

Short Bios for 2014 Fall TechFest

MFJ-259 Operation and Calibration - Bill Leonard, NØCU

Bill became interested in electronics at age 10 after building his first crystal set receiver. Soon after he obtained his amateur license and began building his station. By age 16 he had completed building a homebrew HF AM station with a KW amplifier. He continued pursuing his interest in electronics by completing the BSEE & MSEE programs at UCLA followed by two years of post-grad studies at the University of Arizona. As an electrical engineer, Bill spent 40 years developing missile guidance systems and satellite payloads. Now retired, Bill spends much of his free time building the homebrew projects he never had time to pursue before. Bill is a past President of the 285 TechConnect Radio Club.

DXpedition Dry Tortugas - Pete Fountain, WD4IXD

Pete earned his Novice license as a teenager in 1977 while working part time as a broadcast engineer at a Macon, Georgia AM radio station. About a year later, he passed the General Class exam and later upgraded to Advanced and Extra Class. Over the years, he has been involved in many aspects of the hobby - satellite operations, EME, packet, repeaters, RTTY, and PSK. Pete is very active on CW and SSB chasing DX, contesting, or 50 MHz - 1.2 GHz terrestrial weak signal operations. He is a member of the ARRL, Florida Contest Group, The Denver Radio Club, 10-10 International, and is an accredited ARRL and W5YI Volunteer Examiner. He also operates a Telnet DXCluster (dxc.wd4ixd.net) in Littleton and 2 repeaters in the Orlando/Disney area. In March 2010, he and his son Max, KJ4EUT, participated in the K4T expedition to the Dry Tortugas. The HF/VHF/Satellite expedition set a few records and gave many IOTA and Grid Square seekers a new entity for their log books.

Pete has been in Broadcast Engineering for the majority of his career. He has worked in the AM, Television, and Satellite Broadcasting fields. He retired in 2003 after almost 20 years as Chief of Satellite Broadcast Engineering for Busch Entertainment Corporation/Sea World Adventure Parks, based in Orlando, Florida. He then worked 8 years as a Communications Engineer for Orlando Utilities Commission maintaining their telco, fiber optics, and network communications devices. He then moved to the Denver area in 2011 after accepting a position as Satellite and Gateway (Earth Station) RF Engineer with ViaSat Corporation.

Pete's other interests include riding motorcycles, camping, and flying/instructing in various makes and models of airplanes and gliders. He is a member of the Society of Broadcast Engineers, the Society of Satellite Professionals International and has held the FCC General RadioTelephone License (First Class RadioTelephone) with RADAR Endorsement since 1977.

Go Take a Hike (portable QRP) - Shel Radin, KFØUR

Shel has been licensed since the 60's and has an Amateur Extra class license. He has been enjoying operating QRP portable for over 12 years.

Either at home or in the field, Shel is active on 80M-6M using CW, SSB, RTTY, and PSK31 while DXing, ragchewing, and contesting.

He also enjoys homebrewing equipment for portable operation and is the software designer of the portable accessories Ham Central Terminal and Key Log Go from QRPworks.

Estes Park, CO Flood Communications – Dave Bowers, KB0WVH

Dave is part of the local ARES group for Estes Park and stepped up at the last minute to fill in for Douglas Tabor, N6UA. Thanks so much Dave.

Amateur Radio Mesh Networking - Brian Mileschosky, N5ZGT

Brian Mileschosky N5ZGT was first licensed at the age of 12 in 1992. Twenty one years later, ham radio is just as exciting now as it was when that highly anticipated envelope from the FCC with his ticket arrived in the mail. Brian is active on the air between 80 meters and 10 GHz, chasing DX, contesting, experimenting with novel technologies, assisting with public service communications, and mentoring new hams who seek the thrill of ham radio. Brian has served in numerous club and ham convention leadership positions and has sat on ARRL's Board since 2005, currently serving League members as Director of the Rocky Mountain Division (composed of the Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming sections). Professionally, Brian is an RF/microwave engineer engaged in research and development of RF systems and applications from UHF through 30 GHz.