



YAVAPAI SIGNAL



The Yavapai Amateur Radio Club • Prescott, Arizona • DM-34 • Volume 27 - No.2 • February 2012

From the President's Desk...



Hello Everyone!

2011 was a great year for YARC. We can look back with a measure of pride at the energy and dedication of our membership. We can feel good about all the new members, license upgrades, fox hunts, special events and station repairs our operators participated in this year.

... and there's still plenty to do! My greatest hope this year, as I said last year, is that more operators get involved and to get our community involved and educated about what we do:

Continuing education: providing training and supporting local Amateur Radio efforts in Licensing, upgrading and continuing education to ensure that every member is getting the most out of their license privilege and being supported in their technical advancement.

Public relations and service: improving the visibility of Amateur Radio and promoting it as a positive force within the community.

Operating activities: offering hands-on radio experience is offered and conducted in areas of particular interest to the club.

... And ...

A healthy dash of fun and social events so that we can continue to advance the tremendous Esprit de Corps that is the heart and soul of Amateur radio.

Don't forget to join us for the tape measure antenna project. It can be very handy to have a directional field-portable antenna in your arsenal. I'd also encourage you to bring a friend to the meeting and introduce someone new to our wonderful hobby.

Creighton, AD7YR

YARC Officers for 2012

President

Creighton Grotbeck, AD7YR
president@w7yrc.org

Vice President

Ellis Rackoff, KE7NAP
vice.president@w7yrc.org

Secretary

Barbara Ashley, KE7KEV
secretary@w7yrc.org

Treasurer

Tom Griswold, WN7E
treasurer@w7yrc.org

Board of Directors (includes Club Officers)

- Doug Freeman -- KV8TD
- Pete Morrison -- K6VVR
- Bryan Whipp -- W7BNW
- Neil Vince -- K7SEN

Newsletter Editor: Joe Oliver, AC6AA
newsletter@w7yrc.org

Inside this issue:

- Meeting Minutes.....Page 2 & 3
- February ProgramPage 3
- Membership Count.....Page 3
- Treasurer's Report.....Page 4
- YARC Annual Party.....Page 5
- Gonset Company.....Page 6 & 7
- ARES/RACES.....Page 7
- Ask Elmer..... Page 8
- K7UGA Arizona Centennial Special Event.....Page 9
- VE Testing.....Page 10
- Upcoming Events.....Page 10
- Monthly Fox Hunt.....Page 10
- Wednesday Evening Net.....Page 10
- 146.52- National Simplex Calling Frequency.....Page 11

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 (Full-time students \$15). 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 YARC 146.880- repeater is located on the hill above Willow Creek road and requires a PL of 100.0 Hz. Our deepest gratitude to Bill Kafka, W2YAV for allowing us to acquire the original club repeater.

■

Minutes of January 5, 2012 Board Meeting



Meeting was called to order at approximately 1805 by AD7YR with the following in attendance:

AD7YR, KE7NAP, WN7E, K6VVR, KV8TD, W7BNW, K7SEN and KE7KEV.

AD7YR opened the meeting by asking for opinions about how to recognize those in the club who have given service in the past year. Discussion ensued about how to adequately say "Thank You" to all those wonderful volunteers!

Next up was a discussion of servicing the repeater. Preventive maintenance is needed to ensure proper working condition. K6VVR will organize and lead a work party and secure the services of a qualified climber to make repeater repairs as needed.

It was suggested that during the meeting we circulate the Sign In sheets and sheets for future Net Controls to ensure that all in attendance are so noted. Also this might increase the number of those wishing to be Net Control.

Field Day was the last topic to be addressed and because time had run out, W7BNW volunteered to have it at his home. It was then tabled for future discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 1900 hours.

Respectively submitted,
Barbara Ashley,
KE7KEV

Minutes of January 5, 2012 General Meeting

The General Meeting was called to order by AD7YR at approximately 1905 and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Introductions were made all around.

There were 70 in attendance. Minutes of the December meeting were approved as published in the Newsletter.

The Treasurer's report was also approved as posted in Newsletter.

K7SEN reported that the next exam session for all classes of licenses will be 4 February 2012 at the Jeep Posse Building.

