

Mohave Amateur Radio Club December 2011 Newsletter



K7MPR

Club Officers

President - Bill Smith - KD7MIA
Vice-President - Kevin Walsh - KD7HVE
Treasurer - Tammy Smith - KD7MIB
Secretary - Austin McGovern - N2CAT
Parliamentarian - Bob Weed - NX7A
Technical Engineer - Matt Krick - K3MK
Public Information - Lisa Walsh - KE7BKP

Club Repeater Net

The club holds a weekly traffic and information net every Monday at 7:00 P.M. The frequency is 448.550 PL tone of 123.0 or 147.240 PL tone of 123.0.

Support Your Club And Check In!

Club Meetings

The club meets on the first Tuesday of the month at KRMClook for an email from Bill to tell us where at KRMC!

All amateurs and visitors are welcome to attend.

For more information contact Bill Smith - KD7MIA at 928-303-9857 or by email at bill1021@gmail.com

Newsletter Articles Wanted

Working on a new kit or homebrew project? Have you recently received a rare or interesting QSL card? Send them in and I'll post them in the newsletter!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

News From Around The World

Ham Radio to Join Cast of "Last Man Standing"



Amateur radio will become an ongoing part of the ABC comedy, "Last Man Standing." Star Tim Allen will have various pieces of ham gear on his office desk, including rigs provided by ICOM, and an HF antenna from Comet. Scenes from *CQ* videos will be visible on his large-screen TV and some copies of *CQ* magazine may show up on his desk as well. His character will be identified as a licensed ham, although the callsign he will use is fictional.

Producer John Amodeo is a ham (NN6JA) and says he feels that ham radio fits right in with the persona of Allen's character, Mike Baxter, who is marketing director for an outdoor/sporting goods company. He also thinks that hams fit right in as part of the show's target audience. Amodeo warns that, at least at first, ham radio's presence will be only visual, and has not yet been worked into any scripts. (See John's article, "Producing Ham Radio," about how he got several of the show's staff members licensed as hams, on page 30 of the December 2011 issue of *CQ*.)

Posted by *CQ* Newsroom at [11:31 AM](#)

60 Meters to Get New Channel, New Modes & Higher Power



The FCC adopted new rules for the 60-meter (5 MHz) band in mid-November, swapping one frequency for another and permitting greater flexibility in power and operating modes. Currently, hams in the U.S. have a secondary allocation on the band and are limited to upper sideband (USB) with a maximum of 50 watts PEP on five specific frequencies.

In the new rules, amateurs will also be able to use CW and the PSK-31 and Pactor-III digital modes; and the power limit has been doubled to 100 watts PEP. In addition, the current channel centered on 5368 kHz will be replaced by one centered on 5358.5 kHz. Voice and digital users should set their VFOs 1.5 kHz below the center frequency while CW ops should be right on the center frequency. The new rules take effect 30 days after publication in the *Federal Register*, which would most likely mean sometime in mid-January. The complete, 45-page, Report and Order is available online at <<http://www.fcc.gov/document/amateur-radio-service-5-mhz>>.

Hams Respond to Natural Disasters Around The World

Ham radio operators provided varying levels of communications assistance in response to floods in Thailand and Italy, an earthquake in Turkey and a damaging snowstorm in the US Northeast in late October and early November.

"Newsline" reports that the secretary of Thailand's national ham radio association says its members have saved nearly 1000 lives by coordinating rescue communications in the wake of the country's worst flooding in over 60 years.

Hams also responded after a magnitude 7.2 earthquake struck eastern Turkey, to floods in Italy and a late October snowstorm that left huge swaths of the northeastern U.S. without power.

Posted by CQ Newsroom at [11:43 AM](#)

FCC Affirms BPL Rules



The FCC has made minor tweaks in its 2004 rules for Broadband over Power Lines (BPL), but adopted neither the changes proposed by the ARRL nor its own original proposal. In a Second Report and Order on the issue, which followed a 2008 federal court ruling that it had made procedural errors in the original proceeding, the FCC changed from 20 dB to 25 dB the amount by which BPL providers need to be able to notch their signals in the event of interference complaints. But it did not go along with the ARRL's request for mandatory notching of ham bands.

