

The Road Report

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RADIO OPERATORS ASSOCIATION OF DALLAS OREGON

Prez Sez



I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving this year. We had a special event on the 10-10 Net for Thanksgiving. I hope everyone that took part scored the 150 points. Congratulations. If you're not sure what it is I'm talking about, then join in on the Sunday 10-10 net at 12 noon around 28.330. Techs can also get on this net as well.

Our next meeting is actually our Christmas dinner social at Chen Family Dish at 6pm. Everyone will be able to order off the menu. Bring a guest and/or your spouse and come join in on the fun.

It was great to see another new guest at our Nov. meeting, DUSTIN THOMPSON. Dustin has just received his Tech license so if you hear him on the air say hello. Congratulations job well done.

We also have another new member that joined ROADS "KF7ZVL". Kelley Law lives in Scottsdale, Arizona and was out here to visit family, and joined some of us for Monday morning coffee at Washington Street. Kelley is a member and officer of the Scottsdale ARC Radio club in Phoenix area. Check out their web page when you have time, www.ScottsdaleARC.org. Some of their members are going to try to reach us on the 10-10 net. Thanks for joining Kelley 73.

In our Nov. meeting the club voted overwhelmingly to have Irene Boswell become a lifetime member.

We now have the Quarter Master position filled thanks to Steve Pickering, KW7DSP. Steve will be in Arizona for a couple of months then he will return to Dallas and start his new position in the club.

On December 10th (which is a Saturday), there will be an antenna building session at my home in Dallas. Mike Shelby, W7RIS will also be there to instruct everyone and keep us on track. We will be building the tape measure Yagi antenna for our fox hunts. The cost will be around \$15 to \$20 per kit. Please RSVP to my Email address wlgookin@gmail.com as soon as possible so we can have a kit for everyone. This is open to everyone of all ages, and guests. If you don't need an antenna come out and join in on the fun and elmer others. After the antennas are built Mike will have the new ROADS Fox here so we can all practice locating it.

Here 'n There

By K7QXG

Bonnie Altus, AB7OA is an officer with ARRL and club member, mentioned that you should have received a letter regarding Ham Radio information. Please review this and send it on, it's a form letter so it should not require much time or effort. Thank you.

Next month we will have a new up to date membership roster for everyone. Thanks to Dennis Elson, our Treasurer. If you are not sure about your own personal info that the club has, please Email an updated version to me so I can make the changes.

At our last meeting the club voted on the hat design and colors. A black hat, blue ROADS with white border, and your personal call sign in white. Mike Nason KA7HBB will supply the hats. We would like to sell 30 of these hats for \$15 each. I have 16 hats sold to date and we need to collect the money for these. When I see you at the Christmas social if you could bring your money so we can get the hats paid for that would be great.

READY FOR ANOTHER HAMFAIR?

Then it's your day! Saturday, February 18, 2017 at Polk County Fair Grounds, doors open at 9:00 am.

Now that we all know where, and when, we will need items to sell. Give me a call or Email to make arrangements for pick up by the club. Remember to place your price to start and your bottom dollar along with a phone number to be contacted if we need to talk to you at the hamfair. We could use volunteers to help between 8AM and 1 pm.

If I don't see you at the Christmas Social, then our next meeting will be January 19, 2017. We meet the third Thursday of each month at the County Court House in Dallas at 7pm

Directions to my home will be emailed out Sunday. If more info is needed, give me a call [503-787-4018](tel:503-787-4018).

Just a note to all the Extras in the club, we have some new members, and I'm sure they could use an elmer to visit with once in a while.

If anyone has suggestions or questions regarding the club, make sure you Email me at wlgookin@gmail.com

73 Warren Gookin W7KBR

A big thank you to our two computer gurus, **AE7OA**, Mike, and **KW7DSP**, Steve, who offered me some solid tips that ultimately led to the resolution of a real tough problem on the computer in the ham shack. These two don't work on other people's computers, but will provide suggested solutions and where to look for assistance. This is just one of the benefits of belonging to ROADS.

The **Thanksgiving Special** was right on schedule and had a lot of active participation – even if some stations did not submit an entry. Those who completed the word "Thanksgiving" were **AE7OA, N7WWH, KW7DSP, WA7MZM, W7KBR, W7SCT, KE7JNT, KX5W, KD7ZLF, W7PIR & DL8YBM, DK7LA, DL6DK, DB9DF, DL5HCN, DL5HAN, DL1KBQ, DH3KAT, and lots of German clubs.** Good Job!

