

The *Microvolt*

January, 2012



UARC 2012 Officers (l. to r.):
Gary Wong, AB1IP, Program Chairperson;
Gordon Smith, K7HFV, Editor;
Mary Alexander, KF7QVL, Assistant Editor;
Chuck Johnson, WA7JOS, Treasurer;
Morris Farmer, AD7SR, Program Chairperson (front);
Clint Turner, KA7OEI, President;
Brett Sutherland, N7KG, Vice-President;
Dick Keddington, KD7TDZ, Treasurer;
Andrew Madsen, AC7CF, Executive Vice-President

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.

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 2011 Board

President: Clint Turner, KA7OEI	801 566-4497
Executive VP: Andrew Madsen, AC7CF	801 419-8378
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Program Chairperson: Morris Farmer, AD7SR	801 278-4966
Program Chairperson: Gary Wong, AB1IP	801 582-0906
Imm. Past Pres: Linda Reeder, N7HVF	801 364-7006

Committee Chairpersons and Members

"Book Lady": Brett Sutherland, N7KG	801 298-5399
Historian: Ron Speirs, K7RLS	801 904-3587
Field Day Chair:	
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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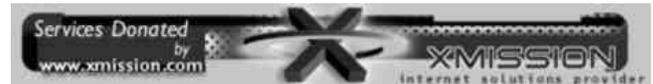
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IRLP Information

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: <http://www.xmission.com/~uarc/announce.html>

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



The Microvolt

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January Meeting: Voice Over IP

What are VOIP, IRLP, and EchoLink? What is the “Western Reflector?” Are these the average ham can use and understand? These will be questions we will be answering at the January UARC meeting, to be held on Thursday, January 12, 2012.

Using Internet to connect amateur repeaters and simplex nodes has created almost a whole new facet of amateur radio over the last decade or so, and we frequently get questions about it. At the January meeting we will discuss various systems that are available, how to use them, and what their advantages and disadvantages are, with particular emphasis on UARC's 146.76 node and how to use it.

UARC meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M. During winter semester, they are in room 1230 (the “Duke” classroom) of the Warnock Engineering Building at the University of Utah.

See the map at http://www.xmission.com/~uarc/ab1ip_meetmap.html for information on finding the building.

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 January get-together will be at “The Cinegrill,” 255 E. 400 South in Salt Lake City.

Latest News

VHF Society Swap Meet

Utah's largest swap-meet of the year is scheduled for Saturday, February 25, 2012. The Utah VHF Society has announced its annual business meeting and swap meet to be held that day starting at 8

A.M. The event will take place in the same location as was the case during the last several years, the Zion Building in the Utah State Fairpark, approximately 100 N. 1000 West in Salt Lake City. The Utah VHF Society is dedicated to encouraging a robust network of repeaters over the state. It

offers financial support to repeater operators once they have proved that their systems are open and fill a need in their areas. Dues are used to help keep repeaters on the air throughout the state. The Society also handles frequency coordination for Utah and maintains the [list of all Utah repeaters](#) on the web.

VHF Society members are reminded that memberships run for the calendar year, so many are up for renewal on January 1. Members will be admitted to the swap meet at no charge; others will be required to pay an entrance fee. It will be possible to join or renew at the swap meet, but there are advantages to paying dues in advance. You will get your name in the annual member directory, which will be distributed at the swap meet, and you will be able to get into the swap meet quickly. Early dues payment is also a help to the Treasurer, Danny Fullerton, KC7RUF, who is otherwise faced with a mountain of paperwork right after the annual meeting.

Dues are \$12 per year. They may be sent to:

Utah VHF Society
P.O. Box 482
Bountiful, Utah 84011-0482

For those willing to pay for at least two years at once, it is also possible to join or renew via PayPal. For more information see: utahvhfs.org/uvhfsoff.html#dues_info.

Technician and Extra Classes

Ron Speirs, K7RLS, tells us that he will be holding classes for prospective Technician and Extra Class operators during January, 2012.

Technician: The Technician class will meet for four sessions: Friday, January 13; Saturday, January 14; Friday, January 20; and Saturday,

January 21. Location will be the church building at 4545 S. 1200 East. For more information send e-mail to Ron at k7rls@comcast.net.

