



The Repeater

Next Club Meeting

**Saturday,
August 29, 2015, 9 AM—1 PM**

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

Program: Swap Meet

Volume 2015, Issue 9

September 2015

Allan Taylor K7GT (541) 855-2054
Don Bennett KG7BP (541) 618-5189
Bob Deuel K2GLO (541) 482-8752
Carl Van Orden W7BRO (541) 326-5871
Tom McDermott N5EG (541) 734-4675
Club Web Page:

k7gt@arrl.net
kq7bp@arrl.net
k2glo@ikasystems.com
carl@pacificwest.com
n5eg@tapr.org
<http://w7dta.org>

President & Webmaster
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Newsletter & Membership

President's Report

Try Something New!

Two thoughts regarding something new to try:

September QST has a short article on yet another digital mode. The article is entitled "FSQ -- Fast Simple QSO" and discusses a digital mode designed to be chatty and especially resistant to the propagation characteristics on the frequencies suitable for NVIS. It also has a public service slant to it with image transmission and a directed message modes. Someone with more digital savvy than I have ought to look into this and report back to the club (preferably with a nice presentation!)

(Continued on page 2)

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

Meeting called to order by Allan, president, at 19:00 PDT.

Visitors:

- Paul Johnson, N6VLV

There was a short business meeting. A motion made by Tom, N5EG, seconded by Dan, N6WN to appropriate \$200.00 for field day expenses. Approved by voice without opposition.

Treasurer Bob Deuel K2GLO, announced that the club bank balance was \$3691.10

Tom gave a presentation on Field Day, a short history, and our club's plans for 2015. We will be operating 4A. Scott mentioned that he has secured the use of special event call K7M for our Field Day.

(Continued on page 2)

President's Report, Continued.

(Continued from page 1)

Secondly, I recent picked up a simple low power 6m/2m all-mode transceiver (A Tentec 6N2)) and (finally) had a short QSO on 2m SSB. I was rushed and couldn't stick around to chat (it is harvest and canning season at the Taylor 'farm') but the mode and situation felt very familiar and inviting to me. Of course, the next step is to find someone for 2m CW chatting. Maybe I will soon be giving out those rare K7GT QSLs for SSB...!

Contest Season Is Coming!!

CQP SS/CW	SS/Phone
CQWW/ Phone	CQWW/CW
10m contests	160m contests
VHF contests	ARRL DX/CW
ARRL DX/Phone	7QP

If these abbreviations don't sound familiar to you, they should. Buckets of fun, ear-splitting band usage, high fives for getting a clean sweep (in SS !!). My two favorites are: Sweepstakes/CW, and ARRL DX/CW. I encourage all club members to get on for these contests and give me a run on CW and Scott on phone.

Club Leadership Needed

Your current president has found he just doesn't have time to do the position justice and keep up other activities. thus I will not be standing for election for the 2016 club year. If you enjoy what the club is doing (or even if you want major change!) please step up and participate in a leadership role.

Tom N5EG has been doing a great job getting out the newsletter, maintaining membership records and the club website. His plate is full. The club membership in general is aging, new blood is needed to give the club direction and leadership for the future. Please consider stepping up!

Allan K7GT

Secretary's Report, Continued.

(Continued from page 1)

There was a break for socializing, then Allan and Tom demonstrated the use of HF equipment for operating Field Day phone, along with some good and bad operating habits.

Good habits include: using proper phonetics (not the ones Tom used: Xylophone, Pto-maine, and Tsunami), and having the ARRL US/Canada section list available on the logging computer screen. Tom recommended working DUPES as it's faster than trying to tell the other operator about the issue. With modern logging software and computerized logs there's no penalty for dupes as they will be marked appropriately.

Tom said that he has written a ADIF parser in Python so he could read and convert ADIF logs to either Cabrillo or a format suitable for dupe-checking.

The ARRL requires only a DUPE check listing of unique calls worked per band/mode, which is generated from all the club's logs after the contest.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:30 PDT.

— Tom, N5EG substituting as secretary for Carl Van Orden.

This Month's Program

Program — This month the program will be our annual club swap meet.

Due to the timing of the Labor Day holiday this year, the swap meet will actually be held the last Saturday in August., the 29th.

It will be held at our normal meeting place, the Red Cross Building, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. We've sent notices to several local clubs, and have invited their participation.

October RVARC Visit by ARRL Northwestern Division Director Jim Pace, K7CEX

The ARRL Northwest Division Director, Jim Pace, K7CEX, will visit the RVARC during our October meeting on October 1st, 2015. This will be your chance to discuss amateur radio, the ARRL, and various ARRL programs, and give input directly to your ARRL representative on matters of interest. It's been 3 or 4 years since we've had this opportunity.

Biography: James (Jim) D. Pace, K7CEX, ARRL Northwestern Division Director was first licensed in 1957 as KN7CEX, he upgraded to General in 1958. Over nearly 56 years, Jim has been an active operator, promoting Amateur Radio and ARRL at every opportunity. He has served as an OES, DEC, SEC and ASM in Western Washington. As Section Manager, he worked hard to strengthen Amateur Radio in Western Washington, including the ARES program which has become one of the more successful in the Nation. The Western Washington OO program is the most active in the Nation, logging several hundred hours of monitoring each month and the Technical Specialist program has become a Technical Assistance program, for the benefit of all Hams - new or old.

Over the past four years Jim has worked hard to develop good relationships between Western Washington Amateur Radio Community and our served agencies, such as: Department of Natural Resources, FEMA Region 10, Washington Emergency Management Division, Washington State Patrol and State Guard, and many others including our County Emergency Managers. Jim is currently serving as the Washington State RACES Officer and represents Amateur Radio on the State Emergency Communications Committee (SECC), which oversees the EAS and AMBER alert programs. Jim has 2 children; Tammy who Lives in Pensacola Florida and Zach who lives in Beaverton, Oregon. Jim is retired but fills his time with church work, time with his children and Ham Radio.

