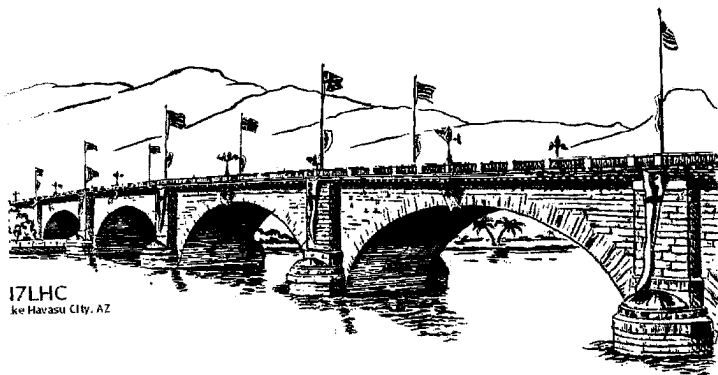


# Static



17LHC  
ke Havasu City, AZ

## MEETING NOTICE:

The regular monthly meeting of the London Bridge Amateur Radio Association will be held on Thursday, April 24, 2003 at 7:00 PM in the Community Room at the Mohave County Library, 1770 McCulloch Blvd. in the KMART Shopping Plaza.



The monthly meeting of the London Bridge Amateur Radio Association Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2003 in the Board Room of the above Library. This is a open meeting and members are encouraged to attend.

This issue will kick off the Autobiography column. The first one is a update of the autobiography of Ed Gillespie, AB7EM that was run back in December, 1994. I had a hard time getting everything converted to the WP format but we finally got it. Thanks Ed for your patience.

I hope everyone will start working on their stories so we can have a new one every month. I know that I enjoy reading about everyone's radio career and I am sure the same can be said about all the members. So lets get this column off the ground.

Editor

## Results of the February 28, 2003 test session

Congratulations are in order for:

Dan Stingley, KD7IUR of Kingman

Special request for retest of element 1 (CW) for the FCC

Lisa Hewus, KD7USL of Lake Havasu element 2 - Technician

Andrew Fresh, KD7USM of Lake Havasu element 2 - Technician

### Static schematic

Page 1  
Meeting Notice  
Test Results

Page 2  
Prez Wavelength

Page 3  
Minutes

Page 4  
Coming Events

Page 5  
Autobiography

Page 6  
Calendar



## *the PRESIDENT'S WAVELENGTH*

Jerry France, K7LY

Recently I was rummaging through a drawer in the ham shack and ran across my ICOM T8AA dual-bander. Haven't had the need to use this handheld in a long time. Hummm. Wonder what I could do with this gear (I'm always looking for new challenges)? I remember reading an article a while back about someone accessing a satellite with his handheld and the spark lit the fuse. Time to go surfing and see what I can learn about this new use for the handheld. The web is a great source of information on this subject. It sure is amazing what can be done with a few watts of FM into the LEO's (low earth orbit) or "EasySat's" and a simple antenna. So, I'm off and running. Will let you know how I progress. Stay tuned.

If you're interested, give this site a try: <http://member.aol.com/k5oe/>. It's full of interesting satellite antenna ideas for working the LEO's and lots of links to learn much more. Let me know, if you give this a try and how successful you were.

As I write this, the television is running in the background and tuned to FOX news. This war is rapidly coming to an end and all of America owes a great big thank you to the men and women of our armed services. Let's make sure we welcome them home with open arms and hugs of gratitude.

Jerry  
K7LY

Additional comments from the Prez.

Even if all you have is a 2-meter FM radio,

you still have the ability to work an Easy Sat; the International Space Station (ISS). The ISS has both packet and voice capabilities on 2-meters. Oh, and APRS too! The ISS is covered in detail elsewhere in this issue. At right is the author's QSL card from a 2-meter QSO with Susan Helms (NA1SS) aboard the International Space Station earlier this year.

The next class of satellites easily workable with typical shack hardware are LEOs operating with 2-meter uplinks and 70 cm downlinks, both FM. Currently the "fleet" consists of two "birds": AO-27 and UO-14. Many people work these satellites with HT's and mobile FM radios--even while driving. These are without a doubt the most easily accessible and popular satellites today. Many operators take an HT with them when they go fishing or camping, even boating or on a cruise, and give other operators the chance to work rare grid squares. VUCC is alive and well on the satellites. One important point: UO-14 is much easier to hear than AO-27, thus can be extremely crowded (competitive!) at times, so weekday morning passes are highly recommended for beginners. Listening first for a few passes is also recommended to get the feel for the action--it can be fast and furious. Make your calls by "tail-ending" another QSO, and make it fast.

