

The Yavapai Signal

**THE YAVAPAI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA**

VOL 9 - No. 8

AUGUST, 1999



WELCOME TO THE YAVAPAI

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB The Yavapai Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL affiliated club. The club participates in many activities in the tri-city area including providing communications for local events, emergency

communications, volunteer exams, and promotion of the hobby throughout the community. Membership in the YARC is open to any interested amateur or non-amateur alike. The YARC meets at 7:00 PM local time on the 3rd Thursday of every month at the Granite Mountain Middle School, 1800 Williamson Valley Rd. in Prescott. It is about 1/2 mile north of Iron Springs Rd and all amateurs and non-amateurs as well are invited. Programs of interest are included as part of the meeting. The weekly NET is held every Wednesday at 7:00 PM local time on the 146.880- repeater. All amateurs are invited to participate and visitors are always welcome. The Yavapai County ARES/RACES NET is held on Monday nights approximately at 6:45PM local time on the 147.220+ repeater on Mingus Mtn.



YARC OFFICERS for 1999

Lee Cunningham, KC7CBK
Hal Trial, N6OVE
Kris Bearscove-KC7UNK
Tony Masvidal, W7PCU
Fred Schefflette-KC7TIN

President*
VicePresident*
Secretary*
(a)Secretary*
Treasurer*

YARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Includes Club Officers

Bob Kane, K7KOL

Frank Horneff WA6JBV

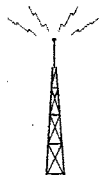
Dale Leslie, N7XFD

(a) Tony Masvidal will share the secretary's duties with Kris until he graduates and leaves sometime in July.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

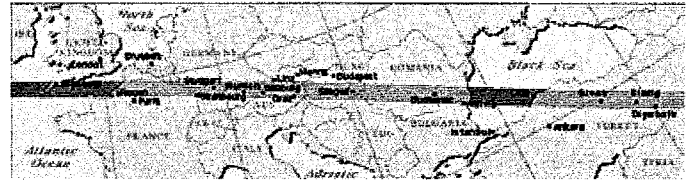
John Wilson-KM6BF

Club Repeater



The local 146.880- MHz repeater is the official adopted repeater for the YARC. It is located on the hill above Willow Creek Rd and requires a PL of 100.0 Hz. If you hear a 1400 Hz pulsing tone, the repeater is on backup battery power and usage should be limited to necessary communications. Many thanks to Bill Kafka, W2YAV for the upkeep and use of the repeater.

TOP BAND OPENS AT HIGH NOON DURING ECLIPSE



NEWINGTON, CT, Aug 12, 1999—For a few brief hours on Wednesday, August 11, the impossible happened: 160 meters opened to summertime, daylight DX. What made it possible was the total—or nearly total—eclipse of the sun. Wednesday's eclipse was the last total solar eclipse of the 20th century. The trajectory of the moon's shadow carried it across Central Europe, Turkey, the Middle East, Pakistan and India. Scientists had theorized that the absence of sunlight in the ionosphere could affect D-layer propagation. NASA had called on hams and SWLs to monitor shortwave signals from Europe before, during, and after the eclipse and report their findings.

Scientific studies by NASA and others aside for the moment, Luis Mansutti, IV3PRK, has ample anecdotal evidence in his logbook that the eclipse did, indeed, enhance D-layer propagation.

"It has been a great experience, enjoying such beautiful conditions at noon in the month of August on 160 meters!" he said in a posting to the Topband and Low Band Monitor reflectors. Mansutti reports that the eclipse began at his QTH in JN66ne at 0918 UTC, reached a maximum of 96% of totality at 1042 UTC, and was all over at 1206 UTC.

"After half an hour of listening through our familiar noise I began hearing at 1010 Z ON4UBA/6 and EA3JE, but they couldn't copy me," he said. "The first QSO was with DL1DA at 1012 Z (380 km) with 599." Mansutti says he then moved to 1.834 MHz and started calling CQ. He worked 26 stations in 13 countries between 1020 and 11.30 UTC, "with some QSB at times, but without any kind of noise."

Other stations worked were in the UK, France, Sweden, Romania, and Turkey—the QSO times roughly tracking the path of the eclipse across Europe and into Asia Minor. Stations worked included G3WUX, GM3POI, F2YT, SM5EDX, YO2CEQ, and TA2BK. He reports solid copy—in the case of YO2CEQ, signals were 20 dB over S9 on both ends. His best DX was GM3POI, some 1740 km away.