Digital surprise....After my PC in the radio shack was functioning again, I spent an hour playing on the 20 meter band in the digital section. I had just finished a PSK31 QSO on the left side of the waterfall when I noticed a weak and very wide signal on the right edge. It was a PSK125 signal...they are wide and very fast. You must use macros to make a contact ON PSK 125 because no one can type that fast. I switched to the 125 mode and moved the mouse pointer over the signal. I was stunned! It was **VP8LP**, Falkland Islands! I had worked this station in the past but never on digital. I had the beam pointed the wrong way and became flustered as I tried to look up the correct beam heading and move the yagi.

A glance showed my rig was running only 45 watts, but I called him anyway. Back he came and it became a solid QSO! It was just one of those pleasant surprises you only find in ham radio.

Don't forget our **Christmas Dinner** on December 15 at 6 PM at Chen's restaurant.

Monday Coffee had a big turnout on Nov 21 with 11 of us at the table while I was there. I was told one or two others had been there earlier and then left.

SM2CEW – Call Of The Month to check out on QRZ.com. Follow the link to his home page, which is loaded with photos – especially if you are interested in big amps. He home brews his own and has great photos of the anode compartments. He is also very active with VHF and EME, as you can tell from the photos of his antenna farm. His HF station features the FT-990 and the FT-1000.

This month I conclude my term as President of an Oregon Good Sam Chapter based in Dallas. I have been RVing for 25 years and will close it out this month. I am paying \$500 to anyone who brings me a buyer for my 5th wheel RV trailer. I have discounted the price of the trailer by 25% from the Blue Book value to make it an attractive buy.

About Contests... K7CIE belongs to a contest group that has enjoyed outstanding success in a variety of contests. Michael's group certainly knows the formula for success. However, if you don't wish to be a group participant, you can always play in one of the many contests that are on every weekend. These events are a very easy way to complete your WAS award, WAC, DXCC, or some other more exotic award. There is an excellent website that lists all current contests and the

rules. You can find it by doing a search for **WA7BNM's 8 Day contest Calendar**.

That is it for this month. 73.

- Bob K7QXG



KF7SEY Corner

Happy Holidays. Hopefully everyone has got there Christmas list into Santa Claus. This month I have two topics. I will start out with System Fusion. System Fusion is Yaesu's answer to digital radio. One of our members has set up a wires-x node. Steve KG7OXU has one setup in Dallas. If you're interested and own one of the many Yaesu digital radios they have released. Ftm-400XDR, FTM-100DR FT1D, FT2D, and FTM-3200DR. Steve's node is setup on 147.485. if you are in Dallas you will have no problem using it. You will hear him and many others around the world on. That is because his node is linked up with a room that has many nodes linked. If your interested in finding out more just bring it up next time you run into KG7OXU, he is more than willing to rag chew about it. I'm one that has got bitten by the bug and now have setup a node here for Falls City. I set up an analog station so my fellow hams that have not gotten a digital radio can join in the fun. I will report out on how that goes at another time. You should also hear from Hollis WB7IEO as he has been bitten as well. A little Elf has been spreading the word he has ordered a ftm-400 and node and is in route in Santa's Sled for early delivery this week.

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Second topic is EFHW (End Fed Half Wave) antenna. Some of you may be thinking that this is not an antenna worth talking about. Well you would be in a pool of hams that think so. I on the other hand have found that this simple antenna is a great addition to my collection. Although not a beam with gain. This easy to build and very versatile antenna can't be beat. What will you do when all of our towers fall down when the big one hits? I now have the ability to setup an antenna that will work from 6m to 80m and all I have to do is tune. I built mine with some easy parts and instructions.

Link to Instructions: http://www.earchi.org/92011endfedfiles/Endfed6_40.pdf

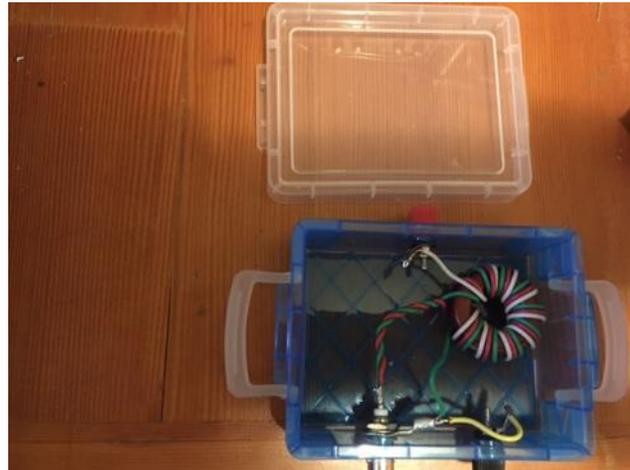
Toroid's can be found here: <http://www.kitsandparts.com/>