If you have V/UHF FM capability and have a digital bent, then maybe packet satellites will interest you. There are currently two packet satellites (pacsats) operating at 9600 baud that are relatively easy to work: UO-22 and KO-25. The only difference from terrestrial packet, other than being at 9600 baud and not 1200 baud, is the special pacsat software required. Of course, a 9600 baud TNC (or PC soundcard TNC program) is **SEE: Prez page 3**



**Prez:**

required. The next-easiest satellite class are those that have 2 meter SSB/CW uplink and 10 meter downlink: RS-12/13 and RS-15. If you have a radio with 2 meter SSB/CW capability, this mode is still easily workable in "split" fashion as I noted above. It helps to be able to hear your downlink, but it is not critical at these frequencies. RS-12 is quite easy to hear and work. Typical stations use a dipole on 10 meters to receive the signals and a 2 meter ground plane or J-pole antenna with 10-50 W uplink power. Late model mobile radios like the FT-100, FT-817, and finally, the last class of EasySat LEO, the SSB/CW birds FO-20 and FO-29. These really are the ultimate LEOs, but are really more like "IntermediateSats" than EasySats. Both of these satellites also use 2-meters for the uplink and 70-cm for the downlink, but full-duplex operation is generally required due to the high Doppler shift of the signals. These satellites have excellent audio characteristics and have 100 kHz wide passbands-allowing many simultaneous conversations for 10 to 15 minutes at a time. Roundtable discussions with 3, 4, or 5 operators is not uncommon. Radios such as the FT-726/736/847, TS-790/2000, IC-820H/821H/910H, and older pairs such as the IC-271/471 are typically used along with beam antennas controllable in both azimuth and elevation. Antennas for these satellites range from simple omnidirectional antennas like eggbeaters to the big "OSCAR-class" setups.

Jerry

---

**MINUTES:**

**LONDON BRIDGE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**

**General Meeting - March 27, 2003**

President France called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

There were thirty five members present and two visitors; Bob Bingham, N9WMB and Laura Bingham, K9BZY.

The Minutes of the meeting were read and approved as written.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The Treasurers report was read with a balance of \$6653.62 and approved.

President France announced that the **Static** will now be sent out on e-mail as soon as the system has been set up. The members that do not have e-mail will receive their **Static** in the mail.

**ARRL Library Books** - The Books have arrived and we will have a presentation for the Newspaper. Mrs. France will take pictures Bruce Hunt volunteered to be in the picture.

**Emergency Trailer** - Alan Irey asked again if anyone would like to donate a trailer or may know someone else that would like to do so. It was suggested that we run a Want Ad in the newspaper stating that this trailer would be used for Emergency Communications, Search and Rescue and the like.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Training Classes** - Chuck Wittmaack has contacted President France and said he plans to start the Classes in the Fall.

**Web Site** - President France will get the password for the Web Site to make changes or corrections and additions. He also asked



the Members for suggested changes and/or additions for the Site. We will probably archive the **Static** on the site also.

**ARES** - Bruce Hunt is attempting to make contact with Joe Dimura at the Police Dept. ARES net is each Thursday on 146.610.

**ARRL CD** - President France mentioned a 6-minute CD, on Emergency situations. He said that after watching this CD, narrated by Walter Cronkite, how important it is to be prepared. He also stated that in most critical emergencies it has been the Ham Radio Operators that came through.

**Field Day** - Third weekend in June 27, 28, 29. Alan Irey stepped forward and said he would set up for the event. T.J. said she will help with the food. We will have only one or two stations this year.

**Meeting Dates** - The dates for the Board and General Meetings will now be published in the **Static** each month. The General Meeting will also be announced on the Monday Night Net.

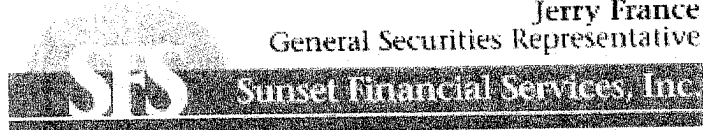
**Sky Warn** - President France announced that the Board has approved \$200 to purchase a Sky Warn weather station for the Club Repeater. Dick Jernigan is going to donate the Radio for the system. Dick and Doug Speng will put together the TNC, which comes as a kit.

**Program - Sky Warn** - Dick Jernigan brought his Sky Warn system and gave a very interesting and information program. Thanks Dick.

Respectfully Submitted

Anita Hansen, Secretary

Jerry France  
General Securities Representative

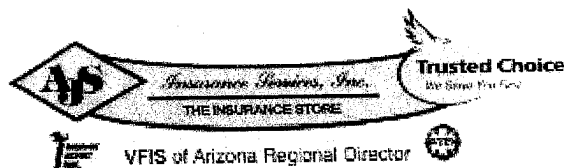


Member NASD, SIPC

Home Office  
3520 Broadway  
Kansas City, Missouri 64111  
816-753-2000

2250 McCulloch Blvd  
Lake Havasu City AZ 86403  
Office: 928-855-3081  
FAX: 928-855-8609

A wholly-owned subsidiary of Kansas City Life Insurance Company



JERRY FRANCE, AAI, ChFC, LUTCF, CIC  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT  
FINANCIAL SERVICES DIVISION

francej@ajsinsurance.com  
www.ajsinsurance.com

2250 McCulloch Blvd.  
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403  
Bus. (928) 855-3081 Ext. 2400  
Fax (928) 855-8609  
Toll Free 1-800-528-9106 Ext. 2400

### CORRECTION:

In the last issue of the *Static*, the caption for the picture of Lyle working in the crane basket was wrong. I said the person in the basket was Lyle Ross, W6TPT when in reality it was Lyle Sibbald, K7YO. My apologies to the two Lyles and a thank you to Dick Jernigan for the correction.