Extra: The class for the Extra license be held at the home of our new Program Chairperson, Morris Farmer, AD7SR, and will meet for the first time on Wednesday, January 18, 2011. It will meet on successive Wednesdays as long as necessary to cover the material. For more information contact either Ron Speirs, K7RLS, at k7rls@comcast.net, or Morris Farmer at <mailto:AD7SR@comcast.net>.

KSL-TV Features N7DND

Hams from the Davis County Amateur Radio Club (DCARC) provided essential communications to emergency personnel in the aftermath of the December 2nd wind event which did a great deal of damage over a large area. KSL Television did about a three-minute story telling about the hams' assistance and featuring Gary Johnson, N7DND. To access the text and video, go to: <http://www.ksl.com/?nid=148&sid=18335745&title=ham-radios-come-to-the-rescue-during-utah-wind-storm>.. There is also a PDF file available showing the text and a shot of Gary's station from the video at: http://xa.yimg.com/kq/groups/390417/1996595812/name/ARES_support_in_high_wind_event-ksl-article2011-1202.pdf. Both links can be found and followed from <http://utaharc.org/news>.

Our Cover

Our Club Historian, Ron Speirs, K7RLS, managed to catch all the 2012 officers in one place after the December club meeting. We greatly appreciate all Ron's photographic efforts for the benefit of the club.

Words from the Prez

“Now what?”

by Clint Turner, KA7OEI

At one time or another (I hope) all hams — especially new hams — ask the question “Now what?” Having gotten the license for one reason or another — maybe because someone has asked it of us, as a result of some innate interest in some aspect of the hobby, be it technical or social, — it is hoped that we all ask ourselves “what else is there to do in this hobby?”

Well, our constant effort to answer this question explains — at least in part — why we join clubs, subscribe to magazines, and hang around with other hams at meetings and special events, but if you are reading this, you probably knew this already!

What about those that don't show up at the meetings, get a ham magazine or go to one of the many public events such as Field Day or those for which hams provide a public service? Do they even know of these things and if not, why not? In the “old days” many people got their licenses by seeking out the guy on the block with the funny antennas on his house/car, finding out what they didn't know — perhaps by going to a few meetings — and studying on their own for the test that was only given a couple of times a year when the FCC came around.

Nowdays, the license is easier to get than ever before as we can study the actual questions from readily available books or online and then take our pick of several tests within easy driving distance that are likely to be held in the next month or so — but this actually puts some new hams at a disadvantage: Many new hams' first exposure to the hobby may involve only a limited facet of the hobby — say, emergency preparedness. To be sure, this is a good reason in and of itself, but the unfortunate fact is that many people find that just one narrow point of exposure to be insufficient to



hold long-term interest that may expose that new ham the the full spectrum of amateur radio communications.

What do we do about this? One thing that would help is if all new hams (or even “older”, inactive ones) knew what was happening around the valley. Of particular importance is to make them aware of local groups that (such as UARC to name just one) that actually do meet, talk about, and actually do some interesting things. In print and online there are a number of ham publications and even a few well-done blogs and videos (to be covered later...) that show people doing things and how they did it. Most importantly, though, is the concept of the “Elmer” — that is, the ham who is willing to take the time to help the new (or old) ham to unravel some of the seeming mysteries of

the hobby (like how to program their HTs!), put up a decent antenna or provide some encouragement — especially in that moment

when, after having passed their ham test, they ask themselves “Now what?”

Be an Elmer!

License Examination Schedule

Opportunities to test for new or upgraded amateur licenses

Date	Day	City	Contact Person	Phone
01/18/12	(Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983
01/18/12	(Wed.)	St. George ²	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	(435) 674-2678
01/31/12	(Tues.)	Salt Lake C.	Eugene McWherter, N7OVT	(801) 541-1871
02/04/12	(Sat.)	Salt Lake C. ^{1,3}	Gordon Smith, K7HFV	(801) 582-2438
02/15/12	(Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983
02/15/12	(Wed.)	St. George ²	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	(435) 674-2678
02/28/12	(Tue.)	Salt Lake C.	Eugene McWherter, N7OVT	(801) 541-1871

¹Preregistration required. Check with the contact person before the test session.

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

³More information at <http://utaharc.org/Exams>.

