



# Yavapai Signal

The Yavapai Amateur Radio Club – Prescott, Arizona – DM-34 – Volume 30 – No. 6 – June 2015

## Moving Reminder

The June Yavapai Amateur Radio Club meeting will be held at 1900 MST on June 4, 2015 at Prescott Mile High Middle School (PMHMS). PMHMS is located on Carleton Street in Prescott. Going south from downtown Prescott on Montezuma Street, turn right on Carleton Street and go into the school parking lot.

A reference map appears on the club's website home page. It shows where to find the YARC meeting room on the PMHMS campus.

## Summary of Upcoming Club Events

| Event                           | Day of Week       | Date        | Time                           | Place   |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|---|
| General Meeting                 | Thursday          | 06/04/15    | 1900 MST                       | Prescott Mile High Middle School                                    |
| Transmitter Hunt                | Sunday            | 06/07/15    | 1300 MST                       | Arizona State Credit Union, Gail Gardner Way near Willow Creek Road |
| ARRL Field Day                  | Saturday & Sunday | 06/27-28/15 | Sat. 1100 MST to Sun. 1100 MST | Lynx Lake, Prescott – Eagle Ridge Group Campground                  |
| YARC Picnic                     | Saturday          | 06/27/15    | 1600 MST                       | Lynx Lake, Prescott – Eagle Ridge Group Campground                  |
| Hotshots Memorial Special Event | Tuesday           | 06/30/15    | Contact KV8TD for details      | Contact KV8TD for details   |

## Welcome to the Yavapai Amateur Radio Club

The Yavapai Amateur Radio Club (YARC) is an ARRL affiliate Special Service Club. The club participates in many activities in the quad-city (Prescott, Prescott Valley, Chino Valley, and Dewey-Humboldt) area by providing communications for local events, emergency communications, and promotion of the hobby throughout the community.

Membership in YARC is open to any interested amateur or non-amateur alike. Dues are \$20.00 per year (full-time students \$15). YARC meets at 1900 MST on the first Thursday of every month in the technology classroom at Prescott Mile High Middle School, 300 South Granite Street in Prescott. Vehicular access to the school parking lot is via the entry at the intersection of South Montezuma Street and Carleton Street. Programs of interest are included as part of the meeting.

[www.w7yrc.org](http://www.w7yrc.org)

YAVAPAI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB – PO BOX 11994 – PRESCOTT AZ 86304-199

| Club Nets                      |           |                       |           |               |               |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|---------------|---------------|
| Band                           | Mode      | Frequency             | PL        | Night         | Time          |
| 2M                             | FM        | 147.260 MHz           | +103.5 Hz | Wednesday     | 1900 MST      |
| 2M                             | SSB (USB) | 144.220 MHz           | N/A       | Wednesday     | 2000 MST      |
| 10M                            | SSB (USB) | 28.440 MHz<br>+/- QRM | N/A       | Thursday      | 2000 MST      |
| 1¼M                            | FM        | 224.080 MHz           | -156.7 Hz | Wednesday     | 1830 MST      |
| Yavapai County ARES/RACES Nets |           |                       |           |               |               |
| 2M                             | FM        | 147.260 MHz           | +103.5 Hz | Monday        | 1830 MST      |
| 2M                             | FM        | 145.290 MHz           | -127.3 Hz | Monday        | 1900 MST      |
| Club Repeater                  |           |                       |           |               |               |
| 2M                             | FM        | 146.880 MHz           | -100.0 Hz | Open Use 24/7 | Open Use 24/7 |

**And the Winner Is?** — Everyone who checked into the 147.260 MHz (+) YARC Wednesday night 2M FM net on May 13, 2015 was a winner. Can you find your call sign below? If you can, then congratulations and thanks for participating and supporting your club!

|                |                |                  |                |
|----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| NJ6J - Steve   | KA5DWI - Art   | KG6EWD - Patrick | WN7E - Tom     |
| WB7RXK - Clyde | KF7ANX - Frank | KI6AHH - Tony    | N6RW - Robert  |
| AE7CG - Loren  | KF7FPD - Jerry | W1DGL - Mike     | KV7AC - Jay    |
| K7CJW - Bob    | KF7YFN - Cory  | W7HAM - Ralph    | W7WWB - Ronald |



### **From the President's Desk ...**

As you are most likely aware, the Yavapai Amateur Radio Club (YARC) is not only an ARRL Affiliated club, but it is also an ARRL Special Service Club. YARC prides itself in being a Special Service Club, as few amateur radio clubs attain this classification. So what is a Special Service Club, you ask?

From the ARRL website, here is the definition of a Special Service Club (SSC): "A club that exists to go above and beyond for their communities and for Amateur Radio is what defines a Special Service Club (SSC). They are the leaders in their Amateur Radio communities who provide active training classes, publicity programs and actively pursue technical projects and operating activities."

How does YARC qualify to be a SSC? First our club works closely with Yavapai County ARES/RACES in providing hams to support event communications for nearly a dozen public service events throughout the year. Three recent public service events were the Whiskey Off-Road Bike Event, the Whiskey Row Marathon, and the Chino Grinder. Event communications provide critical support to these events and provide hands-on training that is invaluable in time of an actual emergency. Patti Halgunseth, KD7VBG organizes these public service events for our club. We encourage you to participate in these events and even join the Yavapai County ARES/RACES organization. You will find that you can get as much out of these events as you give.

YARC also sponsors free one-day license examination preparation classes. Jack Crabtree, W7JLC and other club members just conducted a Technician class license examination preparation class on May 2, 2015. There were over twenty people who took the class. Another license examination preparation session that will include preparation for the General class license is planned for this autumn.

Examination sessions for all license classes are offered periodically by the Volunteer Examiner (VE) group of our club. The test sessions are headed by Don Bauer, WB7TPH, YARC past president. An examination session took place on May 9, 2015 in which 23 people either achieved their first license or upgraded. Another test session is scheduled for August 7, 2015.

