



# The Repeater

## Next Club Meeting

Thursday,  
April 3, 2014, 7:00 PM

Red Cross Building,  
60 Hawthorne St., Medford, OR  
Across from Hawthorne Park

Program: Small loop antennas

Volume 2014, Issue 4

April 2014

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President & Webmaster
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Newsletter & Membership
Public Info Officer

## President's Letter

### Antenna Raising Weather is Here!

Green grass, mild days, and blue skies are sure signs it's time to climb towers, string wire, and get up on rooftops in the never-satisfied quest for a few more dB of gain. It's also time for contest pallor and seasonal affective disorder to give way to tanned skin and spring fever. IOTA, SOTA, and POTA (Islands, Summits, and Parks on the Air, respectively) activations seem alluring again. Two-meter radio direction finding and fox-hunting offer fresh air and at least a little exercise. Hunting for the source of that new and pesky S7 noise floor in your otherwise

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*The Repeater* is the official newsletter of the Rogue Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc. It is published 10 times a year—once per month excluding July and August.

## Secretary's Report

RVARC - Minutes for MARCH 6, 2014

The club meeting was called to order by President Todd Carney, K7TFC at 1900PDT in the meeting room of the Red Cross building in Medford, OR.

New members introduced were Sandra Peters, and Robert Haythorn, who are students in the licensing class. Also George Fuller, N7VFX, and Mike Benton KG7DNG. Luci Vanden was visiting from France.

Old Business—Workshops have begun, dealing with various themes. Members are encouraged to get involved in any of the workshops that are of interest. The club reflector is the best way to initiate and organize these workshops. Todd, K7TFC encour-

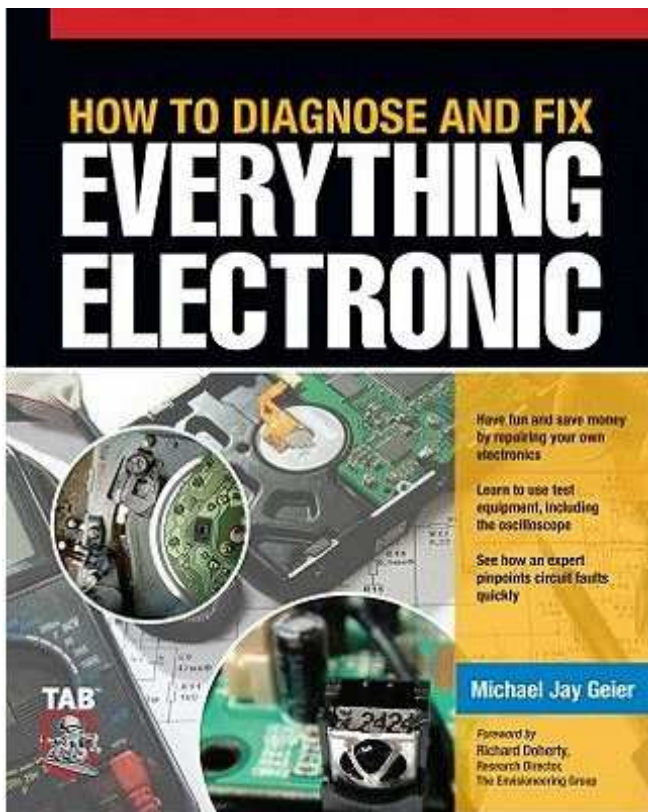
*(Continued on page 2)*

## President's Report, Cont'd.

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quite neighborhood now takes on the grim-yet-determined character of a military campaign. Marred only momentarily by the tax-filing deadline, Spring is always something of a happy surprise.

The presentation for our April club meeting will be by Michael Geier, former author of the "Ask Kaboom" column in 73 Magazine and the recent author of "How to Diagnose and Fix Everything Electronic" (McGraw-Hill, 2011). He'll be speaking on and demonstrating small-loop antennas--not the big delta loops or quad loops, but the kind you can carry around on the end of a broom stick (in the spring sunshine!), or set up in the corner of your second-floor apartment to make a little HF activity possible.



This is on the homebrew end of the Ham-radio buffet table; that is, taking ordinary and

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## Secretary's Report, Cont'd.

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aged starting a group to design and construct a cw transmitter.

New Business — our PIO, Joe AF7GN announced that a student of the licensing class, Andrew Roos, passed both the Technician and General tests. His callsign is KG7IRT. Congratulations, Andrew. Jackie Wobbe, KC7WWJ announced that she was initiating the formation of an XYL Net. Research shows there are 145 licensed women in Jackson County. Jackie asked for \$200 from the club treasury to pay for stationary, envelopes and postage in order to contact these women. A motion was made by Dale, N7IXS, and seconded by Joe, AF7GN, to allocate these funds. After a brief discussion, the motion was voted on and approved.

