

The *Microvolt*

March, 2016



Official organ of the Utah Amateur Radio Club

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 \$20 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, 5474 Hews Place, Taylorsville, UT, 84129-1416.

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, 5474 Hews Place, Taylorsville, UT, 84129-1416.

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

Meetings: The club meets each month except July and August. The meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM in the University of Utah's Warnock Engineering Building, generally in room 1230 or 2230, sometimes in 2250 or 105.

Membership: Club membership is open to anyone interested in amateur radio; a current license is not required. Dues are \$20 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 \$20 may obtain a membership without a *Microvolt* subscription for \$12. Send dues to the Club Secretary: Dick Keddington, KD7TDZ, 5474 Hews Place, Taylorsville, UT 84129-1416.

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 2016 Board

President: Clint Turner, KA7OEI	801 566-4497
Executive VP: Lonnie Oaks, K7LO	801 255-1225
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Imm. Past Pres: Linda Reeder, N7HFV	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: (To be determined)	
License Trustee: Brett Sutherland, N7KG	801 298-5399
Repeater Engineer: Randy Finch, K7SL	801 556-7565
ATV Engineer: Clint Turner, KA7OEI	801 566-4497
Autopatch Engineer: Gordon Smith, K7HFV	801 582-2438

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IRLP Information

For information on using the club's IRLP node on the 146.76 repeater, check <http://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://user.xmission.com/~uarc/announce.html>

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



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



The Microvolt

The Official Publication of the Utah Amateur Radio Club, Salt Lake City, Utah
Volume 59, Issue 3, March, 2016

March Meeting: Surprise!

As we go to press our Program Chairpersons are still working on a program for the March meeting. There are several possibilities being explored including antennas and DX-related topics. Watch the web site at <http://www.utaharc.org/meeting/> for the latest news.

The meeting will be on Thursday, March 10, at 7:30 P.M. in room 1230 (the “Duke” classroom) of the Warnock Engineering Building.

UARC meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M., in the Warnock Engineering Building on the University of Utah campus. The winter, 2016, meetings will be in room 1230. See the map at <http://user.xmission.com/~uarc/meetmap.html> for information on finding the building. The room number varies depending on availability. Parking lots circled in green are ones where you can park without needing a University permit.

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. It is held at “The Village Inn,” 910 E. 400 South in Salt Lake City.

Latest News

Our Cover

Our cover this month shows Dave Williams, WA7GIE (center), who, at our February meeting, described how amateur radio made his rescue possible when he was stuck on a 10,620-foot mountaintop communications site in severe cold. Dave is flanked on his left by his son, Jason, KD7MCI, and on the right by his grandson Jeremy, KD7MCC, both of whom participated in the rescue communications. A person from BYU shot video of the program. We hope it will be

made available somewhere on line. (*Photo by K7RLS*)

W7CWK, SK

It is with deep regret that we report the passing of John Mabey, W7CWK, one of the hams along the Wasatch Front who has made numerous contributions to local amateur radio during his many decades as an amateur radio operator. John had a long, proud career helping amateurs and amateur radio clubs. At different times he was a

Board member for UARC, helped with the founding of DCARC and the Utah VHF Society, and participated in the Utah Council of Amateur Radio Clubs during its existence.

The following was written by Mike Collett, K7DOU, in the hope of presenting it to John at the VHF Society swap meet. Unfortunately, John didn't live quite long enough to receive it.

A Special Letter to John Mabey, W7CWK

John, thanks for the precious memories! You've touched us all in so many ways over the years to contribute to our enjoyment of amateur radio and community service.

You have one of the most familiar voices in the Utah amateur radio community, and a call sign everyone knows: W7CWK. A very few of us remember you at the inception of the Utah VHF Society. Others remember meeting you when the Davis County Amateur Radio Club was formed in the early 80's, or as its Vice President in 1987 and as its President in 1991. You helped keep the '04 repeater on the air making untold trips out to Antelope Island as the club's repeater engineer.

Some of us remember your presence at the Friendship Cruise as you held down the fort at MGM Bottom, or as you helped keep track of runners at the Pot Bottom checkpoint for the Wasatch-100. We remember having to go through a security checkpoint to visit you at the UOPSC command center on Social Hall Avenue during the Salt Lake 2002 Olympics.

More of us remember you as the EC of Davis County, and later as the Section Emergency Coordinator of Utah, or as the familiar face at the VEC testing sessions. Many of us received our Tech-Plus, General or Extra-class licenses under your watchful eye.

We delighted with your regular check-ins on the Beehive Net and in the fun ragchews on the Sunday morning 40-meter roundtable. Ah, and we remember the pancakes you flipped with a smile at Field Day at Monte Cristo and your choreography to direct the setup of the antenna mast, tower, and antennas for Field Day.

