The Pres Says:

Newton planned to drop in.



By Alan Malan, KB7YSP, DCARC President, 2013

Wow! 2012 just flew by for me. I hope everyone had a great holiday season. Last year I didn't get nearly enough time to have fun on the radio. With so many "projects" under construction, that never seem to get completed; I could be accused of taking lessons from UDOT....;-)

Alan Malan KB7YSP January is time for resolutions again, this year I would like to encourage everyone to try something new and different in ham radio that they haven't done before. Whether it's a new digital mode, DXing, QRP, CW, Elmer-ing, contesting or a new homebrew project.

Helping with some of the many service opportunities we have is always fun, and a favorite is field day, participate in contacting, or setting up or taking down. 2013 presents many opportunities for Hams to discover new enjoyment within ham radio.

The first few months of the year are also the perfect time opportunity to take a look at our personal preparedness. We all should look at three areas of preparedness, <u>self</u>, <u>family</u> and then finally, the <u>HAM radio</u> side of things, so that maybe we can be of some help in case of a disaster or emergency.

The club officers would like to hear what kind of "radio resolutions" people are doing this year. Please share them with us. We'll have something at Gary's table so you can write down your "radio resolutions" and slip them into a box or something. That way it will be anonymous; or if you want you can put your name on it. We are really interested in knowing what new and exciting things people are doing or, want to do, with your ham radio hobby this year. (You can also send em via email to the Club Newsletter Editor -- wm7e)

We're also sorry the heavy snowfall cancelled the meeting for January, but we're still ready and willing to pick up and continue with a great club this year.

Thanks and have a great year with Ham Radio

Audubon said he'd have to wing it.

The Great Utah Shakeout

We have just two and one-half short months to go until the second annual <u>Great Utah ShakeOut</u>, which will take place at 10:15 a.m. on April 17, 2013. Already, more than <u>220,000 people</u> are registered to participate! This is a great chance to take what you learned during the 2012 ShakeOut and improve your family communications plan, your <u>Grab-and-Go Kit</u> or your continuity of operations plan if you are a business.

In 2012, more than 940,000 Utahns participated in the first Utah ShakeOut, part of 19.4 million ShakeOut participants <u>worldwide</u> throughout the year! For 2013, our goal is for 1 million Utahns to practice <u>Drop</u>, <u>Cover and Hold On</u> and other aspects of their emergency plans. Please help us get there by encouraging your colleagues, friends, and family to register at <u>ShakeOut.org/Utah</u>.

And if you have not re-registered yourself or your organization yet for 2013, please <u>login</u> to the web site above today to sign-up or renew.

February DCARC Meeting

Don't forget to come to the February DCARC Meeting. It's still held in the Davis County Sheriff's complex in Farmington at 10 am on the second Saturday of each month. Park in the lot north of the building and press the button on the wall next to the north door. Tell the person answering that you are "Attending the DCARC Ham Club meeting." The buzzer will let you know the door latch has been opened.

Dr. Jekyll has declined — he hasn't been feeling himself lately.

First One Day Ham Class Feb. 16, 2013 By Gary Davis, KE7MQF

I finally got the okay for one-day ham classes in 2013.

They will be held in the North Salt Lake City Hall on the following dates:

Feb 16, April 20, June 15, Aug 17, and Oct 19. If you or someone you know is interested in attending, contact me at KE7MQF@ARRL.NET Amateur Radio is a Service. Emergency Communications is a commitment. A commitment to be ready to be an effective communicator "When all else fails."

BSA to Offer Amateur Radio **Operator Rating Strip**

The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) has approved an Amateur Radio Operator rating strip for Scouts and Scouters to wear on their uniforms. According to BSA Communication Services Director Jim Wilson, K5ND, the strip recognizes the Scout or Scouter's availability as an Amateur Radio operator for communication services for events and activities, as well as emergencies. All registered youth members and adult leaders who also hold a valid FCC-issued Amateur Radio license of any class are eligible to wear the rating strip.

"Last year, the BSA Awards and Insignia Committee introduced the Morse Code Interpreter **Strip** upon the recommendation of the BSA's National Radio Scouting Committee," Wilson told the ARRL. "We are always looking for ways to promote Amateur Radio, both within Scouting and to the world. The National Radio Scouting Committee thought this new Amateur Radio rating strip was a wonderful way to do exactly that, as it readily identifies to everyone that the wearer is a licensed radio amateur, prepared to be useful and to help others."

