

**FIRST EDITION**

This is the inaugural edition of the OVARC email newsletter. It is sponsored by the Oro Valley Amateur Radio Club  
<http://www.tucsonhamradio.com>

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**NEW CLUB MEETING LOCATION**

*Ascension Lutheran Church  
1220 W Magee Rd  
Tucson, AZ 85704 (near LaCanada and Magee)*

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS for 2014**

President	Bob Molzcan	KA7VPR
Vice-president	Ron Herring	W7HD
Secretary	Howard Chorost	KC7AC
Treasurer	David Beauchesne	AK2L
Board Members	David Branson	KC0LL
	Scott Boone	K7ADX
	Dave Coccio	N7AKC
	Gary Schmitz	KT7AZ

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**Sunday Night Net**            19:00 MST            OVARC Repeater System

Join the group every Sunday night at 19:00 MST (7:00PM) on the OVARC repeater system for the Sunday Night Net. Two Sundays per month are a Tech Net where we discuss ham radio technical topics. On the Sunday after our general membership meeting we have our Radio Tradio where you can list ham radio items for sale. The other night is a general discussion.

Everyone is welcome on the net regardless of club affiliation.

We are always looking for Net Control Stations so if you would like to try your hand at being NCS, contact Lanny, KF7LV our Net Ma

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The Oro Valley Amateur Radio Club currently has four wide area repeaters. All of our repeaters are normally linked via VOIP over internet connections. (Golder Ranch 444.400 is currently not linked to the system)

All of our repeaters are open to ANY licensed ham. We invite you to use these repeaters as often as you like.

**2 Meters**

**146.620(-) PL 156.7 - Callsign WØHF**

Located on Keystone Peak (Map: <http://g.co/maps/5tdjg>)

Antenna Height: 100+ Feet  
Elevation: at nearly 7,000 feet  
Power Output: 100 Watts  
Antenna: Decibel DB-224  
Feedline: 7/8" Hard Line  
Repeater: Kenwood TKR-720

**145.190(-) PL 156.7 - Callsign WØHF**

Located on the Oro Valley Police substation tower at Oracle Rd at Mcgee Ave, Tucson, Arizona

Antenna Height: 57 Feet  
Elevation: 2584 Feet  
Power Output: 100 Watts  
Antenna: Tram 1491

Feedline: LMR-400  
 Repeater: Kenwood TKR-720  
 Echolink: Node: 99946  
 Auto Patch Instructions:  
 PLACE CALL: ID, Push 1+Area Code(even for a local call)+Number.  
 HANG UP: Press 2, Then, ID and Clear.  
 You are welcome to place long distance calls as we are not charged for long distance.

**70cm**

**444.100(+)** PL 156.7 - Callsign WØHF (MOVED to OVPD Main at Tangerine and LaCanada)

WIDE Northwest coverage and additional Tucson Coverage (including Sahuarita)

Antenna Height: Feet (adi)  
 Power Output: 50 Watts  
 Antenna: JetStream JTB3  
 Feedline: LMR-400  
 Repeater: Kenwood TKR-820

**440.400(+)** PL 156.7 - Callsign WØHF

Located on the Golder Ranch Fire District tower on Golder Ranch Road in Catalina, Arizona.

Antenna Height: 67 Feet  
 Elevation: 3081 Feet  
 Power Output: 50 Watts  
 Antenna: Diamond X-30  
 Feedline: Andrews 1/2" Hard Line  
 Repeater: Kenwood TKR-820

**Public Service Opportunitites**

There are many opportunities to provide public service in Southern Arizona. Here is a partial list. Specific requests for help will be communicated via email. If you would like to volunteer for any of these events contact [public\\_service@tucsonhamradio.com](mailto:public_service@tucsonhamradio.com)

15-16 Feb 2014

24 Hours of the Old Pueblo

Willow Springs near Oracle

<http://www.rstclub.org/24hop.html>

Email: [ky7k@arrl.net](mailto:ky7k@arrl.net)