BPL is a means of providing high-speed internet access to homes via power lines, using frequencies in the HF and low VHF portions of the spectrum. In test markets, certain types of BPL caused massive interference to close-in amateur stations. So far, the system has not proven to be economically feasible anywhere that it has been tried.

European Governments Support Longwave Ham Band



The European Council of Post and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) has endorsed a proposal to create a worldwide secondary amateur radio allocation between 472 and 480 kHz. According to "Newsline," stations using the new allocation, if approved, would be limited to five watts effective radiated power (ERP). A ham allocation in the neighborhood of 500 kHz is expected to be taken up at January's World Radiocommunication Conference in Geneva, Switzerland. For more on WRC-12, see "Washington Readout" in the January, 2012 issue of CQ.

Posted by CQ Newsroom at [11:33 AM](#)

NASA Pioneer W3PRB Silent Key

CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame member John Townsend, W3PRB, became a Silent Key in November. Townsend was one of NASA's early administrators, responsible for the acquisition and construction of the Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. He was also a key negotiator of the first US-Soviet space treaty. Townsend left NASA for several years to help establish the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and to work in private industry. After the explosion of the shuttle Challenger in 1986, he returned to NASA as Deputy Associate Administrator and led America's return to space. He also served as Goddard's Director from 1987 until his retirement in 1990.

Townsend was profiled in an interview in the June, 2008, issue of CQ

Illegal 10-Meter Activity on the Rise

It seems that a large number of taxicabs in Russia have been illegally using the 10-meter band for their communications, but nobody much noticed until now, as the rising sunspot cycle brought about improved propagation on the band. According to "Newsline," most of the cabbies were using channelized FM rigs. Russia's Radio Frequency Service has reportedly promised to crack down on the illegal users.

AM and SSB transmissions by non-amateurs in North America have also been reported. U.S. amateurs hearing illegal activity on 10 meters are encouraged to gather as much information as possible and then get in touch with the FCC's Enforcement Bureau.

One Big Test Session!



Over 100 freshman electrical engineering students at California Polytechnic University (Cal Poly) in San Luis Obispo took their Technician Class ham radio license exams on November 4th in what is being called one of the largest single test sessions anywhere, and especially on a college campus. Ninety-six of 114 candidates passed their exams. The license exam was offered as one midterm exam option for the 189 first-year students in the school's Introduction to Electrical Engineering course. According to "Newline," the "Freshman Licensing Initiative" is the brainchild of the Electrical Engineering Department's Chair, Dr. Dennis Derickson, ACOP. Eleven volunteer examiners oversaw the test session. Through quick processing work by the ARRL/VEC and the FCC, the 96 new hams learned their call signs by the following Monday, November 6th. Dr. Derickson and the Cal Poly Amateur Radio Club hope their success may encourage other colleges to adopt similar programs.



A Ham Radio Operator's Night Before Christmas

from © 1996 by Gary Pearce KN4AQ on December 24, 2008

T'was the night before Christmas,
And all through two-meters,
Not a signal was keying up
Any repeaters.

The antennas reached up
From the tower, quite high,
To catch the weak signals
That bounced from the sky.

The children, Tech-Pluses,
Took their HTs to bed,
And dreamed of the day
They'd be Extras, instead.

Mom put on her headphones,
I plugged in the key,
And we tuned 40 meters
For that rare ZK3.

When the meter was pegged
by a signal with power.
It smoked a small diode,
and, I swear, shook the tower.

Mom yanked off her phones,
And with all she could muster
Logged a spot of the signal
On the DX Packet Cluster,

While I ran to the window
And peered up at the sky,
To see what could generate
RF that high.

It was way in the distance,
But the moon made it gleam -
A flying sleigh, with an
Eight element beam,

And a little old driver
who looked slightly mean.
So I thought for a moment,
That it might be Wayne Green.

But no, it was Santa
The Santa of Hams.
On a mission, this Christmas
To clean up the bands.

