

The Yavapai Signal

**THE YAVAPAI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA DM-34
VOL 11 - No. 2
FEBRUARY, 2001**



**WELCOME TO THE YAVAPAI
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB** The Yavapai Amateur
Radio Club (YARC) 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.



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. The 147.040+ (100.0
PL) repeater is back up and running in
Prescott Heights. Many thanks to Bill
Kafka, W2YAV for the upkeep and use of
the repeaters.



YARC OFFICERS for 2001

President Dale Leslie-N7XFD daljerles@webtv.com	VicePresident Terry Pemberton-KB7TRE kb7tre@aol.com
Secretary John Wilson-KM6BF Km6bf@cableone.net	Treasurer David Passell-K6UWV

YARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Includes Club Officers

Immediate Past President
Lee Cunningham-KC7CBK kc7cbk@arrl.net
Bob Kane-K7KOL arkane57@yahoo.com
Frank Homeff-WA6JBV

NEWSLETTER EDITOR - John Wilson-KM6BF

HAM POLITICS: ARRL REVERSES ITS POSITION ON CW - ALMOST

The ARRL Board of Directors has
partially revised its position on Morse
Code proficiency. Should it continue to
be an international requirement to
license operation below 30 MHz? Roy
Neal, K6DUE, has the details.



The League's own news release says that the Board approved a
resolution that both recognizes and accepts as being likely that the
Morse requirement will be dropped from Article S 25 of the
International Radio Regulations. They even admit that this could
happen as soon as the 2003 World Radiocommunication
Conference. But while the ARRL leadership acknowledges that
Morse will probably disappear as an international requirement, it held
the line on retaining a domestic Morse requirement.

The bottom line says the ARRL Board: Each country must be allowed
to determine for itself whether or not it wants to have a Morse code
requirement. →

As far as keeping Morse testing here in the United States, the Board's resolution says that any future deletion of the Article S 25 international requirement should not automatically or immediately mean a similar removal of the code tests from Part 97 of the FCC rules. Morse code, the Board says, deserves continued support as an important operating mode as well as in terms of spectrum conservation. The ARRL leadership says it believes that Morse testing should be retained in the United States. It also calls on it's Headquarters staff to develop a program designed to promote the use of the code.

This new resolution supersedes all previous Board policy statements regarding Morse code and Article S25. It also means the ARRL will not vote against proposals at the International Amateur Radio Union Region 2 Conference next October or at WRC 2003. It's the latter conference which might call for elimination of the Morse testing requirement from the International Radio Regulations.

What does this change of position mean for the United States ham radio community? Nothing immediate. Many countries, including the United States have already lowered their Morse code requirements to 5 words per minute and others are expected to do so shortly. Also, with it being less than a year since restructuring of the United States Amateur Radio service was implemented, there is little chance that the issue of Morse testing to come up as an FCC regulatory matter before 2004 at the earliest.

The ARRL Board of Directors voted this resolution at it's first meeting of 2001 held just outside Dallas, Texas. The Directors also voted to increase annual membership dues. Rates for a full member under age 65 rises from \$34 to \$39. Those over 65 will now pay \$34 – up from \$28. The dues hike goes into effect July 1, 2001. More on the Board's actions, next week. (From ARRL e-mail bulletin)



UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

- February 17-18, 2001 – ARRL International DX Contest-CW
- February 24-25, 2001 – CQ WW 160-Meter Contest-(SSB)
- February 26-27, 2001 – North Carolina QSO Party
- March 10, 2001 – Scottsdale Spring Hamfest-Scottsdale Community College. 6:00AM T/I 147.180+
- March 21, 2001-YARC Meeting 7:00PM
- April 7, 2001 – Arizona AFC Hamfest-DeVry College, Phoenix

More detailed information on Contests and Special Events can be found in most amateur publications such as QST, Worldradio, and others.