Mansutti says the typical summertime noise level began to increase at 1126 UTC as the eclipse ended, and he got no further replies to his CW. "Helmut, DK6WL, (220 km) was the only one left, and I →

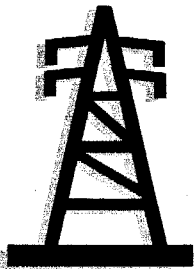
worked him with 599/599, and I heard him calling CQ until 1145 Z when everything definitely disappeared," he said. "I looked to the sun with my welding mask, and the eclipse was not yet ended . . . unbelievable the speed at which the D-layer built up again!"

IV3PRK also made some observations on signal angles. He said that with the exception of DK6WL—who was stronger on a "very low dipole"—all stations were copied much better using a four-element vertical array "with a very high directivity seldom experienced on European signals." Turning the array to the south made European signals disappear altogether, he said.

"Unfortunately, it will not be possible to do it again, Mansutti concluded.

In another eclipse-related Amateur Radio event, Erich Rupprechter, OE9ERC, in Austria worked Ivo Chladek, ZS6AXT, in South Africa on 23 cm moonbounce during the path of totality in Austria. Chladek says the reports were 579/449, while "normal" reports are 589/569. "I did not have any eclipse," ZS6AXT said. "The moon was about 1.2 degrees from Sun (center to center), and I did not hear my own echoes at all."

NASA reports that a special broadcast of the BBC World Service on 7.325 MHz was beamed toward the US on August 10 and 11 to test shortwave radio propagation conditions during the eclipse. An eclipse-related anomaly in the radio broadcast appears to have been detected on August 11. On August 10, the day before the eclipse, the BBC signal from Rampisham, England, was undetectable from the Marshall Space Flight Center in Alabama due to D-layer absorption over England and the Atlantic. On August 11—the day of the eclipse—the radio signal came in clearly as the moon's shadow crossed the Atlantic. (From the ARRL)



FAKED DATA REVEALED IN ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS RESEARCH:

Press reports say that a federal probe has found that a scientist faked crucial evidence of a tie between electromagnetic radiation and cancer. Robert P. Liburdy, a cell biologist at the US Energy Department's Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

in California, was found to have published two papers containing misleading data. Federal investigators say Liburdy eliminated data that did not support his conclusions of a tie between electromagnetic radiation and the incidence of cancer. Liburdy resigned quietly from the Laboratory in March and is said to have withdrawn his research findings. However, he reportedly has maintained that the data he used are valid and only his presentation of them is in question. His research, published in 1992, helped fuel the debate over whether power line radiation could cause cancer. The California lab determined in 1995 that Liburdy had faked data and called in the Office of Research Integrity, which announced its finding last month in The Federal Register. A settlement agreement reached with the federal government prevents Liburdy from seeking federal grants for three years and from formally contesting the findings. --from press reports



UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

- ▶ September 11 Kingman ARRL/ARCA Fallfest. Mohave Community College.
 - ▶ September 24-26 ARRL & TAPR Digital Communications Conference-Holiday Inn Select Airport-Phoenix
 - ▶ October 1-3 ARRL SW Div Convention-Queen Mary Long Beach, CA.
 - ▶ October 8-10 17th Space Symposium & AMSAT NA Meeting-Hanelei Hotel, San Diego
 - ▶ October 16 ARRL/ARCA Swapfest-Tucson. TI 148.880-
- More detailed information on Contests and Special Events can be found in most amateur publications such as QST, Worldradio, and others.**



JULY MEETING

The July meeting was called to order at 2015 hrs by President Lee Cunningham-KC7CBK Tony Masvidal-W7PCU introduced 2 visitors, Art-W9KVO and Kurt-KB6SSS. Assisting secretary Tony read the minutes from the June meeting. Club Treasurer Fred Schefflette-KC7TIN gave his report, which shows the club treasury has \$369.24, the repeater fund at \$69.50, and the refreshment fund at \$30.33. Lee-KC7CBK won the raffle ticket of \$11 and added that to the repeater fund.

Mahe-KD7DSO had won a book from the ARRL representatives. The virus that was around apparently was a hoax. There was no old business.

