

**W7OEK**

**Volume 2009, Issue 6** **June 2009**

<b>Herb Grey</b>	<b>W7MMI</b>	<b>773-4765</b>		<b>President</b>
<b>Don Bennett</b>	<b>KG7BP</b>	<b>618-5189</b>		<b>Vice President</b>
<b>Lud Sibley</b>	<b>KB2EVN</b>	<b>855-5207</b>		<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Jack Schock</b>	<b>WA7IHU</b>	<b>535-8471</b>		<b>Secretary</b>
<b>Tom McDermott</b>	<b>N5EG</b>	<b>734-4675</b>	<b>n5eg@tapr.org</b>	<b>Newsletter and Membership</b>
<b>Dave Basden</b>	<b>W7OQ</b>		<b>dave@basden.us</b>	<b>Webmaster</b>
<b>Club Web Page:</b>		<b>http://www.qsl.net/w7oek</b>		

***Next Club Meeting***  
**Thursday, June 4, 2009. 7:00 PM**  
**Red Cross Building, 60 Hawthorne St., Medford, OR**  
**Across from Hawthorne Park**  
**Program: See President's Column**

**President's Letter**

We're starting into Summer already, which means that Field Day is just around the corner, and we won't have regular club meetings in July or August. The meetings resume starting in September, on the third.

The signup for Field Day has been less than enthusiastic, but a final decision about the Club's participation will be made at the June 4 meeting, including a volunteer to serve as chairman for organizing the event. Band conditions are beginning to show signs of improvement so I encourage more of you to at least volunteer to operate for a few hours.

At the last meeting I had a discussion with a new ham who was looking for a "class" dealing with how to get on the air. This is not a new concern to me; it has been an ongoing discussion among some of us old timers.

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**Secretary's Report**

**RVARC MINUTES OF THE 7 May 09 MEETING**

1. Called to order by Herb Gray W7MMI at 1900L in the Red Cross Building in Medford, OR.
2. Guests:
  - Joe Plansky, KB8AP,
  - Walt Bauer, KE6MDU,
  - Karl Hargrave, KD7EYA,
  - Dave Broudey and his sister-in-law.
3. Jack, WA7IHU read last month's minutes, they were approved as read.
4. Lud, KB2EVN told us the club treasury has a balance of \$1938.14.

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## President's Letter, Continued

The Club has provided classes for people interested in getting their license, and a group of volunteer examiners (VEs) have facilitated license tests several times a year. Every year several new callsigns are issued locally. Much of the time we never see these new hams again either at club meetings or on the air.

In short, we have done a poor job of following up and "elmer-ing" these newcomers; we have let them slip through the cracks. And, yes, I haven't done my part either. In many instances we don't know about those that need help so a mechanism needs to be instituted to bring them to our attention i.e. getting their names and phone numbers from the VEs so that a member can help them get to a meeting. Then either a hands-on class could be organized or an experienced ham paired up with the newcomer for one-on-one instruction.

The program for the June 4 meeting is still in the formative stages. Check the Club web site for late breaking news. The program will not be centered around Field Day.

73, Herb W7MMI

## Two Meter Repeater Frequency

In order to provide a common place to find fellow RVARC club members on two meters, we recommend using the K7RPT 147.62 / 02 repeater as a calling and monitoring frequency. This is an open repeater (no tone or PL access required). The repeater listens on 147.62 MHz and transmits on 147.02 MHz.

## Secretary's Report, Continued

5. Old Business:
  - Herb encouraged all to get the newsletter via email to save us money.
  - Herb passed a paper around soliciting volunteers for field day.
6. New Business:
  - Van Sias, K7VS has transceivers for loaning to club members.
  - Van announced that Steve Chastain, N7SC has a moon bounce power point presentation for us to view.
7. 1928L Herb adjourned the club for coffee and donuts.
8. 1945L Herb called the meeting back into session.
9. Wayne Cox, K7DZJ told us about some of his experiences chasing down RFI while working for the Power Company.
10. Lud Sibley, KB2EVN showed us his UV light pen. It shows the ID line in paper money. It also lights up when pointed at credit cards to show their ID.
11. Herb adjourned the meeting at 2045L.

Submitted by Jack Schock, WA7IHU secretary.

## Volunteer Examiners (VEs)

Prior to 1984, all amateur radio examinations were conducted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Amateurs seeking most licenses needed to show up at one of the 23 FCC offices for the code and written examinations.

Due to budget cutbacks, the FCC eliminated in-office testing, and set up a program where a small number of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VECs) would serve as the interface between the FCC and a much larger number of Volunteer Examiners (VEs) who administer the actual examinations. There are 14 VECs (as of 2004). The ARRL is one of these VECs.

Our club is fortunate to have several mem-

bers who donate their time and effort to conduct examination sessions several times a year. The FCC allows the VEs to collect a small amount of money to re-imburse them for the expenses of conducting exam sessions.

The RVARC holds exams at the White City VA Domicillary several times a year. This picture was taken at one of the recent exam sessions.

We all owe a big thank-you to our VE's, and to Harry Ekelund, who coordinates the exam sessions for the RVARC.