JANUARY MEETING

January 18, 2001

The board meeting was called to order by President Dale Leslie, N7XFD at 18:45 hours. The Treasurer, Dave Passeell-K6UWV, asked those new officers present to sign the papers adding their name to the bank account. The preceding officers signed to remove their names from the account. Bob Kane, K7KOL, question the need for the repeater fund. Past president, Lee Cunningham-KC7CBK, reminded the new officers that the intent of the fund was to purchase the repeater of Bill Kafka, W2YAV, should he decide that he could no longer maintain the repeater. The fund was not to purchase a new repeater although we might want to replace the present repeater should we acquire it. Terry Pemberton, KB7TRE, suggested that the club activate the satellite station in the shack at GMMS as a project. Currently there are 2m and 70cm antennas mounted on an azimuth and elevation rotor on the roof of the GMMS just waiting to be activated. A Yaesu dual band transceiver and a laptop computer are available. A work party is needed to pull some slack back to the roof. Two preamps, 2m and 70cm, are all that need be purchased and installed. Lee Cunningham, KC7CBK, has the software necessary to activate the rotor controller. Dale, N7XFD, agreed to present this project to the members. The board meeting was adjourned at 18:55. Respectfully submitted by the temporary secretary, in the absence of John Willson-Km6BF, Lee Cunningham, KC7CBK.

President Dale Leslie, N7XFD, called the meeting to order at 19:03 hours with 22 members present and Andy Cordes, a former student of Terry Pemberton, KB7TRE, at GMMS. Andy's family founded Cordes Junction.

In the absence of The Secretary, John Wilson-KM6BF, the Minutes of the November meeting was adeptly read by Bob Kane, K7KOL. With no objection the Minutes were approved as read.

The Treasurer, Dave Passell, K6UWV, reported that at the end of December the club had \$1071.29 in the bank account. The refreshment fund held \$114.95. With no objections the Treasurer's report was approved as read.

Unfinished Business

As the Refreshment chairman is now the Treasurer, the President asked if someone would volunteer to be the Refreshment chairman. As there was no volunteers the President tabled the business. (Comment from the acting Secretary: To the members of YARC-this is your club and if you want it to continue you "must" help. The position of refreshment chairman requires only a little time to shop for cookies, brownies, soda pop, and the like for the monthly meeting.)

New Business

The President presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Terry Pemberton, KB7TRE, for his "dedicated service as vice-president of the YARC". The President asked Terry, KB7TRE, to outline the nature of the satellite project to the members. →

Terry explained that at this time a 2m and 70cm antenna are located on the roof of the GMMS. The antennas are mounted on an azimuth and elevation rotor, which can be moved to track an amateur satellite or the International Space Station. A Yaesu dual band transceiver along with a laptop computer are also available. Terry explained he does not have the technical expertise or the time to make the station operational. The station would be available to anyone and training would be available for those that are not familiar with satellite communication. The only caveat is that a student could observe the operation. The President asked if there was anyone present that knew about satellite communications. Lee Cunningham, KC7CBK, further explained that the coax cable needs to be pulled back toward the antennas to provide slack for the rotor's movement. Two preamps, to provide better reception, need to be purchased and installed. Terry, KB7TRE, agreed to procure the devices and Lee, KC7CBK, volunteered to chair the project.

Terry, KB7TRE, also reminded the members that February 14th was Arizona Admission Day and that a Special Event Station, K7AZ, would be set up at Sharlot Hall Museum. A work party would be necessary on Tuesday, February 13th, to shoot a G5RV antenna into the trees around the building. In the four previous years both phone and CW were operational HF modes. This year 2m and phone HF will be the primary operational modes. As in years past students from GMMS will participate. Coffee and donuts will be available for workers and students as well as pizza for lunch. Come join the fun.

Dale, N7XFD, reviewed the activities for the year 2001:

February 14 th	Special Event Station at Sharlot Hall Museum
April	March of Dimes Walk-America Walk-a-thon
May 6	Whiskey Row Marathon
June 23 rd	Field Day at Prescott Court House
July	Frontier Days Rodeo Parade
October	SCCA Forest Road Rally
October	Jamboree On The Air (Boy & Girl Scouts)
November	American Education Week

Bob Laxton, W7ALR, asked if any one had a video about amateur radio. He would like to show the video to the Yavapai Adult Learning Institute for use in their hobbies program. Terry, KB7TRE, provided a video with several titles such as : "Getting started in Ham radio", "Ham Radio in Space", etc.....

Fred Boughton, KB2CT, has a contact for nametags. Fred will check on prices for the next meeting.

