

# THE OHM TOWN NEWS

Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

de KB7ZOZ, Clint

Summer is coming. And with it comes all the fun of the great outdoors. Not only for we hams, but for everyone else too.

We're going to be called upon to participate in many scheduled activities and some that won't be scheduled.

As I've monitored the radio, I've heard a lot of batteries go dead. It's not much of a problem when you're at home or in the car and can just plug in and continue on with your conversation. But if you're out of reach of that plug it may cause you some problems.

Last year at the Mountain Man Rendezvous I took an extra battery and went prepared, so I thought. During the last hour of my turn, my battery went dead. But no problem, I just put my spare in and tried to go on with my contact. As it usually goes, it was also dead. I had failed to check the spare before I left home.

With the weather clearing and the temperatures going up we each need to check over our equipment before the need arises.

Should you be needed in an emergency, you won't have time to give your battery that fifteen-hour charge.

It is a good time to give your equipment a good going over. Replace all those parts that went bad during the winter and shine up your

*continued on page 2...*

## HAM PROFILE

John (AE7T) and Julie (KA7ACL) Stohel  
de KB7ZOY, Mary Ann

John Stohel (AE7T) and his wife Julie (KA7ACL) live in Treasureton, Idaho, a little community about 12 miles northeast of Preston. Their home is a remodeled LDS church building that they purchased in May 1984.

John is from Salt Lake City; Julie is from Burley, Idaho. They met at age 16, became engaged and married at age 20. John was in the US Army for 13 years, serving in



Vietnam, Alaska, Germany and various places

*continued on page 2...*

**PRESIDENT'S CORNER***...continued from page 1*

hot rods.

I've noticed my one antenna is leaning off to the Jones and I need to get up there and straighten it up. I've been putting it off because there has been snow on the roof and it was cold. But I guess it's time to get with it.

The point I'm trying to make is that we each need to make sure our equipment is in order before that emergency comes.

Just for your information, there are 99 dues-paying applications (singles and family). I'm not sure just how many hams that makes in our club, but it is growing each year. We have a great organization. And I want to complement each of you for making it a great club. Without you and your participation, your officers couldn't do much.

By the time this article is read, spring will be here. Let's be prepared for a great summer. And have lots of fun.

Remember, it's not too late to sign up for those summer events.

73, KB7ZOZ

**ACTIVITY FOR APRIL 11<sup>th</sup> CLUB MEETING**

The BARC club meeting for April 1996 will be held at the shop of Ellis Hancey (KC7CXE) at 7:30PM on April 11<sup>th</sup>. The address of the shop is 333 North 100 East in Hyde Park.

The planned activity is construction of copper J-pole antennas and twin-lead J-pole antennas. In addition to building antennas, we will have antenna analyzers to check mobile antennas or other antennas that members coming to the meeting would like to bring

*continued on page 3...*

**HAM PROFILE***...continued from page 1*

in the United States.

John got his license in December 1974 in Germany. He had worked with MARS in Vietnam and so was somewhat familiar with amateur radio practices. But learning CW was difficult -- 5 hours a day for 10 weeks was required before he could take the test. (His suggestion for people learning CW today is to study 15 minutes every day and to remember that for every day missed it takes two or three days to catch up.) John also attended night school at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Germany and graduated from the electronics program.

Julie travelled with John to Alaska and Germany, and then to Maryland where she passed the test for her Technician license in 1979. John got his Amateur Extra license in Maryland, and also taught the Novice Class while there.

John and Julie left the Army and Maryland, and moved to Pocatello, Idaho in March 1980. John worked for IC&E, a Motorola service shop, for a while. Then they moved to Tremonton for three years while John worked at Thiokol. In 1984 he accepted a position with Utah Power and Light, Preston office, and thus they moved to Treasureton -- and to their church castle!

The Stohels have three sons. The two who are grown have licenses -- Jack (N7NJC) who lives in Treasureton, and Jerry (N7KHQ) who lives in Logan. John Lee, age 12, is thinking about studying for the exam -- now that he doesn't have to master CW to get his license.

