



The Road Report

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RADIO OPERATORS ASSOCIATION OF DALLAS OREGON

Prez Sez

Well **"HAPPY NEW YEARS"** I would like to wish everyone a great 2017.

Our December Christmas dinner social was a great success even though we had to reschedule because of the weather. Thanks to everyone that made it there.

I have heard that we have three new members that are Techs studying for their General test, we wish you all good luck. **YOU CAN DO IT.**

On January 14th, ROADS club will have a **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING** at my home at 3pm. Anyone that is a member is welcome to attend, and if directions to my home are needed, please send me an email so I can get them to you. The agenda will basically center around the plan for the next year. Our future website will also be discussed. If anyone has suggestions of what they would like to see on our site please email them to me for consideration.

Our next club meeting will be Thursday, January 19th at our normal location in Dallas.

There will be a hamfest in Rickreall on February 18. This is a nice social event for the club. Sometimes you might find some hidden gems for sale that you just can't live without. So, come out and join in on the fun. If you have items to sell either bring them to Monday morning coffee at Washington Street between 7 & 9 am, or bring them to our monthly meeting, and I will get them to the Ham Fest to sell. Please show your starting price for each item to sell, and the lowest figure you would sell for, along with your contact cell number if we have a question. Anyone interested in working at our

booth please let me know, the help is always welcomed.

PLEASE GET YOUR MONEY IN FOR YOUR HAT (\$) We need to pay for the hats that we have committed to purchase. The cost is \$15 per hat, and we need the call sign as you want it on your hat.

Don't forget our Bunny is hiding somewhere in Dallas. We could sure use your help to find it. Take a picture of it or write down the address of its location and email Mike W7RIS with this info. Please do not disturb the location or tell others where it is hidden. We will post the winners next month in the news letter.

Now is a good time to dig out all that unused equipment and help clear space for the new gear in the future. We have some new techs that are looking for all types of items, and some that just want to upgrade their ham shack. Antennas, radios, hand held transmitters, tuners, power supplies, amps, towers, mast, dipoles, keys and paddles, and generally anything related to setting up a ham shack.

I heard Santa was really nice to Hollis WB7IEO this year. He has a new radio, Great looking present .

We should hear Dustin KI7INC soon, he also just got a new radio from one of our members. Let us know when you're ready to set the antenna up, Dustin.

N7WWH is headed for AZ. next week for a few months, so give him a shout on 40 meters. See you in the Spring Jim, have fun, stay cool.

Join in around 4-5pm, M-F on simplex 146.55, for a friendly QSO, WB7IEO is net control.

I hope to see everyone on Jan. 19th at our meeting.

73
W7KBR

Here 'n There

By K7QXG

ARRL Dues Increase

ARRL has increased the basic dues from \$39 per year to \$49 per year. Some members now question whether it is worthwhile to remain a member of ARRL. If you leave, can you still use the Outgoing QSL Bureau? Can you still be an ARRL VE? Can you still use the ARRL email forwarding service (k7qxcg@arrl.net)? Time to ask these questions before you let your membership lapse.

NEW QSL Bureau Costs

On Nov. 1st, 2016, the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau implemented a new fee for using their services: There is a \$7 "service fee" for each package you send them. In addition, you pay \$1.15 for each ounce of QSL cards. They also want big bundles of cards and not small packets of cards. My last packet of 41 DX QSL cards cost me \$13 to have the ARRL forward them. No more!

Locally.....Antenna Party

The antenna party hosted by Warren, **W7KBR**, was a great success and the party did not end when the antennas were completed. A "Bunny Hunt" followed and everyone had a chance to check out their skills using the tape measure antennas. Another hunt is planned for later in January.

ZIP Code Contest

Here is an opportunity to test those tape measure antennas because they can also be used for ordinary communications. Since they are a 3 element yagi they should allow some good contacts – even

with a handheld radio - if you take to the high ground. Here are the **contest rules**: On a **weekday** in **February** (*date to be determined*), **between 7 PM and 8 PM**, make as many contacts as you can on **2 meter Simplex** (at or near **146.550**) in as many Zip Codes as you can find. You may **use any antenna** for 144 MHz that you like. All QSOs must be within a **5 mile radius** of your starting point (you can't go mobile and drive around Salem or Portland gathering different zip codes). There will be two power categories: **Low Power** (5 watts or less) and **High Power** (6 to 75 watts). At the end of the hour, *score your log by multiplying the total number of QSOs by the number of different Zip Codes worked*. Submit your list of contacts, with Zip Codes, to me and certificates in each category will be issued for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

We have held two of these contests in Dallas in the past. Some participants were able to work Zip Codes in Eugene and Portland. The date of the event will be determined by mid-January.

WB7IEO, Hollis was heard running the Willamette Commuters Net on 146.550 around 5 PM local time. It features participation by several local members as Troy travels home at the end of the day. Very informal and entertaining. **N7WWH**, gave up trying to work Zimbabwe. The East Coast wall was too much for Jim's antenna and amp. **KE7JNT** is looking for a 40 meter beam. Can you help him? **KI7CUF**, Steve, and **K7SWS**, Steve, created a little confusion on the Oregon Trail net since both are named Steve.

OF9X – Santa Claus Station

During the week before Christmas, **OF9X**, the official Santa Claus station, was on 20 meter SSB and on some days it was operated by Martti Laine. When I worked him it took patience and persistence, and 500 watts were needed.

ROADS December Dinner

For a change of pace it was held at Chen's in Dallas and the turn out was great! I counted 34 persons at one point, but a few persons were moving about, so that may not be accurate. **W7RIS** made it from Corvallis, and **W7NAT** and xyl came in from Salem. **KT7H** found his way to Chen's, and of course there were lots of locals, including several new members. **W7JTB** was there with her grandson – she remembered my xyl's name, but could not remember mine! **W7KBR** brought the entire family, and I noticed **N7WWH** and Ruth at the far end of the table. **Bonnie, our ARRL rep**, made the trip to Dallas. There were too many to list them all here, but it was interesting to note that three Past Presidents were there: **KX5W**, **K7QXG** and **W7SCT**. There were lots of pictures being taken, so I kept my camera in my coat pocket. Perhaps someone will submit a few for publication in the newsletter. I learned today that **KE7JNT** had a health problem that kept him at home. And where was Dudley?? I also missed seeing **K7CIE** and **KA7HBB** and hope they weren't dealing with health problems. **AE7OA** was home caring for his xyl who had surgery recently.

-K7QXG Bob

I wanted to get some help with a CW beacon that I started up the day after Christmas. Here are the particulars:

Coordinated Frequency: 28.2265 MHz
12 WPM CW with the following message: KI7CUF/B
CN84

Transmits every 2 minutes at even UTC

Power: ~250mW

Antenna: 10 m MOXON pointed directly east

On-the-Air: 00:00:00 12/26/2016

If anyone in the Dallas area can make a spot please let me know.

-73-

Steve Greco
KI7CUF

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 at Polk Country Courthouse at 7:00 PM on Jan 19, 2017

Gathering every Monday Morning at Washington Street Steakhouse & Pub

VE Testing Polk County Court House

- January 14, 2017
- March 11, 2017
- May 13, 2017
- July 8, 2017
- September 9, 2017
- November 11, 2017

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