



# THE OHM TOWN NEWS

*Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club*

**JANUARY 2001**

<http://www.w7ivm.org>

# Happy New Year

## Presidents Message

Congratulations to those who earned upgrades and new licenses at the December VE session. Thanks to the VEs and others who showed up to help with the exams. Thanks to those who served in the presidency, and on the board, last year. Nice Job!

At the January meeting we will have an activity sheet going around to sample your interests in the hobby. Please think about what activities you would like to participate in and what your interests are. The board will use this information to plan activities and programs that will compliment your interests. Lets have a great year 2001!

73, Jim K7OA

P.S. Jim K7OA will be writing the Presidents Message this year.

## HAM PROFILE

by Boyd Humpherys W7MOY

High School is where one learns a lot of things, some things better than others. We tend to remember those good things, thus did David Luthy KF7ZZ. David followed the electronic impulses while a teenager in high school, got his first license KN7MF about 59, started assembling a pile of parts that came in the mail with the title of Heath DX-60. He finally soldered the last part in place in the wee hours of one morning with no time left for the big spark test, and roared off to Logan High with one eye open. With true ham resolve,

when lunch period came along, he mounted his trusty velocipede and navigated main street to his abode on north main. With the anxious flip of a switch and a nervous transmission of his first, CQ he listened for some sort of reply. There it was, his call coming back from a distant site. The memories of those first exciting contacts probably linger with most of us. Incidentally David became an ardent CW aficionado (French for addict) in the following college years. His major was accounting and he went on for advanced studies with a Doctorate in Accounting in Indiana. He now is associate Dean in the School of Accountancy at USU.

Somewhere prior in the educational efforts he took time off to serve a mission for his faith in South Af-



rica. He didn't mention whether he was able to hunt  
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down any of our related Amateur fraternity down there. Strange thing, this bunch seems to know no bounds even when language barriers exist.

He served a hitch with the Army and was stationed at Fort Irwin. David must have had a keen eye for good DX, since his interest in a Miss Karen Christensen turned serious and they were married while he served for Uncle S. Karen was born in American Fork and they apparently met while in that western state that was slated to slide into the ocean several years ago. Karen is an efficient home maker and runs a tight ship at their residence in North Logan. The Luthys have one son, John who is a graduate of Law School at that Parochial school South of the Point of the Mountain. John also performs with that group called Voice Male, which most of you have heard. They also have two daughters, one, Carol picked up her ticket, N7OEB. Both OM and the harmonic have participated in the Sunday and Tuesday nite nets. Not to be outdone, Karen finally boned up on the theory and now holds tech license KC7CVJ. A real family affair and enjoyed by all. The hobby, initially a concern to Karen, now is firmly ensconced.

One of David's choice experiences in Ham Radio was that of Varsity Scout Coach. His group won the Peak to Peak contest by contacting over 40 peaks by mirrors and radios that climb. Incidentally the enclosed picture shows David hard at it amongst the scrub atop James Peak. Try it guys, its fun, after all the huffing and puffing.

David sports a Yaesu FT530 VHF rig and a Kenwood TS-830S HF rig. You may have to squint to see the dipole antenna mounted on the castle but it does the job.

Four years ago David was called to serve as Stake President and time has become somewhat of a premium, however his efforts to make sure that every ward has a Ham Radio operator assigned to its emergency preparedness program is evidence of his interests. A good account of your efforts David, Karen, & crew.

Some information from the ARRL web site:

### **FCC Requests Voluntary Communications Emergency**

NEWINGTON, CT, Dec 27, 2000--The FCC has requested that Amateur Radio operators in and around Texas voluntarily relinquish the use of 3870 to 3878 kHz to enable the handling of emergency traffic. Texas and Arkansas are among states hit by ice storms that have disrupted power and communication and made for hazardous travel conditions. Amateur Radio operators have established nets to handle emergency traffic during the weather-related outages.

Leroy Pittman of the FCC last evening asked the amateur community to cooperate in recognizing the existence of a voluntary communications emergency and to stay clear of the 75-meter frequencies at the request of ARRL South Texas Section Manager Ray Taylor, N5NAV. Taylor reports that Amateur Radio operators already have helped with hospital communications after hospital telephones were knocked out.

Taylor requested a voluntary communications emergency from the FCC because the nighttime Emergency and Tactical Traffic Net frequency of 3873 kHz has been subjected to what's believed to be intentional QRM. A net on 7285 kHz has been handling much of the winter storm-related traffic during daylight hours.

A copy of Pittman's request to voluntarily relinquish use of the specified 75-meter frequencies has been sent to the FCC's HF Direction Finding facility in Columbia, Maryland.

Roads in the Texas panhandle were reported closed in the wake of heavy snow. Elsewhere, highways have been covered by ice. An ice-storm warning remains in effect for Arkansas and Oklahoma.

### **Germany drops code speed to 5 WPM:**

Germany has approved a change in its Amateur Radio rules that lowers from 12 WPM to 5 WPM the Morse code text speed required for HF operation. The *Second Order for the Change of Amateur Radio Regulations* was issued December 13, 2000, by the Federal Minister for Economics and Technology.--*IARU*

### **Japanese-German alliance announce powerless chip project:**

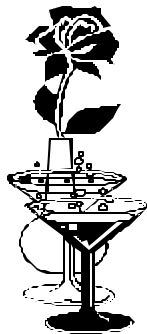
Japanese electronics group Toshiba and German chipmaker Infineon have announced plans to jointly develop high-speed FeRAM (ferroelectric random-access memory) chips that can store information even in the absence of power. The chips are intended mainly for use in mobile phones and other wireless communications devices.--*reported by Financial Times*

### **Snowbound ham uses 2-meter HF to call for help:**

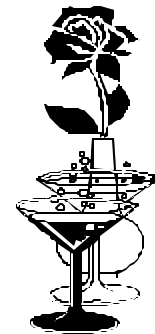
Suffering recently from bronchitis and pneumonia, Jim Stewart, KK7VL, a homesteader in a secluded area near Bettas Pass, Washington, used his 2-meter hand-held to summon help. Stewart called his friend, Jim Flint, W7TXU, on the Kittitas County Repeater Association's repeater, advising him of his worsening condition and requesting assistance. Flint, a member of the Kittitas County Search and Rescue team, enlisted the help of Deputy Sheriff Robb Lipp. But, snowdrifts prevented them from reaching Stewart's home. A snowmobiler passing by took the rescuers to Stewart's house. Lipp then used his GPS and radio to guide a rescue helicopter to the scene, and Stewart was airlifted to a hospital in Yakima. "Many of our present rescue team members are already hams," said Flint, "and as a result of this rescue being reported on local radio, several people have called and asked to join our team, and to learn more about Amateur Radio."--*The Daily Record (Ellensburg, Washington)*



# Celebrate the New Year



# IN STYLE



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