1 Mar 2014 Old Pueblo 50 Run

Kentucky Camp near Patagonia

<http://www.oldpueblo50.com>

Email: [n8ik@cox.net](mailto:n8ik@cox.net)

2 Mar 2014 Tour de Cure

Marana and Avra Valley Az

[http://main.diabetes.org/site/TR?fr\\_id=9280&pg=entry](http://main.diabetes.org/site/TR?fr_id=9280&pg=entry)

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## Handyman Corner

A new feature of OVARC monthly meetings is the Handyman Corner. These short presentations will show how to accomplish small projects around the shack. The first Handyman Corner presentation will show how to install a PL-259 connector. Although these sessions are targeted to our newer hams, they may provide some new ideas for the more experienced hams to accomplish these tasks. We will collect the Handyman Corner information here on the website. If you have any ideas for Handyman topics, contact Tom, W8TK.

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### OTHER NEWS

It is official! The first OVARC club meeting of 2014 was held at our new location, the Ascension Lutheran church. The church is located at the intersection of Magee & LaCanada roads, and details may be found on the OVARC web site. A stellar presentation was given by Scott K7ADX on the basics of DSTAR. If you have ever wanted to know more about this relatively new mode of digital amateur radio communications, the January OVARC club meeting was the place to be. The meeting time is still 7:00 PM Arizona time, so don't be late!

As you all know, our Golder Ranch repeater has been un-linked from the OVARC network for quite some time due to technical difficulties and other obstacles. OVARC president Bob, KA7VPR has received word that work on the project to improve and re-link the Golder Ranch UHF repeater is nearing completion, and the machine will be back on-line shortly. Make sure to watch for notification on the OVARC reflector and listen to the Sunday NET for service restoration updates. The OVARC Board of directors would like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding regarding the Golder Ranch repeater situation. We also specifically thank David, KCOLL for all of his time, dedication, and perseverance during this challenge.

Our good friend and OVARC family member Matt, NX7AZ has left the Tucson area and moved back to his home state of Missouri as of yesterday. Matt was only here with us for a short time, but we all came to know him well and will miss him. Mathew returned home to pursue his education in electronics and radio, and has vowed to keep in touch with us via ham radio and email. Please join us in wishing Matt the best of health, happiness, and success.

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### LINKS TO VIDEOS AND OTHER ARTICLES

The EEVblog did a tour of the TV transmission facility in Sydney, Australia and had the tech pull apart one of the decommissioned valve based transmitters.

Video here: [http://youtu.be/mR\\_wJkxKSXU](http://youtu.be/mR_wJkxKSXU)

Russ, KG7DYX

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Ron, here is an article on the antenna I use for portable HF operations.  
73 - Jim W5ZIT

### ZS6BKW Six Band Antenna - similar to G5RV

Bill Orr W6SAI mentioned this modification to the G5RV dimensions in an article published many years ago. I have used it for field day and portable operation for several years. I use three camouflage pole supports to get

the antenna up twenty feet. The antenna is suitable for use without a tuner for the 40, 20, 17, 12, 10 and 6 meter bands.

Two people can easily erect this antenna by first staking two guys for one end support and then erecting the pole and using the antenna as the third guy. Likewise, the center support can be erected and two guys used to support the first half of the antenna. The third pole supports the other end of the antenna and two guys are required for that pole. A fence post or other support can be used by lashing the support pole to the post instead of using the guys. Try not to erect the antenna directly above a chain link fence.

Dimensions: 94 ft(28.65M) - 2x47 ft(14.32M) #14 electric fence wire.  
 40 ft(12.19M) 450 Ohm Ladder Line. Antenna up 20 ft(6.1M).  
 DX Engineering 1:1 Current Balun at ladder line junction with coax.  
 100 ft(30.48M) RG-8X to rig (this length not critical, any length will work).

