



YAVAPAI SIGNAL



The Yavapai Amateur Radio Club • Prescott, Arizona • DM-34 • Volume 27 - No.5 • May 2012



Hello once again!

First, let me congratulate the members and operators of the Granite Mountain Middle School Amateur Radio Club (K7GMG) for their operating work and participation in the West Yavapai School Fair on

Thursday evening (April 19th). One of the best ways to ensure the visibility of ham radio is to operate in a public setting (and have a little fun along the way of course!) Well done!

I wanted to encourage all of you to participate in the Whiskey Off Road Mountain Bike event in Prescott. It's scheduled for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, April 27-28-29, 2012.

My sources indicate that more operators are still needed! If you'd like to participate, contact Lloyd (WA6ZZJ) right away.

Also, remember that Field Day is fast approaching! Be part of the largest single annual event in Amateur Radio nationwide! To get involved, contact our Field Day Chair Ellis (KE7NAP). There are plenty of jobs that need doing, big and small, in connection with this high visibility event. We'd love to have you join in the fun!

Finally, I'd like to remind everyone that if you have an event, presentation, topic of interest, or suggestion for the club to pursue, the easiest way to bring it to the club's attention is to contact your Board of Directors. Contact information for all the board members is available on the web site and also on the club roster. We look forward to hearing from you!

As always, thank you so much. Your collective efforts this year have made my job easier and our club is stronger for it. You know who you are, and we all appreciate you!

Creighton, AD7YR



Photo courtesy of Bob Rosevear, WB7RRQ

MS-150 – Ride the Vortex Bicycle Event
(See Page 6)

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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 April 5, 2012 Board Meeting



Before the meeting began, **KB7TRE** told us more about **Emergency Preparedness classes**, details of which will be put on the Club website.

AD7YR opened the meeting about 6:10 and in addition were present: **KE7NAP**, **WN7E**, **K6VVR**, **K7SEN**, **KV8TD**, **W7BNW** and **KE7KEV**.

KE7NAP opened discussion of various Board responsibilities and suggested that the Vice President be in charge of Field Day and the annual Luncheon. Discussion ensued about having Board members be responsible for securing speakers for meetings.

Having the Board meeting on a different date other than the General meeting was discussed, to give Board members more time to visit with the general membership prior to each meeting.

After discussion, **AD7YR** made a motion to have the next **Board meeting on 26 April at 5:00** at a location yet to be determined and it was seconded by **KE7NAP**.

K6VVR asked for discussion regarding the upcoming **T Hunt**, which would occur on Easter Sunday with the following Sunday also a conflict. It was decided to settle the matter by vote during the General meeting.

AD7YR opened the subject of recognizing and honoring members who have faithfully served our Club in the past. Discussion ensued about having different colored or separate badges for easy recognition. **AD7YR** will make contact with **KF7MAU** to con-

sider options.

Discussion followed by **K6VVR** asking how to get more members involved which might include making different antennas at meetings, participating in T Hunts, and other activities to help newer members get more familiar with their radios and gear, etc.

AD7YR asked for ideas of how to encourage the general membership to bring forth their ideas for speakers, activities, etc.

WB7TPH has volunteered to be the **ARRL Special Services Coordinator** to keep ARRL informed about the various activities YARC does to maintain the *Special Services Club* status. He will also be the **Public Information Officer (PIO)** for the Club.

Discussion followed regarding the details for **Field Day** and the committees which still need volunteers.

Regarding the **Club shirts**, of which the color and style desired are unavailable, **K6VVR** asked if changing the color might be our only option. The question will be posed to the general membership.

AD7YR made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by **W7BNW** at 6:58.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Ashley ~ **KE7KEV**
YARC Secretary

Minutes of April 5, 2012 General Meeting

[Be it noted that due to operator and recorder error, the first half of the YARC General Meeting was not recorded and thus these minutes lack the usual formalities.]

