

Rainbow Canyons Amateur Radio Club

January 2018



2018 Club Officers

President:

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Next Club Meeting

Tuesday Feb 13th

7:00PM

Cedar Senior Center

489 E. 200 South

RCARC January 2018 Meeting Minutes

Brad Gunderson, KD6SFS, the new RCARC President, opened the meeting at 7:08 pm.

Attending: Tom Adams KI7LUI

Michelle Arnold KG7YID

Jim Beal KG6LFU

Larry Bell N7SND

Brad Biedermann WA7HHE

Bruce Bishop KI7LUM

Sherry Bishop

Dan Carlson KI7LUR

Don Carter KB7OWE

Shirleen Chaffee KB7QXB

Russ Chaffee N7BO

Sylvia Clements KB7UMU

John Ellison KE6ZIM

George Gallis AL7BX

Brad Gunderson KD6SFS

Todd Hess KG6TYU

Wayne Holcomb KI7QZA

Lance Jackson KA7J

Brody Johnson K&VXV

Riki Kline K7NJ

Terry Lee KD7TTT

Merlin Mackay N7TCE

Ed Padgett KK7ZL

Dick Parker K7ZI

Ken Richter KR7KR

Matt Rowley KC7MJU

Linda Shokrian KG7PBX

Ron Shelley K7HDX

Bill Stenger K6QOG

Kevin Truman KA7SWA

Isaiah Arnold KI7SXJ

FICE KF6NUD

Tammy Nesmith, KI7LVB, the new RCARC Secretary, was called on to report the minutes from the

last meeting as they were printed in the monthly newsletter. It was the Christmas party. There were no corrections or deletions.

Larry Bell N7SND, the new RCARC Treasurer, was called on to report the current finances. He

reported:\$2177.60. Brody Johnson K7VXV motioned to accept



the report.

Don Blanchard, WA7GTU, was absent due health problems. Brad Biedermann WA7HHE gave the repeater status report.

Announcements:

ECOMM Exercise is not tomorrow Wednesday, but next Wednesday January 17. They want to connect all of Southern Utah Hospitals. Roll call will begin at 8 am. Check-ins will follow.

Intertie 940 repeater had a new antennae installed.

Linda Shokrian KG7PBX has arranged for a new radio to be given away in December. Chances to win will be by "earning" tickets like we did this past year.

Eating Food in a Disaster, Emergency Preparation Class will be January 13 from 11 to noon. 900 S. Main St in Cedar City. There is a flyer available at the door.

Technicians class has been scheduled for March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29. Linda has already e-mailed the teachers and they will meet at Linda's house on February 1 at 7 pm. We all need to get the word out! The first Board meeting with (2 of the new officers) was held and many things were decided:

We will continue with the participation awards

Linda has arranged for a radio to be given away.

This one is a Kenwood, dual band, Echolink...

We will have at least 2 Fox hunts. One for beginners and another to be more advanced.

We will be having 2 Elmer Nights soon. One will be right after this meeting and the other will follow next month's regular meeting.

It has been proposed to make a "Tour of Ham Shacks."

February program will focus on the Fundamentals of Radio

March program will cover coax, connectors, cable etc

We will be having our Field Day in June

The Unusual Antennae was such a hit this past year that we will be doing that again

We have talked about having a General Class, but we don't want to wear out our teachers.

Old business:

We had ARRL Insurance last year and have decided to pay them again this year for the coverage. The cost is \$300 and it covers any Club Sanctioned activity. Details will be posted on the Web site.

New Business:

Brody Johnson K7VXV needs help covering Tuesday nights. It would be about 2 nights a month. Tim Nesmith volunteered to cover those

nights. Sylvia will no longer be co-controlling on Tuesday night.

We would like volunteers to bring snacks and water:

Johnny Ellison KE6ZIM said he would bring water and some snacks.

Burton Nichols KI7DRA said he would also bring snacks.

Fred Gettman N6OJS is moving East and does not want to pack along the extra radios and parts. He would like to sell them to anyone interested. They are on the table in the back of the room.

Ed Alpers W7AEA has a pace maker and cannot be around radio equipment. He is willing to sell them to anyone interested. Bill Stenger K6QOG will send out an e-mail out tomorrow listing the equipment available.

PRESENTATION: Terry Lee KD7TTT talked about "Intertie" and showed how with just a "cheap"

\$30 hand held ham radio we can reach far distances through links and repeaters.

He also talked of how to access the Remote Base at Rowberry.