AD7YR encouraged us to purchase Tee Shirts, stickers, patches etc. to show our affiliation with YARC. Contact K6VVR to make these purchases.

The Ares/Races report was given by WA6ZZJ. On Saturday, 21 January, a training/orientation meeting will be held...several Special Events are also coming up, so see the newsletter for times and full reports.

Newsletter....nothing to report

Badges may be purchased from KF7MAU who has them available in either magnet or pin type.

Refreshments....David, K6UWV, asked us to please recycle the cans and save the pull tabs for KI6AHH, who is saving them for dialysis patients.

According to K7SEN, the Elmer program is off to a great start.

KB7TRE reported that the school youth are working on a Morse Code project and preparing to upgrade licenses....KF7SKY was to undergo eye

surgery the next day and AD7YR asked that the general membership remember him in prayers and good wishes. The youth will be participating in the 14 February Centennial activity in Prescott at the Sharlot Hall Museum from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

K6VVR reported on the physical condition of KF7ANX. A Get Well card, which had circulated during the meeting, was sent to him from the general membership.

Food Bank...KB7TRE gave thanks to all who donated food for the Yavapai County Food Bank. Twenty-five pounds were donated in December and 48 pounds in January.

The next Fox Hunt is being organized by K6VVR for Sunday, 8 January, beginning at 1:00 p.m. at the Arizona Federal Credit Union at Willow Creek Road and Gail Gardner Way.

A tape measure antenna project is being organized by K6VVR for assembly at the February meeting.

KE7NAP reported that the Christmas party will have as its speaker a fellow giving the history of Western Boots.

AD7YR asked for a moment of silence for Silent Key, N7HYH, who had helped form YARC many years ago. A card of Condolence was sent to his family.

A Field Day committee is being formed by KE7NAP, and AD7YR asked for volunteers to join him in this worthwhile and fun activity.

It was suggested that the club have a Ham Fest and AD7YR gave permission for anyone wishing to form a committee to proceed with it.

Special Events pertaining to the Centennial will include several Ham operating activities emanating from local Ham shacks...more details will be forthcoming at the February meeting.

Members who had received interesting QSL cards shared them.

Club support of NRA was appreciated as noted by AD7YR.

Discussion ensued of Ham related e-mails received by members from yarclist@netsecs.us.... AD7RL gave an explanation of how the e-mails work.

AD7YR adjourned the meeting for the break at approximately 2000, before the presentation on PSK31 by Fred Zimmermann, N7PJN.

50/50-- \$52 was won by , KI6AHH.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Ashley, KE7KEV

YARC Secretary

Club contacts - At a Glance

President - AD7YR	president@w7yrc.org
Vice President - KE7NAP	vice.president@w7yrc.org
Secretary - KE7KEV	secretary@w7yrc.org
Treasurer - WN7E	treasurer@w7yrc.org
Board Member - KV8TD	kv8td@w7yrc.org
Board Member - K6VVR	k6vvr@w7yrc.org
Board Member - W7BNW	w7bnw@w7yrc.org
Board Member - K7SEN	k7sen@w7yrc.org
Arizona WAC Administrator	az.wac@w7yrc.org
Ask Elmer for Help	ask.elmer@w7yrc.org
Badges	badges@w7yrc.org
Field Day Chairman	field.day@w7yrc.org
Fox Hunts	fox.hunt@w7yrc.org
License Classes	classes@w7yrc.org
Membership Application	membership@w7yrc.org
Net Manager	net.manager@w7yrc.org
Newsletter Editor	newsletter@w7yrc.org
Program Inputs	programs@w7yrc.org
Public Service - DEC	public.service@w7yrc.org
Repeater Trustee	repeater@w7yrc.org
Special Events	special.event@w7yrc.org
VE Test Liaison	testing@w7yrc.org
YARC Party Coordinator	yarc.party@w7yrc.org
Information	info@w7yrc.org
Webmaster	yarc@w7yrc.org
Webmaster	w7yrc@w7yrc.org
Webmaster	webmaster@w7yrc.org

Membership Count:

1st Thurs. in December.....185
 Gain/Loss.....-6*
 1st Thurs. in January.....179



* Includes fourteen 3-month memberships

February Program

Tape Measure Antenna Project --

Pete, K6VVR will supervise construction of tape measure directional antennas suitable for t-hunts or other VHF activities.

