

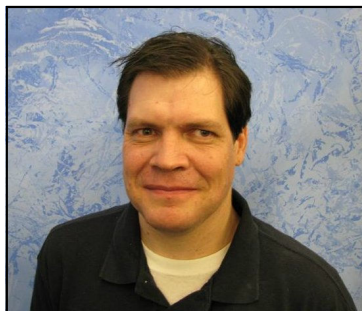


YAVAPAI SIGNAL



The Yavapai Amateur Radio Club • Prescott, Arizona • DM-34 • Volume 26 - No. 2 • February 2011

From the President's Desk...



Hello everyone!

What a wonderful opportunity to celebrate with all of you at the YARC 20th birthday party! I'd like to take a moment again to say thank you to everyone who made that happen. Especially, Mary Vince (AB7NK) who did a wonderful job organizing the whole affair. I got a chance to meet some wonderful new people through that event and everyone I've spoken to has had very positive things to say. Read further in this issue of The Signal for more detailed coverage of the event and what transpired!

One of the things I intended to mention at the party that did not get mentioned was a call for a recommitment to public service. That is, and should continue to be a large part of our focus as a Special Service club. Many operators have chosen to volunteer for the Whiskey Off Road Bicycle Event in April and I'm certain that will be a tremendous success. We've have numerous activities planned in April and May as well. We support the volunteers who are kind enough to donate their time and resources to these club sponsored activities.

Our members, new and old alike are always invited to share in any of our endeavors. If you'd like to be more involved, please let us know!

Creighton
AD7YR

YARC Officers for 2011

President Creighton Grotbeck, AD7YR
cgrotbeck@gmail.com

Vice President Jim Ball, WB7UZV

Secretary George Imburgia, AD7RL
ad7rl@netsecs.us

Treasurer Tom Griswold, WN7E
mrgriz@cableone.net

Board of Directors (includes Club Officers)

Pete Morrison -- K6VVR
Will Taylor -- AD7WW
Ellis Rackoff -- KE7NAP
Neil Vince -- KA7JAS

Newsletter Editor: Joe Oliver, AC6AA
joliver@cableone.net

February Program

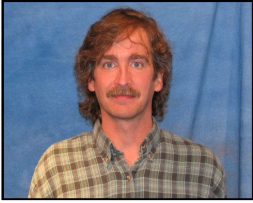
Pete, K6VVR will be presenting
"Programming your HT for
repeater operations."



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Minutes of January 6, 2011 Board Meeting



Meeting was called to order at 1815 hrs. by the Vice President, WB7UZV. Also in attendance: K6VVR, AD7WW, KA7JAS, KE7NAP, WN7E, and WB7RFY.

KA7JAS requested to change club net preamble and streamline provisions, additions and policies. All agreed by consensus.

KA7JAS initiated discussion on club special event for Arizona Centennial in 2012, many options explored. Will solicit more ideas at February meeting.

Two outstanding individuals were presented for consideration of Lifetime Membership, clubs highest honor. After limited discussion, on motion of K6VVR, second of KE7NAP, both were unanimously awarded.

WN7E reported on discoveries made at bank on Treasury turn-over and requested input. Will investigate bank procedures and report back.

AD7YR arrived at 1835 after being snowbound, and assumed the chair. AD7YR discussed meeting procedures and future programs, including more hands on. Addressed concerns from members.

Meeting adjourned at 1857 hrs.

Minutes of January 6, 2011 General Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 1902 hrs. by the President, AD7YR. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, introductions were made.

Attendance: 66 of whom 50 signed in.

New member K2FRD, Fred Stevens was unanimously welcomed on motion of KA7JAS, second of K7POF.

Minutes of the December meeting were approved as published on motion of KF7ING, second of KB7TRE and no dissenting.

Treasurer's report was approved as published on motion of KF7ING, second of K6VVR and no dissenting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ARES/RACES: WA6ZZJ reported and discussed concerns on next event, April 29, 30, May 1st. See report in February newsletter.

Newsletter, AC6AA requests all to submit articles; deadline is 21st of each month.

IRLP, W7JLC reports working fine, however, repeater it's associated to has been down, may move to simplex frequency 446.00. KV8TD suggests consideration of moving to club .88 repeater.

Shirts: K6VVR has XL club shirts on hand, please make needs known if other sizes are needed.

Badges: WB6ODR reports 2 delivered, \$6.75 to order custom engraved club name badge.

Repeater: WB6ODR reports all in order.

