



# Dixie Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

*"Amateur Radio...When All Else Fails!"*

Dixie Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

August 2007 Edition

## August Club Meeting

7:00 P.M. Wednesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>



The August meeting of the Dixie Amateur Radio Club will be held at 7:00 P.M. on Wednesday, August 15, 2007 at the St. George Community Building which is located on the west side of the south

parking lot of the Aldred (St. George) Senior Citizens Center at 245 North 200 West, St. George. This is a very important meeting to attend. See the President's letter for info on the !

The meeting will begin at 7:00 P.M. Besides Club members, anyone with an interest in learning more about Amateur Radio is invited to attend.

This month's Club meeting is scheduled to have a presentation on alternative energy sources (solar, etc) from small scale to larger scale.

Below is a map to the Community Building. You may also use an interactive Google Map available on the Club's Web Site to locate the meeting place:

<http://www.dixieham.org/meetings.html>



Downtown St. George City

## Volunteer Exam Session

6:00 P.M. Wednesday, August 15, 2007



There will be an ARRL Volunteer Exam Session held at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, August 15, 2007 at the same location as the Club Meeting described earlier.

If you are a person desiring to take your first Amateur Radio test or a currently licensed ham wanting to upgrade this month, please plan on attending. If you are a Volunteer Examiner who would like to help out at a session, please contact please contact V.E. Coordinator Ron Sappington, WI7Z, via e-mail: [sappin\\_r@infowest.com](mailto:sappin_r@infowest.com) or telephone (435) 673-4552; or Board Member Dan Farwell, W8EQA, via e-mail: [w8eqa@infowest.com](mailto:w8eqa@infowest.com) or telephone at (435) 668-1609.

## President's Message



Club President Hal Whiting, KI2U

It has been a long hot spring and summer so far. It became much hotter when the power went out. I was pleasantly surprised at the number of operators who got on their radios giving reports as to outages and offering communications help as needed. It is also a complement to the local law enforcement agencies and utilities that the power outages were quickly restored and traffic control problems were minimized. The Washington County ARES did a roll call and had approximately 15 members check in. I know there are many who are anxious to help out in an emergency and I am grateful for that.

We are seeing an evolutionary process in disaster and emergency management. Systems are made redundant. Personnel are being trained in emergency management. In short, our community is being made into a more responsive and safer place to live. The other side to this is the amateur radio community. Our roles are changing also. The ARES mission is to support our served agencies. We are activated when they need us. The phrase, "when all else fails", can be a rather sobering thought. By history we have probably not seen that level of disaster in our local area. The closest I recall was when the telephone/internet lines were damaged and communications failed and that is a disaster limited in scope.

How many went down to buy some ice or gasoline during the power outage? Pumps don't run well without electricity. Debit and credit card machines don't work well without power either. Thankfully my evaporative air conditioner and generator worked well together. Our house was a tolerable

temperature. How many had cordless phones in their house that did not work? Maybe not a bad idea to keep one of those old phones that have a wire connected to them in an accessible location in the house. I was thinking of all the things I would not be able to do without electricity. I needed gas for my car to go to work...guess it would be vacation time. Forget about the cold shower. I told the kids to keep the refrigerator door closed. I held off hooking the refrigerator up to the generator. That was planned for the following morning. I don't remember how many times I walked into a room and by habit flipped the light switch only to be reminded that it requires electricity also. This was only a 4 hour event. I can't begin to imagine being without electricity for days or weeks.

I am going to get some of those LED strip lights...single units just don't spread the light out enough.

We continue to train, practice, learn and adapt. Will it be enough. What level of preparedness are we at, collectively and individually? If we are called out tomorrow for whatever event or disaster response, will be able to support the agency in need? It is anticipated that we will be participating in the county-wide and possibly the Public Health Department exercises in September. What we do and show in these events may well show us our future involvement in local emergencies. Everything we do in ARES is practice for the time of disaster. Let's hope it doesn't come to that, but let us be prepared in case it does.

