

The Noise Floor

NEWS LETTER

Vol. 2 No. 1 March 1996 News Letter of The S.D.A.R.C.
It's time to start planning for our Spring Outting

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SDARC CLUB MEETING MINUTES

March 7Th 1996

President Cooper Abrams (KC7DUC) called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM at the China City restruant in Price, UT. He had all of us introduce ourselves.

Minutes were read from the February meeting and treasurers report was given, We have \$1,412.10 in our account. Jim Anderson made a motion to accept the minutes and treasurers report and Alan Orton seconded.

Old Bussiness

Cooper asked if it was to late to send the Sheriff of Emery County a thank you note for allowing us to use the Snow mobiles to get to Bruin Peek, We said it was not too late and it would be taken care of A.S.A.P.

Expenditures:

Post office Box fee in Castle Dale \$9.00 Stamps for the last news letter \$20.16 Cellular Phone Bill for autopatch \$40.47 (This was for Dec. Thru Feb.)

Cooper asked about when we could start the project on Star Point? Bret informed us that it would be a summer project as the Snow clears.

We talked about the release forms for the Photographs for the Buckmasters CD Rom offer and Bret had some printed and passed around to the members to sign, we will also do pictures again as we'll do a good group Photo at one of our club meetings this spring.

There were several People who asked why they didn't receive our last News Letter and we explained that our mailing list came from our Club Roster and the stamps were purchased from our club dues, so anyone wishing to receive a news letter should pay their yearly dues to keep or get their name on the mailing list.

New Business

Alan Orton received a letter from the Saint Patty's day parade asking for help from the club to set up the parade on March 16th, He will find out more information and let us know if possible.

Royce H. told us about the race being held in Moab the same weekend as the Saint Patty's parade and they need help if any one would like to go to Moab and help out.

Gary S. brought up the fact that the club is often looking for used equipment and parts, He told us about the Ham Trader that he thought would be nice for the club to have access to. There is a possibility that some of our club members already have subscriptions to this Bi-monthly publication, we will check and see if it could be made available for club access.

Jim A. and Bret M. discussed what was happening with the remotes and how things have been working.

Rob told us that he had a place for the 147.08 repeater at point of the mountain that would be linked back to 145.310, he had talked to John Lloyd and Brent Thomas about the Idea and both seemed positive.

Ryan asked if the link to Utah County had been scrapped because of the way the discussion and minutes were read from last month. Bret told him that we still intend to make the link how ever we will need to have a meeting with them to organize the project and work out the bugs.

We are going to try to do a work party where everyone can get in and help to get the work that we need done on the Ceder mtn. and Horn mtn. Repeater systems. Bret will try to get the lab at the High School in Castle Dale to do these projects. This should be a fun project for anyone who maybe interested in building and seeing how to build a Repeater.

Jon Temples made a motion to have the Club news repeated at the end of our Tuesday night net's so late comers can catch up on what's happening, all present agreed.

Gary gave a report on the surplus property list that comes over the state computers, they often have equipment available that could be useful to the club for example Snow Mobiles that have to

be borrowed so we can have access to our Mountain tops in the winter, several members have access to this list and they would like to watch for a pair that would be reasonable for the club to purchase, this money would have to be raised separately from the club dues by separate fund raisers.

V.E. Exams

There is going to be a VE test Tuesday March 12 at the Fire station in Price at 7:00 PM, Alan was asked if he could arrange access to the building.

Our next club meeting should be in Emery County if we can find a place to have it, It will be announced.

Alan O. made motion to adjourn Bob K. Seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 there were 47 members and visitors present.

Submitted by Anita Mills Secretary / Treasurer

Local News

We had our VE Test on March 12 1996 and I wish to congratulate the following people and invite them to join our club and to ask our club members to help and support these young people anyway we can :

James P. Horrocks (Jimmy) KB7TTT upgraded to General

Danny Siaperas Codeless Tech.

Jake Ori Jr. Codeless Tech.

Brandon T Davies Codeless Tech.

Kris Ardohain Codeless Tech.

Michael Weaver Codeless Tech.