Refreshments: K6UWV has provided drinks and treats; cold drinks may be extra cold as set in unconditioned space prior to meeting. Please recycle.

Elmers: KA7JAS reports all OK.

Nets: WB7UZV reports on 146.88 nets: Sunday slow code, 7:30 pm; club net every Wednesday 7:00 pm needs net control stations for 2011 (only February and October currently signed for), one

time or for a month. All please check in. KI6AHH reports on young and new hams net Sunday 7:00 pm on 147.22.

T-hunt: K6VVR reminded monthly hunt is Sunday after club meeting; 1:00 pm start at Credit Union, Gail Gardner and Willow Creek. Lots, lots of fun. If not ready to hunt alone, come ride along, learn some hints and tricks.

Food Bank: KB7TRE reminds us that any time is good to contribute to community food bank, please continue to bring non-perishable items to each meeting.

School Clubs: KB7TRE had 29 students at the last K7GMG club meeting/class. Planning has begun for annual statehood day station.

Classes: W7JLC needs instructors for Technician class to be held March 5th at ERAU. Recent newspaper article already has generated 5 calls for class.

VE: AB7NK announced 2011 schedule including Friday, Jan 14; Saturday, March 19th; Friday May 6th; and Saturday August 6th. AB7NK@arrl.net.

AZ-WAC: Operating award sponsored by YARC for working all AZ counties is available via webpage link.

PARTY: January 15th at St. Michaels, food, fun, prizes and surprises.

OLD BUSINESS:

WB9VGJ reported on special event station March 29 at Gunsite in commemoration of 100 years of model 1911 pistol. Will attempt assigned operating times as similar pile-ups are expected as the November event generated. Announcements have been sent to QST and NRA magazines.

NEW BUSINESS:

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

TION were presented: AC6AA, JOE OLIVER, for long service and Newsletter; KB7TRE, TERRY PEMBERTON, for leadership, service to youth and Board; KF6SPS, WALTER SCHUMANN, for service on Board 2005-2010; KE7DTR, RICHARD BOZEAT, for service on Board 2005-2010; K6VVR, PETE MORRISON, for service as President 2009-2010; AB7NK, MARY VINCE, for service as Treasurer 2009-2010. Applause from membership for all.

N7RIS asked if there will be a hamfest this year; Board has under review.

TONIGHTS' PROGRAM: Nancy Page, an RN active in scouting, schools, and veterans needs will review new CPR instructions (2011) and use of portable defibrillators.

50/50: of \$50.50 was won by K2FRD.

Adjourned at 1942 hrs.


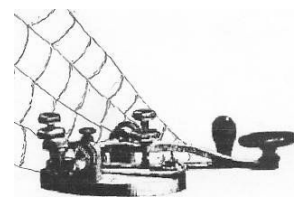
Respectfully submitted,

George Imbrugia, AD7RL

YARC Secretary

Membership Count:

1st Thurs. in December.....	181
Gain/Loss.....	+5
1st Thurs. in January.....	186

Silent Key

Frank Raymond Horneff, WA6JBV, 80, born Feb. 22, 1930, in Delaware, Ohio, became a silent key on Dec. 11, 2010, in Prescott, Arizona. A Memorial service was held on Dec. 28, 2010, at Hampton Funeral Home. Donations may be made to the Yavapai Amateur Radio Club.

Frank was an old-time member of YARC and served as Vice-President in 2002 as well as several years on the Board, from 1996 to 2001 and 2004.

Our condolences to Frank's family and friends.

Welcome to the Yavapai Amateur Radio Club

The Yavapai Amateur Radio Club (YARC) is an ARRL affiliated Special Service 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 (Full-time students \$15). The YARC meets at 7:00 p.m. local time on the first Thursday of every month in the Technology Room 404, 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 7:00 p.m. local time on the 145.290- repeater on Mingus Mountain. A PL of 127.3 is required.

Club Repeater

The YARC 146.880- repeater is located on the hill above Willow Creek road and requires a PL of 100.0 Hz. Our deepest gratitude to Bill Kafka, W2YAV for allowing us to acquire the original club repeater. ■

Need a Hand?

If you need assistance, we want to help you. If you are just starting out in ham radio, or simply have run across something that you could use a hand with... technical assistance or answers to questions about the Yavapai Amateur Radio Club, are available from knowledgeable club members.

Don't Hesitate to Ask for Help!!

