

YAVAPAI SIGNAL

The Yavapai Amateur Radio Club * Prescott, Arizona * DM-34 * Vol. 14 - No.3 * March 2004

Welcome To The Yavapai Amateur Radio Club

The Yavapai Amateur Radio Club (YARC) is an ARRL affiliated club. The club participates in many activities in the tri-city area by providing communications for local events, emergency communications, and promotion of the hobby throughout the community. Membership in the YARC is open to any interested amateur or non-amateur alike. Dues are \$20.00/yr. 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 and visitors are always welcome. 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.

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. If you hear a 1400 Hz pulsing tone, the repeater is on backup battery power and usage should be limited to necessary communications. The 147.040+ (100.0 PL) repeater is back up and running in Prescott Heights. Many thanks to Bill Kafka, W2YAV for the upkeep and use of the repeaters.

YARC Officers for 2004

President Rex Mauldin-N7NGM <i>rxer@jolmail.com</i>	Vice President Dick Hughes-W6CCD <i>w6ccd@arrl.net</i>
Secretary John Broughton-WB9VGJ <i>wb9vgj@arrl.net</i>	Treasurer Al Crook-KD7MTJ <i>alcrook@access-4-free.com</i>

YARC Board of Directors (includes Club Officers)
Bob Smith-WB6ODR
Frank Horneff-WA7JBV
Jack Ragen-W3IVQ
David Passell-K6UWV
Weekly Net Control-Dale Leslie-N7XFD
Newsletter Editor-Hal Tritel-N6OVE



Patrol Captain Mike Reamer Talks to YARC

The guest speaker at the February meeting was, Mike Reamer, Patrol Captain for the U.S. Forest Service Department of Agriculture Prescott/Kaibab National Forests who spoke about his experiences with the USFS. His present responsibilities encompass approximately four million acres of the Prescott and Kaibab National Forests.

He has only four sworn officers to cover this vast area and because it is so large he finds that he must spend most of his time in his vehicle.

He told several stories about some of the problems faced by him and his officers and gave us a little history about how the USFS came to have armed police officers. They have a somewhat different chain of command from the regular forest rangers.

He stressed was that when we are out in the national forest, we should keep our eyes open for anything out of the ordinary and when we do see something out of the ordinary it is important to inform the USFS -- preferably by telephone.

He told of one instance where a woman had observed a man with no apparent gear out hiking in a remote area. She thought it was strange, so she reported him. It turned out that he had been dropped off by an accomplice to care for a marijuana garden in the forest. And it was a garden of many acres. It made for one heck of a bust!

The talk was well received by the members and several good questions were followed by a lively discussion.

Minutes of February 2004 Meeting

Meeting called to order at 1900 by vice president Dick, W6CCD.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Visitors: Dick, W7QHE and wife Lois; Jim, N5RO; Tom, WA6JYO; Jan, KC7MLT

New members: Dick, W7QAG; Jim, N5RO; Tom, WA6JYO

New licenses: None.

The minutes for the December and January meetings were approved, with a correction for the January minutes changing PBL to BPL.

Treasurer's report: Al, KD7MTJ, gave the treasurer's report. The current balance is \$2,198.32. The report is published in the January issue of the Yavapai Signal. The call sign KC7ZHG was corrected to KC6ZHG.

Committee Reports:

ARES/RACES: Lloyd, WA6ZZJ reminded members of the ARES/RACES Net Control Operations class to be held on Saturday, Feb. 21 at the Yavapai Office of Emergency Management facility. He advised that the Whiskey Row Marathon will take place May 3rd, and he will start accepting volunteers at the March meeting. He also advised that some ARES/RACES members will be assisting with communications for a road rally at Quartzite 4/3 and that there will be an exercise in Cottonwood 3/26 that may or may not involve folks in the Prescott area. There will be more information on the weekly nets.

Web site: Bob, WB6ODR advised that the club's Web site is a bargain compared to many other providers. He asked folks with ideas on the Web site to contact him.

Dick, W6CCD, announced there will be a hamfest in Scottsdale 3/13 beginning at 6:00 a.m. It will be at 9000 E. Chaparral Rd., and the talk-in frequency will be 147.18. He also advised the Condor repeater has been moved from Mingus Mountain to the White Tank Mountains near Phoenix.

