

# Rainbow Canyons Amateur Radio Club

Cedar City, Utah

## Club Officers:

### President:

KR7KR  
Ken Richter

### Vice-President:

KG7BPX  
Linda Shokrian

### Treasurer:

AL7BX  
George Gallis

### Secretary & Editor:

K6QOG  
Bill Stenger

### Local Repeats:

146.980 Mhz  
Tone 100 hz

146.940 Mhz  
Tone 100 hz

146.760 Mhz  
Tone 123.0 hz

Remote Base  
449.500 Mhz  
Tone 100 hz

Remote Base  
449.925 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.

### RCARC NETS:

**Breakfast Net:** 7:00am 146.76 Mhz, 123 hz PL tone required, every weekday.

**Friendship Net:** 9:00pm 146.76 Mhz, 123.0 hz PL tone, every evening.

**Club breakfast is November 5th** at the Pastry Pub. Come in and place your order then come to the side room to be with other hams and your order will be brought to you. It is a most relaxing and friendly environment.

**Next club meeting is Tuesday, November 8th, 7:30 pm**

### TOPIC:

**November Presentation** will be Don Blanchard showing how a repeater controller works and what a base station does. Please bring your HT to learn how to link repeaters.

### Books giveaway will be:

ARRL Handbook 2017 Edition  
ARRL Operating Manual 11th Edition  
ARRL Antenna Book 23rd Edition

## Local News

### Emergency Communications Group

Meeting was held October 20th at 6 pm at the Visitor's Center.

Those in attendance were: Ken Richter KR7KR, Brad Biedermann WA7HHE, Mardi Biedermann KB7HHE, Jack Coulter KG7VEJ, Denice Sheffield KF7WIY, Fred Sheffield KF7GPZ, Jim Urie KG7SYL, Don Blanchard WA7GTU, Linda Shokrian KG7PBX and John Higley.

1. Current Board Members were re-elected for another year's term. They are Don Blanchard WA7GTU, chairman

Brad Biedermann WA7HHE  
Ken Richter KR7KR  
Merlin Mackay N7TCE  
Linda Shokrian KG7PBX, recorder

2. It was decided to hold meetings bi-monthly on even months (February, April, June, August, October with the Annual Christmas Appreciation Dinner in December). Reminder emails and calendars will still be sent out monthly by Linda KG7PBX. If an event is scheduled, we can add meetings as needed.

3. Brad WA7HHE gave a report on the SWUPHD Radio Drill held at the Hospital on Tuesday October 18th.

Iron County had no problems which Brad credited to our willingness to prepare for the drill (going into the hospital on

Sunday evening to make sure everything was working correctly). We had 14 check-in's. Tony Bennett KA7HGX was Net Control and Linda Shokrian KG7PBX worked HF and passed the digital message including her call sign spelled out in the waterfall. Brad WA7HHE oversaw and coordinated the drill. Mardi KB7HHB and Jody Johnson KI7DQZ were also present. Jody was the liaison via text and phone with Steve Rossberg KG7CLN at the St. George Hospital.

George Gallis AL7BX handled the linking and un-linking of the repeaters.

#### 4. John Higley

a. gave an update on the Ecomm Trailer - windows are paid for and here - waiting to be installed down in St. George.

b. a canopy has been purchased for Ecomm use. Vests, shirts, and magnetic car banners will have to wait until the county's next fiscal year.

c. a grant for \$10,000 is in the process of being obtained. Funds will be used to buy radio equipment for the Ecomm trailer. Brad WA7HHE will get list of needed items to John.

d. John will look into getting a better book of maps of Iron County for Ecomm use.

e. Iron County is constructing a new building which is supposed to have a radio room for Ecomm use in it. Size is not known at this time.

5. The Ecomm call out sheet was passed around and updated. Don WA7GTU to make a new call out sheet.

6. A flier was available for the upcoming Spontaneous Unaffiliated Volunteers Class for those who were interested.

7. Don WA7GTU said that the VHF Society has been given the 5 repeaters up in Idaho linked to our Intertie system to take care of. The VHF Society is in need of knowledgeable people to repair and maintain our repeater system. Don gave a special thank you to George Gallis AL7BX for all his invaluable help.