YAVAPAI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

January 2012 Treasurer's Summary - Tom Griswold WN7E

Income

Date	Callsign	Name	Code	Check	Amt. Paid	G. F. Amt.	Rep.Fund	ARRL
01/05/12	N7CW	Bud Semon	R	4268	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
01/05/12	KD7RMV	James Grimm	R	3451	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
01/05/12	K2FRD	Frederick Stevens	R	4958	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
01/05/12	W6HMC	Robert Spencer	R	1154	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
01/05/12	W6VLS	Virginia Spencer	R F					
01/05/12	AC7AA	Joe Oliver	A	5219	\$47.00	\$2.00		\$45.00
01/05/12	K7DUC	Patsy Oliver	A F					
01/05/12	KA7LKW	Carol Hills	R	1015	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
01/05/12	AD7NQ	Dale E. Montgomery	N	cash	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
01/05/12		Party payments received		checks	\$676.00	\$676.00		
01/05/12		50/50		cash	\$104.00	\$104.00		
Income Totals					\$947.00	\$890.00	\$12.00	\$45.00

Expenses

01/05/12	K6UWV	David Passell - Refreshments		1089		\$22.77		
01/05/12	KI6AHH	Tony Jackson 50/50 winner		cash		\$52.00		
01/06/12		Allegra newsletter		1090		\$28.22		

Total Expenses

\$102.99

Beginning Balance	\$5,889.19		
Jan/ Income	\$947.00	Dec. end Repeater Fund	\$1,379.26
		Jan. 2011 Repeater Fund	\$12.00
Sub Total	\$6,836.19	Interest 30 Dec. 2011	\$0.13
Expenses	\$102.99	Repeater Fund Bal.	\$1,391.39
General Fund Balance	6,733.20	ARRL Payments	\$45.00
		Check 1091	
Net Loss/Gain	\$844.01	Jan. Income	\$947.00
		Cash out 50/50	\$52.00
		Deposit	\$895.00

YARC Annual Party

By Joe Oliver, AC6AA

Once again the 2012 YARC party was held at the St. Michael's Hotel at the corner of Gurley and Montezuma in Prescott. About 60 people attended this event. The Social hour started at noon and lunch began at 1:00 p.m., so folks had plenty of time to socialize. Ellis Rackoff, KE7NAP, who was chairman of the party, greeted everyone, and members and guests took turns identifying themselves. Bob Smith, WB6ODR led the group with a prayer before meals and then all recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

In between the main course and dessert, our YARC President Creighton, AD7RL thanked the many members, by name, who have contributed to the success of our club during the past year.



After completing a delicious chocolate mousse cake dessert, Ellis presented a prize to the person who held the oldest license, which turned out to be John Gross, W5VJH. Another prize went to Carol Hills, KA7LKW for the lady having been licensed for the longest time.



Paul Krause -- Bootmaker and Leather Artist

Ellis then announced our guest speaker, Paul Krause. Paul is a boot maker whose leather craftsmanship is practiced at the PK Bootmaker's Northern Arizona Leatherworks at 156 S Montezuma St Studio E, in the alley behind Whiskey Row.

Paul talked about the history of boots and showed us five styles of boots that are popular in the United States and described their construction. He fielded several questions from the audience and concluded his interesting presentation.

A big thanks to Ellis, KE7NAP and his XYL for organizing and arranging this year's YARC party. A good time was had by all. ■

For more Party photos go to WB9VGJ's website at: <http://tinyurl.com/7uvfrs8>

Gonset Company

From "Boat Anchor Manufacturers", at <http://www.ominous-valve.com/ba-mfrs.html>

Faust Gonset, W6VR, was an old-time ham. In the 1930s, he contributed articles about transmitter modifications to *RADIO* magazine. In 1942, he co-edited the *Radio Handbook*, for years the major competition to the handbook put out by the ARRL. In fact, the West Coast-oriented *RADIO* gave *QST* a good run until just after WW II, when it tried to shift its focus to broadcast engineering, went bust, and was folded into *CQ*.