John, WB9VGJ, showed the radio covers he bought from K7NUU. Anyone interested in them can get information on

his Web site, <http://www.radiocovers.com> or call him at (520) 253-3774.

New Business: None.

Old Business: Lloyd showed attendees the draft of the club brochure he put together. It was very positively received by members.

The business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 1919 for a break.

The meeting reconvened at 1936.

The drawing was held and John, WB9VGJ, won \$20.50.

The guest speaker was Mike Reamer, Patrol Captain, Prescott/Kaibab National Forests. He gave a very interesting talk about his job responsibilities and experiences.

Fred, W7PJN, gave a talk about the recently held Quartzfest at Quartzite.

Bob, WB7RRQ, advised there are some interesting pictures of the California wildfires at <http://cffd.org/>. He also informed attendees that Amazon.com is selling the San Disk Photo Viewer, regular price \$89.88, for \$39.88. This viewer lets you present a slide show on a TV directly from a digital camera's memory card.

The program ended at 2027.



Respectfully,

John Broughton, WB9VGJ

Secretary

Bear Hunter

Frank was excited about his new rifle and decided to try bear hunting.

He travels up to Alaska, spots a small brown bear and shoots it. Right after, there was a tap on his shoulder and he turned around to see a big black bear. The black bear said, "That was a very bad mistake.

That was my cousin and I'm going to give you two choices. Either I maul you to death or we have sex." After considering briefly, Frank decided to accept the latter alternative.

So the black bear has his way with Frank. Even though he felt sore for two weeks, Frank soon recovered and vowed revenge.

He headed out on another trip back to Alaska where he found the black bear and shot it dead. Immediately there was another tap on his shoulder. This time a huge grizzly bear stood right next to him. The grizzly said, "That was a big mistake, Frank. That was my cousin and you've got two choices. Either I maul you to death or we have rough sex." Again, Frank thought it was better to cooperate with the grizzly bear than be mauled to death.

So the grizzly has his way with Frank. Although he survived, it took several months before Frank fully recovered.

Now Frank was completely outraged, so he headed back to Alaska and managed to track down the grizzly bear and shot it. He felt sweet revenge, but then, moments later, there was a tap on his shoulder. He turned around to find a giant polar bear standing there. The polar bear looked at him and said, "Admit it Frank, you don't come here for the hunting, do you?"

YARC TREASURER'S REPORT

February 2004



Early Arrivers Fold Newsletter

Fred, kc7tin and Dale, n7xfd, prepare the newsletter for distribution to the membership by getting to the meeting early and folding it. Just another example of the spirit of cooperation in our club.

Desert Storm Rally

I met with the rally group this sat. And we drove the course.... Should be a great race with two stages being run several times to get the miles in. We will meet at the super 8 motel in quartzsite, az at 7:00 a.M. On sat. April 3rd.. From there we will be taken out in a convoy to are assigned stations as it is on government property.....The local hams will assist us as they are new to the rally..... Lunch will be provided as we cannot leave our post till the race is over..... Bring lots of fluids and shade as this is open desert!!!!!! Will have more info at the club meeting..... Net control will be at the river breeze r.V. Resort at ehrenberg, az..... This will also be the service area..... Very posh place..... Hope to see you there.....

Bob
wb7rrq

Income

Renewals			
2-13-04	N7NGM Rex Mauldin	(3-04/3-05)	ck 189.....\$20.
2-19-04	W2YAV Bill Kafka	(1-04/1-05)	cash.....20.

New Members

2-19-04	W7QHE Dick Diddams	(3-04/2-05)	cash.....20.
2-19-04	WA6JYO Alexander Bevil	(3-04/2-05)	cash.....20.
2-19-04	N5RO Jim Clark	(3-04/2-05)	ck 4122.....20.
50/50 Drawing.....			41.
Total Income.....			\$141.