He circled the tower,
Then stopped in his track,
And he slid down the coax
Right into the shack.

While Mom and I hid
Behind stacks of CQ,
This Santa of hamming
Knew just what to do.

He cleared off the shack desk
Of paper and parts,
And filled out all my late QSLs
For a start.

He ran copper braid,
Took a steel rod and pounded
It into the earth, till
The station was grounded.

He tightened loose fittings,
Re-soldered connections,
Cranked down modulation,
Installed lightning protection.

He neutralized tubes
In my linear amp...

(Never worked right before --
Now it works like a champ).

A new, low-pass filter
Cleaned up the TV,
He corrected the settings
In my TNC.

He repaired the computer
That would not compute,
And he backed up the hard drive
And got it to boot.

Then, he reached really deep
In the bag that he brought,
And he pulled out a big box,
"A new rig?" I thought!

"A new Kenwood? An Icom?
A Yaesu, for me?!"
(If he thought I'd been bad
it might be QRP!)

Yes! The Ultimate Station!
How could I deserve this?
Could it be all those hours
that I worked Public Service?

He hooked it all up
And in record time, quickly
Worked 100 countries,
All down on 160.

I should have been happy,
It was my call he sent,
But the cards and the postage
Will cost two month's rent!

He made final adjustments,
And left a card by the key:
"To Gary, from Santa Claus.
Seventy-Three."

Then he grabbed his HT,
Looked me straight in the eye,
Punched a code on the pad,
And was gone - no good bye.

I ran back to the station,
And the pile-up was big,
But a card from St. Nick
Would be worth my new rig.

Oh, too late, for his final
came over the air.
It was copied all over.
It was heard everywhere.

The Ham's Santa exclaimed
What a ham might expect,
"Merry Christmas to all,
And to all, good DX."

Reprinted from <http://www.eham.net/articles/20657>





Christmas Word Search

U Z F H R U D O L P H P U H U
N U V A Y E L L E B A R W N T
L O S I G T I L S C U P I D E
T E R A X L S N A M W O N S M
S S P T N E J O D B R H R E O
T T R S H T N I R E H S A D C
N O E L U P A A K F E K T Y H
Y C S E W G O C C Z X R S E T
B K E D R R A L L Y Y O T N A
G I N G E R B R E A D W I M E
S N T N C W M G P E U N B I R
M G N T N E Z T I L B S A H W
K O U D A N C E R F U S A C K
D N P R R C H R I S T M A S A
L A A G P E A C E A Z V S V K

BALL	FROSTY	SANTA CLAUS
BELL	GIFT	SLED
BLITZEN	GINGERBREAD	SNOWMAN
CANDYCANE	NOEL	STAR
CHIMNEY	NORTHPOLE	STOCKING
CHRISTMAS	NUTCRACKER	SUGARPLUMS
COMET	PEACE	TOY
CUPID	PRANCER	TREE
DANCER	PRESENT	VIXEN
DASHER	REINDEER	WORKSHOP
DONNER	RUDOLPH	WREATH
ELF	SACK	