CALL:

Neil Vince, KA7JAS at: (928) 775-2158
Jim Ball , WB7UZV (928) 445-2997
Will Taylor, AD7WW (928) 445-1717

YAVAPAI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

January 2011 Treasurer's Summary

Income

Date	Callsign	Name	Code	Check #	Amt. Paid	G. F. Amt.	Rep.Fund	ARRL
01/06/11	K2FRD	W. Frederick Stevens	N	cash	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
01/06/11	K7IOG	Ernie DeLeon	R	cash	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
01/06/11	W7IOG	Mary DeLeon	R/F					
01/06/11		Cash	Decals		\$2.00	\$2.00		
01/06/11	AC6AA	Joe Oliver	A/R	4936	\$39.00	\$2.00		\$37.00
01/06/11	K7DUC	Pat Oliver	A/F		\$8.00			\$8.00
01/06/11	KJ7SJ	Bob Budin 5 years	R	2925	\$100.00	\$90.00	\$10.00	
01/06/11	KD7GGT	LeOra Budin	R/F					
01/06/11	LKW	Check fees ret/cr un		5103909	\$12.00	\$12.00		
01/06/11		Fifty-Fifty			\$101.00	\$101.00		
01/06/11	KF7GGS	James Rasmussen	R	cash	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
01/11/11	KF7FOX	Tim Urell	R	cash	\$25.00	\$18.00	\$7.00	
01/11/11		YARC Party 2011			\$2,250.00			
01/11/11	KA7LKW	Carol Hill	R	cash	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
Income Totals					\$2,617.00	\$297.00	\$25.00	\$45.00

Expenses

01/06/11	K6UWV	David Passell	Refreshments			16.30		
01/06/11		Allegra inv. # 46920	Newsletters			31.01		
01/06/11	K2FRD	Fred Stevens	50-50			50.50		
01/06/11		ARRL				45.00		
01/10/11		Bank fees				3.00		
Expense Totals						145.81		

Beginning Balance **	\$4,873.11							
January Income	\$2,617.00	Dec. End Repeater Fund				\$1,211.92		
		Jan. 2011 Repeater Fund				\$25.00		
Sub Total	7490.11	Correction to fund *				(\$20.00)		
Expenses	\$145.81	Jan. Repeater Fund Bal.				\$1,216.92		
		ARRL Payments				\$45.00		
General Fund Balance **	\$7,344.30							
Net Loss/Gain	\$2,471.19							

* Funds removed from repeater fund; in Dec. incorrectly posted, and returned to general fund

Congratulations to Bud Semon, N7CW, for being awarded DXer of the Year 2010!

Submitted by Jim Zimmerman, N6KZ

Bud earned the Central Arizona DX Association's most prestigious award through his exceptional accomplishments in DX, and his contributions in the form of time and effort for the club.

Bud was presented with the CADXA "DXer of the Year" award for 2010 at their Holiday Party in Tempe, AZ.

The following nomination package was submitted:

9 Nov 2010

To: Jim Henderson, KF7E

2010 President, Central Arizona DX Association (CADXA)

Subject: Nomination package for the 2010 CADXA "DXer of the Year" award

From: Jim Zimmerman, N6KZ Member, CADXA



Bud, N7CW Receiving Award for DXer of the Year 2010

We nominate Bud Semon, N7CW, for the 2010 CADXA "DXer of the Year" award. We base our nomination on years of knowing Bud and witnessing his contributions to the CADXA and ham radio in general. This nomination package is submitted by all of the CADXA members listed below, reflecting the respect that we in our local community have for Bud.

Benefit to the CADXA. Bud's affiliation with the CADXA goes back to its beginnings, when he first joined CADXA (1976) and later when he served as President (1980). Bud worked with the early membership to foster amateur radio sport (DXing and contesting) in the Phoenix area before moving to southern California, eventually returning to Arizona three years ago.

Operating Abilities. The layout and performance of Bud's home station reflects his strong engineering expertise. Bud often opens this home station to local hams when mentoring them on proper radio sport operating techniques and station design. Many local hams have been first exposed to HF radio sporting at Bud's home station.

Operating Accomplishments. Bud has numerous on-the-air operating accomplishments. He currently holds the following operating awards: ARRL DXCC Honor Roll #1, Five Band DXCC, CQ Magazine Five Band WAZ, and several others. Bud has won the section-level award for several national and international contests, including the ARRL Sweepstakes, the CQ World-Wide (CW), and others. Bud is a charter member in the recently-created Arizona Outlaws Contest Club. In addition to his home station operating accomplishments, Bud is also familiar with the "other end of a pileup", as a member of the famous African Voo-Dudes DX Group. Bud was selected as a member of the 2009 CQWW CW contest team that operated from the rare country of Sierra Leon. This team submitted a top CQWW score and provided many contacts for CADXA members.

