

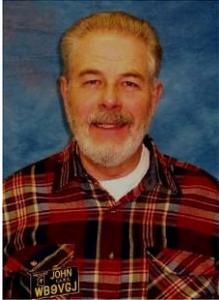


YAVAPAI SIGNAL



The Yavapai Amateur Radio Club • Prescott, Arizona • DM-34 • Volume 21 – No. 3 • March 2006

From the Desk of the President



The February meeting was another well-attended, busy one. I thank those members who stayed until the end of the talk by Captain Doug

Berg of the Central Yavapai Fire District. His presentation was extremely interesting. I will do my best to keep future meetings shorter than the February one. One of the few downsides of an active club is that it takes longer to get through a regular business meeting. I think that is a small price to pay, though, for having an active club.

We are still looking for some more volunteers for net control for the weekly club net. We need net control operators for May, June, July, August and September. Those who have volunteered for the other months are: K7CJW, January; WB9VGJ, February; W7JLC, March; AC6AA, April; WA6AQK, October; W6CCD, November; AB7NK, December. I'll be circulating the sign up sheet at the March meeting. I encourage everyone to consider filling a spot, especially if you have not done so in the past. It is fun and interesting, as well as good practice.

If you attended the February meeting, you know there was interest shown in having a club picnic, but no volunteers to be on a committee to take on the task of putting on a picnic. We've had an offer of using the Yavapai County Sheriff's Jeep Posse facility near Pioneer Park for a picnic. I would like to see one or two club members step up and volunteer to serve as a picnic committee.

A club calendar has been added to the club Web site to allow folks to keep

up on club activities. Thanks to Bob, WB6ODR, for his quick work in setting it up. I envision this as a place to put information about meetings, public service events, etc., along with contact information to make it easier for club members and non-members to keep track of club happenings. There is a link on the club Web site to the calendar. Simply click on the 'Month' tab at top of the calendar and then select the particular month from the box on the left side of the calendar to see the events for any particular month.

Membership in the ARRL (American Radio Relay League) has many advantages for amateur radio operators. One criterion for ARRL Special Service Club status, which YARC achieved last year, is a minimum percentage of members being ARRL members. I would encourage all club members who do not belong to the ARRL to give serious consideration to joining. Amateur radio faces many issues, one of which is BPL (Broadband over Power Line) that can have serious impact on the hobby. The ARRL is the main organization that represents us and lobbies for us. Like any organization, it is not perfect, but it serves some very critical, useful functions. If you do decide to join the ARRL, or renew your present membership, please do so through the club as the club gets some of your dues money. The ARRL gives a special youth membership rate on an annual basis. The special rate is just \$20.00 a year for any amateur 21 or younger who is the oldest licensed person in his/her household. The person's date of birth is required on the application for membership. Contact our secretary, Pat, K7DUC, for details on obtaining or renewing your ARRL membership through the club.

73,

John, WB9VGJ

Welcome to the Yavapai Amateur Radio Club

The Yavapai Amateur Radio Club (YARC) is an ARRL affiliated Special Service 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/year. The YARC meets at 7:00 p.m. local time on the first Thursday of every month in the Technology Room 404, at the Granite Mountain Middle School, 1800 Williamson Valley Road in Prescott. It is about ½ mile north of Iron Springs road, 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 p.m. local time on 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 7:00 p.m. local time on the 145.290- repeater on Mingus Mountain. A PL of 127.3 is required

Club Repeater

The local 146.880- repeater is the official adopted repeater for the YARC. It is located on the hill above Willow Creek road 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.

Many thanks to Bill Kafka, W2YAV ■

Minutes of February 2, 2006 General Meeting



John, WB9VGJ called the meeting to order at 1900. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and members introduced themselves.

Visitors: Alan Biddle, WA4SCA; Martin Jackson, KF6BTV; Vi Hughes; Lois Diddams and Ruth Collins.

New Members: Thayne Higgins, KE7GT was voted in by the membership.

Meeting Minutes: A motion to approve the Board minutes of January 5, 2006 was made by Jim, N5RO and seconded by Bob, WB6ODR. A motion to approve the General meeting minutes was made by Bob, WB6ODR and seconded by Lloyd, WA6ZZJ. Both were unanimously approved by membership.

Treasurer's Report: Dave, K6UWV reported a balance of \$3357.70. The report was approved after a motion by Jack, KE7FMD and a second by Ken, WA6AQK.

Committee Reports:

- **ARES/RACES/Public Service events:** Lloyd, WA6ZZJ reported that the first ARES/RACES training meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 4 at the County Public Works Ready Room. The meeting will be hands on experience on a wildfire scenario.
- The next Public service will be at the Whiskey Row Marathon on Saturday, May 6th. Between 18-20 operators will be needed.
- **Newsletter:** Joe, AC6AA encouraged more people to download copies. Paper copies of the newsletter and YARC Rosters were available at the meeting.
- **Public Information:** Jim, N5RO reported that attempts are being made

to have public service announcements on the radio station. He is working with scout troops on radio merit badges. This is a good source for people getting their licenses.