With regard to training, the club arranges for presentations and hands-on activities at our monthly member meetings. We have a capable and active mentoring group that assists members with technical issues and installing antennas. The Buddy Mentor group also pairs new or inexperienced hams with a mentor to be a resource to help answer questions, provide support, to encourage them to adapt to the new world of ham radio.

With regard to ham radio publicity, there will be media publicity regarding our planned Field Day activities at Lynx Lake this June. The Prescott mayor and council members will be invited to visit our Field Day operations. The print media will also be invited to report on our activities. The public will be invited to observe and even participate, if they desire, in our Field Day operations.

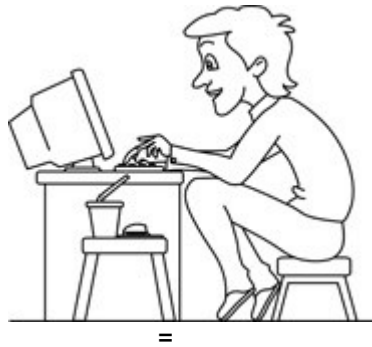
From a technical and operating perspective, the club is a sponsor of weekly FM and SSB 2M nets. There is also a weekly SSB net that meets on 10M. The club maintains a 2M repeater on 146.88 MHz in Prescott and is planning on installing a 440 MHz repeater on Mt. Union in the near future. Special Interest Groups (SIGs) were formed last year and have been quite active in providing interesting presentations and demonstrations about various aspects of ham radio.

Hopefully you can see that our Special Service Club has a lot to offer most anyone who is interested in amateur radio. But only you can help make it even better.

You are encouraged to participate in those areas not only where you are already active but where you have an interest in learning something new. Also, please let me or a board member know of any topics or themes that you would like the club to address during its monthly meetings.

I am looking forward to seeing you in June at our first meeting at Prescott Mile High Middle School. Also, please plan on attending our club picnic on June 27 at the Field Day site for good picnic food and fellowship with hams and their families. Details of these and other events can be found elsewhere in this issue of the Signal newsletter.

73 — Frank Bender, K8FB



#### Club Website Registration

Please register to get on the club's email distribution list and also gain access to the members'-only area of the website. The members'-only area contains the club roster and detailed club treasurer's reports. To register, go to [www.w7yrc.org](http://www.w7yrc.org), click "Join Us" and then select "Registration." Fill out the requested information, and then click "Register." The webmaster will then verify your membership and authorize your account. His response is not immediate in real time.



#### June Program

The program for the June 4, 2015 meeting will be "Mountain Goats and Shack Sloths." Our presenter will be a guest from Glendale, Arizona who is no stranger to our club, Rick Tejera, K7TEJ. Rick has spoken to us about satellites and their inner workings. As a change of pace, he will bring us down to earth as he describes SOTA contacts. Summits On The Air (SOTA) is a branch of amateur radio that appeals to those who want to climb a mountain and make radio contact from the summit and those who actively respond to the "mountain goat". The ins and outs of SOTA will be described as well as how to get involved while being a "shack sloth." What are the rules, procedures and awards? Come to the June meeting in our new meeting place and find out.



## Field Day 2015

No matter what your license class, experience level, or interests are, we strongly encourage you to come out and operate W7YRC during Field Day. Field Day is the largest ARRL operating event of 2015 and possibly the one that is the most fun.

This year's Field Day (FD) exercise is June 27 and 28. YARC has reserved group campsites at the Eagle Ridge Group Campground at Lynx Lake off Walker Road for our club's FD operations. To get to our operating site from Highway 69 near Costco, take Walker Road to the south for 2.8 miles and turn left at the signs for South Shore and Eagle Ridge Group Camp. Then almost immediately turn left into the Eagle Ridge Group Campground where our operating location is.

We will begin setting up our stations on Friday afternoon (after 1400 MST) and finish our installation on Saturday morning. Field Day operations will begin at 1100 MST on Saturday and end at 1100 MST on Sunday. We are planning on running some "quiet time" operations off batteries throughout the night.

If you come to the Field Day site on Saturday much before 1400 MST, our operations will be confined to the lower camp site (Peregrine). The larger upper site (Osprey – the first one you come into) is reserved by some other group on Friday night and they will have to vacate by Saturday 1200 MST. The host has to first clean the site and the rest rooms at Osprey, so we will not have official access to the site until 1400 MST. Please do not loiter or park there until then. However, if you wish to operate earlier, you can find us at the lower site (Peregrine) from Friday afternoon through 1200 MST Sunday.

Besides the three HF stations being operated on Field Day:

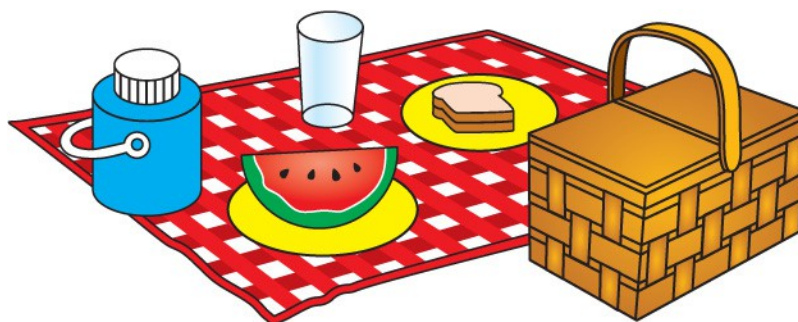
- Randy Dashiell, W6TYV will be operating and demonstrating a satellite station – come out and see and learn about communicating through Orbital Satellites Carrying Amateur Radio (OSCAR).
- David Hanson, W7BJ will be demonstrating an ARMY MARS digital station.
- Rex Mauldin, N7NGM will be operating simplex 6M and 220 MHz from the Field Day site. If you hear W7YRC on these bands, give us a call and make a Field Day contact.

If you are a newly licensed ham, have a Technician class license, are an inactive ham, or do not yet have a license, come and operate the Get On The Air (GOTA) station under the supervision of experienced ham Jim Zimmerman, N6KZ, who is the GOTA station captain.