Lloyd Halgunseth, WA6ZZJ, reviewed the events for the year 2001. It is necessary for each of us to get involved to insure the survival of "Ham" radio and this club. The quarterly training secession will be held February 24th at the Verde Manor activity center at 1:00pm, which is located down the road from the Verde Rural Fire Station on Goddard Road in Cottonwood. The secession will review the setup and operation of the Yavapai County's Communications Van. The countywide exercise will be held March 14th.

Bob Rosevear, WB7RRQ, requested that everyone update their e-mail address. Bob Smith, Wb6ODR, won the raffle of \$12 and

graciously donated it to the club. Terry, KB7TRE, and Lee KC7CBK will co-chair the Field Day Committee.

The President brought a National Geographic video, The Greatest Flight, for entertainment. The video was the recreation of the Vickers's VeeMee bomber's flight from London, England to Australia. The President adjourned the meeting at 8:44pm.

Respectfully submitted by acting Secretary Lee Cunningham, KC7CBK



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:

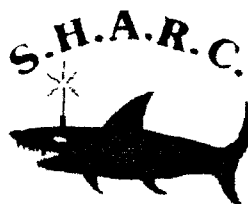
Km6bf@cableone.net

Occasionally we will have articles from other clubs newsletters: This month we have information from :



SOUTHERN HUMBOLDT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Southern Humboldt Amateur Radio Club, better known as



S.H.A.R.C., was founded in 1986, and currently has a membership of over 150 amateur radio enthusiasts. Being a diversified and well organized club, most of its members attended classes offered and taught by its own members,

and then were tested and licensed by the S.H.A.R.C. testing and exam officials, who are also members, and officers of S.H.A.R.C..

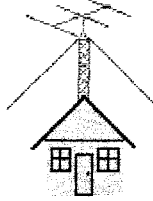
The club coordinates communications for many of the local events: Kinetic Sculpture Race, Harley Run, Reggae on the River, the Avenue of Giants Marathons, and much more. The Club Picnic is held around August, and at the end of the year they give away radios, and "cheap and superficial" prizes at the gala Christmas Party. There's plenty of fun found on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Club meetings, and everyone is welcome to attend.

The club owns and operates two repeaters with autopatches, that are operating on frequencies 146.790 and 146.940, covering all of Southern Humboldt County/Northern Mendocino with public service emergency communications, and communications in time of disasters. -73

WEB SITE: [HTTP://WWW.SHARC.ORG](http://www.sharc.org)
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 BOX 701, REDWAY, CALIFORNIA 95560-0701



FROM THE PAST,
PAST-PRESIDENT



SIGNALLING WITH THE SUN

William Hickling Prescott, the American historian and Prescott, Arizona's eponym wrote in his 1843 *A History of the Conquest of Mexico*¹ the following:

"The light of civilisation would be poured on their land, but it would be the light of a consuming fire, before which their barbaric glory, their institutions, their very existence and name as a nation, would wither and become extinct! Their doom was sealed when the white man had set foot on their soil."

Prescott's "light of civilisation" is a metaphor for European hegemony – the wash of Old World knowledge and methods crashing as a surf on the headlands of the new. This continent's ancient ways, developed over thousands of years by the aboriginal populations were doomed when white faces from the east stormed ashore bringing new languages, religions, economics and technology. The new technology would include "flashed sunlight" communications over long distances, first used by the ancient Greeks and Romans. The invaders would develop this "flashed sunlight" into a refined heliographic transmitting art, and later, using a code such as Samuel B. Morse's International Morse Code, transmit relatively secure, linguistically detailed logistical and ordinary messages to cohorts miles away.

In the classical world of Greece and Rome, the Greek historian Xenophon (405bce) reports that flashing light from the burnished shields of defenders was used to signal the invasion of Athenians, goading the defensive back-up forces into action. Roman Emperor Tiberius (37ce), ruling from his island paradise of Capri, routinely sent messages to the mainland using flashed sunlight, reflected from polished metal mirrors. Whether or not any kind of language code was used to make his flashes literate is unknown, but it can be presumed that some system of counted flashes would exist, to indicate his demands or desires. Time leaves the practical use of heliographic communications to the "scientific-method" thought processes of American colonialists, who in the dominating and heady period of America's "Manifest Destiny" used this form of messaging on the far-flung western frontiers. Heliographic transmissions were relatively secure since the "enemy" was mostly non-English speaking, and except for cloudy days, it was hard to cut down the sun as were the telegraph wires. A request for more horses could be flashed from Ft. Whipple in Arizona territory to Ft. Stanton (100 miles north of El Paso, Tx.) in New Mexico via Glassford Hill, Payson, Young, Safford and Bowie, Arizona to New Mexico stations Fort Cummings, San Andreas, Ruidoso and finally Ft. Stanton without fear of interrupted service because of burned out telegraph repeater stations or cut wires.