New business. Mahe-KD7DSO gave us more information on the upcoming road rally. There will be 10 stages, 4 of which will be in the Verde Valley side and remaining 6 will be on this side. Packet users will be needed. Terry-KB7TRE suggest that kids in ham radio at the YMCA for June 19th, but that was variable. Lloyd-WA6ZZJ thanked Frontier Day parade hams who helped out. Also July 31st at Watson Lake was to be National Police day along with the Prescott Police Dept and our emergency comms van along side for display. August 25th Wednesday Y2K exercise for the county, and Sept 15th for statewide Y2K exercise. Terry-KB7TRE will look into U.S. and AZ state flag for our use when we are demonstrating ham radio. Meeting adjourned 8:50p.m.

The program for the evening was presented by Cliff Hauser-KD6XH who is the ARRL section manager and Ed Hare-W1RFI who is the ARRL lab supervisor. The topic was "the other RFI problem". Diplomacy helps. The use of low pass and high pass filters or to use a common mode choke. To use different ratings for different →

frequencies. Most common causes are power lines, computers and motors. ARRL has a website for more information plus you can also purchase the RFI book from the ARRL.

Assisting secretary Tony-W7PCU



SPEAKERS WANTED! Want to make a

presentation to the club? Got a favorite subject or experience you would like to share? If you do, we'd like to hear from you! Programs of interest are always needed for club meetings. Share your knowledge or experience with the rest of the club at our meetings. Contact Lee Cunningham, KC7CBK for more information.



THE NEWSLETTER

If you have anything to share, please feel free to submit it for inclusion in the newsletter. We welcome your suggestions, comments, stories, personal experiences, or other items related to the hobby. Send e-mail to: km6bf@primenet.com



FROM THE PAST-PRESIDENT

TWO MICS, muted

Early on a Sunday morning in the American Pacific Northwest, the sun returned, peeking through the mists with the promise of a beautiful day in the Cascades. Buzz

Smith, a logger, was camping with his two sons Eric and Adam, now beginning to stir in the dewy morning, urged awake by the hungry rumbling of their stomachs and the giddy excitement of exploring and fishing waiting for them after breakfast. They didn't have a clue that their boyish gut rumbling would soon be echoed by a scary rumbling from the bowels of the earth, deep within an ancient mountain's stomach.

A few miles away, in a lodge on Spirit Lake, 84-year-old lodge owner Harry Truman heard the rumbling too, but shrugged it off as just another example of "his" mountain's eloquence. His beacon had sung to him often and he cherished it as his siren song, re-affirming his love of this Cascadian beauty. Harry was proud of his recent interview with a Portland Oregonian newspaper reporter when he told the wordsmith, "...they'll never get me off this mountain. They think it's going to do me in; that they'll find my bloated body floating down the river. That mountain - beautiful, isn't she? - won't hurt old Truman!"

Stationed five miles northwest of the mountain were the official watchers: volcanologists, geologic chroniclers, media reporters, and two hams, W6TQF and KA7AMF. Jerry Martin (W6) and Reid Blackburn (KA7) were there to observe along with the others what had captured the northwest's attention: the mountain's months long rumbling; smoke and ash spitting from its fumarole while gently,

nervously jiggling the earth. The earthquakes were so common that they became a ho-hum entry in the "Rim of Fire" seismic record. Radio Amateurs Martin and Blackburn were there to supplement the media's radio equipment and report events as they happened.

At 0832 PDT, May 18, 1980, IT happened!

Mt. St. Helens exploded, hurling most of its northwest flank into the air, lowering its peak by 1300 feet, to 8,360 feet. Almost four billion cubic yards of mountain were discarded, spreading world wide in the form of ash; the corrosive compound pelting and scratching windshields of aircraft flying the great circle route to Asia. Around the boy's camp, Harry's Shangri-La and the observer's station though, the mountain violently threw itself away in missiles of rock and magma; the volley of death smothering, pummeling and burying all those in the way.

At 0831, camper Smith was breathing in the sharp clean air; the campsite so quiet he could hear himself breathing. Suddenly, he heard a "crack", like a rifle shot. Looking toward the sound, he watched in amazement as the mountain blew up. It was incomprehensible to him, mountains don't suddenly change shape! But this one was, and seconds later, Smith felt the shock wave smack his chest. A tremendous roar thundered through the darkening woods followed by a wind blowing as though the world was ending. Grabbing his two sons, he buried them all under sleeping bags, waiting for the end.