The HF SSB station will be operating out of the ARES/RACES MARC vehicle. David Hanson, W7BJ is the SSB Station Captain. Experienced hams are welcome to operate the SSB station. If you are not entirely comfortable operating the SSB station, you are welcome to observe and assist in the logging of Field Day contacts for the SSB station.

If you would like to operate CW during Field Day, contact the CW Station Captain Bud Semon, N7CW. Field Day operator sign-ups can be found on the club's website home page. The station captains will be maintaining sign-up sheets for their individual stations at the Field Day site with 30 minute operating intervals.

Randy Dashiell, W6TYV is the club's FD committee chair person. If you have any questions, Randy can be reached at [w6tyv@w7yrc.org](mailto:w6tyv@w7yrc.org).



### YARC Picnic 2015

This year's YARC picnic will be held on Saturday, June 27, 2015 beginning at 1600 MST at the Eagle Ridge Group Campground at Lynx Lake, off Walker Road. You can arrive at the picnic site anytime after 1430 MST. The picnic will be held at the same location where the Field Day operations will be taking place. YARC members, family members, and friends and neighbors are invited to attend.

The club will provide meats (hot dogs and hamburgers), buns, condiments, paper plates, paper napkins, plastic ware, and drinks. We ask each person or family to bring a side dish to share (for example: salad, dessert, casserole, baked beans). Sign up for the picnic and side dish on the club's website home page.

There is a ramada with 10 large picnic tables at our primary picnic site. You might want to bring a lawn chair to sit under a shady ponderosa pine at the site. Enjoy the picnic, socialize, and observe or participate in the Field Day operations. Randy, W6TYV will be demonstrating and operating an Orbital Satellite Carrying Amateur Radio (OSCAR) satellite station. Dave, W7BJ will be demonstrating an Army MARS digital station.

| <b>To get to our picnic site from Highway 69 near Costco:</b> |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Step</b>   | <b>What to do:</b>  |
| <b>1</b>  | Take Walker Road to the south for 2.8 miles.  |
| <b>2</b>  | Turn left at the signs for South Shore and Eagle Ridge Group Camp.  |
| <b>3</b>  | Then almost immediately turn left into the Eagle Ridge Group Campground where our picnic and Field Day operating locations are. |
| <b>Note:</b> There is limited parking at the picnic site.     |   |

| <b>After you arrive:</b>   |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Step</b>  | <b>What to do:</b>   |
| <b>1</b>   | When you enter the campground, drop off your passengers, food, and chairs near the large ramada. |
| <b>2</b>   | Check with the attendant about where to park.  |
| <b>Note:</b> We plan on having member shuttles with YARC magnetic signs to pick you up at the parking lot. |  |

Other Useful Information:

- If you end up having to park in the south parking lot at Lynx Lake, you will need a parking pass.
  - If you have a senior lifetime Parks pass, display that on your dash.
  - If you have an annual Park Service/National Forest Service pass, place that on your dash.
  - A limited number of complimentary day passes will be available from the attendant.
  - Normal day parking fee is \$5 (self-pay) at the parking lot sign.
  - The shuttle will pick you up and return you to the picnic area.
- Back up parking will be at the Lynx Lake north parking lot.
- Last resort back-up parking will be at the Costco parking lot.
- We will be monitoring 146.52 MHz simplex to provide assistance with parking.



Parking shuttle volunteers are needed! Because of limited parking at the picnic site, we are looking for volunteers to shuttle club members to and from parking lots. The club will reimburse shuttle volunteers for gasoline used during this period.

Doug Meyer, KF7YZJ is the club's picnic committee chair person. Doug can be reached at [kf7yzj@w7yrc.org](mailto:kf7yzj@w7yrc.org) if you have any questions.

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>Badges</b>  | Members can purchase a club badge with their name and call from Dan Simpson, AE7IH or Erica Simpson, KF7MAU for \$7.                                |
| <b>Patches</b> | Club patches can be purchased for \$3 each from club treasurer David Hanson, W7BJ for \$3 each.   |
| <b>Shirts</b>  | Club shirts with the member's name and call can be purchased from Pete, K6VVR for \$24. Shirts without the name and call can be purchased for \$20. |

| Club Mentors ("Elmers") |           |                  |
|-------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Name                    | Call Sign | Telephone Number |
| Bud Semon               | N7CW      | 928-899-7400     |
| Jim Zimmerman           | N6KZ      | 928-713-0542     |



**New Club Station Status**  
by Frank Bender, K8FB

The YARC board and the Yavapai County Jeep Posse (YCJP) have both approved a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to set up a club station at the Jeep Posse building on Commerce Drive. The MOA spells out the conditions of our partnership with YCJP and will soon be signed by both parties. We are also waiting to hear from YCJP as to who their administrators will be to interface with us regarding the installation and operation of the station.

We are currently drafting a set of physical access rules and station usage guidelines for the board to review and approve. These rules and guidelines need to be in place before we open up operation of the club station to our members. Once the MOA is signed and the club station access rules and usage guidelines have been approved, we will post these documents on the club web site. Soon we should get the go ahead from YCJP to begin installation of the club station.

Because of building security concerns, we will only be able to provide building access codes to a limited number of club members. Given this constraint, the YARC board will work to come up with means of providing reasonable club station access to our member community. We are pretty well set to begin the station installation, as we have acquired a roll-top desk to house the station that can be easily secured. The Elmer Group is providing an HF transceiver on loan, possibly a tower, as well as antennas for the club station.

The club station partnership with YCJP is a one year trial to see how things go. Hopefully this will turn into a long term arrangement that will be of significant benefit to our members. We will seek your feedback in the coming months to see what we can do to improve the club station experience for you.

**Williams Hamfest**

Clean out your shack and bring your unwanted radio items to the club meeting for sale at the Williams Hamfest, scheduled for July 24, 25, and 26, 2015. Donated items will be sold for the club. The club will also sell your ham radio related items on consignment for a percentage of the proceeds. Give or leave your items to Frank, K8FB or Don, WB7TPH.

We are also looking for volunteers who can either transport equipment for sale to the Williams Hamfest on Friday, July 24, 2015 or who can volunteer to staff the booth on Friday or Saturday (July 24 and 25). If you would like to volunteer, contact Frank Bender, K8FB.





