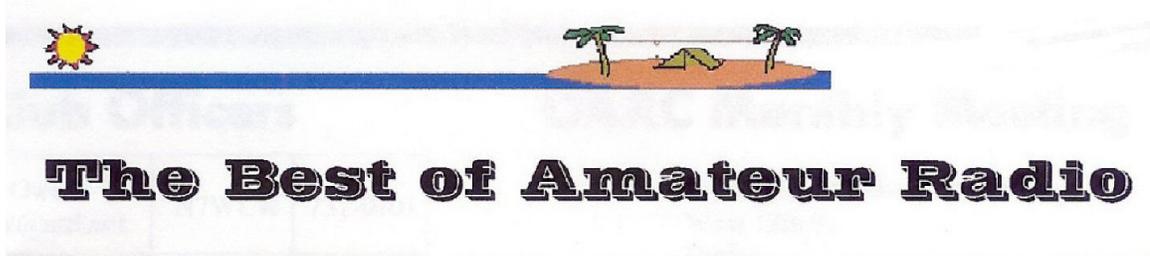




# WATTS NEWS



*Welcome to the OARC e-Magazine*

[www.OgdenArc.org](http://www.OgdenArc.org)

**JANUARY 2009**

Next Club Meeting

**3rd Saturday January 17, 2009**

**Topic: Digital TV Conversion** by Aaron Farr W7HJK



Kent Gardner WA7AHY  
President



Justin Doxford KE7ROQ  
Vice President



Maggi Campbell N7HCP  
Secretary



Jeff Anderson KD7PAW  
Treasurer



Mike Webster N9NZ  
Director #1



Beth Harrington KE7ELF  
Director #2



Val Campbell K7HCP  
Webmaster/NL Editor

# PREVIOUS CLUB MEETINGS

3rd Saturday December 20, 2008

## OGDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - FAMILY DINNER PARTY

PLACE: OLD CHINA BUFFET

LOCATION: 3460 WASHINGTON BLVD  
OGDEN, UTAH 84401

### December Door Prize Winners

- \$100 winner = Mike Petz W7DNI
- ARRL Handbook = Beth Harrington KE7ELF
- SWR meter = Ray White K7RFW
- Free \$10 Dinner for 5 lucky winners

Everyone present won a door prize except the following 3 unlucky ones:

- K7HCP
- KE7IEW
- Lauralee Gardner

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## NEXT CLUB MEETING

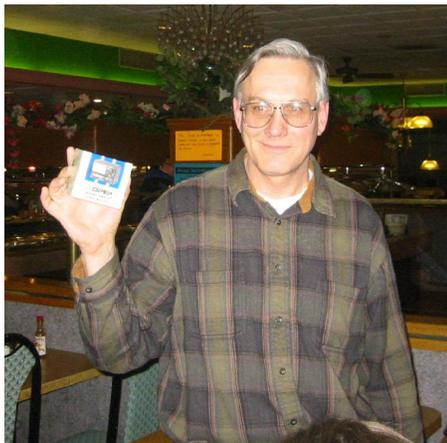
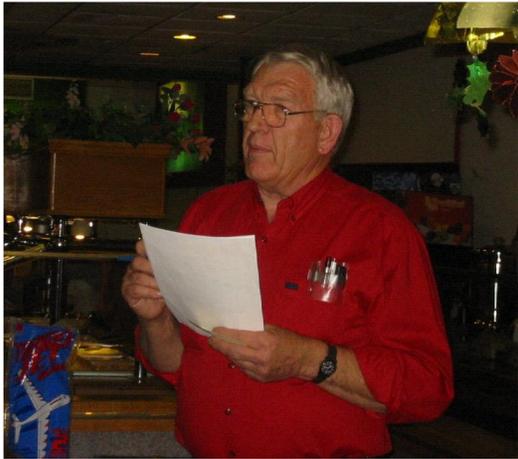
**When:** 3rd Saturday January 17, 2009