I would also like to thank all the VE's who helped with the test session and let them know how much I appreciate them, The VE team consisted of:

Bret Mills WX7Y - Contact VE

Jim Brett N7QLO

Ron Kline WD7R

Blain Nelson WB7OJQ

John McCurdy N7TAF

Thanks again, Bret

Internet News

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OGDEN ARC is on the World Wide Web Check it out at:
<http://pages.prodigy.com/D/M/A/DMC91A/oarc.htm>

The ARRL Letter

excerpt from March 8, 1996 (Volume 15, Number 3)

PETITIONS, TELECOMS ACT BEHIND VANITY CALL SIGN DELAY

A lack of FCC action on four Petitions for Reconsideration and a flurry of activity to implement the provisions of the newly signed Telecommunications Act of 1996 are among the factors behind the Commission's recently announced delay in the Amateur Radio vanity call sign program. The FCC has said it would wait at least until mid-year to announce when it plans to open the first gate or gates of the long-awaited program. The FCC had been expected to announce opening dates early this year. The deadline to file comments has expired. Still awaiting FCC action are Petitions for Reconsideration filed last fall by Charnelle H. Summers, W4IJE; David B. Popkin, W2CC; Robert Nelson, on behalf of the Hill Country Amateur Radio Club; and Christine M. Gill, on behalf of the Southern California Repeater and Remote Base Association. In his petition, Summers asks the FCC to amend the vanity call sign rules to permit survivors of Extra Class licensees to get a late parent's call sign without having to upgrade, but only if the applicant has held an Advanced Class license for at least 25 years and the parent had been dead for more than two years. Summers would like to obtain W4AR, the call sign of his late father, who died in 1991. In its Memorandum and Order, the FCC granted a reconsideration request by Popkin to limit relatives to obtaining the call signs of deceased relatives that were of the same or lower operator class held by the applicant. Popkin, in his latest petition, wants the FCC to fine tune the wording of the rules to make it clear that if no call signs on an applicant's list of choices is available, the FCC refund the fee and would not classify the original call sign vacated by the applicant as a vanity call sign requiring a fee for future renewals. He also asks that renewal applications be accepted on the license expiration date, not just prior to the date. The Hill Country Amateur Radio Club of Kerrville, Texas, requests the FCC permit club stations issued licenses after March 24, 1995, to apply for the call sign of a deceased member under Gate 1A.

The club's call sign, KC5OJZ, was issued May 5, 1995. The Southern California Repeater and Remote Base Association petition asserts that in the process of revising the vanity call sign rules, the FCC "unintentionally introduced inequities." The association cites the Commission's denial of an ARRL reconsideration request to limit an applications for a vanity call sign to those available in the applicant's call sign district. The association wants the commission to change the procedures for Gate 1 filings to allow for placing a deceased family member's higher-grade call sign in "reserve" for two years to give an applicant time to upgrade. Both the SCRRBA and Summers expressed concerns that the FCC failed to provide a two-year "upgrade period" as the vanity call sign program commences. FCC vanity call sign application Form 610V is now available, but the FCC will not accept completed forms until it opens the appropriate filing gates. Prospective applicants can get the FCC Form 610V package by writing ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Please include an sase. Form 610V also is available from the FCC via the Internet at <http://www.fcc.gov/Forms/Form610V> or <ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/Form610V/>, or by fax at 202-418-0177. Ask for Form 006108. The FCC's Forms Distribution Center also accepts orders for Form 610V at 800-418-3676.

SUNSPOTS TURN UP MISSING

Keep those low-band antennas up! Solar seer Tad Cook, KT7H, reports solar activity continues to be extremely low, with extended periods of no sunspots at all. "It looks like 1996 will certainly be the year of the quiet sun for cycle 22," said Cook. Current projections show the sunspot minima (ie, numbers of sunspots observed) will occur this year, with the minimum solar flux still a year off. After the minimum, activity should begin to move upward rapidly, and even 10 meters could be exciting again in a few years, he said. Current 80 and 160-meter conditions are good, especially with the quiet geomagnetic conditions we are experiencing. Conditions on the higher bands should improve soon because of seasonal variations as we head into spring, and not because of solar activity. Flux levels should be back up to 75 by the third week of March, after leveling off around 70 earlier in the month. Quiet geomagnetic conditions should prevail, but some moderate disturbances are possible March 10, 11 and 23.



Guess who???