- **Patches/Badges/Shirts:** Dave, K6UWV has club patches for \$3.00; Bob, WB6ODR has badges for \$5.75, and Dick, W6CCD has club shirts if anyone wants one.
 - **License Class:** Bob, WB6ODR stated that license class preparation is going well. Bob has been assembling materials for the class. The class will be held at Sheriff's Posse room starting on February 20th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. VE testing will be done on April 15, 2006 at 8:00 a.m. People wishing a C.W. upgrade must register, first with Mary, AB7NK. Scout leaders have been apprised of the classes.
 - **ARCA:** Bob, WB6ODR said that there will be a hamfest at Show Low on June 3rd.
 - **Post-Holiday Party:** Bob, WB7RRQ said that there were no complaints and everyone felt that the dinner portions were more than adequate.
 - **FM Simplex Contest:** Bob, WA7YUL and Richard, KE7DTX have been working toward an FM Simplex contest. They would hope that both tech. licensees and new hams would get some experience.. The contest would be for 2 hours on 2 meters or 70 cm. on F.M. Categories would be set up. Contacts over repeaters would not count, but hams would be able to solicit contacts to meet on a simplex frequency. Different categories would be for base station, mobile, or HT. A date has not been set as yet. Rules will be published on the YARC website prior to the contest. Prizes and involvement with VVARA have also been discussed.
- Old Business:**
- **Net Control:** More members are needed to be net control for the rest of the year. A sign-up sheet was sent around.
 - **Club Calendar:** The calendar will be

| YARC Officers for 2006 | |
|---|--|
| President | Vice President |
| John Broughton, WB9VGJ W6CCD wb9vgj@arrl.org | Dick Hughes, w6ccd@arrl.net |
| Secretary | Treasurer |
| Pat Oliver, K7DUC joliver@commspeed.net | David Passell, K6UWV davidrex@northlink.com |
| YARC Board of Directors (includes Club Officers) | |
| Rex Mauldin – N7NGM | |
| Ken Severance – WA6AQK | |
| Richard Bozeat – KE7DTR | |
| Walter Schumann – KF6SPS | |

set up on the club website.

- **Club Survey Results:** The Jeep Posse building has been offered for a facility to have a club picnic. John asked for a volunteer to chair a committee for the picnic. Field day is also an interest. VVARA and YARC will probably work together on a field day.
- **Local Parades:** We will also need a committee to work on participation in local parades. A volunteer is needed to look into this.
- **Booth at County Fair:** Doug, WV8TD and Rex, N7NGM will be working on this. There is nothing to report as yet.
- **Drake Twins:** Have not been sold. George Marcheschi has an eBay account and will try to sell them for the club.

New Business:

- **ARRL:** We would like to encourage membership in ARRL. It has many benefits for the club.
- **Part 15 LP AM Trial:** Andrew Johnson-Schmit gave a talk on a low power AM station that he is working on. He is the Chairman of Coyote Radio, KYXS-LP 142 N. Cortez St., Prescott, AZ. His cell phone number is 925-6830, if any members are interested in helping and wish to contact him.

- **Statehood Station at Charlotte Hall:** Terry, KB&TRE said that he and his students will set up a station at Charlotte Hall Museum to celebrate Arizona's Statehood on February 14th. They will have an opportunity for many contacts.

Announcements:

- **Programs:** March program will be by Jack, W7JLC, who will talk on APRS.

David, K6UWV made a motion to adjourn the business portion of the meeting at 2018. Lloyd, WA6ZZJ seconded. The motion carried and there was a break for refreshments.

Drawing: Bob, WA7YUL won \$19.00 in the 50/50 drawing.

Program: The speaker for the evening was Captain Doug Berg from the Central Yavapai Fire District.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Oliver, K7DUC
Secretary ■

Minutes of Board Meeting on February 2, 2005

A Board meeting was held at 1815 on February 2, 2006. Present were John, WB9VGJ; Pat, K7DUC; Dave, K6UWV; Dick, W6CCD; Richard, KE7DTR; Rex, N7NGM, Ken, WA6AQK, and Walter, KF6SPS.

The Board reviewed the guidelines for open meetings, drafted by Dick, W6CCD. John moved that these guidelines be accepted. The move was seconded by Dick and the motion passed unanimously. The guidelines will be given to Joe, AC6AA for inclusion in the newsletter.

Items from the recent club survey were discussed. Mike, KD7DGT has indicated that we might use the Sheriff's Posse facility for the club picnic. This was thought to be a good idea. Another item of interest expressed in the survey was Field Day, or possibly a one day hamfest. This will be considered. We might work with VVARA on a Field Day.

The license classes need to be advertised more. Flyers might possibly be handed out at the Arts Festival.

John and Bob, KC8BOB have discussed a VVARA/YARC joint Board meeting, but plans have to be finalized.

The Board thought that a club calendar was a good idea. Bob, WB6ODR would place it on the YARC website and only a few people would have the ability to add events to the calendar. We might also include the calendar in the newsletter, for those unable to access the website.

We need to have more members belonging to the ARRL. This is important in order to maintain ARRL club affiliation. The boxes, indicating ARRL membership, must be checked on the club membership Application for accurate counting. John will encourage members to join.

The Drake Twins that were donated to the club have been advertised in the newsletter. They have not sold yet. Possibly, eBay would be a route that could be pursued.

Bob, WB6ODR has agreed to be our club's representative for ARCA (Amateur Radio Council of Arizona).

A brief presentation will be given at the general meeting by Andrew Johnson-Schmit on an Internet broadcast project.

John, WB9VGJ will contact Mary Ahls, W4NZJ, ARRL Section Coordinator again, regarding future speakers.

The meeting adjourned at 1835.

Respectfully,
Pat, K7DUC — Secretary ■

FOR SALE

Cushcraft Model A270-6S A
2M/440 Dual Band, 3-elements on each band. Can mount vertical or horizontal. Used a short time - like new. **Only \$60 OBO**

3-Element Mini-Beam for 10-12-17-20M (says 6M, but never tried it).
10ft boom; longest element 11'9"; trigonal reflector 48" H; weight 26 lbs; windload 3.1 sq ft; 7 dBi gain on 10M - 6 dBi gain on 20M; power rating 1200 watts. Made by TGM Communications in Canada (see QST ads). Still together (just took elements off boom). Should transport easily.

