



a newsletter of the Verde Valley Amateur Radio Association

# FEEDBACK

## Observations from the President

### 2010 Officers

*President*

Jeff Swiggers, N7ZZN

*Vice-President*

Jack Crabtree, W7JLC

*Secretary*

Jason Shultz, KE7WWQ

*Treasurer*

Mel Boreham, N6BDC

*Member at large*

Norm Vandiver, N7VF

*Repeater Trustee*

Mike Wingate, WA6LSE

### NEXT MEETING

**March 24, 2010**

at the Cottonwood Public Safety Building on 6th St. in Cottonwood

**Mike Wingate, WA6LSE, will present Urban Search and Rescue (USAR):** The teams;

their composition; the history; the equipment and some current response information that he has had a part in developing.

Well, I never expected this so soon, being new back to amateur radio and all but here I am finding myself the new president of the VVARA for 2010. As exciting as this is, the job is a bit intimidating but with the help of so many friends here the transition seems to be going smoothly.

Unfortunately, the last couple of months have been tough on our families. As many of you know, our friend Ken West KE4ZWZ recently suffered a cerebrovascular accident and is recovering at the Mountain Valley rehabilitation facility. Although he is only taking visitors from immediate family, he does have a scanner and listens in on the local nets. Thanks to several of our members who provided an mp3 player and lots of music for him to listen to, and we all look forward to hearing about his recovery process. Charlie Laughlin's (KE7WOU) mother recently passed away as well, as did KC7TIL Steve Pearson's father. Our thoughts and prayers go out to them and their families.

On a positive note, we have many things planned for 2010.

Our QSO party is coming up soon, and Steve will be updating us on the status of its planning. Obviously, we understand his family commitments during this time of mourning. Jack Crabtree W7JLC has been busy coordinating technician and general classes, and of course thanks to him and all the instructors who have volunteered their time in helping out with tutoring the newest hams. It would seem that the classes are top notch, because 19 out of 20 applicants passed their exam last weekend – including two new Generals and one new Amateur Extra, so congratulations are in order! Way to go, guys! Jack also agreed to host our new Echolink node. Anyone interested in accessing the node please contact one of the officers and request to be added to the list, and look for W7JLC-1 to connect. Our newsletter is being resurrected as well, so thanks to Starla Thompson, KE7DTS, for resuming her role as Editor in Chief. Come and check out our new forum on the website at [www.vvara.org](http://www.vvara.org). Look for the big blue banner link where you can register and join in on the



discussions!

It looks to be a good year for the VVARA, and I again thank you all for working with me and being so kind. If anyone has any questions or comments my door is always open. You can feel free to contact me at [aerorejef@commspeed.net](mailto:aerorejef@commspeed.net) or on my cell at 928-237-0444. Most times I can be found lurking around 147.220 as well. With everyone's participation and enthusiasm for amateur radio and the great camaraderie I have found here, I believe the VVARA is moving in a very positive direction in this new decade.

Thanks for the invitation to serve you all as president, and 73's!

Jeff Swiggers, N7ZZN

## Upcoming Events

### Upcoming Hamfests-

**March 27**—RST Desert-Fest '10 in Tucson

**April 10**—Arizona Amateur Radio Club at DeVry University in Phoenix

### Upcoming Special Events-

**April 14** - Bob Smith, WB6ODR, is organizing a special event— Lunch at the Bonn-Fire in Chino Valley followed by a visit to Peter Atonna's railroad layout. RSVP to Bob

Smith, WB6ODR at [Lrsmith@cableone.net](mailto:Lrsmith@cableone.net)

**May 1** - The 7Area QSO Party

**June 26-27**—Field Day

Next meeting dates

**March 24, 2010**

**April 28, 2010**

## Secretary's Report

## Minutes of the January 20th, 2010 VVARA General Meeting

Submitted by Jason Shultz, KE7WWQ, Secretary

The January 20th 2010 VVARA meeting was held at the Cottonwood Village conference room. The meeting was called to order by Outgoing President, Mel Boreham, N6BDC, at 7:03 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Carol KA7LKW.

