



Watt's Up

Newsletter for the Umpqua Valley
Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 925 Roseburg, OR 97470

February 2010

Watt's Up Staff: Editor-Wayne W9AE Publishing-Russ, W7DUR
E-Mail Distribution, Dick, AA7GC

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John, KE7LDZ
Doug, WB6MFV

Club Call Signs

KC7UAV
KC7TLY

ARES Nets

Douglas County ARES
145.430 repeater
Mondays at 7 PM
District 5 ARES
3964 kHz
Mondays at 6:30PM
State ARES
3964 kHz, first/third
Tuesdays at 7 PM.

President's Message

Greetings to all of the UVARC members.

First, in case you haven't heard about it yet our **next** meeting and **future** meetings will still be held at the usual place, **Room 310 of the Douglas County Court House**. A phone call to Commissioner Laurance's office solved the problem. Ed KC7UFZ made a great suggestion and Jerry AE7ER made the call and the problem was resolved! Great work and thanks to both of you. Also congratulations to Jerry Eifert for his upgrade to Extra and new call sign.

We had a great turnout for our January meeting and everyone seemed to want to have our next Field Day at the Glide High School Athletic Field again this year. Jerry KE7ER is looking into this and has contacted them. They are looking at their summer schedule currently. I think this can be worked out as we do not need exclusive use of the entire area.

The move of the repeaters on Lane Mountain has been put on hold until we have some nicer weather. Tom W7TCH is working on a grounding box for the coax entry point to the building where our Polyphasers will be mounted. Thanks to Douglas County we will have some new antennas and feed line when we start setting up the new building. The electrical work has been done and inspected up there. The power still needs to be hooked up. This will be done when we need it.

I am currently burning in the UHF repeater that will go on Lane Mountain when we move in the new building. This repeater is a joint venture with Douglas County ARES, WB6MFV, AE7ER, and WA6KHG, the call WB6MFV/R is on it. It has a VHF remote base with it that can be turned on and tuned to any VHF frequency, offset, or PL tone in the 2 meter ham band. It also has a VHF ELT receiver that will let us listen to 121.500 AM for ELT signals from the top of the mountain. It is on 440.300 + 88.5 PL.

In the repeater department the 146.900 Lane Mt. repeater is running well. The 147.120 Boomer Hill repeater is working. The DC packet node 144.930 is working great.

The next VE session is February 10, 2010 at 6:00 P.M. at the courthouse in Room 310. Don't forget to bring a copy of your original license if you are upgrading. You also need some form of acceptable identification. The VEC license fee for 2010 is \$15.00. Cash or a check made out to ARRL is acceptable.

Jim WA6KHG

January 21 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order @ 1900 hrs. by President Jim Rucker. New officers were introduced, and members gave their call signs. There were twenty four members present.

Russ, Secretary was ill and absent. President Jim gave a short version of the x-mas party meeting, acknowledging George Roth as Ham of the Year.

Treasurer's Report was given by Jerry Hathaway.

Jerry Hathaway also reported that Room 310 of the Court House will not be available in the future. There was a discussion about where it could be held, and suggestion of City Hall, VA, and possibly the Red Cross. George Roth will check about using the Red Cross, and members will be notified before the next meeting by "What's Up" and the voice announcement on the 146.900 UVARC repeater.

Later, Jerry Eifert called to question decision, and the Commissioner called and stated we had the room for many years, and he would change his plans.

Jerry Eifert discussed Lane Mt. acquisition, the new equipment and capabilities, and stated there will be two G7 antennas for sale; proceeds going to the club repeater fund. KB7UMO and W7TCH are interested in the G7 antennas. It was decided they should look at the G7 in AES or HRO catalogs, and since they are nearly 20 years old, make an offer.

Field Day was discussed, a motion was made and the vote was for the Glide School Football Field. Jerry Eifert appointed to contact the school and reserve for the weekend of June 25 & 26th. Glide School Dist. Will let us know by mid April if the field is available.

The next VE Session will be Feb. 10th.

