



# The REPEATER

*The OFFICIAL newsletter of the Rogue Valley Amateur Radio Club*



## W7DTA

Volume 2012, Issue 4

April 2012

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Lud Sibley	KB2EVN	(541) 855-5207		Treasurer
Jack Schock	WA7IHU	(541) 535-8471		Secretary
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Dave Basden	W7OQ		<a href="mailto:dave@basden.us">dave@basden.us</a>	and Membership
Club Web Page:			<a href="http://www.qsl.net/w7dta">http://www.qsl.net/w7dta</a>	Webmaster

**Next Club Meeting**  
 Thursday, April 5, 2012, 7:00 PM  
 Red Cross Building, 60 Hawthorne St., Medford, OR  
 Across from Hawthorne Park  
 Program: Antennas—Ellis Feinstein, K7MFR

### President's Letter

I would like to thank Tom McDermott, N5EG for putting together a fascinating presentation last month at the last minute (literally). His slide presentation on the Texas Star Party including pictures and a discussion of the ham shack was very enjoyable. Also I would like to thank Dan, N6WN, for his show and tell presentation of his experience building a Soft Rock SDR radio kit.

It was great to see so many visitors and new faces at our March meeting.

Joe Gunderson, KB7QMT is going to take a club photo at the April meeting, so hopefully we will have good attendance.

Ellis Feinstein, K7MFR will give us his presentation on antennas at the April meeting that you don't want to miss. I hope to see

### Secretary's Report

MINUTES OF THE 1 MARCH 12 ROGUE VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Statchwick, K7KNX at 1900L in the Red Cross building in Medford, OR.

Guests in attendance where: Josh Hunsaker, Joe Planski KB8AP, Bill Anderson K6UGY & Leona KC7WWJ, Dave Akins KG7HI & wife soon to be ham Tammy, K7PRN Leslie Terrel & Robin Terrel.

The minutes were not read as they are in the newsletter.

Lud, KB2EVN reported that the club treasury has \$4674.80 in it.

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## President's Letter, Continued

(Continued from page 1)  
you all there.

73

Jeff W7KNX

## Allan's Contest Corner

### Upcoming contests

QRP To The Field April 28 8AM-8PM QRP/CW only. A fun contest from the field IF the weather cooperates.

7QP 6 AM to midnight PDT, Saturday, May 5th. 7th call area stations work everyone, others work 7th area stations only. Work stations once per band mode. 7th area mobiles (and those participating in other concurrent QSO parties or contests) may be worked again as they enter new counties.

CQ WPX CW 0000Z Friday through 0000Z Sunday of Memorial Day weekend. Good code copying practice at 30+ wpm and a barrel of fun.

### Looking for operator(s)

I am looking for a second op / traveling companion for the upcoming QRP To The Field contest. Modest CW skills (~15 wpm) will suffice for this fun QRP field event. Allan has appropriate radio gear.

I am looking for a second op also for the CQ WPX CW contest in late May. Serious CW skills needed here as well as computer logging experience. Good food, fun, and camaraderie as well as fame and glory...  
At Allan's station near Gold Hill.

Allan, K7GT

## Secretary's Report, Cont'd.

(Continued from page 1)

### Old Business:

1. Allan Taylor, K7GT is in the process of replacing Bud, W7LNG as club trustee. We all thanked Bud for his years of service. Allan is working on the QSL card issue.
2. Scott, KD7EHB is getting a letter into Don at JCARS to get a membership application.
3. Joe Gunderson KB7QMT is trying to get Congressman Greg Walden address the club.
4. Tom McDermott, N5EG completed the club brochure and printed 10 copies for handout at the last VEC session.
5. Scott and the field day committee are working on getting permission to use the Christian High school park for field which includes staying overnight.

### New Business:

1. Herb, W7MMI will help Scott locate club equipment.
2. Tom informed us that this year's name-tags are on the table and please get yours.
3. Jeff put the meeting on hold for coffee and an "eyeball QSO" at 1945L and called the meeting back into session at 2015L.
4. Dan, N6WN gave the group presentation of his experience on building surface mount software defined transceiver kits.
5. Tom presented a very interesting program on his experiences at a one week Star Party encampment supporting amateur astronomers on a ranch in the Davis Mountains of west Texas.

