



THE OHM TOWN NEWS

Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

JUNE 2000

<http://www.w7ivm.org>

Presidents Message

By Tyler Griffiths
N7UWX

Well looks like were finally into the summer months and that means no Official Club meeting till September, but we have plenty of opportunities to use our ham radio communication skills!

Events we have up-coming for this summer are...



Little Mt Bike Race	June 3	
Contact: Tyler N7UWX		752-7269
C.V. Biathlon	June 10	
Contact: Travis AB7ZK		753-9583
Field Day	June 24-25	
Contact: Ted KB7PAB & Rik KD7GNX		
Pony Express	June 24	
Contact: Khalil WA7SHW		563-5812
Cache Cruise in	July 1	
Contact: Tyler N7UWX		752-7269
Utah Ham Fest	July 7,8,9	
Contact: Tyler N7UWX		752-7269
LOTOJA	Sept. 16	
Contact: Kevin N7RXE		753-1645
Top of Utah Marathon	Sept, 23	
Contact: Brett N7UXA		752-5966

For Field Day this year we will be in the same spot as last year, Beaver Creek! Pot Luck dinner will start at 6:00 P.M. with other fun and activities all day. Come on up and enjoy the fun. Remember this is your chance to talk on HF even if your not a licensed ham, or do not have privileges on that band.

See everyone at Field Day!!!
73 de Tyler N7UWX

Ham Profile

by Boyd Humpherys W7MOY

We have been enjoying the talents of our BARC newsletter editor Dale Cox, KB7UPW for several months now and we thought it appropriate to spill the beans. It was a calculated risk, with Dale getting the final editing word, this article may be considerably shorter than normal. If you suspect some good stuff may have been left out, give him a call and he may just come up with an unedited version, for a fee that is.

First time we met, he greeted me at the door dressed in a scout uniform. Turns out he is serving as a Cubmaster for the Kiwanis Club and Smithfield City sponsored group of young men. He has been a Cubmaster, Scout Master and Asst. Scoutmaster, over a period of 13 years. That says a lot in a nutshell.

Dale first greeted the world in Salt Lake City way before I-15 was conceived. He spent most of his growing up years learning how to work, on the family farm West of Preston, Idaho, graduating from West Side High School in Dayton. He then earned a degree in EE at Ricks College in 75, followed by a two year mission for his faith in Massachusetts. While there he happened to be assigned near Boston during the 76 centennial celebration with fireworks, parades, Boston Pops concert in the park, and the whole nine yards. Cache Valley comes close with its 4th. extravaganza and summer concerts on the campus, however since we can't seem to duplicate throwing a boatload of tea into the drink, we come close by tossing a considerable amount of garbage into the Logan River.



Dale has held a tech license for about 8 years, sports an ICOM HT, Yaesu Mobile rig, and a reliable J pole on the

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VE Testing

- Paul Hansen WO7N
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Emergency Coordinator

- Brian Potts KB7RUB
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 Utah Hamfest 2000 will be held at Ruby's Inn, Bryce Canyon, Utah Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 7, 8 and 9. All amateur radio operators and interested people are invited to attend. There will be fun activities for all members of the family, Dealers, Seminars, Swap Meet, Fun & Games, Non Ham Activities, Youth activities and Prize Drawings! Send in your registration form early to get a \$3 discount. \$ 7.00 / Adult, \$3.00 / Youth (before June 7). Rudy's Inn has a limited number of rooms reserved for hamfest participants at reduced rates. Camp sites are also available but are going quickly. Find all the details on the web page: www.utahhamfest.org. Call or email Kathy Rudnicki at 801 547-9218 or jimkatpa@aol.com.

roof at home. He has been involved in several BARC activities such as the bike races, Pony Express, as well as doing a top notch job as newsletter editor.

He has been employed for the past 22 years at Integrated Systems, now owned by Trans-Lux Corp, as a technician and then as systems manager. The firm specializes in large commercial lamp and LED displays, such as the huge Jumbotron varieties used by the sports industry. Most of you have seen these 40' - 60' monsters that allow one to sit on the 800 yard line and still see the quarterbacks snarling at each other. When asked how many shekels these type of things might cost, the figure of several hundred thousand was bounced around. Now if BARC had one of these things on the top of Old Main with a quick cam promoting the club, we might gain more members than we could handle. Maybe Dale could arrange for a loaner that we could install on main street somewhere.

His spouse, the former Laura Fleugel, was born in Ohio, spent some time in Florida, and then decided to take on the challenges of an education at Ricks in Rexburg, Idaho. One of the challenges must have been Dale, however they decided the association had a lot of promise. While he was serving a mission, she attended BYU, graduating with a degree in English Ed. and a minor in Math. It figures. They decided to become Mr. & Mrs. She has been employed at Schreibers for 14 years or so, presently burning the midnight oil out there on the night shift. They had one son, who passed away about a year ago.

They both have their hobbies that they enjoy and Amateur radio has fit into the scheme of things without any undue problems. That's a formula we all ought to follow. They have a tent trailer which has provided many days of pleasant miles along the highways of the US and Canada. They also raided the piggybank a couple of years ago to visit the dedication open house for the LDS temple in Preston England. I say there auld chap, you're a few Km from home.

They have of late been involved in a major renovation of their home on East center in Smithfield. He confirmed that these types of things always involve more than first meet the eye. He figures they will receive certificates in Major Demolition & Construction, Home Decoration, Historical Restoration, the invention of new words and phrases, and a great deal of satisfaction by the time they decide to finish the project. However it's a joint venture, home is where the heart is and the ultimate family castle will bring many pleasant memories as well as the operations center for one of BARCs great members. Have a good day Matie.

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Don't be irreplaceable - if you can't be replaced,
you can't be promoted.

