

# YAVAPAI SIGNAL

The Yavapai Amateur Radio Club • Prescott, Arizona • DM-34 • Volume 20 – No. 7 • July 2005

## From the Desk of the President

Hats off to Hal! Those of you who attended the June meeting know Hal, N6OVE, is stepping down as editor of the Yavapai Signal due to health issues. Hal took over the editorial responsibilities beginning with the July 2003 issue after the passing of club president and newsletter editor John Wilson, KM6BF, that June. Hal has worked hard to provide the club with a quality newsletter since that time, battling health issues and other impediments, such as members not providing necessary material in a timely fashion in order to get the job done. The club owes Hal a debt of gratitude for his efforts. On behalf of all the members, I say Thank you, Hal!

Thank you, Joe! The newsletter is an important part of YARC and I would not like to see it discontinued or miss an issue. I would like to extend my thanks, as well as the club's, to our hard working secretary, Joe Oliver, AC6AA, who has volunteered to take over as editor of the newsletter. His timely volunteering will ensure that we don't miss an issue of the newsletter. Joe performs several duties as club secretary. Taking on the editorial reins will increase his club workload. I am hopeful that perhaps another club member will step up to consider taking on the job of editor. I would encourage any member with Internet access to consider doing this. Internet access is pretty much a necessity as material is submitted via e-mail to the editor and the newsletter is submitted to the printer via e-mail.



73,  
John, WB9VGJ

## A Note From the Editor

Thank you, Hal, for your contribution to our club. As I am discovering, it is not an easy task to gather information, compile it in a reasonable fashion, and to get a completed newsletter to the printer in a timely manner. I know Hal had a lot of help from YARC members who provided articles and pictures. I am counting on similar help from members in the days ahead.

This is the first newsletter that I have attempted. My inexperience is sure to show up in the finished copy. However, my main goal is to ensure continuity of the Yavapai Signal, and with the help from members, I am certain that this can be accomplished.

73,  
Joe, AC6AA

## 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 by providing communications for local events, emergency communications, and promotion of the hobby throughout the community. Membership in the YARC is open to any interested amateur or non-amateur alike. Dues are \$20.00/year. The YARC meets at 7:00 p.m. local time on the first Thursday of every month at the Granite Mountain Middle School, 1800 Williamson Valley Road in Prescott. It is about ½ mile north of Iron Springs road, 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 p.m. local time on 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 6:45 p.m. local time on the 147.220+ repeater on Mingus Mountain.

## Club Repeater

The local 146.880- repeater is the official adopted repeater for the YARC. It is located on the hill above Willow Creek road 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.

**YARC Officers for 2005**

<i>President</i> John Broughton WB9VGJ Wb9vgj@arrl.org	<i>Vice President</i> Bob Rosevear WB7RRQ rosevear520@cableone.net
<i>Secretary</i> Joe Oliver, AC6AA joliver@commspeed.net	<i>Treasurer</i> David Passell, K6UWV davidrex@northlink.com

*YARC Board of Directors (includes Club Officers)*  
 Rex Mauldin – N7NGM  
 Terry Pemberton – KB7TRE  
 Jack Ragen – W3IVQ  
 Walter Schumann – KF6SPS

*Newsletter Editor: Joe Oliver AC6AA*  
 joliver@commspeed.net



### **KJ7KL Silent Key**

W Pendleton "Pen" Brown, KJ7KL, became a silent key on Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. He was 83 years old.

Pen had quite an interesting life. During World War II he joined the American Field Service and served in Africa. He was a member of The American Legion, Post Six, and was recently recognized for over 60 years of continuous membership.

After a three decade career in Radio & TV Broadcasting he chose a career in Nursing, working mainly with Intensive Care Patients.

I met Pen in the early 90's when I was working on my first ham license. We quickly became good friends. I learned that he became a ham when he was a youngster and was an avid CW operator, preferring to work QRP.

Pen was a long time member of the Prescott Amateur Radio Community and active member of The YARC and GMMS Amateur Radio Clubs. Instead of standard phonetics for his call he always preferred "KJ7 Kitty Litter".