In the forties, Gonset joined his father's company, bringing in some top ham radio engineering talent. The first noteworthy product was the legendary "Communicator" series of portable VHF transceivers. This was followed by a mobile converter, the "10/11," and the equally legendary "Commander," an HF mobile. When the FCC finally allowed mobile amateur operation in the 50s, Gonset was there, leading the pack with small, lightweight, mobile powered, and pretty much unbreakable, ham radios at affordable prices.

For example, Gonset made an early, HF mobile receiver, the G-66, and a matching transmitter, the G-77, both of which would fit easily under a dashboard. They were cool looking little boxes, kind of like shinier spy radios, with external power supplies and modulators that went somewhere else (the trunk?). They only used AM, but they covered all the HF bands.

In the true boat anchors, Gonset made a series of rather odd looking HF receivers, vaguely reminiscent of the Motorola bases of the era, with funny bent panels, but about a zillionth of the workmanship of Motorola's commercial-grade gear. The full-size, Gonset transmitters were more conventional looking, in the standard battleship-style boxes. There was the GSB-100 exciter/transmitter, and the GSB-101 linear. Later on, a smaller desktop linear, the GSB-201 series, got the legal input from 4 811As.

The Commander series was for portable HF use, with a rather purposeful looking 30-watt AM transmitter and matching receiver, both in absolutely tiny boxes, with little doors in front. The transmitter would do 30 watts AM, not bad for something that would fit a glove compartment. I



GONSET G-66 RECEIVER. Less power supply and speaker.
Net.....\$ 169.50
Power Supply, 6-12VDC-115VAC.
Built-in speaker. Net.....\$ 39.95

have never seen one of these. The pictures make it look cool, like the airport radios of the era.

However, the most famous, and prevalent, Gonset radios were and are the Communicator series of AM transceivers for 6 and 2 meters. Gonset sold a bazillion of these. They were standard issue for Civil Defense/RACES and disaster communication. Both came in the same square, ungainly, metal box, looking a lot like something you'd keep bread in, but with SO-239 coax jacks on top. (This made a good place to screw on a whip antenna, when working outdoors in the field.)



Early versions had "magic eye" tubes. Gonset also made an external amplifier, in a matching box, with the inevitable little window to look in and see how the finals (826s?) were doing.

This little radio, known affectionately as the "Goony Box," was cheap to begin with, and even more so used. However, it could stand up to portable use, and it pretty much opened VHF to hams. It's hard to believe now, but most simplex and even duplex on VHF used to be AM. FM was later, when modified Motorola and GE land-mobile gear came into use.

Communicators went through several revisions, with Roman numerals, up to the IV, which had a more "modern" case. Later models had a sliderule dial instead of a rotary pointer. Their major competition was the Heathkit Sixer and Twoer, the classic "Benton Harbor Lunch Boxes." The Communicators are neat radios, popular with collectors and AMers. They're immortal. They still come up for sale at times, with or without the nuke-era yellow paint jobs, and/or the round CD logos.

Gonset didn't survive the transition to solid state. Faust Gonset sold the company to one of his suppliers, then it was sold one more time in the 60s before vanishing without a trace.

Faust Gonset stayed in the radio business, however. He started SBE, also in California. SBE, for Side Band Engineers, marketed the first truly miniature SSB transceiver in 1963. It wasn't quite all solid state, with tubes in the

See **Gonset**, Page 7



By Lloyd, WA6ZZJ

ARES/RACES.....

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION MEETING.....

A New Member Orientation / Seasoned Member Re-Orientation Meeting was held Saturday, January 21, 2012 with a record number of ARES/RACES members as well as new people joining in attendance. It was really great to see the turnout. However; some of the turnout may have been due to photos being taken for new Yavapai County ID cards. The ID cards will be good for two years and will have to be renewed again at that time.

ARES/RACES has had several new members joining so this was an opportunity for them to learn about the organization and how it operates as well as meet some of the other members they will be working with.

SPECIAL EVENT COMMUNICATIONS.....