Hutch gave a presentation on Peter Commerfield, a world renowned survival expert, previously taught at the air force academy. His presentation will be Feb. 28th from 1-5 p.m. at the Rose Theater at Roseburg High School. Admission is three cans of food per person.

Hutch brought up bringing in new younger members, and there was a discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 2015 hrs.

Jerry Eifert, Act. Sec.

Editor's Note

If you want to be in the UVARC Spotlight, send pictures of your shack, antennas, or mobile setup to w9ae@charter.net. Please also send any club news, pictures, for sale announcements, etc.

Wayne W9AE

UVARC REPEATERS

146.900-, PL 100 (Lane Mountain)

147.120-, PL 100 (Boomer Hill)

PACKET

Node - 144.930, DC:WB6RHW-1

UVARC Web Page

<http://aa7gc.net/uvarc/>

NOTES:

1. Watt's Up is **on line** in the UVARC web Page. It may be viewed in PDF format.
2. Members **E-mail addresses** are on the web page as a link. Password required.
3. The **club roster** is included in the web page as a link. Password required.
4. Club **constitution** is available as a linked page.
5. Back issues of **Watt's Up** are available through the club web page in PDF format.

VE Testing in Douglas County

Testing sessions are affiliated with the ARRL. They are scheduled the second Wednesday of even months except August. Sessions are held in Roseburg at the Douglas County Courthouse, room 310, 6 PM.

ARRL VEC Test Fee for 2010 is \$15.00

This fee is charged once, no matter whether taking any one, two, three or all four test elements, one time. Retests of an element failed at the same test session will require payment of an additional test fee.

Testing Dates

Second Wednesday of each even Month

February 10

April 14

June 9

August - None

October 13

December 8

For further information contact Jim WA6KHG,
at (541) 496-2262



SUNSHINE

If you hear of someone who is ill or in the hospital, please let me know. Also notify me of any silent keys.

Russ Nelson, W7DUR, at 440-3840

Haitian Disaster Relief Communications

In the days following the recent earthquakes in Haiti, the ARRL has received reports and inquiries about non-amateur stations transmitting on several amateur frequencies when assisting with disaster relief efforts in Haiti. The questions focus on the legality of such operations on the amateur bands.

"There are situations and protocols that do allow stations from other communications services to temporarily use selected amateur frequencies," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "§97.111(a)(5) states in part that '[a]n amateur station may transmit the following types of two-way communications: Transmissions necessary to exchange messages with a station in a service not regulated by the FCC, but authorized by the FCC to communicate with amateur stations.'"

Other authorized, non-amateur users includes the US Department of Homeland Security's Shared Resources High Frequency Radio Program ([SHARES](#)). When activated, the SHARES program allows designated governmental stations to communicate with other services on specified frequencies, including some designated amateur frequencies. The FCC has confirmed that there are currently SHARES stations on the air assisting with disaster relief efforts for Haiti. They operate on frequencies allocated to government agencies, as well as several in the Amateur bands. Their purpose is to provide an interoperability system of accessible channels for emergency communications. When on the air providing disaster relief in these circumstances, they will not be using an Amateur Radio call sign. "We are aware of SHARES stations IDing with tactical calls, something like 'Andrews Command Center," Henderson stated. "This is the protocol they use and constitutes a valid ID for their station."

The types of communications handled by stations such as SHARES are for an immediate situation of a time-sensitive nature. Amateurs are doing a good job in not causing problems or interference to ongoing relief efforts, and need to continue to use patience and good judgment. Making sure the message to be transmitted is highest priority is sometimes hard to determine. A message that an immediate medical evacuation is needed would meet the criteria for this type of emergency communication.

"We have had a couple of instances where a message sent, while dealing with relief efforts, have not been related to an immediate situation," Henderson said. "The authorities are aware of the wide-spread suffering and needs all over Haiti. A message that a specific town needs help when the whole nation shares the need is too general for the immediate attention and can divert resources needed for time-sensitive communications. Amateurs should use their best judgment."