Jeff adjourned the meeting at 2100L

Submitted by Jacob O. (Jack) Schock WA7IHU secretary.

## Northwest Communications Academy - April 14-15

### 14th Annual Communications Academy Returns to Seattle April 14-15, 2012

Seattle, Washington -- Registration is now open for CommAcademy 2012! This year marks the 14th Anniversary for the Northwest's premier continuing education conference for volunteer emergency communicators.

As communicators, you probably know what threats are focused on our region. In a flash any of us may be thrown into an earthquake, mud flows, floods, winter storms, heat emergencies, a tsunami, regional fires, civil-disorder, infrastructure failure, terror events or a pandemic. The Chamber of Commerce doesn't approach it this way, but we know the Northwest is right in the crosshairs.

This year's CommAcademy, "Practical Solutions for Real EmComm Challenges," includes two days of training and information on wide-ranging aspects of emergency communications. The Communications Academy is open to anyone with an interest in emergency communications, volunteer or professional. The presentations are designed to promote the development of knowledgeable, skilled emergency communicators who will support their local communities during a disaster or emergency response.

If you weren't already interested, I hope the list of calamities above has sharpened your appetite for this EmComm training opportunity. Our Saturday keynote speaker this year is Mike Corey, KI1U, emergency preparedness manager for the ARRL and co-author of the ARRL book "Storm Spotting and Amateur Radio." Prior to joining HQ in 2010, Mike worked in law enforcement in Indiana and Mississippi. He has also served as an emergency management volunteer, disaster response volunteer, reserve police officer, and on emergency operations center staff. Mike

is also a public safety training instructor in Mississippi. Mike will be giving an overview of 2011 emergency activities, lessons learned and plans for 2012 titled, "So When is the Plague of Locusts Getting Here?"

Our Sunday Keynote Speaker this year is Andrew Seybold, W6AMS, presenting, "Wireless Broadband and EMS Communications." Mr. Seybold is a nationally known expert on wireless communications. Andrew Seybold has been involved in Public Safety and Public Safety Communications for more than 50 years. Within the next 5 years the Public Safety community will be building out their own, mission critical broadband network. Unlike commercial broadband networks this one will be hardened to public Safety standards and will be available for all Public Safety users including Fire and EMS. How does amateur radio best support these new communication tools?

There are 40 hours of instruction to choose from over the weekend. Vendors and exhibits from a range of organizations and radio related suppliers will be present. Registration includes lunch each day and time is available for talking with presenters and your fellow participants. A variety of Door Prizes will be presented during the weekend. Again this year, an impressive array of communications vans will be on site for tours and networking. The popular Portable Radio Go-Kit Contest is your chance to show the world how to make a compact, portable, efficient and functional station. Kits from past years are viewable on the <http://commacademy.org> website. This year we are featuring a category for Digital Radio Go-Kits. Try your hand at including an interface, laptop and portable printer to take your digital station wherever you go. Great prizes will be awarded for the best kits and you can't win if you don't enter. Icom America has donated a dual band FM

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## **Northwest Communications Academy - April 14-15, Cont'd.**

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and Digital Voice ID-880H D-Star Radio for the winning classic kit. For the winning digital kit, Navigator Interface has donated their flagship Navigator Interface and cable to match your choice of radio. Even if you have entered before you are encouraged to augment your setup and enter again. We want as many different kits as possible so that everyone will benefit from seeing many approaches to the challenges of putting together a good Go-Kit.

Complete information about the topics and speakers, and a schedule, can be found on the Web page.

For registration and housing information, please visit <http://commacademy.org/> Early Bird discounted registration continues until April 1. We look forward to seeing you for the 14th Annual CommAcademy in Seattle April 14 and 15. South Seattle Community College, Brockey Center and Olympic Hall 6000 – 16th Avenue Southwest Seattle, Washington 98106

Please visit the website or email [wr5j@westseattlearc.org](mailto:wr5j@westseattlearc.org) with questions or comments

ARRL Northwestern Division  
Director: James E Fenstermaker, K9JF  
[k9jf@arrl.org](mailto:k9jf@arrl.org)

