



The Repeater

Next Club Meeting

Thursday,
May 5, 2016, 7:00 PM

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

Programs:

1. Slot Antenna.
- 2.: HSMM on Raspberry Pi.

Volume 2016, Issue 5

May 2016

Scott Cummings	NA7OM	
Allan Taylor	K7GT	(541) 855-2054
Bob Deuel	K2GLO	(541) 482-8752
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Club Web Page:		

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<http://w7dta.org>

President
 Vice President
 Treasurer
 Secretary
 Newsletter & Membership

President's Report

Call for presentations— We are always looking for interesting speakers and topics about and related to amateur radio.

If you are interested in giving a presentation at one of our club meetings, or you know someone who would make a good speaker, please let us know. If there is a particular topic you would like to hear, let us know.

Send an email to kd7ehb@yahoo.com or to n5eg@tapr.org, or just mention it at any club meeting.

If you prefer to write instead, please send an email to our newsletter editor Tom, N5EG at n5eg@tapr.org. We can edit and format ma-

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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

Meeting Minutes, April 7, 2016 (Tom, N5EG acting secretary). Meeting convened at 19:05 PDT by Scott, NA7OM.

Visitors:

- Richard Roberts
- Kirk Austbo, KG7HNF
- Dick Lemke, AD7AF
- Ed Crews, KD6DVR
- Al Helmling, KI7CBV
- Ryon Tucker, KF7ZGW

Field Day Report (Tom, N5EG), Science Works of Ashland gave us approval to have field day at their site. Questions raised during discussion:

1. Does the City of Ashland require a permit before the event?
2. Does SOU need to approve the agreement?
3. Where would the RVs, towers, trailers, etc. be located?
4. Where would the porta potty be located?

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President's Report, Continued

terial, so if your text is a little rough, don't worry.

Secretary's Report, Continued

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5. What material and presentations are needed for the visitors?
6. We will need an information booth staffed during the open hours of the Science works (8-5).
7. Time on-site will be Friday afternoon through Sunday morning.

7QP—(Scott Cummings, NA7OM) We have received permission from Jackson county to operate 7QP at Agate Lake.

Motion : Move that RVARC sponsor a plaque for Low-Power Winner (no mode restriction) Oregon Section 7QP. Approximate cost \$38.50.

Moved: Scott Cummings

Seconded: Raoul Salem

PASSED by voice vote without opposition.

SeaPac will be held June 3-5. About 5 or 6 RVARC members plan to attend.

Treasurer's report: bank balance is \$3432.93 (Bob Deuel, K2GLO).

Bill Shrader, W7QMU is looking for a 2m mobile and one or two hand held stations for a Friday, June 3 Rogue River High School clean up event of Elderberry Flats Campground near West Evans Creek Road. It will be held 8 AM—noon, with lunch afterwards. Several club members indicated interest. Please contact Bill at 541-897-0660.

A straw poll of members indicated that most favor continuing to hold our club swap meet in September due to cooler temperatures and adequate time to generate publicity.

Meeting was put on break at 19:35 for cookies graciously provided by Mike Bach, WB6FFC. Reconvened 19:55.

The program was: Surplus time and frequency references, presented by Mike Bach WB6FFC, and Tom McDermott, N5EG. Adjourned 20:50.

This Month's Programs

1. How to make a slot antenna

Program: Scott Cummings, NA7OM, will show a slot antenna that he made. He will discuss the mechanical build of the antenna, and how to feed a slot with coaxial cable.

Biography: Scott is our club president this year. He is active in 7QP and Field Day each year. Those operations resulted in pretty high rankings last year.

2. HSMM-Mesh on the Raspberry Pi: Can it replace the WRT54G for N1MM logging?

Program: John Armstrong, KF7UMK. High Speed Multi Media (HSMM) was originally devised to run on the Linksys WRT54G series of WiFi access point / routers by re-flashing the firmware. Those old units are now starting to get tough to find. John will talk about HSMM on the Raspberry Pi, and application to computer logging.

Biography: John worked at the Physics Dept. Electronics Shop at UCSD in the 1990's, helping researchers with their lab data-acquisition systems, and programming on PC's. After coming to Southern Oregon, found out about RVARC and with the encouragement of the members, got licensed in 2012 as KF7UMK.

**Coos County Hamfest / Swapmeet
Saturday, July 16**

The Coos County Radio Club will again hold a Hamfest and Swapmeet this summer. It's scheduled for Saturday, July 16th, from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM at the North Bend High School, 2323 Pacific Ave., North Bend, OR

There will be Amateur License Exam sessions, seminars, and of course a swapmeet. Vendor setup will be Friday 5-7 PM, and Saturday 8-10 AM.

There will also be door prizes. Admission is \$4.00, flea market tables start at \$15.00.

For more information, to register, or to buy swap tables, please contact:

Dell Mansker, KE7EIB 541-572-3406
Coos County Radio Club
PO BOX 698
Coos Bay, OR 97420

ke7eib@arrl.net

RVARC Field Day plans, 2016

We are currently working on Field Day plans for 2016. Scienceworks of Ashland has agreed to host us on their property this year.