\$250 OBO

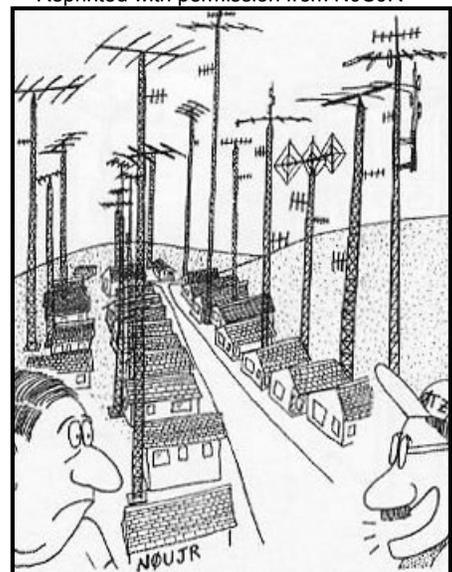
**Rich, N9CEX 771-1614 or
rncaps@netzero.com**

For Sale

Alpha 374 1.5 KW Amplifier- \$500
10-80M Vertical Antenna - \$25
Make unknown. Works well.

**Contact Ben Grady, W2SNQ at
928 778-3484 or c.b.grady@att.net**

Reprinted with permission from N0UJR



"Actually sir, this is a hams only community. Covenants here require at least one tower per household."

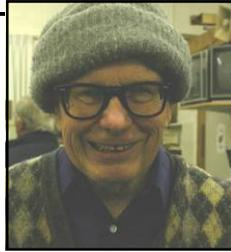
Program Speakers

MARCH
Jack, W7JLC will talk about **APRS**.

JUNE — Bob, WA7YUL, will talk about the **FISTS CW Club**.

YARC Treasurer's Report for February 2006

By David Passell, K6UWV Treasurer



INCOME

New Members (see applications for additional information)

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-------|--------|----------|------|-------|
| Thayne Higgins | KE7GT | 02//07 | 02/02/06 | cash | 20.00 |
|----------------|-------|--------|----------|------|-------|

Renewals (Update Roster)

| | | | | | |
|------------------|--------|--------|----------|------|-------|
| Allan Collins | KD6WQE | 11//07 | 01/24/06 | 2416 | 20.00 |
| LLoyd Halgunseth | WA6ZZJ | 02//07 | 02.02.07 | 4472 | 20.00 |
| Terry Pemberton | KB7TRE | 11//06 | 01/17/06 | 374 | 20.00 |
| Jack Ragen | W3IVQ | 01//07 | 02/02/06 | cash | 20.00 |

ARRL Renewals

Other

| | | | | |
|----------------|------------------------|----------|-----------------|--------|
| Dinner Meeting | Collected from members | 01/21/06 | cash/ checks | 632.75 |
|----------------|------------------------|----------|-----------------|--------|

| | | | | |
|---------------|------------|----------|------|-------|
| 50/50 drawing | 43 tickets | 02/02/06 | cash | 38.00 |
|---------------|------------|----------|------|-------|

Total Income\$770.75

EXPENSES

| | | | | |
|----------|--------------|----------|------|-------|
| Bob Ower | 50/50 winner | 02/02/06 | cash | 19.00 |
|----------|--------------|----------|------|-------|

| | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|----------|-----|-------|
| David Passell | raffle prizes | 01/18/06 | 842 | 18.49 |
|---------------|---------------|----------|-----|-------|

| | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|----------|-----|--------|
| John Broughton | raffle prizes | 01/21/06 | 843 | 134.27 |
|----------------|---------------|----------|-----|--------|

| | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|----------|-----|--------|
| Pete's Restaurant | 46 dinners + tip | 01/21/06 | 844 | 632.15 |
|-------------------|------------------|----------|-----|--------|

| | | | | |
|--------------|------------|----------|-----|-------|
| Insty Prints | 40 Rosters | 01/26/06 | 845 | 19.31 |
|--------------|------------|----------|-----|-------|

| | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|----------|-----|-------|
| Insty Prints | Newsletters | 02/02/06 | 846 | 37.76 |
|--------------|-------------|----------|-----|-------|

| | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|----------|-----|-------|
| David Passell | Cookies, drinks | 02/02/06 | 847 | 17.29 |
|---------------|-----------------|----------|-----|-------|

| | | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|----------|-----|-------|
| Robert Smith | Class Materials | 02/02/06 | 848 | 21.45 |
|--------------|-----------------|----------|-----|-------|

| | | | | |
|---------------|---------|----------|-----|------|
| David Passell | Postage | 02/06/06 | 849 | 8.32 |
|---------------|---------|----------|-----|------|

Total Expenses...\$908.04

Cash Flow (Income - Expenses)..... (\$-137.29)

| | | |
|----------|---------------|--------|
| Deposits | 01/23/06..... | 632.75 |
|----------|---------------|--------|

| | | |
|--|---------------|--------|
| | 02/09/06..... | 119.00 |
|--|---------------|--------|

Total Deposits...\$751.75

PREVIOUS REPORTED CHECKBOOK BALANCE.....\$3357.70

CURRENT CHECKBOOK BALANCE.....\$3220.41

OPEN MEETING GUIDELINES- BOARD OF DIRECTORS

All meetings of the Board of Directors are open to all members of the club except as discussed herein. All members desiring to attend these meetings shall be permitted to attend and listen to the deliberations and proceedings, however, members who are not board members may not participate in any deliberation or discussion unless recognized to do so by the President or acting President of the club. Non board members should remember that board meetings are for the purpose of managing the affairs of the club, and they need to remain quiet unless asked to participate.

Any portion of a board meeting may be closed to non board members only under the following circumstances. In such cases the meeting shall be declared to be in Executive Session, and non board members will be asked to leave for that portion of the meeting.

1. Personnel matters
2. Legal advice from an attorney
3. Pending or contemplated litigation
4. Pending or contemplated matters relating to enforcement of the club's documents or rules.