Since last month's newsletter a new event has surfaced asking for our communications support. This is the Sedona Marathon taking place Saturday, February 4, 2012. With this event being in the Verde Valley I looked at it as a chance to work together with the Verde Valley Amateur Radio Association in providing the coverage for the event. Several of their members have stepped up to assist and the event is now fully staffed. It is rewarding to see the two clubs working together on events like this.

Another event in which we will need the cooperation of both clubs is the upcoming two day MS-150 Ride the Vortex Bicycle event. This will be Saturday and Sunday, April 14 - 15, 2012. The event will begin and end at the Verde Valley Fairgrounds in Cottonwood. The route has been selected and I am awaiting information as to location of rest stops, SAG vehicles and Medical personnel. I have a meeting with the organizers on Tuesday, January 24th and hope to be able to start planning communications shortly after that. As of the last word there were already well over 450 riders registered so far.

The next event after that will be the Whiskey Off Road Bicycle event in Prescott. This is the second year for this being a three day event. It will take place on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, April 27, 28 and 29, 2012. Last year we used 18 operators on Friday and 25 each day Saturday and Sunday.

Following this event one week later will be YARC's long standing participation in the Whiskey Row Marathon on Saturday, May 5, 2012 in support of the Prescott YMCA. For this event we typically use 18 to 20 operators.

There will be sign-up sheets for these events at the February YARC meeting. SO.... Put these dates on your calendar. It's never too early to start planning your participation.... More information will be coming on the April events after the February meeting.

I am planning a presentation for the April YARC meeting on communications for bicycle events and Public Service Communications... ■

● **Gonset (continued from Page 6)**

transmitter driver and PA, but it was still tiny, way smaller than most of today's HF gear, and with speaker and power supply built in.

The SB-33 was up to Faust Gonset's usual engineering standards, with many dual-use "bilateral" circuits to cut complexity and create a true transceiver, in which major portions of the transmitter *really were* the receiver backwards. It was followed by the SB-34, more an update than a redesign. There were also a couple of matching linears. These weren't much bigger, so you had a base-station punch in a mobile-size footprint. All this means that the prototype 'ricebox' was not the FT-101. It was the SBE, made right here in these US of A. The radio was years ahead of its time.

Gonset sold SBE, which passed through several owners, including Raytheon, whose later CBs had the SBE brand. Two very interesting transceivers, the SB-35 and 36, were assembled in Japan, but still never sold well. When Raytheon closed its San Francisco factory, it sold the brand name and line to David Thompson, who had been the marketing manager for land-mobile.

SBE dropped amateur, but lasted several years longer making highly regarded CBs and scanners. One of these, the Opti-Scan, was among the first programmable scanners, which did not require that an expensive crystal be ground for each desired channel. Instead, the user would insert punch cards. Quite the advance, at the time. SBE also appears to be gone, or at least out of the radio business. ■

Ask Elmer

By Neil Vince, K7SEN



If you have a question related to our club activities or a technical question, please send it to: ask.elmer@w7yrc.org. The answer may be of interest to other members and will be posted in the Newsletter.

F. A. Q.

As a relatively new ham, how can I give back to all those who have volunteered their time and resources?

This may come as a surprise to some who think elmers are only hams who have been licensed for decades. Nothing is further from the truth. As a new ham you are in an excellent position to help since you know exactly how the newcomers feel and what questions will most likely be on their minds.

Volunteer to be a greeter at the club meetings. What better way to meet everyone and you are already at the meeting, why not?

During special events or field day, sign up to operate. There will be other hams available to assist. If this is your first time operating an HF radio, great! You may discover a new passion as many have and go on to becoming a dx'er or contester.

It takes people to step up and volunteer to assist putting on special events, field day, club picnic and numerous others events. Never feel you are not qualified to be a chairman of a committee because you have not done it before. The more people signing up, the easier the task.

The club participates in numerous public service events throughout the year which is always a terrific way to keep our radio skills top notch, besides being great fun.

Become an Ares-Races member; take part in the weekly net which is a great way to familiarize yourself with emergency operating procedures.