Expenses

2-1-04	Insty-Prints Jan. Newsletter ck #747.....	\$46.59
2-10-04	Insty-Prints Dec. Newsletter ck #748.....	46.59
2-12-04	Rex Mauldin YARC Party ck # 749.....	100.00
2-13-04	Arizona Corp. Comm.-Corporation Renewal ck #750...	10.00.
2-16-04	Postmaster-POB Renewal ck #751.....	48.00
2-19-04	David Passell Club Refreshments ck #752.....	16.27
2-19-04	J.Broughton-Stamps ect. ck#753.....	38.52
2-19-04	50/50 Drawing-John Broughton cash.....	20.50
Total Expenses.....		\$326.47

Cash Flow -

\$185.47

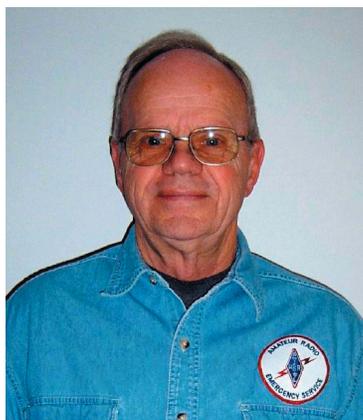
Fiscal Status

Previous Report \$2198.32
Checkbook Balance \$2012.85



Al Crook, Treasurer

ARES/RACES....



Two training meetings were held in February, one in Cottonwood and one in Prescott, on Net Control Operations. This is a very important subject as at any time we could be called upon to be a Net Control Operator. Education and training is very important in emergency communications. It is what supplies the knowledge to help us build confidence in our ability to execute the required steps in the shortest amount of time and with the minimum amount of wasted motion. Training ourselves before the skills are needed helps us function as part of a team and emergency communications is a team effort..

PUBLIC SERVICE....

With our Public Service season coming around again, lets revisit the 10 ways to make ourselves more efficient while operating:

10 Ways to Optimize Your Effectiveness in Public Service Events

- 1) Make sure your radio is in top operating condition. Small problems (such as loose antenna connections, bad microphones, intermittent operation, etc.) may be just annoying during casual operation, but WILL cause major grief under the continuous/severe service of net/emergency operation.
- 2) Don't operate your handheld with it hanging on your belt. Using the radio while it's strapped to your waist reduces your effective radiated power by more than 10 dB. That's a 90% reduction in power. Hold the radio in your hand, with the antenna in the clear.
- 3) Regarding antennas, those 3" rubber

dummy loads may be cute, but you're throwing away 3-6 dB of power when using one. (If you're really into math, compute the loss of a 3" rubber dummy load used on a belt clip). A telescoping half-wave has a gain of as much as 10 dB over a 3" rubber duck and a quarter-wave provides a 4-6 dB improvement. Even a 12-15" rubber duck will boost your signal by 3-6 dB over the 3" ones. Remember that one dB can mean the difference in whether or not a critical message gets through.

4) Have charged batteries and spare battery packs! If you also have a dry cell battery case, fill it with alkaline batteries. Make sure you have enough batteries with you to carry you through, even on high power.

5) Use headphones or an earphone rather than a speaker/mike. Most earphones will plug directly into your HT. Low cost stereo headphones are widely available and will work perfectly with your HT using a mono to stereo adapter. The headphones also have the advantage of concentrating the communications in your ears, while partially shutting out the outside noise. Headphones will also prolong battery life by allowing the radio to operate at lower audio output. A speaker/mike is the worst thing you can use --- it doesn't cut the outside noise, it doesn't save batteries, and where is that HT while you're using the speaker/mike?? (Hint --- see #2!)

6) Speak slowly and clearly when transmitting! You make take pride in your ability to run your words together and mumble, but the station on the other end may be in a noisy environment and may not receive your message.

7) Check out your ability to use simplex. Even if the operation is being conducted on a repeater, there may be "dead spots," the repeater may go down, or, sad to say, there may be jamming. Even if you can only work the two or three stations closest to you, a message can still be relayed. To maximize your simplex range, please reread #2 and #3.

8) Listen to net control and direct all communication through him/her. Identify your station when calling net control and keep all communications direct and to the point.

9) If you must leave the radio or the area to which you have been assigned, first seek permission and acknowledgement from the net control station, make your "time off" as short as possible, and check back in with NCS immediately upon your return.

10) Project a good image to the non-hams around you that are part of the event/emergency. Present a professional image, in manner and physical appearance. Wear a name/call sign badge, identifying cap, shirt or jacket.