Wilson, who heads up the National Radio Scouting Committee, said that the Amateur Radio Operator rating strip is similar to the Amateur Radio Operator badge offered as a proficiency badge by Scouts Australia, as well as the badge recently introduced by Scouting Netherlands. It follows in the footsteps of the Scout Radioman personal interest badge for Senior Scouts and Explorer Scouts that was offered by the Boy Scouts of America in the 1940s. The strip is worn on the right sleeve.

Ameteur Redio Operator

2013 DCARC Organization - All Telephone Numbers

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Davis County Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 763 Bountiful, Utah 84011-0763

Radio Club. The club is an affiliate of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) amd is incorporated in the State of Utah. The club meets on the second Saturday of each month, unless other circumstances dictate changes. The meetings are held at the Davis County Sheriff's Office, 800 W. State St., Farmington, UT. Dues are \$15 per year individual; \$20 per family; \$10 Senior Citizen over 65 years and Free for 105-year-old gee-zers... Dues may be mailed to the address above or be paid in person at the club meeting. Typesetting was accomplished by a troop of Trolls, plying their trade, but the current financial melt-down has also melted the Trolls down into silly putty, pushed and squeezed into a small pieces and lovingly deposited in the muddy Jordan River to provide life-sustaining and proper sustinance for the local aquatic fish and bug population. their long-

time messing up of his copy. They are now all headed for the scrap heap along with their typesetting errors

Two blond men find three grenades, and they decide to take them to a police station.

One asked: "What if one explodes before we get there?" The other says: "We'll lie and say we only found two."

If you are right handed, you will tend to chew your food on the right side of your mouth.

Ohm resisted the idea.

Are You Prepared?

Darwin waited to see what evolved.

By Gary Davis KE7MQF, Davis County ARRL ARES EC

I have several subjects I'd like to cover this month...

Weather... Cold, wet weather means we need to be prepared to provide communications support for our family, neighbors and community. When the power goes out, how long will it take you to switch to battery? Anderson powerpole connectors make this an easy task (available in the bookstore). Do you have an alternate antenna that you can hook up to when the ice takes down your primary antenna? A magnetic mount mobile antenna makes this an easy task (available in the bookstore). How will you keep your family warm (safely) when the power goes out for several days during the blizzard condition that we get here every year?

These and many more questions need to be answered now, while you have the time and luxury to work them thru. As members of the Davis County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), we have agreed to participate and host the weekly ARES net on 147.420 simplex. Do you know the alternate frequencies and are they already programmed in your radios? Yes, plural, more than one radio, a backup. Check on your neighbors, family and friends this winter. Verify that they are safe and able to survive the weather. And looking forward into the future, are you ready for when the snow and ice melt? Depending on how much more we receive and how fast it melts, we may be called out to support flooding operations. Are you ready? Now is the time to prepare.

Elmers... We need for the Elmers in this county to step up. There are a lot of new hams in the county that are interested in what you have to offer. We have a lot of experienced Ham Radio Operators in the county, and they need to share their knowledge. I have yet to meet an experienced ham that is not eager to explain how something is done (or not done) to anyone who is interested and will listen. Emergency Communication is more than "just turning on the radio and talking." As communicators, we need to be able and willing to use all the capabilities that our license gives us. And it is a lot of capabilities that we have. From Morse code, voice, video, to the many types and forms of digital methods. No one person knows it all. But we can each learn a part and spread that around to others. I would like to see an Elmer program set up in Davis County, but it will need the comitment and participation of all of us. Let someone know that you are ready to help, please.

Events... A new year has started, and with it, new commitments for support. In March, Davis County ARES and the Davis County Radio Club (DCARC) will be supporting the Antelope Island Buffalo Run. This annual event consists of runners racing around the island. We provide critical communications support for the runners and the event staff. Due to the lack of electricity and cell phone coverage on the island, Ham radio is often the second most common mode of communications, first being Sneaker-net. There are 8+ stations that we support during this event. It is an all day event. Please help support this event and get to know your radio and the other hams. For further information, contact Gary Davis **KE7MQF@ARRL.NET**. This same weekend is the Scouting for food drive, which we support as well.

In April will be the SLC marathon. This event is also an all day event and covers a large portion of Salt Lake City, South Salt Lake City, and Holliday. It starts at the University of Utah campus, works its way down to 6200 South, then back North to finish at Liberty Park. There are 16 Aid Stations, Start and Finish Lines, Medical Stations, SAG Wagons, Shadows, and Net Control that will need your help. Please contact Ed Sim at edwardsim@earthlink.net, for more information.