AD7YR opened the meeting at 7:05 with the Pledge of Allegiance. Following that he asked all the Board members and Officers of the Club to stand and be recognized for the benefit of all new members and visitors. Visitors were then introduced and the following new members were introduced and voted in: **Paul Goodwin, K7UBO** and **William (Bill) Noe, KF7VFD**.

The **Secretary's Report and Minutes** from **KE7KEV** were approved and seconded as published in the *Yavapai Signal*. The same held true for the report from the **Treasurer, WN7E**.

K7SEN reported that an upcoming **General class** is being held in the near future and details are available online at www.w7yrc.org.

WN7E showed the patches and decal available for purchase to demonstrate affiliation with YARC.

AD7YR announced that **WN7L** is the new **AZWAC** (Arizona Worked All Counties) **Coordinator**. Thanks and Welcome!

WA6ZZJ told of all the upcoming activities in which YARC is participating and details can be read online at www.w7yrc.org.

Again **AC6AA** was commended for doing such a fine job of putting out the *Yavapai Signal*, the official Club newsletter.

K6VVR reported that shirts are not available in the color and style desired and asked for opinions on other color options.

KE7KEV stood in for **KF7MAU** to distribute badges previously ordered and took orders for new ones. She also reported that **KF7ANX** is doing better after his surgery and looks for-

ward to returning to the meetings!

K6VVR reported that routine maintenance on the repeater has been scheduled.

Once again **K6UWV** does a great job of furnishing refreshments and reminded us not to crush the pop cans!

K7SEN announced that the Wednesday night net is going well and Net Controls are always needed. He also mentioned that new Elmers are needed as well to share the wealth of their knowledge and skills.

KB7TRE reported that his **young Ham students** will be participating on the air in the **West Yavapai School Fair** on 19 April in Tim's Toyota Center in Prescott Valley.

K6VVR reported that the next regularly scheduled *T hunt* would fall on Easter Sunday with an additional conflict the following week. He asked for a vote from those present who normally attend the hunts to decide whether or not to postpone the hunt until next month and it was thus decided.

AD7YR announced that the stewardship for taking the donated food for the **Yavapai County Food Bank** had been transferred from **KB7TRE** to **KE7KEV** and asked for and received a second for the motion for that transition. An appreciation round of applause was given to **KB7TRE** for a job well done!

N7RIS announced the first meeting for the forming of a corporation for a **Ham Fest** next year. The meeting will be at the Golden Corral Restaurant on Monday, 9 April at 6:00. All are invited to help in this endeavor.

W7BNW shared more about **Field Day**, which will be at Willow Creek

Park in the pavilion, from **11:00 a.m. Saturday through 11:00 a.m. Sunday 23/24 June** including a T-Hunt. **KE7NAP**, the **Field Day Chairman**, needs help so please go to field.day@w7yrc.org to volunteer. **KB7TRE** will be making breakfast Sunday morning. Dinner will be brought in on Saturday night for those staying through the night. **AD7YR** elaborated on what Field Day is and how much fun and educating it is for new Hams as well as the more seasoned ones. As usual, families are invited for the picnic.

W7JLC announced that **Embry Riddle** will launch an instrumented weather balloon on 12 April from their campus.

N7PJN will be talking about **Winlink** in the May meeting and he suggested that we go to **Winlink.org** for details prior to the meeting.

K7CBK told about batteries from a book called *Emergency Communications Manual*, pertaining to the talk given by **N7PJN** last month.

WB7TPH has volunteered to be the **ARRL Special Service Coordinator** for the Club as well as the **Public Information Officer**. Thanks and Welcome!

AD7YR made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 and it was seconded by **KF7MMS**.

The 50/50 of \$53 was won by **KF6SPS**.

