

### THE OHM TOWN NEWS

Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

# December 2004

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http://www.barconline.org

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# Happy Holidays

#### HAM PROFILE

by Boyd Humpherys W7MOY

There has been a little banter about the imports of Ham quality individuals from our neighboring state to the North, however it should be recognized that other areas produce a few good fraternity members as well. Let's meet one by the name of Don Butler, N5LZ/7 who recently purchased a castle in Mendon. Incidentally those who attended the recent club meeting may have met Don. Everyone ought to feel good about importing fellow amateurs, even from W5 land, however



with a bit of further prying, diswas covered that both he and his good XYL, Lynn Turnbull, were born down our own

coal mining territory of Price. So it turns out that some native Utahans have come back to roost and defend the cause of crank up towers in the back yard. Incidentally with increasing urbanization all around us, more of our fraternity may face some struggles with our plans for tower and antenna erection, especially within sub divisions. Quite a few of our Cache Valley group have

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#### PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Merry Christmas everyone! I hope you will all have time to relax and enjoy the holiday season. Perhaps those of you with HF rigs will get a chance to get on the air and spread holiday wishes across the globe. One of the great benefits of amateur radio is the opportunity to communicate with persons of cultures around

the world. I guess we could pick up a phone and randomly dial phone numbers in France or Russia and see if someone will talk with us. It would be an interesting experience.

I appreciate the support of many of you to help the club move forward. This year we have had guest speakers on a variety of sub-



jects, including HF, earthquake preparedness, solar power, direction finding and a great build it party. We were also able to host many in the state of Utah to a special edition club meeting featuring Bob Burniga, W4APR, the father of APRS. We supported many public service events, including LOTOJA, Biathlon, Top of Utah, MS 150, Mountain Man Rendezvous', Cache Cruise-in and a few more. There has been renewed interest in our abilities to help agencies provide emergency communications. Members of the club helped more than 25 boys earn their radio merit badge through several events through the year. We have

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#### **Events Calendar**

December Club Meeting: December 9 6:30 P.M.



#### **Club Christmas Party**

Thursday December 9th 2004 at the Cracker Barrel in Paradise Utah. Great prizes, and something different this year.

The party with be on Thursday evening December 9<sup>th</sup> at the Cracker Barrel in Paradise Utah. If our numbers grow over what we had last year then we will move it to the city hall. Cost is \$15.00 per plate and you must RSVP and pay by December §<sup>t</sup>. Menu includes prime rib and chicken pa-

prika (enough so everyone can have some of both), seafood salad, green



salad, augratin potatoes, rolls, and the sinfully great cake for dessert, coke products to drink if we have it at the cafe and punch if we have it at the town hall.

#### Your BARC officers for 2005

President: Kevin Reeve N7RXE
Vice President: Tammy Stevens N7YTO
Secretary: Julie Dabb KC7RPP
Treasurer: Dave Fullmer N7RRZ

Board members

Ted McArthur AC7II Tom Baldwin KD7TRN Ken Buist KC7QES

#### **Consider supporting BARC financially**

The Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club is a non-profit IRC 501 C (3) corporation dedicated to the education and training of amateur radio operators. Your contributions to the club are tax deductible as allowed by law. BARC could use additional funds to enhance training efforts, especially to youth, and replace radio equipment used to support emergency communications throughout the valley. Please consider a tax deductible contribution to the club for these efforts.

Answers to questions on page 6: 1-B, 2-B, 3-D, 4-D, 5-C, 6-B, 7-B

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new club members, our field day was a roaring success, and we have efforts underway to start a kids club associated with 4-H and currently a kids licensing class is underway with 7 participants.

So after that, what do we want to do this next year? At the November club meeting we asked this. It appears the majority still favor meeting on Saturday morning, so we will continue that. Build it parties are popular, as are the desire for bunny hunts, and more guest speakers. Suggestions for topics include APRS, Satellite, and more training on emergency communic ations.

It is time for us to recruit new members for our ham radio hobby and the club. Our club is staying about the same. We have a real stable group of about 30 – 40 hams who attend meetings regularly, with a total club membership of about 75 who pay dues. The club really appreciates your financial contributions. The yearly intake of funds amounts to around \$1,300. We use the money very wisely to support our events, repeaters, and club meetings.

I am grateful to the presidency and members of the board who were willing to run and to those who were willing to stick around for another year and serve the members of the club. I look forward to an exciting year with you all. Hope to see you at the Christmas Party.