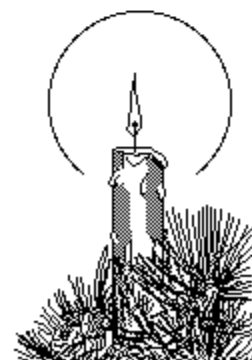
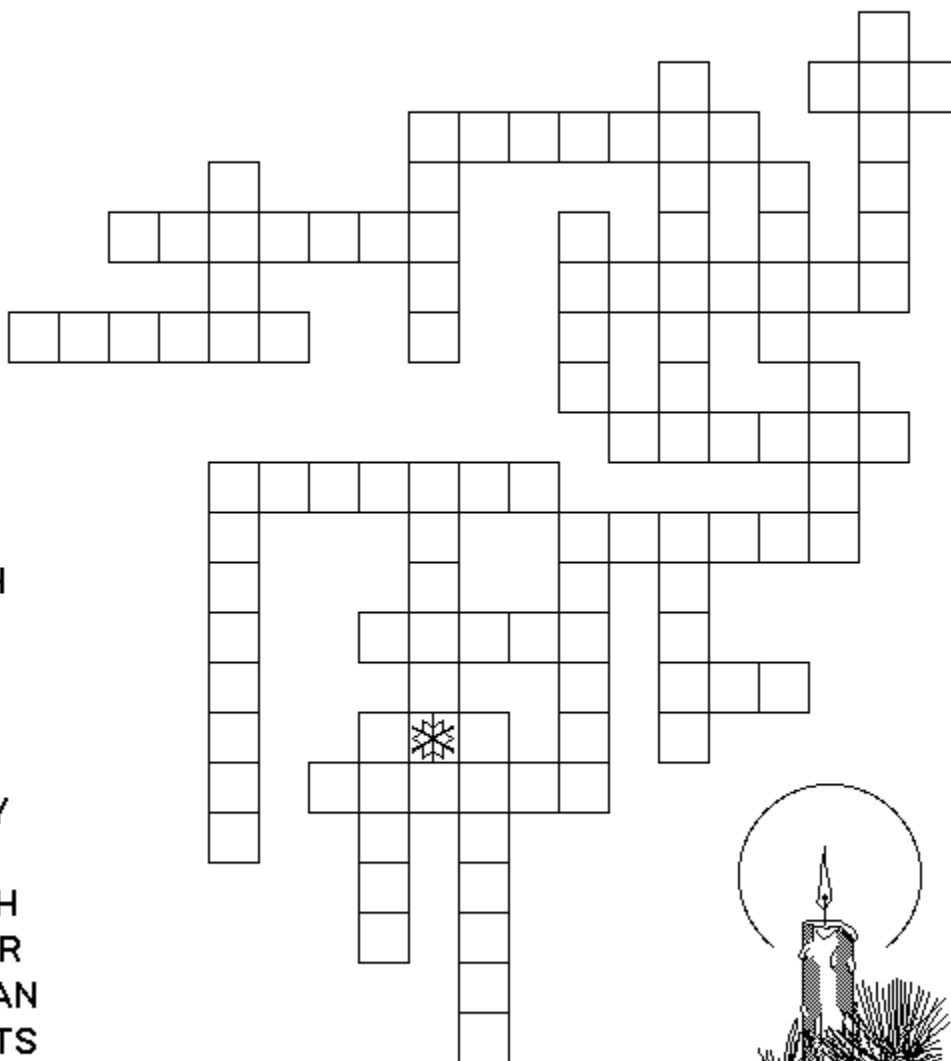
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Free for non-profit use - Happy Holidays!

Christmas Crossword

Make all the words fit into this crossword.
Each word is only used once.

ELF
TOY
GIFT
BELL
TREE
STAR
STAR
SANTA
COMET
CUPID
VIXEN
CANDY
FROSTY
WREATH
DASHER
DONNER
SLEIGH
DANCER
CHIMNEY
BLITZEN
RUDOLPH
PRANCER
SNOWMAN
PRESENTS
REINDEER



**Matt
K3MK**

**Paul
KF7GYE**

**Darryl
K7REW**

**Bill
KD7MIA**



**Mark Austin Lisa Kevin Tammy
K7MCH N2CAT KE7BKP KD7HVE KD7MIB**

Thank-you to everyone that showed up for our Christmas Party!
We sure had a good turn out and it was a lot of fun
to see so many of our club members!



I have been asked to mention another upcoming Hamfest and
Arizona State Convention that is going to be February 17th and 18th.
The flier will be attached.

Please don't forget about the Hamfest mentioned last month for Palm Springs.
I will attach the flier for that one also if anybody is interested.

If we advertise for these other clubs, they will in turn,
advertise for us when we have our HamFest!



Items for Sale or Trade

If you have an item for sale or trade that you would like to list here
please email me at ke7bkp@k7mpr.net

Be sure to include description, picture, price and contact info!

Do you know of a club member that needs some get well wishes?

