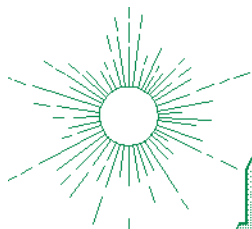


**ADAW**

4529 W. Park Place  
Glendale, AZ 85306-1512



*Happy Holidays!*



**ADAW**

**Arizona Desert Aire Waves**

Vol 34, No 12

December 2009

**ARE YOUR DUES CURRENT?**

Check Your Club's Listing  
on Page 2 for Information.

Be sure your club has your current  
email and/or mailing address.

**CLUB MEETINGS SCHEDULE**

**SARC**

Dec 2nd  
SCC Culinary Arts Dept  
7:30 PM

**AARC**

Dec 10th  
Red Cross Bldg. - Phx  
7:30 PM

**OPRC**

Dec 9th  
AZ Bldg at Tucson Medical Ctr  
7:15 PM

**CARL**

Jan 23rd  
AZ Science Center  
TBA

# ADAW MEMBER CLUBS

## ARIZONA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Arizona Amateur Radio Club meets on the **SECOND THURSDAY** of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Red Cross Building, located at 6135 N. Black Canyon Hwy., Phoenix (N. of Bethany Home Rd., E. side of Freeway on frontage Rd.).

President	Gary Hamman	K7GH	602.996.8148
Vice President	Bob Milburn	KB7TWF	480.991.1702
Secretary	Leslie Hickey	N5LDH	602.246.4303
Treasurer	Bob Hodges	K7JJT	602.274.1647
Red Cross Liason	Larry Penrod	AC7FC	602.955.0349
ARCA Liason	Dick Baum	NS7A	602.870.1135
Membership	Bob Hodges	K7JJT	602.274.1647

AARC c/o Bob Hodges, K7JJT, P.O. Box 56483, Phoenix, AZ 85079-6483. DUES: \$15.00/YR, Prorated (\$18.00 Family, \$9.00 Student), MEMBERSHIP YEAR BEGINS FEB. 1.

## SCOTTSDALE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

The Scottsdale Amateur Radio Club meets the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of each month at 7:30 p.m. in Room 8 at the new Scottsdale Senior Center located at 1700 N Granite Reef Road (west side of Granite Reef Rd., 50 yards north of McDowell Rd. Parking on site). The club also holds a net every Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m. on the 147.78/.18 repeater.

President	Paul Finell	W7EFQ	602.998.7024
Vice President	Bob Johnsen	K7TR	480.946.1427
Secretary	Ed Nickerson	NU7S	480.949.5162
Treasurer	Tom Barry	W7UF	480.998.8494
Past President	Bob Johnsen	K7TR	480.946.1427
Membership	Tom Barry	W7UF	480.998.8494
Board Members	Jerry Jacques	KD7GYM	
At-Large	Terry Cross	NK7T	480.969.8943
	Paula Jones	KD7TNB	
	Dreux Jacques	KB8YYA	
	Louis Schmitt	NQ7I	

SARC, P. O. Box 10878, Scottsdale, AZ 85271-0878. Phone: 602.735.3988. DUES: \$20.00/YR, (\$10.00/Add'l Family Member).

## CENTER FOR AMATEUR RADIO LEARNING

The Center for Amateur Radio Learning is a hands-on amateur radio station, W7ASC, located within the Arizona Science Center at 600 E. Washington, Phoenix. Board meetings are held the last month of each quarter at the AZ Science Center. Annual meeting for all volunteers is held the **third Saturday** of January. Watch ADAW for details.

President	Bob Burleson *	KG7QJ	480.961.1109
Vice President	Rick Checketts	KA0KZB	(SK)
Secretary	John O'Neal	KC7KML	480.345.7800
Treasurer	Larry Foster	KC0JON	480.767.0593
Board Members	George Stickney	W7BXW	480.964.3870
	Ray Waddoups	KE7FUM	480.654.9883
	David Zinder	W7PMD	602.358.7826
	Skip Moretti	K7OAH	602.952.2649

\* Scheduling and Membership

Web Master - Roger Buel, W9NCQ - 602.493.7242

For information: Email to [carl@w7asc.org](mailto:carl@w7asc.org) or call Bob Burleson, KG7QJ at 480.961.1109. Web Site: <http://www.w7asc.org>

## OLD PUEBLO RADIO CLUB

The Old Pueblo Radio Club meets the **SECOND WEDNESDAY** of each month (except June, July and August) at 7:15 p.m. in the Arizona Building at Tucson Medical Center. Visitors are welcome.

