

THE YAVAPAI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

PRESCOTT, ARIZONA

VOL 9 - No. 1

DM-34

JANUARY 1999

The Yavapai signal



WELCOME TO THE YAVAPAI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Yavapai Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL affiliated club. The club participates in many activities in the tri-city area including providing communications for local events, emergency communications, volunteer exams, and promotion of the hobby throughout the community. Membership in the YARC is open to any interested amateur or non-amateur alike. The YARC meets at 7:00 PM local time on the 3rd Thursday of every month at the Granite Mountain Middle School, 1800 Williamson Valley Rd. in Prescott. It is about 1/2 mile north of Iron Springs Rd and all amateurs and non-amateurs as well are invited. Programs of interest are included as part of the meeting. The weekly NET is held every Wednesday at 7:00 PM local time on the 146.880-repeater. All amateurs are invited to participate. The Yavapai County ARES/RACES NET is held on Monday nights approximately at 6:45PM local time on the 147.220+ repeater on Mingus Mtn.

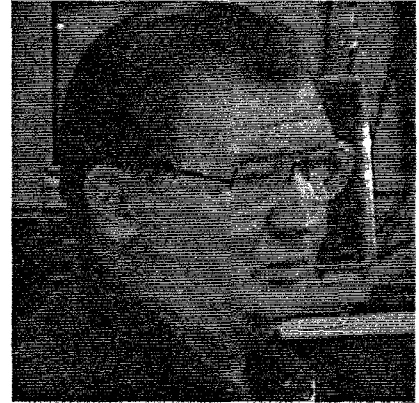


SPEAKERS WANTED! Want to make a presentation to the club? Got a favorite subject or experience you would like to share? If you do, we want you! Programs of interest are always needed for club meetings. Share your knowledge or experience with the rest of the club at our meetings. Contact Lee Cunningham, KC7CBK for more information.

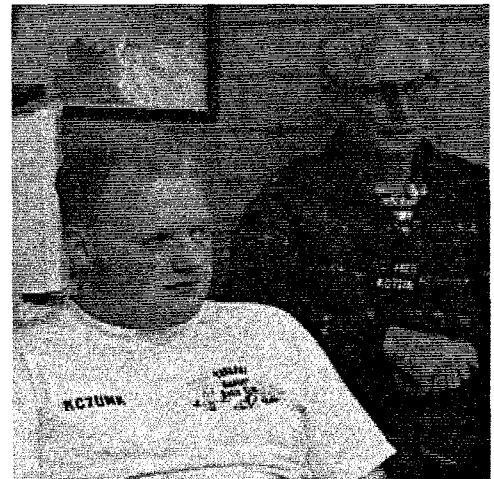


WE WANT YOU!

Membership in the Yavapai Amateur Radio Club is only \$12.00 for 1 year. Newsletters will be mailed only to those members not attending a meeting and current on dues. Those in arrears 3 months will be dropped from the membership list. Dues can be mailed to the club PO Box or given to the treasurer at any meeting.



NEW PRESIDENT ASSUMES POST (12/17/98)
Lee Cunningham-KC7CBK assumed the position of club president.



Club Secretary Kris Bearscove-KC7UNK (L) and Treasurer Fred Schefflette-KC7TIN (R) listen intently to club proceedings

YARC OFFICERS for 1999

Lee Cunningham, KC7CBK	President*
Hal Tritel, N6OVE	VicePresident*
Kris Bearscove-KC7UNK	Secretary*
Tony Masvidal, W7PCU	(a)Secretary*
Fred Schefflette-KC7TIN	Treasurer*

YARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Includes Club Officers

Bob Kane, K7KOL	Frank Horneff WA6JBV
Dale Leslie, N7XFD	Frank Bennett, N7VOJ

(a) Tony Masvidal will share the secretary's duties with Kris until he graduates and leaves sometime in July.



UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

January 26-27 Special Event Station - All Amateur Radio Clubs of St. Louis, MO will operate W0K-celebrating the visit of Pope John Paul II. QSL via KA0IAR, Rev. Mike Dieckman, 702 Third St., Hillsboro MO 63050.

January 29-31 CQ 160 Meter Contest-CW

January 30 Albuquerque Winter Tailgate Swapfest. 8A-2P @ Montgomery and San Mateo. Info contact k5tee@qsl.net

February 6-7 Vermont QSO Party

February 7, NCJ No. American Sprint-CW

February 13 Saturday VE Testing at the Blind Center, 440 N. Washington, Prescott 10:00AM

February 14-Special Event Station operated by the GMMS ARC from the Sharlot Hall Museum 7celebrating Arizona Statehood Day. Last minute details on the weekly YARC Net.