Field Day 2015

We held our club's Field Day this year at the Jackson County Fire Station 3 field area, pretty close to Dodge Bridge Park.

The site is good—with an excellent HF shot towards almost all directions, but particularly good towards the East.

This year we operated 4A—four transmitters, club or non-club group. We were in fact able to keep all 4 stations going much of the weekend due to heroic efforts by Allan, Mike, Scott, and Dave, with operating assistance by a number of other club members.

This year the phone guys arrived on site first and immediately picked out the site next to the trees, leaving the CW folks the wide open and unfortunately unbearably hot unshaded field.

tennas were literally too hot to handle, and we called off the work for a few hours until the sun set and the metal could cool a bit.

On CW, we had a crank-up tower for the club tribander, and a Hazer on 30 foot tower for Mike's 205BA 20M monobander, and a 40m dipole. On Phone, we had Scott's AB577 crank up tower with a tribander and a 40m dipole.

On Saturday it became apparent that 10m would not open much if at all, and that 15m would be marginal. 20m was incredibly crowded, especially on phone. Any attempt to hold a frequency was met with other stations encroaching within seconds and within a few hundred Hertz. The only effective approach was to hang on and muscle through the intense QRM. 40m was not quite so

crowded, but still much more heavily occupied than in previous years when 10 and 15 could handle more of the load. 40m was full right up to 7.300 MHz. with no breathing room at the top of the band.

CW was a little better as the number of contestants is slightly lower, and the bandwidth is a lot smaller. Good tight CW filters were needed for 20m, and

(Continued on page 5)



We started setup on Friday afternoon, with the temperature reaching 108F. By late afternoon the steel towers and aluminum an-

tennas were literally too hot to handle, and we called off the work for a few hours until the sun set and the metal could cool a bit.

Field Day 2015, Continued

(Continued from page 4)

learning to get right on zero-beat was necessary or you'd likely not work the other station as you would be outside their receiver passband.

Typically the bottom of the sun-spot cycle favors stations in the Midwest and Southern plains as they can work both coasts, while the east coast and west coast have a difficult time working each other through the intense interference. Our effort this year focused on the key bands of 20m and 40m, and long hours of operating in the 107F heat on Saturday paid

off with the best score the RVARC has ever submitted.

We also received bonus points—for copying the CW bulletin (thanks, Bud), emergency power, and others. We did not have a GOTA station this year, which probably worked to our score advantage as we could focus all operating on the high-run-rate stations.

In all, I counted 29 people in attendance. Photographs are from Raoul Salem, KG6DKA and Jerry Fulstone, K6KSI.

Our total claimed

(Continued on page 7)



Field Day 2015, Continued.



Field Day 2015, Continued



(Continued from page 5)

score for 2015 is in the table, below. Once again the Phone ops made more QSOs than the CW ops. However because the CW contacts are worth twice as many points per contact, the CW ops out-pointed the Phone operators.

Overall this was a very strong club effort, our score was just as hot as the weather. It is

likely we are going to be high in the rankings. Our score this year would have won the Oregon section last year, and come in the top ten in the Northwestern division. We'll have to see if other clubs had similar good years. The results typically appear in the December issue of QST, and may be released earlier on the web. We'll include a score summary when available from the ARRL.

	40m	20m	15m	Total QSOs
CW QSOs	107	821	115	1,043
Phone QSOs	512	801		1,313
Bonus Points				750
Total Claimed Points				7,548

A Python program was written to take all the logs (either Cabrillo or ADIF) and merge them for computing the totals. Electronic logs plus the program made quick work of duping

September 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 • Women Hams Net • ARES Net.	4	5
6	7 • Women Hams Net	8	9	10 • Women Hams Net • ARES Net.	11	12
13	14 • Women Hams Net	15	16	17 • Women Hams Net • ARES Net.	18	19 • Washington Salmon Run QSO Party
20 • Washington Salmon Run QSO Party	21 • Women Hams Net	22	23	24 • Women Hams Net • ARES Net.	25	26 • Texas QSO Party
27 • Texas QSO Party	28 • Women Hams Net	29	30			

Events

- Saturday, August 29th - 9 AM—1 PM RVARC Swapmeet. Red Cross Building Medford.
- Tuesdays & Thursdays 7:00 PM—Women Hams Net K7RVM Repeater 147.000 (+) [PL 123.0]
- Thursdays 7:30 PM - ARES Net. K7RVM repeater 147.000 (+) [PL 123.0]
- Next Newsletter: October Issue. Deadline for input: September 17th.
- The fall contest season Starts in September.

RVARC Membership

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 1058 Linda Ave.
Ashland OR 97520

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

Silent Key—SK

It is with deep regret that the RVARC notes the passing of Paul L. Andrews, N7DXN.

Paul was a minister, a collector of model trains, and a long time member of the RVARC.

Paul was 97.



2015 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 2015 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, Registration 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 2015: Oct 31

Contact: Don Bennett, Email: kq7bp@rfwarrior.com Phone: (541) 973-3625

Grants Pass

Time: Fridays Registration 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 2015: Aug 21 Nov 20

Contact: John Stubbe, K7VSU, email: jstubbe7@gmail.com Phone: (541) 218-2244

Roseburg, Bend, Redding, Brookings, Crescent City — Please see our club webpage, <http://w7dta.org> for updates as we receive schedules for these cities.

Next Club Meeting

Saturday, August 29, 2015, 9:00AM—1:00PM

Red Cross Building, 60 Hawthorne St., Medford, OR Across from Hawthorne Park
Program: Swap Meet