President	Ron Kalish	N7SPW	520.207.3852
Vice President	Alan Drexler	WB9TSU	520.885.9910
Treasurer	George Devich	N9IUK	520.760.0125
Board of Directors:			
	Dave Brown	KC7CQY	520.908.0805
	Ted Willis	AA7HX	520.790.3828
WebMaster	Ted Willis	AA7HX	520.790.3828
	(www.oprc.org)		
Trustees:	(all repeaters operating under the K7TRA call)		
Primary	Cliff Hauser	KD6XH	
	146.660, 146.820, 147.220-		
	Paul VanBeverhoudt	KA7LFX	224.06+
Secondary	Ted Willis	AA7HX	146.66-
	Ralph Turk	W7HSG	146.82-
	Paul VanBeverhoudt	KA7LFX	224.06+

Mailing address: OPRC, P.O. Box 42601, Tucson, AZ 85733-2601. DUES: Individual - \$20.00/YR, Family - \$30.00/YR.



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The *Arizona Desert Aire Waves* is published monthly and is the official news media of the sponsoring clubs. All news items, articles and inquiries should be submitted to each club's editor. Any information and opinions printed herein are those of the contributors and are not necessarily those of the sponsoring clubs. Full permission is granted to quote from this publication providing credit is given to the individual contributor and the ADAW. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. **Deadline is 10th of the month**

## *From the Editor's Desk*

Happy Holidays!

Hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and has survived the Black Friday shopping frenzy. There were some really good deals this year if you didn't mind the crowds and long waits. Even on-line shopping was nightmarish with slow response times and site crashes.

Now it's on to the main event . . . The Superstition Hamfest! (And you thought I was going to say Christmas, didn't you?)

December 5 is the annual Superstition Hamfest at Mesa Community College. The event gets started at 6:00 A.M. and features some great prizes as well as everything you've come to expect from the last hamfest of the year. There will be VE testing, food and beverages, hourly door prizes and all the tailgaters you can imagine. Don't miss it.

December 5 is also Skywarn Recognition Day. Controllers will be on duty for 24 hours - from 5:00 p.m. Friday, December 4, through 5:00 p.m. Saturday, December 5. Call WX7PHX on their local 70 cm repeater (442.800) and give them a one-line weather observation - such as "sunny and 75 degrees." Check out [www.hamradio.noaa.gov](http://www.hamradio.noaa.gov) for more info.

On January 9, 2010, the Thunderbird Amateur Radio Club will present the annual WestFest at the Thunderbird School of Global Management in Glendale. This all indoor hamfest is becoming a popular event with its shelter from the elements. Check the Event Calendar on page 4 for more details.

With the end of the year quickly approaching, it's time to reflect on the year's activities and start making our plans for the new year. What will your New Year's Resolutions involve? With our interest in amateur radio, each of us might

want to consider giving back a little. Why not plan to volunteer at least once over the coming year? It can be anything from a public service event to bringing snacks to a club meeting. Every person's contribution is always appreciated.

This month has a couple of interesting articles for your enjoyment. There is a story from Joe Brian, AB7VY about his experiences with surplus equipment and an article entitled "A Thousand Marbles," by Pat Thies, KD7HAB, that will make you stop and think a bit about what is truly important in your life. (Apologies to our "snail mail" readers, but the "A Thousand Marbles" article will not appear in your copy. The complete issue will be posted on the web site.)

Have you visited the ADAW web site recently? It has been completely rewritten. Microsoft, in their infinite wisdom, decided to stop supporting the software the original site was written in - FrontPage. We were using a "work around" for a while until new software could be purchased (and learned). After much trial and error, head scratching and correcting, the site is now finished and updated. Let us know what you think.





ADAW is still looking for articles from our readers. How about a report on your club's Christmas party (with pictures!) or on your experiences with some aspect of the hobby? Remember, ADAW readers are interested in what others are doing.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season. See you all next year!