**Time:** 9:00 AM

**Location:** Riverdale Fire Station

**Topic:** Digital TV Conversion by Aaron Farr W7HJK

**Talk-in:** -146.90 (pl=123)



# CLUB BUSINESS

## NEXT WEBER CO VE TEST SESSION

- When: **1st Wed Feb 04, 2009**
  - Time: **05:00 PM**
  - Location: **WEBER CENTER - OGDEN, UT 84401**  
**2380 Washington Blvd, Room # 112**
  - Cost: **\$ 15.00**
  - *Walk-ins allowed*
  - Contact VE Liaison: **Mary Hazard** [w7ue@arrl.net](mailto:w7ue@arrl.net)  
(801-430-0306)
- 

## THE BARBER DONATION

Carlton F Barber Jr (W7ACB) sk

OARC Donated \$200 to Salvation Army  
on December 11, 2008 in Barber's behalf.

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## REPEATER UPDATE

There is no new news on the condition of the Mt Ogden 146.82 (2 meter). It is still in need of repair. The antenna/feed line has developed a problem that prevents the repeater from operating to capacity. It can be heard in some parts of the valley on a good day but its capacity is greatly diminished. The 70 cm repeater which is located at the same location on top of Mt Ogden peak above Snow Basin is still operating as it should. It is still in Lance Peterson's of Weber County Emergency Services hands to provide the new antenna and transportation to the top of Mt Ogden peak. I'll bet it's quite cold up there right now. Anyone want to volunteer to help?

# TECHNICAL TIDBIT

## COPASETIC FLOW

Ham Radio Practice Exams from KDoFNR



[Technician](#) | [General](#) | [Extra](#)

Within the practice tests, online study resources, (Wikipedia, NASA, ARRL, etc...), are provided for many of the questions. The list of resources available for each question is constantly growing because users can add their own favorite links to the study materials. Users can also track their test scores over time and see which sub elements are giving them the most trouble. You can see all the practice tests at:

<http://copaseticflow.blogspot.com/>

### Editors Note:

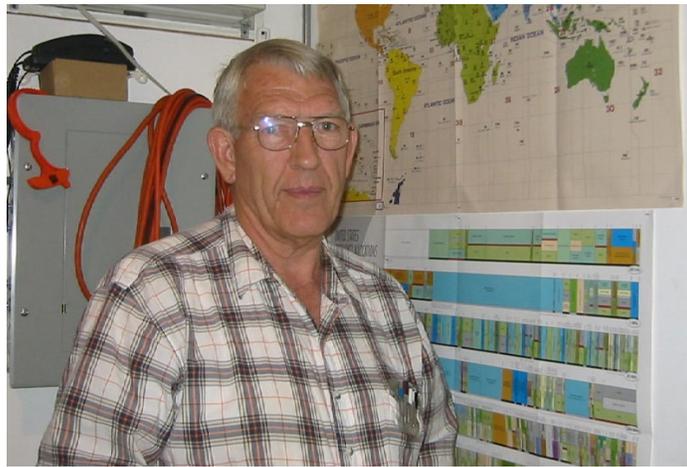
Our club secretary Maggi N7HCP has been practicing for her General Class License test using this software recently. But after several weeks of using the Copasetic Flow site she asked if there wasn't some other site that offered the same service. She was less than thrilled with various quirks of the functionality of this one. It was suggested that QRZ.com offered a similar service which Maggi tried. She is glad to report that she loves it. Give it a try at:

[QRZ.COM - QRZ Ham Radio Practice Tests](#)



Maggi N7HCP

## FROM THE PRESIDENTS SHACK



Kent Gardner WA7AHY

January 2009

The New Year is upon us. My birthday has come and gone, my car tires aren't much good in the snow and my TV antenna is about to be made obsolete, but I saved a bundle of money on my two digital TV converter boxes by getting my government coupons ordered and received before the Feds ran out of money.

By getting my two coupons which is the maximum that you can receive under the program, I saved \$80.00. The converters were \$49.87 each and the coupons were for \$40.00 each, so I paid only \$19.87 for the both of them.

