

The Road Report

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RADIO OPERATORS ASSOCIATION OF DALLAS OREGON

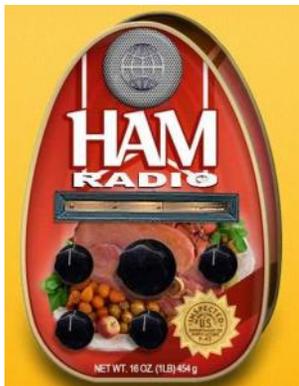
Prez Sez



Happy Spring Everyone!
We had a great dinner at Rockin' Rogers in Rickreall last month. It was so nice to see everyone there. Along with a very nice meal we had great conversation. Thanks for attending.

It's time to get ready for our 10-10 Easter Egg Hunt. Choose your egg color, and get on the Net, and make as many contacts as you can. How is the Bunny Hunt going? Has anyone found it yet? The Bunny has been placed in Dallas, so have fun getting out there and finding it. Our next meeting is April 20th at 7pm. See you at the Courthouse in Dallas. It's time to start thinking about our Field Day in June. Have a great Easter,

73' W7KBR
Warren



Here 'n There

By K7QXG

SPECIAL NOTICE

A surprise 80th birthday party is being hosted for ROADS member **W6SVP, Jim Perkins**, on April 13th between 2 and 4 PM in the "C" wing of the Health Center at Dallas Retirement Village. Jim was a friend of our club's founder, **W7LOU, Bob Boswell**, and also worked with Bob as an Air Traffic Controller many long years ago. Jim's declining health prevents him from ever returning home, so visitors are always appreciated. **For more information you can call his wife DeDe at 503-559-3830.** If you are unable to attend, you may wish to consider sending Jim a birthday card.

Finding the bunny.... Not as easy as you thought? Did you follow all the tips put out by **W7RIS, Mike**? Let me give you a clue: Start your search from a mile or two out of Dallas using the tape measure antenna. Still too strong? Replace the antenna with the regular one and use your body to block the signal. Once you get to a location where the signal is getting strong, remove the antenna. Last step: I replaced the antenna with a paper clip and wrapped the entire handheld unit in aluminum foil. I used my body to

Continue page 2

block out the signal. Try different locations around Dallas. From each location, draw a “hot signal” line on a map. Where the lines intersect is where the bunny is. **No one said this was going to be easy!**

March Dinner Out was a success and I counted 22 warm bodies in attendance. Even **KW7DSP** was there, although he plans to return to AZ after taking care of some medical issues. **Portland 500 Net**, held on Sundays, is temporarily QRT. **KD7ZLF**, Howard, has some medical issues to deal with and it is unknown when, if ever, the net will return. **KX5W** has a problem with his beam, or the feedline, and is now confined to using a wire antenna. Even so, he managed to work **TU7C!** We have a pool shark in the club, and John, **KE7JNT**, can be found every Friday morning at North Dallas giving a lesson to challengers. A tip of the hat to Dennis, **WB7VAO**, for his fine job as ROADS Treasurer. And the same to Dave, **KT7H**, who has provided us with an excellent record of our meetings. Congratulations to **WA7MZM**, Dave, and **KF7SEY**, Troy, who tracked the bunny down. They have a few tips for those who are still searching. **Oregon Trail Chapter of 10-10 is hosting an Easter Special.** Many members of ROADS are also members of this group and will participate in an Easter Special between April 16th and April 23rd. Points are awarded for the different color “eggs” collected on 10 meters. **Special Bonus:** If you have found ROADS hidden bunny by April 23rd, your collected points will double! Want to play? Send an email to Bob, K7QXG, for details. **Don’t Forget May 6th – 7 QP....** The 7 land QSO Party is the second largest in the USA and will take place on May 6th. You don’t need to submit a log to play in this event. Just give out your state and the three letter abbreviation for our county – that would be OR POL. Good Luck! **AE7OA**, Mike, is the proud owner of a new FT3000 – a really nice rig! However, Mike says it has a “steep