73,  
Chris, N7PVL



**ADAW**

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		(480) 941-8610 (OFF.) (480) 945-7020 (FAX)	

# Event Calendar

December 5, 2009 - **Superstition Hamfest** - hosted by the Superstition Amateur Radio Club will be held at Mesa Community College (southwest parking lot), 1833 W Southern Ave (Corner of Dobson and US 60 - Exit 177) in Mesa. Hours are 6:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Admission is free - Tailgate spots are \$5.00 per parking space. Free overnight parking for RVs and self-contained campers. No drugs, alcohol or firearms permitted on campus. This includes "over the counter" drug vendors. VE testing registration from 8:00 - 9:00 AM - testing begins at 9:00 AM. ARCA Meeting at 11:00 AM. For more information, visit the web site at [http://wb7tjd.org/wiki/Superstition\\_Hamfest](http://wb7tjd.org/wiki/Superstition_Hamfest) or send an email to [hamfest2009@wb7tjd.org](mailto:hamfest2009@wb7tjd.org).

January 9, 2010 - **WestFest 2010** - hosted by the Thunderbird Amateur Radio Club will be held at Thunderbird School of Global Management - Activity Center, 59th Avenue & Country Gables Lane in Glendale. Sellers registration at 5:30 AM - Doors open at 7:00 AM. General Admission - \$2.00 per person. Sellers - \$5.00 for two tables. Food and soft drinks will be available. NO tailgating allowed on campus or in parking lot. Alcohol, drugs and weapons are strictly prohibited. Talk-in frequency: 146.700 (-600) PI 162.2 or 446.150 (-5) PI 100 Contact: Jack Lunsford, KD7RCJ at [j.lunsford@cox.net](mailto:j.lunsford@cox.net) or Roger Buel, W9NCQ at [w9ncq@cox.net](mailto:w9ncq@cox.net). Web Site: [www.w7tbc.org/Westfest.html](http://www.w7tbc.org/Westfest.html)

February 19 - 20, 2010 - **Yuma Hamfest & Emergency Preparedness Show** - hosted by the Yuma Amateur Radio Hamfest Organization will be held at the Yuma County Fairgrounds, 2520 E 32nd St in Yuma. Event hours are noon to 5:00 PM on Friday and 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM on Saturday. Gates open for camping at 4:00 PM on Thursday, 2/18. Buzard BBQ & Grand Prize drawing on Saturday night, 2/20, at 6:00 PM. Talk-in frequency: 146.840 (-) PI 88.5 Hz. Visit the web site at [www.yumahamfest.org](http://www.yumahamfest.org) or email Richard Palaszynski, KC2LGR at [kc2lgr@gmail.com](mailto:kc2lgr@gmail.com) for more information.

March 27, 2010 - **Desert-Fest 10** - hosted by the Radio Society of Tucson will be held at the Kino Sports Complex, Forgeus and Ajo Way in Tucson. Hours are 6:00 AM until 11:00 AM. VE testing at 9:00 AM. Free admission and parking. Flea market spaces - \$5.00 each. Talk-in: 146.800(-) pl 156.7. Special low rates for nearby hotel and campground. For more information, visit the web site at <http://tucsonhamfest.com> or contact Randy Malick at 520.230.2006 or send email to [info@tucsonhamfest.com](mailto:info@tucsonhamfest.com).

May 1, 2010 - **Larry Warren Memorial Hamfest** - hosted by the Cochise Amateur Radio Association will be held at the club's Green Acres Facility, 2756 Moson Rd in Sierra Vista. Activities begin at 7:00 AM and will end at noon. VE testing, tailgaters, vendors, food, drink and prizes will be available. For more information, visit the web site at [www.k7rdg.org](http://www.k7rdg.org). Contact for the event is Dale Chidester - Phone: 520.803.8828 - Email: [dalechid@cox.net](mailto:dalechid@cox.net)

May 29, 2010 - **Prescott Hamfest** - hosted by the Yavapai Amateur Radio Club will be held at Granite Middle School Sports Courts, 1800 Williamson Valley Road in Prescott. Hours of operation are 7:00 AM until 1:00 PM, with set-up beginning at 6:00 AM. VE testing will be held at 11:00 AM. Visit the web site at <http://www.w7yrc.org> for more information. Contact is Terry Pemberton - Phone: 928.445.8126 - Email: [kb7tre@cableone.net](mailto:kb7tre@cableone.net).

July 16 - 18, 2010 - **ARCA/Williams Hamfest** - hosted by the Amateur Radio Council of Arizona will be held at the Rodeo Grounds in Williams. Watch for more details.

