

Rainbow Canyons Amateur Radio Club

Cedar City, Utah

Club Officers:

President:

KF7YWY
Cameron Abbaticchio

Co-Vice Presidents:

K7ZI
Richard Parker
and
KF7WIY
Denice Sheffield

Treasurer:

AL7BX
George Gallis

Secretary:

K6QOG
Bill Stenger

Local Repeats:

146.980 Mhz

146.940 Mhz
Tone 100hz

146.760 Mhz
Tone 123.0Hz

Remote Base
449.500 Mhz
Tone 100 Hz

IRLP/Echolink
449.900 Mhz
Tone 100 Hz

Club meets on the second Tuesday of each month at Sheriffs Search & Rescue Bldg.

Next Meeting May 13th Activity:

There will be demonstration of IRLP and Echolink forms of amateur communication via the internet and repeaters. You will learn how to use IRLP to communicate with practically any city in the world by using a radio as small as a handheld and using WA7GTU UHF repeater. Echolink uses a computer with a microphone and speakers connected to the internet and again it is possible to communicate with people practically anywhere in the world.

President's Moment

Greetings, we have several requests for a Technician Prep class. We could get as many as 20 new members to the club. I have gathered information from the Net, printed it and placed it in a binder for the instructor and the test questions for practice. We are very much in need of someone to conduct this class. If you would like to do this please contact me at KF7YWY@gmail.com or 435-559-1960. We have some people willing to help out with creating a flyer, teach theory and assist in the class. This is a great opportunity to advertise our club, so if you have the time please step forward and help out. 73 Cameron KF7YWY

Rocky Mountain Division Newsletter

As part of ARRL's year-long Centennial celebration, W1AW/x will be on the air

from every state in the country, twice for one week each, throughout 2014. These operations have been extremely popular for hams looking to net a QSO with W1AW, trying to work each operation on as many band/modes as possible, or trying to earn Worked All States and other awards exclusively from contacts with W1AW/x in each state.

The complete schedule of W1AW/x operations is available at
http://www.arrl.org/files/file/On%20the%20Air/W1AW_2014_sked.pdf

Rocky Mountain Division Convention

The 2014 ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention will be held August 8-10 in Albuquerque, New Mexico in conjunction with the annual Albuquerque Duke City Hamfest. The Convention will be held at the 188-room Hotel Albuquerque, located a short walk from the city's historic old town.

Planning is underway, and here is just a taste of what to expect:

New/used ham equipment sales, manufacturers and vendors, outdoor tailgating, technical and non-technical forums, banquet meals with notable speakers, special event station, competitions, QSL card checking, amateur radio license exams, numerous prizes, ARRL forum, midnight

Wouff Hong ceremony, satellite QSO demonstrations, a near-space balloon launch, specialized modes demos, and much more.

Special guests include:

- Mike Corey K1IU (ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager... and DXer and contester);
- Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH (retired FCC special counsel);
- Bob Heil K9EID (owner of Heil Sound and co-host of HamNation);
- Rob Sherwood NC0B (RF engineer), and;
- Dave Jorgensen WD5COV (contester and DXpeditioner)

VOLUNTEER CONSULTING ENGINEERS:

The Volunteer Consulting Engineer Program provides assistance to amateurs who may need to meet structural requirements set forth by local zoning authorities. Such engineering requirements are often necessary to obtain a permit to erect an antenna support structure. Hams often need an “expert witness” to certify that the tower in question meets or will meet the engineering requirements of local ordinances. Amateurs who need assistance are referred to Volunteer Consulting Engineers in their area. To search for a Volunteer Consulting Engineer near you, visit <http://www.arrl.org/locate-a-vce> More information about ARRL’s Volunteer Counsel Program can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/vce-description>

WHAT HAPPENED AT LAST THE MEETING

President Cameron Abbaticchio KF7YWY called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Those Present:

