



The Repeater

Next Club Meeting

Thursday February 5, 2026,
7:00 PM

LOCATION:
Jacksonville Library
340 W C St., Jacksonville, OR.

Program: Patio Radio (Repeater
and Interties). Steve Porter
WA6YSM

Volume 2026, Issue 2

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Amy Haptonstall AG7GP
Allan Taylor K7GT (541) 855-2054
Mike Bach W6FFC (541) 830-3346
John Armstrong KF7UMK (541) 899-1917
Tom McDermott N5EG (541) 656-7438
Club Web Page:

ag7gp.amy@gmail.com
k7gt@arrl.net
eaglepoint.or@juno.com
john@kf7umk.com
n5eg@tapr.org
<http://k7mfr.org>

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Newsletter & Membership

Club Notes

The updated club constitution has been posted on our website: https://k7mfr.org/RVARC_Constitution_Dec2025.pdf. The document was approved by the membership with all changes and alterations In Toto at the January 2026 meeting.

Amateur exam dates for 2026 have been announced for both the RVARC (Medford) and SOARC (Grants Pass) clubs, see page 6.

Starting in March, we will be moving the monthly meeting night to the first Tuesday of the month.

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

2026-01-08 RVARC Meeting Minutes

7:00pm President Amy Haptonstall, AG7GP, calls meeting to order.

At least 19 attendees.

Question: What are the club member's goals for 2026? Among the answers: Getting the 300th summit, 500 SOTA points, getting an Extra License, putting up more antennas.

Old Business: Tom, N5EG, made a motion to adopt the club constitution dated December 4, 2025 In Toto as posted on the club website. The motion was previously announced in the club newsletter. Changes from the year 2000 version are in 3 areas:

1. Provide for flexible meeting dates upon agreement of the Executive Board (previously approved).
2. Include dual membership status,

(Continued on page 2)

Club Notes, Continued.

RVARC Email List

RVARC maintains a private closed email reflector for members and friends.

An email sent to the reflector will be sent to everyone else subscribed to the list.

You can also browse past messages and create new messages from the web interface if that is more convenient.

You MUST respond to the invitation from googlegroups to join the list. Several folks have been sent invitations, but they have expired unused.

If you are not on the list, send an email to our club webmaster, Tom, N5EG (address on the front page) and he will have googlegroups send you an invitation.

Secretary's Report, Continued

3. Allow modification of club callsign, as needed, plus a minor typo correction. **Motion** was seconded by Raoul, KD6DKA, and vote was unanimous, motion passed.

Dates for the next two meetings were announced as the first Thursday in February, and the first Tuesday in March. Thereafter, the meetings will be regularly held on the first Tuesday of the month.

Winter Field Day will be on January 24-25.

For the SOTA Challenges on 2M&70cm, SSB & CW, we will now need to use the 6-digit grid location.

Treasurer's Report: \$5924.27 bank balance, with \$135 in new dues payments, and after \$50 Oregon Secretary of State Business Registry fee.

New Business: CARE Club requests RVARC help with the 2026 Field Day planning. Mike, W6FFC, volunteered to help, others may contact Josh at the CARE Club to help.

Contact Mike, W6FFC, to obtain some extra antennas that he has on hand, such as 80-10M verticals, or a TM33 Mosley with mast.

John, AC7S, announced a new ARRL contest for the 250th anniversary (like the "work W1AW" one).

Pat, N7UH, announced license exams will be happening at the Star Auto location on Jan 17th and Mar 21st.

7:18pm Kameron Gasso, W7KRG, starts the presentation on CHIRP Software: "a free open source tool for programming your radio. It supports a large number of manufacturers and models, as well as provides a way to interface with multiple data sources and formats."

Club Notes, Continued.

Secretary's Report, Continued

You will need:

1. A copy of CHIRP from CHIRPmyRadio.com/
2. A compatible radio.
3. A computer with a relatively recent version of Windows, MacOS, or Linux (with a GUI)
4. A quality USB serial adapter cable, with appropriate connectors for your radio.

Kameron mentioned the "MIRKIT FTDI USB Programming Cable", as an option for item 4.

7:54pm End presentation, start of questions & answers.

8:05pm Break for coffee & snacks.

~8:30 pm meeting adjourned.