**Joe Oliver, AC6AA - YARC Signal Newsletter Editor**

Joe Oliver, AC6AA our Signal newsletter editor had major colon cancer surgery on May 5, 2015. He is now home recuperating, but he may have to begin chemotherapy at some point. We wish Joe all the best and a speedy recovery. Joe can be reached via email at [joliver@cablone.net](mailto:joliver@cablone.net).

Joe will be out of action for some time to come. Thanks to Loren Singh, AE7CG for stepping in to produce the June Signal newsletter.

Yavapai Amateur Radio Club (YARC)  
Board of Directors Meeting  
April 30, 2015  
Yavapai Hills HOA Clubhouse  
Prescott, Arizona

Present: K8FB, N7NGM, W7BJ, AE7CG, WB7TPH, KV8TD, KF7YZJ, and W6TYV.  
The meeting was called to order by K8FB at 1809 MST.

Old Business:

1. Treasurer's Report and Meeting Minutes: W7BJ presented the treasurer's report as of April 28, 2015. K8FB has drafted the minutes for the February and March 2015 general meeting minutes. A discussion was held regarding the formats and methods of presentation of the treasurer's report and meeting minutes in the Yavapai Signal newsletter and the club website. The board decided that a summarized treasurer's report would best be conveyed in the newsletter (e.g., revenue, expenses, bank balances), and a more detailed line-item report be posted to the club website accessible only to club members. The board of directors and general meeting minutes will continue to be posted to the Yavapai Signal, and the newsletter in PDF format will continue to be posted to the club website.
2. Club Station Status: K8FB stated that a draft memorandum of agreement (MOA) has been submitted to the Yavapai County Jeep Posse (YCJP). KV8TD reported on his noise level measurements on the ham radio bands at the YCJP site. Using a vertical antenna, he encountered a noise level of S9 +10db on the 20M and 40M bands. Such noise poses a potential problem for the proposed club station to be operating from the site. W7BJ said that APS can correct such a problem. The board decided that the club call sign, W7YRC, will be used at the station. Club license trustee K6VVR will be notified when the call sign will be used at the station. W6TYV has arranged for internet access at the YCJP building, and the club will share the cost of such access with the YCJP.
3. Website Status: W6TYV discussed the different software packages available for the maintenance of the club calendar on the club web page. He explained the user-friendliness of the existing software, and mentioned that the professional version of the software package offered additional desirable features, functionality, and flexibility at an annual cost of \$90. K8FB volunteered to learn how to update the calendar using the existing software, and to serve as a backup person in that capacity to W6TYV or other members with the task of maintaining the calendar. W7BJ and W6TYV are working together to

- coordinate the email addresses on the club roster, email distribution list, and website registration list. W6TYV mentioned that club officers have the capability of directly posting files to the club website.
4. Field Day: K8FB said that reservations have been made at Lynx Lake for the lower and upper campgrounds. The lower campground will be available on Friday 6/26 through Sunday 6/28, and the upper campground from Saturday 6/27 1200 MST through Sunday 6/28 1200 MST. W7BJ will be the SSB captain, N7CW will be the CW captain, and N6KZ will be the GOTA (Get On The Air) captain. No electric generators will be used. Deep-cycle batteries will be the power source. K8FB broached the subject of budgets for Field Day. He said that the site reservations had cost \$194, and that GOTA pins had cost \$72. Estimated budgets were \$500 for general expenses and \$300 for the club picnic. KF7YZJ volunteered to coordinate the picnic. Will KB7TRE be the cook at the picnic? The picnic will be of 6/27, and attendees should plan on arriving after 1430 MST, with the activity starting at 1600 MST.
  5. ARRL Library Update: KF7YZJ distributed a list of 16 ARRL book titles that the League makes available to school libraries at a price of \$200 for the set. All the board members concurred that the price was a significant discount from retail prices for each book purchased separately. K8FB said the subjects of school library book donations and an amateur radio scholarship program would best be addressed to the general membership at the end of the calendar year 2015 in preparation for the club budget for calendar year 2016. The board agreed with this approach.
  6. Move to Mile High Middle School: K8FB stated that the 5/7 general meeting will be the last one held at Granite Mountain Middle School. The board approved the suggestion of N7OYY and KE7SA about purchasing two sheet cakes from Costco for the purposes of commemorating the club's departure from Granite Mountain Middle School, and celebrating the club's relocation to Prescott Mile High Middle School. N7OYY and KE7SAT will purchase the cake for the 5/7 general meeting. Either K8FB or WB7TPH will purchase the cake for the tentative 6/4 general meeting. The first general meeting to be held at Mile High Middle School is tentatively scheduled for 6/4, but is subject to cancellation due to the complexities of moving and KB7TRE's personal family concerns at that time. N7CW and KB7TRE will coordinate the moving of the K7GMG club station, and sign-up sheets will be available at the 5/7 general meeting for volunteers to help with dismantling the station at Granite Mountain Middle School, and re-installing the station at Mile High Middle School.
  7. Trade Mark Updates: W7BJ explained that it is necessary for the club to re-apply or renew with the office of the Arizona Secretary of State its trademarks of the following names: Yavapai Signal, Yavapai Hamfest, Yavapai County Hamfest, Yavapai Amateur Radio Club, and Granite Mountain Hotshots Memorial Radio Club.
  8. Yaesu Repeaters: K8FB said that he had not received a confirmation of receipt of the club's order for a second repeater. He announced that the first repeater is scheduled to be delivered by Federal Express on 5/1.
  9. Annual Budget Discussion: W7BJ presented "Yavapai Amateur Radio Club Comparative Financial Statement for the Years Ended December 31" for calendar years 2013 and 2014 (already approved), and a proposal for annual budgets for calendar years 2015 and 2015 (not yet approved). W7BJ, K8FB, and WB7TPH volunteered to discuss the line items in the proposed (and projected) annual budgets.

