

# Ohm Town News

The Official Newsletter of the  
Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

May 1998

Vol. VIII

No. V

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Farrell Garr, KC7CWX



I met a man named **Elmer** the other day. Does that sound familiar, or ring any bells? So often we get busy with our favorite hobby that we forget about those around us who may be new or just unknowledgeable about Ham radio. Such as putting up an antenna, operating a new HF rig or maybe having a desire to learn Morse code! What have you done lately to help someone in a similar situation?

I read an interesting story the other day about a man, an Extra class, whom the writer didn't know very well, was asked if he could give this gentleman some advice. "Sure" was the reply, though he wondered why an Extra class ham would ask for advice. Well, he went over to this fellow's house and they sat down and started to chat. The Extra was very interested in getting on the air! He had received his first ham license six months before and was not an Extra class. All he wanted was to get on the air! He had never put up an antenna or turned on the power to the rig yet! Now, this may seem unusual, and it is, but it really happened!

Don't be afraid to offer advice or to invite a fellow ham over to see your shack or ask, "Can I be of help?" It's amazing what we can learn just by observing how and what things were done or how other hams operate. We all need good ideas and they come from all over, if we will but ask. If someone asks you for help, stop for a few minutes, and give them a little of your time. It will pay back dividends for both you and them.

The point is, let's all be **ELMERS** to those in need of our help. I appreciated all the help from the Elmers I had when I first got my license, and even now as I've been a Ham for awhile. As we do we will give them the help they need so that they can reach for the stars and keep their feet on the ground. 73's and keep on **HAMing**  $\Omega$

## HAM PROFILE

MAY 1998

By Boyd Humphreys, W7MOY

One of our newer BARC members and a repeat attendee on the nets and at meetings is L.R Earl, KC7VLV. Presently a resident of River Heights, his



odometer has logged a multitude of miles since his birth in Long Beach, California. He has held a Tech license since about March of last year and sports several HTs, and a late model Kenwood dual band mobile in the family Rolls.

Some of you mature residents may recall visiting the family store in Mendon years back operated by his pater, Lem Earl, and assorted members of the family on regular demand. He graduated from South Cache High School and we have it on good source that he and Jim Lofthouse, K70A, were classmates and we'll let that statement suffice for those with fertile imaginations.

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## CACHE VALLEY EMERGENCY AMATEUR RADIO COMMITTEE

Sunday Night 9:00 PM Net On 146.72 Repeater

Coordinator	Jody Reese, KC7CVI
Mara	Home: 750-0389
Red Cross	Cellular: 757-5654
	Pager: 219-0932
Members:	Brian Potts, KC7FUB
Sheriff	Home: 563-6467
Races	Kevin Reeve, N7RXE
	Home: 753-1645
Red Cross	Craig Reese, KC7MCO
	Home: 258-3778
Mara	Brian Westfall, K7LI
	Home: 753-1929
Errs North	Nate Ricks, AB7GO
	Home: 563-8470
Errs South	Carl Reid, KB7ZOP
	Home: 753-8071
Mara	Trevor O'donnal, KK7GI
	Home: 787-2646

## RACES CHECK OUT CITY STATIONS

On Thursday April 16th, ham radio operators in Cache County held a RACES net to test out the city stations. Over the last few years, RACES has worked with county and community leaders to place a ham radio station in each community. Currently stations are in operation in Hyrum, Paradise, Wellsville, Mendon, Nibley, Providence, Millville, River Heights, Logan, USU, North Logan, Hyde Park, Smithfield, Richmond, Lewiston, Clarkston, and Newton, and at Logan Regional Hospital. The net was called on 146.52 simplex to test radio paths between the city stations and the county EOC. All amateurs in the valley were also invited to check into the net. Jody Reese, KC7CVI, passed traffic to all stations giving instructions for retrieving a packet message on the CACHE BBS. At 8:00 PM the net was closed and RACES members tuned into the State VHF Races net.

