



Dixie Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

"Amateur Radio...

...When All Else Fails!"

Dixie Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

March 2008 Edition

March Club Meeting

7:00 P.M. Wednesday, March 19th



The next scheduled meeting of the Dixie Amateur Radio Club will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19, 2008.

The meeting will be held 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.

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

This month's Club meeting agenda includes a tutorial and demonstration on IRLP (Internet Radio Linking Project) by Club President Ric Wayman, K7DLX. Another presentation on the upcoming 7th Area QSO Party will be shown. Also, Field Day is coming up in June. An initial discussion on this annual operating event will take place.

Volunteer Exam Session

6:00 P.M. Wednesday, March 19, 2008



There will be an ARRL Volunteer Exam Session held at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, March 19, 2008 at the same location as the regular 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 the Club's V.E. Liaison Gary Zabriskie, N7ARE, via e-mail: n7are@arrl.net

Club Member Profile

Kory Talbot, KE7MMH



I am a native to St. George and remember when growing up by the Bluff Street Park looking toward the LDS Temple and being able to see it from our back yard.

My father started into Ham Radio when I was little and had his equipment in the attic although I didn't know what it was until now as he never took the exam. I was introduced to Ham Radio by my wife who saw a newspaper article of an Amateur Ham Radio class being taught for free and thought it would be great to have for an emergency. She had to talk me into it for over a week before I signed up for the class. And in March 2007 I went in and passed my Technician Class license. I have tried from that time on to participate in every radio event that I could to gain knowledge of how everything works. In November 2007 I passed my General Class license exam and have been doing a lot of operating on HF and really enjoying it. I hope to get to know and serve you all as your Board member as time goes along,

If you need help or just an idea that you might have, e-mail it to me, I would like to hear it. Thank you for this opportunity.

73, Kory
korytalbot@hotmail.com

Event Announcement 7th Area QSO Party

What is it?

The 7th Area QSO party is going to be held on Saturday May 3rd through Sunday May 5th. The time of this on-the-air activity is from 13:00 UTC Saturday to 07:00 UTC Sunday. 7th call area stations work everyone, others work 7th area stations only. Work stations once per band/mode. 7th area mobiles (and those participating in other concurrent QSO parties or contests) may be worked again as they enter new counties.

Which Bands to use?

Bands to operate during the QSO party are 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, as well as on 6 and 2m, simplex only (not on 146.520). Suggested operating frequencies: 1815 and 40 kHz up on CW; 1845, 3855, 7235, 14255, 21355 and 28455 on SSB. Check 80m at 0500Z, 160m at 0530Z. All CW contacts must be made in the CW portion of the band.

What are the entry categories?

- **Single-op: high-power, low-power:** <150W, QRP <5W; CW, Phone, Mixed
- **Multi-single (including assisted single-op):** High, low and QRP
- **Multi-multi.** No differentiated mode or power levels
- **7th-area County Expedition:** single-op, multi-single, multi-multi
- **Mobile:** high-power, low-power, QRP; CW, Phone, Mixed

What is exchanged in the QSO?

7th area stations send signal report plus 5-letter state/county code (e.g. UTWSH); see list at:

<http://www.dixieham.org/forms/7qso.pdf>

County-line stations send multiple codes (state code needed only once, e.g. UTWSH/IRO). Non-7th-area stations send signal report plus state/province/"DX" two-letter codes. Stations in other QSO parties send their appropriate exchange. "Provinces" are VE1-9, VO and VY0-2. County-line contacts may be logged with

one entry showing all counties or with one QSO entry for each county.

For more details and complete rules go to this page and click on the link for the 7th Area QSO Party:

http://www.dxzone.com/catalog/Contesting/QSO_Party/

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

Club membership dues for 2008 are being solicited. Dues are \$20.00 per member and \$25.00 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. (Licensed hams have "full-membership"). You just need to have an interest in Amateur Radio.

Check the Club's Membership Roster to see that you are shown as a member. 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 2007 if you feel guilty. 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 "Membership Roster" is found on the Club Web Site.

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. If you join the ARRL for the first time through the Club, or renew your ARRL membership through the Club, our Club benefits directly financially.