How about someone with a birthday coming up and

you'd like to announce it in the newsletter?

How about a special announcement?



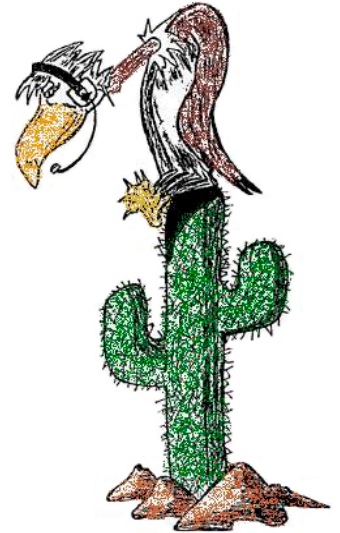
Do you have a cool photo (ham radio related) or some
soap box comments to share with other club members?

Why not consider submitting an article for
the Newsletter. We're always looking for material for
the Newsletter and feedback from club members goes
a long way towards keeping the Newsletter interesting
as well as stamping the club "personality" on our
monthly publication. Email me at ke7bkp@k7mpr.net

2012 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention

8th Annual

Yuma Hamfest & Arizona State Convention Yuma, Arizona Feb. 17 & 18, 2012



Yuma County Fairgrounds
2520 East 32nd Street, Yuma, Arizona

www.yumahamfest.org

Check the Website for Additional Information
and a Current Schedule of Activities and Seminars

Gates Open for Camping Thursday, 2 pm Vendor Setup Friday, 7 am - Noon	Event Hours Friday, Noon - 5 pm Saturday, 8 am - 5 pm	Buzzard BBQ & Grand Prize Drawing Saturday Night 6:00 - 8:00 pm
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**Vendors & Exhibitors
Consignment Sales
License Testing
Hourly Door Prizes
On-site RV Camping
Famous Buzzard BBQ
ARRL Forum
\$5.00 Admission**

**Tailgating (Swap Meet)
Full Seminar Schedule
DXCC Card Checking
Grand Prizes worth \$10K
Emergency Preparedness
iPad 2 Admission Prize
Hospitality Area
Antenna Clinic & T-Hunt**

Hamfest Talk-In Frequency: 146.840 (-) PL 88.5 Hz

Email Contact: info@yumahamfest.org



We are proud to have the Amateur Radio
Council of Arizona (ARCA) as a sponsor of
our event.

The Yuma Hamfest is an American Radio
Relay League (ARRL) sanctioned event.



Presented by the Yuma Amateur Radio Hamfest Organization

Plan on attending...

ARRL Sanctioned:

PALM SPRINGS HAMFEST January 28

Over 25 Commercial Vendors such as HRO, CQ Magazine and Manufacturers like Alinco ; large Swap Meet, Consignment sales bring your surplus gear and we'll sell it off for you at our Second Hand Store...Food Concession...How to Demos... guests like Gordon WestLast year over 700 Happy Hams attended come join us under the Palm Trees.....

**..we have a few commercial spaces and lots of swap meet space still available book early..



An official **ARRL** Sanctioned Event

HAMFEST!

for more info

PalmSprings.hamfest@gmail.com



Presented by the
Desert RATS Club

visit our Web Site

<http://www.desertrats.am>

Jan 28, 2012 follow the rat @desertrats.am

Twitter: hamradio

Talkin 146.940- PL 107.2 in Palm Springs or 146.520 on the road
Convoy of RV's from Quartzfest on January 27th led by Gordon West!



Get all the updated information on our Forum <http://desertrats.x.am>

tell your friends & Club about it next meeting or NET night



Event Coordinators Gary Boskovich KD6QLT and Susie Boskovich KD6QVO 760-328-9662 sboskovich@dc.rr.com

RSVP: RV Dry Camping reservations for vendors: sboskovich@dc.rr.com Vendor Set-up time 7:00-9:00 AM

Hotels Nearby check early to get reservations! **LOCATION:** 4193 Matthew Drive, Palm Springs, CA

MAKE this a reunion of on air buddies or Ham Club outing!