



The Road Report

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RADIO OPERATORS ASSOCIATION OF DALLAS OREGON

The Prez Sez
by
Jack Schult, W7SCT



I joined Jim (WWH) and Troy (SEY) at the last VE test session at the Court House. It was Jim's idea, a good one, to greet the newly licensed with information on ROADS and to invite them to our next meeting. Heck, the congratulatory proclamations alone would be enough to embellish the already special moment of passing the test. Add to that an invitation to attend a meeting to the local Ham club filled with like minded individuals! Troy has done an excellent job of preparing a welcome package with web contacts and local frequencies. This is just one example of members donating their time to benefit the club, and to contribute to the hob-

by. One naysayer was overheard with predictable negativity that this was done before and it didn't work. This kind of attitude has held the club back from developing and thankfully has diminished over the last few years. Electronically there is a name for that kind of behavior, Parasitic Oscillation.

In between the 100 degree temps the past week I was able to put up an 80 Meter inverted vee with apex at 55 feet (couldn't make the 120 feet $\frac{1}{2}$ wave target) It is managed with a Johnson Viking Match Box using 450 ohm ladder line balanced feed. Although it should be higher I think the Viking Valiant Transmitter will be happy with it. I am looking forward to the winter months working AM on 3870 kilocycles. It's OK to use KC in lieu of KHZ if your transmitter is 55 years old! To me, working AM is like riding a Harley. It is the vintage sound of good times that are now experienced by a select group. Even the Harley slogan applies, "If you have to explain, they won't understand." I miss my Harley.

AE7OA continues to improve and wanted to pass along a "Thanks" to the many club members that gave their support during his major medical event(s).

We had two new hams visit us at the last meeting, Kirk KG7TDJ, and KG7VBO Rob. Hopefully, they will return.

If you haven't paid you club dues Jim N7WWH will be happy to take your \$15.00.

Be kind to each other -Jack W7SCT

Here 'n There

By K7QXG

Here 'n There

Hey, how about the great job our Editors are doing? I've said before that K7CIE did a great job, but it is wonderful that Troy and Emily were able to step right into the publisher's shoes and never miss a beat. The newsletter moves on, which is important to all of us.

This 'n That About W7ORE

W7ORE, is a vanity call sign identified with the **ROADS club** and the custodian is **K7QXG**. W7ORE is a member of 10-10 International with member number 74409. *Any member of ROADS may use W7ORE for contest or Special Event purposes if you first obtain authorization from K7QXG, either via email or verbal by telephone.* W7ORE is also registered with eQSL and K7QXG is responsible for answering the many QSLs received following Field Day when the call is used extensively by ROADS members.

Troy's Challenge

It was great! The DX challenge proved to be no challenge on the night of July 6th. The 20 meter band was alive with EU DX, and working 5 countries was a snap. Now the other challenge is a real tough one for me, but more about "portable operations" later.

Sickness & Health

I am sure that all of you know by now that two of our members suffered

health events: AE7OA was the first when he had a stroke. Not many days later, W7LOU also suffered a stroke while at the doctor's office for a different problem. Both are recovering nicely, but visits are appreciated.

Field Day Recap

Yes, we did better this year than last year, even though the bands were not too kind in the beginning. Using **N3FJP's** ARRL Field Day Contest Log program, we were able to track everything as we captured our contacts. When the dust had settled, we had 211 contacts worth 301 points. Last year CW was the predominant factor, but this year it was edged out by the SSB operators. K7QXG operated the CW key while **KX5W** did the logging for most of the QSOs, and later logging duties were taken over by Dave, **KT7H**, and then by Dudley, **W7NLI**. The CW team did manage to log the one true DX country near the end of their tour – Aruba. Many of the SSB QSOs were made late at night by **KA7HBB**, Mike, who was persistent in chasing down many needed sections. The two Canadian sections logged took an extra effort by the CW team. An excellent summary has been prepared by Steve, **KW7DSP**, and the graphics tell it all.