Respectfully submitted by

Barbara Ashley ~ **KE7KEV**

YARC Secretary

YAVAPAI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

April 2012 Treasurer's Summary - Tom Griswold WN7E

Income

Date	Callsign	Name	Code	Check #	Amt. Paid	G. F. Amt.	Rep.Fund	ARRL
04/05/12	W1OTH	Ramon Fobes	R	1001	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
04/05/12	K7NPD	Norman Delucchi	R	8075	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
04/05/12	K7UBO	Paul Goodwin	N	cash	\$25.00	\$18.00	\$7.00	
04/05/12	WN7E	Tom Griswold	A R	3768	\$39.00	\$2.00	\$0.00	\$37.00
04/05/12	W6CCD	Dick Hughes	R	1312	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
04/05/12	KE7DTR	Richard Bozeat	R	1437	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
04/05/12	N5RO	Jim Clark	R	1037	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
04/05/12	KE7DTY	Rose Clark	R F	"				
04/05/12	K6VVR	Pete Morrison	R	cash	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
04/05/12	K7POF	Bob Sitterley	R	606	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
04/05/12	W7POF	Linda Sitterly	R F	"				
04/05/12	N7RIS	Richard Von Aschen	R	1502	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
04/05/12	AL3L	Gary Taylor	R	2007	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
04/05/12	AD7TG	Eric Nelson	R	cash	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
04/05/12	KF7INF	Dennis Grady	R	cash	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
04/05/12	K7CBK	Lee Cunningham	R	7903	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
04/05/12		William Noe	A N	1041	\$59.00	\$33.00	\$2.00	\$24.00
04/05/12	KE7TDR	Bruce Jaeger	R	6127	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
04/05/12	KE7TDR	Bruce Jaeger	A R	6126	\$39.00	\$2.00		\$37.00
04/05/12	W7QHE	Dick Diddams	R	cash	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	
04/05/12		Decals & patches		cash	\$8.00	\$8.00		
04/05/12	KE7KEV	Barbara Ashley - Patch		2185	\$3.00	\$3.00		
04/05/12		50/50 raffle		cash	\$106.00	\$106.00		

Income Totals \$559.00 \$424.00 \$37.00 \$98.00

Expenses

04/05/12	KB7TRE	Terry Pemberton - coffee/cups		1103		\$11.04		
04/05/12	AC6AA	Joe Oliver - stamps		1104		\$45.00		
04/05/12	KE7KEV	Barbara Ashley - stamps		1105		\$45.00		
04/05/12	KF6SPS	Walter Schumann 50/50 winner		cash		\$53.00		
04/06/12	K6UWV	David Passell - refreshments		1106		\$10.14		
04/06/12		Allegra - newsletter		1108		\$28.22		

Total Expenses \$192.40

Beginning Balance	\$6,486.79	Mar. repeater balance	\$1,552.51
April Income	\$424.00	Interest	0.26
		Apr. 2012 Repeater Fund	\$37.00
Sub Total	\$6,910.79	Repeater Fund Bal.	\$1,589.77
Expenses	\$192.40		
General Fund Balance	\$6,718.39	ARRL Payments	Check 1109 \$98.00
Net Loss/Gain	\$231.60	Apr. Income	\$559.00
		Cash out 50/50	\$53.00
		Deposit	\$506.00

What's a Public Information Officer? I don't know, I just volunteered to be one!

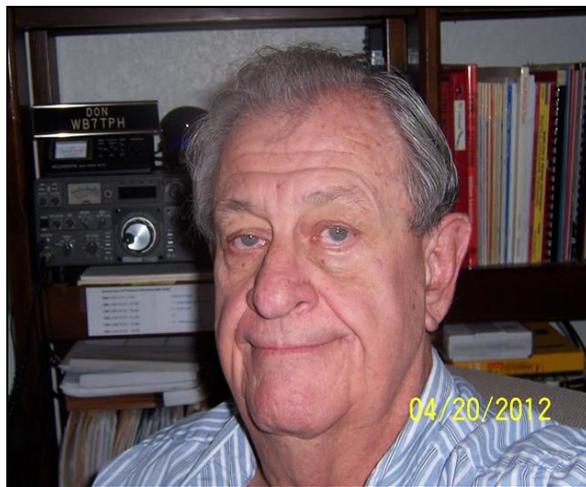
Hi. I'm Don Bauer, WB7TPH, and I recently applied for the two part position of PIO and ARRL liaison. When I asked Neil Vince what volunteer positions were available, he responded with a list. The two for which I applied were, to me, closely related. So, as they say, the rest is history.