See the "Join the Club" link below for info on joining the ARRL:

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

Board Meeting follows Regular Club Meetings

There is a Club Board Meeting scheduled each month immediately following the "Refreshments" at the conclusion of the General Club Meeting. A reminder of this meeting will be announced during the regular Club meeting. Everyone is invited to stay and observe the Board in action.

You can see who our current Board Members are on the Club's Web Site.

Member Profiles Needed!

We still are always in need of profiles of Club members to showcase in future Newsletters. Are you willing to be the next "famous" person profiled in these pages? If you are willing to tell us something about yourself, 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.

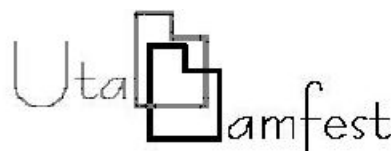
About Our Club

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.

Utah Hamfest (ARRL Convention) at Bryce Canyon this Summer!



Utah Hamfest 2008 will be held at Ruby's Inn (www.rubysinn.com). Features include BBQ/Eyeball QSO

Party (Friday eve. \$11), "Hickory Smoked Pulled Pork Dinner" with all the Carolina trimmings (Saturday eve, \$16), Sunday Breakfast and Keynote Speaker (\$12, under 12, \$6), Swap Meet (outside, free, bring your own table), Seminars and Forums, Vendors/Dealers, Children's Activities, Craft Activities, and Home Brew (Boutique), QSL Card Checker, Prize Drawings, Contests (CW, QLF, Mobile Installation, Transformer Toss, Transmitter Hunts), Wouff Hong, & Amateur License Exams. Adult Pre-registration is \$12 including a commemorative Pin, at the door \$15, pin not included, Youth (17 and under) Pre-registration is \$5, at the door \$7. For complete registration information Contact Eugene or Carol McWherter - n7ovt@arrl.net or kc7llw@arrl.net.

Be sure to visit www.utahhamfest.org for more information. A big registration drive for the Utah Hamfest began on February 23rd.

Upcoming Activities Needing Ham Volunteers

Our Club is actively seeking volunteers in April for the Cactus Hugger 100 mile tour -400+ riders April 26th. We need volunteers for that event.

There also will be a Boy Scouts of America Expo special event station in April at Dixie Center that needs volunteers.

We are looking for volunteers for the ARRL Rocky Mountain Convention at Bryce Canyon in July (see earlier story). Our Club is putting on the Friday PM BBQ as well as a Special event station and the CW contest. Are you willing to help out?

More info on these will be presented at the March Club meeting.

Please contact Dan Farwell, W8EQA at the Club Meeting or via e-mail: w8eqa@infowest.com if you can help out.

Ham Radio Crossword Puzzle

Please print **page 6** of this newsletter to do a Ham Radio crossword puzzle. Here are the questions:

Across

1. Old freq. units
4. HH-land
9. Fourteen ____ (weight)
14. Enable, as a weapon
15. Over
16. Signs
17. Expected
18. John Glenn's ride
19. "that ____ for the course"
20. With 22, 55, 56, and 61 across - What you collect for 35 across
22. See 20-across
23. The 18 and 21 MHz bands?
24. "Is that really necessary?"
26. New fangled rigs (abbr.)
27. Work on GUIs and others

30. This began, the July after 24-down
31. An ARRL section official, in 1-land (abbr.)
33. All but KH6 and KL7
35. You need more than 999 for this award
38. Power units
39. One of the things Elmers do
40. School org.
41. One place where the DX might be listening?
42. Heading 180 from NC
46. 9H operator, probably
49. Early radio parts manufacturer
50. 1960's TV host, with Martin
51. Open wire (line)
54. Equipment reviewer, sometimes
55. See 20-across
56. See 20-across
57. What many towers are made of
58. The word that explains a UK prefix assignment
59. Digital ckt. family
60. Hamshacks, on Field Day
61. See 20-across
62. Beam heading to work PY from W2