#### New Business:

1. WB7TPH Television Interview: The board congratulated WB7TPH for his insightful television interview with host Sandy Moss, and for his unceasing efforts to publicize amateur radio and the club's good work.
2. Upcoming General Meeting Programs: WB7TPH said that upcoming general meeting programs will include speakers about "The Wonders of 10 Meters" and "SOTA: Summits On The Air." K8FB said that the general meetings should allow at least 15 minutes after the program presentation for the special interest groups (SIGs) to meet.
3. Arizona Corporation Commission: W7BJ said that he had made the annual filing with the Arizona Corporation Commission on 4/10. An annual filing is required of all corporations and clubs in the state.
4. ARRL Membership Renewals: W7BJ explained that the club gets to keep \$15 for each new ARRL membership application processed by the club, but that the club only gets to keep \$2 for each membership renewal so processed. The additional paperwork and expenses for envelopes and postage make the club incur a net loss. W7BJ maintains that club members would best be advised to renew their ARRL memberships directly with ARRL headquarters.
5. Donation to Liberia Vocational School: N7CW has approached the club to make a one-time donation of \$250 for the purchase of coaxial cable as a donation to the Booker Washington Institute in Kakata, Liberia through EL2DT, who is employed by the school. The board approved of the donation.

6. Rescheduling of May 2015 Board Meeting: The usual board of directors meeting date on the last Thursday of the month will not be possible on 5/28 because KF7YZJ and K8FB will not be able to attend. The meeting will be rescheduled for the first week in June before the convening of the general meeting, or it will be canceled.
7. Operation of N7GMH in June 2015: KV8TD said that a sign-up sheet for volunteer operators will be circulated at the May and tentative June YARC general meetings. He said that he was not sure whether there would be a fixed station location, or whether operators would operate from home using the club call sign. He was not sure whether the K7GMG would be completely re-installed, fully functional, and available for N7GMH use by the end of June.
8. Club QSL Cards: KV8TD posed the question about which club logo to use on the new club QSL cards. The two possible logo designs are: a) the existing yellow and black design showing a saguaro cactus, prickly pear cactus with headphones, and desiccated cattle skull; or 2) the new logo that appears at the top of the club website showing an Arizona sunset and the silhouette of a saguaro cactus. At a future time, W6TYV will provide the board with a sample of the reduced-size square version of the new logo design before it can be presented to the general membership for approval or disapproval.

The meeting was adjourned by K8FB at 2025 MST.

Respectfully submitted by

Loren Singh — AE7CG  
YARC Secretary

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Yavapai Amateur Radio Club (YARC)  
General Meeting  
May 7, 2015  
Granite Mountain Middle School  
Prescott, Arizona

The meeting was called to order by K8FB at 1900 MST, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited by all present. K8FB thanked N7OYY and KE7SA for procuring the "Farewell to Granite Mountain Middle School" cake for the meeting. K8FB mentioned the death of club member NS2K in April, and the recovery from surgery of club newsletter editor AC6AA.

K8FB asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April general meeting and the March treasurer's report. K6VVR made the motion. W1DGL seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by acclamation.

New Members: K8FB presented two new applications for YARC membership from Jay Lodge (no call sign) and Benjamin Clark, KG7BGR. K8FB asked for a motion to approve the two applications. WN7E made the motion. KD7VBG seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by acclamation.

#### Committee Reports:

1. Event Communications: W6TYV used his laptop computer to project a YouTube video tribute to WA6ZZJ. KD7VBG thanked club members for their participation in providing radio communication for recent public events: the Whiskey Off-road bicycle race and the Whiskey Row marathon. She mentioned the upcoming 5/16 Mountain Mayhem event, provided a sign-up sheet, and asked for volunteers. She indicated that autumn events would begin on 9/11. KC8BOB described the recently held Chino Grinder event and thanked club members who participated.
2. Newsletter: K8FB mentioned the surgery, recovery, and convalescence of AC6AA, and that AE7CG had volunteered to edit the June issue of the Yavapai Signal.
3. Patches and Badges: W7BJ announced the availability and price of patches. AE7IH announced the availability and price of badges.
4. Club Repeater: The first Yaesu DR-1X repeater was received on 5/1 and is now in the possession of K6VVR, who will perform bench tests on it. K6VVR stated that it does not require a separate controller. K8FB said that the club's order for the second repeater had been confirmed by Yaesu and that the unit is on back-order.

5. Fox Hunt: Because of Mother's Day (5/10), K6VVR asked the membership for a different date for the May 2015 fox hunt. Interested members suggested and agreed upon 5/17/2015 as a suitable date for the event by a vote of 3 in favor and 2 opposed.
6. Mentoring: N7CW was absent.
7. Relocation of YARC General Meetings and K7GMG: — KB7TRE went into the following details: a) 5/7 is the last YARC general meeting to be held at Granite Mountain Middle School; b) KB7TRE's classroom material contents will be moved to his new classroom at Prescott Mile High Middle School on 6/15; c) the YARC 6/4 general meeting will be held at Prescott Mile High Middle School; d) KG7LMI volunteered to post a smart-phone software application showing a map of the new location, and W6TYV will post a similar map to the club website; and e) N7CW and N6KZ will coordinate the relocation of K7GMG. Work party sign-up sheets were made available, and will be given to N7CW and N6KZ. Work party sign-ups will be notified when a date and a time have been decided. The antenna and tower move could occur before the 6/4 general meeting.
8. License Class: W7JLC thanked the following members (in addition to himself) who served as instructors at the 5/2 license examination preparation class: WN7L, K7CBK, WB6ODR, and W7BNW.
9. VEC License Test: K8FB announced that 22 individuals had signed up for the 5/9 test session to be held at the Jeep Posse building in Prescott at 0900 MST. WB7TPH needs additional volunteer examiners, who should report to the site at 0830 MST.
10. Next Month's Program: K8FB said that the topic of the guest speaker at the 6/4 general meeting will be SOTA (Summits Of The Air).
11. Amateur Radio Council of Arizona (ARCA): WB7RFY said that there was no new ARCA news because no new meeting had been held since the previous one.
12. Webmaster's Report: W6TYV said that the new website was now operating and functional. He showed: a) how members could register onto it; b) its member directory; c) its detailed club treasurer's reports; and d) its multiplicity of pull-down menus on its home page.
13. Field Day: — W6TYV discussed the club's plans for Field Day 2015 (6/26 through 6/28): a) Station captains will be N7CW for CW, W7BJ for SSB, and N6KZ for GOTA (Get On The Air). b) Members can volunteer to operate on the website. c) Parking shuttle volunteers are needed. d) A budget request of \$500 should be made. K8FB asked for a motion to approve the maximum \$500 expenditure. K6VVR made the motion. KV8TD seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by acclamation.
14. Club Picnic: KF7YZJ provided sign-up sheets for the picnic to be held at the Lynx Lake Field Day site. The event will be on 5/27 at 1600 MST. Participants can start arriving at 1430 MST.
15. N7GMH Operating Event: KV8TD described the upcoming 6/30 Granite Mountain Hotshots memorial radio operating event. For 2015, it will be an exclusively YARC event with operation from the club station (K7GMG or W7YRC) or home stations. The event will last for 10 hours, and be divided into 30-minute operating blocks in commemoration of the 20 firefighters who fought the Yarnell Hill fire. There will only be one station operating at any given time on any particular frequency band. A sign-up sheet will be posted to the W7YRC website. QSL certificates will be provided by email notification and printable by the recipient from the club website.
16. W7YRC Facebook Page: KI6AHH asked for submission of digital photograph files of previous YARC events to be posted to the club's Facebook page.