Outreach and Service Considerations. Finally, Bud always seizes the opportunity to mentor new and old hams in the Prescott, AZ area. In this year alone, Bud has encouraged over half a dozen local Prescott hams to take up radio sporting, and many have joined the CADXA as full members. Bud has come in contact with many of these amateurs through his service in the local Yavapai County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), where he serves as the Assistant Emergency Coordinator. Bud also is an instructor in the local Yavapai County ARC radio theory classes (Technician-Extra).

Based upon Bud's significant contributions to both the CADXA and amateur radio, his demonstrated on-the-air skills, and his operating accomplishments, we respectfully submit our nomination for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Zimmerman, N6KZ, Rich Strick, W7RCS, Neil Vince, KA7JAS, Mary Vince, AB7NK, Dave Drown, WN7L, and Susan Drown, KF7ANT ■



By Lloyd, WA6ZZJ

OPERATING AT YOUR NEXT SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS EVENT.....

Arrival - Plan to arrive early. Your location or staging area may be unfamiliar and you will need the extra time. This will also give you time to set-up and checkout your equipment before the event starts. There are also times when your location may have limited access after a certain time. Being early gets you in before the roads are closed. In most cases the event communications coordinator will provide a time for you to be on site.

Check-In - Check in with net control when you arrive at your location. This lets the net control know you are on site and the quality of your communications. In some cases moving about improves communications. If this is the case, remember the spot and use it when you need to communicate with net control.

Traffic Control - Most, if not all, special events are run as controlled nets. This means that all communications are directed through net control. The net is generally very busy handling traffic. If you need to contact another station, make the request through net control. Net control will hold traffic and give you permission to contact your party. At some events a secondary communication frequency is set up for this very thing. Always give the net control plenty of time to respond, as net control is usually a very busy place.

Keep your traffic to a minimum. Give all the details and be precise at the same time. Think about what you are going to say before you transmit. This will maximize the net to emergency traffic if needed and at the same time maximize your battery life. Always be sure you have contact with net control before you pass your traffic. You want to make sure net control hears and understands your message. As we have heard many times before, listen, listen, listen. If an emergency occurs or the net becomes congested or the noise level at your location increases, listening becomes ever so important. You don't want to miss a call from net control.

Tactical Calls - A number of special event nets use tactical calls. These allow an easy identification of a location or function. "Waypoint 1," "Water 1," "Shadow," are typical of tactical calls used at events. Know your tactical call and listen for it. In closing your transmission always use your FCC call sign.

Equipment Use - Choose equipment that works well for public service events. Ease of use should be a prime consideration. Will it provide the communications capability to support the event? The event is not the place to try out that new radio or set-up. Try it out before the event to iron out all the bugs and get the operation down pat. Create a "cheat sheet" to help remember key features for your radio.

EQUIPMENT

Batteries - Do you have a spare battery? Is it charged? If you have the alkaline battery case, do you have extra batteries for it? If you use gel-cell to power your base set-up will it run for the entire event? Make sure your batteries are charged up at the start of the event. You may never know when the event may become longer than anticipated.

Power Cords - Various power cords and adapters can turn a bad situation into a good one. RACES standard connections (Anderson Power Poles) are preferred on all equipment. Make sure your kit is up to the situation. A cable with "gator" clips on one end is very handy for connecting to the car battery in a pinch. The cigarette lighter adapter is very handy if your position suddenly needs to become mobile.

Antennas - That standard rubber duck is not necessarily the best antenna for the task. Your favorite repeater may not be the one used for the event. In fact, a number of events are run on simplex. Invest in one of the extended performance ducks or a telescoping antenna. If you are a mobile or a fixed station invest in a 5/8 magnetic mount or pole mounted antenna. A good antenna does more than more watts in most cases.

Headsets - At a number of events the noise level is very high. The event sponsors like a lot of loud music, bands and other methods of making noise to enhance the participants enjoyment. This though is counter-productive to the communicator. In situations like this the headset is a necessity. Make sure it works with your equipment.