The just completed 20th century gave us a 180-pound heliographic device in the form of an artificial satellite. It first passed over the United States on October 4, 1957 not with a flashing command, but rather a telemetric report to its mother country, and a long streak of light, like a demanding exclamation point in America's sky. Sputnik's presence forever changed our view of the world and

birthed new political, military and scientific development, just as the white faces from the east brought forth new and different challenges to the aboriginals. The reflected sunlight from the basketball-sized satellite was mute – it never sent a cohesive, lingual message; but its shining presence in the night sky was like a Shakespearean soliloquy – a dramatic monologue that spawned more scientific and philosophic dialogue than a thousand PhD. dissertations. To paraphrase Prescott's statement of 1843: The light of civilization was poured on our land, and it was the light of Cape Canaveral's consuming fire that invigorated our institutions and glorified our nation. Sputnik renewed our very existence. We read the passive light mark in the sky, and by accepting its implied challenge, became the world's leader in technology with the freedom to succeed, or fail.

We've come a long way in the forty-four years since Sputnik and the twenty-five centuries since Athenian invasions with inventions such as the Internet and e-mail, electronic publishing, routine space shuttle journeys, digital voice communications and ubiquitous cell-phones. What in the world are some local radio amateur hobbyists trying to prove, using 19th century devices, SIGNALLING WITH THE SUN?

What they'll be proving is that we had long distance service in the last half of the 19th century, but it was by light, not telephone. It was during this time in our country's history that hunters, trappers, miners and settlers moved west, eager to start fresh on virgin territory. To ensure some sort of peace and permanence, the US Army came with them, bringing along their communications technology. Our local, modern communicators will demonstrate the skills of yesteryear's communicators on Saturday, March 31, 2001 by flashing messages from Ft. Whipple in Prescott, to Squaw Peak, a mountain top just five miles south of Camp Verde.

Prescott amateur radio operator Jim Riddle, KD7AOI and author of the soon to be released *"Sun Signals", (A history and field guide of the US Army's use of the heliograph in the southwest)* will occupy a long ago used heliographic site at Fort Whipple, currently known as the Veterans Affairs Hospital. The actual site of the old equipment's position is presumed to have been near the still standing officer's houses, on a dollop of ground that is today's location of a child's swing set. From this location, Jim along with fellow Prescott radio amateurs Paul Smith, WB7ULN, Fred Boughton, KB2CT and Fred Zimmermann, N7PJN will flash messages using replicated 19th century heliographic equipment from Ft. Whipple to Squaw Peak, near Camp Verde in the Verde Valley. Glassford Hill, a 6200-foot high landmark just east of the Veterans Hospital, will be a repeater station, intercepting and forwarding the flashes 30 miles east to 6500-foot high Squaw Peak, only five miles south of Camp Verde. This reenactment will accurately replicate the communications duties of the early US Cavalry.

I don't think our signalmen will be requesting horses from Camp Verde, more likely some fast food and drinks to satisfy the appetite earned setting up their equipment and straining to read the coded messages. Whatever the message, they will have joined the very elite, literate corps of men that flashed the sun around this territory, telling their story and announcing the presence of protection for newcomers.

This Ft. Whipple – eastbound message trail was last used in 1890, and is being repeated at the request of the Arizona Department of Commerce's Energy Department to emphasize the value of solar energy and spotlight the abilities of the frontiersmen. →

The Prescott radio amateur community, and its Yavapai Amateur Radio Club is proud to be associated with these latter-day signalmen as they show us "how it used to be"!

Note 1: The Conquest of Mexico, by William H. Prescott, 1843. (pg. 77) Published by: The Book League of America, New York, NY, 1934.