John, KF7UMK announced that the projected launch of the KickSat transmitters is March 16. There will be approximately 140 of these mini transmitters in the launch.

Treasurer's report — Lud, KB2EVN, reported a balance of \$3693.00 in the club treasury.

The meeting was put on hold at 1930 PDT for "eyeball QSOs" and coffee. The meeting was called back into session at 2000 PDT Presentation

This month's presentation, Online Video Elmers was given by Todd, K7TFC. He showed numerous representative videos that are accessible online via such websites as YouTube.com that help explain various aspects of ham radio. Everything from practical and technical aspects, to radio-related entertainment can be readily accessed through the internet.

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## President's Column, Cont'd.

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often free materials and, through the magic of electromagnetic physics, talk to someone on the other side of the world. We'll do more of that simple construction to prepare for the First Annual Rogue Valley Amateur Radio "Egg" Hunt on Saturday, April 19th--the day before Easter.

The hunt will actually be of a low-power fox-hunting transmitter hidden inside a big paper-maché egg and hidden . . . well, you'll have to find it, won't you? If there's enough interest, we could follow that with an al-fresco pot-luck lunch for members and their families.



Saturday morning the week before (April 12th) we'll have an antenna-building party for those not already equipped and put together some pieces of salvaged PVC and old TV-antenna aluminum tubing to make hand-held directional beams for two meters. I mean, you just can't sit inside when it's sunny outside. That would be spitting in the face of Mother Nature, and the RF gods will be offended. An S7 noise-floor would seem whisper-quiet after they're through with you!

73,

Todd K7TFC

## Secretary's Report, Cont'd.

*(Continued from page 2)*

Jack, WA7IHU, requested updated shack photos for the upcoming presentation on ham shacks in the valley.

The meeting was adjourned at 2055 PDT

Submitted by Carl VanOrden, W7BRO  
Secretary

## April Workshop

### High Quality Homebrew Printed Circuit Boards from Start to Finish.

Our April Workshop will be a demonstration of producing a high-quality printed circuit board (for projects or prototypes) from schematic "capture" to a final board ready for parts and solder--all in 90 minutes!

Thursday, April 17th, Santo Community Center, 170 N. Columbus, Medford. Room TBA. 7:00 PM

## Amateur Radio for Now and the Future

Joe Gunderson AF7GN, PIO

Breaking news for XYL's: Jackie Wobbe, KC7WWJ and helpers have sent out the questionnaires to 145 non-active but licensed XYL's in Jackson County. It will be interesting to see the results and response rate of this tremendous effort to get local XYL's involved. For further information please contact Jackie at the following Email: [stormsmom@charter.net](mailto:stormsmom@charter.net)

Our new Technician, Andy Roos KG7IRT, has upgraded to General at the last test session. he is in the current class, but being impatient, just couldn't wait. Congratulations to Randy.

I have been listening to various repeaters here in the Valley and have noticed a growing trend that some Hams have gotten into. They are quickly keying their mics without giving anyone else a chance to join in, nor giving the repeater time-out timer a chance to reset. I have also heard a few operators not respond to calls they do not recognize, instead ignoring them and continuing their prior conversation. I ask myself "how is that promoting amateur radio?" .... I can remember CB in the 60's and 70's starting out fairly civil then turning into rude and crude behavior. That is one of the reasons Ham radio appealed to me. Maybe a little reflection on our part will cause us to remember we are all ambassadors of amateur radio, let's not be a bad one but a great one.

I would like to remind everyone that April 18th is World Amateur Radio Day - this year's theme is "Amateur Radio: Your Gateway to Wireless Communications". There should be a lot of activity during that week on the air.

Until next time - Remember the future is now! 73

## Two meter nets in the Rogue Valley

Joe Gunderson AF7GN, PIO

These nets are carried on the K7FH King Mountain Repeater :

**146.940 (-) [ PL 136.5 ]**

a linked system of Peak Radio Association (PRA).

This repeater is linked to a number of west-coast repeaters, so the audience for the nets can include parts of Washington, Oregon, and California.

### Net Schedule:

All times are Pacific.

*Links are clickable*

Monday at 7:30 PM HF Ragchew Net

<http://www.my513.net/forums/39-HF-Ragchew>

Monday at 8:00 PM Railfan Net

<http://www.my513.net/forums/44-Oregon-Railfan-Net>

Tuesday at 7:00 PM Swap Net

<http://www.my513.net/forums/12-Swap-Net>

Wednesday at 7:00 PM Sportsman Net

<http://www.my513.net/forums/11-Sportsman-Net>

Thursday at 8:00 PM Oregon State Defense Force Net

<http://www.my513.net/forums/41-Oregon-State-Defense-Force-Net>

Friday at 7:30 PM News Line

<http://www.my513.net/forums/9-Newsline>

Friday at 8:00 PM A.G.O.N.