March 13-Scottsdale Spring Hamfest. 9000 E. Chaparral. 6:00 AM, T/I 147.180+ (Parking \$2.00)

More detailed information on Contests and Special Events can be found in most amateur publications such as QST, Worldradio, and others.

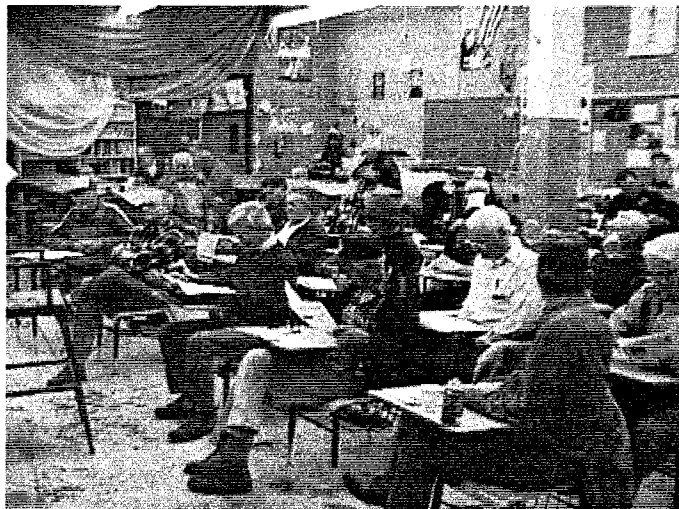


Club Repeater

The local 146.880- MHz repeater is the official adopted repeater for the YARC. It is located on the hill above Willow Creek Rd and requires a PL of 100.0 hz. There is a second 2 meter repeater on Mt. Francis on 147.040+ MHz and also requires a PL of 100.0 Hz. Also on Mt. Francis is the 447.650 repeater (-5 MHz and 107.2 PL) Coverage of the 3 repeaters varies, but both cover the local area quite well. Many thanks to Bill Kafka, W2YAV for the upkeep and use of the repeaters.



DECEMBER MEETING



YARC Meeting at Granite Mtn. Middle School
(Don't they seem a little big for those desks?)

The December 17, 1998 meeting was called to order by President Bob Kane, K7KOL at 7:00PM with 27 present.

Two visitors were introduced to the club, KD6VAN, E from Carlsbad, CA. Bob Smith, WB6ODR, visiting for second time, paid his dues and is now a member of the club.

The minutes of the November meeting were read. A motion to approve the minutes was seconded. All members voted in favor.

The Treasurer's report was given by Fred Shefflette, KC7TIN and approved by the membership. There was \$512.98 in the general fund and \$22.59 in the refreshment fund. Fred reported that the club received a \$100 donation from Goodyear Tire on Willow Creek Rd.

OLD BUSINESS

Terry Pemberton, KB7TRE reported on the success of the Granite Mountain Middle School's Special Event station. The students "had a ball"! The students sent Radiograms and ate pizza. Terry thanked all the stations that volunteered including Pen Brown, KJ7KL, and Ken Morelan, N7NBK.

NEW BUSINESS

Our new President, Lee Cunningham, KC7CBK, requested the clubs help with gather historical information about the club. The goal is to have the club's history on our Web page and to have a collection of this information accessible for any member to view. Another suggestion by Lee was to have members take a


picture of themselves or their equipment and provide a short narrative. These pictures and narrative would be kept in the archives and posted on the club's Web page.

An announcement was made by Lee about the Sharlot Hall Museum Special Events station on February 14th. The SPS is set up to coincide with Arizona's Birthday. Members are asked to help set up on Saturday the 13th and operate on the 14th. A suggestion was made to have a signboard for the public to read so they know what is going on during the event. Lee also suggested to set up temporary stations at various places in Prescott. This would help publicize the club and help get more people interested in amateur radio. One such place would be the Ponderosa Mall and another would be Frontier Village. Lee also suggested that the club participate in the Boy Scout/Girl Scout Jamboree On the Air in October.

Our past President commented that he was very proud to have served as president and appreciated all the help.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM for the refreshment break. The 50/50 raffle was won by Bill Jackson - W6HDP who won \$16, but gave back to the club \$6.