Note Taking - Net control is not always the one who needs writing materials to keep track of things. All positions need writing materials. Remember the description of the missing

runner? A pencil is preferred over a pen (remember the weather) and a note pad should be a staple in your equipment kit. The 4" by 8" "reporters notebook" is one of the handiest due to its size. Mechanical pencils don't need sharpening and are preferred over wood-lead pencils. At some events, various forms may be provided. These range from missing person's reports to log sheets.

Niceties - Dress for the weather. Carry wet weather gear or additional outer garments if needed to suit the conditions. Aspirin, antacid tablets, prescription medicine, sunscreen and insect repellent should be part of everyone's personal 'go-kit'. Drinks, especially water, and snacks should be included since it may be a long time to lunch. A small, insulated container is handy to carry your snacks and don't forget the lawn chair!

APRIL WHISKEY OFF ROAD MOUNTAIN BIKE EVENT SCHEDULE.....

Friday, April 29, 2011...

There will be a 15 Proof (miles) fun ride in the afternoon (starting time to be determined) on the same route as last year. **At least 5 operators are still needed.**

Later in the afternoon will be a 'Fat Tire Criterium' race which is a race over a closed circuit (typically about a mile through city streets). This leads to tight groups with frequent turns, which makes the possibility for crashes more frequent than traditional road races. This event will be run on city streets near downtown Prescott. **This event is staffed.**

Saturday, April 30, 2011...

Two races beginning in the morning. A 50 Proof starting first followed by the 25 Proof both on the same routes as year. They are expecting well over 1000 riders for these events. **At least 2 operators are still needed.**

Sunday, May 1, 2011...

This is the day for the Professional Racers. There will be two groups (1 male and 1 female) and they are expecting 100 riders. This will be run on the 50 Proof route with the men starting first and the females ½ hour later. **At least 9 operators are still needed.**

Sign up sheets will be available at the February, March and April YARC meetings. Check your calendars and become involved in YARC Special Event Communications.

It is extremely rewarding to see how the YARC members have stepped up to sign on to these events, but more are still needed. If this will be your first time operating at an event every effort will be made to assign you with a veteran special event communicator so just because you haven't done an event before don't let it stop you from getting involved.

Continued next month..... ■

VE TEST RESULTS

By Mary Vince, AB7NK



There were 5 applicants at the special Testing held Friday, January 14, 2011. Results are:

1 Technician and 2 upgraded to Extra.

Congratulations to those who passed as well as those who gave it their best shot.

2011 TEST SCHEDULE

Please note facility change for ALL upcoming test sessions. Testing will be held at the Jeep Posse Bldg in Pioneer Park, off Commerce Rd., Between Willow Creek Road and Pioneer Parkway.

Saturday, March 19, 2011 9:00 A.M.
Friday, May 6, 2011 6:00 P.M.
Saturday, August 6, 2011 9:00 A.M.
Saturday, November 5, 2011 9:00 A.M.

Information regarding testing and the schedule is on our website at www.w7yrc.org

Anyone needing information or to pre-register for any of the above test sessions, please email ab7nk@arrl.net. ■





YARC TURNS TWENTY

By Mary Vince, AB7NK

Saturday, January 15, 2011, ninety club members and spouses embarked upon Hotel St. Michael to celebrate their club's twentieth birthday. Tables were adorned

with small decorative gift bags in varying colors holding an array of birthday balloons.

Guests were greeted by Jim Zimmerman, N6KZ and his XYL Linda, where they picked up their matching tent card and name badge created by Dick Hughes, W6CCD. Many stood around discussing where to sit as others chatted about typical ham related topics.

The club was honored to have several of the originators of the Yavapai Amateur Radio Club join us this year (see photos below). Lyle Brown, W7LGB, Rex Mauldin, N7NGM, and Don Broadston, K7NGK. Bill Kafka, W2YAV and his son Steve Kafka, W7SGK had also planned on attending, however, due to a terrible cold, Steve decided it was best not to share it with his dad or the rest of us.

After a prayer led by LeOra Budin, KD7GGT, it was time to enjoy our meal choices and more conversation amongst those at our tables. The staff at St. Michael's did an extraordinary job of getting ninety meals out, and hot, all within five minutes. The decibel level dropped considerably once everyone was served. Last year, the only complaint heard was the dessert pieces were too small. The Tiramisu was scrumptious and no complaints have been heard this year.

Certificates were given to Lyle, W7LGB, Rex, N7NGM and Don, K7NGK, in appreciation for participating in the formation of our club during its inception, January 1991 to today. Certificates will also be mailed to Bill Kafka, W2YAV as well as Leonard Beers, KB7FRV.