Also in April will be the second annual Great Utah Shakeout. This simulated Earthquake exercise will require the envolvment of hams all across the state. Contact your local AEC for further info on what your town/city is doing for this event.

June is Field Day... I really hope that each one of you has taken the steps necessary to be able to support this event. It is the always held the last full weekend of June (this year 29 & 30th). The club (DCARC) will be set up at the Davis County Fairgrounds. It is close and a lot of fun. Please support your fellow hams and plan your time now to come out and join us. There is always lots to do and plenty of food to eat. Help will be needed Friday afternoon and Early Saturday Morning for setting up all the stations and antennas. It is often

Hawking tried to string enough time together to make space in his schedule.

DCARCommunicator

Vol 2K13 No. 2

Turn your Mobile Device into an HT

Edison thought it would be illuminating.

Here are the top picks for Handi-Talkie Apps.

Handi-Talkies have been around since long before cell phones, but until now they weren't easily accessible on the same device. Sometimes when you need to send out a quick message, making a phone call can be time-consuming (especially if you don't have the time to chat) and sending out a text message can be a hassle. Typing out those longs strings of letters and hitting send is a huge pain when you're juggling five things at once. That's where these apps come in. Voice messaging finds a happy middle ground between the solemn phone call and the casual texting. Now it is easier with push-to-talk to wish your friends a 'Good Morning', remind your wife the location of her <u>car</u> keys, or tell your boyfriend that he shouldn't drink that leftover milk in the fridge unless he really hates his bowels. Here are our top 3.

HeyTell (<u>iOS</u>, <u>Android</u>, <u>Windows Phone</u>)

Pros - This is a bare-minimum, simple, and intuitive Handi-Talkie app. HeyTell is the only app on our list that is available on three major platforms: iOS, <u>Android</u>, and Windows Phone. No account is required, just create a nickname or use your real name/callsign and HeyTell will connect you with friends in your contact list (with your permission, of course) that also have the App installed. You can also connect to facebook and twitter to see other contacts. What we like is that the developers placed a high emphasis on privacy, allowing you to set custom a privacy level and limit who can contact you. There are a variety of extra features such as Ringtones, Emoji and ,most of all, a Voice Changer if you're willing to shell out a few bucks...

Cons - You can only send voice messages. That means no texts or pictures. The group chat functionality is not free, but has to be bought. When testing we found that the message delivery was slow at first and that the interface is not exactly the prettiest on the market. Another limiting factor is the smaller user base compared to other apps.

Overall, still a great app to pick up if all you need is a functional Handi-Talkie, more so if you want to talk to your Windows Phone friends.

Facebook Messenger (iOS, Android)

Pros - Facebook recently updated their Messenger app to allow for the sending of voice messages. You can Voice Chat with any Facebook friends who have the app. Non-app enabled friends can still receive texts and pictures through Facebook. Messenger allows group chat just like regular Facebooking, which is ideal when talking to multiple friends, whether it's collaborating on a project or just doing an impromptu hang out.

Cons - Messenger requires you to have a Facebook account, at least for now. One gripe we have is that Messenger only allows you to share photos in your album folder and does not have a built-in camera app. To share something new with friends, you'd have to take a snapshot with your device's camera app, save it, then upload it. It also has the slowest response rate when sending and receiving messages out of all 3 app picks. The lag between sending and receiving on the other side is noticeable, but will not affect usability. It only ruins the illusion that you are not be using an actual walkie talkie.

Messenger is great if you're a heavy Facebooker, but it could be better. The app is still growing as Facebook will undoubtedly make tweaks here and there.

Voxer (<u>iOS</u>, <u>Android</u>)

Pros - Send voice, text, and photo messages easily and intuitively with Voxer Walkie Talkie. With its clean interface and fast response, Voxer is a sleek push-to-talk app. Chat histories are easily accessible while sending texts and pictures take no time at all. Toggle speakerphone to get the full Walkie Talkie experience. You can also use Voxer to leave small notes for yourself.

Cons - The consumer version of the app will only allow up to 5 people per group session. Voxer's search function has not really been optimized if you're trying to search for someone outside your contact list. Common names will return large numbers of results without any identifiable information. It is best to let it search through your contact or look up friends via their Voxer's account.

Overall, with its clear audio and fast response, this is our favorite way to communicate quickly. Useful when you want to coordinate with small groups or do one-on-one since it works flawlessly between platforms. That ends our quick roundup. Have a favorite app that you use to send voice messages? Sharing is caring, so chime them in the comments.