Respectfully submitted by secretary, Kris Bearscove.



WE GET LETTERS!
Occasionally we receive correspondence worthy of reprinting for our members benefit.

SORRY. NOTHING IN THE MAILBOX THIS MONTH!

THE NEWSLETTER



If you have anything to share, please feel free to submit it for inclusion in the newsletter. We welcome your suggestions, comments, stories, personal experiences, or other items related to the hobby. Send e-mail to:

km6bf@primenet.com

Occasionally we will have articles from other clubs newsletters:

FROM THE CONEJO VALLEY ARC

News From... **CVARC**



Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 2093 Thousand Oaks CA 91356-0917
<http://www.cvarc.org>



Jamboree on the Air 1998

Jamboree on the Air, the yearly operations where local amateur radio clubs (CVARC included) help the local Boy Scouts of America gain their Communications merit badge. CVARC has sponsored the local JOTA operation for the last four years. Our first year it was held at the Methodist church in Westlake Village. For the last three years CVARC has done the JOTA operation at the Church of the Latter Day Saints Stake center in Newbury Park.

Our operations at the Newbury Park facility have been setup by Ben Odle (no callsign yet) and his wife Liz, KE6PEG. Ben and Liz have been involved in scouting for many years and have felt that JOTA would be great for the local scouting community. I've been involved with JOTA for the past four years and it has been quite the experience for all involved. This year was no difference.

Robert, N1ZSA and myself started setup at 0800 along with the assistance of Ben, Liz and their son. We had access to the club communications van and used the forty foot pushup to support my tape dipole for operations on twenty meters. We also setup a two-meter packet station for AX.25 and APRS use. We were finally up and running a little after 0915 and had thirty or forty scouts standing around ready to jump into the wonderful world of amateur radio. Well as usually happens, not one of the scouts was brave enough to take the mike and participate. Roberts first contact was with a group using the call KH6JTE up in Oregon. When a contact was made we had the scout find the location on our world map. This gave the scouts a chance at a little geography along the way. The farthest contact was made with a group of scouts operating from Whitehorse in the Yukon. We had contacts with stations in Canada, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, and of course California. I think the one contact that left a lasting impression on all of the scouts was the one that Robert and one of the scouts made with a trucker on the highway in Oregon.

I want to thank the operators that helped make this years JOTA another success. Robert, N1ZSA; Roger, N6WNE; Steve, KE6SCS; Denise, KF6DVG; Rob, W6RH; Liz, KE6PEG; and Rick, KQ6NO with his little QRP setup. The scouts were really interested in this aspect of the hobby. One last thing that finished off the whole JOTA operation was a nice newspaper article with photos in the Thousand Oaks Daily News. Robert, you are a celebrity now. Thanks again to everyone that assisted me this year and I look forward to working with the scouts and operators next year.

73 - Eddie Pierce, WB6DFW



Packet, It's Alive

By Lee Cunningham-KC7CBK

After reviewing my notes, I decided to leave the computer to the last. As you will see after selecting the TNC, Terminal Node Controller, some decisions may effect the computer. The TNC is basically a modem. It contains the AX.25 packet protocol firmware/software to communicate with other hams and your computer or data terminal. The TNC may contain enhancements that will allow you to receive AMTOR, PACTOR, RITTY or WEFAX.

There are several poor man's packet software programs used with a basic modem to be used instead of a TNC. Tigertronics distributes the BP-2 Packet modem with software for less than fifty dollars. It can only be used for packet and your computer must be left on because all the functions are in the software. They also have a multimode packet modem, BP-2M for less than seventy dollars.

Timewave/AEA, MFJ, PacComm, and Kamtronics are just a few of the manufacturers of TNCs and MCPs, Multimode Communications Processors. The Timewave/AEA PK-12 is a basic 1200 bps VHF/UHF packet TNC. It connects to your radio and transmits at 1200 bits per second AFSK, Audio Frequency Shift Keying. The AFSK is accomplished by using two frequencies, 2125Hz (space) and 2295(mark). As the name packet implies, data (groups of 0s, [space] and 1s[mark]) is sent at a rate of 1200Baud in groups or packets. The size of the packet is determined by "PACLen", one of the parameters in the software. The PK-12 sells for under \$100.