From the first time we met, Pen was a constant volunteer and mentor at Granite Mountain Middle School. Along with many other members of YARC, NASA, ARRL and AMSAT we participated in the SAREX Project in 1994 contacting the Space shuttle Columbia while it was in orbit. Pen also spent many hours over the years working with GMMS radio club members to prepare for Novice and Technician licenses. He also participated in many special radio activities for the children in Prescott.

I will miss Pen's sharp mind and friendship; he has truly enriched my life.

73 old friend  
De kb7tre

## Amateur Radio Gets Needed Publicity

*Rex Mauldin, N7NGM*



Never before, in my 16 years of living in the Prescott area, have I ever seen amateur radio make it to television. That all changed last week, when on June 17<sup>th</sup>, I became a guest on AZTV. My interview was short compared to the other guests, but I was happy to have my 10 minutes to talk about ham radio and to announce the two upcoming events that have been talked about amongst ourselves in past YARC meetings. I certainly want to thank John Broughton for setting up this television interview.



The first event was Pre-Field Day as I call it for lack of a better name. This event has now become an annual event and was held at the same location at the Prescott City library between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. Last year it was held from 10 a.m. till 4 p.m., which I found to be too long for one person to cope with. That is why I decided to shorten the time span this time around. I also had a hunch that I would be doing this all by myself and I was right. The only

other hams to stop by and participate in some manner, were our newsletter editor and his wife who came by to take pictures. They both soon found themselves answering questions of a few people who stopped by while Joe took some pictures. I think they both see the potential that this event has for introducing amateur radio to the public and for allowing non-hams to ask us questions.

As it turned out, the event went very well. I didn't have a large number of people engage in conversation with me, however those that did stop to chat are very much interested in joining us, so I wasted no time in letting them know about our club, the Verde Valley club and of course our annual Field Day event that is scheduled every year in June.

While helping two people with questions, there was an adult who stopped by with a small band of kids. It would have been very helpful at that time had there been another ham present to help show these kids what radio is all about, as I had several radios set up at the time, one in particular was set on 20 meters. The band was open the entire time I was there, and I was able to make two contacts which could have been shown to these kids. Unfortunately, being by myself, I found it difficult to break free from the two individuals I was talking with and invite the small group of kids over to the radio and allow them to make a brief contact. It was a lost opportunity to introduce ham radio to a young mind, something I hope is not repeated at next year's event to be held at the Prescott Mall.

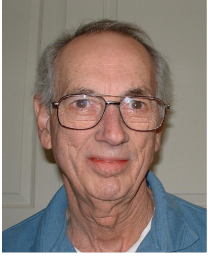
As most of you probably know, the city library will be closed for nearly a year as the building is upgraded and modified. This means that the library will temporarily move to the mall, which means next year we have the potential of a much larger audience.

I think it is to our benefit to make ourselves available to the public, some of whom may be council members, Board of Supervisor officials, Mayor, or others in a position of responsibility who themselves need to be educated of the potential of amateur radio and learn of our needs such as additional repeater site access as needed, antenna placement on city buildings and so forth. Perhaps if this event continues to grow, we could be allowed to have a semi-permanent antenna on the roof of the library for future events and emergency purposes.

I certainly hope that others follow my lead on this and help out in the future. Because it is a beautiful time of year, just at the beginning of our rainy season, I strongly suggest that the weekend before Field Day continue to be selected as a date for this event. I selected the city library as a starting point because it is close enough to the courthouse area in which to draw the public from and because the library is a destination to many. Other areas where there is high foot-traffic might be at a park; so what I would like to see for next year are other locations in the future. The mall, a park in Prescott and one in Prescott Valley and Chino Valley would go a long way in attracting attention to who we are and what we can do. ■

# YAVAPAI SIGNAL – JULY 2005

## Minutes of June 2, 2005 General Meeting



John, WB9VGJ called the meeting to order at 1900. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and members introduced themselves.

**Visitors:** Edward Yurkiewicz; Henry Dye, KE7DTW; Larry Salsbury, N7APU; Ron Ross, K6CWB; Lois Diddams and Vi Hughes, XYLs.

