

Dave 770-1059
at work about 5:30

at 5:30 at home

Win 31

Backit

- Norton Anti Virus program

January 1997

The Ohm Town News

Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

de Dave, N7RRZ

On behalf on the new 1997 BARC Officers, we hope that you had a very merry CHRISTMAS and a happy NEW YEAR!!

As one of the many goals this next year the new officers would like to schedule more fun activities with the existing club members, and train existing members on proper use of their radio equipment and the local repeater systems.

During the holidays I visited with ham radio friends, not only from our own happy little valley but from Provo to the Brigham City area. They all pretty much (in a round about way) were asking the same question, "What happened to the good old days (it seems like just a few years ago) of new people joining local HAM (the higher class) clubs to get away from CB'ers", for example using the phone patch on the repeater at work just to say "I'll be home in a few minutes". Or, calling home to ask if they need to add to the grocery list while they are in the grocery store and there is a pay phone next to them on the wall. Or, to use the radio to talk to people using profane or vulgar words when they think no one is listening.

Too many said that we BARC's are getting labeled as CB'ers and I think that some of us don't appreciate that.

In the coming month's, the repeater committee will be putting together BARC's rules and regulations on the proper ways of using the repeaters.

As you know, the 146.72 is on top of Mount Logan and reaches, much of Northern

continued on next column...

The President's Corner

...continued from previous column

Utah, Southern Idaho & Western Wyoming. Please use it the correct way. Also use the other local valley floor repeaters like 147.20 or simplex as many of our Hams are doing and we should be able to get back our good reputation. Let's all try to appreciate the hard work and labor of the people that started the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club many years ago.

Important Stuff

A. CLUB MEETING

We have a new location for our club meeting.

We will be meeting at the Hyde Park City Hall at 113 East Center, in Hyde Park City, Utah on the 9th of January at 7:30PM. Parking will be in the city lot as well as the church parking lot. Please enter from the ground level on the west side of building. We will propose the 1997 budget to the club and be voting on it. If you can not attend and would like to propose something and your are a dues-paying member, please send your proxy with your name and call sign in an sealed envelope with someone or mail it to:

B.A.R.C.

The Ohm Town News

P.O. Box 11

Providence, UT 84332

We will also be having an interesting topic afterwards if time permits. Listen to the .72 net on Tuesday night Jan. 7th at 9:00 pm for more information.

continued on page 2...

Important Stuff

...continued from page 1

B. New Club Officers

This new list is pretty darn complete and includes, for those of you so-inclined, e-mail addresses where available.

Officers and Board

President Dave Fullmer N7RRZ 753-2685

e-mail: davef@ccsd.cache.k12.ut.us

Vice Pres. Farrell Garr KC7CWX 753-4332

Secretary Tammy Stevens N7YTO 753-2644

Treasurer Travis Roberts KC7HHK

e-mail: travis@csius.com

Board Don Rawlinson WA7VNU 752-1269

e-mail: don@csius.com & don@cache.net

Board Boyd Humphries W7MOY 752-4868

e-mail: boydh@cc.usu.edu

Board Kevin Reeve N7RXE 753-1645

e-mail: kevree@mdls.usu.edu

1997 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Repeater Bill Neville WA7KMF 753-4352

Training Kevin Reeve N7RXE 753-1645

e-mail: kevree@mdls.usu.edu

VE Tests Paul Hansen WO7N 753-4843

Club Station Equipment, Repeater Trustee

Terry Zollinger N7PEG 797-3928

e-mail: tzollinger@mae.usu.edu

Newsletr Richard Wilkinson KC7HYN 563-3532

e-mail: richard@solkan.cache.net

Search & Rescue Bart Esplin KC7GCS 752-6798

Emerg. Coord. Brian Potts KB7FUB 563-6467

C. New Budget

As the insert page this month (the free-floating page in the center) note we have presented the budget for the next year. Please, please take a good look at this and bring it to the next club meeting (remember, it's in Hyde Park this month!) so we can decide if it's OK. On the back of this insert, there are two copies of membership applications...give them out to non-BARC hams you know about and encourage them to join us!!

D. What is Amateur Radio

(As part of our push to keep/start an interest in being a ham, our new president, N7RRZ, Dave, found this

continued on next column....