The Kamtronics KAM Plus is a popular MCP. It has dual ports, 1200 and 300bps. It can handle GPS/APRS, Host, KISS, G-TOR, as well as AMTOR, PACTOR, and WEFAX but it sells for over \$300. If you work HF, this would be a nice addition to your equipment. Most of the software available is Windows compatible and it will allow you to work VHF/UHF and HF at the same time.

The TNC is connected to the VHF/UHF radio by four or five connections. Tx, Rx, PTT, Gnd, and SQ(optional) are connected from the DIN plug, or something similar, to your Mic jack. Check with your radio operational manual for the location of these leads. The operational manual, that comes with the TNC, should have some helpful suggestions. Make sure this cable and the one connecting your computer are shielded. This will reduce RFI. Next connect the TNC to you computer's serial port with a DB-25F or a DB-9P cable. There are some limits to the length of this cable. Standard lengths are five, ten, and twenty-five feet. Special low capacitance cables are available up to one hundred feet. There are adapters to change DB-25 to DB-9 connectors but watch the gender, male to female.

To eliminate problems, make sure your serial port is not sharing interrupts. To check this out in Windows '95, click on "My Computer", then on "Control Panel", then on the "System" icon, then on the "Dive Manager" tab, then on the "Ports" icon, and then select the "Communication Port" that has the Name of the modem. Select the "Resource" tab. Under the "Resource Type" column will be the Interrupt and Input/Output Range (address) settings. Below that is a window that shows if there are any conflicts. Copy the information and save it for future reference.

If you have any questions or comments about packet, please call me at (520)771-2055 or e-mail at leeco1@juno.com or via packet, KC7CBK



From the FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) files

What's the best battery for my HT?

MORE THAN YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT HT BATTERIES. From the Middle Peninsula ARC-Glorcester Point, Virginia Joe Gowdey, KA0JG (formerly KF4IPL)

Part 2 of 2

What about the unbalanced condition discussed above, that goes under the "memory" name? Well, if it wasn't caused by damaging a cell as described in the last paragraph, the battery can be salvaged with a kluge and a little care. You first have to find the approximate ampere-hour capacity of the battery. My HT specs out at 3W output for the 6V battery, with a charge life of 4 hrs at 10% duty cycle. Assuming a 50% efficiency for the DC to RF conversion and ignoring the receive consumption, that works out to $(3W/0.5)/6V = 1A$ for time of $4hrs \times .10 = 0.4$. So the ampere-hour capacity is roughly 0.4 amps X hrs. What we need is a resistor which will draw a current equal to 1/20th of the amp-hr figure when connected across the voltage of the battery. This works out to (for the example we're using) $(6V \times 20)/0.4 = 300$ Ohms. Just connect it across the battery, and leave it there for a week or so. Since the dissipation in this case is slightly less than 1/8 watt, any old resistor of near 300 Ohms will do. This will fully discharge all cells at a rate which will not harm the low cells by reverse charging, and should restore the capacity (after recharging, of course) if the low cells have not been damaged. If you intend to store the battery long-term, leave the resistor on it, and only recharge it when you are ready to put it back in service. The reason for this is interesting — when charged, the self-discharge of the cell tends to build metallic "whiskers" between the plates. These may be only a molecule or so in diameter, but they effectively increase the self-discharge rate. (Sometimes they can be big enough to blast a hole in the plate when they grow completely through the separator, too!) Stored discharged, the whiskers don't grow, so the self-discharge rate doesn't get worse with lifetime. Nickel-Metal Hydride (NiMH) batteries are becoming popular as replacements in HT's. I know little about them, except that, in general, the following rules apply:

1. Unless the flyer that comes with the battery explicitly says it is permissible, don't use any type of fast charger with these batteries. Use only the "trickle" charger that came with the HT.

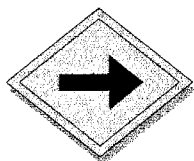
2. In some brands of battery (Yost in particular, but there may be others), the "wall-wart" charger can be plugged directly into the battery. If you use it that way, be sure you are using the correct "wall-wart", and be aware that this is by-passing some of the protective circuitry in the HT. The permissible charging time will be shortened.

3. Pay strict attention to the permissible charging times given on the spec sheet that came with the battery. Overcharging causes the water portion of the electrolyte to disassociate into its component gasses. There is a re-combiner in there to take care of the normal disassociation, but overcharging can overwhelm it, setting the stage for an explosion. Even if there is a relief valve in the cell to prevent bursting, the lost gasses from its operation represent lost electrolyte, and the heating the cells will undergo as a result of overcharging can shorten cell lifetime.