73's Bob Kane K7KOL



YARC member Dick Hughes-W6CCD at his operating position

THE MYSTERIOUS HELICOPTER

After I obtained my General license in 1952, my thoughts turned to putting a mobile radio in my car. My first mobile was built from a junkyard auto radio box, the kind from the old two-piece radios of the 1930's. I tore out the insides and built in it a crystal-controlled 10-meter transmitter using a 6L6 for the final and war surplus FT-243 crystals. I think I had an old Gonset 10-meter converter for receiving, but can't really remember. I used a PE-103 dynamotor for power off the 6-volt car battery. The headlights used to dim when I keyed the transmitter at night, and I always had to keep the motor running when stopped or I would quickly have a dead battery.



I used this setup until I went into the service in 1953. Then I purchased a Multi-Elmac A-54H transmitter and another Gonset converter, which covered 10 through 80. Still used the PE-103 for power. Everything was mounted in my 1950 Ford. The antenna used Master Mobile center-loaded coils with a 3' bottom section and an 8' top section. I also used an aluminum phonograph transcription disk for a capacity hat. I was really in the mobile business with that setup. Had to watch out for low trees and service station canopies though. While stationed at Fairchild AFB, I participated in a number of 10-meter hidden transmitter hunts. This became one of my most popular activities in amateur radio.

When I got out of the service in 1957, six-meter mobile was starting to get very popular. Two-meters was available, but mostly superregen stuff. There were no repeaters, at least that I was aware of. FM was being used by the police and taxicabs, but was primarily in the experimental stage for hams. Most of the development work was in the area of the new SSBSC mode. Six meters proved to be an excellent mobile band for point-to-point communications, and you could build a transmitter and converter for that band relatively easy. There were some commercial rigs eventually, like the Clegg Thor and the Black Widow, but those were for the more well heeled hams. I didn't know any of those. A very popular homemade combination was a transmitter with a 2E26 final, modulated by a pair of 6AQ5's. Crystal controlled of course. For a receiver, the best performance at the time was obtained by feeding a converter into the car radio. A 6AK5 was a popular RF amplifier. For power we used vibrator supplies until solid-state designs became available. A six-meter crystal from International Crystal cost about \$30 in today's dollars so we pretty much all stayed on the same frequency.

Ignition and generator noise was a real problem with AM, so a noise limiter inserted in the audio circuit of the car radio was a must. Most people were using a full-wave

limiter with a 6AL5 dual-diode in a small box mounted near the radio. I reasoned that the 6AL5 could be easily substituted by using 1N459 diodes. I had to make a few other changes in the circuit to accommodate the differences between the tube and diodes, but it worked like a charm. Ken Sessions, K6MVH, wrote up my circuit in the January 1965 issue of 73 magazine. But I digress.....

Once a few of us were well established on 6-meter mobile, our thoughts turned to hidden transmitter hunts, or bunny hunts as they are known these days. We started with only a few cars, but it soon developed into a real family affair with a dozen or more cars participating. We had hunts every Saturday come rain or shine. We would meet at a Mexican restaurant and wait for the "bunny" to begin transmitting. When the bunny was found we would all return to the restaurant with our families for dinner. Meanwhile, the person who found the bunny first would be going to a hiding place for the second hunt. When the second bunny was found we would head for home. First place in the second hunt would start the hunt on the following Saturday. And so it went.

Transmitter hunting was very crude in those days. The bunny transmitted and talked continuously. Some bunnies read from books. Others gave hints, etc. Only one or two of us had S-meters in our cars, and no one used a directional antenna. It was done by listening to the loudness of the signal, and by paying attention to signal changes when you drove past things like power poles and buildings. Sounds pretty simplistic, but we became very good at it. Later on we developed some sensitive field-strength meters to use when we got in the vicinity. Hand-helds, or walky-talky's didn't exist for 6-meters. At least not for hams. As time went on we became more and more clever at hiding the bunny. I will tell you about one of my more memorable hunts.

It was my turn to hide on the first hunt and I came up with a clever idea to remain unfound. I lived in Pomona California at the time, which is home to the Los Angeles Country Fair. Near the fair is a public swim pool, and across the street from that is a fairly high hill. My hunt was to take place during the fair, on top of that hill.

I read that there would be helicopter rides available for fair-goers. My devious mind was running at full throttle. I took a portable tape recorder to the ride area and taped several minutes of the sound of the helicopter taking off. I made sure it was plenty loud. Then I was set for Saturday night.