2012 Marks All-Time High for Amateur Radio Licenses

As 2012 came to a close, ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, had a good reason to cheer: The number of radio amateurs in the US reached an all-time high of almost 710,000. "2012 was definitely a banner year for the number of Amateur Radio operators here in the US," she said. "It is amazing to see these new numbers and to know that Amateur Radio is experiencing such a healthy

trend."

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COMPARE AMATEURS PER ARRL DIVISION			
Division	2008	2012	
New England	33,600	35,000	
Hudson	24,800	26,500	
Atlantic	52,500	54,000	
Roanoke	49,300	53,000	
Southeastern	68,700	73,000	
Great Lakes	57,100	58,500	
Delta	33,200	36,000	
Central	46,200	47,500	
Dakota	14,200	15,000	
Midwest	29,300	31,500	
West Gulf	53,600	58,000	
Northwestern	51,400	57,000	
Rocky Mountain	31,100	36,500	
Southwestern	67,500	72,500	
Pacific	49,500	55,500	
Total US Amateurs	662,000	709,500	

Pavlov was drooling at the thought.

This chart shows the distribution of license holders by call sign region, comparing 2008 to 2012. The number of US licensees has increased by 7 percent since 2008.

In looking at new and upgraded licenses, as well as licensees per ARRL Division, Somma also crunched the numbers looking for growth within each license class — and all of Amateur Radio — over the last 40 years. "This is an all-time high for Technician, General and Amateur Extra class licensees," she said. "When looking at the three current license classes, the number of Technicians, Generals and Amateur Extras peaked in December at 345,369, 163,370 and 130,736, respectively."

Somma explained that the total number of US amateurs in the FCC database also continues to grow each year: "As of December 31, 2012, the number of licensees reached an all-time high of 709,575; year-end totals were 702,056 for 2011 and 696,041 for 2010. The number of licensees increased at an average rate of 21 per day, while the number of US licensees has increased by 7 percent since 2008!" More than 3000 new licenses were issued in 2012 than in 2011, while upgraded license activity remained steady in 2012.

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[See Pg. 6]

DCARCommunicator

OOPS!

ARES (Fm p. 3)

amusing to watch as our fellow Hams and friends, attempt to get an antenna wire into a tree or two. As always, help will also be welcomed on Sunday afternoon to take everything down and buttoned up at the end of the event. Please come on out and support the efforts. Even if you can only spend an hour or two, it will be worthwhile. This is your event and you need to support it. It is fun, and you will learn something new/different.

July is our month of service. The ARES membership supports many events across the County. From Fireworks to Parades, we will be out front supporting our friends and neighbors. And having some fun. During all this, be prepared and stay safe.

All Time High...(Cont'd from Pg. 5)

In looking at new and upgraded licenses, as well as licensees per ARRL Division (see the charts below), Somma also crunched the numbers looking for growth within each license class — and all of Amateur Radio — over the last 40 years. "This is an all-time high for Technician, General and Amateur Extra class licensees," she said. "When looking at the three current license classes, the number of Technicians, Generals and Amateur Extras peaked in December at 345,369, 163,370 and 130,736, respectively."

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In the past 40 years, the number of Amateur Radio operators in the US has grown at a remarkable rate:

December 1971: 285,000 December 2001: 683,000 December 1981: 433,000 December 2012: 709,500

December 1991: 494,000

Source: 1971, 1981, 1991: print editions of <u>Radio Amateur Callbook</u>. 2001, 2012: <u>www.ah0a.org/FCC/Graphs.html</u>. Please note: While the number of licensees has grown considerably over the years, we realize that these numbers include some who are no longer active in Amateur Radio. A recent survey of ARRL members, however, indicates that more than 80 percent of those responding are active.

ARRL VEC Program Statistics The ARRL VEC is by far the largest of the 14 Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) groups in the country, coordinating approximately 70 percent of all Amateur Radio exams. "When looking at the statistics over the last year, the ARRL VEC sponsored exam sessions and exam elements taken were up in 2012, which is a good sign for Amateur Radio overall," Somma said. "Compared with 2011, ARRL VEC exam sessions in 2012 were up by 8 percent. A total of 6831 exam sessions were administered in 2012, compared to 6352 in 2011. Exam elements were slightly up from 41,096 last year, to 42,473 this year. The total number of accredited ARRL Volunteer Examiners (VEs) has reached an all-time high of 36,682. The ARRL VEC has been busy meeting the needs of the Amateur Radio community by helping people become radio amateurs or upgrade their existing licenses. 2012 was a very good year for Amateur Radio — I can't wait to see what 2013 brings!

Schrodinger had to take his cat to the vet, or did he?