

The *Microvolt*

May, 2016



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

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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>

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For account information go to:
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 Or call 801 539-0852



The Microvolt

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May Meeting: The CW Mode

You might be one of those hams who waited to get your license until the Morse Code requirement was dropped, but you might like to hear why other hams have found the CW mode to be one of the aspects of the hobby that can be the most fun.

The CW mode has a lot going for it. A CW signal takes up only about a fifteenth the bandwidth of a single sideband signal. Communication is possible on CW with signal strengths and band conditions that don't allow for voice communication. It is an effective mode using low power or poor antennas. CW contacts are often worth extra points in contests. It can be operated with very light weight, backpackable equipment. Best of all, it can just plain be a lot of fun.

Telling us all about this mode at our May 12 meeting will be Andrew Madsen, AC7CF, who has a lot of CW experience and has been one of our top Field Day point-getters. Why is CW fun? How do you go about learning the code? How long does it take? What can you do with it? How does it help your ability to provide emergency communications? These are questions that we will be delving into.

The meeting will be on Thursday, May 12, at 7:30 P.M. in room 1230 (the "Duke" classroom) of the Warnock Engineering Building. Tickets for our July steak-fry will be available. This will be one of only two opportunities to sign up for the steak-fry at a Thursday meeting.

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

Field Day is coming! Our cover photo this month is from our traditional Field Day site near Payson Lakes showing our tri-band beam on our 85-foot tower showing through the aspen trees.

We hope you can come and help this year. See more information starting near the end of this page.

Idaho Intertie Repeaters Back

Users of the Intermountain Intertie system, a group of linked repeaters in at least four states, were surprised the week of April 10 to find that all the Idaho repeaters in the system were off the air. That included four repeaters covering an area from West Yellowstone to Boise plus a linked remote station near Malad. Activity on the Intertie was down substantially with the usual Idaho participants unable to get in.

The Idaho system had been in service for many years and was built, financed, and maintained, principally, by Vance Hawley, WA7FDR. Vance reported he had been spending thousands of dollars a year to keep the system running, and was simply getting to the point where it was too much. There was speculation the system might be off the air for months, or even permanently.

On Friday, April 22, the system returned to the air coincident with the start of the Idaho State Convention in Boise, and a visit by John Lloyd, K7JL, and Eldon Kearn, K7OGM, to Idaho. The Utah VHF Society officers have issued the following statement explaining the situation:

The Officers of the Utah VHF Society were approached by Vance Hawley, WA7FDR, to determine if it would be possible to obtain funds from Idaho hams the same way we do in Utah to help support the Idaho portion of the Intertie repeaters. After much discussion The Utah VHF

Society Officers have agreed to begin an initial effort to ask the Idaho hams who would like to support the Idaho portion of the Intertie System to join the Utah VHF Society. Any funds obtained through this effort or any donations we obtain from Idaho hams will be dedicated to Idaho Intertie System repeaters. We would like to thank all those who attended the hamfest in Boise who made the initial effort to kick off this project by joining the Society and making generous contributions. Enough funds were raised to address some crucial needs to purchase new batteries for the Sawtelle (West Yellowstone) repeater site and we may also have enough funds to purchase a new receiver radio for the War Eagle (Boise) Site. As more funds become available additional improvements will be made to the Idaho system.

Some time down the road it may be possible for our Idaho friends to create a self-supporting entity similar to the Utah VHF Society, but for now we desire to do our best to help make good things happen in Idaho!

Any funds obtained through this effort or any donations we obtain from Idaho hams will be dedicated to Idaho Intertie System repeaters.

Please mark your membership and/or donations for Idaho.

If anyone has any questions or suggestions please feel free to contact or email one of the Utah VHF Society Officers. <http://utahvhfs.org>

For more details about each of the Idaho Repeater Linked System repeaters please click here http://utahvhfs.org/other_rpt.html#jumpoff

Field Day Help Needed

We hope everyone is looking forward to Field Day, a weekend at the end of June when take our radios up to the mountains.

Field Day is the nationwide Field Day contest, a competition among portable and mobile stations. It is also one of UARC's most popular activities. We typically set up three portable HF stations at a good site in the mountains up Payson Canyon. We then spend 24 hours trying to work as many other portable and mobile stations as possible.

This year there may be an extra complication due to the closure of the Payson Canyon road because of a five-foot slump in the surface. The time to repair the road is unknown at this writing. In case the repair is not completed before Field Day, our area would still be accessible via the Santaquin Canyon road, a somewhat longer route. We will keep watching the situation.