Submitted
John KF7UMF, Secretary.

This Month's Programs

1. Patio Radio—repeater and intertie system from the 1970's.

Program: Patio Radio—a linked VHF/UHF radio system from the 1970's connecting Oregon and California. Steve will discuss the history and status of the Patio Radio system. In the 1970's there were multiple linked VHF/UHF repeaters and intertie systems throughout the US.

Biography: Steve Porter, WA6YSM was licensed in 1974 and started a number of UHF ham systems on numerous mountain tops in the bay area. He was also a commercial radio technician. Steve moved to Grants Pass and developed Sis-Q Communications in the 1980's.

Planned and Potential Programs for 2026:

March	Lyle Hood WB7VUF	Satellite communications
April	Dan Koellen AI6XG	Portable tube radio
May	Steve Bosbach KW5V	Homebrew 40 meter magnetic loop
June	TBD	Field Day 2026
Future	Amy Haptonstall AG7GP	SOTA campout
Future	Rob Locher, W9KNI	Discussing Bencher and his book The Complete DX'er
Future	Michael Fowler	Digipi and digital modes
Future	<i>Volunteer a program !! Your name here !!</i>	

February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 • CP ERC Net	2 • CARE Net	3 • 2M SSB Net	4 • 2M SSB Net	5 • RVARC Meeting • JC-ARES Net	6	7
8 • CP ERC Net	9 • CARE Net	10 • 2M SSB Net	11 • 2M SSB Net	12 • JC-ARES Net CARE Meeting	13	14
15 • CP ERC Net	16 • CARE Net	17 • JC-ARES Meeting • 2M SSB Net	18 • 2M SSB Net	19 • JC-ARES Net	20	21
22 • CP ERC Net	23 • CARE Net	24 • 2M SSB Net	25 • 2M SSB Net	26 • JC-ARES Net	27	28

Events

Meetings

- **RVARC** 7:00 PM JCLS Library—Location changes, see newsletter front page.
- **CARE** 6:30 PM, Fiesta Restaurant – 1016 N. Riverside, Medford.
- **JC-ARES** 6:30 PM, Elmer's Restaurant, 66 Stewart Ave. Medford, OR.

Nets

- **JC-ARES** Thursdays 7:30 PM - K7JAX Mt. Baldy Repeater 146.840 (-) [PL 123.0] open, directed, visitors welcome
- **CARE** Mondays 7:00 PM— KB7SKB Jacksonville Repeater 147.100 (-) [PL 136.5], open, directed net, visitors welcome
- **2 Meter SSB** Tuesdays 7:00 PM and Wednesdays 10:00 AM—144.200 USB
- **Central Point Emergency Radio Communications** Sundays 8:30 PM— KB7QMV Medford Repeater 145.410 (-) [PL none]. Move to simplex net on 147.585 MHz when finished. Directed net.
- **Siskiyou County ARC** Thursdays 7:00 PM—Net K6SIS Repeater 146.79 (-) [PL 100.0]

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 1940 Stevens Rd.
Eagle Point OR 97524-6523

Regular Member:	\$20.00
Senior Member (62 and over):	\$15.00
Family Member:	\$20.00
Student Member:	\$10.00
Dual Member (CARC+RVARC):	\$30.00

For Sale / Wanted

Wanted:

I am looking for a radio such as an ICOM 7300 or similar. Don't want a diamond, just something reasonable.

AC7S John
johnlac7s@gmail.com

2026 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 photo identification. **Applicants also need a Federal Registration Number (FRN) and email prior to taking the test.** The exam fee for 2024 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, OR

Walk-ins Ok. Pre-registration suggested, use the link on our webpage:

<https://k7mfr.org/license-exams/>

Location: 932 Summit Ave, Medford, OR 97501 (near SE corner of Summit & McAndrews). Saturday at 2:00 PM on the dates listed:

Dates 2026: **Mar 21 May 16 Jul 18 Sept 19 Nov 21**

Contact: Pat Cunningham N7UH, Email: ve@k7mfr.org

Grants Pass, OR

Time: Fridays Registration 6:00 PM. Exam session at 6:30 PM. **Walk-Ins Ok.** Please email a reservation request to John.

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

Dates 2026: **Feb 20 May 15 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://k7mfr.org> for updates as we receive schedules for these cities.