Guests, new members, recent upgrades, new hams and visitors: No guests. No Upgrades

New Appointments - New Officers took their position:

Jeff Swiggers, N7ZZN President

Jack Crabtree, W7JLC Vice President, VVARA Program Director

Jason Shultz, KE7WWQ Secretary

Mel Boreham, N6BDC Treasurer

Norm Vandiver, N7VF, Director at Large.

Bob Thompson, KC8BOB: Membership Committee Chairman

Mike Wingate, WA6LSE: Tech Committee Chairman, Repeater Trustee

Marsha Rosenbarger: Sunshine Committee

Peggy Funk: Refreshments

Norm Vandiver, N7VF: Field Day Chairperson

? ARCA Delegate

Bob Thompson, KC8BOB: Alternate ARCA Delegate

By Law Committee

Mike Wingate, WA6LSE Al Barber, AA7OV Mel Boreham, N6BDC

### Secretary's Report

Jason Shultz, KE7WWQ, Secretary read the minutes of the November 18th meeting. Motion to approve minutes was made by Carol Hills KA7LKW and seconded by Wilse Morgan, WX7P. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed.

### Treasurers Report

Mel Boreham, N6BDC, gave the Treasurer's report. Our current bank balance ending December 31st was \$5,372.44. The Latest Balance as of Jan 20th, 2010 was \$5,830.61.

### Old Business

Jack Crabtree, W7JLC, Gave a class in which 32 people attended.

Sixty two people attended the Christmas Luncheon at Grasshopper Grill. Twelve people took advantage of the free 1 year complimentary membership the club is offering new licensed hams.

### New Business

Eagle First is donating old equipment. Mike Wingate, WA6LSE, will go take a look at the equipment and see if any of it is worth while or could be sold at a booth.

### Mission Statement

Are we a social club, repeater club, emergency club, promoting amateur radio? Jack Crabtree, W7JLC: There might be a perception that we are a do nothing social club. Robert Peterson, W5VAH: Would like to see us promote amateur radio. What about service to widows of ex-hams? Mike Wingate reminded us that to be a public service club would require a big commitment. The repeater may be the biggest thing we do or are known for. Charlie thinks we are an eclectic club. The big thing is the morning nets.

### Williams Ham Fest

Should we buy a table?

Prescott Ham Fest in May

Should we have a table there? Jack Crabtree, W7JLC says we should. Sell equipment and raffle tickets. Carol made motion and Art Swiggers J7FPB seconded. Vote Passed.

### Promoting Our Club, Testing Program

Jack Crabtree, W7JLC thinks we should

pursue it. But not to compete with Mark (Rimrock) Wilse Morgan, WX7P told us about how the VE Program started and about being the first VE.

### Need for Volunteer Elmers

Do we have any volunteers? Mike and Bob stepped up. Steve Pearson: we need a roster or list on the site.

### Meeting locations and times

What about the last Wednesday of the month? What about the college or hospital? Meeting moved to last Wednesday of February. Mel Boreham, N6BDC, made motion. Mike Wingate, WA6LSE 2nd. Vote Passed. Meeting adjourned for break at 8:00pm for break. Meeting reconvened at 8:21pm.

**Announcement:** Tower for sale. 2 meter and HF antenna, wind anemometer. Electronic hoist

### Presentation

Presentation given by Lloyd Halgunseth WA6ZZJ. ARES/RACES District Meeting Coordinator. RACES Radio for Yavapai County. Presentation on history of ARES and ARES/RACES in Yavapai County.

### 50/50 Raffle

The 50/50 raffle was run and the winner was Sue Crabtree, \$20.00 One dozen eggs donated by Carol Hills were bought by Jason Shultz, KE7WWQ.

