



President's Message

Please, note, the club calendar has changed slightly, including net times and dates. Refer to the club calendar at the end of this document for the current one.

At the last club meeting, we voted on several issues. I mentioned the 7th call district QSO party. More information may be found at: <http://www.codxc.com/new/Page.asp?Content=DRYLAND7S&Page=1>.

We also talked about the Rocky Mountain (Utah) hamfest. Dan Farwell has contacted us and asked for help. I was assigned to get more details. Here is Dan's response:

“Details you bet!

I was asked by the Utah Hamfest Committee (<http://www.utahhamfest.org/>),

that I have been a member of for about 6 years, to help them with certain aspects of this years upcoming ARRL Rocky Mountain Convention at Ruby's Inn at Bryce Canyon, Utah.

They specifically suggested I involve the RCARC to let

them know they haven't forgotten about the good ole boys down South.

They wanted to include all of us here in Southern Utah to help bolster their efforts for this event. (July 11.12 & 13th, 2008)

As you can see by their event website it will be the most serious effort this year by any organization in Utah to get us hams together.

The Utah Hamfest Organization has had some very successful and notable hamfests in past years and this year's promises to equal or surpass all previous efforts.

There is registration information and a printable registration form on their website. And they do offer a monetary incentive to making your plans early.

I am mailing you a copy of the Hamfest Point Point registration for the event for the members to view at one of your upcoming meetings.

In particular they asked if the the Dixie Amateur Radio Club Inc. would help organize and oversee the Friday evening Eyeball QSO and BBQ dinner.

This will be held at Ruby's Pavilion and will host 200+ hams for a paid BBQ dinner. I

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have made arrangements with Larry Jacobs WA7ZBO (SLC) to use his BBQ grill that can cook 60 hamburgers at a time! We will need help taking meal tickets and serving. I will purchase all the food items-transport them and prepare the fixins. If there are any of your members who have experience cooking for large groups their help would be greatly appreciated.

There will be homebrew root beer and nice BBQ dinner for all. The following night Larry Jacobs will put on a Saturday Dutch oven dinner that should be the show stopper!

I have never been dissatisfied with Ruby's Sunday (all you can eat) breakfast served before the keynote speaker and prize drawings on Sunday morning.

The DARC has offered to setup and host a special event HF station. We will need some qualified relief operators especially on Saturday during the Hamfest seminars, swap meet and various entertainments. There is also a portable repeater setup just for the event by your very own Don Blanchard WA7GTU.

He made need some help in the setup and there will also be a need for operators who can help with a 2 meter talk-in to the Hamfest site.

I will personally host the CW contest in the exhibition hall on Saturday and any of your members with an ear for my brand of music are welcome to help too!

Well there's your Hamfest primer- whatever your members volunteer to help with they'll certainly go with many lasting good memories and the feeling of a job well done. I'm happy to fill in any details I've left unanswered.

Vy 73 , Dan Farwell W8EQA”

I will entertain motions on this matter at the next club meeting. I have yet to hear back from the DX organization that asked for donations.

A new request from Dan Farwell is that we provide volunteers for the Utah Summer Games.

He suggested I contact Steve Algreen. I have done so, but have not received responses. This appears to be a good opportunity to help out. Some of the work needed is to be at various points to provide communications and assistance if needed (assistance will be done, I think, by someone else, we just do the communications). This could be good training for an emergency. I will provide information as I get it.

Finally, last month just before the meeting several club members, including myself, were notified that Jim, KE7PTP is not able to continue as secretary due to scheduling issues. Please, come to the meeting with a nomination in mind and let us deal with this quickly as we have much to cover in the next meeting.

Trever, AE6HR

At The Last Meeting

At the last meeting Ken Munford gave a fantastic lecture on antennas and feed lines.

Unfortunately, at this time I have not received a summary from him. I will not attempt to summarize it as it would only be an injustice.

However, we did learn the differences in radiation patterns and major lobe directions for horizontal and vertical antennas. We learned about what antennas have various impedances. We also learned how directional antennas work. Ken suggested the ARRL antennas book to learn more.

Preparing For an Emergency

Non-Radio

Nothing this month. If you have any suggestions, please email [Trever Adams, AE6HR](mailto:Trever.Adams.AE6HR).

Radio

On Wednesday February 20, 2008, the 2 Meter friendship net was delayed until after the net

handled a Health and Human Welfare situation. A trucker had gone up U-14 without chains. A ham, not affiliated with the club, came across the trucker and broke into the net. By and large the situation was handled well (mostly by K7ZI). Mistakes were made by nearly everyone, I have included critiques after my comments so we can all learn. However, in a more serious emergency some of the mistakes could have caused some confusion, but not likely caused a more serious incident.