Henderson also reminded amateurs of some of the basics about emergency communications: "In any emergency, your best action is to stand by unless specifically requested to assist either by a net control station or the stations exchanging the communications. Too many stations trying to relay information can cause delays. Listening with patience is an important and necessary skill. Remember that sometimes the best assistance you can offer is to not transmit."

MEMBERSHIP 2010

As of February 1, 2010 membership is 60.

Each month updated information will be provided in this space so members may keep their roster current.

Please take the time to review your information and notify me of any corrections or changes.

I may be reached via:

1. E-mail: aa7gc@arrl.net
2. Telephone: (253)631-3467
3. Regular Mail: 15823 SE 254th Pl., Covington, WA 98042-4183

** NEW MEMBERS **

KF7FID, Robert Williams, 289 Columbia Loop, Roseburg, OR 97471, 541-679-5581,
E-mail: kf7fid@charter.net

KE7YZL, Sandra Romero, 241 Sable Dr, Roseburg, OR 97470, 541-673-4231,
E-mail: saundrar@cmspan.net

** NEW CALL SIGN **

AE7ER, Jerry Eifert (ex KB7WDR), E-mail: jeifert@hughes.net

2009 Sees Surge of New Amateur Radio Licensees

This past year was a banner year for new Amateur Radio licensees. According to [ARRL VEC](#) Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, the FCC issued more than 30,000 new ham radio licenses. "In 2009, the demand for Amateur Radio exam sessions remained elevated and is still running at a higher rate than before the FCC's restructuring of the license requirements in 2007," Somma said. "This high level of exam session activity has produced an elevated influx of new applications, far outpacing recent years."

A total of 30,144 new licenses were granted in 2009, an increase of almost 7.5 percent from 2008. In 2005, 16,368 new hams joined Amateur Radio's ranks; just five years later, that number had increased by almost 14,000 -- a whopping 84 percent! The ARRL VEC is one of 14 VECs who administer Amateur Radio license exams.

"When looking at the statistics over the last 10 years, these are some of the highest numbers we've seen," Somma explained. "Additionally, our total number of licensees across all three classes has grown each year." Currently there are 682,500 licensed Amateur Radio operators in the US, an almost 3 percent rise over 2008. In 2008, there were 663,500 licensed amateurs; there were 655,800 in 2007. Broken down by license class, at the end of 2009 there were 17,084 Novices, 334,245 Technicians, 150,970 Generals, 60,795 Advanced and 119,403 Amateur Extra licensees.

"The ARRL VEC has been busy meeting the needs of the Amateur Radio community by helping people to become radio amateurs or upgrade their existing licenses," Somma said. "In 2009, ARRL VEs administered 44,595 exam elements at 6369 [ARRL VEC-sponsored exam sessions](#). The number of amateurs who want to be Volunteer Examiners and who want to teach Amateur Radio classes is also going up -- we've seen a spike in the number of applications from General and Extra class radio amateurs who want to give back to their community by [serving as ARRL examiners](#) and instructors."

Somma applauded all the volunteers whose "hard work and contribution of countless hours of time helps to ensure the future of Amateur Radio. The ARRL VEC has 32,411 VEs from around the world. 2009 was a very good year for Amateur Radio and I am excited by the promise of 2010."

NEW FCC LICENSES ISSUED 2005 THROUGH 2009					
Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Jan	876	1,274	1,647	1,755	1,960
Feb	1,357	1,605	2,435	2,998	2,263
Mar	1,705	2,531	3,478	2,816	3,463
Apr	1,486	1,728	2,673	3,090	3,430
May	1,651	2,283	2,607	2,562	2,717
Jun	1,493	1,967	2,281	2,402	3,011
Jul	906	1,401	1,786	2,077	2,220
Aug	1,500	1,623	2,183	2,084	2,102
Sep	1,139	1,357	1,462	1,763	2,116
Oct	1,385	1,781	2,109	2,303	2,404
Nov	1,540	1,993	2,132	2,197	2,344
Dec	1,330	1,569	1,935	2,019	2,114
Totals	16,368	21,112	26,728	28,066	30,144

ARISS Notes Record Number of ISS-to-School Contacts

When the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station ([ARISS](#)) program began coordinating ISS-to-school contacts in 2001, only one school participated. Ten years later, more than 120 schools participated in the ARISS program in 2009 alone.