Members and Guests at Hotel St. Michael

Leonard, KB7FRV, who now lives in Florida, sent a letter, which was read in part, thanked the club for remembering him as being one of the members on the first board of directors of YARC as well as a summation of how YARC came to be.

January 31, 1991, a meeting of 46 members was held at the V.A. Hospital, chaired by Gene Piety, KH6PP. (SK) Suggestions were presented on whether the club should be structured or run on an informal basis. Topics discussed were should the club have a newsletter, net, dues, and should there be goals. Those attending that day had the foresight to see what needed to be accomplished for the club to become successful. In 1991 goals suggested were, club sponsored activities, education, perpetuation of ham radio, sharing ideas and fun as well as recruitment of young amateurs.

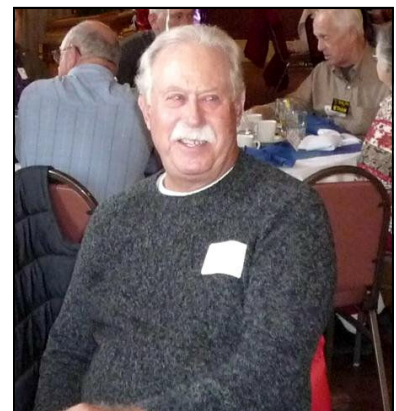
The next meeting was held Feb 21, 1991. At this meeting, pro-tem officers were appointed. First YARC President – Joe Unick N7PSF, Vice President, Walt North – N7CQO, Secretary, Dick Stout – KE7RD and Treasurer, Rex Mauldin, N7NGM. Dues were set at \$12.00 per year,



Lyle Brown, W7LGB



Rex Mauldin, N7NGM



Don Broadston, K7NGK

It was agreed the club would sponsor a volunteer examination program; novice classes started at the Yavapai Center for the Blind by Dave Rutledge W9KRQ (SK). An agreement was made with Bill Kafka, W2YAV, owner of the repeater, that a club net would be held each Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. on 146.880.

Fast forward to 2011, The Yavapai Amateur Radio Club has a top notch newsletter, sponsors many events, i.e., public service events, VE testing, special service events, Gunsite, Sharlott Hall with the youngsters of the two year old K7GMG club for the middle school, sponsors all license classes and more.

The club today is still using the same post office box number and bank account number set up twenty years ago by some individuals who knew we would carry on in a tradition to be proud of.

Two lifetime memberships were handed out to individuals who have gone above and beyond for the club. First, to Terry Pemberton, KB7TRE, "for his leadership, his dedicated service to the club as President, Executive Board Member, mentor of the K7GMG club and for providing us, the membership, with a place to hold our meetings each month." Second, to Joe Oliver, AC6AA, for "his dedicated service to YARC and production of the club's outstanding Newsletter, the Yavapai Signal".

The afternoon ended with the gift distribution. What started out as a very simple system ended up a bit confusing for awhile. However, before long, someone at each table had received a gift ranging from a 2m/440 HT, a power supply, an external speaker, thumb drives and surge protectors.

Olga Potter passed the technician exam Friday, January 14, 2011, which made her eligible for the newest technician surprise. She received a pig (ham) wind chime, Carol Crook, XYL of AI, KD7MTJ received flowers for being married the longest, 55 years. During that time she never caught the "ham" bug. Don Broadston, K7NGK, one of the clubs originators received the gift for traveling the furthest for the birthday party. Don lives in Hawaii part of the time (tough but someone needs to do it). Don received items to keep him occupied on his trip back to Hawaii, i.e., Tiddlywinks, Lincoln logs, am/fm headset, and Yaesu cap.

Praise has been the only thing heard regarding St Michael's staff, their service, quality and quantity of food, etc. Everyone had a great time! Happy Birthday YARC, may we be this strong and united twenty years from now as we are today.

Information in its entirety can be seen on the club's website at www.w7yrc.org Click on club history. If anyone has further history of the club, please send to w7yrc@w7yrc.org.

For more Party Photos go to WB9VGJ's Webshots at <http://tinyurl.com/4f6c2bu> ■



Jim Zimmerman, N6KZ and XYL Linda greeted guests and provided name badges and table cards.



YARC President Creighton Grotbeck, AD7YR, with gifts for someone at each dinner table.