NASA developed a Nickel-Hydrogen (NiH) cell that is, in essence, a special case of the NiMH, the difference being that the Hydrogen is free and under pressure, rather than being adsorbed on a metallic sub-structure. It has been used on a number of space missions, and was the battery used on the first part of the Hubble Space Telescope mission. There, it was replaced by conventional NiCads during the repair mission, because the NiCads have a substantially better volumetric efficiency. (Although NiMH and NiH batteries have a better energy per unit weight capacity than NiCads, the space-flight type NiH batteries are quite bulky.) Tests on the pilot models of the NiH cells were finally terminated after 40,000 cycles, because the cells were showing no signs of degrading, and were in fact improving in performance, at about 25 times the life expectancy of the equivalent NiCad!

That performance probably won't translate to the NiMH battery you just bought at the 'fest, but it indicates that you should expect the new battery to last a long, long time if you take care and follow the rules - the ones for NiCads apply here, too!

73, Joe Gowdey (KA0JG) (Reprinted with permission from the Middle Peninsula ARC-Glorcester Point, Virginia)



SAY WHAT? FROM THE "I can't believe I heard it on amateur radio" files:

"I'd get on 6-meters, but the band is never open!"

"I don't need a rotor for my antenna. I only talk in 1 direction!"

"If we could get more bandwidth, we could all turn up our deviation."

New Ham #1: "Wow, I just worked a W5 on 2 meters!"

New Ham #2: "Yea, he moved here 20 years ago!"

"I don't want to load my tower with too many antennas. That's a lot of money to fall down."

"I had to lower all my antennas. The wife said the place looked like a porcupine!"

"I won't work ATV. I'm not that good looking!"

"I'm going to buy an amplifier so I can be the King of the Repeater."

"There were some good deals at the swap meet, but the prices were too high."

"If somebody steals your radio, how will they know how to operate it?"

"I only joined the club to get my name known."

"I can't go to those breakfast meetings any more. I got too fat eating the food."

"I'm not going to flunk any more tests. I'm just going to wait and get grandfathered in."

...and you thought only hams said things:

"SMOKING KILLS. AND IF YOU'RE KILLED, YOU'VE LOST A VERY IMPORTANT PART OF YOUR LIFE." - Brooke Shields

"THE PRESIDENT HAS KEPT ALL OF THE PROMISES HE INTENDED TO KEEP." * Clinton aide George Stephanopolous speaking on "Larry King Live"

"THE POLICE ARE NOT HERE TO CREATE DISORDER. THEY'RE HERE TO PRESERVE DISORDER." - Former Chicago mayor Daley during the infamous 1968 convention

"IF YOU'VE SEEN ONE REDWOOD TREE, YOU'VE SEEN THEM ALL." * Forestry expert Ronald Reagan

"TRADITIONALLY, MOST OF AUSTRALIA'S IMPORTS COME FROM OVERSEAS." * Former Australian cabinet minister Keppel Enderbery

"IT IS WONDERFUL TO BE HERE IN THE GREAT STATE OF CHICAGO." * Former US Vice-president Dan Quayle

"THE STREETS ARE SAFE IN PHILADELPHIA. IT'S ONLY THE PEOPLE THAT MAKE THEM UNSAFE." * Former Philadelphia Mayor and Police Chief Frank Rizzo

"THE INTERNET IS A GREAT WAY TO GET ON THE NET." * Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole

"IT IS BAD LUCK TO BE SUPERSTITIOUS." - Andrew Mathis

"IT'S LIKE AN ALCATRAZ AROUND MY NECK." * Boston mayor Menino on the shortage of city parking spaces

"I WAS RECENTLY ON A TOUR OF LATIN AMERICA, AND THE ONLY REGRET I HAVE WAS THAT I DIDN'T STUDY LATIN HARDER IN SCHOOL SO I COULD CONVERSE WITH THOSE PEOPLE." * Former US Vice-president Dan Quayle

"THEY'RE MULTIPURPOSE. NOT ONLY DO THEY PUT THE CLIPS ON, BUT THEY TAKE THEM OFF."

* Pratt & Whitney spokesperson explaining why the company charged the Air Force nearly \$1,000 for an ordinary pair of pliers

"WE'RE GOING TO TURN THIS TEAM AROUND 360 DEGREES." * Jason Kidd, upon his drafting to the Dallas Mavericks

"I'M NOT GOING TO HAVE SOME REPORTERS PAWING THROUGH OUR PAPERS. WE ARE THE PRESIDENT."