There was one problem, which could have led to more problems, and which could have in fact been a violation of FCC rules. During the handling of the situation a ham broke into the net, during a brief quiet, to have a social conversation with one of the parties involved. Remember, emergencies have priority and all who are not directly involved should standby.

Finally, there may have been a few mistakes in failing to identify every 10 minutes. I doubt the FCC would do anything in this situation, but as Amateur Radio operators we should do our best to follow all FCC rules and best operating and engineering practices (the later two may not always be possible in an emergency, but we should strive). I believe all of these suggest that some emergency communications training is good. Please, participate in Joel's nets as well as do the FEMA related training mentioned in previous newsletters.

N7BO says: These are some of the observations from my point of view.

1. Q signs are for CW use not Phone. for example Roger is for use to acknowledge a station, not QSL.
2. The net should have been made back to a formal status.
3. Communications should have been cleared through net control. Net control had lost control of the net.
4. Net control was trying to run the traffic himself when he should have assigned it out to one of the net members and then he could have ran the net according to any other traffic that may

have need to be passed. After the emergency was over, then the net should have been turned back to an informal net and continued on with the other check ins and comments.

5. The traffic that was passed between the two stations was passed too fast and the receiving station was not prepared to receive the traffic. For example the first station that was ready to send the traffic did not ask the receiving station if they were ready to receive.
6. At the beginning for the emergency it was not clarified if it was a life or hazardous condition of the emergency. (Editorial: Was the road blocked? Was anyone injured?)
7. Now at the beginning of the triple break, I had also noted that the anxiety level had gone way up, you sure could tell it by the people's voices. I think it is natural to want to help and do the best that we all have the potential of doing. I even found myself getting a little excited right at the beginning. I just needed to stop and take a deep breath and then focus in on the situation.

I hope that all involved understand that I of all people are not perfect and surely don't want to cause any hard feelings from this emergency. I felt it best to at least throw out my observations in this matter. I feel it is the only way we can become a better communicator when the time may arise again.

Best to all. And 73's N7BO Happy Hamming Russ.

KE7OCJ & KE7OCI say:

Opportunities:

- One instance of a person breaking into the emergency net situation to make a social contact to a member participating in the net.
- Several of us (me being one of them) did not route all traffic through - or under the direction of - the net control, i.e. in my case, when I was recognized by net control, I just blurted out the phone number when I thought it was needed rather than asking the net control if he wanted it or if I should pass it directly. This did not

seem like a big deal at that moment but as I continued to listen it became apparent that by doing what I did, I was, to some extent, crowding the net control out of his role in the event. I think this could have had a very disruptive effect during a more complex emergency when more things are going on. I feel that, for me at least, bypassing the net control was easy because of familiarity...I am comfortable with everyone... We (I) need to focus on keeping and helping each person in their role in order to ensure that we can meet the need at hand, regardless of how simple or complex it may be.

- I was deeply concerned that it was revealed over the air that the person we were helping was carrying \$400.00 in cash and that he would be sitting alone on Cedar Mountain for over an hour. That specific information was not necessary and the needed facts could have been provided in another way.

Positives:

- It was an excellent test for us and a very good experience. This is the kind of thing that has attracted me to amateur radio; hoping to be able to help others. The sincerity of all involved was remarkable.
- This experience clearly shows the importance of participating in nets to train and then solidify good operating habits.
- The candid post mortem we conducted immediately following the incident was a great learning experience. I worked in an industry where as engineers we did these regularly. Even when jobs were on the line, it was often difficult for some engineers to take constructive feedback without becoming offended or at least resistive. On that night, all feedback was candid - yet kind - and was both given and received with the intent of improving our performance. How refreshing!!!

Comments from Joel, N7SIY and Sylvia, KB7UMU:

Getting to Know the Club

From Riki, K7NJ: I'm originally from Los Angeles where my first call was KN6THN in 1956 (I was 13 at the time). In 1957 I moved to Las Vegas and my call sign changed to K7ADD. After graduating high school in 1960, I went to Israel for two years where my call was 4X4NJ. Upon returning to Las Vegas in 1962, I upgraded my license to Extra Class. In 1967, I graduated from the University of Nevada(Reno) with a BS in Electrical Engineering. After graduation, I worked for RCA for 2 years in their Broadcast Transmitter Engineering Group in Meadowlands, Pennsylvania designing high power AM and FM transmitters. At that time, I was active as K7ADD/3. In 1969, I resettled in Israel until moving to Utah in 2004. While in Israel, I was working as an RF Design Engineer for 3 years mainly in the area of VHF and UHF receivers. My Israeli job experience also included 6 years in Electromagnetic Compatibility Engineering, and 26 years in Reliability and Quality Engineering. I'm presently employed as an Electrical Engineer at Wilson Electronics in St. George.