#### OldBusiness:

17. Williams Hamfest, 7/24-26: — K8FB summarized plans for the upcoming hamfest regarding: a) equipment donations; b) consignment sales; c) transportation volunteers; and d) booth volunteers.
18. Club Station Update: K8FB stated that a draft memorandum of agreement (MOA) between YARC and the Jeep Posse was being reviewed, and that KV8TD had conducted AC line noise measurements in the vicinity of the proposed radio station site.

#### New Business:

19. WB7TPH YouTube Video: KA5DWI recorded and posted the video of WB7TPH's 4/22 interview with television host Sandy Moss. Members can access and view the video by entering "YARC" in the YouTube search box.
20. Donation to Liberia School Radio Club: K8FB mentioned N7CW's request for a \$250 donation from YARC to the Booker Washington Institute in Kakata, Liberia for the purchase of coaxial cable for the school radio club station. The donation will be in fulfillment of YARC's role as an ARRL special service

radio club and as an act of philanthropy furthering worldwide interest in amateur radio. The donation was approved by the board of directors at its 4/30 meeting.

21. New Club Logo: K8FB indicated that some members had suggested changing the club's logo. Due to lack of time at the meeting, at a future meeting the club members will be asked if they want to change the club logo or to get a new one and a process for determining a new one will be established, if needed. KV8TD requested permission from the club to use a smaller version of the graphic used in the new website format on the club's QSL cards. A member vote was taken which gave KV8TD permission to use the website graphic on the new club QSL cards.
22. Armed Forces Day, 5/16: KJ6KMK announced that WA6RFA will be operating on 7.185 MHz and 14.295 MHz SSB from 0800-1800 MST in commemoration of Armed Forces Day.
23. 50-50 Drawing: KW6J drew winning ticket 1012160. W7JLC was the lucky winner of \$49.
24. Program: "The Wonders of 10 Meters," by Arthur Jackson, KA5DWI. The presentation began with W7PVA showing a simple 10M half-wave dipole antenna. He said that each leg of the dipole measured 8-ft. 3-in., and that the total length was approximately 16.5 ft. to be resonant on a frequency of 28.440 MHz. W7PVA said that the YARC 10M USB net meets on Thursdays at 2000 MST on 28.440 MHz, and invited more members to participate. KA5DWI began his presentation by summarizing his operating achievements on 10M using CW, SSB, and PSK. He has been tracking 10M propagation phenomena for more than a decade using analytic software. His background as a former high school mathematics teacher and quantitative banking analyst made him doubt conventional assumptions about "sporadic" E-skip and trans-equatorial path propagation. Using software tracking, KA5DWI analyzed huge amounts of data and arrived at factual quantitative conclusions about the times, duration, and directions of best long-distance radio communication. He present many graphic illustrations in support of his conclusions. He concluded his presentation by listing websites where club members could go for further information about 10M propagation.
25. Ham of the Month Presentation: Awards were given to KA5DWI and W7PVA.
26. Adjournment: K8FB adjourned the meeting at 2115 MST.

Respectfully submitted by

Loren Singh, AE7CG  
YARC Secretary



### VE Testing

On May 2, 2015, Jack W7JLC, and his team of instructors conducted a Technician license examination preparation class. We scheduled a test session the following Saturday, and tested 25 candidates. As a result, there are 11 new Technicians, 10 new Generals, and two new Amateur Extras. Unfortunately, two candidates did not pass the Technician test.

Some very interesting statistics from this test session include: Three people took both the Technician test and the General test and passed both. One of those had been a Novice, but did not want to stop at the Technician level. Of the two people who took the Extra examination, one missed only 2 questions and the other candidate passed the Extra with (drum roll please) a perfect score. Several of our VEs made a point to shake his hand.

We had the opportunity to put two new VEs to work at this session, as well. If you want to join the ranks of the Amateur Extra operators, you will have the chance at our only evening test session this year, August 7, 2015.

**Public Events Communications**  
by Patti Halgunseth, KD7VBG

**Whiskey Off Road Communication**



Communications for this year's Whiskey Off Road mountain bicycle event took place April 24, 25 and 26, 2015. This was the 12<sup>th</sup> year for this event in Prescott. As in the past years, on Friday we had the 15 Proof where there were approximately 180 riders. Also on Friday we had the Men and Women's Fat Tire Criterium, where the riders race around the streets by the Yavapai County Courthouse. On Saturday we had the 30/50 proof races with approximately 1306 for both of those classes that ran that day. On Sunday we had the Pro Men's and Women's races with approximately 64 men and 22 women.

The weather was better than last year, but we did have to brave sun, rain, hail, wind and yes—there was snow on the course. All riders still competed and races went off on time with none of them being called off, or shortened. The ground was muddy and soggy, but everyone still participated and there were no major incidents.