Important Stuff

...continued from previous column

interesting piece on the net...I think it originates with the ARRL - Ed)

A retired military officer in North Carolina makes friends over the radio with a ham in Lithuania. An Ohio teenager uses her computer to upload a chess move to an orbiting space satellite, where it's retrieved by a fellow chess enthusiast in Japan. An aircraft engineer in Florida participating in a "DX contest" swaps call signs with hams in 100 countries in a weekend. In California, volunteers save lives as part of their involvement in an emergency communications net. And at the scene of a traffic accident on a Chicago freeway, a ham calls for help by using a pocket-sized hand-held radio.

This unique mix of fun, public service and convenience is the distinguishing characteristic of the hobby called Amateur Radio. Although hams get involved in Amateur Radio for many reasons, they all have in common a basic knowledge of radio technology, regulations and operating principles, demonstrated by passing an examination for a license to operate on radio frequencies known as the "Amateur Bands." These frequencies are reserved by the Federal Communications Commission for use by hams at intervals from just above the AM broadcast band all the way up into extremely high microwave frequencies.

Who's The Typical Ham?

Amateur radio operators come from all walks of life -- movie stars, missionaries, doctors, students, politicians, truck drivers and just plain folks. They are all ages, sexes, income levels and nationalities. But whether they prefer Morse Code on an old brass telegraph key through a low power transmitter, voice communication on a hand-held radio or computer messages transmitted through satellites, they all have an interest in what's

happening in the world, and they use radio to reach out.

What's The Appeal Of Ham Radio?

Some hams are attracted by the ability to communicate across the country, around the globe, even with astronauts on space missions. Others build and experiment with electronics. Computer hobbyists find packet radio to be a low-cost way to expand their ability to communicate. Those with a competitive streak enjoy DX contests, where the object is to see how many distant locations they can contact. Some like the convenience of a technology that gives them portable communication. Others use it to open the door to new friendships over the air or through participation in one of more than 2000 Amateur Radio clubs throughout the country.

A Noble History

Nobody knows when Amateur Radio operators were first called "hams," but we do know that Amateur Radio is as old as the history of radio itself. Not long after Guglielmo Marconi, an Italian experimenter, transmitted the Morse Code letter "s" from Newfoundland to England in 1901, amateur experimenters throughout the world were trying out the capabilities of the first "spark gap" transmitters. In 1912 Congress passed the first laws regulating radio transmissions in the U.S. By 1914, Amateur experimenters were communicating nation-wide, and setting up a system to relay messages from coast to coast (whence the name "American Radio Relay League"!). In 1927, the FCC was created by Congress and specific frequencies were assigned for various uses, including ham bands.

Why A License?

Although the main purpose of Amateur Radio is fun, it is called the "Amateur Radio Service" because it also has a serious face. The FCC created this "Service" to fill the need for a pool of experts who could provide backup emergency communications. In addition, the

FCC acknowledged the ability of the hobby to advance the communication and technical skills of radio, and to enhance international goodwill. This philosophy has paid off. Countless lives have been saved where skilled hobbyists act as emergency communicators to render aid, whether it's an earthquake in Italy, a flood in India or a hurricane in the U.S.

What's The Right License For Me?

Over the years, five basic license classes have evolved. The higher the class license you have, the more privileges and modes of operation you get. But each higher class license requires progressively more knowledge of technology, rules and regulations, as well as higher Morse Code proficiency. So, you can learn the basics or you can become an expert and still enjoy the hobby.

Today, the "entry level" license for Radio Amateurs is the easy-to-learn easy-to-earn "code free" or Technician Class license, which requires passing examinations on radio theory, regulations and operations. The Technician class license gives access to frequencies in the VHF and UHF bands, all modes of operation, and access to Amateur Radio Orbiting Satellites (OSCARs) which opens up communication world-wide and beyond. The Novice class license requires passing a 30 question exam and a basic Morse Code test of five words per minute. Technician licensees may also pass the Novice code test to earn additional High Frequency privileges. The General class license requires passing a 25 question exam and a 13 word per minute code test. The Advanced class license adds another 50 question examination, and the highest class license, the Amateur Extra, requires an additional 40 question exam plus a 20 words per minute code test. Radio amateurs carry their licenses with them so they can operate wherever they go in the U.S. Typically, they also keep a copy of the license in their radio shack at home.