September 17 - 19, 2010 - **ARRL Southwestern Division Convention** - hosted by the San Diego Amateur Radio Club (SANDARC) will be held at Four Points Sheritan Hotel, 8110 Aero Dr in San Diego, CA. Talk-in 145.32(-) PI 107 and 146.52 simplex. For more information, visit the web site at <http://www.sandarc.org/>. Event contact: Paul Rios - phone: 619.593.9445 - email: [kc6qls@cox.net](mailto:kc6qls@cox.net).





## SCOTTSDALE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.



Club Station: WA7APE  
Club Repeaters: 147.78/.18 & 445.00/440.00

Hi Guys,

This weather has been just great, hasn't it? The summer just seems to keep right on going with record temperatures and no rain. The good thing about it is that we can still go camping and enjoy the great outdoors. Bonnie and I have been taking advantage of this weather to get up to the mountains and do a little fishing and playing radio in the pines. We went to Woods Canyon Lake on one week end and then up to Canyon Point. We also took a long trip in October to up state New York to visit the relatives and to see the leaves. It is a lot cooler back there, however, and you really need a heavy jacket. The leaves were just beautiful with brilliant reds and oranges. We do not see these bright colors out here, but the colors in the mountains around here also have much beauty.

Speaking about camping, Eddie Couch N7JOR is our camping chairman and he has a great camp out planned for New Years Eve at Dead Horse Ranch State Park in Cottonwood. We should get up there by or on Thursday the 31st of December. There will be a large bon fire and much revelry, weather permitting. And there will be a pot luck dinner on New Years day at 12:00 P.M.. Everyone attending will have to pay for their own space. The fee is \$19 plus tax per night. There is a lake there and usually good fishing. And last of all, this is Straight Key night on HF. So bring a radio and have some fun. We will monitor 146.52 simplex to direct you where the group is located.

The club is still looking for a suitable location for the Spring Hamfest. We have a possible location at Skyline High School in Mesa. That school is located near the 60 freeway and could work out great. I will know more next week. I have looked at many sites and I have been turned down on all of them except this one. Lets hope we can work out the details soon.

At the club General Meeting on November 4, 2009, the president Paul Finell W7EFQ, asked the membership "what would you like to see the club do in 2010." There were a lot of good ideas tossed around but the most popular one was to have more "hands on" seminars for working with radios. Paula Jones, KD7TNB is Education chair, and she has some great ideas for providing these short seminars. They will be after the general meeting each month and feature many common problems new hams experience when working HF. She will have more on this subject at the January Meeting.

The Club Christmas Party is going to be held at Scottsdale Community College Culinary Arts Department Desert Oasis Dining Room on Wednesday, December 2, 2009. There will be a 5-course gourmet dinner prepared by the students of the

culinary arts program. The cost is \$30 per person. There will be door prizes. The speaker for the evening will be Mr. Paul Messinger. He is a life long resident of Scottsdale and has many interesting stories to tell about Scottsdale. The flyers have been sent out to all club members. This year MARCA club members will be joining us. See you all there.

Dreux Jacques KB8YYA and Lou Schmitt NQ7I are working on the club repeaters to install new controller cards and give the systems a general up lift. The repeaters have needed this for some time and the improvement will be welcome. During this change over time the repeaters 147.18 and 445.00 may be off the air from time to time. Please be patient with us. It is a work in progress.

Dreux has also set up a great web site for the club. To access this site, type [scottsdaleamateurradioclub.ning.com](http://scottsdaleamateurradioclub.ning.com). He has a lot of information and pictures on this site so check it out and let him know what you would like to see added to the site.

At the General meeting the new Board of Directors was elected by the membership. They are Paul Finell W7EFQ, Bob Johnsen K7TR, Ed Nickerson WU7S, Tom Barry W7UF, Jerry Jacques KE7GYM, Dreux Jacques KB8YYA, Paula Jones KD7TNB, Louis Schmitt NQ7I, and new members, Alan Jensen KE7FSD, Judy Jensen KE7IXI, Steve Thomas KE7TLS, and Skip Moretti K7OAH. They will be introduced at the Christmas Party. Next year promises to be a great year for hamming.

Because this is the December newsletter and Christmas is at the end of the month I will not have the opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas so let me be the first to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year. I will look for you all at the December Hamfest at MCC on December 5, 2009.