July Meeting

ROADS had two visitors and it is very likely they will become members. Rob, **KG7VBO**, and Cliff, **KG7TDJ**, are a welcome addition to our ranks. Many of the regular meeting attendees were present, and another technical presentation was made by Mike **W7RIS** on the topic of PL-259s and how to attach them properly to coax. All in all, it was a great meeting.

A request was made for future program sug-

gestions, but silence was the only response from the members. If you were not at the meeting, and have a topic you would like to see addressed at program time, send an email or make a phone call to **W7RIS** or **W7SCT**. As for myself, there are three areas that I would like to see as a program feature: Tubes – what they are and what they do; a classroom building project (you can build a vertical from scratch in 15 minutes); and a non-ham radio topic, but with technical overtones.

So how about you? What would you like to see presented?

A Great Project

With Cycle 24 slowly plunging towards the minus side of things, we must all come to realize that our activity must focus on 160, 80, 40, and 30 meters with a sprinkling of VHF tossed in for good measure. To prepare for those dog days that lie ahead, I decided to put up a 30 meter vertical since I already have an excellent 40 & 80 meter antenna system. Scrounging around the garage yielded aluminum tubing, bolts, nuts, some aluminum strips and coax to feed it. Online, a visit to "The Wireman" produced a quick order for #14 stranded copper wire for the radials. It all flowed together seamlessly, and on July 23rd I gave it a try. The initial SWR was 1.5:1 and two adjustments later it was 1.2:1. As you know, the 30 meter band has a power limit of 200 watts and can only be used for CW and digital. 30 meters opens around 6PM and signals can be heard for a couple of hours, so I gave it a try. I have worked 8 of 9 stations I called on CW. Two were DX:

South Cook Island and Nevis Island. I was unable to land the TI9 DX operation because of the huge pile up. It would be an easy task to build a simple monoband vertical for any band that will provide hours of enjoyable operating during the unfavorable conditions that lie ahead.

Tower Project Underway

K7LWV, Richard, is nearing completion of his tower project. He has been assisted by **KE7JNT** extensively, and there has been some additional help from **N7WWH** and **K7QXG**. The majority of the assistance came from **KE7JNT** who has made sure that everything is done in the proper sequence.

About Control Operators

A significant discussion took place on the Oregon Trail Net on 10 meters on July 26th and it focused on "Control Operators" – who is, who isn't, whose call do you use, etc. It was a most informative discussion and caused me to reach for my copy of the Part 97 Rules on my nearby book case. Because of recent Field Day operations in the city park, where we had a variety of operators, Section B, 2-1, is recommended reading for all members of **ROADS**. It is also recommended reading if you plan to visit another ham's station and operate his equipment. Let's address just one aspect of those rules: What about the Tech or General licensee who is operating in the Extra Class part of the phone band (or CW) during Field Day? Yep, they sure can, but a "Control Operator" who holds an Extra Class license must be physically present...and that means by the equipment and not at the hamburger stand down the street. If you don't believe me, I can show it to you in the book.

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If an extra Class licensee is not present, the Tech or General *may only operate within the frequencies and with the modes allowed by their license.*

You can also find some great information on this topic on the ARRL website.

E50A

Andy Duncan, formerly of Independence, now lives in Raratonga on South Cook Island and can be found on the 14.183 DX net late at night. Net control is a VK station and signals are quite strong around 10:30 PM.

SWAPTOBERFEST

It is getting close to that time of the year when we should all search our junk boxes, shelves, and closets for used equipment that is just collecting dust, but which could be sold at this annual event. It will benefit you and the club too.

146.550 Simplex is monitored daily by some members of ROADS.

WARNING!!!!

RE: Windows 10

Windows 10 is out now. PLEASE be aware that when you install it on WIN 7 or WIN 8 the following will happen: Internet Explorer will be replaced by Microsoft Edge. You WILL lose all I.E. icons you have on the desktop. You will lose all bookmarks! And there is more. I obtained this information from Centurylink who has a couple of videos available to show how to save the icons, bookmarks, etc, etc.