AL7BX George Gallis
KC7UT Roger Simister
KF7OVD Brian Amos
KG7AHS Travis Horton
K7JCA Jim Ashby
WA7GTU Don Blanchard
K7ZI Richard Parker
KG7HTJ David Williams
N7SIY Joel Clements
KB7UMU Sylvia Clements
N7TCE Merlin Mackay
WD0CDG Larry Heddings
WA7HHE Brad Biedermann
KB7HHB Mardi Biedermann
KC7IHE Gavin Hollinger
KF7YWY Cameron Abbaticchio
K6QOG Bill Stenger

NR7E Jeff Pederson
K2GRG Greg Jackson
KE6ZIM Johnny Ellison
KC6ZNC Scott Tweedie
W7IKP Michael Clarke
KG7FFC Julie Johnson
KG6LFU Jim Beal
AE7HY Bob Vosper

Visitors:

Carol Stenger
Debra Frank
Lis Williams
Caleb Williams
Roman Williams

Treasurer Report:

George Gallis AL7BX reported he left the report at home. (George Emailed the report after the meeting: Previous balance \$1084.57, check to Richard Parker for supplies \$12.73, transfer to Rocky Mountain Power \$38.42, deposited from dues collected \$45.00, end of month balance \$1078.42.)

Minutes:

Bill Stenger K6QOG asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. There were none. Don Blanchard WA7GTU moved to approve the minutes and seconded by Bob Vosper AE7HY. Unanimous vote.

Announcements:

RCARC board members voted to give a \$200.00 donation to Don Blanchard WA7GTU for his expenses in keeping the repeater up and running.

Don Blanchard gave a repeater update: all repeaters working except the link to Phoenix. That will be fixed latter in the year. The remote base on Iron Mountain has excess noise and may be worked on this week. To the St. George people, when using the remote base be aware of the duty cycle. The 2 meter radio is not a repeater and needs a fan.

Events:

A. Emergency Expo May 3rd, entitled Ready Our Kids. A sign up sheet will be going around if you are able to help out.

B. Field Day June 28th and 29th. We need a Coordinator and the tower trailer needs some repair work along with replacing coax.

C. Annual BBQ will be held in August, on Saturday

instead of the regular meeting on Tuesday.

D. Endurance Ride Oct 4th & 5th.

Business Items:

1. Sylvia Clements KB7UMU asked for sign ups for the club breakfast.

2. Fred Getman N6OJS and several others will hold a prep class to prepare people for their Tech License test. There will be a new question pool July 1, 2014 for the Tech Class.

3. Jim Ashby K5JCA said the Washington County ARES meets on the 2nd Saturday each month at 0930 @ the Washington County Emergency Operation meeting room @ 197 Tabernacle Rd in Saint George. We are teaching digital communications this year. All are welcome.

Program:

George Gallis AL7BX and Brad Biedermann WA7HHB demonstrated the use of several Fldigi modes suited for printed communications, especially emergency communications.

The thing necessary is understanding Fldigi's screen.



Screen with multiple lines to read many conversations at the same time.

Waterfall indicating the signals.

Parameters of the program

Digital signals in this demo were sent from one computer to another via accustics, i.e. from speaker to mic. It can be sent via handheld radio on vhf or by any HF radio.

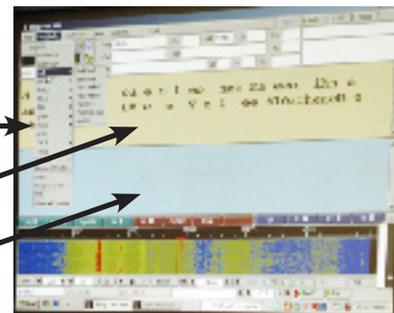


Brad sending a digi signal from his computer to George's computer to his left.

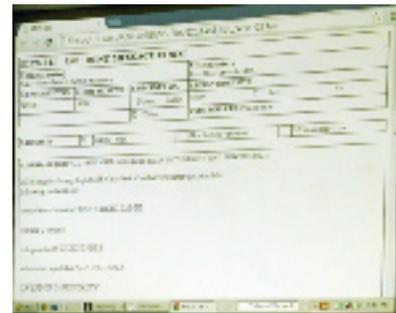
One great aspect to Fldigi are multiple modes. The arrow points to only a portion of modes.