73 Ed WU7S  
[enickerson427@aol.com](mailto:enickerson427@aol.com)

**ADAW**

### SARC CONSTANTS:

**SARC is a 501 (c)-3 club. That means all donations are fully tax deductible. Contact Paul Finnell, W7EFQ at 602.998.7024 for information on estate donations and equipment pick-up.**

**For membership information, call Tom Barry, W7UF at 480.998.8494. Please send address change requests to Tom no later than the 7th of the month in which you would like the change to occur.**

**To field check QSL cards for most ARRL awards, call Nick Sues, W7ZMD at 602.992.4133.**





Shel Stone, K7SLS will probably be sporting this new mustache for quite a while. Since the Phillies didn't win the World Series, the mustache stays!



With late summer vacation memories of the Black Sea still fresh in my mind, it is hard to believe that it is time to send Christmas greetings. That is especially true since this past week has required some home refrigeration a couple of days. I'm sure the holiday plans are being made in most club meetings this month as they are with the AARC. Our December 10 meeting will be our tasty, holiday potluck celebration, and of course it will be a chance to once again visit with members' families. The 26th of December will be business as usual with the 7:30 club breakfast at Denny's on Camelback Road and 7th Street (a chance to show off all the new ham gear Santa brought) and VE testing at the Red Cross Building at 7:00 P.M. Preregister with Gary, K7GH, at (602) 996-8148 by Thursday night if you plan to take a test.

Awaiting my return from across the big ocean was several sad pieces of news regarding deaths. Our condolences go to K7POF, Bob Sitterley, and W7POF, Linda Sitterley, on their recent losses. Bob's daughter died unexpectedly after losing her battle with pneumonia, and Linda's father passed away a few weeks prior to that in late September. Additionally we lost a former member of the AARC, Hubert "Buck" Buckles, who died October 26th in Hutchinson, Kansas. I join the other AARC members in expressing our sympathy to the families of the departed.

On a lighter note at breakfast a few weeks ago a gentleman who looked vaguely familiar joined our table. After scrutinizing the face and determining that it was Shel Stone, K7SLS, under the mustache, we found that the facial hair was a result of an ongoing World Series bet. Since that time the New York Yankees won the series and can be blamed for Shel's new look, which we apparently will have to get used to. I submit a photo so that you will recognize the mustached Shel when you see him.

Finally, my thanks go to Joe Brian, AB7VY, who graciously sent me the following article which I think you will enjoy. His nostalgic biographical piece should bring memories to some of the old timers, especially surplus "junkies," and will certainly bring wonderment to newcomers to amateur radio. Enjoy this!

73, Lori, WA7EDI

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**JOE BRIAN, AB7VY**

## **My Early Experiences with Amateur Radio Surplus Equipment**

After WWII finished and I was demobbed from the Air Force, I traveled to the UK from Australia to take a job as a press photographer with an English newspaper. Not far from Fleet Street where I worked was an infamous street in Soho named Lisle Street, used by the “Ladies of the night” for many wartime years and after. However after the war it became the home of many surplus stores, which included a special one for me that carried new and used wartime radio equipment. Many others carried radio gear, but I always got a good deal from Smith and Co. Finally radio got its way, and the police cleared the street of the “ladies.” Then the surplus stores became a respectable place to go shopping.

I remember my first big buy, a new T1154 and a R1115 still in its maker’s boxes, costing only a few pounds. Both were used in the RAF Lancaster and other bombers. A combined AC power pack and output stage I built for the receiver cost me around a pound, which then was about four US dollars. Also it came with the Morse code key that looked like a bath and was put in a bakelite case made to protect the user from the 1KV across the terminals. I then followed the T1154/R1115 with a Bendix receiver. I think it was a used RA-10, and it cost me about the same amount of money. It is hard to remember about the conversion, but I do remember it was one of the best receivers I had, and it gave good service for many years.

The English magazine Practical Television came out one day with a circuit showing how to build a television from surplus radar equipment. This, of course, had us all running to our surplus stores. The unit required use of the old radar tube, the green-faced VR97. Separate units had to be built or converted, and a power pack was required. This caused frustration, of course, because many of the capacitors had to be renewed due to bad storage. Additionally, finding the power supply transformer took some searching because we all wanted to get an ex-navy one, as these were always coated with a tar substance and proved very reliable. The finished unit covered a small table with its separate RF unit which used about eight valves and a time base with six SP61's, plus many blobs of solder.