I am 68 years old, a senior citizen. I have worked for the State of Arizona for the last 36 years, even though I actually retired in 1999. I publish a newsletter for another hobby organization to which I belong. I have been a member of YARC for a few years, but not too active. I have been a ham since 1974, but restricted to 2M/440.

Recently, thanks to Bud Semon, N7CW, I got on to HF amateur radio. I am a casual contest operator, mostly doing State QSO Parties, trying to get my first WAS. That wasn't my plan until I logged 35 states. DXCC looks to be a long way off, only fifteen countries in the log. I enjoy working 10M with 25 watts; my first contact in that arena was New Zealand. The world of HF radio has peaked my interest so much that I wanted to become more involved in the club, as well as serve in some way.

I believe that ARRL membership is important to both the individual and to YARC. This club is an active affiliate of ARRL, and notable as a Special Service Club. Look on the ARRL website, for SSCs. There aren't that many. In Arizona we are one of a very few. Some may deride the ARRL, and there are legitimate gripes. But, no organization, large or small, is perfect. ARRL is important to us for several reasons; the greatest one of them is the ability to represent us in Washington and in the international community. So, representing the YARC to ARRL is an important duty, to me. And, I will try to do it in the best way I can.

On the other side of the coin, people need to know what's going on. Members need to know about events, and club sponsored activities; local and county officials need to know who we are and how we can serve their needs; and, the public needs to understand amateur radio if we want to see continued growth in licensees and members. Public service is a large part of the YARC program. It is important that people outside this organization know we aren't just a bunch of "radio nuts". YARC has a story to be told. I hope that I can tell it. What is a public information officer? Well, I guess I will find out! ■



May Program

Fred Zimmermann, N7PJM will give a presentation on Winlink.

Winlink 2000 is a worldwide high frequency (HF) digital radio communications system that includes Internet technology. Winlink allows amateur radio operators to send and receive e-mail with small attachments, position reports, graphic and text weather bulletins, emergency/disaster relief communications and message relays without a direct connection to the Internet.

Fred will talk about needed equipment and will give a demonstration on how to access Winlink using the Prescott gateway on 145.01. Go to the website, www.winlink.org, click on Maps, select VHF, and see User locations and HF.



By Lloyd, WA6ZZJ

ARES/RACES.....

This year's annual Wildfire Exercise was held on Friday, April 13, 2012. The event took place at the Central Yavapai Fire Department Regional Training Academy in Prescott Valley. The exercise was to test communications between the Incident Command Team (ICT) and the Yavapai County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). This year it was a simulation of a fire in a Mine near Skull Valley and a Wildfire started by the activists who started the Mine Fire. The scenario called for the evacuation of Deering Park, Highland Pines and associated Camps in the area due to the wildfire. ARES/RACES personnel were placed in the EOC, IMT and Planning sections of the exercise. Messages were passed between locations concerning EOC to IMT situations.

Overall the exercise was a success and will open the door for more of the same under different conditions.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMUNICATIONS.....

If your idea of a fun time is riding a bicycle 105, 65 or 47 miles in wind, rain and snow then you would have enjoyed the MS-150 – Ride the Vortex bicycle event on Saturday, April 14th in the Verde Valley. Approximately 600 +/- riders started the event at 0730 in the morning with overcast skies that quickly turned to rain and snow on some of the route.

Saturday was a challenge with the weather being in the low to mid 40 degree range along with the wind, rain and snow. Several riders were transported that just got too cold to continue. Had we not been there for communications it would have been a much harder and slower process for picking up cold and tired riders. The SAG drivers did a good job of keeping up with and locating riders that needed assistance. Fortunately there were no major injuries or incidents.

Sunday the weather cleared and it was a nicer day for a bike ride. The skies were mostly sunny and temperatures warmer. The event wrapped up early afternoon and all of

our operators were on their way home even with late starters and some wandering riders.