UPCOMING PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS....

On Saturday, April 3rd a group of us will be assisting with communications for the inaugural running of the Desert Storm Road Rally in the Quartzsite area. Anyone interested in assisting can contact Bob Rosevear, WB7RRQ, and get more information. Info can also be obtained from the website at desertstormrally.com.

On Saturday, May 1st we have been asked once again to support the Prescott YMCA by providing communications for the Whiskey Row Marathon. This is an early morning event with usually around 1000 plus runners in the five different events that they will be having that morning.

18 to 20 operators are needed and four of the positions require a high clearance vehicle. Sign up sheets will be available beginning with the March meeting and we will also be taking commitments on the Wednesday night nets. This is a fun event and a chance to get out in the early morning air so lets see some good club support on this event.

73,

Lloyd,
WA6ZZJ



FOR SALE

Heavy Duty Antenna Rotor & Control Box

Alliance Model HD-73 antenna rotor & control. Used for 6-element tri-bander (24 ft boom) on a 50-foot tower for about a year near the Texas Gulf Coast about 1980 and hauled around from state to state since then. Designed to handle large antenna arrays, as I recall (but not certain) up to 2000 sq. in. wind resistance. A reliable rotor that worked the last time I used it. It does not appear that I will ever be able to put up a tower again as I do not plan to ever move from my present location that has antenna restrictions
 □ so I need to get this rotor to someone who can use it.

Asking \$75 or best offer.

Jim Clark, N5RO
Ph: 775-8432 email:
jimc100@juno.com



Sam the Ham

In 1986 I bought a green and yellow budgie. Never did I dream that we would share 15 wonderful years with him. I named him Sam, inspired by the movie Casablanca, because he really came to life when music was played.

If Sam had a secret to longevity it would have to be playing with toys. He especially loved any toy with wheels and taught himself how to 'drive' them all over the kitchen, sometimes amusing himself for hours, never getting his toys stuck in a corner and even flipping them right side up when they landed upside down.

Sam absolutely loved to fly. We never clipped his wings so he was a fearless and very talented flyer. A favourite game was to race the humans in his flock and cut them off. He won every time. He never bothered to learn to talk, insisting instead that I learn 'budgie'. He must have been a good teacher because there is a budgie that I see now occasionally that goes wild chirping whenever I 'talk' to him!

Anything and everything electronic interested Sam. Television remotes, calculators, computer keyboards, radios, tape recorders, toy phones. He had incredible hearing, could recognize individual sounds, and as soon as he heard the slightest interesting noise he flew over to investigate.

While studying for my amateur radio license I spent many hours learning Morse Code. The dits and dahs held enormous appeal for Sam and his added chirps made it impossible for me to concentrate. I finally gave up trying to hear my lessons on speakers and thinking that I would fool him, switched to headphones. Never the one to be defeated, he sat on my headphones happily tapping along. Three days before he died Sam joined me at the radio, sitting on my shoulder as I talked to other hams in many different countries.

Photo: Sam waiting by the ham radio for some action!

Spiders

A father watched his daughter playing in the garden.

He smiled as he reflected on how sweet and innocent his little girl was.

Suddenly she just stopped and stared at the ground.

He went over to her and noticed she was looking at two Spiders mating.

"Daddy, what are those two spiders doing?" she asked.

"They're mating," her father replied.

"What do you call the spider on top, Daddy?" she asked.

"That's a Daddy Longlegs." Her father answered.

"So, the other one is Mommy Longlegs?" the little girl asked.

"No," her father replied. "Both of them are Daddy Longlegs."

The little girl thought for a moment, then took her foot and stomped them flat.

"Well, that might be OK in Vermont and Massachusetts but we're not having any of that shit in Alabama."

A young blonde was on vacation in the depths of Louisiana. She wanted a pair of genuine alligator shoes in the worst way, but was very reluctant to pay the high prices the local vendors were asking. After becoming very frustrated with the "no haggle" attitude of one of the shopkeepers, the blonde shouted, "Maybe I'll just go out and catch one myself."

The blonde turned and headed for the swamps, set on catching herself an alligator.