We remember that you were one of the first people we would see as we checked into the Utah VHF Society swap meet, or at the hamfests at Mac's Inn, West Yellowstone, Jackson Hole, Park City and Bryce Canyon.

You were always building something. Occasionally we'd get to see your handiwork at the DCARC December club meeting. And, when we needed an elusive part for one of our own radio projects, likely as not we would find ourselves in your garage since you probably had just what we needed. We searched for that part on your shelves — or in the boat! — as Kathy looked on in amusement.

So many memories, so many enjoyable conversations.

John, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the privilege of knowing you and working with you. It's been an absolute pleasure!

73,

The grateful Utah Amateur Radio Community

New Extra Question Pool Available

The new question pool that will go into effect July 1 for those seeking the Extra Class operator's license is now (again) available on the NCVEC website, <http://www.ncvec.org/>. The new pool was originally published early in January but was later withdrawn when corrections were found necessary. The Question Pool Committee reports that the new test has new material on digital

communications, digital test equipment, software-defined radio, as well as propagation and its relation to space weather.

Some old questions were dropped to make way for the new material. Total pool size increased from 700 to 712 questions.

Amateur Radio Parity Act Clears Subcommittee

Amateurs have been closely watching legislation that would offer some relief to those amateurs who live with severe restrictions on what, if any, antennas they may erect. The Amateur Radio Parity Act, now in Congress, would give the FCC power to require that deed covenants and restrictions make reasonable allowance for amateur antennas.

On February 11, the House version of the bill, H.R. 1301, was reported favorably out of the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology. From there it now goes to the full House Energy and Commerce Committee.

The House sponsor of the bill, Adam Kinzinger (R-IL), made impassioned arguments for the bill and indicated that the time has come for “a reasonable accommodation standard” regarding outdoor antenna installation in neighborhoods where CC&Rs are in effect.

The Senate version of the bill, S. 1685, was reported out of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation last November.

Amateurs can help by making their needs known to their representatives and senators. For more information visit <http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-parity-act>.

Utah Valley Gets New Club

There is a new amateur radio club in the state. The “Amateur Radio Club of Utah Valley”

(ARCUV) officially came into existence on February 5, 2016, and will be meeting on the first Thursday of each month.

Utah County has for many years had a very active ARES organization, but has not had a general-purpose amateur radio club for many years since the old “ARCUV” seemed to fade from existence. It was unusual that an area that large along the Wasatch Front would be without its own club.

A prime organizer of the new group is Noji Ratzlaff, KN0JI, who will be serving as the first (and interim) President.

For more information see <http://uvarc.club>

Repeater Survives Power Failure.

On Thursday, February 18, UARC’s Scotts’ Hill repeater on 146.62 MHz had what was possibly the first serious test of its backup battery bank, when a sudden snowstorm caused a major power outage in the Big Cottonwood Canyon area.

Both the Brighton and Solitude ski resorts were affected by the outage. Keith Stebbings, KE1THR, a Brighton ski instructor who spends his winters at the resort, found himself swinging in the non-trivial wind on a chairlift while crews worked to get the diesel backup engine running and get the chairlift riders to safety. Even after the engine was running, there was a bit of a wait as the lift could only run at about ½ mile per hour in the emergency mode.

We became aware of the outage on Friday morning when remote meter readings from the Scotts’ site showed a line voltage of 0.0. The only backup power on the site is from a bank of batteries retired from commercial UPS service. No one knew exactly what their remaining capacity was.

The Solitude resort was out of service through most of the day on Friday and power wasn’t

restored to the repeater site until late evening on Friday the 19th. Altogether, the batteries kept the repeater running happily for about 35½ hours with the voltage dropping within a few hundredths of 12.0. This was actually a pleasant surprise.

UARC operates two repeaters running synchronously on 146.62, one on Scotts' Hill near Brighton (named after four brothers with the last name of "Scott" who mined in the area in the 1800's), and the other on Farnsworth Peak in the Oquirrh range. The Farnsworth site provides coverage along the Wasatch Front while the Scott's Hill site covers Park City, Kamas, plus much of eastern I-80 and the Mirror Lake highway.

Considerable detail about the synchronous configuration can be found at:
<http://www.utaharc.org/rptr/uarcprt.html>.



Keith Stebbings, KE1THR, sent us this photo from our Scotts' Hill repeater site near Brighton. Keith's friend Kyle is fighting 30+ MPH winds (with higher gusts) trying to dig out the door to the building.

A Note From Our Director

(As the Rocky Mountain Division of the American Radio Relay League, we have a new Director, Dwayne Allen, WY7FD, of Sundance, Wyoming. This is his first communication to the membership. The Rocky Mountain Division covers the states of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming.)

Fellow Rocky Mountain Division ARRL Members,

The first month in my new role as your Rocky Mountain Division Director has been a learning experience. It is akin to trying to take sips from a running fire hose. One gets much wetter than he should while just trying to get a drink.