### COMING EVENTS:

June 27-28-29 Field Day

July 25-26-27 Ft. Tuthill Hamfest/ARRL  
Arizona State Convention

September 6-14 Route 66 On the air

September 20 Kingman 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Fallfest



## Autobiography

Ed & Georgia Gillespie, AB7EM / KC7ATI

My wife Georgia and I moved to the San Fernando Valley, California in November 1956 to join the Nation in its quest to tame outer space. I joined the North American Aviation Team, Rocketdyne Division, the foremost and only builder of Liquid Rocket Engines used in all the Major Space Programs. In the early 1970's we had already put a man on the moon and were getting ready for the Space Shuttle Program when I got involved in desert motorcycling. I thought this would be a good escape from the pressures of our industry and a sure way to keep our 4 boys busy. As a result my family and I got to spend a lot of time in the desert and at moto-cross tracks. My oldest son was working for the Mammoth Mountain Ski Resort as a Ski Instructor and Pilot. He came to visit and noted that a friend of his had a super radio system and insisted that I needed a similar set up to get back and forth from the desert safely. After much discussion, it sounded as though it had advantages so the "CB" radio. Well, radio wave propagation was great and it wasn't long before we had radios in each vehicle and Yes!, Even a base station. A couple of years later, I decided that Ham Radio would be a great hobby for retirement. A friend and I took a course and everything went fine except, it took another month of "code practice" before I could take the Novice exam. After passing the exam it took a couple months before I got my call sign KA7CSU. During the waiting period, I had plenty of time listen to the radio and it wasn't long before I began to realize that, if I planned on doing foreign DX it was probably going to be with Morse code. But even with time to practice code during the wait for my call sign, my speed wasn't much

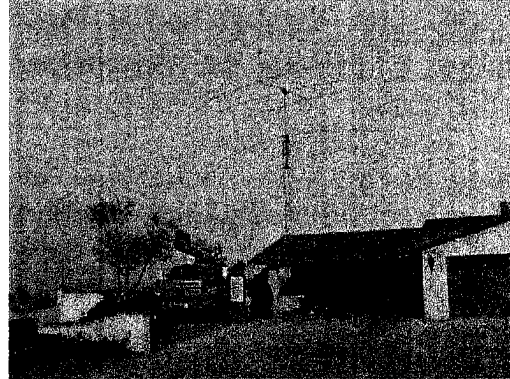
more proficient then when I took the exam a couple months earlier. With much perseverance and humility I hit the airways. Boy was I nervous, after several months I was holding my own and gaining confidence and began having fun. With all the frequencies available to the Novice Class operator my quest for General Class just faded away. It wasn't until about September of 1982 that I thought it was time to upgrade, so I went down to the FCC office to take the code exam. Nervous? You bet I was, but after I finally relaxed it wasn't a problem. They called me in and told me I had passed my code requirement and I could now take the theory exam. Would you believe that after all that, I failed the written exam! They said I missed by one, guess my memory wasn't as good a thought. I should have at least looked at the book before I went, as it was 4-1/2 years since I finished the course. The FCC said I had to wait 3 months before I could take the exam again and in the meantime, the winds blew down my tower. So with that I decided Ham Radio would have to take a back seat and my upgrading would have to wait until retirement. A couple years after retiring here in Havasu, around August 1992 we met Jim Smith, N6EVD and his wife Nelda, N6EVL and they invited us to the LBARA meeting being held at the bowling alley. When we went everyone seemed excited and talking about repeaters, HT radios and different events they would be supporting. With that I realized another spectrum of the radio, VHF, UHF, something that I never got involved in. I really hadn't given it much thought until then, but if I were to get active and participate in the club activities, I would have to upgrade to get the required privileges. I contacted Chuck Whittmaack, WXOR, to schedule an Exam. Georgia thought this could be fun and  
**SEE: Autobiography Page 5**



### Autobiography:

decided that she would also get involved, so took a class that Chuck was giving for No Code Tech. Several months later Georgia had her Technician License and I was extra class. Georgia and I have been a member of the Club now for 10 years, and enjoy the Fox Hunts, Emergency Exercises, Field day and supporting the Civic Activities. Ed is currently an Official Observer for the ARRL, Contact Volunteer for the W5YI, National Radio Examiners, Spotter for the National Weather Service and Radio Communications Officer for the Mohave County Sheriff Boating Safety Program. Check out Ed and Georgia's website [http://users.rraz.net/paradise/the\\_gillespie\\_times001.htm](http://users.rraz.net/paradise/the_gillespie_times001.htm) It is updated quarterly to keep things current.

More pictures of antenna party in last months issue.



Gillespie Home



Operating Table  
(Nothing should be this neat)

