

Watt's Up

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

September 2009

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

President

Jim, WA6KHG

1st Vice President

Doris, KC6CWP

2nd Vice President

Wayne, W9AE

Secretary

Russ, W7DUR

Treasurer

Jerry, K7ETU

Member-at-Large

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.

The Annual Ice Cream Social and Potluck at Singleton Park was attended by 36 people, mostly members. We had some great food and ice cream too. Thanks to everyone who attended for the good food and company. A friend of mine, Erwin KE7FFG from Plain Washington came as my guest; I hope you had a chance to meet him. I talk to Erwin every weekday morning at 6 to 7 AM on 3854.5. You are welcome to join our group anytime.

Start looking in your "junk box for items of interest to bring and donate to the club as we plan to have another raffle at our September club meeting. The monies we raise at these raffles go in a repeater fund that helps to maintain the clubs repeaters. I am sure most of you have some extra "goodies" that can be donated.

In the repeater department the 146.900 Lane Mt. repeater is running well. The 147.120 Boomer Hill repeater is working better than it ever has. I worked a station on it from the mobile parked in Idleld Park at the Trading Post. The DC packet node 144.930 is working great.

The next classes for Technician Class will be September 24 and 25 from 6 till 9 PM at the Red Cross building in Roseburg on N. E. Alameda Street.

The next VE session is October 14, 2009 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 new VEC license fee for 2009 is \$15.00. Cash or a check made out to ARRL is acceptable.

Jim WA6KHG

Vanity Call Sign Fees to Increase September 10

On August 11, the FCC announced that the cost of an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will increase \$1.10, from \$12.30 to \$13.40.

Now that notice of the increase has been published in the Federal Register, the increase will take effect in 30 days, September 10, 2009.

The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934, As Amended, to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new 10 year term.

The notice in the August 11, 2009 Federal Register, entitled "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2009," includes regulatory fees. These fees are expected to recover a total of \$341,875,000 during FY2009, encompassing all the Services the FCC regulates.

For more information, see the recent ARRLWeb article, "FCC Looks to Raise Vanity Call Sign Fees for Second Consecutive Year" at, <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/05/18/10825/?nc=1>.

MEMBERSHIP 2009

As of September 1, 2009 membership is 79. 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

73, de Dick, AA7GC, Membership

**** NEW MEMBER ****

W7ORX, Michael Dunn,
PO Box 1027, Drain, OR 97435,
541-580-0682, E-mail: mikedewd@gmail.com

**** NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS ****

KC7UFZ, Ed Stinson, e.stinson904@q.com

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 2009 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 11

April 8

June 10

August - None

October 14

December 9

**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

FCC to Utilities: Don't Look to Hams to Pay for Your Testing

In a case that goes back more than 10 years, the [FCC has told a Pennsylvania utility](#) that the utility is responsible for paying for "efforts to locate and correct instances of [power line] noise." At least one amateur has been complaining to the FCC since 2000 regarding harmful radio interference possibly caused by power line equipment that is maintained by Pittsburgh's Duquesne Light Company ([DLC](#)).

Bob Thacker, K3GT, of Allison Park, Pennsylvania -- a suburb just northeast of Pittsburgh -- first noticed harmful interference back in 1996. He told the ARRL that DLC would come out and fix things, but that he would soon hear noise again. After a few years of this, he complained to the FCC, and in 2005, the FCC notified DLC of the complaint. A month later, DLC responded to the FCC, detailing their efforts to resolve the matter and indicated that the most recent complaint was the result of changed conditions, not the continuation of an old problem.

According to the FCC, DLC again communicated with the FCC in a letter dated June 2, 2005, explaining the efforts they had taken to repair three lightning arrestors. During the latter half of 2005 and into 2006, Thacker continued to experience interference and continued to report these instances to DLC, requesting that DLC correct the problems. In 2007, he located a specific pole as one source of noise and advised a Mr Luther of DLC of this fact; Mr Luther advised Thacker that he would submit a work order.

In March 2008, DLC contacted Thacker, indicating that it had swept the area where suspected pole was located and discovered no noise. Rather, DLC indicated that the noise source was a neon light. Finally, DLC stated that it had spent "significant amounts of time and money" attempting to address his concerns and that DLC would require him to pay for any additional efforts to locate and correct instances of noise.

Special Counsel of Amateur Enforcement Laura Smith responded to DLC in July of this year, saying "Such a response is not acceptable," spelling out what she called "the most important rules relating to radio and television interference from incidental radiators," specifically:

[47 CFR, Section 15.5: General Conditions of Operation](#)

(b) Operation of an intentional, unintentional, or incidental radiator is subject to the conditions that no harmful interference is caused and that interference must be accepted that may be caused by the operation of an authorized radio station, by another intentional or

unintentional radiator, by industrial, scientific and medical (ISM) equipment, or by an incidental radiator. (c) The operator of the radio frequency device shall be required to cease operating the device upon notification by a Commission representative that the device is causing harmful interference. Operation shall not resume until the condition causing the harmful interference has been corrected.