My main interests in ham radio have always been Dxing and Contesting, and in recent years especially on 160 Meters. From 4X4NJ, I managed to obtain DXCC #1 Honor Roll, 40 Zone 160M WAZ, 160M WAS, and 160M DXCC (250 countries confirmed on 160M). Now that I've resettled here in Utah, I don't want to be bothered by chasing after QSL cards, so probably I'll just be content with working DX without QSLing. The contests that I often enter include: CQWW, CQ 160, Stew Perry TBDC, FOC Marathon, and 7QP. I've been on a few Dxpeditons: 3B6RF (2001), C31CL (1969), & HB0XVR (1969). 4X3A was another call that I often used in contests. I work almost entirely CW, and am a member of FOC (a radio club for CW operators). My keen interest in the competitive side of our hobby has stimulated my interest in antennas. One of my designs for a directive antenna system on 160M has been published in QST, and in "More Wire Antenna Classics, Volume 2" (ARRL). I also designed and built a 5 element 20M, 4 element

15M interlaced Yagi on a 40 foot boom that was used at 4X4NJ on a 100 foot rotating tower with a lot of attention to mechanical design (so far, it has all withstood 100 MPH winds).

I've lived in Hamilton Fort since 2005, and my present station includes a Yaesu FT-1000D and a Collins 30S-1 Linear. The HF antenna is a 4 element Steppir on a 73 foot crank-up tower. For 160, 80, & 40, I have a 54 foot top loaded vertical with 60 120' radials fed through a remotely switched antenna tuner. 1000 ft. Beverages in 6 directions round out the low frequency receiving capabilities. A GAP Titan vertical is available too, just in case it's needed.

On the personal side, my dear wife Hanna and I were married in 1962 and lived a wonderful life together until she passed away last October. I have a son and a daughter with 7 grandchildren who all live in Israel. My non-radio interests include computers, music, dancing, movies, and traveling.

73, Riki Kline, K7NJ

Getting Ready (Training)

Please, contribute.

In The Shack

During the Health and Human Welfare situation listed above, it became obvious that we all need to be familiar with the current phone book (since the publisher changes the layout and sectioning from time to time).

It also became clear that it is a good idea to have a phone handy. Some use of the Internet was made. It may be good to have access to a computer and Internet, but in more serious situations, these are likely not available.

Please, if you have tips each month, or interesting and/or rare QSOs please, provide [Trevor Adams, AE6HR](#) with your suggestions each month.

New HAMs

None known to Newsletter.

Recent Upgrades

None known to newsletter.

Sought/For Sale

Sought:

None known to newsletter

For Sale:

None known to newsletter

Club Calendar

Nets:

146.760	RCARC Friendship Net	9:00 PM Daily (PL 123.0)
28.400	RCARC 10 meter Breakfast Net	7:00 AM Monday - Saturday
146.760	RCARC Training Net	9:00 PM, March 5, April 2 (Every First Wednesday)
28.400	RCARC 10 meter Training Net	8:00 PM, March 26, April 30 (Every Last Wednesday)

Club Meetings and Activities:

Mar 11 Meeting	Station Safety, Wiring, Precautions
April 8 Meeting	Fox Hunt Class & Demo
May 13 Meeting	Mini-contest
May Activity	Demo at Scout Expo (?)
June 10 Meeting	Field Day assignments/CW Demo.
June Activity	Field Day: 4 th Full weekend
July 8 Meeting	Fox Hunt Demo/Utah Hamfest attendance plans
July Activity	Fox Hunt
Aug. 12 Meeting	Emergency Preparedness
Sept. 9 Meeting	ARRL and Mel Parks

Oct. 14 Meeting	Undecided
Oct. Activity	Jamboree On-The-Air / Radio Merit Badge (BSA related)
Nov. 11 Meeting	EMP hardening/Club Nominations
Nov. Activity	Special Event Station with Pioneer Days

Dec. 9 Meeting	Elections/Christmas Party
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If you have any suggestions or changes for these items, or for who you would like to see teach one of these classes, please contact Richard, K7ZI, or Trever, AE6HR with your suggestions.