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## SECRETARY'S CORNER & APRIL 1998 BARC MONTHLY MEETING REPORT

By Beanie Lofthouse, KJ7LQ  
THE MONTHLY MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE 2ND THURSDAY OF  
THE MONTH AT 1930 (7:30 PM) AT THE HYDE PARK CITY OFFICES  
BASEMENT.

The April club meeting was very informative with Kevin, N7RXE, reminding us we need to make sure our city stations are up and operational, a special RACES net was held the 16th at 7 pm and the state wide RACES net began at 8 pm. We still need people in Hyrum to man that city station.

Mark, AA1HR, told us he has made arrangements to have a booth at the Scout-A-Rama for the JOTA information. It will be held at the Logan Fair Grounds on May 2. We will need several volunteers to help with the booth, we want to have a 2 meter radio and possibly an HF rig up and running for the boys to get excited about contacting other scouts.

We voted on transferring funds from one account into the repeater account to cover costs for repairs to the Promontory machine. The proposal passed with 39 Yes Votes and 1 No Vote.

Travis, KC7HHK, was in charge of the remainder of the meeting. The subject was computers, what makes them operate, how to upgrade, suggestions on motherboards, hard disks, memory, monitors, keyboards, sound cards, floppy disks, CD Rom drives, backup disks, mouse, speakers, and other items that make a workable station. It was very informative and well done. I really enjoyed the presentation. He even included local vendors that are good for support on the things they sell. Thanks Travis!

Our next meeting will be Thursday, May 14, with the breakfast Saturday, the 16th, and the next board meeting on the 20th. See ya! Ω

## LOCAL NET SCHEDULES & CLUB MEETINGS

SUN:	9:00PM	Cache Valley EARN	146.72
TUE:	8:00PM	SL Valley Swap Net	146.94
	9:00PM	B.A.R.C. Net	146.72

B.A.R.C. meeting at Hyde Park City Office Building basement on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:30PM.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PLEASE SEND LETTERS TO:

Letters To The Editor  
C/O The Ohm Town News  
P.O. Box 111  
Providence, UT 84332

## VHF SOCIETY

by Farrell Garr, KC7CWX

There is power in numbers! As a club we have approached the VHF Society for some funds to assist us with our repeater system. They have responded again this year, as they have in the past, with money for our system. However, because of the few number of VHF Society members in our club and the many other requests from other clubs in the state, they were only able to assist us with half the funds we requested. The VHF Society would like to respond to all clubs with the money they want and need but they need our support as well.

For a small fee of \$10.00 per year the benefits to both the VHF Society and our Club will reap many rewards. They are and have been in the past, a big help to us in keeping our equipment in excellent repair.

May I encourage as many as are able to join the VHF Society. You won't be sorry you did. 73's Ω

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## RACES, continued from page 2

Captain Bob Degasser, Emergency Coordinator for Cache County, thanked all the hams for their efforts. He was excited to hear all of the checkins from the city stations. RACES will be working to get the last of the city stations installed in permanent locations. The secret to the success of RACES in this valley is the hams in each community. All of the city stations need volunteers to help out, to become trained so that in an emergency communities will have communications to the County EOC and other relief agencies. If you would like to get involved with emergency communications in your community please contact your city station coordinator, or contact Tyler Griffiths, N7UWX, or Kevin Reeve, N7RXE. We need you and we especially need some hams in Hyrum to help us out.

The next State VHF Races net will be June 18th at 8:00 PM. The Next Local VHF RACES net will be August 20th at 7:00 PM. We will again use this net to check out the city stations. Thanks to all the hams in each community who helped out with this net.

Kevin Reeve, N7RXE. Ω

## The Title: Hams

Reprinted from *The Microvolt*, Volume XLI, Issue 4, April, 1997, by permission. Originally taken from The UARC Information Net 146.620.

Finally, there are all kinds of stories telling why hams are called hams. The problem is that nobody has ever proved or disproved any of them. Until now. There are stories all over how we became hams. One story that recently came to my attention has to do with a college radio club back in the 1900's. Back in those days, everyone just kind of picked their own identifiers. Three club members built their own station and identified it with their own names. That got to be a long and tedious process, so they shortened the callsign to just the first two letters of each last name. That got confused with similar sounding foreign commercial station calls. So they shortened it again to just the first letters of their last names. You guessed it. Radio Station HAM was born.

