that Bryce Canyon isn't particularly close to anyone or anywhere in the Division. Personally, I felt quite fortunate that my "mobile shack" gets pretty good gas mileage and the drive was under four hours.

My wife accompanied me on the trip, even though she isn't much interested in ham radio. We left Salt Lake Thursday evening and drove to Cedar City. On Friday, we drove from Cedar City to Bryce via Highway 14. It was nice to get out and see some new country. I might add, if you have

the opportunity to drive Highway 14, it is well worth the time. We arrived at Ruby's Inn around 2:30 PM that afternoon.

I have to admit we were a bit concerned as we neared Bryce Canyon. As we drove east on Highway 12, we could see smoke in the distance. It wasn't long before we could see that a fire was fairly close to the Ruby's Inn area. I could just imagine arriving at the resort only to find out we would be evacuated. However, as we turned onto Highway 63, there was a sign that stated the fire was a "prescribed burn". That eased my mind somewhat, but I've also heard of these "controlled" burns getting out of control. I seem to remember at a very early age being taught not to play with fire... for good reason. The burn must have worked according to plan... we weren't sent packing and I don't recall smelling any smoke.

One of the first scheduled events was the ARRL Forum, moderated by Mel Parkes. All of the aforementioned Division and Section officials were on the panel. Much of the discussion centered not only on attracting new hams to the hobby, but also on how we existing amateurs might assist in retaining them. I came away from that meeting with some ideas that will be implemented in the near future within our club.

While there were a number of presentations, I particularly enjoyed the one given by Milt Jensen, N5IA. Milt was one of the operators invited to participate in the recent DXpedition to Ducie Island (VP6DX) in February of 2008. Ducie Island is approximately 4,000 miles south west of San

Diego, California in the South Pacific Ocean. In fact, as Milt pointed out, Ducie is several thousand miles from just about everywhere on the planet.

At the beginning of the slide show, Milt assured us we would see much more than just plump, bare-chested men operating radios. We were not disappointed. We were treated to a variety of pictures from Tahiti and several other islands on the way to and from Ducie. He showed us many beautiful photos of the native vegetation, animal and sea life. Of course, we saw many slides pertaining to the operation itself... of course, including pictures of the ops.

The VP6DX operation was very successful. The team was able to log 183,686 contacts in 17 days from February 11th to the 27th of this year. In the process, they broke 12 World DX records, including the most contacts by any previous DXpedition. This is particularly noteworthy given the current position in the sunspot cycle. The presentation was to last about 90 minutes; however, I know it went on for over two hours. At the end, Milt passed out crab shells to each attendee who had worked Ducie at least one time. Inside of each shell, Milt had inscribed "2008 Ducie Island VP6DX." It is quite a keepsake, since only about 75 to 80 of these shells exist. (I found this out later in an exchange of emails with Milt.) For those who would like more information on the Ducie Island DXpedition, please go to <http://www.vp6dx.com>.

There were a variety of other presentations as well. In reality, there was something there for about anyone interested in the amateur radio hobby. We had to choose from QRP (low power) operations, emergency communications, DX awards, contesting, learning CW, DX chasing and even a session on Dutch oven cooking. For those non-hams, including children, there were a number of games and activities.

In addition, there were a number of eating and socializing events. Friday night, there was a BBQ. Saturday, we had another dinner consisting of pulled pork sandwiches and all of the trimmings. Sunday morning, we had a delightful breakfast. During the breakfast, we had a keynote address by Katie Breen, W1KRB. Katie entertained us by sharing her story of how she went from a background in urban and regional planning to her present position as ARRL Membership Manager. Katie currently has her General ticket and has constructed several antennas for her home station. Following Katie, we watched a slide show highlighting the weekend's events. There were closing comments from Division Director, Brian Mileskosky, N5ZGT, along with remarks, presentation of awards, and prize drawing conducted by Hamfest Chair, Ray Riding, AC7RR. It is worth noting that two of our Utah hams, Bryce Anderson, K7UA, and Curt Wilbur, K7CU, took first (50 WPM) and second place (49 WPM) respectively in the CW transcribing contest.

