

The  Ohm Town News January 1996

Logan Utah Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

THE PRESIDENTS CORNER

Clint Jeppsen - KB7ZOZ

The beginning of a new year brings a new commitment in each of our lives. We each have feelings of not having accomplished what we hope we could have. And with new hope we make new commitments.

But our club has accomplished much under the leadership of President Dean Stevens, N7WDY. And I want to acknowledge his enthusiasm during he past two years.

We have one of the more active ham clubs and Dean is to be applauded for his devotion in keeping our enthusiasm going.

Under his efforts and direction we now have club by-laws in place. Our club has gained a non-profit status and our repeater system has been upgraded to the benefit of us all. And there are plans for further developments.

The club is financially solvent. And there is a summer full of activities planned which will keep all as involved as we want to be.

We should all be proud of our membership in B.A.R.C.

It's only through rubbing shoulders with you members that I am able to get a better understanding of radio. Your casual talking on the radio has been very enlightening to me over the past years.

As your new president I want to commit to keeping the pace going. We have

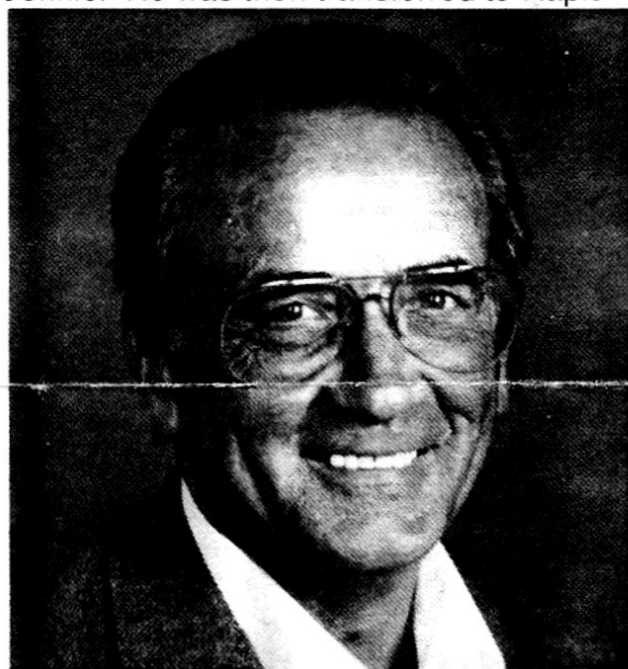
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HAM PROFILE

Clint Jeppsen, KB7ZOZ

by Dean Stevens

Born in Mantua, Utah, Clint Jeppsen has been a native of our area for most of his life. He served our country in the U.S. Air Force as an aircraft mechanic on B-52 bombers. He was stationed for one year in Great Falls, Montana where he met his wife, Connie. He was then transferred to Rapid



City, South Dakota at the SAC base where he spent the rest of his military days. Being on alert all the time was nerve racking, but he said you get used to it.

After the Air Force, he wandered the country for six or seven years before he and

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President's Message

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outstanding people in our club who are more than willing to share their knowledge. We are looking forward to some excellent training meetings during the coming year.

I would like to extend an open invitation to you to let us know what your individual interests are. With your input we can plan more appropriate training meetings.

Please feel free to contact me with your concerns or suggestions. I work at home so if I'm not at Jedediah's having breakfast or just out playing somewhere you can usually catch me at 752-2315.

I'm looking forward to the coming year and getting to know you all better.

73's, Clint KB7ZOZ

Ham Profile

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Connie came back to Cache Valley in 1967; he has lived in the same house in Providence since then. Clint obtained work when he got here with the state of Utah as an adult probation and parole officer. He spent four years in Cache Valley, eight years in Brigham City, and the rest of his employment in Ogden; he retired in 1987. Before Connie passed away from cancer, they had five wonderful children of whom Clint is very proud: Wayne and Lorie Iverson - Millville, Ron and Julie Greer - Providence, Jeff and Helen Jeppsen - Lewiston, Tim and Erika Jeppsen - River Heights, and Bruce and Wendy Wanker - Brigham City. Clint later married Mary Ann Nielson, KB7ZOY.