It takes a lot of help to make it all happen smoothly and the officers are looking for volunteers for a variety of jobs. Chuck, WA7JOS, who is in charge of "Bonus Points" is looking for suggestions for an educational topic. Past years have featured soldering and Morse Code.

Also, this year's rules give points for having an official "safety officer." Any volunteers for that position?

There is a particular need for operators who can operate CW and those who can operate in the wee hours of the morning. Anyone who can do *both* of those together will be *highly* respected.

Field Day always takes place on the fourth Saturday of June and the following Sunday. That puts it on June 25 and 26 this year, although some families will be camping on the site earlier in the week and some setup activity will begin as early as Thursday the 23rd. Everyone is welcome to come for whatever part of the activities fits their schedules and leave when they must.

At the May meeting we will have some forms available to make it easy for you to sign up for any jobs you can help with. They will be available at the Secretary's desk.

For more information on the rules and object of the Field Day event see:

<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>.

Hamfest Help Needed

Wow! Only twelve weeks from now, the Great Salt Lake Hamfest will be in full swing with presentations, an HF Special Event Radio Station, antenna clinic, "fox hunt," vendors, swapmeet/flea market, banquet, lunch, ARRL speaker and forum, prizes and many more activities. Most of you already have heard of this hallmark event in Salt Lake County, but if you haven't, visit www.gslhamfest.org for basic information now and more details in the future.

As you may guess, such an endeavor will require many volunteers to make the GSL Hamfest a resounding success and still offer the volunteers time for attending events of interest to themselves. I am reaching out to see if you can assist. Here are four ways to do so:

1. Indicate preferred assignments. Download and review the questionnaire which can be found at <http://user.xmission.com/~uarc/VolQues.docx>, fill it out, the Questionnaire and returning it as an attachment. If you choose the second option, perhaps the easiest way to indicate your preferences would be by deleting what you don't want and leaving what you do want, with the corresponding priority numbers.

Some individuals would like to assist in multiple assignments (e.g. registration and VE testing). If you would like to help in more than one assignment, please let me know, even if you have already made such arrangements with a committee chair.

Some of you have already turned in questionnaires to me. *Read on . . .*

2. Watch for assignments as we get closer to the Hamfest. Coordinating assignments

among a great number of people is a complex task. As I receive replies to the questionnaire, I am compiling names within the various committees. The next step will be identifying which committees need more staff and which have more than enough. As assignments are made, you will receive an email from me or from a committee chair.

3. Some individuals already know to which committee they have been assigned. If you have already received an assignment, please advise me of that, in case I haven't included you on that committee's list yet.

Most of the volunteer staffing will occur the days of the Hamfest — July 8 and 9. I anticipate that some committees will have only one meeting with their volunteers just a week or so prior to the Hamfest and that such meetings will focus on the where and how of the volunteer assignments at the Larry H. Miller Campus of Salt Lake Community College. A few committees may have multiple meetings for arrangements that need to be made in advance, such as assembling registration packets.

The bottom line: Don't worry if you don't hear about your assignment until four to six weeks before the Hamfest. I expect many questionnaires to come to me for awhile. The leaders of the committees are hard at work, but your contribution as a volunteer will likely involve only a short time frame.

If anyone would be willing to volunteer as chairman for a committee, please let me know as soon as possible. We need a chair for Publishing/Printing and for Events/Activities.

3. Register early online or by mail. Pre-registration is especially helpful in two ways: predicting the number of attendees and starting the funds necessary for expenses. Through pre-registrations, we are better able to plan for banquet meals, lunches, complimentary pins, pre-made admission packets, facility expenses and much more. Once the list of presentations is confirmed, we might poll pre-registrants for their preferred

presentations to determine if larger rooms might be necessary for various presentations.

It's a no-brainer to say that the sooner we have money to start paying expenses the better, but each "early bird" benefits in many ways by registering in advance. For example:

- Admission fees are less through pre-registration.
- Each adult receives a free pin, which costs \$5 at the door.
- Admission into the Hamfest will be quicker if you don't have to pay for anything extra at the door.
- Banquet seating is limited, so don't miss out by delaying your registration.

I'll see you soon ... at the GSL Hamfest!

Susan Smith, KJ7ABC

Volunteers Committee Chair

Email: <mailto:ssmithrph@gmail.com>

cell/text 801-910-2245

New Mesh Node Map

A new map is available that shows many of the mesh nodes across the state of Utah. The map can be viewed at <http://tinyurl.com/jfvqx6s>. Mesh operators can add a new node or manage existing nodes via the map as well. For details on how to do this, expand the map description in the upper left corner of the map when it first loads.