Note: Frequency in [mHz], SWR in (ratio), Imp Ohms

Low End	SWR	Lowest	SWR	Imp	High End	SWR	Bandwidth
[06.710]	(2:1)	[06.920]	(1.09:1)	46	[07.130]	(2:1)	[0.420]
[13.775]	(2:1)	[14.120]	(1.16:1)	39	[14.465]	(2:1)	[0.690]
[17.405]	(2:1)	[17.840]	(1.20:1)	48	[18.275]	(2:1)	[0.870]
[24.460]	(2:1)	[24.840]	(1.23:1)	60	[25.220]	(2:1)	[0.760]
[28.085]	(2:1)	[28.650]	(1.14:1)	48	[29.215]	(2:1)	[1.130]
[49.520]	(2:1)	[50.240]	(1.25:1)	44	[50.960]	(2:1)	[1.440]

Low	SWR	Imp	High	SWR	Imp
[07.000]	(1.29:1)	64	[07.300]	(3.01:1)	62
[14.000]	(1.30:1)	41	[14.350]	(1.69:1)	27
[18.000]	(1.40:1)	44	[18.250]	(1.96:1)	58
[24.850]	(1.22:1)	60	[24.950]	(1.36:1)	67
[28.000]	(2.26:1)	72	[29.000]	(1.65:1)	43
			[29.600]	(2.49:1)	17
[50.000]	(1.41:1)	42	[51.000]	(2.14:1)	21

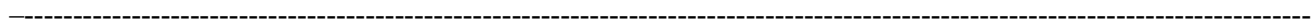
Readings taken with an MINI60 HF Antenna Analyzer

I Use lugs and brass screws to join the ladder line to the aluminum wire. A one inch PVC Tee with holes for the screws coupled to a short piece of one inch pipe serves as the center insulator and joins the wire to the ladder line. Tape the ladder line to the short PVC pipe and insert into the support pole. Route the ladder line away from the support pole. The four foot sections of fiberglass or aluminum camouflage poles are available on eBay or at hamfests.

These dimensions are optimized for CW/Digital frequencies. A slightly shorter ladder line would allow better SWR in the phone portions of the band. Erect the antenna in it's final position and trim the ladder line using an antenna analyzer to the desired frequency on 20M. The other bands will follow the 20M trim.

I have used this antenna on the low end of 80 meters using an antenna tuner, but the SWR rises sharply toward the 75 meter end of the band.

Jim W5ZIT Dec 2013



## FOR SALE

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**Had to make space for a 40 meter beam, so I'm selling a Cushcraft A-3WS**  
3 element beam for 12 and 17 meters. Works great. Assembled but on the ground. Needs a couple plastic end caps on the traps but otherwise is in perfect shape. New price \$500. Haul it away for \$100.  
Tom Kravec, W8TK. Phone 520-572-0554.

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**Looking for a larger generator?** Powermate 5500 watt generator, includes wheeled carrier frame, 5 gal gas can, and RV 30A 3-prong plug adaptor to the built-in 50A 4 prong adaptor. Gets about 11-12 hours run-time on 5 gals gas. In good working condition with about 70 hours on the Subaru engine. Asking price is \$250 if you pick it up or \$350 delivered in the Tucson metro area. Call Ron W7HD at 240-5322 or email me at [ronh@w7hd.net](mailto:ronh@w7hd.net). I upgraded to a Honda (much quieter).

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### 2014 Hamfest

KF7SYU suggested to Bob that we reserve November 8 for the Hamfest date, reserve the school venue, and start publicizing early. Also we should try to see if we can get the ok for overnight parking, and perhaps hire a security guard to watch the property for overnight parkers.

Following discussion, we will need to have everyone check their calendars and also make sure the November 8 date is not in conflict with other functions. Bob will get back with Tim and ask him to research the date

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### Android apps for amateur radio (Browse app store for "ham radio")

I just tested these. There are MANY more out there, but these are handy.

- 1 – ARRL Repeater Directory
  - 2 – Ham Radio Tools
  - 3 – Echolink
  - 4 – Ham Radio Ionosphere Status (what is the sun doing?)
  - 5 – QTH Locator Widget (shows current maidenhead location)
  - 6 – Morse decoder
  - 7 – ARRL QST
  - 8 – APRS Messenger
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