



The Road Report

Volume 14, Issue 5
Nov 2016

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RADIO OPERATORS ASSOCIATION OF DALLAS OREGON



Prez Sez's

Don't forget to join in on the 10-10 net every Sunday, 12 noon on 28.803. We should see N7WWH back and hear him on the air soon after his trip to Arizona, welcome home. If you have any suggestions for the club please contact me at wlgookin@gmail.com.

73 Warren Gookin W7KBR

Here 'n There

By K7QXG

Swaptoberfest

The big storm that never materialized kept vendors and buyers at home and the turnout was a bit lighter than usual. I noted several empty tables, and the buying crowd was a bit thinner than last February. The ROADS booth had an ample staff and a good collection of things to sell. I am told the club only made **\$8.05**, but that is better than one year when we lost money. Keep in mind that there will be another event like this one in February and we need used equipment for the booth.

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This year will soon be over and onto a new year. Where did the time go???

Last month was the Swaptoberfest and we had a great turn out. The club didn't make much in the way money, I think it was around \$8.00 after the expenses. But, as some members pointed out it's all about the social event and buying and selling. We had several people KG7OXU, KW7DSP, KE7AAJ, Warren Sr., WB7VAO, and myself W7KBR there to help work the two tables.

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU to those people, and to all that contributed items to the club to sell. We now have a new chairperson for our 2017 field day in June. Thank you for your help Mike Nason KA7HBB for taking on this duty. If anyone is interested in getting involved, I'm sure Mike would appreciate the help.

At our last meeting, Oct. 20th, we had a great turn out and had a couple of new guest as well. Deanne Morris, KI7HOZ was one of the members, and we hope to hear her on the air soon with a new HT.

I hope to get a decision on club hats and t-shirts from the members at this upcoming meeting, so be sure to attend and voice your opinion.

The board members and directors have voted on a location for our Christmas dinner social. This year the ROADS dinner will be at "CHEN FAMILY DISH" (located in Safeway's parking lot). Dinner will start at 6pm, on December 15th, the third Thursday in the month. Everyone can order from the menu, so bring your partner and come socialize with us.

W7KBR, Warren, was at the Swap-toberfest ROADS booth, and was in good spirits. I also saw **W7NAT**, **WB7VAO**, **KG7OXU**, visiting or helping out around the booth. **AE7OA** sold a radio before the formal opening, so he was pleased with that action.

I am likely going to give up my RV travels and try to sell the 5th wheel trailer and the pickup I pull it with. When that happens, I will be removing the **ICOM 706 MK IIG** and selling it along with Ham Stick antennas and a nice little **LDG** tuner that handles 100 watts and is a companion to the 706.

Getting members to **renew dues** is always a chore, and ROADS is no exception. I see it in other organizations I belong to, and it puzzles me. For a measly **\$15** you can lock up your membership in an active club with great officers, a very good newsletter, good programs at the meetings, and interesting events like Field Day and the annual picnic. So, what's your problem?

Not many missed "that other column" When I quit writing the DX column. I did so because there were only 5 or 6 of us that read it. I did receive commentary from three members who hated to see it dropped. However, that is only three out of 31 names on the roster at the time. *The column could be revived as a separate memo sent to the select few who are interested – if there is any interest. No burden on our Editor – I can publish it myself - but I need to hear from members who want it.* It would only be one page with expeditions listed; QSL routes; bands to use now; local activity, etc.

Thanksgiving Special By Oregon Trail Chapter

Ready for some Thanksgiving fun on 10 meters? Well, here is a Special that is sure to be challenging. Nov. 20 to Nov. 27 work members of the Oregon Trail Chapter on 10 meters, and using letters found in the suffix of their calls, spell out the word "Thanksgiving." The letters "Q", "X" and "Z" are wild cards and may be used to fill in blanks where needed. You may only use a letter in a suffix once, i.e., in the call W7SCT you can only use the letter "S" and the letter "T" once. Any Questions: Send me an email or ask at coffee. Not a member of Oregon Trail? Give the Special a try anyway! Everyone can participate, member or not.

NVIS by W7RIS

This great program at the last meeting was packed into just 35 minutes and was one that everyone should have attended. The explanations were simple, the content to the point, and it concerned antennas that all of us should have available when the big Cascadia quake comes along.

Welcome KI7HOZ, who just received her license. A great addition to our club!

KA7HBB, Mike is the new Chairman of the Field Day Committee. Please give him your ideas and support during the winter so we can be ready when June rolls around.

With regret, **K6VIB** and his wife have dropped from the club, but will remain on the new INACTIVE roster. All members who allow their membership to lapse will now be carried as **INACTIVE** on the roster. **Silent Keys** will become a third category on the roster.

N6HI – Master QRP I've chatted with John, who lives in Chandler, AZ, on 20 PSK from time to time. He runs his 718 at 2 watts to a 20 foot wire tossed out his window. **He does this from a remote location using his Android phone!** He has used only QRP since the late nineties, and has worked 118 countries using just ½ watt and his 20 foot wire. This should be an incentive to everyone.

Monday Coffee is drawing a good turnout with 10 to 12 persons there on two recent Mondays.

N7WWH, Jim, is back in Falls city after spending a month in AZ helping a son with a remodel job. Jim say he will need to return in 2017 to finish the job.

