



# SkyWave

Shy-WY ARC Newsletter



October 2010  
Volume 1, Issue 10



As things get wrapped up for another year, I would like to thank all the operators who participated in all of our public service activities this past summer. We accomplished all activities softly and professionally. Thanks to all.

There are a couple of things left on the agenda but for the most part we accomplished much. I would like to remind everyone that we have JOTA, Skywarn Recognition Days, and a Christmas get together yet to come, plus the usual meetings.

Have you been thinking about getting on the air with CW but lack the proficiency or any knowledge at all? Now is the chance. Don, K7TFW, has an itchy fist and can't wait to start the CW class. This will begin on October 19, 6:30pm at Fire District 2, Station 1, located on N. College Drive. Whether you are no good, almost good, or simply need to increase you speed, here is your chance.



## SHY-WY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of August 10, 2010 haven't arrived!  
They will be sent separately.



# Local news:

**Skywarn:** The weekly Monday night severe weather training net has ended for the season. Stay tuned for the winter severe weather net at 7:00PM on the 146.775 repeater beginning later as there are some issues to work out.

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## VE Test Sessions:



Wilson Sellner continues to conduct VE test sessions at the WYDOT cafeteria bi-monthly on the first Saturday beginning at 0900 (9:00AM). The next test session will be December 4, 2010. This date conflicts with Skywarn Recognition day at the NWS so it may change. Contact Wilson for more information. Bring any current license, any CSCE's and \$15. In addition you will need picture ID. To be prepared you should also have a calculator with the memory erased. You may not bring any written notes or calculations into the exam session.

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The Capital City VE Team will be conducting VE Testing on the first Saturday of every other month. (Schedule follows)

Contact Greg, [N7GT](#), for more information.

## Capital City VE Team 2010 Test Session Schedule

Saturday, December 4, 2010

Laramie County Community College  
Center for Conferences and Institutes (CCI Building)  
Room 121 (CCI-121)  
1400 East College Dr.  
Cheyenne, WY 82007

Test sessions begin promptly at 9:00 a.m.

Contact Greg, [N7GT](#), for more information or with any questions.

## Recent Events



**ARES®/RACES:** I believe there have been some recent events but have received no information about how these events went.

**Shy-WY ARC:** Activities have mostly wrapped up for the year. We need to discuss whether or not we want to sponsor the 2011 State Convention.. I suggested to the Laramie group that we co-sponsor the event but haven't heard anything back from them, yet.

**Other events:** The annual High Plains Roundup was held at Curt Gowdy State Park on September 10-12. There were about 30 attendees. Jack Mitchell, N7MJ, won the drawing. There were several who arrived Friday afternoon and stayed until Sunday morning. We all had a great time. Mike Whitmore, W7MEW, and Tom Ritter, WB4UIC, have volunteered to organize the event for 2011. Anyone wishing to help will be welcomed.



## Upcoming events:

**Shy-WY ARC Meeting** - The next meeting will held at the Laramie County Library in the Willow Room, Tuesday, October 12, 2010, at 7:00 PM.

**ARES®/RACES Meeting** - Everyone is invited to the Laramie County ARES/RACES Meeting on OCTOBER 18,2010. The meeting will be from 7:00pm to 9:00pm, and will be at Cheyenne Regional Medical Center in the Vista Room on the 9th floor of the patient tower. The agenda for the night is Dan Perko from State Forestry. Dan is the Deputy State Forester and communications officer. Dan will be talking about communications within State Forestry and how amateur radio can play a role.

Directions for getting to the vista room are as follows, if you come in the main lobby of the hospital go toward set of elevators in the lobby. Off on the right-hand side is set of stairs go down the stairs follow the hallway to east. Proceed past the Greenhouse Grill in front of you is a set of elevators. Take these elevators to the 9th floor, exit the elevators to right go round corner and Vista room off

on the left-hand side. If you come in from Evans Ave side proceed through courtyard and enter thru set of brown double doors and you are in the Greenhouse Grill. Proceed through the Greenhouse Grill and on the left-hand side are the elevators. Take these elevators to the 9th floor of patient tower. Exit the elevators to the right and go around corner and Vista room is on the left hand side. Any questions or concerns please contact Brian, N7BAM at 1-307-421-1801 or E-mail at mcnutb\_b@bresnan.net or by radio 146.775. See everyone there.