By attending the Davis and Ogden club's joint swap-meet last year, I was also able to get in on a little-known secret. Another ham had brought his converter setup with a small receiver and was demonstrating it. He told us that we should get converters with a "pass-through" capability. The idea being that some low power TV stations did not have to change to all digital. So, if all the high power stations made the switch and we still wanted to watch a low power station, the pass through switch would allow both.

To top things off, I am on Dish Network so I don't need the converters at all. My ham shack though is where my TV antenna with rotator is. I had planned to do some TV DXing...in the old days I have received WBAY-TV Channel 3 in Green Bay, Wisconsin and CWBT-TV Winnipeg, Canada...but now those days are about over. Digital signals have a shadow effect, may be moving to UHF, etc.

What I am getting to, is that we all need to attend our upcoming club meeting. Aaron Farr, W7HJK, will be on hand to answer our questions about the government mandated changeover from analog to digital television. He has a solid background in broadcast TV and Radio and will walk us through some of the details that have been nagging us as we see the date approaching rapidly. The date, as it stands now, is Tuesday 17 February 2009. There are some rumblings that the new president will delay this to allow for the converter program to be properly funded. We will have to wait and see. I hope to see you all at the meeting at the Riverdale Fire Station at 9:00 AM Saturday 17 January. I have confirmed with them that construction has been completed and it is okay for us to meet there again.

TNX Kent, WA7AHY

## NEWS ARTICLES



### EMERGING HAM TECHNOLOGY: A TRANSMITTER FROM A CFL

How would you like to build a transmitter from the remains of one of those compact fluorescent light bulbs? Well one ham has and his work is fast becoming the talk of the Internet. Graham Kemp VK4BB, is here with the details:

Turn a 'low energy' light bulb into an 80m transmitter!

'Low energy' light bulbs are renowned for causing radio interference but they can be put to good use. A website describes how to turn one into a transmitter for the Amateur Radio 80m band.

Michael Rainey, AA1TJA's website describes how to convert a compact fluorescent lamp -- in this case a TriMax Electronic Fluorescent Lamp -- into a 1.5 Watt QRP CW transmitter for 3.5 MHz. Indeed, Michael goes on to say "a perfectly serviceable transmitter may be constructed!

The only additional components required were the quartz crystal, and four of the five components needed for the output low-pass filter. The resulting transmitter produces up to 1.5 Watts on 80m.

More information is on Michael's Website.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Graham Kemp, VK4BB, reporting from Brisbane, Australia.



**One Mode Down, Two to Go! (Jan 8, 2009) --** With the advent of the ARRL's Triple Play Award, on-air participation has reached a level of excitement not seen in recent years.

This new, exciting award is available to all amateurs who confirm contacts with each of the 50 states using three modes for each state: CW, phone and RTTY/digital. All 150 contacts must be made on or after the January 1, 2009 and must be confirmed via Logbook of The World (LoTW).

All bands -- with the exception of 60 meters -- may be used in pursuit of the Triple Play Award.

# EDITORIAL

By Dan Romanchik KB6NU

All I Want for Christmas Is....

When I was a kid, we had an album (remember records on vinyl?) that had a bunch of Christmas songs for kids. The song I remember most goes:

All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth, My two front teeth, my two front teeth.

Gee, if I could only have my two front teeth, Then I could wish you Merry Chrith-math (sang with a lisp).

Seeing as how I've had my two front teeth for nearly 50 years now, and I pretty much have everything I want, I got to thinking about what I want for ham radio for Christmas this year. Here's what I've come up with so far. In no particular order, I want:

- MORE SUNSPOTS!
- the median age for ham radio operators to actually decrease this year. This means not only recruiting kids, but also younger adults.
- the pessimists who are continually talking down ham radio to find new joy in the hobby and begin working to make it great.
- the FCC to appoint someone as effective as Riley Hollingsworth to take over as the enforcer of the amateur radio service regulations.
- the FCC to pay a little more attention to amateur radio regulations and not treat them as an afterthought.
- the silliness on 75m phone and 14.275 MHz to go QRT.
- the ARRL to work harder on making itself truly the "national association for amateur radio" and on increasing the percentage of licensed hams that are ARRL members.
- to be able to brag about all of ham radio's "purposes," not only providing emergency and public service communications. According to Part 97, these are:
  - \* advancing the state of the radio art;
  - \* improving our technical and operating skills;
  - \* expanding the number of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts; and
  - \* enhancing international goodwill.
- ham radio clubs to grow and thrive even in these tough economic times.

