

Member Profiles- Beth and Norm, W6RYL and N6DAC

When Beth and Norm Peterson agreed to provide our member profile this month I anticipated that it would be rather special and it did not take long to realize just what a remarkable couple they are.

Norm was first licensed in 1932 and so is celebrating 70 years as a ham this year. On behalf of all club members please accept our most hearty

****CONGRATULATIONS****

We might also have recognized their golden wedding anniversary but that was 2 years ago. Who said that blind dates don't work? Nice going both of you !



Beth received her general license in 1983 and said that she owed a lot to Hank KG6EE for his code practice sessions. Beth is an expert swimmer and world class scuba diver but hasn't tried underwater ham radio yet.

Norm received an EE from UC Berkeley and had a 40-year career with GE. Beth, a native of Texas, received a

degree in economics from SMU. A piano is prominent in their living room so once again we discover two more members with musical talent in the SCCARC.

Norm amused me with a description of his first TX. This used a single type 71 tube as an oscillator with its tank circuit connected directly to an antenna for 80 meters—CW naturally. Later on a second type 250 tube was added as a modulator for AM phone. With

this simple rig VK and ZL QSOs were common.

Their 2-element beam antenna for 10,12,15,18 and 20 is unusual, Norm designed it based on a W8JK driven array, two 40 ft elements spaced 10 ft and the boom does double duty as the phasing line. It is fed with open wire line and tuned by an old Johnson "Matchbox"

Ham radio is a big part of life for Beth and Norm with weekly skeds with family members and old friends that include W6VG who introduced Ham Radio to Norm while still at high school.

It was a real pleasure to learn more about this amazing couple, please join with me in wishing them good health and lots more fun ahead.