I finally built the unit in an upright cabinet, complete with a magnifying glass that brought the picture up to about nine inches. That would please the “Greenies” with its green face

## ***LICENSE TESTING INFORMATION***

When you are ready to take an exam for an Amateur Radio license, there are Volunteer Examiners available to assist you. Each Applicant will need to bring a picture ID (some test sessions require two forms of identification). If you are upgrading your class of license, be sure to bring the original (and a copy) of your license and/or Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (C.S.C.E.). There may be a fee required.

PLEASE NOTE: Dates, times, or locations may change. Call test session contact to confirm information. Walk-ins are permitted unless otherwise specified.

### **DECEMBER TEST SESSIONS**

**December 3rd** - Radio Society of Tucson -- 7:00 PM

Lighthouse YMCA, 2900 N Columbus, Tucson

Contact - Matthew Grossman

520.750.7189

Pre-Registration Preferred

**December 5th** - DeVry ARC & West Valley ARC -- 9:00 AM

DeVry University, 2149 W Dunlap, Phoenix

Contact - David Morrill

623.925.0680

**December 5th** - East Valley VE Team -- 9:00 AM

Mesa Community College, Dobson Rd & Southern Avenue, Mesa

Contact - Steve Gurley

480.704.3666

Registration at 8:00 AM

**December 8th** - Kingman VE Team - KJ7PT -- 5:45 PM

Community Center, 2985 John L Ave, Kingman

Contact - Ronald Tomlinson

928.530.5595

Pre-Registration Required - Doors open at 5:30 PM

**December 21st** - East Valley VE Team -- 6:00 PM

City of Mesa Bldg, 640 N Mesa Dr, Mesa

Contact - Steve Gurley

480.704.3666

**December 26th** - Arizona ARC -- 7:00 PM

American Red Cross, 6135 N Black Canyon Hwy, Phoenix

Contact - Gary Hamman

602.996.8148

Pre-Registration Required by Thursday nite

**ADAW**

tube. Incidentally when I made a return trip to the UK I found that the person I gave it to when I returned to Australia still had it working some twenty years after I built it.

One other of the many units I bought was an army receiver, and all I had to do was to squeeze two large open coils and it would change the frequency to the local London police band. It was a great thing in those days since there was no such thing as a scanner. The first time I used it, I heard a police call to a location, and I got there with my press camera before the police arrived. I had to say I was just passing by.





A Happy Thanksgiving to all!

The new Tech license class is underway at MCC with nine students. They will take the VE test at the Superstition Hamfest at MCC December 5th. See [http://wb7tjd.org/wiki/Superstition\\_Hamfest](http://wb7tjd.org/wiki/Superstition_Hamfest) for details. Our next Tech class starts Saturday, February 27, 2010.

Speaking of the Hamfest look for the W7ASC table! We still hope to set up to sell some older equipment, books, parts, books, junk, and books. All we need are some volunteers to help man the booth Saturday.

Mark your calendars for the annual CARL/W7ASC member meeting Saturday, January 23, 2010. Awards, door prize, election of board members, refreshments, indicators (how we did vs. last year), and more are on the agenda. Watch for the details later in December.

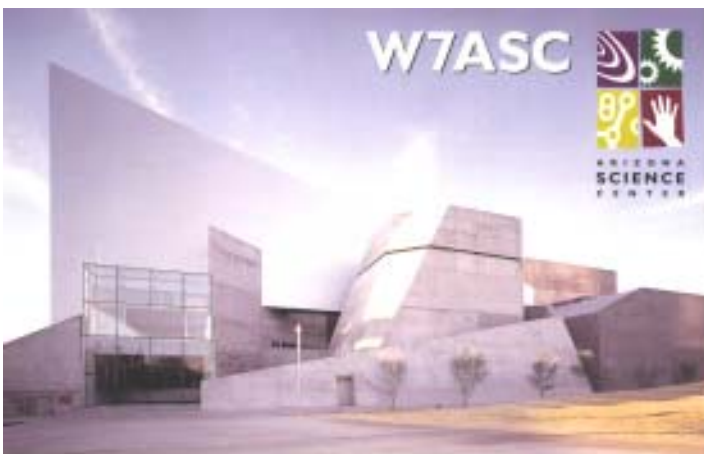
We are still short of volunteers for the rest of December. Spread the word at your Ham Club. Call 480-961-1109 and volunteer now. We have a CARL PPT Presentation available (operators are standing by) that can be presented to your club. Contact me (see below) to set it up.