## **PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER'S Thoughts. Joe Gunderson, KB7QMT**

I have been working diligently as your club's Public Information Officer to get the word out there as to our activities both present and future. And a conversation came up during this process that made me stop and think, I am not the only one in our HAM community responsible for our publicity, we all are ambassadors as well as publicity men and women for our activities. The story goes thusly, it seems a young man of 16 went to a field day approximately 20 years ago, to find out what it was all about, because he thought he would like to be a HAM. He tried to ask questions, but everyone ignored him or told him gruffly to get out of the way as they were setting up for Field Day. The young man was surprised and rather embarrassed that he had bothered them. He went home and decided he wanted no part of the HAM community if they treated non Hams like that. This young man was also in charge of getting the information on to the TV channels bulletin board. Now I had to work hard with this man and convince him that we are not all like that and would really like to see him at the next meeting. This kind of problem is not unique to our activities, as I have experienced that problem first hand with the local train club. This is totally unacceptable if we are to have our hobby grow and prosper. I served 20 years in the Navy and we had a saying, that is as true to today as back then many eons ago, "**All you need is one awe shucks to wipe out a 1000 atta boys!**" As a HAM all of us appreciate good press, but at times sabotage all that good will and exposure that we get by being either unthinking or just ignorance when we are busy or have had a bad day. Our actions or words do have long reaching detrimental consequences. I realize sometimes we are very busy and can't stop right at that moment, just take the time to smile and say could you wait just a few minutes and I will gladly help answer your questions and show you around.

## RVARC Equipment List

Van Sias, K7VS provided us this list of RVARC equipment that he has been keeping at his QTH.

- ICOM IC-740 w/mic and AC power cord and manual
- ICOM AT-500 Antenna tuner with interface cables and manual
- KENWOOD TS-440S w/mic
- KENWOOD PS-430 companion power supply
- KENWOOD SP-430 companion speaker
- KENWOOD AT-120 companion low power antenna tuner (100 watt model)
- KENWOOD TS-120S XCVR
- AC Power supply (15 amp I guess, which I picked up at the time I acquired the radio)
- and the tuner shown below)
- MILLEN transmatch antenna tuner-model 92200 Hi-power
- ATLAS 210X ham band only transceiver SSB OK but CW not working properly
- ATLAS Docking Station for the 210X
- AZDEN PCS-3000 FM two meter xcvr condition unknown with manual and mic
- AZDEN PCS-5000 FM two meter xcvr condition unknown with manual and mic
- DRAKE TR-7 Transceiver with extra filters and frequency extender board installed
- DRAKE RV-7 Remote VFO for TR-7
- DRAKE MS-7 Cabinet Speaker unit
- DRAKE PS-7 Drake Heavy Duty Power supply for TR-7
- Professionally Built Ultrasonic Parabolic Noise Detector Unit with documentation
- UCE Band Pass Filter Set One each for 80 40 20 15 and 10 Meters

## New TAPR SDR Project

### Hermes Interest List Up

TAPR announces the opening of the interest list for the openHPSDR <http://openhpsdr.org> Hermes single-board Software Defined Radio (SDR). The Hermes interest list is used by TAPR to determine the number of Hermes boards to manufacture in the pending initial production run this spring. It is not a commitment to purchase—just an expression of interest. [ Ed Note: TAPR uses this count to determine the approximate size of the production run.]

Hermes is a long-awaited addition to the openHPSDR project lineup, advancing through four prototypes while evolving from a USBbased to an Ethernet-based transceiver in about two years. Hermes is a Direct-Down-Conversion receiver, a Direct-Up-Conversion 500mW transmitter and a gigabit Ethernet interface all on one board. Also on board is an RF-quiet switch-mode power supply, allowing Hermes to run from a single 13.8V DC supply.

More information can be found on the Hermes Wiki:

<http://openhpsdr.org/wiki/index.php?title=HERMES>

To show your interest, you can sign up here: <http://www.hamsdr.com/login.aspx>

(Note: Look under the tab after you log in).

[ Ed Note: The performance appears to be impressive. It does not require a separate soundcard / DSP as all the processing is done on-board. The interface to the unit is via Ethernet. ]

A video showing some tests on the Hermes board is located at:

<http://hpsdrhermes.blogspot.com/2011/07/hpsdr-hermes-spur-and-noise-level-tests.html>

## Free IEEE C95 Standards

IEEE Standards Association (IEEE-SA) has made some of its IEEE C95(tm) safety standards for human exposure to electromagnetic fields available to the public at no cost. The standards can be downloaded through the [IEEE Get Program](#), which allows anyone from around the world to view and download current individual standards at no charge.