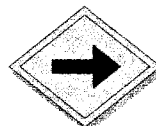
I arrived in the area with a ham friend, the tape recorder, some binoculars, my newly acquired Gonset II 6-meter Communicator, a car battery and my son's Red Flyer wagon to haul it all to the top of the hill. We found a large bush under which we would hide in case someone should get too close. Can you see what's coming?

I started transmitting at the scheduled time, and it didn't take long for the more experienced hunters to arrive in the vicinity. They started about 5 miles from my location. I could observe them through the binoculars. When a car came near the base of the hill I would wait until I saw one of the helicopters taking off and I would start the tape recorder with the volume loud enough to nearly overcome my voice. Now recognize that the helicopter rides were about a mile to the west of me. The very clever hunters, when hearing the strong sound of the helicopter take off, headed immediately for the take-off area thinking I had to be nearby. Then I would repeat it for another hapless victim. Some came back several times. I kept this going for about an hour until a friend of mine, K6SHC, came walking up the hill and found me with a field-strength meter. The whole thing was so funny I could barely keep from laughing. It was definitely one of my better efforts.

Next time maybe I will tell you about the time I hid inside a storm drain. Good thing it didn't rain.

Dick – W6CCD

Editor's Note: Many thanks to Dick for this great article. This is the kind of input we need from club members. Who's next?



SAY WHAT?

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

"Can't get your mag-mount to stick to your fiberglass roof? Use Velcro!" →

"The reason the snow melts so fast is because of that warm fog that comes in."

"Well, when I get some QSL cards I might start DX'ing!"

From Hal-N6OVE: Some words of wisdom for the New Year:

1. Any and all compliments can be handled by simply saying "Thank you, though it helps if you say it with a Southern accent.
2. You need only two tools. WD-40 and duct tape. If it doesn't move and it should, use WD-40. If it moves and shouldn't, use the tape.
3. Everyone seems normal until you get to know them.
4. When you make a mistake, make amends immediately.
5. It's easier to eat crow while it's still warm.
6. Never pass up an opportunity to pee.
7. If you woke up breathing, congratulations! You have another chance!



OTHER NEWS OF INTEREST

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

FCC'S HOLLINGSWORTH SAYS "RADIO RAGE" HAZARDOUS TO HAM RADIO

NEWINGTON, CT, Jan 18, 2001—Entering his third year spearheading the FCC's Amateur Radio enforcement effort, Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth says "radio rage" could become a bigger danger to the future of Amateur Radio than rule breaking.

"It's the infighting and arguments and juvenile spats," Hollingsworth said this week. "That's going to come back to haunt us if we don't just grow up. It will do the service in, if the ham community doesn't put a stop to it."

Hollingsworth said that he's encouraged that the FCC's enforcement program has the support of "99.9%" of the amateur community and that the vast majority of hams follow the rules. But, he said that radio rage "can degrade the bands just as quickly as outright rule breaking." Some amateurs take the hobby too seriously or are too quick to take offense, he said, and he suggested that they need to stop and think how they'll sound to others before they get involved in on-air squabbles or frequency fights. "The FCC can't do anything about that," he said. "It's up to the amateur community."

Hollingsworth said he listens "a lot" on HF—and so does the FCC's HF Direction Finding facility in Maryland. While much radio rage technically is not illegal, he said it reflects poorly on Amateur Radio—especially to newcomers and those outside of ham radio who might be listening in—and can balloon into an enforcement issue. More important, he said, rude or intemperate on-air behavior might provide just the sort of ammunition that an entity seeking additional spectrum will use against Amateur Radio.

Hollingsworth pointed to reports of a spectrum crunch in the 108-137 MHz aviation band—on the doorstep of the amateur 2-meter band—as just one example. He suggested that someone listening to some of the antics on one of the more-notorious repeaters might quickly be persuaded that Amateur Radio is not putting the spectrum to good use.

"We can get the bad actors one at a time, but the overall attitude of 'rights' over 'responsibilities' has got to change," he said. "Rules are not the sole solution for on-air behavior."

Hollingsworth predicted that the departure January 19 of FCC Chairman William

Kennard and the changing of the guard the White House the next day will not alter the course of the current amateur enforcement effort. He said he sees nothing but positive changes ahead.