At 0831, Harry Truman was reciting his daily mantra, "I'm never gonna leave this mountain", a soliloquy repeated over and over as he went about the business of his lodge, checking for animal incursions during the night, absorbing the reflections of "his" mountain in the lake surface. Harry had lost his wife some years before, so he continued his trudge through life's journey alone; a sojourner in this magnificent land. *At 0832, the Gods answered Harry's soliloquy.*

Neither Harry Truman, his lodge, nor Spirit Lake survived the cataclysmic eruption. They repose forever under the alluvium of Mt. St. Helens Volcanic National Park, Cowlitz County, Washington.

At 0831, the volcanologists, geologists, reporters and the two hams were clearing the breakfast dishes and putting food away. Breakfast in the forest is one of life's great pleasures, and they had been here on and off for more than three months, monitoring the mountain's activity while on their extended "camping" trip. At 0832, they heard a distant rumbling to their south, in the direction of the mountain. Turning, they witnessed one of nature's great spectacles, the immediate reshaping of earth's features. Transfixed with the magnitude of the event, they let out their emotions with expletives like "holy s..." and "didja see that?" Rushing to their instruments, cameras and microphones, they wanted to tell the world what they were witnessing; witnessing a wall of ash 100 feet high, traveling towards them at about 150 mph. *Reid Blackburn, KA7AMF was a photographer for the Vancouver Columbian, and while running to get his camera was engulfed by the wall, becoming a "muted mic" at that instant.* That wall of ash, rock and heat claimed the lives of all the other observers including David Johnston, a reporter whose final words were, "Vancouver - Vancouver, this is it!" →



From the FAQ (Frequently



Asked Questions) files

WHAT'S ALL THIS IOTA I HEAR ABOUT ON THE HF BANDS?

THE IOTA PROGRAMME



The Islands On The Air - IOTA - Programme, which has recently celebrated its 30th Anniversary, was created by the late Geoff Watts, a leading British short wave listener. When it was taken over by

the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) in 1985 it had already become for some a favourite award. Its popularity grows each year, not only among ever-increasing numbers of island chasers but also among a growing band of amateurs attracted by the possibilities for operating portable from islands.

The IOTA Programme consists of 18 separate awards, which may be claimed by any licensed radio amateur (or SWL on a heard basis) who has had contacts with the required number of islands or island groups listed in the IOTA Directory. Many of the islands are DXCC countries in their own right. Others are not, but by meeting particular eligibility criteria also count for credit. Part of the fun of IOTA is that it is an evolving Programme with new islands or island groups on the Directory list being activated, fairly frequently, for the first time. Currently, over 850 of the 1,175 listed groups have seen activity and therefore have reference numbers, for example EU-005.

The basic award is for working stations located on 100 islands or island groups. There are higher achievement awards for working 200, 300, 400, 500, 600 and 700 islands or island groups. In addition, there are seven continental awards (including Antarctica) and three regional awards – Arctic Islands, British Islands and West Indies – for contacting a specified number of islands in each area. A Plaque of Excellence is available for confirmed contacts with at least 750 islands or island groups.

Contacts may be made on the 1.8 to 28 MHz bands including all three WARC bands) on single mode or mixed mode. The rules require that, in order for credit to be given, QSL cards need to be submitted to nominated IOTA checkpoints for checking. A feature of the IOTA Programme is the annual Honour Roll which encourages the continual updating of scores. This is published in the RSGB publication RadCom (May or June issue) and also in the RSGB DX News Sheet.

Jerry Martin (W6) shouted into his mic, "Now we've got an eruption down here, the slide (sic) is coming off the west slope. ...the whole northwest side is sliding down. ...I'm going to back out of here, the camper and the car next to me is covered with ash. It's going to get me too. I can't get out of here." *Jerry joined Reid as a muted mic shortly after 0832 PDT, May 18, 1980.*

Camper Smith and his two boys spent five hours under those sleeping bags, raising them only sparingly to let in some ashy air to replace the stifling atmosphere they were breathing. Fifteen hours later, after hiking miles through a moonscape of ash and rock, they reached safety. Every where they looked, they saw nothing but felled trees, cut off at the "knees" as though a giant weed whacker had taken a swath through the forest.