Arizona Section Emergency Coordinator Rick Aldom, W7STS and his XYL

ARRL News

New Amateur Radio Bill Introduced in Congress

The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act, which died at the end of the 111th Congress, has been reintroduced in the 112th Congress as HR 81. The sponsor is Representative Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX-18). The new bill -- which was introduced on January 5 -- has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Rep Jackson Lee first introduced the bill -- HR 2160 -- in the 111th Congress in April 2009. It gained an additional 41 co-sponsors but did not progress out of the committee of jurisdiction. A similar bill introduced in the Senate -- S 1755 -- made it all the way through that body in December 2009, but likewise was not taken up by the House.

The objective of the bill -- which is supported by the ARRL -- is for the Secretary of Homeland Security to study the uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio communications in emergencies and disaster relief and to identify and make recommendations regarding impediments to Amateur Radio communications, such as the effects of private land use regulations on residential antenna installations.

ARRL Outgoing QSL Service Announces New Rate Structure

Effective January 17, 2011, a new pricing structure will go into effect for the [ARRL Outgoing QSL Service](#). With the new rate structure, amateurs will no longer need to count outgoing cards and then guess as to what to pay based upon a half-pound rate; a simple weighing of the cards is all that is necessary to determine what amount to send to the Bureau. This new structure also accommodates a small rate increase in response to recent postage, shipping and handling costs.

The last rate revision for the Outgoing QSL Service was in January 2007. Even though international shipping costs have remained flat over the last 4 years, domestic shipping costs have risen more than 16 percent since 2007, while material and handling costs continue to climb 1 to 2 percent each year.

The new rate will be:

- \$2 for 10 or fewer cards in one envelope.
- \$3 for 11-20 cards in one envelope, or
- 75 cents per ounce, for packages with 21 or more cards. For example, a package containing 1.5 pounds -- 24 ounces, or about 225 cards -- of cards will cost \$18. ■

Wednesday Evening Net



Join us on Wednesday evenings at 1900 MST on the 146.880 -- pl 100Hz repeater for our weekly net.

Net control(s) are needed for the coming months.

You may sign up for a week or the entire month.

Contact Neil, KA7JAS at ka7jas@arrl.net or call: (928) 775-2158 to volunteer.

Need Cards Checked for ARRL Operating Awards?

Jim Zimmerman, N6KZ can check your QSL cards for DXCC, WAS, VUCC, WAC, etc.

For information contact Jim at: (928) 713-0542.

Jim's QTH is at: 778 Grapevine Lane,
Prescott, AZ 86305.

Upcoming Events

- **February 14, 2011** - Arizona Statehood Day
- **March 5, 2011** - Technician class at ERAU.
- **March 19, 2011** - VE Testing at Jeep Posse Bldg.
- **March 29, 2011** - Gunsite Special Event Station
- **April 29, 30 & May 1, 2011** -Whiskey Off Road Mountain Bike event.
- **May 6, 2011** - VE Testing at Jeep Posse Bldg.
- **May 14, 2011** - Whiskey Row Marathon.

Of Microchips and Techno-babble

By Paul Honore', W6IAM

As a holdover from the era of vacuum tubes and high voltages, I find the digital age at once fascinating and frustrating. There seems to be no limit to what can be done with combinations of ones and zeros and component micropackaging has given rise to equipment portability and flexibility that was unimagined a generation ago. In my previous existence as a 1950s teenager, a "portable" radio was about the size of a breadbox, weighed five pounds or more and contained a couple of large, expensive, short-lived and non-rechargeable batteries for vacuum tube filament and plate supplies. The charm of those relics was that they were hand-wired. That meant that every component could be salvaged. A kid with a limited income and a bit of ingenuity could retrieve discarded radios from a trash bin and rebuild them into test instruments, audio amplifiers, code practice oscillators; even new radios that would work on HF Ham bands.

Not so with today's flow soldered microcircuitry. Few parts can be salvaged and if they can, chances are they are obsolete or proprietary circuits with denied access to technical data sheets. The result is that when a modern electronic gadget wears out we are expected to discard it and buy a more sophisticated piece of digital wizardry. Most folks don't even wait for their stuff to wear out before replacing it. Technology is advancing so fast that by the time we get a new piece of gear out of the box it's already obsolete and we crave the latest version as soon as it becomes available. Trouble is, each new piece of equipment comes with more and smaller pushbuttons to do things we don't want and don't need, and it takes an encyclopedia sized instruction manual to operate the thing. Case in point - My cell phone, which is primitive by today's standard, has a 138 page manual! Remember a time when you put the receiver to your ear, cranked the handle on the side of a rosewood box to get the attention of a human operator and said "Hello central. Give me elm 303?" Really! 138 pages of instructions just so you can say "Happy birthday" to your aunt Tillie in East Over-shoe, Nebraska?