You may be asking why this map was created. After all, there is an existing map on the Broadband Hamnet web page. The reasons for creating this map are:

- While basic maps are great, just knowing the location of a node does not give mesh operators the information they need to connect to a node. They need additional information like the SSID, where a directional antenna is pointing, frequency,

etc. This map provides that information and more.

- I want to see mesh succeed in Utah. I don't believe that can happen if we as mesh operators don't know where the mesh nodes are and how to connect to them.
- I like the idea of having a map that is specific to Utah rather than covering the entire United States and in some cases the world.

So there you have it. My hope is that this map will prove useful to mesh operators around the great state of Utah. We all know a map won't do anyone any good if no one knows it exists. With that in mind, please tell any mesh operators you know about this map.

-Brad, AC7BR

Armed Forces Day Radio Test

The annual communications exercise in honor of Armed Forces Day when amateur stations can QSO with military stations will take place this year on Saturday, May 14.

Full information about times and frequencies can be found at:

<http://www.usarmymars.org/home/announcements>

“The Doctor” is Now Online

The popular *QST* feature “The Doctor is In” is now available online for a number of different devices. A new program is produced every two weeks. For information on how to get it and to submit questions, see <http://www.arl.org/doctor>.

License Examination Schedule

Opportunities to test for new or upgraded amateur licenses

Date	Day	City	Contact Person	Phone
05/14/16	(Sat.)	Hurricane	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	N/A
05/17/16	(Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983
05/17/16	(Wed.)	St. George ²	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	N/A
05/31/16	(Tue.)	Salt Lake City ³	Garth Wiscombe, W7PS	(801) 558-5936
06/01/16	(Wed.)	Ogden	Rick Morrison, W7RIK	(801) 791-9364
06/01/16	(Wed.)	Clearfield	Mike Youngs, KK7VZ	(801) 573-3922
06/02/16	(Thu.)	Logan	Richard D. Elwood, KE7GYD	(435) 753-4360
06/04/16	(Sat.)	Salt Lake City ¹	Gordon Smith, K7HFV	(801) 582-2438
06/11/16	(Sat.)	Hurricane ²	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	N/A
06/15/16	(Wed.)	Provo	Steve Whitehead, NV7V	(801) 465-3983
06/15/16	(Wed.)	St. George ²	Gary O. Zabriskie, N7ARE	N/A
06/28/16	(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

Mary Jelf, KG7QNG

By Linda Reeder, N7HVF

This month we are featuring Mary Jelf, KG7QNG. Mary is new to the hobby having received her Technician license in 2015. It was her husband, Robert, KG7OHV, who got her interested in amateur radio. Mary studied online and said this was great because you could take sample tests and the computer would tell you how many questions you missed. This helped Mary to know on what subjects she needed to focus. She also studied the ARRL technician book that her husband Robert bought at a UARC meeting. She studied for three months and was really excited when she obtained her Technician license.

Mary had used CB radio while she lived in Texas and while she was studying for her amateur license she came to realize that amateur radio was way better than CB radio. What a huge differences amateur radio makes.

The thing that Mary likes best about amateur radio is being able to communicate with her husband when he goes on trips. Mary has a TYDMN380 digital radio and is looking forward to talking to her daughter, Sapphire, KG7RPZ, when She and Robert go on a planned trip to Fresno California. Mary and Robert will be attending a DX convention and Mary is really looking forward to this trip. In fact they are on this trip as I write this article since we have to write these articles in advance.

Mary and Robert have eight children: four girls and four boys as well as 11 grandchildren and one great grandchild. One of the daughters, Sapphire, has her technician license and is KG7RPZ.

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Mary worked for ARUP Laboratories for 28 years as a medical technologist. She has been a medical technologist for 45 years. Mary just retired last week. She said now she can devote more time to amateur radio.

Mary is really excited about attending Field Day this year with her husband. She couldn't go with him last year because she had to work. Mary loves to help put up antennas. She helps her husband put up antennas in their back yard. She is looking forward to helping put up antennas at Field Day this year.

Mary enjoys helping at hamfests. She will be working with the Great Salt Lake Hamfest coming up in July, signing people in. She also helped at the ARRL hamfest at Ruby's Inn last year. Mary enjoys all of the people she has met so far in amateur radio.

Mary is a member of MARC and ARES. She is listening to the nets and learning all she can about ARES.

Mary is a avid reader. She loves mystery books. She crochets and collects pottery called Frakoma ware.

Mary, welcome to amateur radio.