(Ham Profile Continued from page 1)

successfully gone through some of these procedures. There is a host of support and background on these types of challenges, don't give up, there is life after planning & zoning hassles.

Don has a plethora of impressive gear and a well organized shack that we all would envy. He has a 52' crank up tower supporting a multiband beam as well as a vertical for 2 m. Move over you brass pounders, Don admitted he spends about 80% of his air time on CW. He sports an impressive wall display of certificates, such as DXCC, honor roll # 1 and some other notable recognitions. He began his immersion into Ham Radio back in 79 in Maryland, originally licensed as N3AUE, then KI3L, then KI3L/5, then N5LZ, fnally with his present N5LZ/7. He is an avid DXer and contester with a file cabinet full of DX QSLs that would choke a horse, however the Mendon varieties usually subsist on hav rather than chew on OSL cards. Sounds like we have an excellent candidate for the next field day to fill the mid nite to 6 am slot.

He and his wife both graduated from East Carbon High School, he later attended Carbon College, now known as College of Eastern Utah. They were both school mates at High School and decided to pool their resources. Then off to the University of Texas and dental School, culminating with a certification in Oral surgery. He spent 22 years in the US Public Health Service, retiring as a Captain this year. His good XYL, Lynn mentioned that despite 22 years of looking down in the mouth, he really is a cheery fellow and radio enthusiast.

He mentioned some interesting experiences working with the Navajos and the Hopis. It appears they have dental problems just as their white brothers do. His expertise was a blessing down there.

The Butlers have 4 married daughters and 13 second harmonics, scattered hither and yon, with one here in Providence. One of his daughters and son in laws in Iowa are in the legal profession. Now that might come in handy to keep daddy-o out of trouble on occasion.

Don spends a little time in the music area, being proficient in the keyboard, banjo, and doing some neat things with MIDI and composing. He also dabbles in photography, digital, and exhibited some of his generated first class QSL cards that would attract everyone's attention. He indicated he was going to get involved in hunting and fishing here in the area and related some interesting tales of catching some prize denizens of the deep down in the Southern deserts. (Now what was that again?)

Lynn keeps a neat home and is involved in craft work and family history research. She readily approves of Don's radio hobby, "keeps him busy", although initially she thought all the stuff sure made a loud racket. Welcome to Cache Valley folks, we think you will like it. 73s.

VE test sessions are your opportunity to become a ham, or upgrade your current license. Exam sessions are held in Logan every few months, *usually* the second Saturday in March, June, September, and December. Other sessions are held often in the region. It is possible to find a test session every month somewhere in northern Utah or southeastern Idaho.

Next VE Test Session in Cache Valley:
Date: December 11 th 2004 - 8:00 AM
Location: Utah State University - Old Main
Building 4th Floor

Contact: Heidi Black AC7ZC 753-7487 or Beanie Lofthouse KJ7LQ 245-6632 Cost: \$12.00



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#### The ARRL Letter Vol. 23, No. 45 Nov 12, 2004 ==>US COAST GUARD AUXILIARY SEEKS RADIO AMATEURS

CQ, CQ CQ! The US Coast Guard Auxiliary <a href="http://">http://</a> www.cgaux.org/> is looking for Amateur Radio operators or prospective amateur licensees. "Like every other emergency based service, the Coast Guard operates every day, in good weather and in bad," says Wayne Spivak, KC2NJV, of the USCG's National Public Affairs Department. "We, in the USCG Auxiliary operate whether there is power to operate the normal modes of communication, such as phones, or whether the weather is bad, and the normal means of communications are out of service." At times like these, the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary rely on the Auxiliary Net (AuxNet), a backup radio network, to maintain communication with both the Auxiliary and the Coast Guard. In areas where there is no regular Coast Guard presence, the Auxiliary may rely solely on its AuxNet for communication. In areas with a large USCG presence, the AuxNet operates in both a support and backup capacity. The USCG Auxiliary is seeking ham radio volunteers because amateurs "are good communicators," Spivak says, in particular because of skills they've developed both in everyday radio operation and participation during emergencies in RACES, ARES and SKYWARN. He suggests Amateur Radio and the US Coast Guard Auxiliary are an ideal fit. To find out more, visit the USCG Auxiliary Public Service Articles Web site. The US Coast Guard Auxiliary is open to all US citizens over the age of 17. A security background check, paid for by the US Coast Guard, is required before an applicant is  $\alpha$ cepted. Visit the US Coast Guard Auxiliary Web site <a href="http://www.cgaux.org/cgauxweb/getzip.html">http://www.cgaux.org/cgauxweb/getzip.html</a> start the process.