If you have any questions, feel free to ask. We are all in this hobby together and willing to assist in whatever way we can. ■

Best Newspaper Article Ever

“KILLER BISCUITS WANTED FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER

(the actual AP headline)

Lisa Burnett, 23, a resident of San Diego, was visiting her in-laws, and while there went to a nearby supermarket to pick up some groceries. Several people noticed her sitting in her car with the windows rolled up and with her eyes closed, with both hands behind the back of her head. One customer who had been at the store for a while became concerned and walked over to the car. He noticed that Lisa's eyes were now open, and she looked very strange. He asked her if she was okay, and Lisa replied that she' been shot in the back of the head, and had been holding her brains in for over an hour.

The man called the paramedics, who broke into the car because the doors were locked and Lisa refused to remove her hands from her head. When they finally got in, they found that Lisa had a wad of bread dough on the back of her head...a Pillsbury biscuit canister had exploded from the heat, making a loud noise that sounded like a gunshot, and the wad of dough had hit her in the back of her head. When she reached back to find out what it was, she felt the dough and thought it was her brains. She initially passed out, but quickly recovered and tried to hold her brains in for over an hour until someone noticed and came to her aid.

Lisa is a blonde.” ■

Need a Hand?

If you need assistance, we want to help you. If you are just starting out in ham radio, or simply have run across something that you could use a hand with... technical assistance or answers to questions about the Yavapai Amateur Radio Club, are available from knowledgeable club members.

Don't Hesitate to Ask for Help!!

CALL:

Neil Vince, K7SEN (928) 775-2158

Jim Ball , WB7UZV (928) 445-2997

Will Taylor, AD7WW (928) 445-1717



K7UGA **Arizona Centennial** **Special Event**

By Bud Semon, N7CW



The second phase of the K7UGA Arizona Centennial Operation will take place during the week of Statehood Day - that is, Feb. 13 - 17. The first phase, which took place in association with Prescott's BestFest, was a tremendous success and this operation should be even better!

During that week, the K7UGA callsign will be available to be used at the QTH of N7CW in Prescott, on almost any mode or frequency from 160 - 2 meters. On Monday, Feb. 13, and Wednesday through Friday, Feb. 15 - 17, any other members of the Central Arizona DX Association (CADXA) may also be using the K7UGA call, so the band and mode will need to be scheduled ahead of time. On Statehood Day, Tuesday, Feb. 14, the call will only be used by 3 stations: N7CW in Prescott, 1 station at the Goldwater Memorial in Phoenix and 1 station in Tucson. Of course, those 3 stations will be coordinating frequencies and modes also, to avoid 3 stations signing K7UGA on 20 meter SSB at the same time! The current schedule will be posted on the CADXA website, www.cadxa.org, but it will be updated frequently, as operators determine their desired bands and modes.

So, if you would like to participate, either on Statehood Day, or one of the other days, please contact Bud, N7CW, at n7cw@cableone.net or (928) 771-8267 to arrange a time, band and mode. There are a few times during that week when the station won't be available, so schedule your preferred time early!

For those folks that are new to ham radio, K7UGA was the callsign of Arizona's Senator Barry Goldwater and is very well known on the bands. It is sure to generate a lot of callers, so there will be plenty of opportunity to work people fast, contest style, or stop and chat. An Extra Class control operator will be available at all times, so you don't need any particular license class - in fact, you don't need to be licensed at all. You are welcome to come and watch others operate, to log for someone else or to operate yourself. The station is set up to operate SSB, CW, FM, RTTY, 2 meter packet and any of the WSJT modes (on VHF). It can probably be set up to operate on PSK31, if N7PJN's talk at the January meeting got you interested in that mode.

This K7UGA operation has been sanctioned by the **2012 Arizona Centennial Foundation** and the **Arizona Historical Advisory Commission** as an Official **Legacy Project**. ■



Beginning Sunday, January 22, it will cost more to mail first class letters, postcards and packages within the US. The cost to mail a first class letter will be 45 cents, an increase of 1 cent. According to the USPS, this is the first increase since May 2009. The cost of mailing a postcard will be 32 cents, an increase of 3 cents. This is the second increase for postcard postage in less than a year; in April 2011, the USPS boosted the postcard stamp price from 28 cents to 29 cents. You will also pay more to send letters to Canada, Mexico and other international destinations.