Later in the day, the shopkeeper is driving home, when he spots the young woman standing waist deep in the water, shotgun in hand. Just then, he sees a huge nine-foot alligator swimming quickly toward her. She takes aim, kills the creature and with a great deal of effort hauls it on to the swamp bank. Laying nearby were several more of the dead creatures. The shopkeeper watches in amazement. Just then the blonde flips the alligator on it's back, and frustrated, shouts out,

"Damn it, this one isn't wearing any shoes either!"

For Sale

TS520S Kenwood 160 – 10 meter transceiver W/ digital freq. Display and MC-50 mic.

\$350.00

TEN3 Cushcraft 10 meter 3 element yagi

\$60.00

GTX-2 Genave 2m transceiver 10 channel

crystal controlled

\$20.00

Antenna Specialists 2m glass mount antenna

\$20.00

Autek QF1-A Audio filter

\$45.00

Ken Vinson WB7RQQ

Ph. 928/636-9190

E-Mail: xngh35@kachina.net

'It's Not Mandatory That You Survive'

Those words, from Industrial Engineer and Total Quality Management's founder, Dr. Edward Deming in the early 1980s were aimed at General Motors' white shirts in Detroit as they pondered the invasion of reliable, inexpensive and well designed cars from Tokyo and Wolfsburg.

General Motors was shocked, shocked at what this renowned engineer was telling them: it's not necessary that we survive? Why, we're the backbone of the American economy!

The white shirts were convinced that they WERE America! If GM failed, America failed, and that was unthinkable.

Cooler heads listened and digested what Dr. Deming said, and with farsighted vision, redesigned GM to compete head to head with the foreigners. GM changed.

Amateur Radio is facing G.M.'s dilemma: we *have to change* if we are to survive.

Yavapai Amateur Radio Club's President Rex Mauldin offered several thoughtful topics in the February, 2004 club newsletter, "Yavapai Signal", to collect a sense of club's analysis of its strengths and weaknesses. The item receiving the greatest emphasis in that offering was listed in the Weakness column:

Educational programs for new hams.

This shortfall is a common complaint of many service organizations, and a difficult problem to overcome. There's a generation loss in America's clubs, and I'm not sure anyone knows how to replace this "lost generation".

Listed in Rex's article, under the topic labeled Threats, were two perils I would like to address:

C.C. & R's, (Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions of housing developments), and BPL (Broadband over Power Line internet connection service).

BPL appears to have generated more fear, as it's presented again on page 5 of the "Signal" with an anonymous article titled "Threat To Amateur Radio" which states, "...This project (BPL) is one of the greatest threats amateur radio has faced and could be devastating to the hobby."

I disagree. I see the C.C.&R's and BPL as challenges, not threats, and these challenges will strengthen our hobby, not devastate it.

I'd like to put these two challenges into

perspective. First, the C.C.&R's:

These written and accepted rules for homeowners, some of whom may be hams, are annoyances that have been with us for many years, their irritation metastasizing as more gated communities spring up around the country. Property value protection insured by regulations of appearance appeal to home owners, and this insurance policy shows no sign of retreating. A major restriction for hams living within these regulated developments is the prohibition concerning outside antennas, a restriction almost universal in these communities. Their beams, towers

and long wires unwanted, and pressured by neighbors to remove the unsightly appendages, hams adapted by inventing ingenious radiators that defy detection.

Miniscule, almost invisible wire elements, rain gutters and flag poles that happen to resonate in our favorite band, "ham sticks" mounted on our cars in the carport, mobile stations in our cars and transmitters scrubbed clean of interfering R.F. emissions have given us the answers to "no antenna" restrictions. We moaned and groaned, but we changed our techniques and continued enjoying our hobby.

Now, what about BPL?

It's a formidable opponent, one that promises rapid internet connection to millions of American homes, farms and businesses by merely plugging the computer into the wall plug shared by other home appliances. That's a huge leap in communications technology. Are we, the ham radio operators, up to its challenge? I think so.

I watched, and listened to that alarming BPL demonstration video twice, as did other club members, and came away convinced that the interference heard on the ham transceiver in the van traveling along the street under the power lines was intolerable.