73,

Bob Burleson KG7QJ

480-961-1109 - [kg7qj@cox.net](mailto:kg7qj@cox.net)

**ADAW**



W7ASC QSL Card

## PUBLIC SERVICE CALENDAR

EVENT	LOCATION	DATE
Fiesta Bowl Half Marathon	Scottsdale	12/06/09
Fiesta Bowl Parade	Central Phoenix	01/02/10
Rock N Roll AZ	Phoenix, Scottsdale, Tempe	01/17/10
London's Run	Queen Creek	01/30/10
Runner's Den Road Classic	Paradise Valley Mall, Scottsdale	02/07/10
Lost Dutchman Marathon	Apache Junction	02/14/10
Laveen Country Challenge Bike Ride	Laveen	02/21/10
Ragnar Relay Team	Various	02/26-27/10
American Diabetes Assn	North Phoenix	03/13/10
Mesquite Canyon Trail Runs	White Tanks Mtn Regional Park	03/20/10
Bike MS Ride 2 Day Event	Florence	03/27/10
Tour de Paradise	Phoenix/Paradise Valley/Anthem	04/10/10
March of Dimes March for Babies	Wesley Bolin Plaza (State Capitol)	04/17/10
Highline Trail Run	Payson	04/24/10
AZ Emergency Net - Maricopa Picnic	Payson - Houston Mesa Campground	05/15/10
Barn Burner Mtn Bike Race	Kendrick Mtn, Near Flagstaff	06/19/10
Cactus Cha-Cha	White Tanks Mtn Regional Park	10/09/10
Cave Creek Mtn Bike Ride	Cave Creek Area	11/13/10
Cave Creek Road Ride	Cave Creek Area	11/14/10

To sign up send email to: [mcecg@yahoo.com](mailto:mcecg@yahoo.com)

MCECG on the Web MCECG.ORG for event sign up

For information on events, join - [azhamserve@egroups.com](mailto:azhamserve@egroups.com)

Jim Pierce, N7QVW - 623.551.1204 - [jim@n7qv.net](mailto:jim@n7qv.net)

Brian McCarthy, N7TUQ - 623.486.0507 - [n7tuq@arrl.net](mailto:n7tuq@arrl.net)





# A Thousand Marbles

by Pat Thies, KD7HAB

The older I get, the more I enjoy Saturday mornings. Perhaps it's the solitude that comes with being the first to rise, or maybe it's the unbounded joy of not having to be at work. Either way, the first few hours of a Saturday morning are most enjoyable.

A few weeks ago, I was shuffling toward the basement shack with a steaming cup of coffee in one hand and the morning paper in the other. What began as a typical Saturday morning, turned into one of those lessons that life seems to hand you from time to time. Let me tell you about it.

I turned the dial up into the phone portion of the band on my ham radio in order to listen to a Saturday morning swap net. Along the way, I came across an older sounding chap, with a tremendous signal and a golden voice. You know the king – he sounded like he should be in the broadcasting business. He was telling whomever he was talking with something about “a thousand marbles.”

I was intrigued and stopped to listen to what he had to say. “Well, Tom, it sure sounds like you're busy with your job. I'm sure they pay you well, but it's a shame you have to be away from home and your family so much. Hard to believe a young fellow should have to work sixty or seventy hours a week to make ends meet. Too bad you missed your daughter's dance recital.”

He continued, “Let me tell you something, Tom, something that has helped me keep a good perspective on my priorities.”

And that's when he began to explain his theory of “a thousand marbles.” “You see I sat down one day and did a little arithmetic. The average person lives about seventy-five years. I know some live more and some live less, but on average, folks live about seventy-five years.

“Now then, I multiplied 75 times 52 and I came up with 3900, which is the number of Saturdays that the average person has in their entire lifetime. Now stick with me, Tom, I'm getting to the important part.

“It took me until I was fifty-five years old to think about all this in any detail,” he went on, “and by that time I had lived through over 2800 Saturdays. I got to be thinking that if I lived to be seventy-five, I only had about a thousand of them left to enjoy.