John says he doesn't "have" a lot of equipment but he has "gone through" a lot of equipment. He likes building radios, repeaters and other projects. He liked the old Heath-Kit

*continued on page 3...*

**HAM PROFILE***...continued from page 2*

days. John is owner and trustee of the 146.800 repeater on Sedgwick Mountain, which has been up for about six years. He operates a Motorola base station with remote which is on all the time and that uses a subaudible tone of 167.9

John has been active with BARC from the time they first moved here. John has served as vice-president and president, and has been on repeater committees almost continually. He, Bill Neville (WA7KMF) and Wally Gibbons (WB7ASQ) put up the 146.720 repeater on Mount Logan about eight years ago. (They hauled it from Mount Pisgah in a pickup.) Last year John was commander of Franklin County Sheriff's Patrol (Search & Rescue). This year he is Communication Annex Coordinator and Radiological Annex Coordinator for Franklin County. He is also vice-president of the Snowmobile Club.

Julie, too, has kept busy during these 12 years in Treasureton. She began working at a Nursing Home in Preston soon after their move. She also began EMT training and was certified in 1987. John trained and was certified a few months later. Julie continued working with Tri-Chem Liquid Embroidery, which she began while they were still in the Army. She also collects and maintains a huge number of flannel-board stories and pictures. (That's a hint for anyone out there who needs visual aids now and then!) Julie is also Radiological Defense Officer for Franklin County.

In 1986 Julie was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. She continued to work at the Nursing Home until four years ago when the doctor insisted that she need more time to rest. She keeps as busy as her health will allow -- maintaining her home, her flannel-board collection and limited liquid embroidery projects. She also maintains her position as Radiological Defense Officer.

**APRIL CLUB MEETING***...continued from page 2*

(even rubber ducks).

We will also have equipment to analyze your radios. We will be able to check frequency, deviation, power output, etc. Bring your radios and see how well they are functioning.

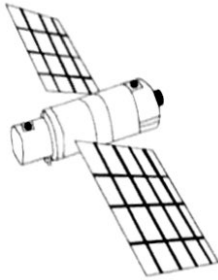
The club will purchase the needed materials to build the antennas for those who have signed up, or who will yet sign up by April 10<sup>th</sup>. The cost of the materials for the copper J-pole antenna without co-axial cable or connector is \$8.50; the cost of the twin-lead J-pole antenna is less than one dollar without co-axial cable or connector. In the interest of saving time, it would help is you could procure the co-axial cable and connector you intend to use with your antenna and bring them to the meeting. We will have a limited supply of cable and connectors on hand. To sign up, call Ellis at 563-3857 or on the air at KC7CXE.

If anyone would like to get an early start on antenna construction or has an antenna to check, Ellis will be in the shop by 2:00 PM on the 11<sup>th</sup> with tools, materials, and equipment ready for your use.

Please come and join us on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Using equipment you have built with your own hands gives an extra dimension to the satisfaction you will get in using your radio equipment.

There will be refreshments and some free electronic parts at the 7:30 PM meeting. See you there!





## PIONEER 6 CRAFT TURNS 30 YEARS OLD

*Redondo Beach, Calif. (AP)* - It's nice when your friends remember to call, especially when you're turning 30 and you're 31 million miles from home.

Pioneer 6, a spacecraft launched on a journey through the solar system on Dec. 16, 1965, and expected to be long burned-out by now, got a slightly early happy birthday call today and answered back.

"The signal is very solid, transmitting at 16 bits per second, which is not very fast (but which was state of the art 30 years ago," said Brooks McKinney at space-craft builder TRW Inc. in Redondo Beach.

The call came from NASA's Ames Research Center in Mountain View, Calif. via a ground station in Australia.

"It looks nominal. The spacecraft after 30 years is still ticking," said David Lozier, Pioneer flight director at Ames. Controllers expected to track the craft for about four hours.

The primary interest in the 140-pound spacecraft these days is its engineering value - "how long the darn thing will last," as McKinney put it.

Designed to last just six months, Pioneer has now circled the sun more than 35 times, chalked up more than 18 billion miles and is NASA's oldest operating satellite, according to TRW.

The spacecraft is aging. Its solar cells can now generate enough power to operate only two of its six instruments.

## HISTORY OF W7IVM

by Clayton Clark, AC7O

(The older members of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club will remember the contributions of Sylvester Stolzenberger, W7IVM. Younger members and new Hams may be interested in the history of this great contributor to amateur radio as they use the radio equipment he left for us.)