When I asked this question on Twitter, I got a couple of answers that were versions of a couple of wishes above, but I also got a few more:

- WORMT wants "all of us to get on the air more and act as good ambassadors for the hobby," and
- NT7S wants the hearts of ham grinchies to grow a couple of sizes.
- N!WBV wants redesigns for most ham radio websites.

I pretty much agree with all three. Happy New Year!

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When not waiting for Santa to decided if he's been naughty or nice, Dan, KB6NU, teaches ham classes and blogs about ham radio ([www.kb6nu.com](http://www.kb6nu.com))

## FEATURE ARTICLE



Bob Eighmie, Miami Herald | MCT

### Top 25 things vanishing from America:

#### #16 -- Ham radio

[Tom Barlow](#)

Jul 17th 2008 at 11:00AM

*This series explores aspects of America that may soon be just a memory -- some to be missed, some gladly left behind. From the least impactful to the most, here are 25 bits of vanishing America.*

An easy way to prolong a disaster is to have the respondents use dozens of different, incompatible communications systems, or operate them with no protocol. Yes, I'm thinking about Katrina. I'm also thinking about a vanishing American treasure, the [amateur radio operator](#). In the past five years alone, the number of people holding active licenses [has dropped by 50,000](#), even though Morse Code is not longer a requirement.

Many think of a ham radio operator as a tubes-and-wires geek, and there is a certain truth to that stereotype, although today's ham is more likely to be computer-savvy and involved in cutting-edge technologies. However, from my personal experience, I know them to be among our nation's best trained and most capable respondents to disasters. In the hands of the amateur radio volunteers, disaster communications become orderly and prioritized, as they employ the protocols and training received in gaining their licenses. As director of one of the nation's largest week-long bicycle tours, I watched the ham community deal with countless challenges with imagination and expertise, whether it was assembling a portable tower and repeater in the field, coordinating emergency medical transport, or organizing the search for a lost child. I saw them sit for countless hours patiently looking out for the safety of thousands of people that would never know of their efforts.

As cell phones and the Internet siphon off much of what once attracted people to amateur radio, the [nation's ham radio population is graying rapidly](#). Given the cash value of the radio bands allocated to amateur radio, there will be [relentless pressure on the government to take back those bands](#) so they can be sold. All these elements speak to a long, slow diminishment of a pastime that began with Marconi.

When amateur radio as we know it disappears, it won't be the radios we'll miss. We'll miss the operators. 73's to a national treasure.

Tom Barlow, N8NLO

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Next Club Meeting:

**3rd Saturday January 17, 2009**

- The Ogden Amateur Radio Club meetings are usually held on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday** of each month.
- **Time: 9:00 AM**
- **Location: Riverdale Fire Station**  
  
**Topic: Digital TV Conversion**  
**By Aaron Farr W7HJK**
- **Talk-in: -146.90 (pl 123.0)**

Check OARC web site for details

[www.ogdenarc.org](http://www.ogdenarc.org)

- Please invite a friend to join you. You do not have to be a member of the club to participate in our club meetings or activities. We invite all to join us.
- If anyone is interested in doing a presentation on something or just have something unique to show at the meetings.
  - Please get a hold of any of the officers and let us know.

## Next Weber Co VE Test Session:

**1st Wed Feb 04, 2009**

- Exam sessions are held in Ogden every few months, *usually* the first Wednesday in February, June, and October.

**Time: 05:00 PM** *Walk-ins allowed*

**Location:**

**WEBER CENTER**  
**2380 Washington Blvd,**  
**Room # 112**  
**OGDEN, UT 84401**

**Contact: VE Liaison:**

**Mary Hazard** [w7ue@arrl.net](mailto:w7ue@arrl.net) (801-430-0306)

**Cost: \$ 15.00**

Two forms of **ID**, one of which must be a **picture ID**.