I hesitate describing W6TQF and KA7AMF as "silent keys", preferring instead the euphemism "muted mic", in recognition of their fealty to duty and their ever present presence at the ARRL. The American Radio Relay League honors Jerry Martin and Reid Blackburn with a plaque at its headquarters, memorializing these two radio amateurs. This solemn reminder keeps them alive in a muted way; thus my choice of titles.

Today, almost twenty years after the eruption, the facts are clear. Mt. St. Helens was dormant, not extinct and its awakening was signaled by a series of earthquakes. Earthquakes are common on the Pacific Rim, so this seismic action was not especially significant. The mountain shrunk by 1,314 feet, spewing 3.7 Billion cubic yards of matter over 230 square miles. The explosion, heard more than 600 miles away, left a crater 2000 feet deep and 1.8 miles wide. Debris, settling as sediment in the Columbia River reduced the channel depth to 14 feet from its usual 40 feet, stranding 31 ships upstream. 27 bridges, 200 homes, 185 miles of highway and 15 miles of railway were destroyed and the blast leveled enough trees to build 300,000 two bedroom houses.

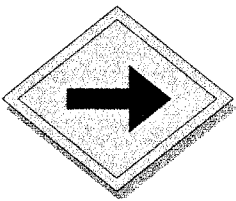
57 lives were lost: campers, tourists, observers, workers and residents; suffocated by the heat and density of the ash-laden air and buried in an ashen sarcophagus. Some are still there, reposing under that regolithic landscape, too deep to recover or by family request.

The earth does not belong to us, we belong to it.
Seattle, Chief of the Suquamish Indians
73's Bob Kane, K7KOL

My thanks to the following resources for this article:

- Steve Ford, WB8IMY, Managing Editor, QST magazine
- Washington Post archives
- CNN archives
- USGS/Cascades Volcano Observatory, Vancouver, WN.

The accuracy of this work has been compared to QST Magazine, August, 1980, pg 47 in a one page article entitled "Amateurs In The Thick Of Volcano Action" by John Brown and David Lievsay.



SAY WHAT? FROM THE "I can't believe I heard it on amateur radio" files:

- "Well, I finally got my antenna up and forgot to connect the coax!"
- "I bought a lot of junk at Tuthill. Now I have to sell it all!"
- "You got to watch yourself on sideband-the deviation is a lot different."
- "How come I can't send Packet through the repeater to my friend in Phoenix?"
- "I'd like to upgrade someday, but I'd just be wasting \$6.45"
- "My radio works fine in the house, but not in the mobile. I wonder if it's a problem with the car?"
- "My radio got stolen. I hope it was by a ham so it will go to good use!"
- "I'm going to build a tower out of wood so it won't be so exposed to lightning!"



OTHER NEWS OF INTEREST

From Pen Brown, KJ7KL - Senior Communications Correspondent and News Analyst

FCC QUESTIONS TESTS FCC Chief Rules Enforcer Riley Hollingsworth has written to several hams regarding the answer sheets to their ham radio exams. Hollingsworth wants the applicants to explain why several questions were answered with marks using two different pens.

All of the applicants took part in an exam session held in Yonkers, New York on May the 2nd. Hollingsworth asked all four if all of the marks on the answer sheets were made by them, if there were any marks on the answer sheets at the start of the exam and any discussions that the applicants may have had with the examiners.

The city of Yonkers is about 25 miles North of New York City and there a numerous exam opportunities in the Metro New York area. What may have brought suspicion to this exam session is that one of the applicants traveled up to Yonkers from the borough of Brooklyn. This is a solid hour and a half drive with no traffic. Another applicant being questioned regarding the test session has a

home address in Michigan. Hollingsworth's letter stressed that no accusations of wrongdoing are being made against anyone at this time.(FCC)

Cell phone user gets cell time: A judge in Manchester, England, has sentenced a 28-year-old man to a year in jail for refusing to turn off his mobile telephone on an airplane. Neil Whitehouse was convicted of "recklessly and negligently endangering" a British Airways flight from Spain to Manchester. Whitehouse is said to have ignored repeated requests to switch off his telephone. The case marked the first time anyone had been prosecuted in the UK for using a mobile telephone aboard a plane. Use of portable telephones also is against the law in the US and in Germany. Whitehouse protested that he was preparing a text message to send when he got to Manchester. His lawyer argued that any interference to the plane's electronics would have been minimal. -from press reports



ARES/RACES NEWS

The Yavapai County ARES/RACES net is held every Monday night at 6:45PM on the Mingus Mtn. 147.220+ repeater.