"I'm willing to bet my SX-115 that we won't miss a beat," he said, referring to one of his latest acquisitions of vintage ham gear, "as long as the amateur community lets it be known it still wants enforcement."

Hollingsworth said it was pressure from the ARRL and individual amateurs that prompted the resumption of amateur enforcement in 1998 during Kennard's tenure, "and it's the type of program that needs that continual pressure to keep it going," he added.

"I get constant e-mail that the bands sound better and that there's more courtesy. There are fewer specific enforcement complaints," he said. "But no one can be complacent."

TWO-WAY RECORDS: FIRST 136 KHZ TRANS-ATLANTIC CONTACT THWARTED

An international attempt at the first 136 kHz contact across the Atlantic has failed. Jeremy Boot, G4NJH, has the details from Nottingham in the UK:

Over the weekend of the 12th to the 14th of January, stations in Canada, the USA and Europe attempted the first two-way transatlantic contact on the 136 kHz band. Although the two-way was not successful, the one-way distance record was broken in both directions. The new world distance record now stands at 5736 kilometers.

GOMRF, who was the first station to cross the Atlantic on 136 kHz, put up his antenna on an apartment block on the Sunday, but was hampered by high static levels and poor conditions that made that day's tests a washout at both ends. On the Saturday, however, several European stations received good signals from VE1ZZ and VA3LK. MM0ALM and OK1FIG were the only Europeans received in Canada.

Extremely slow Morse was used by all stations to enable signals to be decoded well below the noise level. VE1ZZ was occasionally audible in the UK but the strength was not sufficient to read normal speed Morse.

The USA team, operating from North Carolina, heard a number of LF stations, but none from Europe. No word if or when another attempt at this record will be made.

Jeremy Boot, G4NJH (G4NJH, R5GB)

ARES/RACES NEWS



The Yavapai County ARES/RACES net is held every Monday night at 6:45PM on the Mingus Mtn. 147.220+ repeater. Immediately after, there is another NET on the Mt. Union 147.260+ repeater.

Dates have been finalized for some the Yavapai Amateur Radio Clubs upcoming Public Service

Communications Events:

- Saturday, April 21, 2001 March of Dimes Walk America (8 to 10 operators needed).
- Saturday, May 5, 2001 Whiskey row Marathon (18 to 20 operators needed).
- Saturday, June 30, 2001 Frontier Days Parade (8 operators needed).

While on the topic of Public Service Communications the following is a few hints to help...

10 Ways to Optimize Your Effectiveness in Public Service Events

- 1) **Make sure your radio is in top operating condition.** Small problems (such as loose antenna connections, bad microphones, intermittent operation, etc.) may be just annoying during casual operation, but →

2) WILL cause major grief under the continuous/severe service of net/emergency operation.

2) Don't operate your handheld with it hanging on your belt. Using the radio while it's strapped to your waist reduces your effective radiated power by more than 10 dB. That's a 90% reduction in power. Hold the radio in your hand, with the antenna in the clear.

3) Regarding antennas, those 3" rubber dummy loads may be cute, but you're throwing away 3-6 dB of power when using one. (If you're really into math, compute the loss of a 3" rubber dummy load used on a beltclip). A telescoping half-wave has a gain of as much as 10 dB over a 3" rubber duck and a quarter-wave provides a 4-6 dB improvement. Even a 12-15" rubber duck will boost your signal by 3-6 dB over the 3" ones. Remember that one dB can mean the difference in whether or not a critical message gets through.

4) Have charged batteries and spare battery packs! If you also have a dry cell battery case, fill it with alkaline batteries. Make sure you have enough batteries with you to carry you through, even on high power.

5) Use headphones or an earphone rather than a speaker/mike. Most earphones will plug directly into your HT. Low cost stereo headphones are widely available and will work perfectly with your HT using a mono to stereo adapter. The headphones also have the advantage of concentrating the communications in your ears, while partially shutting out the outside world. Headphones will also prolong battery life by allowing the radio to operate at lower audio output. A speaker/mike is the worst thing you can use -- it doesn't cut the outside noise, it doesn't save batteries, and where is that HT while you're using the speaker/mike?? (Hint -- see #2!)

6) Speak slowly and clearly when transmitting! You make take pride in your ability to run your words together and mumble, but the station on the other end may be in a noisy environment and may not receive your message.