* Hillary Clinton commenting on the release of subpoenaed documents

"WHEN MORE AND MORE PEOPLE ARE THROWN OUT OF WORK, UNEMPLOYMENT RESULTS."

* Former US President Calvin Coolidge

"CHINA IS A BIG COUNTRY, INHABITED BY MANY CHINESE."

* Former French President Charles de Gaulle

"THAT LOWDOWN SCOUNDREL DESERVES TO BE KICKED TO DEATH BY A JACKASS, AND I'M JUST THE ONE TO DO IT."

* A congressional candidate in Texas

"THINGS ARE MORE LIKE THEY ARE NOW THAN THEY EVER WERE BEFORE." * Former US President Dwight D. Eisenhower

"A BILLION HERE, A BILLION THERE-SOONER OR LATER IT ADDS UP TO REAL MONEY." * Everett Dirksen

"I DON'T FEEL WE DID WRONG IN TAKING THIS GREAT COUNTRY AWAY FROM THEM. THERE WERE GREAT NUMBERS OF PEOPLE WHO NEEDED NEW LAND, AND THE INDIANS WERE SELFISHLY TRYING TO KEEP IT FOR THEMSELVES."

* John Wayne

"HALF THIS GAME IS NINETY PERCENT MENTAL."

* Philadelphia Phillies manager Danny Ozark

"IT ISN'T POLLUTION THAT'S HARMING THE ENVIRONMENT. IT'S THE IMPURITIES IN OUR AIR AND WATER THAT ARE DOING IT."

* Former US Vice-president Dan Quayle

"WITHOUT CENSORSHIP, THINGS CAN GET TERRIBLY CONFUSED IN THE PUBLIC MIND."

* General William Westmoreland, during the war in Viet Nam

"WHAT A WASTE IT IS TO LOSE ONE'S MIND. OR NOT TO HAVE A MIND IS BEING VERY WASTEFUL. HOW TRUE THAT IS."

* Former US Vice-president Dan Quayle at a fund raising event for the United Negro College Fund. He was attempting to quote the line "a mind is a terrible thing to waste."

"IF YOU LET THAT SORT OF THING GO ON, YOUR BREAD AND BUTTER WILL BE CUT RIGHT OUT FROM UNDER YOUR FEET."

* Former British foreign minister Ernest Bevin

"I LOVE CALIFORNIA. I PRACTICALLY GREW UP IN PHOENIX."

* Former US Vice-president Dan Quayle



OTHER NEWS OF INTEREST

From Pen Brown, KJ7KL - Senior Communications Correspondent and News Analyst

UNWANTED SPY RADIOS

A loose knit e-mail campaign by the subscribers to the W6YX VHF Reflector seems to have curbed a Memphis business from selling two meter gear as voice encrypted surveillance radios in the United States.

It was Steve Rutledge, N4JQQ, who discovered the problem. In his posting to the reflector, Steve explained that he had visited the new "Counter Spy Store of Mayfair, London" that just opened in Memphis, Tennessee. Steve found that the store had a section devoted to radio communications devices. As Steve said - "You guessed it." They were selling a very slick briefcase with "spy radios" that operated on two

meters. They were ICOM two meter rigs and the salesman even knew that they operated in the 144-148 MHZ band. But get this. The salesman claimed they radios were encrypted and no one could hear a conversation on them for a five mile range.

Steve's posting brought an immediate response from the subscribers to the reflector in the form of an e-mail campaign to the Counter Spy Store of Mayfair. The store was soon receiving a deluge of complaints at its website mailbox.

Complaints were also filed to ICOM. ICOM was quick to respond and told the W6YX group via Woody Instead KJ4SO that it was not even aware that the "Counter Spy Store of Mayfair, London" even existed. ICOM said that it was not even listed as an authorized dealer on the Icom website.

ICOM added that there have been times when a company will buy from an authorized dealer and attempt to resell the ICOM gear, posing as an authorized dealer. ICOM America told Winstead that it can -- and does -- crack down on such unauthorized resellers as they become known. This says ICOM, may be such the case.