For "Upgrades" bring current **license** and a **copy** of current license, and any **CSCE's**

Most **calculators** allowed. Calculator memories must be cleared before use.

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## Club Web Site

Be sure to visit our club web site.

- [www.OgdenARC.org](http://www.OgdenARC.org)

Club membership is open to anyone interested in Amateur Radio. You do not need an amateur license to join us. Dues are used to operate the club, field day activities, and repeater equipment maintenance.

You do not need to join the club to participate with us.

## Club Call Sign

Listen to the club repeaters for this very familiar CW ID. You do know Morse Code don't you?

- **W7SU**

ARRL Field Day is held on the last full weekend of June every year.

Location may vary each year so watch this notice for details as time draws near.

See you there.

OARC REPEATERS			
FREQ	CLUB	TONE	LOCATION
146.820-	OARC	123.0	Mt Ogden
448.600-	OARC	123.0	Mt Ogden
146.900-	OARC "Talk-in"	123.0	Little Mtn (w/auto patch)
448.575-	OARC	100.0	Little Mtn (w/auto patch)

OTHER AREA REPEATERS			
FREQ	CLUB	TONE	LOCATION
146.620-	UARC	none	Farnsworth Pk
147.120+	UARC	100.0	Farnsworth Pk
449.100-	UARC	146.2	Farnsworth Pk
449.500-	UARC	100.0	Farnsworth Pk
ATV	UARC	Ch-58	Farnsworth Pk
147.040+	DCARC	123.0	Antelope Isl
447.200-	DCARC	127.3	Antelope Isl
449.925-	DCARC	100.0	No Salt Lake
145.290-	UBET	123.0	Brigham City
145.430-	UBET	123.0	Thiokol
448.300-	UBET	123.0	Thiokol
146.640-	BARC	none	Logan
146.720-	BARC	103.5	Mt Logan
147.260+	BARC	103.5	Promontory Pt
449.625-	BARC	103.5	Mt Logan
145.250-	WSU	123.0	* coming soon
449.250-	WSU	123.0	* coming soon
145.490-	K7HEN	123.0	Promontory Pt
146.920-	N7TOP	123.0	Promontory Pt
449.775-	N7TOP	123.0	Promontory Pt
448.825-	IRLP/Echo	123.0	Clearfield City
449.950-	IRLP	123.0	Clearfield City
449.425-	IRLP	100.0	Nelson Peak
147.360+	Summit County	100.0	Lewis Peak

**AREA CLUB MEETINGS & WEB SITES**

CLUB	WEB SITE	DATE/TIME	LOCATION
Ogden ARC	<a href="http://ogdenarc.org">ogdenarc.org</a>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday 09:00 am	Check OARC web site ...
WC ARES	<a href="http://ogdenarc.org/join.html#ares">ogdenarc.org/join.html#ares</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday 06:30 pm	Weber Co. Library Ogden Utah
WC Sheriff Comm-O		1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday 09:00 am	Weber Co. Sheriff Complex West 12 <sup>th</sup> Street Ogden Utah
Barc	<a href="http://barconline.org">barconline.org</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday 10:00 am	Cache Co. Sheriffs Complex 200 North 1400 West Logan Ut
CSERG	<a href="http://dcarc.net/ares.htm/">dcarc.net/ares.htm/</a>	Last Wednesday 8:30pm	Clearfield City Hall Clearfield Utah
Dcarc	<a href="http://dcarc.net">dcarc.net</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday 10:00 am	Davis Co. Sheriff Complex Farmington Utah
NU Ares	<a href="http://home.comcast.net/~noutares/">home.comcast.net/~noutares/</a>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 7:00 pm	Cache Co. Sheriff Office Logan Utah
Uarc	<a href="http://xmission.com/~uarc/">xmission.com/~uarc/</a>	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday 7:30 pm	UofU EMC Bldg Room 101 Salt Lake City Utah
Ubet	<a href="http://27meg.com/~k7ub/">27meg.com/~k7ub/</a>	4th Thursday 6:30 pm	BE-Thiokol: 24 East 100 South Brigham City Utah
Utah DX Association	<a href="http://udxa.org">udxa.org</a>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday check web page for details	check web page for details Salt Lake City area
UvhfS	<a href="http://ussc.com/~uvhfs/">ussc.com/~uvhfs/</a>	Each Tuesday 8:00 pm (refer to web site)	Weekly 2 meter net (no eye ball meetings)
WD Arc	<a href="http://westdesertarc.org/">westdesertarc.org/</a>	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday 7:00 pm	Tooele County Courthouse Tooele Utah
WsuArc	<a href="http://arcweber.edu">arcweber.edu</a>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday 5:30 pm	WSU Blding #4 Room ? Ogden Utah