Clint was first introduced to amateur radio when Mary Ann came home one day after taking her cub scouts to Clayton Clark's (AC7O) home to see his station. She was so excited about radio that she told Clint he just had to see all his (Clayton's) radios. Later that summer they camped on the Snake River and their vehicle battery went out on them, so Clint ended up walking out to get help. After that, they bought some CBs but soon realized these radios would not do what they needed, so with encouragement from Boyd Humphreys (W7MOY), they began studying for their exam. They were both licensed in December 1993.

Clint looks forward to going to Yellowstone so he can visit with a retired friend who is stationed in a fire lookout tower, and who is also a ham. Clint gets all the juicy updates on goings-on in the park, and has fun visiting on the air while there. During one visit, Clint was scanning the amateur frequencies and heard some guys talking about how much snow was falling and the severity of an approaching storm. It was only raining lightly at the time he heard these hams but knowing the storm was coming his way, he packed up and left just

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****NEW REPEATER FEATURES****

As promised, the repeater committee continues to add to our 146.720 repeater and wants club members to be aware of the following features.

<u>Keypad Entry</u>	<u>Feature</u>
911	752-4110
72*911	752-4110
72*912	Cache County Roads
72*913	State Roads (UT)
72*914	Weather, Mt. Logan
72*915	Airport Weather
71	Link 146.72 to 449.625
73	Drop Link
39	Time of Day

Nice stuff, huh? They're working on other features and we'll announce herein when completed. Thanks to the repeater committee!

Also, if you have paid your \$25 repeater activation fee, call Tyler, N7UWX and he will give you three auto-dial slots if you desire them.

Ham Profile

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in time. That night the park got over eight inches of snow and the roads were extremely treacherous, so he was glad for his radio.

On another occasion, Clint was driving a U-Haul truck while helping his son move back from Alabama when the brakes on the truck died as they were passing through Denver. He got on his radio, asked for help, and had a kindly ham guided him to the local U-Haul repair station where appropriate repairs were made. He says "...thank goodness for our radios!"

Clint stays very busy with his own business that he runs out of his home; the Eiderdown Therapy Center at 326 East 200 North in Providence. If any of you would like to treat yourself to a wonderful, relaxing massage, I know Clint will have you feeling like you are on cloud nine when you walk out.

We congratulate Clint for being elected as our new club president, and look forward to another great year in the B.A.R.C.

NEW PUBLICATION

If you're like me, you always welcome new "reading material" on a subject that interests you. Well, we received in the mail (as I'm sure some of you also did) a complementary issue of a new magazine for hams called **CQ VHF, Ham Radio above 50 MHz**. As you might surmise from the title, this publication addresses those of us who have an interest in this area of the spectrum. The cover price says \$3.95 and the introductory price on the enclosed card says an annual subscription costs \$19.95 (or about \$1.56 an issue) and, if you act NOW, you get a free gift called **New Ham Survival Guide** (survival!?!). In the week or so since we received this introductory issue, I've read most of it. It's pretty good! Their mission statement says, in part, that this publication will "...serve that huge number of amateur radio operators who, by license restriction or by choice, operate on VHF and UHF...". They go on to say that they will do all the stuff their big-brother issue will do, but will focus on above 50 MHz. This premier issue includes a very simple construction article and everything from some really basic stuff to an article encouraging forage into HF. I enjoyed reading about packet satellite. The section called **Basics** is pretty good too....it has a series of mini-articles that are fairly informative. I liked the ones on packet radio and on amateur satellites. You might want to check this one out...maybe you can get a freebie issue too by calling their toll-free number, 1-800-853-9797.
de KC7HYN