January 7, 2006



Trying to get a line through conduit?

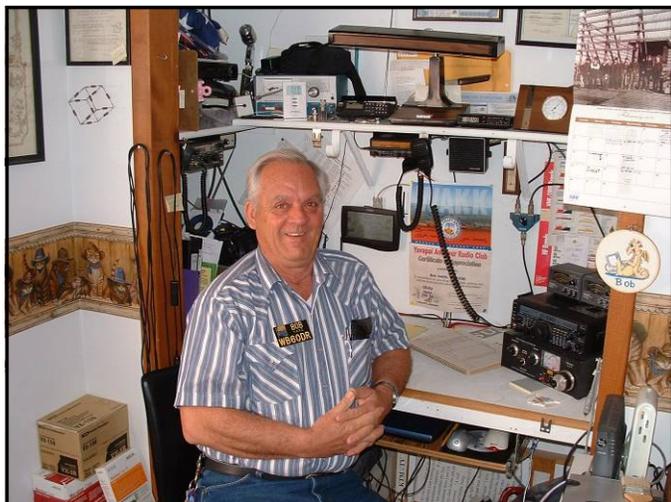
Trying to get a line through a long piece of conduit without a pull wire or rope is vexing at best, impossible at worst. Here's a good idea – tie a plastic bag, such as a bread sack, to a piece of cord that is long enough, plus some, for the length of the run. Use a shop vacuum to suck the plastic bag through the pipe. Tie a stick to the line so that you don't watch the cord vanish into the pipe and vacuum. Once you are ready to pull the actual cable, don't forget some lubricant, referred to as "slickum" by knowledgeable electricians. ■

Silent Key

It is with great regret that we announce the passing of a club member — **John Sullivan, WB7DXT**. He became a silent key on November 4, 2005.

This Month's Featured Ham

By Pat, K7DUC



March's featured Ham is **Bob, WB6ODR**. As usual, we spotted the antennas prior to finding the street number. Bob has several verticals and a tower with a beam. We didn't realize it at the time, but many of their neighbors are also hams. When we looked closely, there were more antennas in sight.

Bob got his first license in July 1965. He was both a novice and a technician for a year. He had two call signs, WN6ODR and WB6ODR at that time. In a year, he got his code speed up to 13 WPM and got his General license. He now has an Extra class license, which required a code speed of 20 WPM. However, he has not used CW since.

He enjoys working 2 meters the most, but he has the ability to work any frequency between 70 cm and 160 meters. He has dabbled in both teletype and slow scan TV. Bob operates a Yaesu FT847 transceiver into an MFJ Versa Tuner. He rarely goes on HF.

Bob has worked contests mostly as a low level participant, but not lately. He had a goal to receive perfect teletype from the MARS stations. He received certificates for this activity.

His most memorable contact was when he first got his General license. He was on a homemade 15 meter beam, using 90 watts AM on 15 meters and contacted Australia. This was his first DX contact.

His last CW contact was on Armed Forces Day, 20-25 years ago with an army station WAR. The army transmitted on a MARS frequency and Bob used CW on a ham frequency.

Bob has built many kits, but the most memorable was a DT600 teletype terminal unit. He entered it in a homebrew contest and took first place. He still has the unit.

His most memorable radio-related mail was the 50th QSL card from Rhode Island in 1969. He had worked all 50 States in one year, with 100 watts or less power, during a

San Diego celebration.

Bob is one busy man. He is teaching the new technician class, he operates four websites, including one for YARC, and he is our delegate for ARCA and ARRL. He handled traffic and acted as net control for MARS, was vice-president and held every board position in his last club, and has been president of YARC at one time. Currently, he is involved in Toastmasters, miniature horses, and polishing/lapidary work. Retired????

Bob feels that the club is progressing in the right direction and has a lot of energy at this time.

Prior to "retirement", Bob was with Pacific Telephone & Telegraph for 30 years. He started as an installer/repairman for 6 months, installed phones for 2 years, then central office for 6 months, then went into special services, where he spent 25 years. He worked on all sorts of special equipment, including audio circuitry, portable microwave, base stations, and mobile radio telephone equipment.

Bob visits "Knobby Knees" most days and is also a member of VVARA.

We are very fortunate to have Bob as a member. He contributes a lot to our club. ■



By Lloyd, WA6ZZJ

ARES/RACES

The first ARES/RACES training meeting of 2006 was held in Prescott on Saturday, February 4th. There were 27 members and visitors in attendance. Topics covered were an overview of Net Operations and then a brief exercise was conducted where nets were held and written messages passed between locations simulating an actual emergency wildfire situation. After the exercise a debriefing was held to evaluate our performance. There was a very positive response to holding our training meetings using this format.

Why do we have training meetings?? Some people may say "I know how to talk on a radio". What can you possibly teach me.

The majority of the attendees at the training meeting discovered that when operating under emergency conditions things aren't always that easy and do not go real smoothly. One of the first things experienced was 'confusion'. This is always normal in the opening stages of an emergency operation. Training will help us overcome the confusion more quickly. Passing the messages wasn't as easy as 'just talking on the radio'. There again, training and experience sending written messages will make it eventually become much easier to do.

See **ARES/RACES**, Page 6

● ARES/RACES Continued from Page 5

The same is true of checking in to a resource net and operating in a directed net. The more training and experience we have doing this the easier it becomes. Notice how many times the word 'training' comes up.

Training meetings help us to know each other and the people we will be working with in an emergency. This tends to make us more 'comfortable' in what could be a stressful situation. Training is important so that you acquire the basic skills required to function as part of a team. Emergency communicators are part of a team that can rely on and support one another. All members must function as a cohesive unit. Individuals may possess great operating skills; however, they may perform poorly and impact the quality of service to our served agencies if they cannot communicate and work on a team.