### **RVARC Volunteer Examiner Team**

Standing: Morris Proesser, KB7QR; Rich Pruitt, N6QZU; Dale Trautman, N7IXS;  
Harry Ekelund, AE7NY; Don Bennett, KG7BP  
Seated: Ray Hill, KI7XW; Bud Larsen, W7LNG

## Great Circle Map—Centered on Medford, OR

This map shows the world as viewed from Medford Oregon (center of the chart). It is geometrically correct as to distance from the center of the chart. Every point on the chart that lies on a circle centered on Medford is the same distance from Medford. The chart

indicates the correct direction to point your antenna when you want to work DX in a remote location. For example, to aim for South Africa, you should point your antenna slightly North of East. South Carolina is due East.

W6ELProp GREAT CIRCLE MAP  
(Azimuthal Equidistant Projection)



## Anniversary

What hath God wrought!

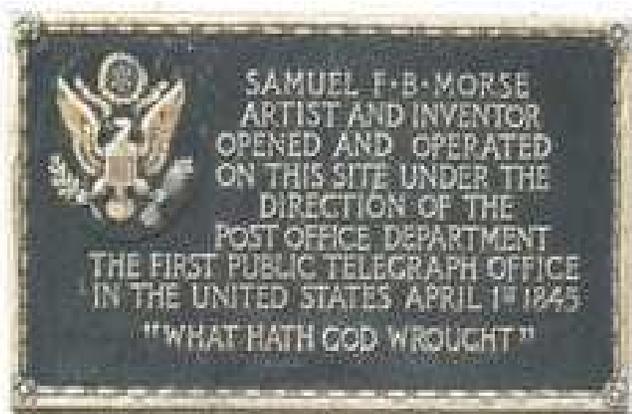
One hundred and sixty five years ago on May 24, 1844 Samuel F.B. Morse sent that historical message on a telegraph wire from Washington D.C. to Baltimore, MD. I'm sure Morse didn't recognize what that started-- instant communications.

No longer was the slow mail carried by horses or even by rail necessary to get a brief message through.

Today many enjoy instant communication by radio or telephone by using the descendants of Morse's telegraph. Lives have been saved by distress messages from sinking ships at sea or from accident scenes.

Lets take our hats off to the unsung heroes that perfected communications. The lonely telegraph or radio operator handling important messages that cheer, thank or greet our friends. LONG LIVE CW!

Bud Larson, W7LNG



Found just off the National Mall on the west side of 7th Ave, between E and F streets, this plaque commemorates Samuel Morse's groundbreaking achievement. (Photo - NOAX.

Thanks to the ARRL Contest Update.

## Hamfest, Swapmeet, and Conventions

### Coos County Hamfest

The Coos County Radio Club will be holding their annual hamfest in North Bend on July 18th. This event will be held at the North Bend Middle School. Please put that event on your calendar. It is a growing event in the section.

Doors open at 10 am for buyers, 8 am for sellers. Talk-in on 145.610 (-) or 147.280 (+ PL 146.2) Admission for all amateurs is \$3.00 with non-ham spouses and children free. To reserve a table or register please contact Marilyn Mansker, KE7OAM at (541) 572-3406 or [KE7OAM@yahoo.com](mailto:KE7OAM@yahoo.com) .

From Highway 101 take Virginia Avenue north to Broadway Ave. Go left on Broadway and south on 16th Street to the school.

### Pacific Northwest DX Convention

The Pacific Northwest DX Convention has been held each summer since 1955 with the sponsorship rotating between the Willamette Valley DX Club (WVDC), British Columbia DX Club (BCDXC), and the Western Washington DX Club (WWDXC). The Spokane DX Association (SDXA) was added to the rotation in 2007. The privilege of hosting the 54th annual DX Convention rests with the Spokane DX Association.

The convention will be held the weekend of August 7-9, 2009 in Spokane Valley, WA at the Mirabeau Park Hotel and Convention Center. The convention has been approved as an ARRL Operating Specialty Convention under the sponsorship of the Spokane DX Association. See more detail at our website: <http://mysite.verizon.net/rbfoltz/sdxa/index.htm>

Please share this message with contacts in

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### **Hamfests, Convention**

your local Clubs and Nets, and especially with all DXer friends.

*Northwest DX Convention Publicity Committee, Ed Stuckey, AI7H [ai7h@arrl.net](mailto:ai7h@arrl.net)*

Thanks to:

- *ARRL Oregon Section - Section Manager: Bonnie M. Altus, AB7ZQ*
- *SOARC Wireless Gnus*
- *Spokane DX Association*

### **Badges are available**

The 2009 RVARC badges have been printed. Those that have not already been picked up will be available at any of the RVARC club meetings. If you have not received your badge please let me know so I can print another one and correct any errors in the club database.

RVARC c/o  
Tom McDermott, N5EG  
3950 Southview Ter.  
Medford, OR 97504

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**Across from Hawthorne Park**  
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**Rogue Valley Amateur Radio Club**  
**c/o 3950 Southview Ter.**  
**Medford, OR 97504**