Thirty-eight (38) ham radio operators covered this event with many working all three days. I wish to thank all who participated in this event for braving the weather for the three days. These events cannot be conducted without all of your help.



**Whiskey Row Marathon**

The 37<sup>th</sup> running of the Whiskey Row Marathon was one week later, and the weather was better. Organizers of the event paid a nice tribute to Lloyd Halgunseth, WA6ZZJ (SK) before the second race with a moment of silence.

Video can be viewed on the website and Facebook page. Thanks to John Broughton, WB9VGJ for taking the videos and posting them. This was the 16<sup>th</sup> year that YARC provided communications for this event and we are considered a major sponsor of it.

We had 1321 runners between all classes, with one runner—Craig Davidson—the Al Clark Award winner. Upon finishing this year's Whiskey Row Marathon, he had logged 200,000 miles since he began running marathons in 1976. He has raced in 30 consecutive Whiskey Row Marathons (WRMs) with most of them being full marathons—in only two WRMs did he race the half-marathon.

Seventeen (17) ham radio operators manned 9 water stations and two YMCA vans patrolled the course to ensure a steady flow of supplies, and to provide shuttling runners if needed. There was a major incident on the course in which an ambulance was called and a runner was taken to the hospital. Word is that he did better there. The organizers greatly appreciated our assistance with this event and providing communications.

### **Groom Creek Mountain Mayhem**

This event was on Saturday, May 16, 2015. It was the second annual staging of this event. We had rain the day before, so the course was muddy. The weather hold out for the event, even though some rain showers did happen later in the day. It was a bit chilly this year, but we all braved the temperatures to make this another successful event.

This is a mountain bicycle event running a 10- or 20-mile course north and south of the Groom Creek Fire Station, with some of the course on single-land trails around Groom Creek. There were about 96 riders for this event this year, which is approximately the same as last year—and considered a good turnout.

Sixteen (16) ham radio operators came out to provide communications for this event. Most of the riders started and finished the event. We did shuttle one rider back from the last station before the finish line, but overall it was a good day with no major issues. MARC was set up at the fire station and again was able to monitor the fire frequency as well as ours—everything worked out well.

The organizers provided a hot lunch for all of us at the end of the event. It is always nicer to have lunch outside in Groom Creek! The organizers appreciate all that we do to provide communications for this event. The event cannot be a success without all of your help.

I wish to thank all the operators who took part in the aforementioned events. It is because of dedicated members such as you that make us able to provide the radio communications for the many events in the community. Please keep up the good work and keep in mind that our second event communications season will probably begin in September with the March of Dimes on September 11. So take a rest and mark your calendars for events in September and October. A big “Thank you!” again for all your help, and see you in September!

| <b>Autumn YARC Event Schedule</b>   |                        |                                 |                             |
|---|------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Date</b>   | <b>Day of the Week</b> | <b>Event</b>                    | <b>Location</b>             |
| 09/11/15  | Saturday               | March of Dimes March for Babies | Prescott Valley             |
| 09/20/15  | Sunday                 | Skull Valley Loop Challenge     | Starts in downtown Prescott |
| 09/26/15  | Saturday               | Groom Creek Classic             | Groom Creek Fire Station    |
| 09/26/15  | Saturday               | The Bradshaw Grinder (1)        | Mayer                       |
| 10/2–3/15   | Friday & Saturday      | Prescott Road Rally             | Prescott                    |
| 10/17/15  | Saturday               | Diabetes Walk (2)               | Prescott                    |
| <b>Notes:</b><br>(1) Bob Thompson, KC8BOB to coordinate.<br>(2) John Broughton, WB9VGJ to coordinate. |                        |                                 |                             |



### Chino Grinder Public Service Event

Club members participated in providing event communications for the Chino Grinder bicycle racing event on May 2, 2015. The Chino Grinder is a 106-mile gravel ultra-endurance event. Bob Thompson, KC8BOB led the communications team for this event.

Below:

L: Bob KC8BOB

C: Bob K7CJW & Fred N7PJN

R: David W7BJ (blue shirt)







**May 2015 Foxhunt**  
by John Broughton, WB9VGJ

The monthly foxhunt was held Sunday, May 17th. It was postponed one week due to Mother's Day. Jeff, WB7RFY, and I were the foxes. We lucked out with nice weather, sunshine and no rain with comfortable temperatures.

| <b>YARC May 17, 2015 Foxhunt Hunters</b> |                  |                 |
|--|------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Team #</b>                            | <b>Member 1</b>  | <b>Member 2</b> |
| 1  | WB6ODR – Bob     | KD7EEO – Linda  |
| 2  | WH6EAL – Forrest |                 |
| 3  | W7BJ – David     | KF7ANX – Frank  |
| 4  | W6TYV – Randy    | KE7ODP – Diane  |
| 5  | AF6ZR – Al       | KCØTGG – Ron    |

We hid the transmitters at the south end of Acker Park, along the Barrie Mayes Memorial Trail System, just north of the trailhead at the north end of the dead-end street Autumn Breeze Rd. Jeff had figured this would make a challenging hunt as hunters might have a good idea where the transmitters were, but have some difficulty getting to them, especially if they went to the cemetery at the south end of Virginia St., which was a ways north of the location of the transmitters. One team did go there and met Peter, W7PRG, and thought they were close to the transmitters. However, Peter was not involved in the hunt.

That strategy, however, didn't seem to have a negative impact on some of the hunters, especially the winner of the hunt, WH6EAL. Forrest found the primary transmitter in just 27 minutes, followed by the second place team, W7BJ, and KF7ANX, who found it in 44 minutes. In third place were KCØTGG and AF6ZR, followed by WB6ODR (KE7EEO remained in the car reading a book she had gotten very interested in.). W7TYV and KE7ODP, were closing in on the location but were not able to find it before the time ran out at 1500 MST.