There are a few standing committees designed to help the Board of Directors make decisions that steer the ARRL in a direction most members would like their national organization to go. Each of the 15 directors choose a member they feel best suited for the committee. For the DX Advisory Committee, I have approached Dick Williams,

K8ZTT of Frankton, CO and he has agreed to represent you on the DXAC. Dick is the president of the Mile High DX Club and he shares a number one spot on the DX Honor Roll. Please contact him with your DX concerns.

The ARRL National Convention was held in conjunction with the annual Orlando Hamfest. While there, I met with the new ARRL CEO Elect, Tom Gallagher, NY2RF. He will join the staff of the ARRL on February 29 and work with David Sumner, K1ZZ for the remainder of Dave's time with the League. As we say goodbye to Dave, we welcome Tom. I hope you take the time to send Dave your well wishes and when Tom is in place please take the time to send a welcome.

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Upcoming events:

02/27/2016 | **2016 New Mexico TechFest**

Location: Albuquerque, NM

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Rocky Mountain Ham Radio, New Mexico

02/27/2016 | **Utah VHF Society Swapmeet**

Location: Farmington, UT

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Utah VHF Society

Come join us on the new RM Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/arrl.rmd> where we'll share news and events of interest to the Division.

Thank you for your support and commitment to the ARRL and amateur radio in the Rocky Mountain Division.

73,

Dwayne Allen, WY7FD
ARRL Director
Rocky Mountain Division
WY7FD@arrl.org

License Examination Schedule

Opportunities to test for new or upgraded amateur licenses

Date	Day	City	Contact Person	Phone
03/02/16	(Wed.)	Clearfield	Mike Youngs, KK7VZ	(801) 573-3922
03/06/16	(Sat.)	Logan	Richard D. Elwood, KE7GYD	(435) 753-4360
03/16/16	(Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983
03/16/16	(Wed.)	St. George ²	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	N/A
03/19/16	(Sat.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983
03/29/16	(Tue.)	Salt Lake City ³	Garth Wiscombe, W7PS	(801) 558-5936
04/02/16	(Sat.)	Salt Lake City ¹	Gordon Smith, K7HFV	(801) 582-2438
04/09/16	(Sat.)	Hurricane ²	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	N/A
04/16/16	(Sat.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983
04/16/16	(Sat.)	Logan	Richard D. Elwood, KE7GYD	(435) 753-4360
04/20/16	(Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983
04/20/16	(Wed.)	St. George ²	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	N/A
04/26/16	(Tue.)	Salt Lake City ³	Garth Wiscombe, W7PS	(801) 558-5936

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

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

³New location: Senior Center at the Columbus Center, 2530 S. 500 East

⁴More information at <http://www.utaharc.org/Exams/>

Member of the Month

Max Bylund, KG7MLO

By Linda Reeder, N7HVF

This month we are featuring Max Bylund, KG7MLO. Max became interested in amateur radio when he was a Junior at Davis High School. He took

an electronics class his junior and senior years, 1968 and 1969. His teacher, DeWayne Garrett, was a ham radio operator. DeWayne's held a General license

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and had the call sign W7ZKK. He is now a silent key. Max was fascinated. His teacher had a ham shack at the school. The school donated a Heathkit SB-100, and a kilowatt amplifier. Davis High school even donated a three-element beam antenna, which was mounted on the roof of the high school building. This was great because he started out with a dipole antenna that was outside the building. Now Max's teacher was able to communicate all around the world. He would let the students listen when he had QSOs with England and other countries. Max really wanted to get his ham license, but was distracted with college, work, and raising a family.

Max graduated from the University of Utah in 1973 with his bachelor's degree in computer science. After graduation Max worked in Wyoming as a computer programmer until 1977. Then he moved to Utah where he worked for Mountain Fuel/Questar as a computer programmer. He was in the IT world. Max worked for Questar for 38 years. He retired in April of last year.

Max and his wife, Laura, have five children, three girls and two boys. Max has a coworker, Bill Neville, who is WA7KMF. Bill has his Extra Class license and is very active in amateur radio and is a member of the Bridgerland club. One day at work Max told Bill that he would like to get his amateur radio license. Bill surprised Max with a Gordon West (WB6NOA) book. Max wanted to pay him for it but he said "No, just get your license." Max did receive his Technician license in May, 2014. He is now working on getting his General. There is a great deal that Max wants to do with amateur radio. He would like to work with antenna designs and wants to get involved with emergency communications. Max is also working on getting his CERT certificate.

Max is a member of UARC. He attended his first meeting in January, 2016, where the topic was grab-and-go kits. Max is really looking forward to the

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February meeting where the topic will be "Amateur Radio to the Rescue."

Max, welcome to amateur radio and we wish you the best in obtaining your General license.



Max Bylund, KG7MLO
(Photo by Ron Speirs, K7RLS)