Then on December 28th Steve Rutledge received a reply directly from Brandy Geril who apparently represents the Counter Spy Store of Mayfair, London. Geril said -- and we quote:

"All radios are sold as an ICOM 2 meter radio with a voice privacy option. Licensing is the responsibility of the end user, all sales state that the owner must apply for a license for operation. While we do not sell many 2 meter transmitters here in the U.S. and when sold for export it is the end users responsibility.

We appreciate your concern and interest in our marketing efforts, your points are noted, for future reference our pocket communicators are ICOM Business Band and will include our "voice privacy" scrambling option. While we have been delivering these for a while our current marketing literature is out of date." -- end quote.

From Geril's note it would appear that the company will no longer sell ham gear as surveillance radios to customers here in the United States. The problem is that the signals from such two meter radios exported to their overseas customers have the potential to causing interference to Amateur Radio operations in other nations. As such this may become a problem requiring action by the International Amateur Radio Union, the ITU and the radio regulatory agencies in the affected countries.

While the company says it will no longer sell the Amateur Radio handhelds to the general public the hams on the VHF Reflector are not convinced that the promise means anything. Some of them plan to keep a close eye on the business and will act as needed to make sure the problem goes away. Meanwhile for everyone on the W6YX VHF Reflector, this was a job, well done. In New Orleans, I'm Don Wilbanks, KC5MFA, reporting for Newsline. (VHF Reflector, Newsline #1118, 1/08/99)

QST MAGAZINE CUTBACKS

ARRL Section Managers will lose about fifteen percent of the space devoted to their reports. This as the League prepares to cut back the size of its popular QST Magazine. Newsline David Black, KB4KCH has the details from our South-East bureau in Birmingham Alabama:

Amateur radio's dwindling numbers take their toll. And QST magazine will go under the knife. That's according to a message to Section Managers from League Field Services Manager Rick Palm, K1CE. Palm says several areas of the magazine will be cut back, including the space allotted for Section News. Palm says the simple fact is that the Amateur Radio Services contracting. That, he says, gives the League no choice but make corresponding cuts.

Palm's message paints a grim picture for the Amateur Radio service as it faces the next century. Palm says the annual number of new licensees has dropped dramatically over the past two or three years. As a result, overall VEC exam activity is down about 25% from last year;

And there are other signs of the decline, including the bitter economic conditions amateur radio equipment dealers face. Palm cites many businesses that have closed during the past three years. Also, the number of manufacturers and publishers that are no longer in business. But it's Palm's candid comment about League membership that is perhaps most revealing. Since March 1997, Palm says the ARRL has seen its overall membership numbers fall by more than 14,000 or about 8%. He says the reasons for this drop are varied and include the traditional reaction to a dues increase. But more challenging to amateur radio's future are strong indications that Technician class licensees are not finding much to keep them interested in Amateur Radio or to compel them to be members.

Two years ago, Palm says hams were joining the League in large numbers in response to spectrum threats. But a year later, almost 50% have not renewed. Palm says there could be several reasons, a combination of the last dues increase, the perception that the threats to spectrum have abated, a lack of interest by hams in what the ARRL is offering or just simply defections from amateur radio.

But Palm does leave the Section Managers with an optimistic note. He says that once the uncertainty surrounding FCC license restructuring is past, the situation should improve. In the meantime, though, the ARRL has to take action in the wake of falling numbers, action Palm says must be taken now.

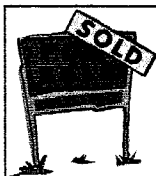
The ARRL Board of Directors will be meeting in Houston, Texas in about two weeks. Chances are that the problems of dwindling numbers of hams and declining add revenues for QST Magazine will be high priority items on their agenda. From Birmingham Alabama, David Black, KB4KCH, for Newsline. (Newsline #1118, 1/08/99, from listener reports)



The Yavapai County ARES/RACES net is held every Monday night at 6:45PM on the Mingus Mtn. 147.220+ repeater.

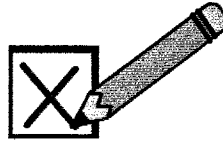
If there are any questions I can be contacted at (520)717-2706 or at wa6zzj@northlink.com for email.

Lloyd Halgunseth, WA6ZZJ
Yavapai County DEC/RO



GOT ANYTHING FOR SALE? CLUB MEMBERS CAN LIST THEIR EQUIPMENT HERE FREE.

ARRL VEC



Volunteer Examiner Testing

The tentative testing dates for 1999 are February 13, May 8, August 14 and November 13, all Saturdays at 10:00AM at the Blind Center, 440 N. Washington St, Prescott.