Training meetings also help our Emergency Coordinators and their Assistants to know your capabilities and that will assist them when it comes to making assignments during a communications exercise or emergency. Trained operators will get the message through in a quicker and much more efficient manner.

The weekly ARES/RACES Net helps in much the same way. We become familiar with the operators checking in each week. It gives the experience of net operations along with serving as a net control (NCS) and it gives the Emergency Coordinators a weekly list of active members from which to begin calling if and when an emergency callout should occur.

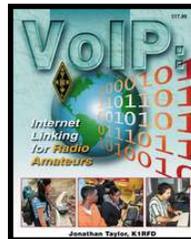
We are in the midst of a real and present danger in our area and that is the threat of a wildland fire. The threat is even more real this year with the lack of moisture and very dry conditions that exist today in and around our mountain and desert areas. All reports indicate this is the driest season on record. To help prepare for a possible response there is an Interagency Wildland Fire Drill scheduled for Friday and Saturday, April 7th and 8th. ARES/RACES will be involved in this drill. At this time it looks for our part to be only on Friday the 7th and it is unknown just how many operators will be needed. Even if you are not one of the operators called out and assigned, the opportunity is there for you to monitor the frequency and get experience seeing how we would function in an emergency. Plans will call for the net to be held on the 147.260+ 103.5 pl Mt. Union repeater.

Remember to keep your batteries charged, your 'go-kit' packed and your vehicle fueled. If you are aware that an emergency may be happening, tune to the 147.260 Mt Union or 145.290 Mingus Mountain repeaters and monitor for information or possible activation.

The Yavapai County ARES/RACES Net is held each Monday evening on the 145.290- 127.3 pl Mingus Mountain repeater at 1900 hours. All Amateurs are invited to check in.

Public Service

At this time, the Whiskey Row Marathon is our next scheduled Public Service Communications event. It will be held on Saturday, May 6, 2006 and is an early morning event with some stations being on location as early as 5:15 a.m. Please plan on signing up for this event. There will be a 'sign up sheet' at the March and April YARC meetings. Our communications support on this event is so valuable to the YMCA that the Yavapai Amateur Radio Club is considered a major sponsor with the YARC logo on the event banner as well as on event t-shirts. Providing Public Service Communications is an excellent way to hone and fine tune our emergency response capabilities. Plan to take part. 18 to 20 operators are needed for the event, but the more we have sign up the better chance we have to assign two operators to a location. ■



Node Talk

By Rex Mauldin/N7NGM

NODE 3790/3828

JUNEAU ALASKA

Much can be learned from one another, and with our present day technology, along with our ham radio capabilities, through the communications tool known as IRLP, one can sit comfortably at home and travel to distant places and learn new things.

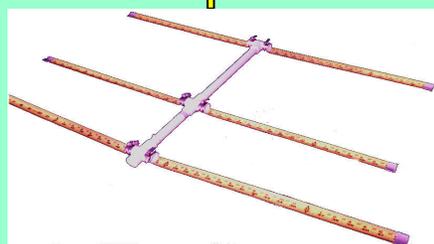
Such was the case during a recent contact I made with Frederick Hoskinson, WA6AXO of Juneau Alaska, while exploring node 3828, located in Juneau. At the time I made the contact, I was searching for anybody, with the intent on asking general questions about the area they live in. What I found was an individual who spends a few months out of the year in Arizona, namely Bisbee, and therefore could relate to our climate, population growth, laws, traffic problems and other factors that we are certainly used to, since this is our home.

I found out from Frederick, who doesn't like to be called Fred, that the growth in Juneau took place mostly between the years 1970 and 1982. He estimates the population to be around 30,000 at this time, nearly doubling from about 14,000 from about 35 years ago when he first started living and working in Juneau.

Not having been there myself, I was curious of a few things such as what the cost is for transporting a vehicle via ferry between Seattle and Juneau. It turns out to be about \$1300. The cost going north through Canada is about \$140, which allows a person to travel southward to the United States, which is a trade off between spending less money while increasing the travel time.

See Node Talk , Page 9

Build a "Tape Measure" 2-Meter Beam



Here's an easy to build 3-element, 2 Meter beam antenna for portable use. This antenna was designed for Radio Direction Finding, but also is great for

repeater and simplex use. The flexible elements take a lot of abuse, and it is a cinch to get in and out of a car.

The antenna construction was designed by Joe Leggio, WB2HOL. Refer to <http://tinyurl.com/anpol> for his detailed description. Reviews on this unusual antenna can be found on eHAM.net at <http://tinyurl.com/922bf>.

PARTS LIST:

- 2 feet of 1/2 inch schedule 40 PVC pipe
- 2 ea. 1/2 inch schedule 40 PVC cross fittings
- 1 ea. 1/2 inch schedule 40 PVC Tee
- 1 inch wide steel tape measure — minimum of 8 1/2 feet
- 6 ea. 1 1/2 inch stainless steel hose clamps
- Vinyl Electrical tape
- RG-58 coax with a connector on one end
- 5-inch piece of copper wire (enameled, stranded, etc)

Figure 1 shows the overall construction. Note that the driven element consists of two pieces of measuring tape and the reflector and director are single pieces of tape. Variations in attaching the director and reflector elements include (1) using a faucet washer between the tape and the PVC so that the ridge in the cross piece does not cause the tape to bend, or (2) running the tape inside the fitting and jamming a small ring of PVC into the fitting to secure the tape.

The steel tape is cut into the following pieces:

Reflector — 41 3/8 inches

Director — 35 1/8 inches

Driven element — 2 sections (each half = 17 3/4 inches)

Round the ends that stick out — cover with rubber or plastic cement, or cover with vinyl electrical tape to protect the sharp edges.