Monthly Foxhunt

By John Broughton, WB9VGJ

The monthly foxhunt was held January 8th. Jim, WB7UZV hid the transmitters in Granite Creek Park.

There were three teams of hunters composed of six hunters. Pete, K6VVR, and Diane, KE7ODP made up one team; Bob, WB6ODR, and Linda, KD7EEO, made up a team; Jeff, WB7RFY, and I made up the third team.

The weather was cold and blustery, in the 40s; shades of the November fox hunt.

Congratulations to K6VVR, the winner of the hunt.

This was one of the fastest hunts we've had in a while. It didn't take long for the hunters to find the general location and then the transmitters. Diane discovered one doesn't even need a radio to find a transmitter. She and Pete walked into the park from adjacent property and she happened to walk right past the BBQ grill where the secondary transmitter was hidden and saw it. Everyone seemed to have enjoyed the hunt.

We had a nice social get-together at Denny's. Again, as in November, the hot coffee hit the spot. And, the 99 cents pie-of-the-day special, cookie & cream pie, was, as usual, very delicious.

We would encourage more folks to get involved in the hidden transmitter hunts. They are really fun and help develop direction-finding skills.

Pictures of the hunt can be seen at:

<http://tinyurl.com/6wh5lxj>

Need Cards Checked for ARRL Operating Awards?

Jim Zimmerman, N6KZ can check your QSL cards for DXCC, WAS, VUCC, WAC, etc.

For information contact Jim at: (928) 713-0542.

Jim's QTH is at: 778 Grapevine Lane,
Prescott, AZ 86305.

Wednesday Evening Net

The Wednesday evening net, held at 7:00 P.M. has been in operation for 21 years. Participation has dropped off considerably. Join in and meet some of the local hams, ask questions, talk about new projects you've started, or would like to start, or just spend time chatting with fellow hams.



If anyone has any ideas on how to generate more club participation, please share your ideas or email them to net.manager@w7yrc.org. You can also call the net manager, Neil, K7SEN at 775-2158 (evenings and weekends). ■

VE TESTING

By Mary Vince, AB7NK

The next VE testing will be Saturday, February 4, 2012 at 9:00 A.M. If you plan on taking the technician exam, please get your FRN (Federal Registration Number) ASAP.



Visit the club website at www.w7yrc.org and click on the VE Testing tab. If you have any questions, please email testing@w7yrc.org. ■

Upcoming Events

- **February 4, 2012** - Sedona Marathon.
- **February 4, 2012** - VE Testing Session
- **February 13-17, 2012** - K7UGA Arizona Centennial Special Event operation at N7CW's QTH..
- **February 14, 2012** - GMMS operation at Sharlot Hall to celebrate Arizona Statehood Day.
- **February 17-18, 2012** -ARRL Southwestern Division Convention - Yuma, Arizona
- **April 14-15, 2012** - MS 150 Ride the Vortex Bicycle Event in the Verde Valley.
- **April 27,28, & 29, 2012** - Whiskey Off Road Mountain Bike Event.
- **May 5, 2012** - Whiskey Row Marathon.

146.52 MHz - The NATIONAL Simplex CALLING Frequency

By Bud Semon, N7CW

Many new hams may not be aware that the ARRL Band Plan (see <http://www.arrl.org/band-plan-1>) has designated 146.52 MHz (or "52 pronounced five two" for short) as the National Simplex Calling Frequency. The definition of a calling frequency is very simple - if you are looking for a ragchew, then you call on the calling frequency and move to another frequency so other people can use the calling frequency to solicit calls. If you are looking for a signal report, looking for help finding a restaurant or coordinating your ham caravan with short calls, then 52 is the place to be. It's a wonderful resource if lots of people can monitor it.

Another reason to avoid using 52 for ragchewing, is the Wilderness Protocol (see <http://tinyurl.com/7tmwzqu>).

Many experienced hams have never heard of the Wilderness Protocol, but it works (see <http://tinyurl.com/6uogsgc>).