There will be no meeting held in November 2016 or January 2017 (odd months). Christmas Appreciation Dinner will be at 6 pm on December 15th at the Heritage Center. Next meeting will be February 16th, 2017 (the 3rd Thursday) at 6 pm at the Visitor's Center.

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### **CERT**

Meeting was held October 20th at 7 pm at the Visitor's Center. Topic covered was how CERT fits into the ICS (Incident Command System). Next meeting was held November 17th at 7 pm at the Visitor's Center

There will be a Medical Trauma Training put on by Well Prepared here in Cedar City. The cost is free and is scheduled for Sunday October 30th from 4 pm - 7 pm. The class will be held at 788 N 2150 West (just off Airport road, near Coal Creek Industrial Park, across from Timberline Cabinets) All are Welcome. Come learn good life saving first aid.

### **LEPC**

LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee) meeting was held on October 19th at 12 noon.

A report on the Shirts Fire was given. A reminder that there will be a Rural Preparedness Summit down in St. George in February instead of doing a Citizen Corp Conference. See Linda KG7PBX for more information or a handout. If you wish a copy of the LEPC monthly minutes, please contact Linda at Lgshokrian@gmail.com and she will send you one when available. Next meeting is scheduled for November 16th at 12 noon at the Heritage Center.

## ARRL NEWS

### ARLB039 Rule Making Petition to FCC Calls for Vanity Call Sign Rule Changes

The FCC is inviting comments on a Petition for Rule Making (RM-11775) from a Nevada radio amateur that seeks changes to the rules governing the Amateur Radio Vanity Call Sign Program. Christopher LaRue, W4ADL, of North Las Vegas, is proposing that any licensee obtaining a vanity call sign be required to keep it for the full license term. LaRue contends in his petition that excessive and frequent vanity call sign filings are hampering the ability of other qualified licensees to obtain vanity call signs in one of the more desirable 1 x 2 or 2 x 1 formats. LaRue said that since the FCC dropped the fee to file for a vanity call sign, some applicants are taking advantage by regularly obtaining new call signs, thereby keeping them out of circulation.

The petition can be found on the web in PDF format at, <https://ecfsapi.fcc.gov/file/1004220986407/Petition%20.pdf>.

“Some are changing call signs almost monthly, just to keep the newer code-free Extra class operators from obtaining a shorter call sign,” he said in his petition. “I even saw an older operator that said he does it all the time and has not even owned a radio in over 6 years. When I looked him up, he has had 16 different [call signs] in 18 months.”

LaRue said his proposed minor rule change would require any licensee applying for and obtaining an Amateur Radio vanity call sign “be required to keep it for the duration of the license, which is currently 10 years.”

He said this would “alleviate a lot of the stress on the ULS system and manpower requirements” at The FCC. “It will also keep inactive amateurs from changing call signs regularly, thereby tying up call signs for 2 years after dismissal of said call.”

Interested parties may comment using the FCC Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) at, <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/>. Comments are due within 30 days of the October 26 posting date.

### Battleship Missouri Serves as Amateur Radio Licensing Class, Testing Venue

The ARRL-affiliated Emergency Amateur Radio Club (EARC) in Honolulu held the first-ever Amateur Radio licensing classes and test session on

board the battleship USS Missouri, now a World War II memorial berthed in Pearl Harbor. The October 8 test session was the culmination of 5 weeks of classes and a tour of KH6BB, the ship’s club station. Eight applicants passed the Technician exam, and two of them went on to pass the General class test as well. For more info see ARRL newsletter.



### What Happened at the last meeting? RCARC Minutes for September 13, 2016

#### RCARC meeting October 11, 2016

President Ken Richter called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm.

Those present were:

Don Carter	KB7OWE
Mardi Biedermann	KB7HHB
Dennis Gaede	KI7DRD
Jim Beal	KG6LFU
John Ellison	KE6ZIM
Jack Coulter	KG7VEJ
Brad Biedermann	WA7HHE
Devin Elliott	KG7NYJ
Brody Johnson	K7VXV
Ken Richter	KR7KR
George Gallis	AL7BX
Linda Shokrian	KG7PBX
Carolyn Bauer	KG7YIB
Tony Bennett	KA7HGX
Merlin Mackay	N7TCE
Ken Munford	N7KM
Riki Kline	K7NJ
Boyd Woolsey	KG7YIA
Jim Urie	KG7SYL
Larry Coles	KI7DRE
Brad Gunderson	KD6SFS

Carolyn Bauer is substituting for Secretary Bill who is in Italy to be with his daughter. Motion to approve this substitution by Tony Bennett and seconded by Johnny Ellison.