# The ARRL Letter Vol. 23, No. 46 Nov 19, 2004 ==>ARRL PARTICIPATING IN IEEE, INDUSTRY EFFORTS TO SET BPL STANDARDS

Working with industry through the IEEE Broadband over Power Line (BPL) Study Group <a href="http://grouper.ieee.org/groups/bpl">http://grouper.ieee.org/groups/bpl</a> and in other venues, the ARRL is taking part in efforts aimed at defining and establishing key BPL technical standards. Among other issues, these standards will address the avoidance of interference from BPL to licensed radio services. The study group has held three meetings this year, and the next session is set for January 14 in San Diego. The study group met most recently in Piscataway, New Jersey, on October 13, the day before the FCC adopted new Part 15 rules to govern BPL deployment. ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, told

those attending that gathering that any BPL standards must address issues of electromagnetic compatibility (EMC). "The consensus of the committee is still that dealing with emissions and EMC is very high on the importance list," Hare said later. In terms of EMC, he said, the components of any IEEE BPL standard should "include the needs of the BPL industry to have a workable environment in



which to manufacture and market BPL technology while addressing the need for licensed radio services to operate in an environment that does not result in harmful interference." Hare's presentation focused on explaining why the BPL industry's measurements using spectrum analyzers and test probes differ from the impact BPL emissions have on communications receivers attached to typical amateur antenna systems. "I also continued to extend our offer to work cooperatively with industry representatives," Hare said. The ARRL and the FCC's Enforcement Bureau have a long history of cooperating in resolving Part 15 interference complaints resulting from power line noise. Hare and ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI—who attended a July study group meeting in Piscataway—have been charged with drafting the part of the IEEE study group's "white paper" dealing with affected radio services, including Amateur Radio. Other aspects of the document will include safety; compatibility between access BPL and in-home BPL; compatibility with utility distribution systems, and security, privacy and authentication issues. Following the July study group meeting, Rinaldo said the consensus of participants was that the core issue confronting the BPL industry was dealing successfully with the issue of interference from and to BPL. "BPL won't survive unless that fundamental problem is solved soon," Rinaldo asserted. Rinaldo also took part in a Power Line Communications Association (PLCA) Strategic Summit and Business Briefing in late October in the DC area. His presentation concluded, among other things, that best practice for the BPL industry would be to avoid Amateur Radio spectrum at the equipment design level. A few days earlier, Rinaldo had represented the League at a meeting of the National Association of Regulatory Utilities Commissioners (NARUC) Broadband over Power Lines Task Force.



Merry Christmas Happy New Year



#### **Questions for Technician Class License**

- 1. (T1C10) To what distance limit may Technician class licensees communicate?
- A. Up to 200 miles
- B. There is no distance limit
- C. Only to line of sight contacts distances
- D. Only to contacts inside the USA
- 2. (T2B01) What are the frequency limits of the 80-meter band in ITU Region 2 for Technician class licensees who have passed a Morse code exam?
- A. 3500 4000 kHz
- B. 3675 3725 kHz
- C. 7100 7150 kHz
- D. 7000 7300 kHz
- 3. (T4A02) When may you operate your amateur station somewhere in the US besides the address listed on your license?
- A. Only during times of emergency
- B. Only after giving proper notice to the FCC
- C. During an emergency or an FCC-approved emergency practice
- D. Whenever you want to
- 4. (T5C01) If you answer someone on the air and then complete your communication without giving your call sign,

- what type of communication have you just conducted?
- A. Test transmission
- B. Tactical signal
- C. Packet communication
- D. Unidentified communication
- 5. (T7C01) Which of the following lists include three good electrical conductors?
- A. Copper, gold, mica
- B. Gold, silver, wood
- C. Gold, silver, aluminum
- D. Copper, aluminum, paper
- 6. (T8D03) What would be the length, to the nearest inch, of a half-wavelength dipole antenna that is resonant at 147 MHz?
- A. 19 inches
- B. 37 inches
- C. 55 inches
- D. 74 inches
- 7. (T8F12) At what line impedance do most RF watt meters usually operate?
- A. 25 ohms
- B. 50 ohms
- C. 100 ohms
- D. 300 ohms

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