1996 BARC CLUB OFFICERS

President	Clint Jeppsen, KB7ZOZ	752-2315
Vice President	Kevin Reeve, N7RXE	753-1645
Secretary	Cristie Anderson, KB7RAV	245-5027
Treasurer	Dan Anderson, KA0EOF	245-5027
Board Member	Dave Auger, WB7CFT(208)852-0577	
Board Member	Ellis Hancey, KC7CXE	563-3857
Board Member	Dean Stevens, N7WDY	755-2209

1996 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Repeater	Bill Neville, WA7KMF	753-4352
	Bob Wood, WA7MXZ	753-2119
Training	Kevin Reeve, N7RXE	753-1645
	Paul Hansen, WO7N	753-4843
VE Testing	Terry Zollinger, N7PEG	797-3928
Club Station	Dan Anderson, KA7EOF	245-5027
	Clair Wyatt, NV7B	752-3823
Projects	Stan Wellard, N7UXC	753-0433
	Richard Wilkinson, KC7HYN	563-3532



Hotel Yankee November

A year on the ptt

As I sit here musing about the year since I received my ham ticket, I am excited about what I've learned and the friends I've made. Never being a sideliners, I got myself involved by helping first with the Mountainman Rendezvous. Being a child who fits into the classification "baby-boomer", I had always wondered what happened to the indigenous "free-thinkers" who were just behind me in high school. You know, the people who didn't trust anyone over thirty (until, of course, they themselves reached this pivotal age); a lot of things made no sense during these trying times. Well, I've concluded half of these "free-thinkers" became yuppies and the other half appear to travel the country to attend mountainman events. Don't get me wrong, and please don't judge me harshly, I think it is great, but I just was amazed seeing the aging hippies of my youth in buckskin. As part of the volunteer organization who helped with communications, I got to try out my new-found skills doing something of value. I also thought it was great to meet with the volunteer sheriff organization who also took time out of their lives to volunteer assistance. Both BARC and the sheriff's group were a great help. You should have seen the mud up there....all being churned by various hand and powered vehicles into a fine, stick-to-anything-you-own mass. And I learned that KC7CVI, Jodi, as the grand poo-bah organizer of this whole mountainman event, has great patience, fortitude and negotiating skills. I think he also has great skill at prioritizing since he put the we're-out-of-toilet paper crisis in front of others before the masses resurrected the good old fashioned necktie party. The club can use his well-honed skills.

Next, I joined up with the team assembled by Mike, KG7FZ, to help with the annual Field Day, which was also a new experience for me. I probably learned more from watching the skilled hams in our club do this activity than any other event of the year. I was the one who took the assignment to get the porta-potty to our remote ham site. Talk about starting at the bottom! I figured it went well because I got no nasty looks or comments, and

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the tires on my truck stayed inflated. And we didn't run out of toilet paper either. The contents sloshed a little on the trip home, but the owners seemed to take it in stride...guess you can't go over a dirt road like that and not expect to upset the works. I'll bet owning porta-potties is pretty good business, but I'm glad for my chosen profession. Oh, and I didn't have one tail-gater coming down Logan Canyon. But I digress, I was so impressed with the folks who handled the Field Day, especially the CW'ers. Harl, N7LTH, sat with me as I made a few early-morning SSB contacts....Minnesota and California, if I recall, and those were my first experiences with HF QSOs. Someone actually responded to my CQ and talked to me! I'm hooked. Jim, AG7O, taught us a little about rigging antennas and those were confidence-building experiences too. I want to try my luck at CW next year...there must be SOMEONE else out there at 5wpm. Get involved this year and help a new ham get hooked too! Elmers are made, not born.