73, Lloyd Halgunseth WA6ZZJ
 Yavapai County ARES / RACES
 District Emergency Coordinator/Radio Officer
 (520) 717-2706
wa6zzj@arrl.net



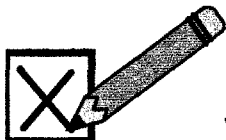
WE WANT YOU! Membership in the Yavapai Amateur Radio Club is \$20.00 for 1 year. Newsletters will be mailed only to those members not attending a meeting and current on dues. Those in arrears 3 months will be dropped from the membership list. Dues can be mailed to the club PO Box or given to the treasurer at any meeting.



GOT ANYTHING FOR SALE? CLUB MEMBERS CAN LIST THEIR EQUIPMENT HERE FREE.

FOR SALE - My good ole IC-04AT. \$50. Still works good! With battery pack, charger, and the manual. (520) 636-5268. Tony-W7PCU

ARRL VEC



Volunteer Examiner Testing

A test session was held on Saturday August 14. There were 9 candidates who were administered 14 elements, which resulted in 4 new No-Code Tech's, 2 Tech+ and 1 General Class upgrade.

The tentative remaining testing date for 1999 is Saturday November 13, at 10:00AM at the Blind Center, 440 N. Washington St, Prescott.

All those attending for tests must have **ORIGINAL** license and a copy, Original SCSE's and 1 photo ID. (VE's-remember to bring and wear your VE - ID Badge!)

Special test sessions may be accommodated according to demands, as needed. The test fee for 1999 will be \$ 6.45. Further information can be obtained by contacting John Wilson-KM6BF at 636-1228 or Dave Rutledge-W9KRQ at 541-1225.

YOUR LOCAL PRESCOTT AREA VE's

AB7KE	Joan Tremper	AB7KF	Bob Nichols
AB7NK	Mary Miraldi	AB7VH	Ruth Enabnit
K7KOL	Bob Kane	KA7NGK	Don Broadston
KB7FRV	Leonard Beers	KC7AGL	Don Muller
AB7SK	Ginger LeGendre	KK7JH	Billy Peters
KG7OL	David Miller	KI7EB	Bill Thrift
KJ7DX	Matt Strandberg	KJ7KL	Pen Brown
KM6BF	John Wilson	N7VG	Vern Gregory
W2YAV	Bill Kafka	W7DC	Bob Harkey
W6HDP	Bill Jackson	W9KRQ	Dave Rutledge
W7HP	Jim Perrone	WB6ODR	Bob Smith

ULS LOOMS LARGE FOR AMATEURS

NEWINGTON, CT, Aug 11, 1999--In less than a week--on Monday, August 16--the FCC's Universal Licensing System becomes a reality for the Amateur Service. The ULS ushers in an era of electronic, interactive filing and handling of Amateur Radio applications and marks a major change in the way Amateur Radio applicants will deal with the FCC. It also means the demise of the venerable paper FCC Form 610 series in favor of the "universal" Form 605--primarily designed for electronic use but also available on paper. Amateurs filing applications with the FCC under the ULS will use Form 605 for all purposes except--at least for now--club station applications.

Registration is Mandatory. To use the ULS to file an application, renew or modify a license, or apply for a vanity call sign, all amateurs first must register. Individuals eligible to hold a Social Security Number must provide this number--which the FCC refers to as a Taxpayer Information Number or TIN--in order to register in the ULS. This requirement is a mandate of Congress, not of the FCC. The FCC advises applicants still using paper forms to include their Social Security Number or Taxpayer Information Number on the upper right-hand corner of the form to speed processing.

Applicants should use ULS Registration Form 606 for both electronic and manual registration. To register electronically, visit <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls/> and click on "TIN/Call Sign Registration."

To file via the FCC's Wide Area Network, establish a direct connection to the FCC's WAN by using the "Dial-up Networking" utility of Windows 95/98 and call 800-844-2784. Once connected, point your Web browser to <http://wtbwww05.fcc.gov/wtb/uls/>, and click on the "TIN/Call Sign Registration" button.

A paper Form 606 (TIN Registration Form) is available at <http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html> or from the FCC's Forms Distribution Center, 800-418-FORM (3676).