All those attending for tests must have **ORIGINAL** license and a copy, Original CSCE's and 1 photo ID.

Special test sessions may be accommodated according to demands, as needed. The test fee for 1999 will be \$ 6.45. Further information can be obtained by contacting John Wilson-KM6BF at 636-1228 or Dave Rutledge-W9KRQ at 541-1225.

YOUR LOCAL PRESCOTT AREA VE's

AB7KE	Joan Tremper	AB7KF	Bob Nichols
AB7NK	Mary Miraldi	AB7VH	Ruth Enabnit
K7KOL	Bob Kane	KA7NGK	Don Broadston
KB7FRV	Leonard Beers	KC7AGL	Don Muller
AB7SK	Ginger LeGendre	KK7JH	Billy Peters
KG7OL	David Miller	KI7EB	Bill Thrift
KI7MA	John Dawson	KJ7DX	Matt Strandberg
KJ7KL	Pen Brown	KM6BF	John Wilson
N7VG	Vern Gregory	W2YAV	Bill Kafka
W7DC	Bob Harkey	W6HDP	Bill Jackson
W9KRQ	Dave Rutledge	W7HP	Jim Perrone
	WF7J	Walt Loesche	



AREA REPEATERS



52.560-	100.0 Hz	Mt. Union (-500KHz)
53.040-	C/S	Airport (-1 MHz)
145.350-	C/S	Wildflower Mtn.
145.370-	C/S	Towers Mtn.
146.780-	91.5	Bill Williams Mtn.
146.880-	100.0	Prescott
146.980-	100.0	Flagstaff(Mt. Eldon)
147.000+	100.0/162.2	Mingus Mtn.
147.040+	100.0	Mt. Francis
147.140+	162.2	Flagstaff(Mt. Eldon)
147.220+	C/S	Mingus Mtn.
223.960-	127.3	Mt. Francis
442.150+	100.0	Mingus Mtn.
442.350+	100.0	Glassford Hill
447.650-	107.2	Mt. Francis
449.175	C/S	Towers Mtn.

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS AND CORRECTIONS APPRECIATED



WEEKLY NET -

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS @ 7:00 PM 146.880- (100.0 PL)
IF YOU DON'T HAVE PL, TRANSMIT ON 146.880
SIMPLEX WHEN THE REPEATER DROPS OUT.

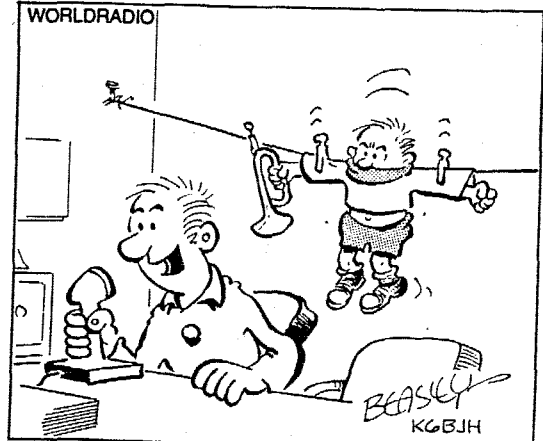
MONTHLY MEETING - 3rd THURSDAY

@ GRANITE MTN MIDDLE SCHOOL 7:00PM
NEXT MEETING THURS. FEBRUARY 18 @ 7:00pm



Wednesday Morning Breakfast-Iron Horse
Cafe in Chino Valley. 7:00am. Informal-All are invited.

Thursday Morning Breakfast-Michael's Restaurant in the
Safeway Shopping Center, Prescott Valley. 8:00am. All
are invited.



**SOME CARTOONS COURTESY OF
WORLD RADIO™ MAGAZINE**

(A GREAT PUBLICATION-CHECK IT OUT!)

**YAVAPAI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
PO BOX 11994
PRESCOTT, AZ 86304**



SCOTTSDALE

SPRING HANIFEST

SATURDAY

MARCH 13, 1999

RV PARKING

TABLE FEE - \$5.00

PARKING - \$2.00

INTERCHANGE OF 101 NORTH & CHAPARRAL RD
9000 E. CHAPARRAL, SCOTTSDALE, AZ
TALK IN FREQ. - 147.18
OPENS AT 6:00 A.M.

NO GUNS, NO DRUGS, NO ALCOHOL