I am one of those do-it-yourself people and have a missing finger to prove it, which says that my enthusiasm exceeds my skills, but that is another story. For my birthday, my wife (I think they are called XYL) bought me an ARRL Handbook, and I immediately set out to make one of the projects. I chose the 5A power supply. I had just a great time doing this which helped me think back on my high school years (which were pre-hippie, you may recall) when my dad, brother and I built an Heathkit all-band receiver (say, how come they don't make kits like those anymore?) I also built an oscilloscope (another Heathkit) and a from-scratch power supply (this one used tubes and those transformers that could double as small boat anchors). All these things worked, so I was pretty optimistic about my ARRL project. Well this one didn't work and it is still sitting in my basement un-loved, un-tended and un-used. But I learned an important thing with this project. One morning on my way to work, I transmitted that I was "monitoring" on my recently purchased handheld transceiver (which I learned is called a "handie-talkie" or simply "HT" in ham-ese). If you are a tube and heavy transformer person, have you ever wondered how they get two bands and all those goodies in such a small

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package? I'd guess that too is another story. But anyway, my CQ was taken by N7LTH with whom I had several morning QSOs. What was great was that he took the time to help me with some of the challenges I was experiencing during building this new power supply, and he suggested some things that helped very much. After I finished the project, we were both confused when the dang thing bled down voltage over time, but I suppose this is yet another story. The important thing I learned was that hams do help each other and are glad to share their experiences. How great and refreshing in these I-know-something-you-don't-know times!

As some of you may know, my sons took the challenge after I got my ticket and took their tests. Mike, KC7JUW and Mark, KC7IHX are both space nuts and want us to communicate through satellites in the near future. In the meantime, we saw that Ross' Distributing in Preston had some pretty good prices on MFJ 1270C TNCs so we bought a couple to get "into" this aspect of amateur radio, which is called "packet radio". Understand that both my sons got me interested in the Internet (called the "Net" by seasoned veterans) which I have enjoyed, but doing something homologous with radiowaves has been really fun. There was an interlude after the motherboard on my computer croaked (yet another lengthy story), but we are back on the airwaves with this fun mode. Unfortunately, one of our TNCs relocated to Redondo Beach near Los Angeles with KC7IHX, but I hope I can figure a VHF link somehow. Or maybe HF packet, who knows?

Now here I am as your newsletter editor. Geez, what a challenge! I am learning about copyrighted pictures (don't send these unless I have a written release from the copyright owner...which is the photographer, not the owner of the print...homebrew snapshots are, however, fine and don't need a release), deadlines and "finding" interesting stuff you'll want to read. With the new year, I would sincerely like (and this is not gibberish either) to make a newsletter you can use and that you look forward to receiving each month, and that you can be proud of showing off. If you like to write, if

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you like to share information, if you have a homebrew project, if you have suggestions or any other stuff, boy would I like to hear from you! Our past president N7WDY, with whom I have enjoyed a good relationship, has put together an editorial schedule for the *Ham Profile* part of the newsletter, and I would like to do the same for other areas. Anyone up for getting us an "HF" section? How about an "Above 50MHz" section? How about a "satellite" or "packet" section? How about an "antenna" or "homebrew" section? There is so much we could do and, while only a short-timer, I have the enthusiasm to assist (missing finger and all).

Well, enough dribble from me this month. I promise this column will be generally uninformative, infrequent in number and grammatically incorrect, but loaded with enthusiasm. Is that another story? I would like to join with Dean, N7WDY to thank those who ran for office this year. It takes dedication and an un-selfish approach for volunteers to run a club like ours, and we all need to be thankful for those who are willing to sacrifice...past and present. Which reminds me to also thank our out-going officers for their time and dedication. What a great hobby and what a great club! May we continue to bring the tenets of ham radio into action.

73, de KC7HYN

**ATTENTION!!!****Club Meeting Changes Location...**

We hope you get this before our January Club meeting so that you will know the meeting location has been changed to Room EC 107 on the Utah State University campus. "EC" means engineering conference room. The meeting starts at 7:30PM (that's 1930 hours to us military types) on 11 January (that's Thursday night). I'm sure this will be announced on our Tuesday night net (146.720 @ 9:00PM or 2100 hours)