



# THE OHM TOWN NEWS

*Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club*

## February 2008

>>>>>> <http://www.barconline.org> <<<<<<<

### President's Message

I hope you all enjoy snow, we have been getting a fair amount of it. I have been enjoying it, but I am starting to think a snow blower might have been a good investment against the time spent shoveling. At least it's light and fluffy (with the exception of the road slush plowed up at the end of the driveway.) I appreciate those of you who take the time to monitor the repeaters and respond to calls for assistance during these storms.

### Changes

We are already deep into the year and change is upon us. Erik Larson, AD7OV, will be resigning his position as Vice President of the club at the end of this month. His wife Heather, AD7OW, has finished up her teaching program and was hired by the school district in Vernal Utah where her family is. Congratulations to them, we wish them the best. Erik says he wishes to stay in touch with his friends here in the club and has an eye towards participating in LOTOJA this fall.



This leaves us with a club officer and net manager position to fill. The majority of the board members at the last board meeting wanted to open it up to a vote by the club in March, so there will be two votes that meeting. One for the Vice President's office and one for the budget. The net manager position is separate from the VP office.

### Sign-Up

We had a great turn out at the January club meeting. Many newly licensed hams showed up and were well fellowshipped by the rest of us. We passed around a paper for people to sign up as elmers and there were many volunteers. Thank you.

We would like to continue to build the list so we know who is willing to elmer, who is looking for an elmer and what interests and skills are out there. We will pass the list around at club meetings. If you aren't able to make the meetings, please feel free to give myself or another board member a call and express your interest.

We will also be passing around the sign-up list for the summer's public service activities at the next

*(Continued on page 4)*

# UPCOMING ACTIVITIES 2008

February Club Meeting - February 9 at 10:00 A.M.

RACES VHF Net - February 21 at 8:00 P.M.

Utah UHF Society Swap Meet - February 23 at 8:00 A.M

For more info see <http://utahvhfs.org/>

VE Test session - March 8 at 8:00 A.M.

March Club Meeting - March 8

April Club Meeting - April 12

The VE test sessions are usually held in room 407 at Old Main on the USU Campus at 8:00 AM

BARC Club Meetings are normally on the 2nd Saturday of the month at 10:00 A.M. on the 3rd floor of the Cache County Sheriffs Complex on 200 North and 1225 West, Logan, Utah

ARES Meetings are usually held on the Third Wednesday of each month at 7 P.M. at the Cache County Sheriffs Complex. Contact Tyler Griffiths for more information.



## The Listening Post

Name	Notes	Frequency	Days	Time
VHF morning rag chew		146.720- 103.5	M-F	6:30AM
VHF evening rag chew		146.560	M-F	4-5PM
BARC Net		146.720- 103.5	T	9:00PM
SLC SSB VHF Net		144.250 USB	M	9:00PM
	(horizontal polarization)			
Logan Storehouse ERC		146.420	1&3 Sn	8:30PM
	(W7MOY)			
Ogden Utah North VHF		145.590	2,4 T	7:15PM
	(W7OGD)			
SPARC Net		146.800- 88.5	1 W	8:00PM
	(Sedgwick Peak)			
RACES VHF Net (IRLP)		147.200+ 103.5	3 Th	8:00PM
	(even months)			
HF daily rag chew		7.228	Dy	12:00PM
High Noon Net		7.240	Dy	12:00PM
	(relaxed)			
Beehive Utah Net (NTS)		7.272	Dy	12:30PM
HF daily rag chew		3.904	Dy	6:00PM
Ogden Utah North HF		3.993	1,3,5 T	7:15PM
RACES HF Net		3.918	3 S	8:00AM
	(odd months)			



Answers to questions on page 8:  
1-A, 2-D, 3-C, 4-D, 5-B, 6-B

## Club Officers

### President

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### Vice President

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Membership in **The Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club, Inc.** is open to anyone interested in Amateur Radio. You do not need an amateur license to join. Learn more online at <http://www.barconline.org/> or by emailing [membership@barconline.org](mailto:membership@barconline.org).

The Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club provides the following to its members:

- A repeater system that covers northern Utah from Bear Lake to Salt Lake Valley.
- An opportunity to meet and learn from other amateur operators. (Club meetings are held the second Saturday each month from October to May.)
- Events where you can practice your radio skills in a fun learning environment.
- Social activities where members can make friends and interact with other members.



Your tax deductible membership fees maintain the repeaters and support club activities.

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**The Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club, Inc.**  
**Application for the Year 2008 Membership**  
Dues are in effect January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_ Date Paid \_\_\_\_\_

P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Membership - \$25 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Family members in same household - \$3 ea \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Equipment Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(One Newsletter per household)

Names and call signs of additional family members Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_



Mail your completed form and a check to: B.A.R.C., P.O. Box 111, Providence, UT 84332-0111  
 or pay online at <http://www.barconline.org/?q=node/242>

*B.A.R.C. is a non-profit organization*







deliver new and innovative 2-way radio solutions for professionals and consumers." Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV, Yaesu's Executive Vice President for Amateur Radio Sales in North America, told the ARRL that he sees the joint venture of Vertex Standard and Motorola as "a very good thing for Amateur Radio in general and Yaesu customers in particular. I hope our loyal customers will readily see this business venture for what it is, an opportunity to make a solid 50-plus year old Yaesu company even stronger and more formidable than is already the case. There is absolutely no reason to have the slightest concern about equipment warranties and the continuation of support for our products. I am really excited to see what the joint engineering capabilities of these two huge communications companies will bring in the way of new technology advancement for the Amateur Radio Service." Motschenbacher continued: "There is a unique aspect of business that comes with Amateur Radio. It's not just about a radio. It's the relationship between the ham, the radio itself and the company that makes that radio. This relationship in Amateur Radio is far different than it is, say, between a buyer of a HDTV, the TV and the TV manufacturer. The relationship in Amateur Radio is far more personal and 'bonding,' per se. I am certain that we will do our utmost to ensure that Motorola understands this delicate bond. Since Motorola is leaving the day-to-day management of Yaesu in the hands of my boss, Jun Hasegawa, President of Vertex Standard, we can expect our longtime relationship with hams to remain intact." According to Motorola, "[t]he joint venture is expected to expand and develop a comprehensive suite of products to address the rapidly growing demand for 2-way radio solutions. Vertex Standard's strength in the amateur, marine and airband (avionics) segments provides Motorola with access to new business opportunities. In addition, Vertex Standard's solutions are highly complementary with Motorola's products and add greater depth and breadth to Motorola's Government and Public Safety business. The venture also provides additional engineering talent for Motorola." Following the restructuring, which will be implemented after the settlement of the tender offer, Vertex Standard will be de-listed from the JASDAQ. The joint venture company will continue to be called "Vertex Standard Co, Ltd" and will become a subsidiary of Motorola, with headquarters in Tokyo.

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**"THE DOCTOR IS IN" THE ARRL LETTER**

This week, ARRL Letter readers are in luck! The ARRL's very own Doctor, author of the popular QST column "The Doctor Is IN," answers a question from his mailbag: Question—Wilber Warke, N9RGE, of Lebanon, Illinois, asks: What happens to a dipole or random wire antenna if end-insulators are not used? Does it change the radiation pattern? What if the ends without insulators are left hanging down? Does that change the radiation from horizontal to vertical?