learning curve.” HRO in Tigard has a sale on them and you can get one for about \$1597. Normally they sell for about \$2400. And if you run into **WB7IEO**, Hollis, ask him to tell you about the Easter Bunny and the eggs. Where is **N7WWH**, Jim? He left for AZ in January and still is not home as I write this. Jim, your garden is calling.... **And finally** ROADS has two big events just around the corner: **Field Day** in June. Please contact **KA7HBB**, Mike, and tell him what you can bring and if you can participate. Next, **ROADS Election Of Officers**, happens in June and if you want to run for office, now is the time to announce your decision. Also, don’t forget that June 30th it will be time to pay your dues to renew your membership.

I think that is enough for this month. Don’t forget the surprise birthday party for W6SVP, Jim, at the Dallas Retirement Center.

- Bob K7QXG

KF7SEY Corner

Well weather is getting nicer and I'm itching to get out and run portable. There is something about being outdoors and setting up a radio to operator. Kind of like fishing, sometimes you score a big one that you can tell stories about later. While we are being teased with the sun, I have been working on my Bitx40 I mentioned last month. It finally came a few weeks back. I put it in a temporary enclosure that would allow me to experiment and test. Testing resulted in favorable conditions. Everything worked out of the box. A quick test with WB7IEO on the other end got me my first contact. I have also purchased an enclosure that will give me plenty of room for mods and add-ons. This is a great project for anyone that wants

Continue page 3

to have the satisfaction of building and putting something on the air. There is a large community revolving around this with lots of support via different groups ranging from Facebook, Goggle Groups, You-Tube, and internet searches. To help me aid in making sure my build produces an outcome that meets FCC regulations and a pleasing audio output, I built a RF sampler and AM diode detector that will allow me to hookup a scope to monitor for wave forms that are not normal. This kit will help anyone learn how SSB radios work and will teach you how to diagnose circuits. I highly recommend if you are interested in building.



RF Sampler and AM Diode Detector

- Troy KF7SEY



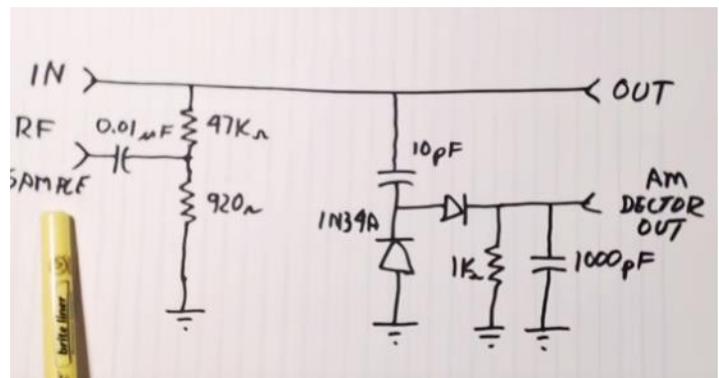
Current setup for testing. Crude but works :)



Final Enclosure

Circuit used from K7AGE You-Tube video

<https://youtu.be/hSl7evXfeuo>



HAM Radio News

Ham Radio Tidd Bits

By Nate W7NAT

For you that are DXCC chasers you might find this of interest.

ARRL has deleted Midway KH4 and Kure islands KH7K as of 8/26/2016. you can read more here:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/midway-and-kure-islands-are-now-deleted-dxcc-entities>.

Its unfortunate for me as I do not have either one.

-Troy KF7SEY

Bring Ham Radio back to life

Do you know about Ham nation? Ham nation is a pod cast that is aired weekly on Wednesdays 6:00 Pm PST. I try to watch every week when time permits. Last few weeks have been very interesting for me. Bob Heil has been putting together a pine board project. Who is Bob Heil you may ask. Bob is the founder of Heil Sound. The maker of the fine microphones you see in HRO catalogs and other amateur catalogs. He is also a host for Ham nation. The Pine board project is an AM transmitter. He started by showing how to build a power supply. Then working toward a pre-amplifier. This project is on my bucket list as tubes are one of my favorite things in electronics. Here is the link if you would like to start watching. <https://twit.tv/shows/ham-nation>

It can also be found on You-Tube.