Now for my annual or biannual blurb on SSB. If you are a technician class operator or above you can get involved in 2 meter SSB. There have been a few starts at organizing a 2m SSB net in the local area. It is a viable means of communications especially if repeaters fail. You can communicate substantially farther with it than using your 2m FM radio. It can open the window to some communications beyond the local areas without needing a

General or Extra license. If you are interested in this form of communications, get with one of the club leaders, we will be glad to help.

Thanks for all the board members efforts to draft the revised bylaws and constitution. It took a significant amount of effort and time to prepare, revise, and reproduce the final product. Thanks to all of the club members who supported the changes and provided inputs over time regarding the need for the changes. Thanks again also to the Field Day participants and those who went the extra mile in providing food, shelter and etc., so it could be the enjoyment that it was!!

The August DARC meeting is scheduled to have a presentation on alternative energy (solar, etc) from small scale to larger scale. See you there!!

73,  
Hal Whiting, KI2U  
Dixie Amateur Radio Club President, 2007

## Join the Club For the First Time or Renew your Membership!

Club membership dues for 2007 are being solicited. Dues (currently) are \$15.00 per member and \$20.00 per family for multiple ham families. As a matter of fact, you do not have to be a licensed Amateur Operator to join the club. You just need to have an interest in Amateur Radio.

Check the Club's Membership Roster to see that you are shown as current. If you are not listed, you may have simply procrastinated. Please show support for your club and join. We will even accept your tardy dues for 2006 if you feel the slightest sense of guilt. If you know you were negligent in 2006, you are on the honor system.

To pay your membership dues, please make a check or money order payable to "DARC" and bring it to the meeting or mail it to the club address:

**Dixie Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 422  
Santa Clara, UT 84765**

The current "Membership Roster" is found on the Club Web Site.

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## Join the ARRL!



Founded in 1914, the 150,000-member ARRL - *The National Association for Amateur Radio* - is the national association for Amateur Radio in the USA. Other countries also have their own national associations.

The ARRL not only reflects the commitment and many enthusiasms of American hams, but also provides leadership as the voice of Amateur Radio in the USA, whether in dealings with the Federal Communications Commission, the World Administrative Radio Conference, the International Amateur Radio Union, or with the general public.

The ARRL is the primary source of information about what is going on in the ham radio world. It provides books, news, support and information for individuals and clubs, special operating events, all sorts of continuing education classes and other benefits for its members.

Being a member of the ARRL is important for hams! Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is welcome to join the American Radio Relay League. Please see this link to join the ARRL: <http://www.arrl.org/join.html>

## Club Members Adopt Amended Constitution and Bylaws



At the regularly scheduled July 18, 2007 General Club Meeting of the Dixie Amateur Radio Club, Inc. a vote of the general membership in attendance took place on whether or not to amend the existing Constitution and Bylaws of the Club,

thus repealing them and ratifying a new Constitution and Bylaws. The vote, by written ballot, was unanimous to adopt the proposed Constitution and Bylaws. These revised documents took effect at 12:01 a.m. July 19, 2007.

Since the beginning of the year, the Club Board has worked diligently to draft a proposed new Club Constitution and Bylaws. The motivation for this was the fact that our Club is now incorporated as an IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit and the Board determined there were quite a few changes that were necessary to modernize these documents.

These two documents were presented in "Draft" format to the general Club membership at the June Club meeting. Solicitation was made to members to review these documents and comment back to the Board up and until the July Club meeting. The documents were available publicly on the Club web site. The Club received no comments from the general membership during that 30 day comment period.

Please see the "Club Constitution" and "Club Bylaws" links in the Navigation area of the Club web site to view these important Club documents.

## Club Member Profile: Ken Forshee, KE7DZI



As I Recall when I was around 9 years old, I received a crystal radio kit for Christmas. I was totally fascinated that you could pick up music from the air yet you couldn't see it

or feel it. About a mile from our house was the Studio and tower for KOVO Radio Station and I became friends with one of the engineers. When he was on duty he would explain to me what he was doing and why. We then moved across town and it was too far away, so no more radio.