But something was missing from that video presentation. There was no comment about equipment manufacturer's attempts to filter out the noise, or of the internet provider's or power company's efforts to co-exist, through advanced technology, with high frequency communications.

Was that video so alarming because adequate filtering wasn't available yet, or were we only shown half of a scary

scenario?

A recent article in the *Wall Street Journal* makes no mention of interference to other radio services caused by BPL now in use in various cities, and I would assume that the "hash" I heard would wreak havoc with international short wave reception and high frequency disaster communications in this country.

Equipment manufacturers like Yaesu, Kenwood, and Icom, have millions of dollars invested in high frequency receivers used commercially and in our hobby.

International short wave stations have hundreds of millions invested in stations providing reliable reception of their signals in the Americas. Are their voices, when coupled to the American Radio Relay League's concerns loud enough to be heard in Washington?

Can those voices insure high frequency radio reception that is interference free from wall-plug internet access? Maybe!

Maybe not!

I think political and business interests will outweigh those of hobbyists and foreign broadcast. I anticipate the electrical power industry will buzz-bomb its way down the power grid with its version of World Wide Web access, and do it in the patriotic guise of "serving the greater good"; a benefit to the country defined in warm and fuzzy words such as, "Broadband over Power Lines is bringing America's heartland into the information age", or some similar boilerplate. We'll be reminded of the Tennessee Valley Authority's electrification of the American rural south in the 1930s, and how today's new internet access is a natural extension of that project. Those opposed to the "greater good" will be considered owners of ossified brains, or closet Luddites.

BUT, let's be positive about this new challenge. If the equipment manufacturers and service providers don't conquer that intolerable noise on the high frequency bands, BPL will make us don our "thinking caps" again to keep our hobby alive. Remember the TVI threat?

High Frequency communications, never fully reliable because of the vagaries of sunspots and ionospheric layers, may become useless because of the new interference. Sunspots and ions have always dared us to contact each other, and that dare made HF fun.

HF communications is the backbone of our hobby, but has become like us, bent

with age. HF communications requires antennas outside our homes that many find unsightly; some compare them to high voltage lines or electrical distribution stations.

BPL may be HF's coup de grace!

Let's prepare to face a major challenge, not threat, to our hobby: America's mass connection to the internet.

Grandma in Grand Junction talking with her grandchildren in Apache Junction through her computer plugged into a wall outlet shared with her toaster becomes the quintessential communicator! Conversation is exchanged; easily and hassle free by talkers who are test-less, and no unsightly antennas crowd the backyard.

Grandma Rules! She is the glue of families, and will not be put off.

So, what about us and our radio hobby?

There is a way out for us, though we'll have to pioneer again, socially this time. We have to attract computer and internet savvy youngsters anxious to experiment with those beige boxes and radios, as we did with AM and SSB.

Remember how impressed we were when a visiting ham talked on his hand held radio to a ham in Australia using combined RF, telephone and internet technology? That combination may be our new DX band!

Broadband over Power Line internet access is shaping up as the catalyst, the shot in the arm, the kick in the arse for our hobby's longevity! It has the potential to attract new and younger talent, and provoke a paradigm shift in our talking technology, just as Tokyo provoked Detroit.

And finally, the sky isn't falling on us. The approaching cloud of challenge and change will be weathered by the ham community. We aren't where we are with sophisticated systems because we cringed from the new ways of talking. We adapted.

And we will do it again, or we fade to black!

Dr. Deming, I hope we're hearing you loud and clear.

73's
Bob Kane
K7KOL

APRS

The Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS) was developed by Bob Bruninga, WB4APR. It was born in 1984 as the Connectionless Emergency Traffic System. By 1992 it had developed into the beginnings of the APRS system that we know today.

The purpose of APRS is to provide tactical, real-time digital communications. The system uses packet radio to transmit digital data such as location, altitude, station type, and messages. Unlike traditional packet radio, where communications occurs one-to-one, APRS uses unconnected packets on a one-to-all basis.

By combining APRS with the Global Positioning Satellite system, it provides tracking information to remote stations that can be displayed on a laptop or desktop computer. It can also be displayed on some GPS units and radios with built-in TNC's, like the Kenwood TH-D7AG and TM-D700A. APRS data can be sent through a system of radio digipeaters, or it can be transmitted through an Internet gateway.