Sylvester, known to all as Sy, was born and raised on Long Island, New York and worked for the Sperry Gyroscope Company as an electronic technician. He never married and was the youngest in his family so in later years he was alone. When he retired he moved to Florida but felt alone there. He moved to Logan, lived here one year and then found a nice little house in Clarkston. The neighbors and our Ham community made him feel at home in Cache Valley. He loved motor cycles and rode all over the west. He monitored all of our repeaters all of the time and served to relay messages, to instruct new comers, to chastise anyone who needed it, and to welcome any passerby to the valley. There was always a cheerful voice for someone who wanted information or just to talk. He did not hear well so his frequent request was: "increase your deviation".

Each year he served as host at a breakfast for the Hams who went to Clarkston to serve as communicators for the Pony Express Ride. There were usually 15 to 20 of us. The breakfasts were very good and we enjoyed the fellowship.

He loved music and had a good library of disks, tapes and CDs. In 1984 he wrote me a letter stating that arthritis had made it impossible to play his electronic organ so he was designating me as the buyer thereof, value new \$2000, price to me \$600 (2 years old). No argument, no hassle. I paid him, tried to learn

the organ for a year then gave up and gave the organ to my sister.

At that time he knew that his heart was weak so he arranged with his lawyer, Brent Hoggan, to take care of all of his affairs in case he became a sudden "silent key". In 1988 it happened. The neighbors, who had been checking on him frequently, found him dead in his easy chair in his beautiful, spotless house.

Brent Hoggan called me and stated that Sy had arranged a funeral for himself in the North Logan funeral home; I was to be one of the speakers and Brent Hogan was the other. A musical number was to be an organ solo by our only Ham radio organist, Gary Richardson, KC7WN. All Hams were invited. Cremation had been arranged and carried out in Salt Lake and all expenses had been paid. BARC was to inherit all of his radio equipment. All other assets were to be auctioned off, including house, car, tools and furniture. The proceeds, after expenses, were to be sent to his only relative, a niece in Florida. I sent the niece a letter with a few personal items such as pictures and included comments about what he meant to us. She replied, gratefully. She is a police officer in Florida and has a daughter. I bid a fair price at the start of bidding for his music equipment and library complete. No one bid against me so I have it to enjoy and remember him. Neighbors bought his household furnishings and tools.

The funeral was interesting and a proper tribute, with many Hams and his Clarkston neighbors there. He was good to his neighbors, repairing anything for them. They were good to him.

BARC members assembled at his house on a Saturday and removed all of his radio equipment. The tower, rotator and beam were sold to Kelby Davis as the highest bidder. All other equipment was taken to my basement

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where it was arranged in units or lots for silent

bidding. People could write their bids on cards on the lots. To make a bid or raise a bid you would sign your name with a new bid. After a few days, bidding was cut off, winners paid their money and carried off their item or lot. Cash received was over \$800 which was helpful in getting the Mount Logan repeater going. The HF rig, a Kenwood TS130S, worth about \$600 with power supply, and a two meter transceiver worth about \$300, were held back to serve in the club shack on the USU campus for the benefit of all club members.

In this club shack or radio room on campus we felt we should keep his call sign, W7IVM, prominently displayed in memory of our friend, Sy.

In our last BARC meeting a motion was passed that we apply for a club call and ask for the call W7IVM to honor Sy. I hope that motion is being implemented.

(Terry Zollinger, N7PEG, is caretaker of our shack on the USU campus; contact him for information or help - Ed.)

### **SUPER SATURDAY**

Through Clayton, AC7O, we received information on a program being sponsored by the Utah Section Field Organization billed as the first "Super Saturday". This first event will be a series of seminars on antennas - Yagis, verticals and wires. This event will be held on Saturday, April 13 from 1-5 PM at the Utah Office of Comprehensive Emergency Management (whew!) located in the office building immediately north of the Utah State Capitol building. The talk-in is on 147.060+ (repeater is located in the State Capitol building). This information was sent to Clayton by Jim Rudnicki, NZ7T, who is in Layton. No phone number was listed. Sounds like fun...maybe carools?