In High School the speech and dramatic teacher took me under his wing and I made all the recording on 12" wax discs. By my senior year I was doing sound, and stage lighting for all school productions.

In 1943 Along came high school graduation and also induction into the service. Off to the war with lots of testing to ascertain where to place me. I wound up in Camp Van Dorn Mississippi in the 63rd Infantry Division, 255th Regiment, Anti Tank Company as a radio operator. I was then sent to Fort Benning, Ga. To a Army Signal Corp school and learned minor radio repair, Morse Code (25 wpm), radio's and switch Boards.

The Company was sent to New York City and we boarded a Liberty Ship. Fourteen days later we landed in Marseille France. Dec. 7th 1944. After getting our equipment operational we headed north towards the front line. Our Company was strafed a few times by the Luftwaffe. We were on line for 125 days, And lost half of our company at Petite Aachen

(received a Bronze star) and was finally relieved on April 29, 1945, 9 days before V.E. day. We were only 13 miles from Berlin.

Some time in all this I was back at regiment getting some radio tubes I needed when General George Patton, showed up Silver Pistols and all, and we were all making ourselves scarce. He yelled at me. "Sgt" and as I turned around I was wearing a jacket with a T under the Sgt. Stripes. And when he saw that he said "never mind" & "I" left. Had it been otherwise I would have been in a fox hole with a rifle. After I had enough points I was sent home, and arrived in New York and was discharged and came home to Provo, Utah.

I went to BYU on G.I. Bill and with two other students built the first FM Transmitter for KBYU and was the engineer on duty from 6 to 10 pm on Monday, Wednesday, Friday.

I was hired by Provo City, as a policeman on July 1, 1948 and retired August 1, 1975, having served as Lieutenant in charge of the Criminal Investigation Division for the last 12 years.

I received my first ham licence in 1970 (KB7VDC). Upon coming to Washington County in 1989 to retire, I discovered a very active ham community and retested and became KE7DZI.

I enjoy community service as a volunteer and presently am serving as Secretary of Dixie Amateur Radio Club.

#### **EDITORS NOTE:**

We need similar profiles of other members of the Club . Please tell us something about yourselves. Please e-mail your story or at least acknowledge your willingness to be profiled in a future edition of the Newsletter to the Editor at: [w7drc@arrl.net](mailto:w7drc@arrl.net).