In 1911, Congress was considering legislation to regulate wireless, as it was known then. One of the club members chose the complex regulation bill as a project for a college thesis. The instructor was so impressed, he insisted a copy be sent to a committee member in Washington. Before it was all over, the writer of the thesis was testifying before Congress about the station, and about if how the wireless regulation bill was passed, the restrictions would shut the station down. In the debates over the bill, the little station, HAM, became a symbol for all the amateurs in the country, in their fight against the commercial interests at the time. To quote the final lines of the story, printed in a December, 1996 *Microvolt*, "That's how it all started." **You will find the whole story in the Congressional Record.** Nationwide publicity associated with radio station HAM with amateurs. From that day to this, and probably until the end of time, in radio, an amateur is a ham. Is this really the way we became known as hams? Well, its as good a story as any of the others. (Via KA80QF) Ω

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## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK:

Anyone out there who has subscriptions to *The Microvolt*, *QST*, or other Ham publications who finds articles of interest for the club, please send them along to me. I appreciate any contributions to our newsletter. Also, anyone who would like to write an article themselves is welcome.

You can fax contributions to me at 435-258-5403, email to [alamon@xmission.com](mailto:alamon@xmission.com), or drop them off to Alan, KC7CXN, at the Bike and Lock Shop, 1087 1/2 North Main, in Logan (752-3400).Ω

## 1998 BARC OFFICERS

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<i>FARRELL GARR, KC7CWX</i> HOME: 753-4332
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	<i>DON RAWLINSON, WA7VNO</i> HOME: 752-1269 WORK: 750-9613 EMAIL: don@csius.com & don@cache.net
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Past President	<i>RUSS TARBET, KJ7UP</i> HOME: 563-5026
	<i>KHALIL GODFREY, WA7SHW</i> HOME: 563-5182 EMAIL: khalil@sisna.com

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

B.A.R.C. Monthly club meeting May 14, 1998 at 1930 (7:30 PM) at the Hyde Park city offices.

B.A.R.C. Monthly committee meeting each 3rd Wednesday at 1900 (7:00 pm), location to be announced.

Breakfast get-together Saturday, May 16, 1998 at 0900 (9:00 am) at JJ North's Buffet.

To all members who have paid to the repeater fund: I have been given a list of those that have paid but don't have a record of those that have been given their autodial and login slot numbers.

If you don't know what your number is please contact me at home 753-0373 so I can give it to you. Feel free to call if you have questions on how to operate the system. 73s N7PEG Terry Zollinger on behalf of the repeater committee. Ω

## PROFILE, continued from page 1

He entered the US Navy right out of High School, and gained his sea legs and swagger with two tours in the Far East. He served two years active duty, with several following in the reserve. Incidentally, he served in the same unit as his father, who was an officer. Then came a six-year stint in the Army, (the Army must have had better PX facilities), where he attended flight school, and spent a year in Vietnam, with subsequent aircraft qualifications in Commercial, Instrument, multi-engine, and helicopter ratings.

Sometime in this dust storm, he got his degree in Sociology from USU, keeping Corn Flakes on the table by driving some speedy dump trucks, umpiring baseball and softball games at USU, and a few other time-consuming, low-paying occupations. To keep paralysis from setting in he regularly engaged in baseball, softball, jogging no less, and claims to have worn most of his racquet ball companions down to a frazzle. A challenge anyone?

He spent four years with Cache County in law enforcement, then went to work for the Logan City Police Dept., where he now holds the position of Lieutenant. A conscientious worker, we might hope that you haven't run into him in the line of duty, in which case, he might have to cite you. In any case, his smile is infectious.

He met his intended, Yvonne, at South Cache when she was a sophomore and they were married a year after graduation.. Yvonne was born in Logan, later living in Young Ward and Nibley. She indicates her present position is house supervisor, model shop tender, gardener, and she engages in all manner of home crafts, including creating an eye catching super Christmas season outdoor lighting display.