Rocky Mountain Division Scholarships

**By Brian Milesosky, N5ZGT
ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Director**

It is with great pleasure that we announce the establishment of a new scholarship to be administered by the ARRL Foundation: the ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Scholarship.

Here are the details:

- This scholarship is intended to provide funding for the educational expenses of a young Rocky Mountain Division amateur radio operator who is pursuing higher education.
- One scholarship of \$500 will be awarded annually to a qualified applicant. If the recipient is not already an ARRL member,

he or she will also be awarded a one-year League membership.

- The applicant must be a resident of our Rocky Mountain Division (Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming), but he or she may use the award towards a degree at any fully-accredited university or college within the United States.
- The applicant must submit a letter of recommendation from a sitting officer of an ARRL-affiliated club attesting to the applicant's regular activity on the amateur radio spectrum and within the Amateur Radio community.

- The applicant must be a graduating high school senior or undergraduate student, and a US citizen
- The scholarship is for the exclusive use of the recipient to be applied towards tuition, books, fees and other educational expenses.

Super-Duper Important Note: The application deadline for all ARRL Foundation scholarships, including the newly formed Rocky Mountain Division Scholarship, is *February 1*. If you are active within a ham club, personally know a qualifying young ham, or know somebody who knows a qualifying young ham, please help us spread the word fast and wide so interested applicants can meet the looming deadline.

Further details and a web-based application are available at:

<http://www.arrl.org/scholarship-descriptions>.

This scholarship, initially funded with proceeds from last August's 2011 ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention (Taos, New Mexico), is

hoped to become a gift that keeps on giving with the interest and support of members across our Division. Individual hams, organizations, and future conventions interested in contributing towards its fund may do so any time by check payable to the ARRL Foundation, "ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Scholarship" written on the memo line, and mailed to:

ARRL Foundation
225 Main Street
Newington CT 06111

The ARRL Foundation, Inc. awards more than 70 scholarships to young hams who are pursuing higher education, and is a not-for-profit organization operated under IRS Tax ID # 23-7325472. All contributions will be acknowledged with a tax receipt letter and are deductible to the full extent of the law.

Please help spread the word to suitable candidates; that February 1 application deadline is just around the corner!

Member of the Month

Mary Alexander, KF7QVL

By Linda Reeder, N7HVF

This month we are featuring Mary Alexander, KF7QVL, a new amateur radio operator. It was her boyfriend, Anthony Best, K7TFT, who got her interested in the hobby. At first she wasn't interested, but Anthony wouldn't give up. He kept showing her things and then he took her to Field Day and this is where her interest was sparked. She got on the GOTA station and made some contacts and helped with logging. But what really attracted Mary to the hobby was watching Clint Turner, KA7OEI, putting up antennas and trying to solve an electrical problem. Mary is really into creativity and that is her favorite thing about

amateur radio. Mary said solving problems is being creative and that is what amateur radio is all about. Mary said there are so many different antennas and so many different ways to use them. Mary was also impressed watching Andrew Madsen, AC7CF, sending and receiving Morse Code.

In July, 2011, Mary received her Technician license. In August, while attending a computer convention in Las Vegas, she discovered that they were doing amateur radio testing, so she decided to try for her General license and passed. There

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was a problem: they lost the testing papers. It took them months to solve this problem. Fortunately Mary kept the certificate that stated she passed and was able to present it to the VEs when she took her Extra exam in October. She now has her Extra Class license and they finally found the test papers.

In May Mary graduated from the University of Utah. She majored in film media art and minored in art technology. She works behind the scenes of productions such as dancing, musicals and plays. She works with sound effects, prop and graphic design. She even interviews people who are auditioning for different productions. Mary is looking forward to working with the Sundance festival. She edits videos and does free lance work. She also works in commercials.

Mary enjoys many hobbies. She enjoys knitting, going to art galleries, drawing, and painting. She is even learning how to solder. She enjoys

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traveling and going to plays and operas.

Mary is a member of UARC and has just been elected Assistant *Microvolt* Editor for the year 2012.

Mary, we wish you the best in all of your endeavors.



Mary Alexander, KF7QVL, and Anthony Best, K7TFT
(Photo by Ron Speirs, K7RLS)