Enjoy!

- Troy KF7SEY

When we sign an FCC 605 form when applying for an amateur license during a VE testing session there is wording just above our signature to the effect that we agree to the FCC requirements for radiation safety. Those requirements are that we must be able to verify that the signals from our antennas fall within the FCC safety requirements so that nobody in the vicinity of those signals could be exposed to too much radiation.

The amount of radiation exposure from an antenna depends basically on the following factors: (1) the amount of power produced by the station, (2) the power gain of the antenna, (3) the distance from the antenna to anyone located in the area, and (4) the frequency used while transmitting.

The radiation safety rules apply to all HF operation, but also apply to VHF and higher frequencies where the power level is greater than 50 watts or high gain antennas are used. For example, operating on 2 meters with a 50 watt transmitter when the transmitting antenna is close to the operator or some other person may not be within the regulations.

Proof that a station is operating within the RF radiation safety rules can be established by various means, and such proof may require the use of expensive measuring devices or by performing calculations per specific RF exposure tables. However, on the internet we can find websites where all we need to do is to enter the factors involved into a calculator to verify whether or not we have met the FCC requirements. This calculator asks for the average power (which is less than the output power of the transmitter), because the average power is determined by the average of the time transmitting and the time listening over a specific total time. So when entering the transmitter power into the calculator we are getting the "worst case" result, which if the calculator indicates that we pass the requirement, we are more than certain that we have passed. Such a calculator can be found by googling power density vp9kf, and by visiting the website at hintlink.com.

*Reprinted from CTR Amateur Radio Club Newsletter



Oregon Trail Easter Special

April 16, 0000 Z to April 23, 2359 Z

This Special is sponsored by the Oregon Trail Chapter of 10-10 International. Points will be awarded and there may also be a certificate for high score in each call area (that is under discussion at this time). This Special is open to any 10-10 member.

There are two Easter Bunnies: DL8YBM and K7QXG. Their point value is known only to K7QXG.

There are 8 Easter egg colors. Your task is to work other stations on 10 meters and “gather the eggs” (colors). You do NOT need to keep track of the call letters of the stations you work. Just keep track of how many of each color you gather during the Special. You select a color for yourself and if you have a club, select one for the club. I DO NOT NEED TO KNOW THE COLORS IN ADVANCE. Once you decide on a color you cannot change it. You will give out the color you have chosen to other stations that are participating in the Special. Only K7QXG knows the point value of each color. Each entrant will receive points for their own color they have selected – even if they are unable to make any contacts.

THE COLORS ARE: Yellow, Blue, Red, Pink, Orange, Purple, Green, and Gold.

When you decide on a color, you can then pick one for your club, if you have a club. It can be the same color if you wish, but remember the old adage, “Don’t put all your eggs in the same basket!”

After the 23rd, send me an email and tell me how many of each color you have gathered. I will compute your score and notify you of the total number of points you have earned. If you made no contacts, let me know which color you chose and I’ll tell you how many points that color was worth, and the points will be added to your point value.

IF YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER OF OREGON TRAIL CHAPTER YOU ARE MOST WELCOME TO PLAY IN THIS SPECIAL ANYWAY, AND YOU WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR A CALL AREA CERTIFICATE IF THEY ARE ISSUED.

The Oregon Trail Chapter averages 10 stations every Sunday net (28.330) at 1900Z. I have also been advised by DL8YBM that there will be 49 calls in Germany that will be participating in this event.

Bob, K7QXG, Chapter Head, Oregon Trail chapter, 10-10 International



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 the Polk County Courthouse at 7:00 PM on 4/20/2017

Gathering every Monday Morning at Washington Street Steakhouse & Pub

VE Testing Polk County Court House

- 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.