**New Members:** Richard Butts, KE7DTZ

**Meeting Minutes:** A motion to approve minutes of the May 5, 2005 meeting was made by Jim, N5RO, seconded by Tom, W2JKG, and unanimously approved by membership.

**Treasurer's Report:** Dave, W6UWV reported a balance of \$1640.89. He has written a \$150 check to fund the club's IRLP activity.

### Committee Reports:

**ARES/RACES/Public Service:** An exercise to evacuate Iron Springs will be held on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. John, WB9VGJ and Terry, KB7TRE will participate, along with other ARES/RACES members.

**Newsletter:** Due to health problems, Hal, N6OVE no longer will be publishing the club's newsletter. Some other club member is needed to take over this activity. Hal will provide assistance during the transition period.

**Patches/Badges/Shirts:** Dave, K6UWV has club patches for \$3.00. Bob, WB6ODR has badges for \$6.50. Dick, W6CCD, is placing orders for those interested in purchasing a shirt.

**IRLP:** Jack, W7JLC reported on his progress in acquiring equipment for the club's IRLP station, which will be located at his QTH. The station will operate on 146.480 MHz.

**Club Brochures:** Jim, N5RO sent the revised brochure to Hal, N6OVE to work on the colors.

### Old Business:

**Net Control:** Net control operators for the Wednesday night net have been assigned through October. John, WB9VGJ will get the script to be used by the net control, put on the club's website.

**Field Day:** Members interested in participating in the VVRA club's field day activities on Mingus Mountain, can contact Bob, KC8BOB.

### New Business:

**Pre-Field Day Event:** Rex, N7NGM reported that he will have equipment setup outside the City Library a week before field day, on June 18<sup>th</sup>, to explain field day and to answer questions from the general public.

**Practice and Training Net:** Jim, N5RO is establishing an Amateur's Practice Net for new Hams, to be held each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. starting on June 14<sup>th</sup>. It is anticipated that the 146.880 repeater will be used.

**Elmer Program:** In addition to the Practice and Training net, Rex, N7NGM would like to assist new hams. Persons interested in being an Elmer should contact Rex or Jim, N5RO.

**Jeep Posse:** Doug, KB6TWC indicated that the Jeep Posse is asking for volunteers to park cars for \$10/hour at the County Fair in September. Earnings would be given to the club.

**Digipeater:** A new APRS digipeater has been installed on Mount Union that provides excellent coverage.

### Announcements:

There is an e-mail group on Yahoo that is called "solid copy", promoting the use of CW.

July's program will be a talk by Hal Hayden on hang gliding and radio communication.

**New Members:** A motion was made by Tom, W2JKG and seconded by Jim, N5RO to accept Richard Butts, KE7DTZ as a new member. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Ray, K6CMU and seconded by Fred, KC7TIN to adjourn the business portion of the meeting at 1945. The motion carried and there was a break for refreshments.

**Drawing:** Fred, N7PJJ won \$21 in the 50/50 drawing.

**Program:** Mike, WA6LSE presented a video and slides on FCC Direction Finding Techniques and Equipment.

The Program ended at 2047.

Respectfully,

Joe, AC6AA  
Secretary

## Minutes of Board Meeting on June 2, 2005

A Board meeting was held June 2, 2005. Present were John, WB9VGJ; Joe, AC6AA; Dave, K6UWV; Terry, KB7TRE; Jack, W3IVQ; Rex, N7NGM, and Walter, KF6SPS.

John called the meeting to order at 1830. Plans were discussed for a pre-field day setup at the library on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Rex will make arrangements.

Hal, N6NOV is no longer assuming responsibility for being Editor for the Newsletter. A replacement for Hal will be needed.

# YAVAPAI SIGNAL – JULY 2005

John will take over as net control During June for the weekly club net. Others have signed up for net control until November.

Rex would like to promote an Elmer program for new licensees. He discussed the possibility of establishing a club station – perhaps in coordination with Embry Riddle.

Other items on the agenda for tonight's general meeting were discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 1850.