<http://www.my513.net/forums/8-AGON>

Sunday at 5:00 PM Snow Peak Users Net

<http://www.my513.net/forums/10-Snow-Peak-Users-Net>

**Women Hams of Jackson County  
Sandra Peters & Jackie Wobbe**

At the March 6th club meeting, a motion was passed to fund an outreach to the women amateur radio operators in Jackson County.

Jackie Wobbe, Judy Shrader, and Sandra Peters met to organize the postal mailing and prepare the questionnaire which was mailed on March 12th. They are pleased to announce that the outreach brought together 12 women on Saturday, March 22. The full details will be presented to club members at the next meeting on April 3rd.

**Inaugural Women Hams of Jackson  
County get-together**

**Needed: Your Ham Station in Pictures  
Jack Schock**

RVARC has chosen my "ham stations" Power Point slide show for the June meeting. I need your pictures to make it interesting. I can use any ham shack, ham equipment or antenna picture. This includes your first ham shack, present ham shack, favorite ham shack or the best one you've seen!

Please use common formats like jpg, bmp, gif, or png, or send me a photo. I probably can't open proprietary formats like Photo Shop, or Hewlett Packard types.

Bring it to a club meeting, email it or mail it. I will download it. scan it and add it to the slide show.

73, Jack, WA7IHU 541-535-8471  
3131 Deer Trail Lane Medford, OR  
[jackschock@aol.com](mailto:jackschock@aol.com)



## RVARC Dues 2014

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 102 McDonough Rd.  
Gold Hill, OR 97525-9626

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

## For Sale

For sale:

14 Volt / 35 Amp Astron RS35M DC Power supply with meters.

Like new in box with manual. \$100

Bob Hale, KA7DWX  
541 665 0546

[bobnshirley2@gmail.com](mailto:bobnshirley2@gmail.com)

## 2014 Amateur Radio Examinations

In the Rogue Valley, amateur radio exams are provided by the RVARC and the SOARC. New exam participants need to provide identification, while upgrading amateurs need to **provide a copy of their current license** as well as show identification. The exam fee for 2014 remains \$15.00. All license candidates must provide a picture ID. Upgrading amateurs must also provide a photocopy of their current license to send in with their application. To search for other exam locations, see:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml> or our club webpage: <http://w7dta.org>

### Medford—Phoenix, OR

**Time:** Saturdays, 8:30 AM. Exam session starts at 9:00 AM. Walk-ins welcome.

**Location:** Fire District 5 HQ. 5811 South Pacific Highway, Phoenix, Oregon 97535

**Dates 2014:** Jun 21 Oct 25

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

### Grants Pass

**Time:** Fridays 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 2014:** May 16 Aug 22 Nov 14

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

**Roseburg, Bend, Redding, Brookings, Crescent City**— no information received. Please see our club webpage, <http://w7dta.org> for updates as we receive schedules for these cities.

### **Next Club Meeting**

Thursday, April 3, 2014, 7:00 PM

Red Cross Building, 60 Hawthorne St., Medford, OR Across from Hawthorne Park

Program: Small loop antennas

# W7DTA — April 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 • RVARC Meeting. • ARES Net.	4	5
6 • Lic. Class.	7 • Oregon Railfan Net.	8	9	10 • ARES Net.	11	12 • DF Antenna building party.
13 • Lic. Class.	14 • Oregon Railfan Net.	15	16	17 • ARES Net. • RVARC Workshop. • RVARC Newsletter Input Due.	18	19 • Rogue Valley Amateur Radio "Egg" hunt (details TBA).
20 • Lic. Class.	21 • Oregon Railfan Net.	22	23	24 • ARES Net.	25	26
27 • Lic. Class.	28 • Oregon Railfan Net.	29	30			

## Events

- Sundays 3:00 PM - Technician and General License Class - Smullin Center. Classes wrap up in April.
- Thursday April 3rd - 7:00 PM RVARC Club Meeting, Red Cross Building
- Thursdays 7:30 PM - ARES Net. K7RVM repeater 147.000 (+) [ PL 123.0 ]
- Thursday April 17 - RVARC Workshop 7:00 PM. Santo Community Center, 170 N. Columbus, Medford. Topic: "High Quality Homebrew Printed Circuit Boards from Start to Finish"
- Mondays at 8:00 PM. Oregon Railfan Net. K7FH King Mountain Repeater 146.940 (-) [ PL 136.5 ]. Also available on Echolink: Node #50239 or K7TVL-L
- Saturday April 19th. Rogue Valley Amateur Radio "Egg" hunt. Details TBA