The event was well worth the time and expense it took to attend. Next year, the 2009 Division Convention will be held in Estes Park, Colorado. The following year it will be somewhere in Wyoming. While the exact location was not announced, Wyoming Section Manager, Pritchard, WY7UPR, assures me it won't be in Sweetwater County. (While I was a bit more specific with Chris, I won't mention any towns so as to not overly offend anyone.)

I hope this article gave you a bit of an idea of what took place at the Utah Hamfest. By sharing these happenings, perhaps I might entice some of you to plan to attend one of the upcoming conventions. This was my first Division Convention and I certainly hope there will be an opportunity to participate in the future. Please see <http://www.utahhamfest.org> for more details.

Member of The Month: Mickey Applebaum, KE7NZA

By Linda Reeder, N7HVF



This month we are featuring Mickey Applebaum KENZA. Mickey got interested in amateur radio 32 years ago when Mickey and his friend Eric were working in a CB radio store in Chicago. Mickey and Eric's job was to fix the radio equipment. The CB radio store also sold amateur radio equipment. Mickey and Eric decided that since they were repairing amateur radio equipment they should get their licenses. Mickey's friend Eric Rademacher got his license right away. Eric, K9KQB, has his Extra Class license. Mickey said that, for him, the theory was a piece of cake. It was the Morse Code that was his stumbling block. Mickey said he just didn't need this. So, amateur radio was forgotten for quite awhile.

Twenty years ago Mickey moved to Salt Lake City Utah. He works for Innovative Network Systems as a consultant. They put together computer network systems. This job really keeps him busy traveling all over the United States putting together computer network systems for different companies. Then Mickey married

Barbara who works for the same company as a web site developer.

Mickey's wife is a member of a bicycle club. She is active in bike riding events to raise money for diabetes. Barbara is a diabetic. Mickey goes on these events with her to help her to get the things she needs to keep up her strength. Last year Mickey and Barbara were involved in the Tour to Cure bike event. Amateur radio operators were involved in this event. They paired up ham radio operators with the bike riders. Paul Hales, W7PAH, from Tremonton was one of the ham radio operators involved in this event and he became a good friend and helper for Mickey.

Mickey was really impressed. This would be an excellent way to keep in contact with his wife, Barbara, at these bike ride events. Mickey knew he just had to get his ham radio license. Mickey contacted his long time friend Eric Rademacher, K9KQB. Mickey told Eric how he really wanted to get his ham radio license. Mickey expressed his concern about learning that Morse Code. Eric said, "Where have you been? They have done away with the code." Eric also said that with all of Mickey's experience fixing radios and computers he shouldn't have any trouble passing the test. Mickey got busy studying from QRZ. At the end of June, 2007, Mickey went to Eugene's test session and passed the test. Eugene asked Mickey if he would like to try for the General. He passed that test too. Eugene told him he missed fewer questions on the General test than he did on the Technician. Then Eugene said, "How about the Extra?" Mickey said no. He said he didn't need the Extra for what he was doing with his license.

The next bike-riding event he was faced with was the ULCER ride around Utah Lake. This is when

Mickey got to know all of the radio clubs in Utah. Mickey said that the ham radio clubs have been extremely helpful with communications. Mickey also said he gets better response from the ham radio clubs than he does from the bike club. The next bike event coming up is The Little Red Ride June 7th in Cache Valley. Mickey asked the bike club what they were going to do about communications and they said "We are leaving that up to you." So Mickey is the Communications Coordinator for this event. Mickey is a member of Salt Lake County ARES, the Utah VHF Society, and UARC. He became a member of UARC in January of 2008.

Mickey and Barbara have one son, Tyler, and one 5-month old grandson Corbin. Mickey hopes that

his son, Tyler, who works for UTA will get his ham license. Of course Mickey's wife Barbara will be working on getting her license.