This year for the second time on an event like this we used the Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS) tracking some of the vehicles. There were trackers in the Lead, Sweep and Staff vehicles on the course and at Net Control we were able to see just where they were located. Thanks to Jack, W7JLC and Bryan, W7BNW for their assistance on this project. It definitely has possibilities for use in our Public Service Communications and I hope to see its use expanded.

A big THANK YOU to all who participated in the communications effort for the MS-150 - Ride the Vortex event in the Verde Valley. It was indeed a multi club event with operators from the Yavapai Amateur Radio Club, Verde Valley Amateur Radio Association, Coconino Amateur Radio Club as well as operators from Glendale and Chandler. Everyone stepped up to the task and did a very good job. The MS-150 organizers expressed their gratitude for all that we did.

WHISKEY OFF ROAD MOUNTAIN BIKE EVENT.....

The article on this event will be in next month's newsletter due to the late running date in April.

WHISKEY ROW MARATHON.....

Saturday, May 5, 2012 will be the Whiskey Row Marathon. This will be the 14th consecutive year that YARC has provided communications for this event. The YMCA lists the Yavapai amateur Radio Club as one of the sponsors of the event because of the communications provided.

A few positions are still open on this event. Sign up by emailing me at: wa6zzj@arrl.net ■



Photo courtesy of Bob Rosevear, WB7RRQ

Ham Radio Testing

Testing will be held for all license classes on Friday, May 4, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. at the Jeep Posse Bldg in Pioneer Park, behind the Hockey Rink.

If you are planning on taking the Technician exam, register for your Federal Registration Number (FRN) by following the directions at: <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

For more information or to pre-register please email testing@w7yrc.org.

VE Meeting and Training

There will be a VE Meeting and Training session, Friday, May 4, 2012 at the Jeep Posse Bldg from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. All VE's are encouraged to attend as this will be the only training session this year. Please read over the testing information in the back of your VE Manuals prior to the meeting. This meeting will contain "hands on" training. Email ab7nk@arrl.net for more information. ■

Wednesday Evening Net

By Neil Vance, K7SEN



Every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. the club net is held on the 146.880 repeater. Participation has not been what it once was. If anyone has any suggestions, different format, topics, etc., please contact Neil, K7SEN, Net Manager at 775-2158.

Net controls are still needed for the remainder of the year. The signup sheet will be passed around at the meeting and it would be great if it came back with all dates filled. Or, you can email: net.manager@w7yrc.org with the date or dates you would be interested in taking the net.

If you have not joined us on Wednesday evenings, we invite you to do so. We are an informal group and topics vary from week to week. Stop by and say hello, you do NOT need to be a club member to join us. All amateurs are welcome. ■

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 Information Officer	pio@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

Upcoming Events

- **April 27, 28, & 29, 2012** - Whiskey Off Road Mountain Bike Event
- **May 4, 2012** - VE Testing -- all license classes.
- **May 5, 2012** - Whiskey Row Marathon.
- **May 5 - 6, 2012** - 7th Call Area QSO Party, (7QP).
- **July 20 - 22, 2012** - ARCA/Williams Hamfest.

Membership Count:

1st Thurs. in March.....172
 Gain/Loss.....-3
 1st Thurs. in March.....169*



* Includes 3ea 3-month memberships

Ask Elmer

By Neil Vince, K7SEN



If you have a question related to a club activity or a technical question, please sent it to:

ask.elmer@w7yrc.org

Many individuals are often afraid to ask a question because they don't want to sound like they don't know what they are talking about. We have all been beginners, some willing to admit they did not know everything, some learned by trial and error while others decided to just ask.

F.A.Q.

The two questions I get the most are "will you come over and tell me where to put my antenna?" and "what kind of radio should I buy?" There are so many variables to these questions. Before considering an antenna you might wish to consider two questions:

1. What are your interests? HF? VHF/UHF? Satellite?
2. Do you live in an area with an HOA?

It's not practical to want to put up a 75' tower and huge beam if you live in an area with an HOA. Does this mean you can not use HF if you live in an HOA neighborhood? Of course you can, you just need to be a little creative as to where you put your antenna. Antennas can be hidden in your attic, in flagpoles, and you can even run wire around the eaves of your house. Will you get the same signal reports as those with the big towers? Probably not. There is always a payoff.