[47 CFR, Section 15.13: Incidental Radiators](#)

Manufacturers of these devices shall employ good engineering practices to minimize the risk of harmful interference.

[47 CFR Section 15.15: General Technical Requirements](#)

(c) Parties responsible for equipment compliance should note that the limits specified in this part will not prevent harmful interference under all circumstances. Since the operators of Part 15 devices are required to cease operation should harmful interference occur to authorized users of the radio frequency spectrum, the parties responsible for equipment compliance are encouraged to employ the minimum field strength necessary for communications, to provide greater attenuation of unwanted emissions than required by these regulations, and to advise the user as to how to resolve harmful interference problems.

"Given the fact this case has been ongoing for quite some time without resolution and DLC has had ample time to locate the instances of interference and make the necessary repairs," Smith told the utility, "you are directed to respond to [me] within 60 days of receipt of this letter, detailing what steps you have taken to resolve the remaining instances of interference that are reported as being caused by your equipment. Should the remaining interference problems not be resolved within those 60 days, DLC will be required to provide [me] with a status update every two weeks going forward as to what progress, if any, has been made to resolve the matter."

ARRL Lab Engineer and power line noise expert Mike Gruber, WIMG, was pleased with Smith's decision, and said that amateurs should not be made to pay fees to the utilities to test for harmful interference by the same utilities. "It is not the responsibility of an Amateur Radio operator to track down and get rid of power line noise -- that's the utilities' job. I am pleased with the precedent that Laura Smith and the FCC have set here. Now maybe more utilities will take power line noise interference more seriously in the future."

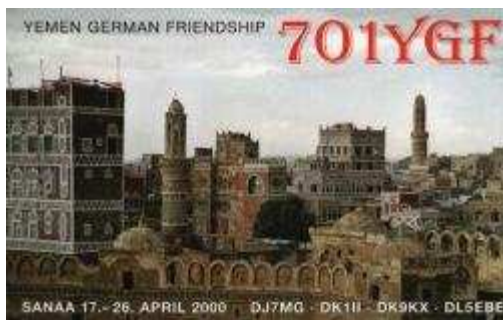
UVARC Spotlight: Lee Stumpe K7AZW

Here are a couple pictures of Lee's shack in Green. He has a tower, but he didn't send any antenna pictures.



Attention DXers

After more than 8 years delay, the ARRL DXCC desk approved **7O1YGF**, the 2000 DXpedition to **Yemen**.



The DXCC desk had denied credit for this DXpedition because they weren't convinced that the operation was properly licensed (government officials shut down the operation prematurely).

Logbook of the World users may submit this contact without paying the usual submission fee. For details, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/08/20/11031/>

FYI

In my spare time I like to experiment with the club web page by trying different ways to make it more interesting and useful, in hopes of getting more than one or two people to log in each month.

The current experiment is the addition of an interactive map showing the location of club meetings (the DC Courthouse). If you are having trouble finding the meeting place go to the club page and click the **MAP** hyperlink. The map will appear and if requested it will give you turn-by-turn directions from your starting point to the courthouse. I hope you find it useful. Have fun!

Suggestions are solicited.

73, de Dick, AA7GC (*webmaster*)

Editor's Notes

- If you want to be in the UVARC Spotlight, send pictures of your shack, antennas, or mobile setup to w9ae@charter.net.
- We have no meeting minutes this month because there was no business meeting during last month's Ice Cream Social.



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 !

September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Oregon state ARES HF net 3964 kHz, 7 PM	2 UVARC net 7 PM 146.90 rpt	3	4	5 Club Breakfast Rsbg IHOP 7AM
6	7 Labor Day See Page One For Time/Freqs	8	9 UVARC net 7 PM 146.90 rpt	10	11	12 Club Breakfast Rsbg. IHOP 7 AM
13	14 See Page One For Time/Freqs	15 Oregon state ARES HF net 3964 kHz, 7 PM	16 UVARC net 7 PM 146.90 rpt	17 Club Meeting 7PM court house Room 310	18	19 Club Breakfast Rsbg IHOP 7AM
20	21 See Page One For Time/Freqs	22	23 UVARC net 7 PM 146.90 rpt	24	25	26 Club Breakfast Rsbg IHOP 7AM
27	28 See Page One For Time/Freqs	29	30 UVARC net 7 PM 146.90 rpt			

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.**