Mickey also has a radio show on KRCL every Sunday night at 10:30 PM. He plays big band Jazz music.

Mickey said he would be glad to give anyone interested a tour of KRCL. Also, if anyone is interested in helping out in any of these bike events email him mickey@wefixnetworks.com. The web address is www.arpse.org.

Mickey, we wish you all the best. We hope you get lots of help from the ham radio community on these bike ride events.

License Examination Schedule

Date	Location	Contact Person	Phone
08/20/08 (Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	465-3983
08/20/08 (Wed.)	St. George	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	(435) 674-2678
08/26/08 (Tues.)	Salt Lake C.	Eugene McWherter, N7OVT	541-1871 ¹
09/04/08 (Thu.)	Logan	Kevin L. Reeve, N7RXE	(435) 753-1645
09/17/08 (Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	465-3983
09/17/08 (Wed.)	St. George	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	(435) 674-2678
09/18/08 (Thu.)	Roosevelt	R Chandler Fisher, W7BYU	(435) 722-5440 ¹
09/30/08 (Tues.)	Salt Lake C.	Eugene McWherter, N7OVT	541-1871 ¹
10/01/08 (Wed.)	Ogden	Mary Hazard, W7UE	430-0306
10/04/08 (Sat.)	Salt Lake C.	Gordon Smith, K7HFV	582-2438 ¹
10/15/08 (Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	465-3983
10/15/08 (Wed.)	St. George	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	(435) 674-2678

Footnote 1: Preregistration is required. Check with the contact person prior to the exam.

Is My Calendar Running Slow?

"Why am I getting the May issue in August?" you may be asking yourself. It seems that software difficulties and family responsibilities got in the way of our new editor getting out most of the spring issues. Some of the other officers are helping to catch up and, thus, convince the post office we really are a periodical and will produce somewhere near the declared number of issues this year. Your indulgence is appreciated. -K7HFV, May Editor

UARC's Field Day Score

We have finished the calculation for UARC's 2008 Field Day score. We had a total score of 4,570, assuming ARRL doesn't disagree with too many of our claimed bonus points. (See tabulation at right.) That's a bit less than last year's 4,764, but that's to be expected considering we were operating in the 2A class (just two simultaneous transmitters) this year as opposed to 3A last year. If that score were inserted into last year's 2A listings it would put us at about the 80th percentile. (Oddly, it would be about a point higher if inserted in the 3A listings!)

It's interesting to note that about 67% of our QSOs and about 81% of our QSO points were made on the CW station. Anyone who would like to learn the code and develop some proficiency could make a big contribution to our score in future years.

However, the "Field Day Packet" from ARRL points out that the real success of Field Day has less to do with the total score than with how much learning took place. We hope some new operators got a chance to try out HF, to try out contesting, and to get some practice copying quickly and accurately.

W7SP 2008 Field Day Score Calculation						
Band	CW	SSB	GOTA (SSB)	Total QSOs	CW x 2	QSO Points (CW x 2 + SSB + GOTA)
80		179	6	185		185
40	221	10	39	264	442	491
20	476	92		574	952	1044
15		1	9	10		10
<hr/>						
Totals	697	282	54	1033	1394	1730
Power Multiplier						X 2
Total QSO Points						3460
Bonus Points:						
100% Emergency Power						200
Media Publicity						100
Public Location						100
Public Information Table						100
Message Origination						100
Alternate Power						100
W1AW Bulletin						100
Educational Activity						100
Served Agency Representative						100
GOTA Operator Bonus						20
Youth Participation						40
Web Submission						50
Grand Total						4570

Dutch Satellite Now in Operation

The linear transponder aboard the new Dutch OSCAR-64 satellite (Delfi-C3) is now open for CW and SSB operation. The transponder uplink passband is from 435.530-435.570 MHz with a downlink passband from 145.880-145.930 MHz. The transponder CW beacon can be heard at 145.870 MHz. Delfi-C3 was launched April 28 from India aboard a polar launch vehicle.