The number of ARISS-coordinated ISS-to-school contacts has climbed dramatically since that first contact in 2000. In 2001, there were 42 contacts, and in 2002, there were 40 contacts. During the first five years of the program -- 2000-2004 -- there was an average of 31.4 QSOs between the ISS and schools. In 2004, ARISS only conducted 35 contacts -- the lowest in its 10 year history -- but in 2005, 55 schools had contacted the ISS through the program. In 2006, there were 47 QSOs, 75 QSOs in 2007 and 62 in 2008. The 121 QSOs in 2009 show a jump of 95 percent over the 2008 numbers.

ARISS has coordinated contacts between the ISS and schools in the 38 countries: USA, Canada, Russia, Finland, Japan, the United Kingdom, Italy, Australia, France, South Africa, Germany, Belgium, Israel, the Netherlands, Thailand, Slovenia, Turkey, Spain, Poland, Ireland, Brazil, Switzerland, Kuwait, Greece, India, Portugal, Hungary, China, Malaysia, Reunion Island, Croatia, South Korea, Ecuador, New Zealand, Peru, Sweden, Mali and Senegal. There have already been two ISS contacts to schools in 2010 -- Italy and Taiwan -- with more to come.



Just a reminder: If you have e-mail capability, Let Russ, W7DUR know! you'll be able to see all pictures in color and save money for the club !

February 2010

	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1 DC ARES net 7 PM 145.430 rpt	2 Oregon state ARES HF net 3964 kHz, 7 PM	3	4	5	6 Club Breakfast Rsbg IHOP 7AM	
7	8 DC ARES net 7 PM 145.430 rpt	9	10 UVARC net 7 PM 146.90 rpt	11	12	13 Club Breakfast Rsbg. IHOP 7 AM	
14 Valentines Day	15 President's Day DC ARES net 7 PM 145.430	16 Oregon state ARES HF net 3964 kHz, 7 PM	17 UVARC net 7 PM 146.90 rpt	18 Club Meeting 7PM Courthouse Room 310	19	20 Club Breakfast Rsbg IHOP 7AM	
21	22 DC ARES net 7 PM 145.430 rpt	23	24 UVARC net 7 PM 146.90 rpt	25	26	27 Club Breakfast Rsbg IHOP 7AM	
28							

ON-LINE FORM AVAILABLE ON CLUB WEB PAGE

UMPQUA VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC

ON-LINE FORM AVAILABLE ON CLUB WEB PAGE

NAME _____ CALL SIGN _____ LICENSE CLASS _____

STREET _____ CITY/STATE _____ ZIP _____

ARRL MEMBER YES NO E-mail Address _____

Other names at your address desiring family membership _____

NAME _____ CALL SIGN _____ LICENSE CLASS _____ ARRL MEMBER YES NO

NAME _____ CALL SIGN _____ LICENSE CLASS _____ ARRL MEMBER YES NO

Please show names the way you want them to appear in the roster

HOME PHONE _____ RECEIVE YOUR NEWS LETTER BY: U.S. MAIL OR E-MAIL (PDF)

RENEWAL _____ *AMT. ENCLOSED _____ DATE _____ **DATE OF BIRTH (STUDENTS)** _____

SPOUSE'S NAME _____ SIGNATURE _____

Membership dues are \$10.00 for individuals and \$5.00 for each additional family member living at the same address per calendar year. Associate membership dues are \$5.00. Dues are prorated (NEW members only): Jan - Mar \$10/5 (each additional member); Apr - Jun \$7.50/3.75; Jul - Sep \$5/2.50; Oct - Dec \$2.50/1.25. Membership is free for **Licensed** students, 18 and younger. Make checks payable to: **UVARC, PO Box 925, Roseburg, OR 97470.**