The same is true with VHF & UHF. Hiding antennas in the attic if all you are interested in is 2m/440 is a much simpler task than trying to hide a HF antenna. You will be able to find a spot that will work out for you.

I can not tell you where to put your antenna or what radio to purchase. I prefer Yaesu and the old tube rigs. Others are partial to Icoms or Kenwoods. They are all good rigs, but I can only suggest that you do your homework -- talk to others as to what they like and do not like about their rig, before making your decision and purchase.

When it comes to stealth antenna's, there is a whole world of information on the Internet and various news-groups. Have an idea of what you would like to do and then we can talk.

Mr. Elmer,

I have a Technician license; my husband has a General. Can I operate using the portion of the band he is allowed to operate on?

Good question, yes and no. If your husband is home and is there acting as the control operator, you can then legally operate on any frequency his license allows him to operate. You must identify with your call sign and then his call sign as the control operator. Remember, he must be in the same room while you are operating using his license privileges.

If your husband is not home, it would be illegal to operate using his license privileges, but it is also illegal for others to talk with you since you are not licensed to operate in that portion of the band. The best suggestion would be to upgrade to General so you go not have to wait for him to come home to operate under his license.

■

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

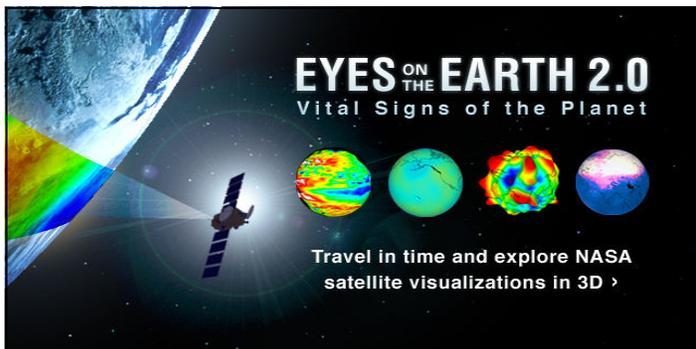
Jim Ball, WB7UZV (928) 445-2997

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.



By Jim Clark, N5RO

Believe this will be of interest to the membership. Members will be interested in this iPhone app called "Eyes on Earth" which my grandson Kris Clark developed for JPL when he was a summer vacation intern at Jet Propulsion Labs. He is studying computer science in college. It can be viewed at this website and clicking on the individual satellites will show the view of earth from that satellite. A voice narrative can be heard explaining the various data measurements of temperatures, atmospheric gases, etc., etc.

* <http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/news.cfm?release=2012-084&rn=news.xml&rst=3319>

*This is also an awesome website. (It is soon supposed to be released to Android as well.) ■