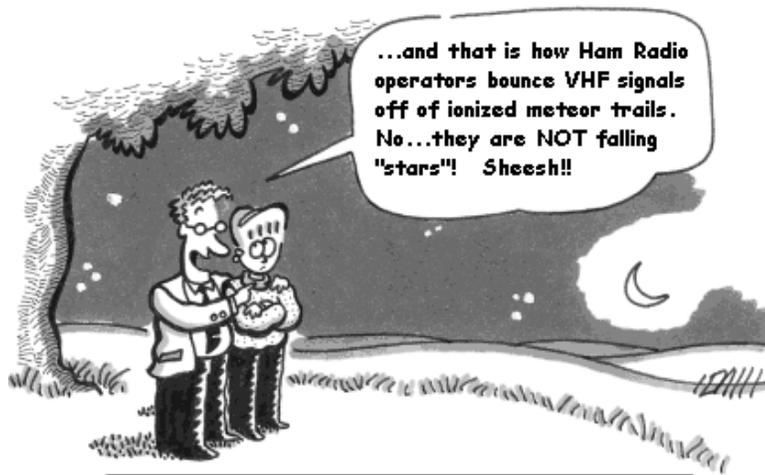
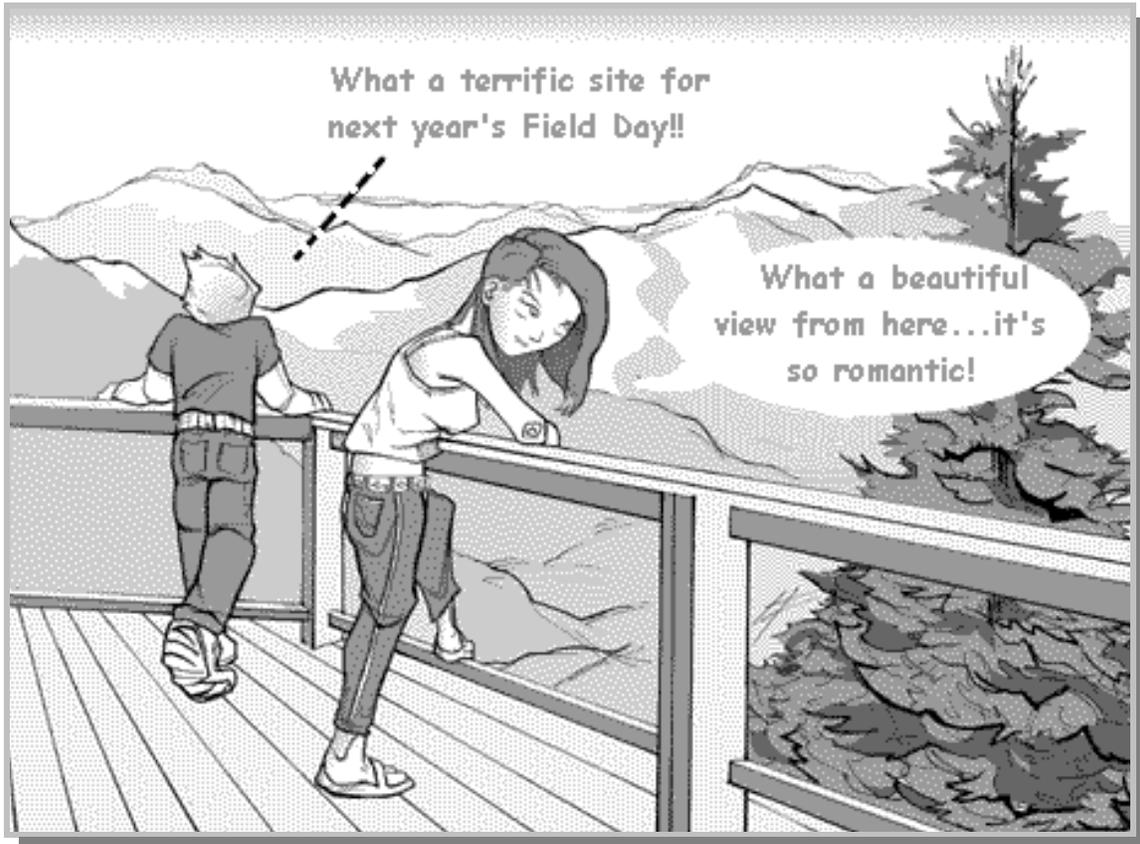
## About Our Club

The Dixie Amateur Radio Club (DARC) is a non-profit [IRS 501(c)(3)] association of Amateur Radio operators, also known as "ham radio" operators, in southwestern Utah. DARC is affiliated with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), the National Association for Amateur Radio. Please use the navigation links below to explore our website. Amateur Radio operators are federally licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to provide a radio service having a fundamental purpose as expressed in the following principles:

- (a) *Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.*
- (b) *Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.*
- (c) *Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communications and technical phases of the art.*
- (d) *Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.*
- (e) *Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.*

Members of the Dixie Amateur Radio Club provide voluntary public service radio communications throughout the area for activities such as the annual St. George Marathon and the Huntsman World Senior Games. Amateur Radio operators also maintain a readiness to provide emergency communications locally, regionally and world-wide in the event of a natural disaster or other calamity.

### Ham Radio Operators Typically Think on Different Wavelengths



Why Radio Amateurs often strike out.