7) Check out your ability to use simplex. Even if the operation is being conducted on a repeater, there may be "dead spots," the repeater may go down, or, sad to say, there may be jamming. Even if you can only work the two or three stations closest to you, a message can still be relayed. To maximize your simplex range, please reread #2 and #3.

8) Listen to net control and direct all communication through him/her. Identify your station when calling net control and keep all communications direct and to the point.

9) If you must leave the radio or the area to which you have been assigned, first seek permission and acknowledgement from the net control station, make your "time off" as short as possible, and check back in with NCS immediately upon your return.

10) Project a good image to the non-hams around you that are part of the event/emergency. This means acting professionally, using basic hygiene skills, etc.

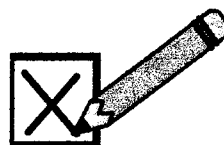
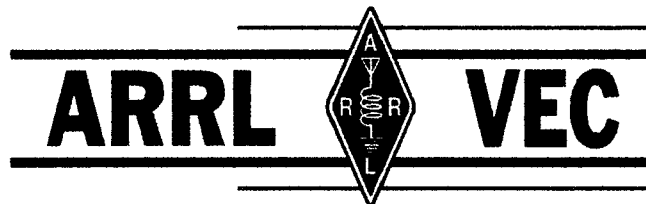
Above all enjoy yourself.. Public Service Communications is a lot of fun...

The next ARES/RACES training meeting will be held Saturday, February 24, 2001 in Cottonwood at the Verde Manor which is located on Godard Road just North of the Verde Rural Fire Station off Highway 260. Talk in will be on the 147.220 Mingus Mountain repeater. The meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. and will concentrate on set up and operation of the Communications Van. There will be an informal get together for lunch around 12:00 noon at the Denny's in Cottonwood. →

73, Lloyd Halgunseth WA6ZZJ
Yavapai County ARES/RACES DEC/Radio Officer
(520) 717-2706 wa6zzj@cablone.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 club treasurer at any meeting.



Volunteer Examiner Testing

A test session was held on Saturday, February 10. There were only 2 applicants who were administered 3 elements. The tentative schedule for 2001 will be 5/12, 8/11, and 11/10. Additional sessions may be held as needed.

All those attending for tests must have **ORIGINAL** license and a copy, Original CSCE'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 2001 has been set at \$10.00. 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
AB7VH	Ruth Enabnit	K7KOL	Bob Kane
K7NGK	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
W2YAV	Bill Kafka	W7DC	Bob Harkey
W6HDP	Bill Jackson	W9KRQ	Dave Rutledge
	WB6ODR Bob Smith		

ARRL RENEWALS. If you join or renew your ARRL membership, the club gets to keep a small portion of the fee. Remember to include both the application and envelope when you submit it through the club. Thanks. David Passell-K6UWV-Treasurer.





WEEKLY INFORMATION 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. ALL AMATEURS WELCOME.

MONTHLY MEETING - 3rd THURSDAY @ GRANITE MTN MIDDLE SCHOOL 7:00PM (N 34° 34' 22.6" W 112° 29' 45.1")

NEXT MEETING THURS, MARCH 15, 2001 @ 7:00pm



Wednesday Morning Breakfast-Iron Horse Café, S. Hwy 89 in Chino Valley (N 34° 43' 56.5" W 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. (N 34° 35' 13.3" W 112° 19' 44.6") All are invited.

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

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PO BOX 11994
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Many thanks to Bob Smith-WB6ODR, our Webmaster!

- W7YRC -

FOR SALE

Mirage B-34G VHF Amp
Pyramid Phase III PS 13.8V 20A
Heathkit HM2102 SWR Meter
Kenwood TS-940 HF Xcvr
Kenwood SP-930 Speaker
Kenwood MC-60 Mic
Tokyo Hy-Power Ant Coupler
Henry 2-KD Lin. Amp
MFJ Artificial Ground
Kenwood TR-2500 2M Xcvr
Alinco DJ-180 2M Xcvr
Alliance HD-73 Rotor
Cushcraft A3 10-15-20 Beam
W2AU Balun
Dummy Load Antenna
Eico 666 Tube Tester
National SW-3 Receiver

MAKE OFFER-ANY OR ALL

Contact Jerry Sager, KA1BAB at 445-4549. Enter code 4549 after phone answers. ©