See **2-Meter Beam**, Page 8

Radio Nostalgia Stories Part 4

by Paul, N6DMV.

Paul is president of the International Hungarian Amateur Radio Club with nearly 200 members in 19 countries. This series of articles relates his experience as a lad in Hungary, with stories involving radio during and after World War II.

Jamming by Paul - Hungarian Style

After the war we moved back to the Capital in our house (until the Communists confiscated it) my German grandfather had built. Next to us was an apartment building, where the Russian Army set up a post. In front of the entrance, a guard with a sub machine-gun stood, listening to radio Moscow on short wave. The Russians placed a large - obviously confiscated - radio set in a 2nd floor window which day and night blurted out Moscow at full volume, distortion and all. Sleeping was nearly impossible. I devised a cure for this, I like challenges. In my wanderings around in the countryside, I got a hold of a nice German Army transmitting tube. The rest was easy. This tube was an 'RL12P35' type – (see



Fig. 1). The designation means: R = Röhre = tube, L = Leistung = power, 12 = 12 volt heater, 35 = the anode dissipation, watts. This tube was the mainstay of the German military radios (I have one and am going to build a nice transmitter with it some day). They worked well into the 40+ MHz band and they liked to work at 800 volt plate voltage, with the plate glowing at a nice, warm dark red color. Any part of a transmitter was considered a conspiracy against the Communist state and was punishable by death or worse: a labor camp in Siberia at -70 degrees, if transmitter parts were found in your possession. As previously mentioned, I like challenges.

Figure 1

The high-power oscillator-transmitter had a nice 3-inch diameter tank coil, precariously soldered on top of the tuning capacitor. With a flick with a finger on the coil, it would nicely swing back-and-forth, vibrating for about 30 seconds – frequency modulation Paul's style. Then another flick, and another. This created a terrible screeching, wobbling, screaming interference sound, making the Moscow transmission useless.

The Russians were experimenting with different broadcast bands, but the horrendous mysterious QRM somehow followed to any band, no matter where they tuned. In a few days, the radio was removed from the window and the poor sentinel had to fall asleep without Russian music! They were usually drunk anyway. We could sleep again. ■

• **2-Meter Beam** Continued from Page 7

Hose clamps are specified to attach the elements, but self tapping screws may be used to attach the elements to the PVC crosses and tees. The screws are less expensive, but they do not hold the elements as securely. A suggested method is to use screws for the director and reflector, and hose clamps for the driven element.

When you solder the coax and hairpin to the driven element, make sure that all paint is removed, and that the tape has been tinned. Once the tape is on the PVC, the heat required to melt the solder can melt the PVC pipe. See Figure 2. The space between the two pieces of tape is about 1 inch.

The PVC pipe sections (7 inches and 11 1/2 inches) that join the fittings should be cut so that the distance from the center of each tape is 8 inches between the reflector and driven element and 12 1/2 inches between the driven element and the director.

Some operators insert another section of PVC pipe behind the reflector to use as a handle, or for supporting the antenna.

The designer claims a cardioid pattern with < 2:0:1 SWR across the entire band. ■

Performance Predicted by YAGI-CAD

Gain = 7.3 dBd
Front-To-Back-Ratio = > 50dB
3 dB Beamwidth E = 67.5 degrees
3 dB Beamwidth H = 110 degrees