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What do you take on Field Day?

Tent, poles, stakes, heater, fuel, light fixtures, tables, chairs, extension cords, hammers.

At least 2 transceivers, one with a good CW filter, key, keyer, mike, transmatch, power supplies, speakers, earphones, audio doubler, assorted adapters and connectors for coax, and audio stuff. Especially a 1/4 inch stereo, and 1/4 inch mono plug for hooking up key or keyer, and barrel connectors for hooking coax together.

Two computers to log on. Logging software. I suggest you keep the logs on floppies; one for each band. Surge suppressors. RS 232 connector, cord, and interface, if you want to send CW exchanges with the computer.

Paper and pencils. Copy of the rules, both FCC and Field Day. Demo stuff and brochures, if you are going for the public awareness bonus points.

Antennas, coax, masts, twine. Extra wire and insulators. (In case someone wants to build an antenna.) Ground rod. Wire for grounding.

Soldering iron, solder, assorted tools, like screw drivers, pliers etc., propane torch.

Power plant (s) and cables to hook it up. Fuel, oil. Extension cords to hook up lights, rigs, computers etc.

Water (it is a dry camp), munchies, mosquito dope (there are lots of mosquitoes) sunscreen, sleeping bag, cot, first aid kit, prescription drugs, chair, plate and utensils, hat, coat, camping gear. Something to amuse the kids. Firewood.

Something for the pot luck dinner. At least enough to share with 8-10 people.

Anything you can't survive without. Cokes, Smokes?

Everything else you forgot! HAW!

Generally we set the tent up before the actual day, sometimes the Thursday before, whenever at least 6 people will be there to help, it's a big tent. The tent is stored at Ted McArthur's.

We need two port-a-potties, someone with a trailer that they can be left on and a truck to pull them.

Jim will bring the wood stove like last year, ask everyone to bring an extra arm full of wood for the stove in the tent as well as what they want for their personal fires. It really made the difference in being comfortable during the night.

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Your GPS gets automatic upgrade!

From: Clark.Dowding[N7TDT]@arrl.net

May 1st, 2000

To all Utah APRS users:

"It's rare that someone can press a button and make something you already own worth more, but that's exactly what's happening today." -PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON

As of midnight tonight (May 1st, 2000), civilian GPS receivers will *automatically* become MUCH more accurate because the government is discontinuing the requirement of Selective Availability (SA) in the GPS system. I spoke with David Turner at the Interagency GPS Executive Board (IGEB) in Washington D.C. today and he confirmed this fact. They are obviously very excited about this turn of events at the IGEB. Mr. Turner said, "This is something that is long overdue for civilian users."

Mr. Turner told me SA is not something built into your GPS receiver, rather it is an algorithm built into the GPS system. So when SA is turned off tonight, according to Mr. Turner, our existing GPS receivers will become nearly as accurate as the military receivers. We won't have access to some of the Atmospheric Degradation Correction information the Military uses but even that may change in 2003 when the government will release a second GPS frequency for civilian use. This second frequency will allow us to receive addition "correction" information to get us increased accuracy. But Mr. Turner stated that the improvement in accuracy which we will realize tonight is HUGE and probably much more significant than anything that may be done to improve the civilian GPS service in the future.

APRS users should be very interested in this information. It is a major breakthrough for this aspect of the Amateur Radio hobby. Our ability to track APRS enabled vehicles will be tremendously improved beginning tonight. We'll be able to get much more accurate fixes and won't see our cars "dancing" all over the APRS screen when they are parked somewhere.

You can read President Clinton's entire press release here at the Interagency GPS Executive Board web site:
<http://www.igeb.gov/sa/potus.txt>

They show some nice pictures of Comparison of Positions With and Without Selective Availability here:
<http://www.igeb.gov/sa/diagram.shtml>

Here is a tidbit from President Clinton's statement:

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT REGARDING THE UNITED STATES' DECISION TO STOP DEGRADING GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM ACCURACY

"Today, I am pleased to announce that the United States will stop the intentional degradation of the Global Positioning System (GPS) signals available to the public beginning at midnight tonight. We call this degradation feature Selective Availability (SA)."

This information is also being reported by MSNBC at
<http://www.msnbc.com/news/401984.asp>

This info is also posted at the Davis County Amateur Radio Club website: <http://www.dcarc.net>

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**To all current General, Advanced and
Extra Class Operators**

(Congratulations to all you new upgrades!)

We need YOUR help while you are at the Field Day activities to be control operators for those who have few or no HF privileges. If you will help at one of the radios for even a few minutes or a few hours it would make the day more enjoyable for all who attend. We promise it will be a rewarding experience for everyone. You can be the log-in person while someone else operates and of course take your turn at the controls as well, or you can just BE there as control operator. This can be in time increments that are comfortable for you, a little here and a little there will be great!

Each radio needs a control operator for those with few or no privileges, not just one person standing around in the tent trying to keep tabs on all the radios. We need to stay legal for an enjoyable event! We are trying something new this year, each person who is acting as control operator will have a color coded tag which will correspond with the band privileges they have for their current license. There will be a band plan by each radio with the colors on it.

We will be using our club call sign, W7IVM, again this year, since it is a club call, there are no operator privileges with it, only what the control operator himself or herself has with their personal license. That is why it is so important for all with these privileges to help out. NO control operator means NO contacts!

With everyone's help things will go smoothly and be more fun for all attending and wishing to 'work the world' on June 24 and 25.

Thank you from your Field Day Committee.

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Eat one live toad first thing in the morning and nothing worse will happen to you for the rest of the day.

I love deadlines. I especially like the whooshing sound they make as they go flying by.

On the keyboard of life, always keep one finger on the escape key.

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PO BOX 111
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