The development of programmable microchips has allowed us to manipulate our personal worlds in ways we never imagined, but there's a dark side. They have made us slaves to mysterious "black boxes" whose inner workings we can never hope to fathom and few among us learn to operate properly. Moreover, the gadgets that free us from drudgery and connect us ever closer together are made even more mysterious by a language that appears to be conceived by R2-D2

to be spoken by Martians. Of course every profession has its unique technical vocabulary. We've come to accept that without question. Only a journeyman electrician could be expected to know what a Lakenhicky is used for and the runic scribbles that a doctor pens on your prescription make sense only to a pharmacist. The languages of these professions, however, were fixed in usage since time began and will doubtless remain so until time was. In contrast, the digital/information age, call it what you will, has spawned a technical dialect and subset of acronyms that is spiraling out of control. Moreover, the folks who write operating instructions bandy it about as if ordinary mortals were fluently conversant in it. They define little and omit critical steps. **"Configure LPT 1 to a legacy I/O address. I.e. IRQ 7 and address 0378-103F. Check that there are no conflicts with other devices".**

It's enough to make a grown man cry! Give me the warmth and soft glow of a vacuum tube; the muscle contracting jolt of a fully charged filter capacitor and a step-by-step instruction manual I can understand - - - but leave me with my compact, light weight, energy efficient, drift-free, firmware programmed, multi-function rig. Just omit the useless pushbuttons and make the rest large enough for my clumsy arthritic fingers! ■



What is it now? Seems like you're always yelling about something!

Arizona Worked All Counties

Have you checked your logs lately?

If you've worked all fifteen Arizona counties, email az-wac@w7yrc.org

for an application and rules.



Weekly Breakfasts



Tues. Morning Breakfast:

7:00 a.m. at
Back Burner Cafe
 8400 E. Long Mesa Drive
 & N. Robert Road
Informal – all are invited.

Wed. Morning Breakfasts:

7:00 a.m. at
Iron Horse Restaurant
 (Hwy 89 in Chino Valley)
 (N 34°43'56.5" W112°27'15.4")*
informal – all are invited

8:00 a.m.
Masonic Lodge
 (1280 Willow Creek Road,
 2nd Floor; above Bank of America)
informal – all are invited

* Location data (per WGS84) provided
 by Fred Zimmermann, N7PJN

Area Repeaters

Fre- quency	PL	Location	Owner/Club	Auto- Patch	Rem. BaseOr Linked	Vo IP	Notes:
52.560-	100.0	Mt. Union	N7NGM			IRLP	Node 3301
145.290-	127.3	Mingus Mtn.	ARES/RACES				
146.780-	91.5	Williams Mtn.	BWARC			IRLP	
146.880-	100.0	Prescott	YARC				
146.980-	162.2	Flagstaff	CARC				
147.000+	162.2	Mingus Mtn	MMRG				
147.140+	162.2	Flagstaff/-Mt. Elden	ARA		Linked to Mt. Ord -		Mt. Ord=147.36
147.220+	162.2	Mingus Mtn	VVARA				
147.260+	103.5	Mt. Union	ARES/RACES				
224.080-	156.7	Mt. Union	WA7JC				
442.150+	100.0	Mingus Mtn	W1OQ/Northlink				
442.350+	100.0	Glassford Hill	N7KPU			IRLP	
448.475-	100.0	Flagstaff-Elden	ARA	Yes			
448.875-	100.0	Flagstaff-Elden	Northlink		Linked		
449.175-	100.0	Towers Mountain	Northlink		Linked		
449.675-	88.50	Prescott Airport	WB7BYV		Linked to P Mtn.		P mtn=927.3875
449.725	110.9	Mingus Mtn	WA7JC				
449.750	91.5	Williams	K7NAZ		Linked to Win-Sys		
927.0875-	151.4	Mingus Mtn	WB7BYV				
927.3875-	151.4	Prescott	WB7BYV	Yes	Yes	Echo	Be Nice

Y.A.R.C. IRLP NODE
Node Number 3182
442.350+ MHz with a
PL Tone of 100.0 Hz

For more Repeater Information & Listings refer to:

- www.w7ara.org/Web/
- www.azrepeaters.net
- www.azfreqcoord.org/listings.htm

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Many thanks to Pete Morrison, K6VVR, our Webmaster