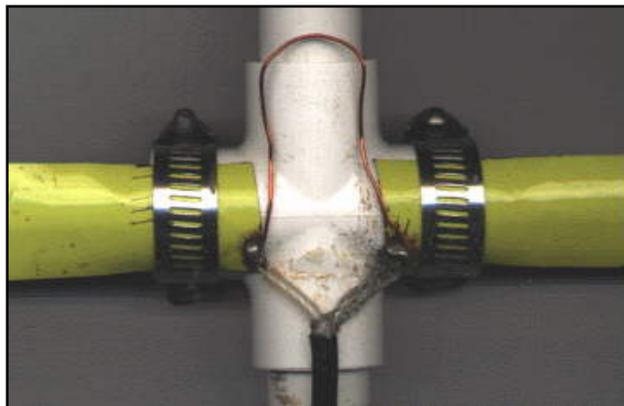


Figure 2

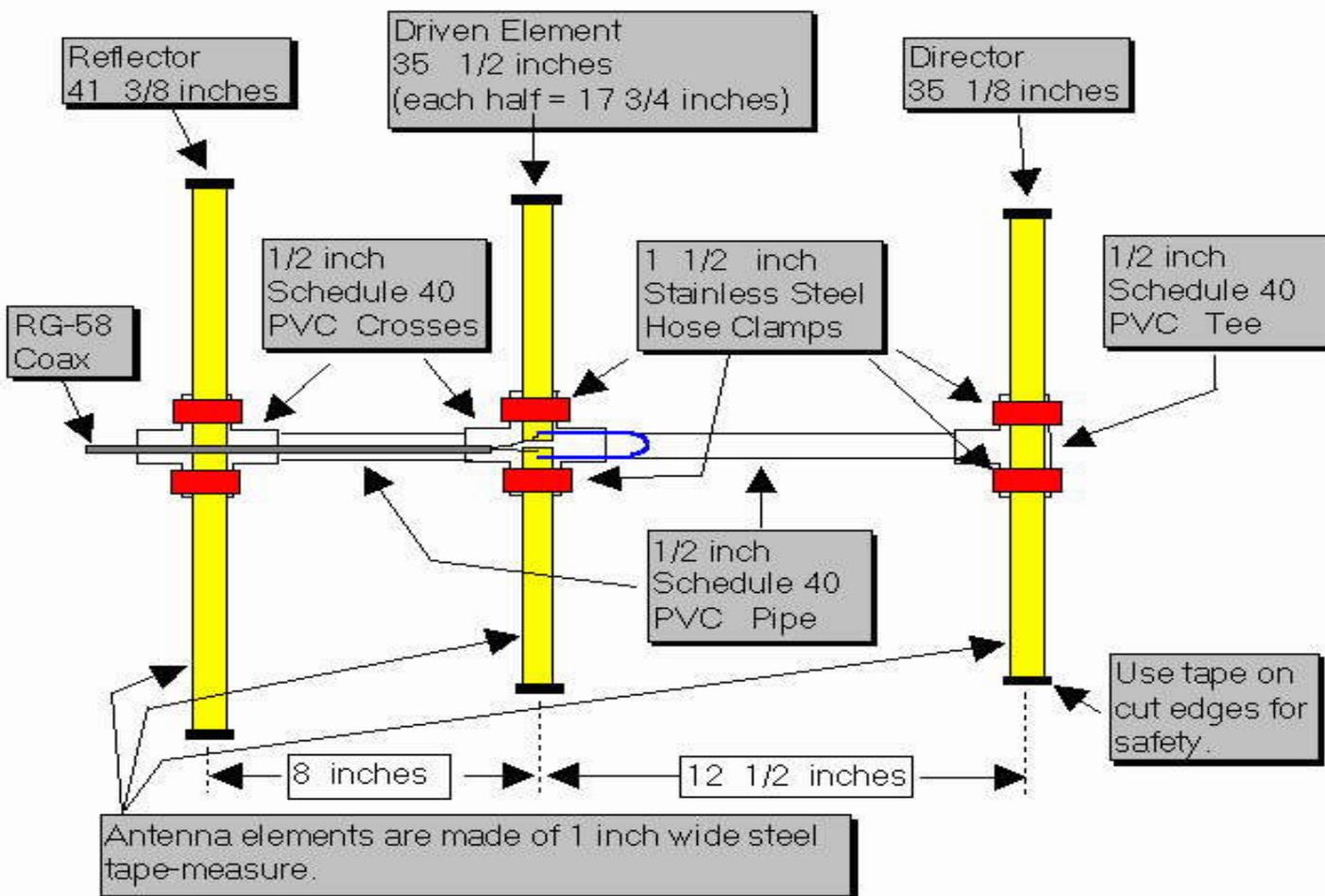


Figure 1

CQ DX de YARC – MARCH 2006

By Dick Diddams, W7QHE

| DATE | | DXCC ENTITY | CALL | QSL VIA | REPORTED BY | INFORMATION |
|------------|------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|---|
| START | END | | | | | |
| Now | 2006 Mar31 | Kerguelen | FT5XP #43/100 | Per Op Inst | 425DXN 20060114 | By TU5KG; sporadic operation fm land while sailing in the area |
| Now | 2006 Mar31 | Crozet | FT5WK #14/100 | Per Op Inst | 425DXN 20060114 | By TU5KG; sporadic operation fm land while sailing in the area |
| Now | 2006 Apr05 | Grenada | J37LR | VE3EBN | VE3EBN 20060119 | By VE3EBN; 40-10m; RTTY PSK SSB CW |
| Now | 2006 Apr30 | Gabon | TR8FC #100/100 | F4BQO | F5BQL 20051229 | By F4BQO; fm 1800z; 14190 21020 24900 kHz |
| 2006 Mar01 | 2006 Mar08 | Sint Maarten | PJ7 | DL7DF | DL7DF 20051206 | 160-10m; SSB CW Digital; OK via Buro or direct |
| 2006 Mar01 | 2006 Mar10 | Rotuma | 3D2 #98/100 | Home Call | 425DXN 20060128 | 80-10m; mainly CW, some RTTY & SSB |
| 2006 Mar02 | 2006 Mar10 | St Kitts | V44 | Home Call | AA1M 20060128 | By AA1M W1USN as V44/homecall; 80-10m; SSB PSK31 CW |
| 2006 Mar11 | 2006 Mar13 | Fiji | 3D2 #98/100 | Home Call | 425DXN 20060128 | As 3D2NB and 3D2OU fm Nadi (OC-016); 80-10m; mainly CW, some RTTY + SSB |
| 2006 Mar15 | 2006 Mar30 | Benin | TY #67/100 | See Info | 425DXN 20060121 | TY5WP TY1MR TY2LEO TY4TW; 160-10m; all mode |
| 2006 Mar16 | 2006 Mar29 | Morocco | CN2R | W7EJ | W7EJ 20060128 | By W7EJ; focus on WARC, 6m, EME; QRV for CQWW WPX SSB |
| 2006 Mar17 | 2006 Mar20 | Papua New Guinea | P29K #93/100 | LZ1JZ | 425DXN 20060204 | By P29ZAD P29NB P29TL P29KPH fm Kranket Is (OC-258); 80-6m |
| 2006 Mar17 | 2006 Apr07 | Glorioso | FR/g #5/100 | F5OGL | F5NQL 20051026 | 8 operators; all bands; 5 stations; dates are tentative |
| 2006 Mar18 | 2006 Mar21 | Palau | T80W | JM1LJS | OPDX 20051205 | By JM1LJS fm OC-009; all bands |
| 2006 Mar24 | 2006 Mar31 | Svalbard | JW | F8DVD | F5NQL 20061123 | As JW/F8DVD fm the Longyearbyen ARC (EU-026); HF; SSB CW; 500w |

- - - MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS - - - SAINT MARTIN, FS & PJ7



Once the center of the Caribbean slave trade, the island of Curacao was hard hit by the abolition of slavery in 1863. Its prosperity (and that of neighboring Aruba) was restored in the early 20th century with the construction of oil refineries to service the newly discovered Venezuelan oil fields. The island of Saint Martin is shared with France; its southern portion is named Sint Maarten and is part of the Netherlands Antilles; its northern portion is called Saint-Martin and is part of Guadeloupe (France).