Those filing a paper ULS Form 606 by mail will not receive an acknowledgment from the FCC. Amateurs can obtain their FCC-generated Licensee ID Number from FCC ULS Technical Support at 202-414-1250. The Technical Support staff also can redo forgotten passwords.

One big advantage to on-line registration is that the ULS application system checks for errors before data are submitted. This advantage is not available to manual filers.

Passwords and Licensee ID Numbers--After registering a Social Security Number, applicants will be asked to enter a call sign. Associating a call sign with an SSN in ULS will enable the applicant to file renewals, modifications, notifications, and other filings with respect to the call sign identified.

When registering electronically on the ULS, applicants will be asked to select a password to identify themselves in future, private transactions with the FCC database. This is like setting a PIN at the bank for an ATM card. A valid password can be 5 to 30 characters (letters and/or numbers) long and is case-sensitive. For additional security, applicants must also specify a personal identifier. The FCC and ARRL recommend that applicants not use their Amateur Radio call sign as a password or identifier.

Registrants receive a nine-character Licensee Identification Number beginning with the letter "L" and followed by eight digits. Amateurs may use this number in place of a Social Security Number in future dealings with the FCC.

The FCC says that anyone who fails to register in the ULS will be unable to receive services from the FCC. This means the FCC will not process future license grants, upgrades, modifications or renewals for any applicant not registered in the ULS.

Phase-in Period Under Way--The FCC began a weeklong ULS phase-in period for the Amateur Service last Sunday, when it stopped accepting batch files of new or upgraded licensee data from Volunteer Examiner Coordinators. The FCC has been converting existing Amateur Radio licensing data into the ULS database and is gradually discontinuing electronic filing activity in the current "pre-ULS system" during this week. Electronic filing of Amateur Radio license renewals using FCC Form 900 was scheduled to end August 9. Electronic filing of vanity call sign application →

THE YAVAPAI SIGNAL - AUGUST, 1999

Form 610V terminate Friday, August 13 at 5:30 PM Eastern Time.

Hams should not try to file renewal or vanity applications until the ULS comes up next Monday. Once ULS is up and running, the pre-ULS FCC licensee database no longer will be available to the public.

During the phase-in period, the FCC will not process applications for new or upgraded licenses. The FCC has warned that applicants should anticipate processing delays during the first couple of weeks the ULS is in effect. In addition, daily amateur database updates may not be posted to the Internet until all the kinks are worked out.

The FCC will stop accepting most Form 610 applications next February 16.

ULS and Club Applications- One thing that will not change for now is the handling of club, military recreation, and RACES license applications. Until a program is in place for these types of stations, applicants should continue using the "old" FCC Form 610B.

Trustees and custodians of club, military recreation, and RACES licenses should not use their personal Social Security Number as the TIN for these licenses. Club station trustees and applicants should contact ULS Technical Support (202-414-1250) to obtain a FCC-generated identification number and provide it on the Form 610B submitted. Applications that do not include this number are subject to dismissal.

NCVEC Form 605- Applications for new licenses or upgrades in operator class will continue to be filed through a Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC). VECs and VEs will use a special NCVEC Form 605 for filing with the FCC. This variation of Form 605 will be used by the ARRL, W5YI, and other VECs and by their VEs and VE teams, for future test sessions.

ULS Open for Business Aug 16- Starting next Monday, hams already registered in the ULS may file the new FCC Form 605 electronically at any time of day, seven days a week. FCC Form 605 will be used for license renewals, modifications, cancellations, application withdrawals and amendments, as well as requests for duplicate licenses and administrative updates (i.e., a change of address or other clerical license modification). FCC Form 605 also will be used to apply for a vanity call sign.

Automated processing of electronically filed applications will occur nightly each business day, starting at approximately 11 PM Eastern Time. There will be no weekend processing under the ULS. Once the nightly processing is done, the ULS will generate a file listing the day's licensing activity. Results will be available by inquiring via the ULS Internet public access system.

Accessing the ULS database requires a telephone modem. Users call toll-free, 800-844-2784 to connect to the FCC's Wide Area Network.

ULS Advantages-Among the advantages of the ULS, the FCC says, are fast and easy electronic filing, improved data accuracy through automated checking of applications, and better electronic access to

licensing information.