Respectfully,

Joe, AC6AA  
Secretary

## July 7<sup>th</sup> Program

Hal Hayden will be giving a talk on hang gliding and radio communications.

## Net Control Operators

The net control operators signed up for the club's Wednesday night nets for the rest of this year are:

**July – Hans, KB6AH**  
**August – David, K6UWV**  
**September – Terry, KB7TRE**  
**October – Jack, W3IVQ**

At the end of each month, the net control operator will pass the script and list of check-ins, to the next month's net control operator.

## YARC TREASURER'S REPORT June 2005



### INCOME

#### New Members (see applications for additional information)

Richard W. Butts	KE7DTZ	06//06	06/01/05	1026	20.00
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#### Renewals (Update Roster)

Jack L. Crabtree	W7JLC	06//06	06/02/05	6169	20.00
Rex Mauldin	N7NGM	03//06	06/02/05	cash	20.00
Ray Stone	K6CMU	05//06	06/02/05	cash	20.00

#### ARRL Renewals

Doug Freeman/Family	06/29/06	credit card	iou*
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\* application forwarded to ARRL. \$2.00 to be submitted by check/cash

#### Other

50/50 Drawing		06/02/05	cash	42.00
Badges	3 @ 3.00	06/02/05	cash	9.00
Donations		06/02/05	cash	4.50

Total Income \$135.50

### EXPENSES

Fred Zimmerman	50/50 drawing winner	06/02/05	cash	21.00
David Passell	Cookies/Dr. Pepper/Ice	06/02/05	809	16.37
Insty Print	Newsletter	06/02/05	810	32.29

Total Expenses \$69.66

Cash Flow (Income - Expenses) \$65.84

Deposits 06/06//05 \$114.50

PREVIOUS REPORTED CHECKBOOK BALANCE **\$1640.89**

CURRENT CHECKBOOK BALANCE **\$1706.73**

David W. Passell, K6UWV, Treasurer

## Field Day – 1976

*Dick Hughes, W6CCD*



Field Day has always been one of my most favorite parts of ham radio. It was fun to make it up to a mountain top or abandoned fire tower to set up emergency communications. Today, most field days are in easily accessed locations, which for me, takes a lot of the fun out of it. My first field day was in 1953 when I was stationed at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi Mississippi. Our flight was waiting in the queue to begin radio operator training, and our days were spent mowing lawns and pulling KP duty. Not much fun. Another ham and I visited the local MARS station one day, and the sergeant in charge needed more help so he said he would request us by name. The next day we were temporarily assigned to MARS. When we fell out each day from the meal formation to walk to the MARS station, we could feel the daggers in our backs from the rest of the flight who would be working KP, etc. on those days. We felt very privileged.

While our flight waited for radio training to begin, we were restricted to the base. Not only did we have to do grunt work every day, we couldn't even leave the base to unwind. All of us, that is, except me and the other ham. When field day came around, we were allowed to go with the base radio club members.

Not only was this off base, but there was plenty of beer for everyone. Something else we were restricted from on base. Having a ham ticket in those days really opened a lot of doors.

Now, jump forward to 1976. By this time I am 42, and have been licensed for 25 years and have an Advanced Class license. We are living in Upland California, and I am still working for General Dynamics, Pomona Division. Field day for our radio club this year would be at the top of the ski lift on Mount Baldy Mountain. Much of the gear and most participants went to the top on the chair lift. I had a Honda XL350 pseudo-dirt bike and preferred to get to the top of the mountain that day by using the forest access road and the bike.

Things went smoothly until I needed to go back home for something at about midnight. It was getting pretty cold that evening, and the fog was starting to roll in. When I got to the end of the dirt road at the bottom of the chair lift, I found a large chain across the road. I never considered that they might close the road at night. The only thing I could do was lay the Honda down on its side and drag it under the chain. Not an easy chore.