DVD or Blu-Ray Player

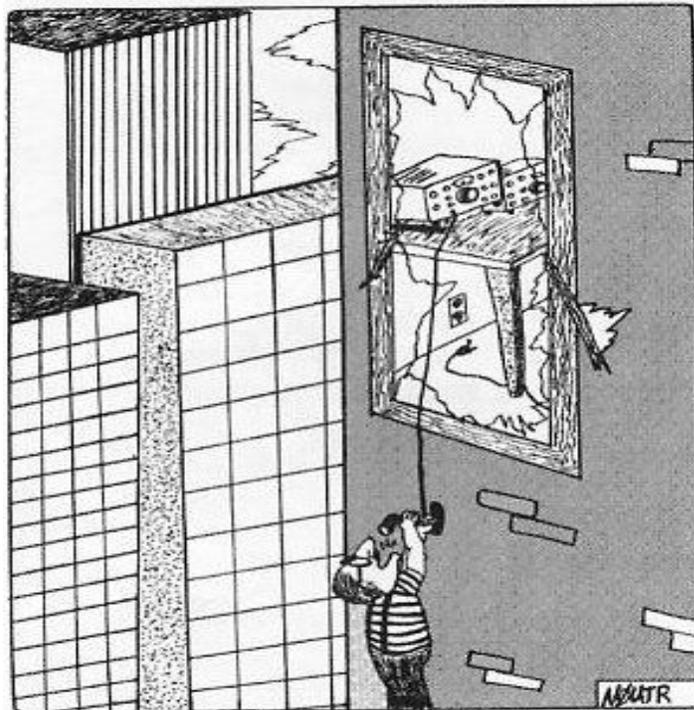
By Jim Clark, N5RO

If you have a working TV DVD or Blu-Ray player, it is suggested that you DO NOT REPLACE IT with a newer version, especially one that does not connect with component (yellow, white, red) connectors. Also true for computer DVD or B-E (Blu-Ray) recorder/players. Reason: The newer ones are designed to ONLY play commercial DVDs or BluRays. The new ones will not play home recorded or converted camcorder DVD's - take heed and if you must buy one (new or used) for a TV look for the yellow, red, white component connectors on the back and test them out in any case. There might still be some older ones left in the stores.

Keep your old one just in case.

This is a Sony and others' change supposedly to prevent movie piracy. There are workarounds like Locksmith on the Internet but you have to keep updating to keep ahead of the constant changes and need to be somewhat technically oriented to do that. If you already have a newer BluRay player you might be too late for home-recorded blurays but look around on Craigslist for an older one if you need one and test it out before buying. ■

Reprinted with permission from Greg Trook, N0UJR



"Sorry about the noise...I tripped...anyway, the name here is Roy, and I am located near downtown Chicago. I have been a ham now for 20 years and"

ARRL Card Checkers Can Now Check Cards for 160M and Deleted Entities

Acting on a recommendation by ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, the ARRL's Programs and Services Committee (PSC) adopted new rules for ARRL field card checkers. ARRL card checkers now may check QSL cards for those entities deleted from the DXCC list and, with certain exceptions, check cards for 160 meters. In addition, the PSC decided not to change the process by which card checkers are appointed.

Prior to April 16, 2012, these cards could only be checked at ARRL Headquarters. According to Patton, the reason for this was that some QSL cards for 18 MHz can be altered to show 1.8 MHz without the alteration being detected. Therefore, the time of the QSO becomes significant. Some cards for deleted entities date back prior to 1960, making it difficult in the field to sometimes determine which entity the card ought to count for. Deleted entities do not count for the DXCC Challenge or for the Honor Roll, but do count toward all-time totals. ■



News-Gram

April 16, 2012

- World Amateur Radio Day, April 18
- 7QP
- Tom Fagan

IARU News: April 18 Is World Amateur Radio Day

The year 2012 marks the 87th anniversary of the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). To mark this occasion, the IARU and its more than 160 Member-Societies will celebrate World Amateur Radio Day on April 18. For many years, the IARU has declared a theme for each World Amateur Radio Day. The theme for 2012 is *Amateur Radio Satellites: Celebrating 50 Years in Space* in remembrance of the launch of OSCAR 1 on December 12, 1961 and the launch of OSCAR 2 on June 2, 1962. Read more on the ARRL Website.



7QP: Another reminder to put this on your calendar: May 5 (6am local) is the 7 Land QSO Party, (**7QP**). Now's your chance to bag a few of those hard to find states, or maybe that elusive AZ county. OK, you have been warmed up, I hope, so here is where you will find more details:

<http://www.codxc.com/new/Page.asp?content=dryland7s>

Tom Fagan: The ARRL Section Manager for Arizona, Tom Fagan, has been nominated for the KNIGHT DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD.

If you would like to support this nomination please send an email to Steve Ewald WViX at sewald@arrl.org. You can include any reasons you feel Tom makes an outstanding Section Manager, how he helped you personally as a Ham, or how he helped your local club or the like.

Support for this nomination needs to be sent in before the end of April 2012. The award is normally conferred at the July ARRL Board of Directors meeting.