## LOCAL AREA NETS

DATE	CLUB	FREQ
Daily @ 12:30 PM mt	Utah Beehive net HF	7.272 Mhz <b>HF LSB</b>
Daily @ 07:30 PM mt	Utah Code net HF	3.570 Mhz <b>HF CW</b>
Daily @ 02:00 UTC	Utah Farm net HF	3.937 Mhz <b>HF LSB</b>
Sunday @ 8:45 AM	Ogden Old Timers HF net	7.193 Mhz <b>HF LSB</b>
Sunday @ 7:30 PM	UBET ARC	145.430 - 123.0 (training net)
Sunday @ 8:30 PM	SATERN Net	145.900 - 123.0
Sunday @ 9:00 PM	Morgan Co Net	147.060 = simplex
Sunday @ 9:00 PM	UARC Info net	146.620- no PL tone required
Monday @ 9:00 PM	2-meter SSB net	144.250 Mhz <b>2-meter USB</b>
<b>Tuesday @ 8:00 PM</b>	<b>Weber ARES</b>	<b>448.600 - 123.0</b>
Tuesday @ 8:00 PM	VHF Society Swap	147.120 + 100.0
Tuesday @ 9:00 PM	Bridgerland ARC	147.260 + 103.5
Wednesday @ 8:00 PM	UBET ARC	145.290-, 145.430-, 448.300- (all 123.0)
Wednesday @ 8:30 PM	CSERG	145.770 simplex
Wednesday @ 9:00 PM	No. Utah 10m HF net	28.313 Mhz <b>HF USB</b>
Wednesday @ 9:00 PM	6-meter SSB net	50.125 Mhz <b>6-meter USB</b>
Thursday @ 6:30 PM	Davis Co Elmers Net	147.040 + 123.0 <b>New Hams</b>
Thursday @ 7:00 PM	Davis ARES	147.420 = simplex
Thursday @ 8:00 PM	Weber State ARC	146.820 - 123.0 (coming soon)
Thursday @ 8:00PM	RACES State VHF	145.490 - 123.0, 146.680 - 123.0 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday - even months only
Thursday @ 9:00PM	Wasatch Back Net	147.360 + 100.0
Saturday @ 8:00AM mst	RACES State HF	3.920 Mhz <b>HF LSB</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday – odd months only
Saturday @ 11:00AM mst	QCWA net HF	7.272 Mhz <b>HF LSB</b>

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*OARC OFFICERS*

President: Kent Gardner WA7AHY  
Vice Pres: Justin Doxford KE7ROQ  
Secretary: Maggi Campbell N7HCP  
Treasurer: Jeff Anderson KD7PAW

Director #1: Mike Webster N9NZ  
Director #2: Beth Harrington  
KE7ELF

*"WATTS NEWS" e-Magazine*

NL Editor: Val Campbell K7HCP

*OTHER CLUB FUNCTIONS*

Webmaster: Val Campbell K7HCP  
Board Advisor: Stan Sjol WOKP  
Past President - Advisor:  
Mike Fullmer KZ7O  
Repeater Engr: Mike Fullmer KZ7O  
VE Liaison: Mary Hazard W7UE

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**73 es cul de W7SU**

[www.OgdenArc.org](http://www.OgdenArc.org)