K7LWV, Richard, is still tinkering with his antenna installation. I'm still waiting for him to put up a 70 foot tower.

That's all for this issue. See you at the meeting.

- K7QXG Bob

WSPR Report

By K7QXG

Lack of QSOs not due to propagation. Operators to blame.

You can't argue with scientific proof that propagation worthy of QSOs does exist – at least on 20 meters. After three days of near total silence on 20 meters, I fired up **WSPR** and checked conditions. It was amazing!

With the beam pointed NE, and the rig transmitting just 5 watts, my signal was heard in numerous states on the East coast and in Canada. I rotated the beam to NW and quickly connected with Alaska.

I then took advantage of the big WSPR.net website and looked at 20 meter conditions world wide. I was stunned! There wasn't much DX to be worked, but each continent had more than enough stations on the air to make it very interesting. I was puzzled by one factor though: I was "hearing" 10 stations, but at the same time 33 stations were hearing my 5 watt signal. Rather amazing to say the least.

If you haven't tried WSPR yet, you should. Troy had an excellent article in a prior issue of the ROADS Report that gives you all the information you need to get started. A few hints to help you out: A beam or other rotatable antenna will be very directional and have an impact on your results (a vertical will work quite well). Time of day will impact the areas you wish to contact, i.e., Japan and the Pacific will only show in the late afternoon. And finally, you only need to run ½ to 5 watts to get results. WSPR is a great "toy" for those days when you think the band is "dead." In fact, the band may be quite lively, and it's just the operators who aren't giving it a try.

- K7QXG Bob

Photos of Swaptoberfest

By Mollie Greenberg



Reverse Beacon Network

By KF7SEY

Since I have been working on my CW skills and have been on the air occasionally, I decided to check out the RBN (Reverse Beacon Network). RBN is very similar to WSPR as there are stations listening on a portion of band in the CW area. Here is the website for future reading. <http://www.reversebeacon.net/>.

I powered up my rig and set the power to 35 watts. This is what I have been running when on CW. I turn it up if needed but have not had to on 40m. I then started calling CQ. Now one thing that is important about RBN, Code needs to be near perfect. Slower code that is good is better than fast and sloppy. Since my speed of copy is at 10 WPM, that is what I called at. I'm currently retraining myself to 15 WPM but that will be a different subject sometime. When calling CQ be sure to give your call sign two to three times. And CQ the same. So for me I called CQ CQ CQ KF7SEY KF7SEY KF7SEY K. this is a fun way to see where your signal goes and possibly make some contacts. The day I tested this I got no takers but I was spotted. If you enjoy CW and would like to see what your signal does give it a try.

Next month EFHW Antennas and WSPR

-Troy KF7SEY

www.reversebeacon.net/dxsd1/dxsd1.php?f=0&t=dx&c=KF7SEY

REVERSE BEACON NETWORK

welcome main dx spots nodes downloads about contact us

showhide my last filters

showing spots for DX call: KF7SEY rows to show: 15

dx	dx	freq	cq/dx	snr	speed	time
K2PO	KF7SEY	7060.0	CW CQ [LoTW]	27 dB	10 wpm	2148z 22 Oct
KU7T	KF7SEY	7060.0	CW CQ [LoTW]	30 dB	10 wpm	2148z 22 Oct
VE7AB	KF7SEY	7060.0	CW CQ [LoTW]	30 dB	10 wpm	2148z 22 Oct
K7EG	KF7SEY	7060.0	CW CQ [LoTW]	15 dB	10 wpm	2148z 22 Oct

ROADS Minutes October 20, 2016

Meeting called to order at 1900 hrs by President Warren Gookin.

Member total count 13

Vote- motion made to approve last meeting minutes 2nd by Steve, Ayes carried, no opposed.

Treasurer- Report Savings \$3511.07 Checking \$764.08

New Business:

There was a discussion on inactive members. There will be 3x list. Active, Inactive, & SK

It was decided that Christmas dinner location would be decided by the board Vote- motion made to approve 2nd by Steve, Ayes carried, no opposed.

Old Business:

Discussion on Hats and shirts. Warren will be getting final prices.

Quartermaster position needed. Steve KW7DSP said he would consider it.

Program -NVIS W7RIS Mike.

Meeting adjourned 20:23

Your 2016 - 2017 Current Club Officers

Position	Name	Callsign	E-Mail	Phone Number
President	Warren Gookin	W7KBR	wlgookin@gmail.com	(503) 787-4018
Vise-President	Mike Shelby	W7RIS	w7ris@arrl.net	(541) 745-7058
Secretary	Dave Goetz	KT7H	dave@begonias.com	(971) 241-9922
Treasurer	Dennis Elson	WB7VAO	dynotime2@gmail.com	(208) 773-4119
Director 1	Jack Schult	W7SCT	jackschult@msn.com	(503) 831-0756 (503) 881-5836
Director 2	Mike Fuller	K7CIE	mfuller@pictishbeast.net	(503) 831-3651

Club Meeting Nov 17th 7:00 PM Polk County Court House

Gathering every Monday Morning at Washington Street Steakhouse & Pub

VE Testing Polk County Court House

November 12th 2016

If you have any questions on the VE testing sessions, please contact Ron, W7HO at W7HO@arrl.net or 503-585-2136.