Thanks so much for your help. Norm Seeley Jr. KI7UP
Public Information Coordinator for Arizona
Scottsdale, Arizona

Don Bauer WB7TPH, pio@w7yrc.org

Free Circuit Design Tools for Ham Radio

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

About a week ago, I started looking for a schematic capture program so that I could easily generate some simple schematics for my upcoming Extra Class study guide. Since I use a Mac as my main computer, I first asked on the Ham-Mac mailing list if anyone knew of a good one. I got several recommendations, including:

- Diptrace (<http://www.diptrace.com/>),
- Eagle (<http://www.cadsoftusa.com/downloads/freeware/?language=en>), and
- McCad (<http://mccad.com/>)

Eagle looked like a good choice, although several people mentioned that the user interface “left much to be desired.”

Then, I remembered that I had OmniGraffle, which is a general-purpose diagramming tool. Googling around, I found several sets of electronic symbol libraries that could be used with OmniGraffle. I installed them, and generated a couple of figures for the study guide section that discusses T-network and pi-network filters. It was a reasonably good solution to my problem.

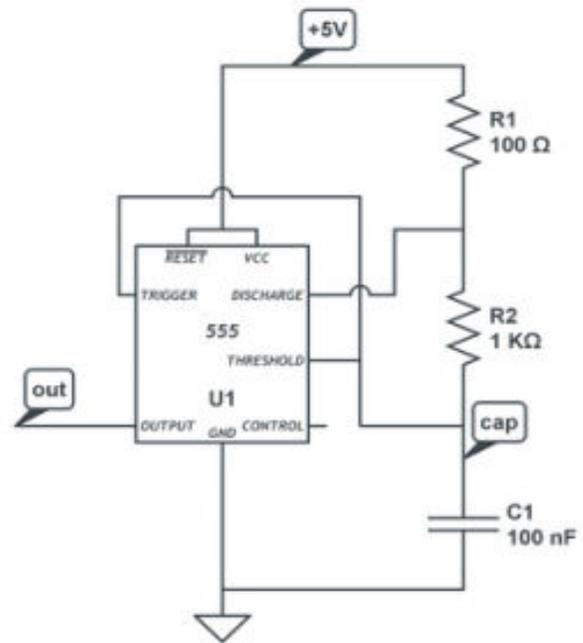
A Web solution

A couple of days ago, though, someone on the local Maker mailing list, pointed me towards CircuitLab (<https://www.circuitlab.com/>), an online schematic capture tool and circuit simulator. I haven't tried the circuit simulation yet, but the schematic capture tool is really easy to use. It's much easier to use for drawing circuit diagrams than OmniGraffle.

Another benefit is that it doesn't matter what computer you're using. Because it runs in a Web browser, it doesn't matter whether that browser is running on a Mac or a PC or even a Linux box.

If you set up an account, you can save circuits to your “workbench.” To get you started, there are some sample circuits, such as the 555 timer circuit shown in Figure 1. There's also some decent documentation and a forum where you can discuss circuits and get some help.

Finally, the price is right, too. It looks like using CircuitLab is completely free. I couldn't find any pages that required payment.



This 555 timer circuit is one of the examples provided by CircuitLab to get you started using the online schematic-capture and circuit-simulation tool

NOTE: You can find the image, i.e. Figure 1, to go along with this article at <http://tinyurl.com/7kje95x>. ■

YARC Officers for 2012

President

Creighton Grotbeck, AD7YR
president@w7yrc.org

Vice President

Ellis Rackoff, KE7NAP
vice.president@w7yrc.org

Secretary

Barbara Ashley, KE7KEV
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Doug Freeman -- KV8TD
Pete Morrison -- K6VVR
Bryan Whipp -- W7BNW
Neil Vince -- K7SEN

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

Area Repeaters

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

Breakfast at Masonic Lodge: 3rd Saturday of each Month at 9:00 a.m.

(1280 Willow Creek Road,

2nd Floor; above Bank of America)

informal – all are invited

* Location data (per WGS84) provided

by Fred Zimmermann, N7PJM

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