Getting home was a little dicey as the fog was really starting to get thick. Those familiar with the road up to Mt. Baldy know that it is no super highway -- very twisty, and just two lanes. I made it home OK, and then started back up to the field day site around 2:00 A.M. By this time the fog was thick as pea soup. I started the long trip up the mountain anyway, and it got really scary when cars would come up behind me in the fog. Everything would turn white from their headlights, and I knew they couldn't see me on the little bike. All I could do was try to keep ahead of them even though I couldn't see

anything either.

Eventually, I got back to the chain across the forest access road and laid the bike down again to get under it. Somehow I made it to the top of the mountain, and rejoined the hardy operators who chose to continue through the night. That was a field day that I will never forget. It came close to being the last field day I would ever attend. Or anything else for that matter. ■

## Antenna Ordinances



Hams interested in moving to the Prescott area and wanting information contact me periodically. One of the most common requests is information on antenna restrictions. While most folks realize that new subdivisions ban antennas, there are areas here only subject to city and county ordinances. Therefore, I have asked Bob, WB6ODR, to put links on the YARC Web site to the antenna ordinance information for Prescott, Prescott Valley and Yavapai County, which he has done. If you are asked about antenna restrictions, you can refer the person to the links there for information.

73,

John, WB9VGJ

## Stork on Golf Course?

Wolf Geihe, DJ4OA



Although this story may seem like fiction, it actually happened in a small town in northern Germany.

A stork couple had been driven away from its nest by another couple. Unfortunately, this is not an unusual occurrence among storks. In this particular case, the original "homeowners" had laid a few eggs. They then decided to build a new nest on the ground (!) at a nearby golf course, of all places. To the golfers' amazement, they also started gathering golf balls and put them in that nest instead of the eggs they had lost to the intruders. They would have been sitting on them for the rest of their lives without success if there had not been a local stork specialist with a great idea: He slipped an incubated egg from a different nest into the one on the ground, and the storks accepted it as their own. A little chick eventually hatched from it and is now receiving all the love and care from its foster parents, just as if it were their own. ■



## Morse Code Beats Text Messaging

John, WB9VGJ



On April 16, the *Times Online* (London) printed an article about a contest held between Morse code and text messaging at an Australian museum. A 93-year old former telegraph operator, Gordon Hill, who learned Morse code in 1927, faced off against a 13-year old with a cell phone and a "rich vocabulary of text message shorthand." Mr. Hill had worked as a telegrapher for the Australian Post Office. Another telegraph veteran, Jack Gibson, 82, transcribed his transmissions. Mr. Hill sent full words, while his rival used extensive text messaging shorthand, e.g., "hey gf u can txt ur best pals 2 tel them wot u r doing,..." The text was randomly selected from a magazine and was: "Hey, girlfriend, you can text all your best pals to tell them where you are going and what you are wearing." It took 90 seconds for Mr. Hill's partner to receive and write down the message, with his rival took 18 seconds more to complete the transmission. After beating the first rival, Mr. Hill duplicated the feat with three other rivals with cell phones.

I wanted to reprint the article from the *Times* in our newsletter. I exchanged e-mail with the company requesting permission to do so. I did obtain the permission. There were 12 conditions to reprinting the article. I found no problem with 11 of them. However, the 12<sup>th</sup> one was sufficient to cause me to respectively decline the permission to

reprint the article: "12) If all the above terms and conditions are adhered to, the fee will be £50 (fifty pounds sterling) for the text, or £60 for the text & Morse illustration, provided we do not need to provide you with a copy of the text or illustration."

Therefore, I am just providing the URL to the article so those members with Internet access can access and read the article. The URL is:

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/printFriendly/0,,1-2-1571664,00.html>

There was also a contest between Morse code and text messaging conducted on the *Tonight Show* recently. In that contest the winners were two amateur radio operators using CW. ■

AMATEUR RADIO COUNCIL OF ARIZONA

WILLIAMS

HAMFEST

ARRL ARIZONA STATE CONVENTION & HAMFEST

Presented by the Amateur Radio Council of Arizona and the City of Williams

JULY 8, 9 & 10, 2005

WILLIAMS RODEO GROUNDS, 800 RODEO ROAD, WILLIAMS, AZ

GATES OPEN AT 2 P.M. THURSDAY, JULY 7 FOR SET-UP.  
HAMFEST OPENS AT DAWN FRIDAY, JULY 8.  
HALL OPENS AT NOON FRIDAY, JULY 8.