Down

1. "... no space ____."
2. Trimmed, as a dipole (if not a bush)
3. It moves with a signal
4. What an amp also does in the shack
5. Prefix with VOX
6. What an un-keyed transmitter is
7. Some are green, some black, some orange
8. Gives a callsign
9. Nickels and dimes
10. Org. in charge of 43-down
11. What a DXpedition station spends most of the time doing
12. Non-digital, in G-land
13. DOS background job (remember?)
21. Non-ham pesky visitor on FD
22. C in F-land
24. A peak year in cycle 19
25. Some Ukraine prefixes
27. It's between the DSP and the speaker
28. How some DF antennas look
29. Listings for selling small VHF xcvr's
32. MHz predecessor
33. Those in Chile
34. House current, familiarly, if imprecise
35. Like 38-down, but for (other) digital modes
36. Keeps your rig's rock steady
37. A good signal report, in ancient Rome
38. Speed on CW
41. Biggest non-amateur user of radio in the early days
43. Awards for performances by hams in space?
44. Warm tubes and solder resin, among others

- 45. Pamper
- 47. What a birdie in your RX sounds like?
- 48. G-land noblemen
- 49. Tower-top antenna supports
- 51. Repeated, it's part of FO0-land
- 52. 70 city
- 53. The part of a part you solder
- 54. Use 3-Down to give out one of these
- 55. Cute 1960's mobile hamshack

E	S	S		S	D	N	V	B		S	T	N	E	T
L	T	R		T	V	E	R	G		L	E	L	E	S
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	L	L	V	N	O		S	E	I	T	I	T	N	E
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Crossword Puzzle Solution (it's upside down - no cheating!)

SNOX IV Balloon Mission Complete



The Spirit of Knoxville has declared that the SNOX IV amateur radio high-altitude balloon flight is now complete after shattering two world records and landing just shy of the European Continent in its attempt to be the first amateur payload to successfully cross the Atlantic Ocean.

Launched at 10:40 PM Eastern Time on Monday, March 10 (0240Z on 3/11) from Downtown Island Home Airport in Knoxville, Tennessee, SNOX IV traveled over 3360 miles (5310 km) and logged 40+ hours of continuous flight before dropping into the Atlantic Ocean around 1700Z on Wednesday.

The flight ended just after sunset local time as the payload approached Europe. It's last reported position placed it about 350 miles (563 km) southwest off the coast of Ireland.

Although the payload landed just shy of the UK, the mission is far from being considered unsuccessful.

Utilizing a 900 cubic foot "Zero-Pressure" balloon designed by Mark Caviezel, N6OX, and a liquid ballast system designed by Carl Lyster, WA4ADG, the balloon was able to take maximum advantage of the jet stream's 100+ mph (160 kph) winds during the first 24 hours aloft. These two designs combined to keep the payload aloft for such a long duration as the temperatures at times dipped to as low as -50F (-45C).

The preliminary data is still being reviewed, but based on the information sent in from listeners and participants around the world, SNOX IV has set new records in both flight duration and distance traveled for Amateur Radio High-Altitude Ballooning, or ARHAB.

Based on the ARHAB records maintained by Ralph Wallio, W0RPK, SNOX IV shattered the 2-year old record of 1411.41 miles (2271.44km) set by Bill Brown, WB8ELK by more than double the distance. SNOX IV also bested the recent record of 32.26 hours set by Robert Rochte, KC8UCH on August 11, 2007 by about 8 hours.