Meeting Adjourned

Call for a Motion to Close Meeting. Motion made by Al Barber, AA7OV, and seconded by Norm Vandiver, N7VF. A voice vote was taken & motion passed. Meeting closed at 9:05 p.m.



## Club News

Our condolences to:  
 Charlie, KE7WOU, in the passing of his mother  
 Steve, KC7TIL, in the passing of his father  
 We wish a speedy recovery to those who are ill and others who are recovering.

### Calling All Elmers!

elmer: an experienced ham willing to take a newbie under his wing-

Remember when you were new to Ham radio? Did you have an Elmer who would answer your questions and help you out? Consider becoming an Elmer and help someone else new to the hobby. Please sign up at the next meeting or contact Jeff, N7ZZN to volunteer.

Welcome to the following new members:

Barbara Gross, W5GBG  
 John Dibble, KF7ANV  
 Norm Delucchi, K7NPD  
 Mark Weidenhaft, KF7FPL  
 Edward Campbell, KF7FTH  
 Tim Urell, KF7FOX  
 Art Swiggers, KF7FPB  
 John Herring, AB7LT  
 Sherry Herring, KF7FVZ  
 Greg Byers, KF7FVW  
 Tim Henriksen, KF7GCO  
 Cheryl Henriksen, KF7GCN  
 Dave Belkiewitz, KF7FWB  
 Fred Johnson, KF7GGV  
 Marianne Johnson, KF7GGU  
 Robert Kiekenapp, KF7FVV  
 Aiesha Warner, KF7IAJ  
 Vince Horek, KF7FVU  
 Wayne Gilbertson, WA7IGI  
 Fred Scully, K0VK  
 Gary Hickman, KF7GGX  
 Gregory Allen Jr, KE7PXX  
 Jack Foote, KE7FDZ  
 Michelle Foote

### Meet the New Board

President, Jeff Swiggers, N7ZZN



Vice President and Program Director, Jack Crabtree, W7JLC

Secretary, Jason Shultz, KE7WWQ



Treasurer, Mel Boreham, N6BDC



Director at Large, Norm Vandiver, N7VF



### MISSION STATEMENT

At the last meeting the following mission statement for the club was proposed. Here it is for you to read and consider:

**The mission of this non-profit organization shall be to promote Amateur Radio, the exchange of information and the encouragement of cooperation between its members.**

**To promote radio knowledge, fraternalism and the improvement of individual operating efficiency.**

**To advance the general interest and welfare of Amateur Radio through educational programs, workshops, and social activities.**

**To assist in providing examinations to prospective radio amateurs and amateurs wishing to upgrade through the ARRL Volunteer Examiner program.**

**To establish and maintain state-of-the-art repeaters to be utilized by all licensed operators in communicating items of interest to the amateur radio fraternity.**

**To be prepared to assist local, state and federal agencies with emergency communications as needed.**

### Special Events—ARRL Contests

Seen at the ARRL Special Events / Contests

**Apr 8-Apr 10, 1600Z-2395Z**, Avondale, AZ. Team PIR, K7PIR. NASCAR Subway Fresh 500. 14.225 7.255 14.070 PSK31. QSL. Team PIR, 1211 W Wood Dr. , Phoenix, AZ 85209. [www.kg9jp.com/k7pir](http://www.kg9jp.com/k7pir)

**Apr 9-Apr 10, 1600Z-2359Z**, Indian Orchard, MA. Titanic Historical Society, WIMGY. 98th anniversary of the Titanic voyage. 14.260 14.033 7.260 7.033. QSL. Titanic Historical Society QSL, PO Box 51053, 208 main St. Indian Orchard, MA 01151-0053. [www.hcra.org/titanic.htm](http://www.hcra.org/titanic.htm)

Tune in to the Nets on the repeater:

Every morning at 7am join the Knobby Knee Net. A different net control every day and many varied topics are discussed

Every Thursday at 7 pm -all lady hams (guys, too) are encouraged to participate in the Golden Girls Net

The Young and New Hams of Yavapai County meet every Sunday evening at 7pm. While new and young hams can check into any net, this net is a way for young and new hams to gain experience.