This antenna is also a great one for HOA's where you have antenna restrictions. Jim N7WWH son in Arizona has just that. When Jim was down there he set one up and was amazed at its performance. Jim was able to work several DX stations on mutable bands. Ask him about it sometime. If you are interested in more drop me an email. I will be more then happy to share how I built mine.

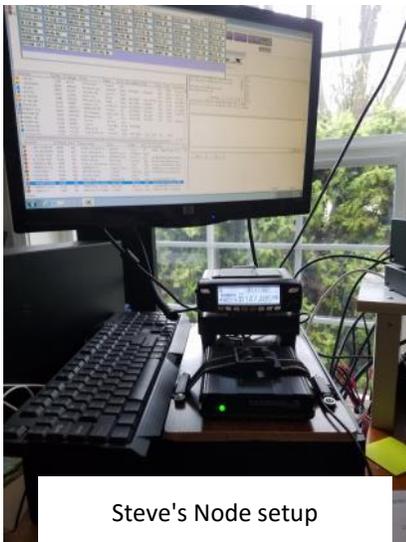
-73 KF7SEY Troy



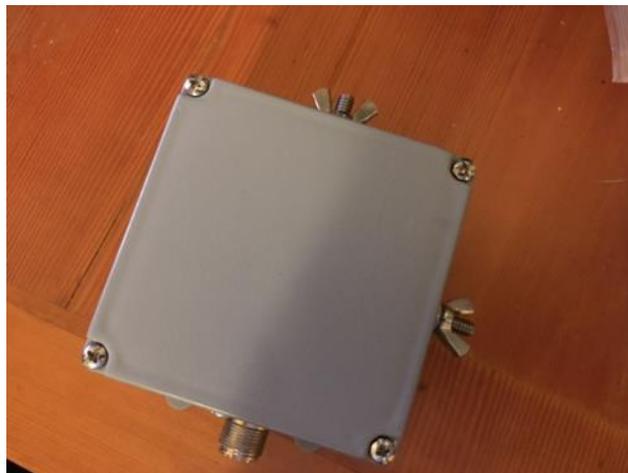
My portable version for SOTA and other lighter needs.



Wound toroid



Steve's Node setup



A more permanent setup using a electrical box from Lowes and stainless hardware.

Minutes for ROADS meeting of November 17, 2016

Meeting was called to order by President Warren at 7pm. Attending members introduced themselves to two new members.

Previous meeting minutes were approved as printed.

Treasurers report was given and approved by the members.

New business.

Motion to appoint Steve Pickering to position as sergeant at arms was made and seconded. Members approved.

Mike HBB, was asked to give information on proposal for club hats from his wife. Discussion was held as to why their proposal was less than competition, minimum order (number of hats), profit, holding unprinted hats so that they all match. Moved and seconded to have club purchase minimum number of hats (30 when 20 people have ordered) and Lisa will hold extra hats. New members can order from the remaining supply. Cost will be \$15.00. approved.

Program was given by Mike on the sport of "Bunny Hunting" (Not Elmer Fudd style) and the "Ultimate Attenuator". Upon the completion of the program, Mike demonstrated the (bunny) sending unit he had constructed for the club to use in future events. Moved and seconded to reimburse Mike for the cost of the unit. There are still few parts that are needed and the cost will be approximately \$125.00. club approved.

Return to business meeting. Motion to give Life Membership to Irene K7IJK as the wife of past founding member Bob Boswell. Motion was seconded and approved. Discussion was then held as what to do with future widows such as Diane N7EJO and what the status would be. Questions raised were, voting status, some are already paid members. The board will look at the issue and asked for members to join in the discussion. Motion made and seconded to inquire if Diane would like to be included.

It was brought to the attention of the board that new business cards are needed to help with new members and the image of the club.

There being no more business, meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

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 is a dinner meeting Dec 15th 6:00 PM Chens Dallas

Gathering every Monday Morning at Washington Street Steakhouse & Pub

VE Testing Polk County Court House

TBD

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