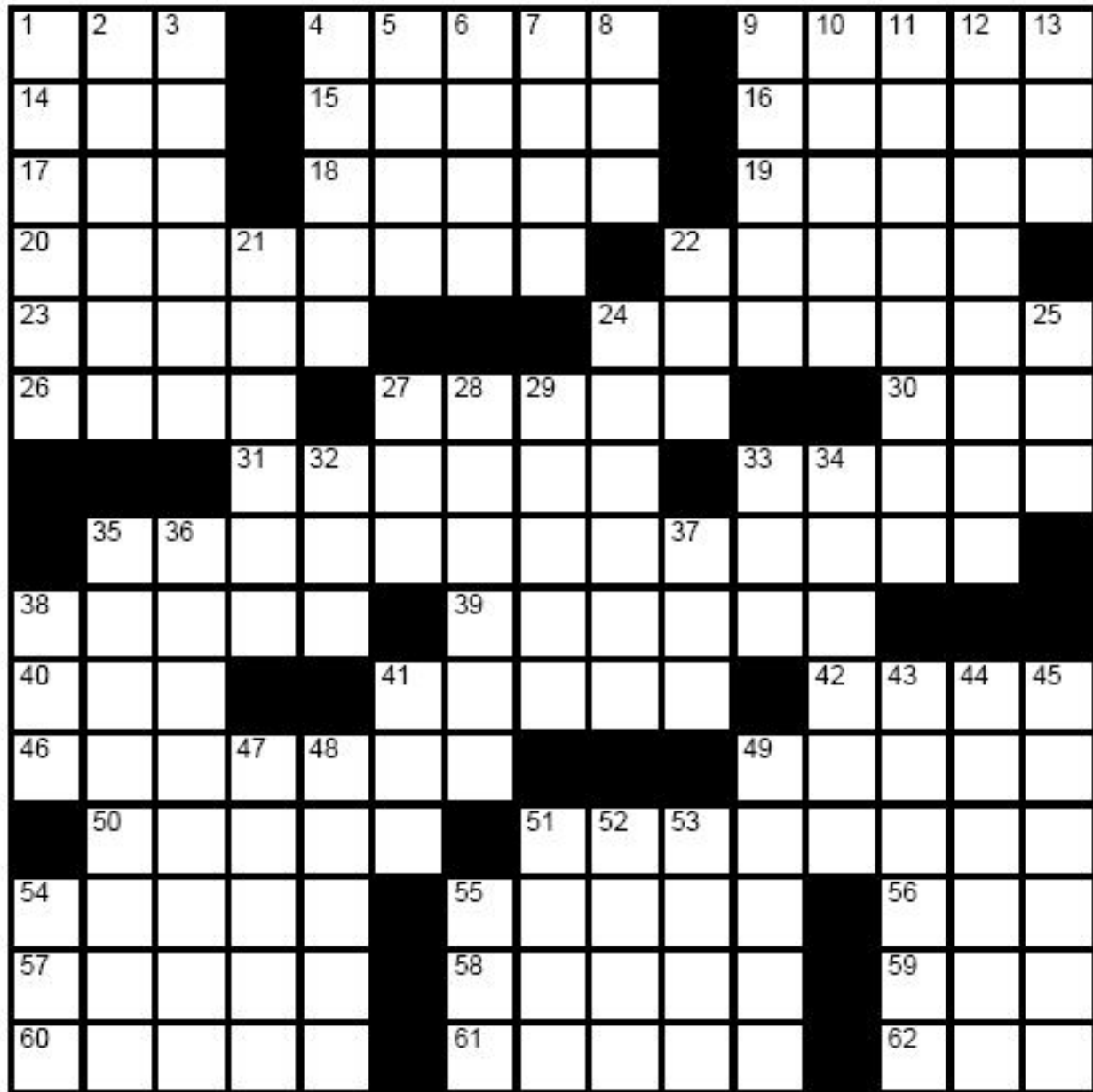
Listeners from both sides of the pond and from around the world participated by tuning in to the CW beacon and RTTY telemetry on 30 meters. By downloading software provided by the Spirit of Knoxville team, known as the Distributed Tracking and Relay Client, or DTRC, hams and shortwave listeners were able to send their reports back to the SNOX team via the internet, which in turn updated the Spirit of Knoxville web site with real-time tracking of the balloon based on accumulated reports.

At several points in the first 24 hours, demand on the SNOX IV live status page was so high that the page had to be re-worked to a text-based version in order to support the demand.

Even though the balloon set records and nearly made it across, the Spirit of Knoxville team is not going to stop trying to complete the mission they set out to accomplish along with other ARHAB groups in North America. Planning is already underway to get SNOX V off the ground to finish what SNOX IV started.



Everyone is invited to attend a live press conference via the web and the SNOX team will field questions from participants. The chat conference is scheduled for 9AM Eastern Time (1300Z) on Saturday, March 22nd. Please visit <http://www.spiritofknoxville.com> for more information.



HAM RADIO HUMOR