If there had been a ragchew going on on 52 when this Boy Scout troop leader needed help, he wouldn't have been heard.

Many ARES/RACES members monitor 52 both because of the Wilderness Protocol and out of a sense of wanting to help other hams. But the constant use of 52 by local hams for long conversations discourages others from monitoring - no one really wants to listen to long winded QSOs. In Prescott, there are a number of hams that use 146.50 MHz as a chat frequency - they never bother to call on 52, since so many people listen on 50.

So, the next time you are chatting on 52, keep in mind that many other people are listening and other people may want to use the **CALLING** frequency for its intended purpose. ■

Yaesu's Amateur Radio Division Breaks with Motorola, Changes Name to Yaesu Musen

After four years under the Motorola umbrella, Yaesu has split from that company. According to Vertex Standard President and Chief Executive Officer Jun Hasegawa, effective January 1, 2012, Motorola will keep the Vertex Standard Land-Mobile Division, while the amateur, marine and air-band will be under the Yaesu Musen banner. The new company will be known as Yaesu USA here in the US.

While Yaesu Musen will have a new Japanese address, the address and phone numbers -- as well as the US operations and sales organization -- for Yaesu USA will not change. Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV, will remain in charge of Yaesu USA's sales division. ■

A Mature Adult Prayer

Lord, keep me from the habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's airs.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details---give me wings to get to the point. I ask for grace enough to listen to the tales of others' pains.

But seal my lips on my own aches and pains---they are increasing, and my love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to become a saint--some saints are so hard to live with -- but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places, and talents in unexpected people. And give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so.

Make me thoughtful, but not moody; helpful, but not bossy.

With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all - but Thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

--- Author unknown

Weekly Breakfasts



Wed. Morning Breakfast:

7:00 a.m. at

Iron Horse Restaurant

(Hwy 89 in Chino Valley)
(N 34°43'56.5" W112°27'15.4")
informal – all are invited

Saturday Breakfast:

at 8:00 a.m.

Masonic Lodge

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

* Location data (per WGS84) provided
by Fred Zimmermann, N7PJM

Area Repeaters

Freq.	PL	Location	Owner/ Club	Auto- Patch	Links	Vo IP	Notes:
52.560-	100.0	Mt. Union	N7NGM			IRLP	Node 3301
144.390	Simplex						APRS- www.aprs.fi
145.290-	127.3	Mingus Mtn.	K7YCA				ARES/RACES
145.350-	162.2	Wildflower	W7QHC				Dawn
145.600	Simplex					Echo	Node 266053
146.760-	131.8	Hayden Peak	N7SKO				WECOM INC
146.780-	91.5	Bill Williams Mtn.	K7NAZ			IRLP	BWMRC LITZ, 3178
146.880-	100.0	Prescott Heights	W7YRC				YARC
146.920-	162.2	Mount Ord	W7MDY				ARA
146.980-	162.2	Mt. Elden	W7ARA				ARA
147.000+	162.2	Mingus Mt.	K7MRG				MMRG
147.140+	162.2	Mt. Elden	W7ARA				ARA
147.220+	162.2	Mingus Mtn	W7EI				VVARA LITZ
147.260+	103.5	Mt. Union	K7YCA				ARES/RACES
147.260+	127.3	Mt. Francis	K7YCA				ARES/RACES
147.360+	162.2	Mt. Ord	W7MDY				ARA
224.080-	156.7	Mt. Union	KJ7DX				Desert Intertie
442.150+	100.0	Mingus Mtn	WA7UID				MMRG
448.475-	100	Mt. Elden	W7ARA				ARA
448.875-	100.0	Mt. Elden	W7ARA				ARA
449.250-	192.8	Chino Valley	K7POF				
449.675-	88.50	Prescott Airport	WB7BYV		Linked to P Mtn.		
449.750-	123.0	Bill Williams	K7NAZ		Linked to Win-Sys		
927.0875-	151.4	Mingus Mtn	WB7BYV				
927.3875-	151.4	Prescott	WB7BYV			Echo	ARA



T-Hunt Frequencies:

Primary - 145.100 MHz

Secondary - 146.565 MHz

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 Dick Hughes, W6CCD, our Webmaster