With the current low sunspot conditions it's difficult to provide new band countries. However, after some investigation and surveys, a German DXpedition decided to go for the Caribbean - FS and PJ7. No really rare entities but good enough for many band countries.

Five experienced operators will participate and will run two stations consisting of 2x IC735, 1x IC706, 2x TY 900 Linear Amp. 900W, a Titanex V80 E, a Hexbeam 5 Band Yagi, a R7 vertical as well as two fiberglass rods with plenty of wire. Modes will be CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK31 & SSTV.

● Node Talk — Continued from Page 6

One thing I am always wondering is how accurate the weather channel web site really is, so I often ask a person what the weather conditions are like at the time of contact so that I can compare with what I read on the internet. What I found was that the weather channel web site was very accurate.

As interesting as this was, it was not nearly as interesting as the information I found on Frederick's web site which includes information about Bisbee, another city I have not traveled to as of yet, which you might find interesting should you be thinking of exploring Arizona more than you have lately.

On his web site, which is <http://tinyurl.com/rg984>, he has information about an underground mine tour rated among miners themselves, as perhaps the best example of an underground mine opened to the public. The mine is at a constant 47 degrees, and it will require warm clothing should you go on the tour.

I ended up asking him so many non-related ham radio questions, that I barely found out that he is very active on 160 meters and uses a kite on occasion in order to loft a wire antenna for his other HF activity. He told me that he has a business in downtown Juneau, and from there, behind a tall

building, has a 60 foot tower that he uses.

Surprisingly, although much damper than we are used to in our area, he and his wife have decided to stay put during the winter because they figure, why bother going anywhere, such as Bisbee, because the weather can be worse in Bisbee in the winter than where they are in Juneau. If you were to compare the weather between Flagstaff and Juneau, you would find that on average, the night time lows are at or below Juneau's low, while the daytime highs are 10 or more degrees warmer, while in Juneau, it never warms up as much and is of course, more moist than Flagstaff.

I expect to write about other interesting places in future articles such as Pekin Illinois, Bellevue Washington and Twin Falls Idaho, among others, for the interesting information that I have found about these places and how they could relate to ham radio. In the meanwhile, follow this example when exploring IRLP or even Echo Link on your own. Try different nodes and ask people about the area they live in, how propagation patterns are where they live and what interesting stories they might have to offer.

Sitting comfortably at home while using technology such as this, is a simple means to explore and learn interesting things about places you might never want to go to, or for some of you planning on moving, places you might be interested in moving to. ■

Weekly Breakfasts



Tues. & Thurs. Morning Breakfast – 7:00 a.m. at Michael's Restaurant

(In the Safeway Shopping Ctr., Hwy 69 Prescott Valley)

(N 34°35'13.33" W112°19'44.6")*

Informal – all are invited.

Wed. Morning Breakfasts: 7:00 a.m. at

Iron Horse Restaurant

(S. Hwy 89 in Chino Valley)

(N 34°43'56.5" W112°27'15.4")*

informal – all are invited

8:00 a.m.

Masonic Lodge

(1280 Willow Creek Road,
2nd Floor; above Bank of America)
informal – all are invited

* Location data (per WGS84) provided
by Fred Zimmermann, N7PJJ

Area Repeaters

| Frequency | PL | Location | Owner/Club | Auto-Patch | Rem. BaseOr Linked | Vo IP | Notes: |
|-----------|-------|----------------------|----------------|------------|----------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| 52.560- | 100.0 | Mt. Union | N7NGM | | | | -500KHz Offset |
| 53.040- | None | Prescott Airport | WB7BYV | | | | -1MHz Offset |
| 145.290- | 127.3 | Mingus Mtn. | ARES/RACES | | | | |
| 146.780- | 91.5 | Williams Mtn. | BWARC | | | IRLP | |
| 146.880- | 100.0 | Prescott | W2YAV/YARC | | | | |
| 146.980- | 162.2 | Flagstaff | CARC | | | | |
| 147.000+ | 162.2 | Mingus Mtn | MMRG | | | | |
| 147.040+ | 100.0 | Prescott Heights | W2YAV | | | | |
| 147.140+ | 162.2 | Flagstaff/-Mt. Elden | ARA | | Linked to Mt. Ord 147.360- | | |
| 147.220+ | 162.2 | Mingus Mtn | VVARA | | | | |
| 147.260+ | 103.5 | Mt. Union | ARES/RACES | | | | |
| 442.150+ | 100.0 | Mingus Mtn | W1OQ/Northlink | | | | |
| 442.350+ | 100.0 | Glassford Hill | N7KPU | | | IRLP | |
| 448.475- | 100.0 | Flagstaff-Elden | ARA | Yes | | | |
| 448.500- | 100.0 | Prescott | KB6TWC | Yes | RB to White Tank 146.940 | | E-mail owner for instructions |
| 448.875- | 100.0 | Flagstaff-Elden | Northlink | | Linked | | |
| 449.175- | 100.0 | Towers Mountain | Northlink | | Linked | | |
| 449.675- | 88.50 | Prescott Airport | WB7BYV | | Linked to P Mtn. 927.3875 | | |
| 927.3875- | 151.4 | Prescott | WB7BYV | Yes | Yes | Echo | Be Nice |

Y.A.R.C. IRLP NODE

Node Number 3182

442.350+ MHz with a
PL of 100.0 Hz

For more Repeater Information & Listings refer to:

- www.w7ara.org/Web/
- www.azrepeaters.net
- www.azfreqcoord.org/listings.htm

YAVAPAI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

P.O. BOX 11994

PRESCOTT, AZ 86304

Visit us on the web at <http://www.w7yrc.org>

Many thanks to Bob Smith, WB6ODR, our Webmaster