## Cal And Mary Turner: HAMS and Authors

Cal and Mary Turner are part of a small group of original members of the VVARA and helped to found the Knobby Knee Net. Cal had a 20 year career with the Treasury Department after a stint in the Navy during WWII. He has been interested in photography since high school and studied under Ansel Adams. Mary became a pilot at fifty and was active in CAP in CA. They retired from Palm Springs and moved to the Sierra Mountains near Bishop, CA. After a fire destroyed their home, they moved to the Verde Valley and currently live in Cottonwood. Village. The following is a press release for their book published in 2005, about some very interesting years spent in Palm Springs as "Photographer to the Stars".

### Two 80 Year Olds Publish Their First Book, *Beautiful People*

By Gene Weed

*Beautiful People of Palm Springs* is a true story of a 50-year-old couple that began a second career. Clarence A. Turner and wife Mary L. Turner set up a photography business in Palm Springs, California and become the official photographers for the Racquet Club of Palms Springs. Now at the golden age of eighty plus, they publish this fascinating and inspiring chronicle.

The story is set during the early 1970's when they had the unique opportunity to photograph such notables as Frank Sinatra, the Gabor family, Ginger Rogers and Bob Hope. The book is packed full of never before seen photographs along with the stories about their experiences documenting the behind the scenes life of the golden era film celebrities.

#### A Time Capsule, released

Early in the year of 1973, when Cal Turner clicked his shutter of famous celebrity Frank Sinatra, little did he know that he had captured one of his best-kept secrets . . . a time capsule caught on film.

Frank Sinatra was affectionately known as, "The Chairman of the Board, and as one of his trusted photographers, he had authorized not only Cal Turner, but also his wife Mary, unprecedented access to his private life at play. Along with that important charge went the responsibility to protect his many private moments that he was painstakingly recording on film.

On at least one occasion, "Ole' Blue Eyes", as he was also known in the media, used several polite techniques to persuade the Turner's not to publish certain photos he felt were inappropriate. On this instance they were told directly

by Mr. Sinatra's attending attaché's about a particular photograph that they had just recently taken. " I don't think you need to publish that, 'he said' ", says lifelong partner and author Mary Turner. She never did, until now. Mary Turner discusses that memorable moment in her new

"nothing more than distant and faint memories", the Turner's have published those surviving historical archives in their remarkable new book, "Beautiful People".

"Ginger Rogers was my favorite photographic assistant ", says Cal Turner jokingly as he describes those years from 1971 to 1975 when they operated their photographic studio in Palm Springs, California.

Cal went on, "Every time I needed assistance in getting a particular difficult shot lined up, Ginger was always there, willing and able to assist me ".

Those were indeed magical years in Palm Springs, California when all the top celebrities poured out from Hollywood to play in that sun-baked desert.

" So many of them ", says Mary, " that I was totally star-struck almost every day we spent at the Racquet Club of Palm Springs".

It was here at that Racquet Club that Frank Sinatra first heard of a new and upcoming photographer at Turner Photography. By gaining his complete confidence, the Turner's fledging photographic business was completely turned around, despite the barren summer street scenes of the Palms Springs, California at that time.

Throughout the early '70s, Cal Turner Photographer became a well-known studio throughout the whole desert southwest. His works were published in numerous newspapers, magazines and periodicals. Many people began to take notice of this and as a result their work schedule suddenly became extremely demanding.

About this time a well known wife of a famous celebrity once approached Cal at a function, and within a rather parental tone of voice and with her finger shaking in a commanding pose, explained, " if you ever published another picture like the one you did yesterday, then that will be the last photograph you ever take of my husband!"