Receiving portion

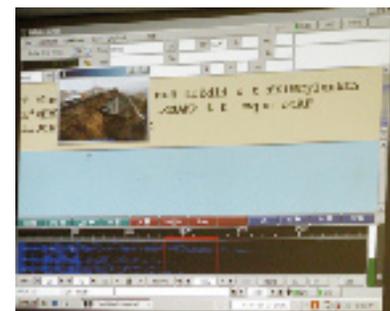
Transmission portion



Fldigi is extremely useful for emergency communications. The program has a section that contains a variety of message formats, especially government agencies specialities. This example is one to report an incident situation. The operator sending a report easily fills in the pre-formated form and sends the message and Fldigi automatically finds the form in the receiver's computer and completes it in the proper form.



Fldigi has the ability to send pictures. Ideal for informing an Incident Commander what the situation looks like. A picture is worth a thousand words.



Fldigi is extremely useful in noisy or low signal conditions. Some modes are possible to use even when the noise blanks out the signal to human hearing.

Through out the program there were questions and answers.

Cameron called for a motion to close the meeting. Sylvia Clements motioned and was seconded by Don Blanchard.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted;

Bill Stenger K6QOG
Secretary

Wants and Sale

This is a new section in the newsletter. It will be for anyone with some ham radio equipment for sale or for some one who is looking to buy some ham equipment.

George Gallis AL7BX is looking for:

**one 10ft mid-section of Rohn 25G tower
contact George AL7BX, at 719 859 1913**

From the ARRL Newsletter

Amateur Radio Volunteers
Provide Critical Support for
30th Challenge Cup Relay.

Amateur Radio volunteers were key to maintaining safety and security for the thousands of law enforcement personnel who took part in the Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay (B2V) race on March 22. This year marked the 30th anniversary of the event, sometimes called "The world's longest police foot pursuit." The relay event covers some 120 miles of remote territory, from the Mojave Desert near Baker, California -- the gateway to Death Valley -- to Las Vegas, Nevada.

"This year we started 261 teams over a span of 9 hours," B2V Communications Director Joy Matlack, KD6FJV, told ARRL. "All of the teams that started the race finished, which sometimes is not the case. We had a minimal level of injuries this year -- only five airlifts -- so that made this year's race all the better."

The grueling route tests human endurance in an environment where rattlesnakes thrive and the temperature has topped 130° F. The race course winds through the Mojave Desert, crosses the Spring Mountains at Mountain Springs Pass (elevation 5530 feet) and descends into Las Vegas. The terrain and race logistics also challenge the communication system, which needs to cover some 8100 square miles. Given a lack of conventional telecommunication services, the vast impromptu telecommunication infrastructure incorporates ham radio as well as business band, aeronautical, and public safety systems.

"We have multiple layers of communications, and most are tied into an integrated ham radio network," Matlack explained. Many teams bring along their own ham radio teams to provide logistical support for their runners, she added.



Matlack said the B2V starts out with some 325 or so volunteers, who support communication with and for the race director and other officials as well as provide information to and from each of the 22 baton exchange points. She said individual teams that use ham radio bring out another 325 hams along the course. The primary mission of the Amateur Radio volunteers is the protection and safety of runners and their support-vehicle staff members.

The race takes place in 20 stages, where the teams change runners. Amateur Radio operators serve as the race staff at these stages, provide scoring and timing functions, handle the PA system, call in the medics if necessary, and handle all routine and emergency event radio traffic.

The B2V is sponsored by the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club, which has limited the number of entries to 270 teams. With family, friends and onlookers the crowd can grow to more than 10,000 people. Read more. -- Thanks to Joy Matlack, KD6FJV; John Bigley, N7UR, Nevada Amateur Radio Newswire.

Update for Iron Mountain Remote Base

Last month Don Blanchard WA7GTU mentioned



there was a program with noise on the remote base. Don, George Gallis AL7BX and Bill Stenger K6QOG went up the mountain to replace the coax and adjust inputs and output of the radio and controller. The picture is of the tower and the building on the right side of the tower houses the remote base. Bill is on the middle of the tower

connecting the new coax. (Photo by George Gallis AL7BX).



Don adjusts the spectrum analyzer and George keys the radio.