An example of an RF connection is here, where the location of our Jeep is reported on Findu.com the last time it was used. <http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/find.cgi?call=w6ccd-6>. An example of the Internet gateway is here <http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/wxpage.cgi?W6CCD> where you see the data from our home weather station. From here you can also get to the Jeep's location by clicking on "Click here to find nearby stations." The Jeep is identified with W6CCD-6, and the home station is just W6CCD. If I were using my Kenwood TH-D7AG as a portable, it would be W6CCD-7.

From a practical standpoint, APRS would be very valuable to local ham radio operators in operations like the Whiskey Row Marathon, the road rally, and search and rescue operations. Our ARES communications van could track every operator in the area with their exact location and any messages needed to be sent.

There are many equipment combinations that can be used for APRS. For mobile stations, some type of GPS is required, along with a TNC and radio. Most any 2-meter radio can be used. The national digipeating frequency is 144.39 simplex.

For just tracking purposes, the easiest and most cost effective way to do it is to purchase one of the Byonics Tiny Track3 position encoders. They are available in kit form from Byonics for \$30 without a case, and \$36 with case. <http://www.byonics.com/tinytrak> These are very popular and it is what I use in the Jeep. Note that the TT3 cannot receive positions. It only transmits your location to others. I use the TT3 in conjunction with a Garmin GPS III+ and a 2-meter radio. If you want to be able to see the position of others, you will need a full TNC, or one of the TNC equipped radios previously discussed.

If you are interested in APRS, here is a good place to start. <http://web.usna.navy.mil/~bruninga/aprs.html>



73,
Dick Hughes
W6CCD

Weekly Information Net

Wednesday Nights @ 7:00 pm 146.880 (100 PL)
 If you don't have PL, transmit on 144.880 simplex
 when the repeater drops out.
 All amateurs welcome

Monthly Meeting

3rd Thursday at Granite Middle School @ 7:00pm
 (N 34°34'22.6" W 112°29'45.1")

Next Meeting Thurs. Mar. 18, 2004 @ 7 pm

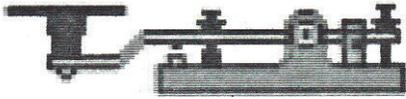
Wednesday morning breakfast–Iron Horse Cafe
 S. Hwy 89 in Chino Valley
 (N 34°43'56.5" W 112°27'15.4")

Informal –All are invited

Thursday morning breakfast–Michael's Restaurant
 in the Safeway Shopping Center,
 Hwy 69 Prescott Valley
 (N 34°35'13.33" W 112°19'44.6")

Informal–All are invited

Location data provided by Fred Zimmermann N7PJN, per WSG84



AREA REPEATERS

Frequency	PL	Location	Notes
52.560-	100.0	Mt. Union (-500 Khz)	CARS N7NGM
53.040-	C/S	Prescott Airport (-1Mhz)	KC7WBE
145.350-	C/S	Wildflower Mtn.	DAWN
145.370-	C/S	Towers Mountain	MMRG
146.780-	91.5tt	Bill Williams Mtn.	BWARC
146.880-	100.0	Prescott	YARC
146.980-	162.2	Flagstaff-Elden	CARC
147.000-	162.2	Mingus Mountain	MMRG
147.040+	100.0	Prescott Heights	W2YAV
147.140+	162.2	Flagstaff-Elden	ARA Link to Ord
147.220+	162.2	Mingus Mountain	VVARA
147.260+	103.5	Mt. Union	YC Emerg.Svcs.
223.960-	127.3	Chino Valley	NW7AZ*
442.150+	100.0	Mingus Mountain	Northlink
442.350+	100.0	Glassford Hill	N7KPU
448.475-	100.0	Flagstaff-Eldon	ARA
448.500-	100.0	Prescott	KB7TWC
448.875-	100.0	Flagstaff-Eldon	Northlink
449.175-	100.0	Towers Mountain	Northlink
448.5250-	127.3	Payson	K2YAW
927.3875	?	'P' Mountain	WB7BYV
			*off the air until further notice.

YAVAPAI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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Many thanks to Bob Smith, WB6ODR, our Webmaster