## The Quiz

*The last quiz took a long look in the rear-view mirror. Let's turn around to the future and take a look out the windshield with this collection of new ham radio jargon!*

- 1) What information is contained in a "spot"?
  - a. Time
  - b. Frequency
  - c. Call sign
  - d. All of the above
- 2) Which of the following components could be a "roofing" type?
  - a. Antenna
  - b. Connector
  - c. Filter
  - d. Cable
- 3) A buck-boost converter is a type of what?
  - a. Rectifier
  - b. Filter
  - c. Power supply
  - d. Mixer
- 4) What causes aliasing in a DSP system?
  - a. Under-sampling
  - b. Over-sampling
  - c. Dither
  - d. Noise
- 5) Which of the following is a type of spectrum display?
  - a. Dobsonian
  - b. Waterfall

- c. Magic-eye tube
  - d. Delayed sweep
- 6) What does the SOHO satellite observe?
- a. Ocean surface temperatures
  - b. Solar phenomena
  - c. Geomagnetic pole drift
  - d. Cosmic rays
- 7) What type of communication is the WSJT suite of software used for?
- a. High-speed CW
  - b. Networking
  - c. Satellite
  - d. Weak signal
- 8) Rover stations constitute a category in what type of contest?
- a. VHF/UHF
  - b. Field Day
  - c. Digital mode
  - d. Sprints
- 9) Through what platform does “bent-pipe” communication take place?
- a. Digipeater
  - b. D-STAR
  - c. Satellite
  - d. Passive reflector
- 10) What does a “Skimmer” skim?
- a. CW signals
  - b. Intruders
  - c. VLF “whistlers”
  - d. Meteor trails

**Bonus Question** -- How did the “screwdriver antenna” get its name?

Answers on page 7



## Local Nets on 2 Meters

The daily weather net is at 0645 (local) on the 146.775 repeater.

The Shy-WY ARC Sunday morning net follows the weather net at 0700.

The Shy-WY ARC Tuesday evening net meets at 1900 on 146.775 repeater. This net meets weekly except the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday (club meeting night).

The Nation Weather Service severe weather training net is on every Monday at 1900 (local) on the 146.775 repeater.

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## HF nets:

Cowboy Net: M-F @ 1845 on 3.9235

Pony Express Net: Sunday @ 0800 on 3.9235

WY ARES® Net: Sunday @ 0830 on 3.9235

Jackalope Net: M-Sat @ 1215 on 7.260

QCWA Net: Sat. @ 0800 on 3.9235

Mtn State Slow CW Net: @ 1945; Summer 7.115 Winter 3.715

Wyoming Swap Shop: Sunday @ 0730 on 3.9235 except in the summer when Paul goes fishing.



## Additional information

Local and area links:

[Shy-WY Amateur Radio Club](#)

[Casper Amateur Radio Club](#)

[University Amateur Radio Club N7UW](#)

[Northeast Wyoming Amateur Radio Association](#)

[Northern Colorado Amateur Radio Club](#)

[Aurora Repeater Association](#)

[Colorado ORP Club](#)

[EDGE OF SPACE SCIENCES](#)

[Everything for the Morse enthusiast](#)

[ARRL home page](#)

[Sweetwater Amateur Radio Club](#)

[Carbon County Amateur Radio Club](#)

[Jackson Hole Area Amateur Radio Club](#)

## *Answers*

- 1) d -- Spotting networks distribute reception reports of stations for DXing and contesting.
- 2) c -- A roofing filter helps reject strong in-band signals.
- 3) c -- Buck-boost is a type of switchmode dc-to-dc converter.
- 4) a -- To avoid aliasing, sample at a minimum of twice the maximum signal frequency.
- 5) b -- A waterfall display shows a sequence of spectrum sweeps.
- 6) b -- The Solar and Heliospheric Observatory ([SOHO](#)) keeps an eye on our Sun.
- 7) d -- [WSJT](#) is written by Joe Taylor, K1JT, for EME and meteor scatter modes.
- 8) a -- Rover stations move from grid square to grid square during the contest.
- 9) c -- Signals are received by the satellite and transmitted back to the ground without processing.
- 10) a -- Alex Shovkoplyas, *VE3NEA*, wrote [this software](#) to decode CW signals automatically.

**Bonus Answer** -- The original models used electric screwdriver motors to adjust the antenna's resonant frequency.

Source: <http://www.arrl.org/news/amateur-radio-quiz-in-the-here-and-now>

Thanks for reading.

Mike Whitmore, W7MEW

Editor

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