Needless to say, Cal Turner had nothing to do with the selection of a particular photograph once it was delivered to the newspapers. But it

book along with many more in, "Beautiful People of Palm Springs ", ©2005, Lulu Press.

Not only has she succeeded in capturing in words those wonderful magical years that she and her husband Cal shared, who was also known as "the photographer of the stars ", her book is adorned with absolutely priceless photographic memoirs from that golden period of Hollywood.

Priceless indeed. In fact many of them were thought to have been lost in a devastating fire in 1980. It wasn't until many years later after a remove to Arizona did they discover that a great majority of those "lost prints", in fact did survive -nearly intact.

Now after 30 years of what was then thought at the time,



(Continued from page 4)

was at that point in Cal's career, that he realized he had reached a pinnacle of success –that of which others only dreamt of. To be scorned by a major celebrity meant your work was really important, and that it is definitely impacting the media and reaching the public.

Mary Turner had many dreams herself, and at the age of 50 she was inspired by the many people she had met who owned their own light aircraft. She wanted to fly!

Cal recalls that moment when Mary came into the studio one afternoon and said, "I am fifty years old, and never learned to fly". Not blinking an eye he just turned around and replied, "... then go down to the airport and take lessons.", he said. Within a short period of time she received her certification and had achieved a lifetime dream to fly her own plane. That dream of hers fed directly back into the growing photographic business by utilizing her skills as an aerial photographer. Thus the little business began to grow and flourish.

The Turners photographic work was skillfully crafted way before the advent of digital photography had hit the scene. Cal explains how the master himself, Ansel Adams, had personally taught him by using labor-intensive photographic methods using wet chemicals with elaborate drying procedures to produce only one print.

Beautiful People of Palms Springs is a wonderful story about these two people being inspired and empowered by the extraordinary love, warmth and generosity of our founding American celebrities.

It was written to demonstrate to our next generation the other side of our celebrities, and to honor them and encourage others to continue their work. Mary writes in her book in an extremely warm and lovely style that is suitable for all ages.

"Growing up as a poor girl in the Northwest, I never envisioned of ever having accomplished any of my childhood dreams", says author Mary Turner, "and I attribute all of our successes to only one major influence in our lives, those

Beautiful People of Palm Springs." References

1. *Beautiful People of Palm Springs*, Turner, 2005, ISBN 1-4116-3488-8 Lulu Enterprises Inc., 3131 RDU Center, Suite 210, Morrisville, NC 27560 [www.lulu.com/](http://www.lulu.com/)

2. "Cottonwood couple shares story of 'Beautiful People' in new photo book", Ravenwood, Pamela, pp. 7, KUDUS, July 13, 2005, Verde Valley Newspapers, Inc., Cottonwood, Arizona 86236

3. Turner, Clarence A., personal interviews and correspondence November 2004 – August 2005

4. Turner, Mary L, personal interviews and correspondence, November 2004 – August 2005

To order the book at *Barnes and Noble*:

**"Beautiful People of Palm Springs"**

**Mary Turner**

**ISBN 1-4116-3488-8**

Also available at the publishers at [www.lulu.com/](http://www.lulu.com/)

## Gearing Up

Did you know that there are apps for iPhones and smartphones for HAM operators? One app, HAM University 3.0 offers Morse code training and testing. Download the app, pass the code test and join the slow code net. To download this app or find more apps, visit [software.informer.com](http://software.informer.com) and look in home and hobby

Synergenics, LLC, has created an app for Ham operators that provides access to EchoLink via your iPhone or iPod touch, through a Wi-Fi or 3G connection, For more information, visit [www.echolink.org](http://www.echolink.org)

OpenAPRS.net provides a new app for iPhone. Open APRS With your phone, you can check APRS messages, view other operators and beacon your position. Visit [www.openaprs.net](http://www.openaprs.net) for more information.