And her answer to the \$64 dollar question — what did you think of hubby's hobby of Amateur Radio? "I told him I didn't mind as long as he didn't erect a huge contraption on the roof." It looks like L.R. is doomed to a life of small VHF antennas or some other form of covert operation.

They have four children — Kimberly, Brian, Shawn (who incidentally has been following his dad's footsteps in law enforcement as a Deputy for 7 years), and Dustin, the caboose at 17 years of age.

Incidentally L.R. operates a neat model shop, and those of you who dare to consider any other avocation besides Amateur Radio, might just find

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something to your liking there. He has gotten involved in a rather unique marriage of modeling and radio, with radio control, and can be seen regularly putting some interesting creations through their paces at the Logan Cache Airport. Welcome aboard Mate. Ω

## HELP, HELP!!

Good morning y'all:

A brief blurb before turning to the job jar for a saturday. Need a bit of assistance in procedures to return the pictures we use in the HAM profile to the original owners. One is still missing, that of DaveRhodes N7PEI, and his wife, dressed in Tennis garb. We used it a couple of months back. Perhaps it is in someones files somewhere. Would you help me in locating it so we can get it back.

A lot of fun digging in to the dubious past of the crew and we have a great bunch of guys and gals, where else can we practice insanity for public service?

Incidentally, my son Robert just joined the ranks, KD7BHB, lives in Smithfield and already on the air with a KENWOOD HT. This practice is going to break me.

Regards & 73s Boyd W7MOY Ω

## FOR SALE OR TRADE & ITEMS WANTED

Equipment rack, 84" high, RCA, enclosed with hinged rear door, 19" width panels, good condition. \$75.00

Wild assortment of meters, Ammeters, micro ammeters, zero center, voltmeters, square, round, small, large, cheap, not so cheap, you name it, and inquire.

1 Freq. response test set, HP type 739 AR, 300 KHz-10 MHz, rack mount. \$10.00

1 Random noise generator, General Radio model 1390-B \$5.00 Qty. Capacitors, Western Electric, 10,000 UF @ 30 VDC offer

1 Wheatstone bridge, LEEDS & Northrup model 4735. offer

Qty relays, latching, coaxial, AC,DC, etc. inquire.  
Boyd Humpherys W7MOY 752-4868

FOR SALE: \* Realistic HTX 202 2 meter handheld all acc. and speaker mike in good condition \$ 130.00

Terry Zollinger N7PEG

753-0373 or EMAIL tlzollinger@mae.usu.edu Ω

## 1998 BARC COMMITTEE

### ACTIVITIES

RUSS TARBET, KJ7UP, HOME: 563-5026

### CLUB STATION REPEATER SYSTEM CONTROL OPERATOR

TERRY ZOLLINGER, N7PEG, HOME: 753-0373

E-MAIL: tlzollinger@mae.usu.edu

### AC70 REPEATER TRUSTEE

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### HAM PROFILE

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BOB WOOD, WA7MXZ, HOME: 753-2119

E-MAIL: bobw@cc.usu.edu

WALLY GIBBONS, WB7ASQ, HOME: 752-2929

NIEL HOLT, N7PEO, HOME: 563-3643

E-MAIL: niel.holt@sdl.usu.edu

### 146.800 REPEATER TRUSTEE

WARREN WILDE, N7JYU, HOME: 208-852-2767

E-MAIL: wwilde@preston.k12.id.us

### W7IVM CLUB STATION REPEATER TRUSTEE

JIM LOFTHOUSE, K7OA, HOME: 245-6632

### SEARCH AND RESCUE TRAINING

BART ESPLIN, KC7GCS, HOME: 752-6798

TRAVIS ROBERTS, KC7HHK, HOME: 787-8374

WORK: 750-9583, PAGER: 750-903 1

EMAIL: travis@csius.com

### VE TESTING

PAUL /HANSEN, W07N, HOME: 753-4843