Treasurer's report by George Gallis AL7BX.  
Expenses were for Three Peaks Pavilion and trailer parts.

\$100 in outstanding expenses.

Current Balance: \$1178.92

George met a ham radio operator at the Rim whose call sign is K7ZOO from Southern Arizona.

He shared what kind of equipment was used to stabilize an external antenna using a table, PVC pipe, a push up pole and a base under back wheel of vehicle.

Linda and George made 62 contacts in the Pipe Springs area?

Discussion between Tony Bennett KA7HGX and George.

Discussion of Ham Fest, ARRL and Marvin Parks at or contacting ham at Bear Lake.

Linda – Club Announcements:

Saturday, November 12, Swap Meet at Linda's House

Next Technician Class hopefully on Wednesday nights starting in February. No reservations can be made until after January 1, 2017 for the room at the Visitor's Center.

Talk of a ham radio club participation award next year for those participating in Club sponsored events. The prize is a YAESU 847d all-band radio!!!

A considerable amount of money was donated by Linda for the prize.

Tues October 18 starting at 10 am there will be a net check-in with the Southwest Health Department and Amateur Radio Communication

A Quarterly exercise was mentioned and a check-in list, digital messages over HF or Repeater. Our ECOMM Groups ICS 205 (emergency frequency list) for the 18th event.

Discussion about what repeaters will be killed and what repeater(s) will be used for this event.

Brad Biedermann advised the South West Health Department ECOMM exercise will involve a roll call for each of the five counties. A net check-in list will be forwarded via digital messaging over HF or Repeater to the South West Utah Health department in St. George. George Gallis (AL7BX) will isolate the Regional VHF Intertie for the exercise.

Brad WA7HHE advocated if using the intertie to take a short breath before speaking to allow for the repeaters to link up.

Brad- WA7HHE advised John Higley our ECC manager has been extremely supportive of our Club ECOMM group and presented a picture of the new Canopy John ordered for ECOMM use having the club name on the canopy. Is also working on the ECOMM Trailer to be furnished with new amateur radio equipment.

Brad- WA7HHE, then gave a presentation on "Amateur Radio Email" sharing its usefulness during disasters. To enlighten the club of what might

be experienced during a disaster and the need for amateur radio communications, Brad shared some of his experiences as an Incident Management Team Communications Technician during Hurricane Katrina at Gulf Port Mississippi. For example, how the local telephone cable infrastructure was damaged and long distant communications became overloaded and un-useable. Brad also mentioned concern expressed by Government officials of a cyber-attack upon our nations power infrastructure could take down power for months.

Brad then gave a PowerPoint presentation explaining the Amateur Radio Winlink email architecture, how it works both with and without the internet, that it can pass the Incident Command (ICS) forms and pictures and is near virtually spam free. That the program is well suited for Emergency Communications, not to mention for use when camping out of distance from cell communications or even while in the middle of the Pacific Ocean as the program is used by mariners while at sea.

Winlink is well suited for internet disruption. It can work as a stand alone network without standard internet.

Winlink can prioritize how fast emails can be sent – 5 programs. It sends a block at a time. It repeats until it all comes through.

Winlink 2000 Architecture

CMS/RMS Gateway (Radio Message Server)

Client

Winlink has built-in propagation – NVIS frequencies. Use an antenna close to the ground – 80 & 40 meters.

Brand showed a Radio Message Servers Map on the screen. Winlink.org is free. Winlink would like a donation of \$39 if you would like to donate to their project and server upkeep.

He talked about Digital and the ORCA Net.

George gave a little more information – information about 15 and 20 meters. George mentioned VHF and UHF method.

8:37 pm President Ken dismissed the formal portion and Linda did the PM Book Give Away.

Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Bauer, KG7YIB

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday November 12th

Swap Meet

Linda's Home

More info at the next club meeting