## THE STORY OF THE KNOBBY KNEE NET

The VVARA was formed in 1976 with just a few members. By 1986 membership had grown to 72 members. An informal 2-meter net was in operation 1986. The club did not have a repeater, so the net was simplex operation and was only on once a week on Friday nights at 7 PM. Cal Turner, WI6S, was Net Control and usually had a topic for discussion pertinent to Ham Radio. Eventually, John Sullivan, KQ7T, now a silent key, gave the club a repeater to use. Several folks, which included Cal WI6S, George NZ7I and Don Rader N7HYH, installed the repeater on an old empty hotel in Jerome, but found that it's coverage was inadequate and so it was moved to KQ7T's house off of Rocking Chair Road in Cottonwood. This proved to be unsatisfactory also and after several other unsatisfactory locations, the equipment wound up on Mingus Mountain sharing the Mingus Mountain Group's Repeater Shack. The club was allowed to share the MMG Shack because several of members helped build it (In the midst of a snow storm, by the way). The simplex operation of the net made it difficult for some desiring to participate to hear each other, so Cal suggested the club make use of the repeater. This worked out so well that it was decided to put the net on daily at 7 AM with different Net Controllers each day.

One day after the net was closed Don N7HYH was talking to Cal WI6S as he sat with his short pajamas still on and said, "I'm sitting here with my knobby knees showing". He immediately picked up on it and said "Say, why don't we call this the Knobby Knee Net". And Don said, "Sounds good to me". So that's how the net got its name. Cal jokingly placed a requirement of being eligible to join the net by proving that you had dispatched a nasty critter such as a Black Widow, Scorpion, Rattlesnake, etc. However, being fearful that someone would take it seriously, it was quietly dropped several years ago. But it was fun while it lasted!



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## About the VVARA

We are a group of amateur radio operators from around the Yavapai county area. Our members are involved in many different activities..

Membership is open to any licensed amateur and anyone interested in ham radio. Dues are \$20 a year. An interested person or a family member is \$10. Send your dues, payable to the VVARA, to the treasurer.

Our monthly meetings are usually held at the Cottonwood Public Safety Building the fourth Wed. of the month. Three meetings will be held in the Prescott. There are no meetings in July or Dec. Our repeater W7EI/R is located on

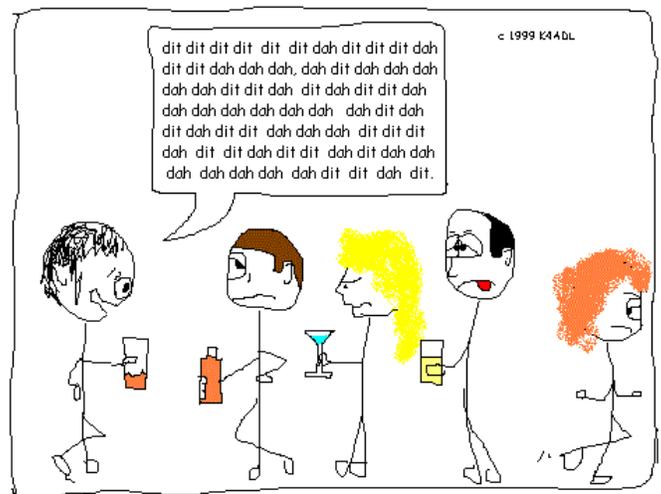
Mingus Mountain at 147.220 MHz with a pl tone of 162.2Hz.

Our website is [www.vvara.org](http://www.vvara.org). Check it out for lots of great information and links. Contact the webmaster at [webmaster@vvara.org](mailto:webmaster@vvara.org). Many thanks to all who have made this a great website including Ernie Cummings, K6XF, and Fred Schelter, K8IVC, and Paul Compton, WA7US,.

Please send any information for this newsletter to:

Starla Thompson, KE7DTS, at [starla@cableone.net](mailto:starla@cableone.net).

[www.qsl.net/k4adl](http://www.qsl.net/k4adl)



WHY SAMUEL MORSE WAS RARELY INVITED TO COCKTAIL PARTIES.