Terry spent the remaining time explaining Echo Link and demonstrating with Russ Chaffee N7BO linking a few places around the world.

The meeting was concluded at 8:40 pm

HF Contact on the High Seas

Jupiter Research Foundation Amateur Radio Club (JRFARC) has integrated an HF transceiver with an autonomous ocean-going drone. Our mission is to deploy a ham radio station that roams the world's oceans while providing an opportunity for amateur radio operators everywhere to make contacts with rare locations.

Our sponsor, Jupiter Research Foundation, has loaned JRFARC a Wave Glider and donated some radio equipment for this effort. Our club members have assembled a specialized waterproof ham radio payload and antenna system for the Wave Glider. We've used a combination of off-the-shelf and custom software and hardware to allow the system to operate autonomously for months at a time.

We originally launched the system from the Island of Hawaii in January of 2016 onboard a Wave Glider SV-2. After a nearshore 'shakedown cruise' of about one month, we brought the system in for some tweaks. We've had it in the nearshore

waters for a few more test cruises throughout the summer of 2016 and 2017. In the late summer of 2017 we built a second version of the HF Voyager to be deployed on an SV-3 model Wave Glider. It has been sailing in the near-shore waters for the last few months for testing. We sent this new Voyager out to the open ocean on its way to California on January 15th, 2018. Our pilots will guide it to sections of the Equatorial North Pacific that are not normally available to ham operators. The station will use FT8 and PSK-31 on the 20 meter band as its primary operating modes. You may also find it using WSPR in times of poor propagation.

The club plans to give a certificate of recognition to operators worldwide that have a confirmed contact with the HF Voyager. In the future we hope to collaborate with Amateur Radio organizations and publishers to sponsor operating events and contests for HF Voyager contact milestones. Gridsquare collectors, maritime operating fans, Islands on the Air participants, and all other hams interested in this unique opportunity to make a contact with an autonomous roving maritime station should find this to be an exciting new aspect of their favorite hobby.

To find out more about this, including a schedule of the club operation go to:
<http://www.jrfarc.org/hf-voyager/>

A Tour of EchoLink

By Terry Lee KD7TTT

For licensed hams, EchoLink® software opens up new possibilities for communicating around the world with other amateurs. Your PC links you or your local repeater to any of thousands of other stations over the Internet.

There are several different ways you can use the EchoLink software. You can set up a "simplex link" in your shack, with a VHF or UHF transceiver connected to your PC, to allow anyone in range of your station to communicate by voice with any other EchoLink station around the world.

Or, you can use the PC's microphone and speakers and remotely connect to any of more than 2,000 different repeaters that have EchoLink capability.

The station-list screen keeps running tabs on who's currently on the system. Stations which have recently come on or off are noted separately. Sort the list any way you like. You can set up any

number of "alarms" which will sound when your favorite stations come online.

Virtually any type of Internet connection may be used with EchoLink, from dial-up to DS3. Custom settings allow you to tailor EchoLink to compensate for older computers or slower Internet connections.

You can choose from three different types of connections. 1. Individual users. This is a great way to have a one-on-one private conversation over EchoLink with another user. 2. Repeater/Links. This allows you to connect to another repeater in a distant area and talk "over the air" using that remote repeater. 3. Conference. In a conference you connect with several other users and have a group chat or net.

The main thing to remember about EchoLink is that it is fun! It is a great way to communicate around the country and the world using your radio and/or an internet connection.

Announcing the 2018 Utah VHF Society Swap Meet

The 2018 Utah VHF Society Swap Meet will be held on Saturday, February 24, 2018 at the Davis County Fairgrounds - the same location as the past several years. The doors will open for general business at 9 AM with set-up for those selling beginning at 8 AM.

This is a reminder that your Utah VHF Society membership may be expiring at the end of this calendar year, so remember to renew: This may be done via PayPal or old-fashioned snail mail. Get details on how to join or renew on the VHF society webpage. If you aren't sure when your membership lapses, check the link on the VHF Society web page. This list will be updated in a few weeks with the most current information.

If you have not been to a Utah VHF Society swap meet - or if you don't remember how to get there - you can get information by going to: http://utahvhfs.org/2018_Swap_Meet_Directions_Map_Pictures.pdf

Read or have something interesting you want to share with the club? Send your ideas and links to Tim, KI7LVC at bigkickincountry@gmail.com or Tammy, KI7LVB at msnezzy@gmail.com 73 until next month!