The Doctor Answers—Wilbur, the insulators themselves don't change antenna performance. The insulators are designed to provide a high impedance path between the end of the antenna, usually a high voltage point, and the support structure. If the support is metal, without an insulator the

current from the antenna will continue to the support and that will become part of the antenna. The resulting performance will depend on the size and shape of the support and how solid a connection there is between the antenna and the support—but often it will be a poor and likely intermittent connection—usually a recipe for a number of different problems. In the more typical case of a tree or other wooden structure, the impedance will be relatively high and it shouldn't matter too much until it gets wet—then you could easily have a very unpredictable situation and likely be sending much of your power into warming up the tree. Very dry tree branches also introduce the risk of fire, especially if high power is used. With respect to "dangling ends," they don't need insulators if they will stay dangling in space. Whatever is holding up the antenna just before the dangle suffers as above. Unfortunately, if the dangling ends aren't secured, they have a tendency to get blown around and can get wrapped around the antenna or other nearby objects. If a "random wire" has both horizontal and vertical segments, each will radiate depending on the magnitude of the current in each segment—this generally changes from band to band. Sometimes this can be used to good advantage. In the case of a balanced half-wave dipole, if both ends are dangling the same amount, the vertical radiation will cancel in the direction of the main horizontal radiation lobe. There will be a small amount of vertical radiation, because the ends have less current than the center, in the direction of the dipole ends.

Antenna insulators are not expensive, so why not use them just to be safe. If you don't have a local source, consider making your own from scrap PVC pipe, or couplings. Just drill a hole through both sides at each end, de burr the holes and use them as insulators—they are pretty close to free.

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**Hiram Percy Maxim II Passes Away at 72:**

The grandson of ARRL co-founder Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, died at home in Lyme, Connecticut January 12 after a lengthy battle with prostate cancer. Hiram Percy Maxim II—called HPM just like his grandfather—was 72. Not a ham, Maxim told the Newington Amateur Radio League at an October 2002 meeting that he doesn't feel he shares the inventive talents of his grandfather and great-grandfather, who held many patents between them; Maxim's great-grandfather invented the machine gun. He told the club audience that his grandfather took on radio and filmmaking as diversions from inventing—an endeavor he considered extremely hard work. He also thought of Amateur Radio as a means to "bring together" individuals from distant locations and believed that communication was a key to better understanding other people and cultures. The elder Maxim—often referred to as "The Old Man," or "TOM"—was an amateur film buff, and a highlight of his grandson's 2002 presentation was a short 16 mm film that showed HPM and some of his friends working, relaxing and frolicking on the grounds of the family's summer home in Lyme, Connecticut, where HPM II lived until his death. His son, Merritt Maxim, told the ARRL, "Even though he didn't have an Amateur Radio license, he was aware of the importance of



### Questions for Extra License

1. (E1A06) Which frequency bands contain at least one segment authorized to only control operators holding an Amateur Extra Class operator license?
  - A. 80, 75, 40, 20 and 15 meters
  - B. 80, 40, and 20 meters
  - C. 75, 40, 30 and 10 meters
  - D. 160, 80, 40 and 20 meters
2. (E2A09) What is the name of the effect that causes the downlink frequency of a satellite to vary by several kHz during a low-earth orbit?
  - A. The Kepler effect
  - B. The Bernoulli effect
  - C. The Einstein effect
  - D. The Doppler effect
3. (E3B05) On what amateur bands can long-path propagation provide signal enhancement?
  - A. 160 to 40 meters
  - B. 30 to 10 meters
  - C. 160 to 10 meters
  - D. 6 meters to 2 meters
4. (E4A10) What can a logic probe indicate about a digital logic circuit?
  - A. A short-circuit fault
  - B. An open-circuit fault
  - C. The resistance between logic modules
  - D. The high and low logic states
5. (E5B10) How long does it take for an initial charge of 20 V DC to decrease to 0.37 V DC in a 0.01-microfarad capacitor when a 2-megohm resistor is connected across it?
  - A. 0.02 seconds
  - B. 0.08 seconds
  - C. 450 seconds
  - D. 1350 seconds
6. (E6A16) What are the majority charge carriers in N-type semiconductor material?
  - A. Holes
  - B. Free electrons
  - C. Free protons
  - D. Free neutrons

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