One feature of the new ULS, the FCC says, will be a renewal reminder sent 90 days prior to a license's expiration date. Renewal sooner than 90 days before expiration will not be permitted under the ULS. The current renewal window is 120 days for electronic filers and 90 days for paper filers.



The ULS also will simplify the process of submitting fees to the FCC. When an applicant submits an electronic application, the ULS will assign a file number and show the correct fee amount due and the payment type code on a confirmation screen. Applicants just need to click on the "Form 159" button to put this information onto the Form 159, then print out the completed form and mail it in with the proper fee. All payments for electronically filed applications will go to FCC, ULS Electronic Filings, PO Box 358994, Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5994.

The FCC said it also anticipates that the ULS will be capable of accepting credit card payments on-line "in the near future."

A copy the FCC's July 23 Public Notice on the ULS is available at <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls>.

For information on the special NCVEC Form 605 for use by Volunteer Examiner Coordinators and Volunteer Examiners, visit <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/ulstext.html>

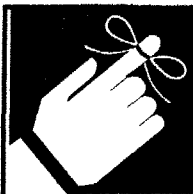
Additional details on using the ULS will appear in the Washington Mailbox column in the September issue of QST.



LOCAL AREA REPEATERS

52.560- 100.0 Hz	Mt. Union (-500KHz)
53.040- C/S	Airport (-1 MHz)
145.350- C/S	Wildflower Mtn.
145.370- C/S	Towers Mtn.
146.780- 91.5	Bill Williams Mtn.
146.880- 100.0	Prescott
146.980- 100.0	Flagstaff(Mt. Eldon)
147.000+ 100.0/162.2	Mingus Mtn.
147.140+ 162.2	Flagstaff(Mt. Eldon)
147.220+ C/S	Mingus Mtn.
223.960- 127.3	
442.150+ 100.0	Mingus Mtn.
442.350+ 100.0	Glassford Hill
449.175 C/S	Towers Mtn.

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS AND CORRECTIONS APPRECIATED



WEEKLY NET - WEDNESDAY NIGHTS @ 7:00

PM 146.880- (100.0 PL) IF YOU DON'T HAVE PL, TRANSMIT ON 146.880 SIMPLEX WHEN THE REPEATER DROPS OUT.

MONTHLY MEETING - 3rd THURSDAY @ GRANITE MTN MIDDLE SCHOOL 7:00PM (N 34° 34' 23.2" W 112° 29' 45.2")

NEXT MEETING THURS, SEPTEMBER 16 @ 7:00pm



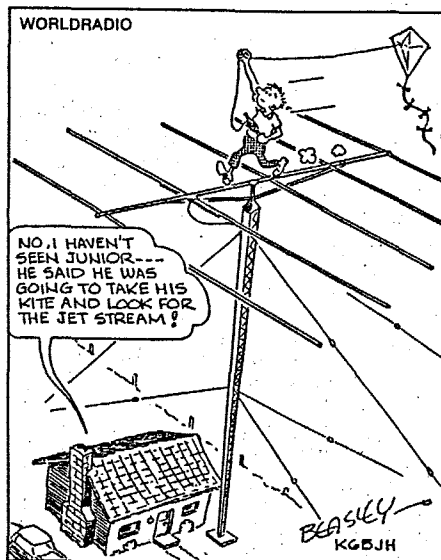
Wednesday Morning Breakfast-Iron Horse Café, S. Hwy 89 in Chino Valley (N 34° 43' 56.5" E 112° 27' 15.4"). 7:30AM. Informal-All are invited.

Thursday Morning Breakfast-Michael's Restaurant in the Safeway Shopping Center, Hwy 69 Prescott Valley. 8:00am. All are invited.

Location data provided by Fred Zimmermann-N7PJN, per WSG84 Datum

SOME CARTOONS COURTESY OF WORLD RADIO™ MAGAZINE

(A GREAT PUBLICATION-CHECK IT OUT!)



**YAVAPAI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
PO BOX 11994
PRESCOTT, AZ 86304**

Visit us on the web at:
<http://yarc.pr.erau.edu/~yarc>

(Thanks to Bob Smith-WB6ODR, Webmaster)



Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, will be the banquet speaker at HAMCON '99 Southwest Division Convention (October 1-3, 1999) aboard the Queen Mary in Long Beach, CA. For additional information, contact Nate Brightman, K6OSC, at (562) 427-5123, nehtan@juno.com.