I recommend you do not upgrade to Windows 10 until you have viewed these videos and made certain that you

have backed up anything you consider important.

You can obtain the URLs for the videos by sending me an email, or better yet, go to the Centurylink website.

QRZ Look Up For August

VK4HY deserves a peek on QRZ.com. He also has a great QSL card. He can be found on the 14.183 net most evenings about 10 PM our time.

See you next month! -Bob K7QXG



August is "Eat Out" month for ROADS instead of a regular meeting. It is time to bring your spouse, kids, friends, or whoever. Last year we had a potluck picnic in the city park. This year it will be an ice cream social with games.

August 20, Thursday, 6 PM

Dallas City Park at the same pavilion as last year. There will be ice cream, toppings, bowls and spoons. **BYOB** Bring Your Own Beverage (**No alcoholic beverages permitted!**)

Games: Ladder Ball (look it up on the Internet), and maybe Bean Bag Baseball. **Bring folding lawn chairs unless you want to sit on the grass or wood park benches.**

Remember, this is just an ice cream social. It is not a dinner. It is not a potluck. Better eat before you arrive.

Contact Person: K7QXG Bob Email: k7qxc@arri.net

Station Of The Month

AE7OA



AE7OA, Mike Nolan, was first licensed as KE6ZFL in 1990 as a Technician Class licensee. Later, Mike moved up to General class. After his move to Oregon, and lots of nudging from ROADS members, Mike took the Extra Class exam in 2011 and passed on the first try. Mike uses the well known FT-2000 and a Yaesu VL-1000 Quadra amp. His signal is fed to a Cushcraft A4S triband yagi on a 30 foot tower. Mike operates SSB and digital (mostly JT-65), and he has been trying to learn CW. Mike holds FEMA ICS certification for levels 100, 200, 300, 400, 600, and 800. He is a member of ARES and of 10-10. Mike is also an active VE. At the present time his DXCC totals are about 170 entities. Mike became interested in ham radio at age 14 when he built his first home brew receiver and the interest in all aspects of ham radio continues today.

July Challenge Results

By Troy KF7SEY

We had a very small participation in last month's Challenge.

The challenge was #1 work 5 countries and #2 was to work 5 stations portable. Here are the results

#1 Challenge

Bob K7QXG euro Russia, Bosnia, Belarus, Sweden, & Poland

Jim N7WWH Cyprus, Germany, Euro Russia, Svalbard, & France

#2 Challenge

Jim N7WWH- W7LOU, W7HO, WB7IEO, W7SCT, & KF7SEY

Troy KF7SEY - N7WWH, W7SCT, WB7IEO, W7SCT, & KG7ITR

Thanks guys for the entry's. Maybe we will try another one again in a few months

- Troy KF7SEY



Troy KF7SEY is looking for a A3S or A4S. If you may know of one for-sale or have one you may want to get rid of let me know. Email is a good way to make contact KF7SEY@gmail.com

If there is any items you would like to post in the newsletter for-sale or wanted please let us know and we will get it posted in the news letter.

- KF7SEY & KG7ITR

Your 2015 - 2016 Current Club Officers

Position	Name	Callsign	E-Mail	Phone Number
President	Jack Schult	W7SCT	jackschult@msn.com	(503) 831-0756 (503) 881-5836
Vise-President	Mike Shelby	W7RIS	w7ris@arrl.net	(541) 745-7058
Secretary	Troy Greenberg	KF7SEY	kf7sey@gmail.com	(503) 302-5746
Treasurer	Jim Campbell	N7WWH	n7wwh@msn.com	(503) 787-5006
Director 1	Dave Goetz	KT7H	dave@begonias.com	(503) 241-9922
Director 2	Mike Fuller	K7CIE	mfuller@pictishbeast.net	(503) 831-3651

August 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 Ice cream so- cial 7:00 PM	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					