Complimentary public access to select IEEE C95 standards is made possible by funding from the U.S. Department of Defense, which sponsors their publication on the IEEE Get Program web site.

The select IEEE C95 standards available through the IEEE Get Program are:

- IEEE C95.1(tm)-2005 - Safety Levels with Respect to Human Exposure to Radio Frequency Electromagnetic Fields, 3 kHz to 300 GHz
- IEEE C95.3(tm)-2002 - Measurements & Computations of Radio Frequency Electromagnetic Fields with Respect to Human Exposure to Such Fields, 100 kHz-300 GHz
- IEEE C95.3.1(tm)-2010 - Measurements & Computations of Electric, Magnetic, and Electromagnetic Fields with Respect to Human Exposure to Such Fields, 0 Hz to 100 kHz
- IEEE C95.6(tm)-2002 - Safety Levels with Respect to Human Exposure to Electromagnetic Fields, 0-3 kHz
- IEEE C95.7(tm)-2005 - Radio Frequency Safety Programs - 3 kHz to 300 GHz

[ Ed Note: these are the standards upon which the FCC OEB 65 requirements for amateur radio station evaluation are based.]

For more information about the IEEE C95 standards or to download the documents, visit :

<http://ieeestandards.org/ct.html?rtr=on&s=8nv,1mea6,39ee,gdhd,dfvi,18g5,b91i>

## For Sale

For Sale – bargain!

40 foot telescopic tubular tower (monopole)  
3 element Cushcraft A3 10-15-20 meter yagi,  
Rotator, cables.

\$ 150.00 for the package (you haul)

Herb Grey W7MMI 541-773-4765



## For the person who bought...

For the person who bought the MFJ948 Versa Tuner II at the January swapmeet:  
I have the original Instruction Manual!

Allan K7GT [k7gt@charter.net](mailto:k7gt@charter.net)

## RVARC Dues

RVARC membership dues run from January 1 through December 31. Please bring cash or a check payable to RVARC to a club meeting, or mail (checks only) to:

RVARC Membership  
c/o 3950 Southview Ter.  
Medford, OR 97504

Regular Member:	\$20.00
Senior Member (62 and over):	\$15.00
Family Member:	\$20.00
Student Member:	\$10.00

## ARRL DXCC Fee Changes

The ARRL has announced a new fee application structure for DXCC, starting April 2, 2012. There will be no more hybrid applications. Each DXCC application -- be it paper QSLs, LoTW or Online DXCC -- will be considered separate applications with separate application fees. There will be no more surcharges added to the second or subsequent applications. DXCC staff will not mail any paperwork for LoTW applications (credit matrix or application summary), as all application information will be available online in the LoTW . For details, see:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-announces-new-dxcc-fee-structure>

## Amateur Radio Examinations

In the Rogue Valley, amateur radio exams are provided by the RVARC and the SOARC. The 2012 exam schedules have been announced. New exam participants need to provide identification, while upgrading amateurs need to **provide a copy of their current license** as well as show identification. Exam fee for 2012 is \$15.00. To search for other exam locations, go to:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml>

### **Medford (White City)**

**Time:** 8:30 AM. Walk-ins welcome.

**Location:** White City VA Facility (Room 223), Crater Lake Highway, Rt. 62, White City OR 97503-9999

**Dates:** June 23rd

**Contact:** Don Bennett, Email: [kg7bp@rfwarrior.com](mailto:kg7bp@rfwarrior.com) Phone: (541) 973-3625

### **Grants Pass**

**Time:** Arrive 6:00 PM. Exam session starts at 6:30 PM. Walk-ins welcome.

**Location:** Fruitdale Grange. 1440 Parkdale Dr., Grants Pass OR 97527-5288

**Dates:** May 18th Aug 24th Nov 16th

**Contact:** John Stubbe, K7VSU, email: [K7VSU@arrl.net](mailto:K7VSU@arrl.net), Phone: (541) 218-2244

### ***Next Club Meeting***

**Thursday, April 5, 2012, 7:00 PM**

**Red Cross Building, 60 Hawthorne St., Medford, OR**

**Across from Hawthorne Park**

**Program: Antennas—Ellis Feinstein, K7MFR**