**FREE ADMISSION!**

**MAIN PRIZES**  
Grand Prize - ICOM IC-706MKIIB HF/VHF/UHF  
Second Prize - Yaesu FT-857D HF/VHF/UHF  
Third Prize - ICOM IC-208H VHF/UHF  
Fourth Prize - Kenwood TM-271A VHF w/WX  
Early Bird - Kantronics KPC-3+ TNC w/GPS mode

**ALL SPACES - just \$15 per SPACE**  
**DRY CAMPING - \$15 per space/Weekend**  
or FREE with selling space  
(all prizes are for entire weekend)

**RAFFLE TICKETS**  
\$2.00 Each, 3 for \$5.00 or 60 for \$100.00

**DOOR PRIZES EVERY HOUR!**

**EARLY BIRD DRAWING WILL BE HELD FRIDAY AT 1 P.M.**

Talk-In - 146.78 - (91.5 PI)

**MEETINGS, SEMINARS, ACTIVITIES, COMMERCIAL VENDORS AND MANUFACTURERS, HUGE SWAP, VE TESTS, BAR-B-QUE DINNER AND MORE.**

**FOR INFORMATION:**  
Visit the ARCA Web Site  
[www.arca-az.org/arca](http://www.arca-az.org/arca)  
Or Call - 602-881-ARCA (2722)

# YAVAPAI SIGNAL – JULY 2005

## Weekly Information Net

Wednesday Nights @ 7:00 p.m. 146.880 (100 PL).  
*If you don't have PL, transmit on 146.880 simplex when the repeater drops out.*  
All Amateurs welcome.

## Monthly Meeting

First Thursday at Granite Mountain Middle School @ 7:00pm.  
(N 34°34'22.6" W 112°29'45.1")

## Wednesday Morning Breakfast –Iron Horse Café

S. Hwy 89 in Chino Valley  
(N 34°43'56.5" W112°27'15.4")  
*Informal – all are invited.*

## Thursday Morning Breakfast –Michael's Restaurant

In the Safeway Shopping Center, Hwy 69 Prescott Valley  
(N 34°35'13.33" W112°19'44.6")  
*Informal – all are invited.*

## Area Repeaters

Frequency	PL	Location	Notes
52.560-	100.0	Mt. Union (-500 KHz)	Cars N7NGM
53.040-	C/S	Prescott Airport (-1Mhz)	WB7BYV
145.350-	C/S	Wildflower Mountain	DAWN
145.370-	C/S	Towers Mountain	MMRG
146.780	91.5	Bill Williams Mtn.	BWARC
146.880-	100.0	Prescott	YARC
146.980-	162.2	Flagstaff-Elden	CARC
147.000+	162.2	Mingus Mountain	MMRG
147.040+	100.0	Prescott Heights	W2YAV
147.140+	162.2	Flagstaff-Eldin	ARA link to Mt. Ord
147.220+	162.2	Mingus Mountain	VVAARA
147.260+	103.5	Mt. Union	YC Emerg Services
223.960-	127.3	Chino Valley	NW7AZ
442.150+	100.0	Mingus Mountain	Northlink
442.350+	100.0	Glassford Hill	N7KPU
448.475-	100.0	Flagstaff-Eldon	ARA
448.500-	100.0	Prescott	KB6TWC
448.525--	127.3	Payson	K2YAW
448.875-	100.0	Flagstaff-Eldon	Northlink
449.175-	100.0	Towers Mountain	Northlink
449.675-	77.0	Prescott Airport	WB7BYV
449.750-	110.9	NAVOCOM System	N9CZV

Location data provided by Fred Zimmermann N7PJN, per WSG84



**YAVAPAI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
**P.O. BOX 11994**  
**PRESCOTT, AZ 86304**

Visit us on the web at <http://www.w7yrc.org>

Many thanks to Bob Smith, WB6ODR, our Webmaster