Congratulations to WH6EAL for winning the hunt. I am sure Forrest will be very ingenious when hiding the transmitters for the June hunt. We had our usual social get-together after the hunt at Prescott Junction Restaurant. Often, the camaraderie after the hunt is just as much fun as the hunt itself. It is always enjoyable.

You can see pictures of the hunt at: <http://tinyurl.com/YARCFoxhuntMay2015> .We would encourage more folks to get involved in the hidden transmitter hunts. They are really fun and help develop direction-finding skills.

**May Program Presentation and Hams of the Month**

“The Wonders of 10 Meters,” by Arthur Jackson, KA5DWI — The presentation began with Bill Noe, W7PVA showing a simple 10M half-wave dipole antenna. He said that each leg of the dipole measured 8-ft. 3-in., and that the total length was approximately 16.5 ft. to be resonant on a frequency of 28.440 MHz. W7PVA said that the YARC 10M USB net meets on Thursdays at 2000 MST on 28.440 MHz, and invited more members to participate.

Art, KA5DWI began his presentation by summarizing his operating achievements on 10M using CW, SSB, and PSK. He has been tracking 10M propagation phenomena for more than a decade using analytic software. His background as a former high school mathematics teacher and quantitative banking analyst made him doubt conventional assumptions about “sporadic” E-skip and trans-equatorial path propagation. Using software tracking, KA5DWI analyzed huge amounts of data and arrived at factual quantitative conclusions about the times, duration, and directions of best long-distance radio communication. He present many graphic illustrations in support of his conclusions. Art concluded his presentation by listing websites where club members could go for further information about 10M propagation.

For their efforts and great presentations, Bill Noe, W7PVA and Art Jackson, KA5DWI each were honored as recipients of YARC's May 2015 Ham of the Month award.

L: Bill W7PVA

Below:

R: Art KA5DWI



## YARC Supports Ham Radio in Liberia

by Bud Semon, N7CW

One of the wonderful benefits of taking your ham radio hobby on the road is the opportunity to meet other hams. You have a way to introduce yourself and you already know you have a common interest. This is particularly true if you travel internationally - many foreign hams are excited to meet American radio operators. I have been very lucky to be a member of the world-traveling Voodoo Contest Group and I have good friends in some pretty unusual places. After my visit to Liberia in 2011 and 2012, I have developed a very close friendship with Dickson Tarnue, EL2DT and his family.



**EL2DT and N7CW**

I rejoiced with him when he found a good engineering job late last year and I sweated (from afar) with him as they stopped work on his project and he and his family survived the Ebola crisis. In March of this year, he was able to go back to work, with a new boss. His new boss went to school in Liberia, then moved to the U.S. where he worked until his recent retirement. Now he has returned to Liberia to help with the hydroelectric restoration project Dickson is working on. When he found out that Dickson was a ham, he proposed that Dickson establish a ham radio club at the boss' alma mater - the Booker Washington Institute (BWI) in Kakata, Liberia (about 50 miles east of Monrovia).

Of course, when your boss "suggests" a task for you, it's best to jump right on it. Dickson did a survey of the school and discovered they have some buildings and occasional electricity, but little else. So, what are friends for? He came to me for help. Together, we planned a location for the club station and the antennas and prepared a list of equipment and training materials he would need. But then there was more - you can't have a ham radio club without hams. So Dickson was tasked with teaching a class at the school. When the word spread that basic electronics was a requirement to get a ham license, the class filled to overflowing - he had over 60 people show up for the orientation and they all have continued to show up for the subsequent classes.



### **Dickson Leading a Standing Room Only Ham Radio License Class at BWI**

So where are we? I recognized that my resources are limited, so I went to my friends for help - that is, my ham radio friends at the Yavapai Amateur Radio Club, at the Central Arizona DX Association (Dickson is an honorary member), at the Voodoo Contest Group and at the ARRL. Every group I have contacted has responded with enthusiasm. The YARC Elmer group donated a brand new Yaesu FT-450 radio (originally donated to the Elmer group by Bob, N6OX). YARC itself donated \$250 toward the purchase of coax (unfortunately the antenna location is about 200' from the radio), CADXA donated an antenna and accessories (SWR bridge, soldering station, etc.) and the Voodudes donated cash to Dickson (he has been photocopying pages from the license manual to jump-start the class). I am working with the ARRL to get training materials at a discounted price - if not donated directly. As always with 3rd world countries, shipping anything of value into the country is a difficult task. But the U.S. chapter of the BWI Alumni Association has volunteered to expedite the shipping so that, hopefully, everything we ship to them will arrive there.

On behalf of the soon to be on-the-air BWI Amateur Radio Club and Dickson, EL2DT, I would like to thank YARC for its generosity and for sharing the spirit of ham radio friendship, literally half way around the world. Hopefully, many of us will have the opportunity to have a QSO with, and exchange QSLs with, some of the folks in the photo.

| Club Officers  |                 |           |  |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------|--|
| Officer        | Name            | Call Sign | Email Address  |
| President      | Frank Bender    | K8FB      | <a href="mailto:president@w7yrc.org">president@w7yrc.org</a>           |
| Vice President | Rex Mauldin     | N7NGM     | <a href="mailto:vice.president@w7yrc.org">vice.president@w7yrc.org</a> |
| Treasurer      | David Hanson    | W7BJ      | <a href="mailto:treasurer@w7yrc.org">treasurer@w7yrc.org</a>           |
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| Director       | Donald Bauer    | WB7TPH    | <a href="mailto:wb7tph@w7yrc.org">wb7tph@w7yrc.org</a>                 |
| Director       | Douglas Meyer   | KF7YZJ    | <a href="mailto:kf7yzj@w7yrc.org">kf7yzj@w7yrc.org</a>                 |
| Director       | Douglas Freeman | KV8TD     | <a href="mailto:kv8td@w7yrc.org">kv8td@w7yrc.org</a>                   |
| Director       | Randy Dashiell  | W6TYV     | <a href="mailto:w6tyv@w7yrc.org">w6tyv@w7yrc.org</a>                   |
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| Acting Editor  | Loren Singh     | AE7CG     | <a href="mailto:secretary@w7yrc.org">secretary@w7yrc.org</a>           |
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