“So I went to a toy store and bought every single marble they had. I ended up having to visit three toy stores to round up 1000 marbles. I took them home and put them inside a large, plastic container right here in the shack next to my gear. Every Saturday since then, I have taken one marble out and thrown it away.

“I found that by watching the marbles diminish, I focused more on the really important things in life. There is nothing

like watching your time here on this earth run out to help get your priorities straight.

“Now let me tell you one last thing before I sign-off with you and take my lovely wife out for breakfast.

“This morning I took the very last marble out of the container. I figure, if I make it until next Saturday, then I have been given a little extra time. And the one thing we can all use is a little more time.

“It was nice to meet you, Tom. I hope you spend more time with your family, and I hope to meet you again here on the band. 75-year-old man, this is K9NZQ, clear and going QRT. Good morning.”

You could have heard a pin drop on the band when this fellow signed off. I guess he gave us all a lot to think about. I had planned to work on the antenna that morning, and then I was going to meet up with a few hams to work on the next club newsletter. Instead, I went upstairs and woke my wife up with a kiss. “C'mon honey, I'm taking you and the kids to breakfast.”

“What brought this on?” she asked with a smile. “Oh, nothing special, it's just been a long time since we spent a Saturday together with the kids. Hey, can we stop at a toy store while we're out? I need to buy some marbles.”



From *The Cochise Smoke*, September 2000.

ADAW



# ***SARC Hamfest***

Sponsor: Superstition Amateur Radio Club

[wb7tjd.org/hamfest](http://wb7tjd.org/hamfest)

When: Dec. 5, 2009 6:00 am – 2:00 pm

Where: Mesa Community College South West Parking lot  
1833 W. Southern Ave. Mesa, Arizona 85202

Cost: **Free** – Door prize tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5

## **Main Prizes:**

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Hourly door prize drawings... must be present to win

Talk-In: 147.120+(162.2) / 449.200- (100.0) / 146.52 Simplex

Tailgate Spots: \$5.00 each parking space

V.E. Testing Registration @ 8 AM Testing 9-? - Makes sure you bring Picture ID, The original and a copy of current license, or CSCE if applicable

Test Fee: \$15.00

ARCA Meeting will be held generally around 11:00 AM

Food and Beverages - To be sold by contracted food vendor Only!

Free Overnight (RV / Trailer space) Camping / Parking

Contact : Michelle Powas @ [ab7ns@cox.net](mailto:ab7ns@cox.net) for more information

# Old Pueblo Radio Club INTERMOD

## President's Column

All members of the Old Pueblo Radio Club are invited to attend the December general membership meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 9 December 2009 at 1915 hrs at the Arizona Building of the Tucson Medical Center. This is the only general membership meeting required to be held according to the club's by-laws. In addition to the usual refreshments, we also hope to provide ice cream to celebrate the season.

The first order of business will be to elect officers for the coming year. A slate of proposed officers will have been offered at the November meeting (not yet held as of the date I write this column) and nominations from the floor will be entertained. Some of us have been serving for several years and are ready to be put out to pasture, so nominations will be appreciated.

A topic of discussion will be held as to which directions the club should take in the future.

We wish to thank club members who have volunteered to assist in support of civic events such as the Diabetes walk and at El Tour de Tucson. Cary Fishman, WB2BSJ, (cary@caryfish.com) is compiling a roster of persons who wish to be considered for future events. His list crosses club lines. Please contact him with your name and e-mail address if you wish to volunteer and he has not called on you lately, especially for El Tour.

Speaking of El Tour, Ted Willis, AA7HX is to be commended for his outstanding work in organizing the communications support for this year's El Tour de Tucson. This event is a massive undertaking, with many organizations, government agencies, clubs and individuals involved. At times it is quite frustrating (think of herding cats), but it always seems to work in the end, thanks to the hard work of all participants, volunteers and organizers. We also commend the outstanding work of Andy Guerrero, KC7GMX, who has the task of bringing all of the various parts of the entire race together.

Finally, RST will host a citywide Christmas party at 1800 hrs on 19 December 2009 at El Parador Restaurant. Members of OPRC are invited. There will be an RSVP and prepayment for dinner, but more on that as information becomes available or, check the RST web site at <http://rstclub.org/>.

'See you at the December meeting.

73 de  
Ron Kalish, N7SPW  
President, OPRC



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