We have a draft of the written agreement, and are in the process of getting signatures. We do not need a city event permit as the event is on private property, but we do need an Ashland Fire Department permit. That permit requires a site diagram beforehand.

Scienceworks would like to do a joint publicity release with us, and will announce the event.

We did a site survey on April 15th, and agreed to hold the event on the grassy park area abutting Campus Way. There is a row of pine trees along the street, we are allowed to have a porta-potty placed on the field adjacent to the street.

The event this year will have a lot more public outreach component than previous years. Science works asked us to prepare some artwork so we can make a poster showing how HF Ionospheric propagation works. We will try to have a GOTA station this year as well.

I clocked the drive at 10 miles each way from east Medford.

More details at the May and June club meeting.

Each year usually during the spring and fall, most of the state QSO parties are held. At one time most every state had it's own contest.

Large states such as California, Texas, and Florida have large turnouts and constant activity over the two days of the contest. They're large enough to have a dedicated weekend.

For some of the smaller states (like Oregon), the participation level was not too high and several states had their contests on the same weekend. This meant you could operate 3-4 state QSO parties at the same time, but it was a bit confusing!

A few years ago, several groups of states got together and assembled their individual parties into a regional QSO party. The New England QSO party (NEQP—first call area) and the 7th call area (7QP) QSO parties are the two most successful regional contests. This year the NEQP, 7QP, Indiana, and Delaware parties are on the same weekend—4 parties for the price of one.

With the possible exception of CQP most state QSO parties are friendly and laid-back events, with bands that are not too crowded. Casual operators are encouraged to jump in and make a few contacts, other operators will help you through the exchange and even a short chat. Many people get on just to collect rare counties or check antennas. QP participants have been good about answering QSL requests.

One of the goals of most QP organizers is to activate every county in the state (or region). One way this is accomplished is to have a special entry class called Mobile or Rover. These rover stations can operate from different counties, and they count as a new station in each different county. Some of the QSO parties allow a mobile to sit on a county line and hand out two QSO's and two multipliers to each caller. In fact there are

one or two places in the US where a mobile can sit in 4 counties at the same time and hand out 4 QSO's and 4 multipliers to each caller (not sure if there any on land in the 7th call area). Many of the mobiles will have carefully mapped-out routes that maximize the number of counties travelled during the contest, and almost certainly will activate a number of otherwise quiet locations.

These mobile stations normally consist of 2 people: a driver, and an operator. This allows the operator to operate both Phone and CW. Many times a mobile will announce the time he is expected to be in the next county. At the appointed time, several people (especially those hunting multipliers) will converge on frequency to work that mobile again. It's especially popular on CW. Route maps are sometimes posted by the mobiles ahead of the contest. 7QP has a list of mobile and county expeditions on the 'Planned Operations' section of the webpage (see below).

While the rules are different for each party, normally there are multiple entry categories for in-state (in-region) operators, and multiple categories for out-of-state operators. All of the parties use counties within the state as multipliers for the out-of-state operators. The in-state operators have quite different rules in the various parties regarding multipliers.

7QP is the one day each year where W7's work everybody, and are the sought-after stations by everyone.

All of the QSO parties use standardized abbreviations for counties, as otherwise it could be easy to miscopy which county you worked, even if you got the exchange 100% correct. It's important to have the list of standard names at hand when operating. The standard list for 7QP is located at: http://ws7n.net/7QP/new/7qp_abrv.pdf

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The 7QP rules are pretty straight-forward, but there are a 259 possible counties in eight states! In fact, some of the counties in the 7th call area have duplicate county names in other states (such as Jefferson county in Oregon, Montana, Idaho, and Washington), so there has to be some way to distinguish which county has actually been worked.

This is done by pre-pending the 2-letter state name to the 3-letter county name. For Jackson County, Oregon, the standard 5-letter abbreviation is ORJAC.

You can operate Phone-only, CW-only, Digital, or mixed (both phone and CW). Complete rules can be found at:

<http://ws7n.net/7QP/new/Page.asp?content=rules>

7QP Rules

7th Call Area QSO Party -- May 7-8, 2016 (UTC) May 7 local time.

1300 UTC Saturday to 0700 UTC Sunday (6 AM to midnight PDT the first Saturday in May). 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.

Entry categories:

- Single-op: high-power, low-power (<150W), QRP power (<5W); CW, Phone, Digital, Mixed.
- Multi-single (including assisted single op): High, Low and QRP.
- Multi-multi. No differentiated mode or power levels.
- 7th-area County Expedition: single-op, multi-single, multi-multi.
- Mobile: high-power, low-power, QRP; CW, Phone, Digital, Mixed: Single-op (while parked only), Multi-single, High,

Low, QRP, CW, Phone, Digital, Mixed.

Awards: Certificates will be awarded to the top three finishers in each category within and outside the 7th call area, plus the top finisher in each state/province and 7th area county; a 25-QSO minimum applies. See the web site for a list of plaques to be awarded.

Exchange: 7th area stations send signal report plus 5-letter state/county code (e.g. ORDES; see list). County-line stations send multiple codes (state code needed only once, e.g. ORDES/JEF). Non-7th-area stations send signal report plus state/province/"DX" two-letter codes. Stations in other QSO parties send their appropriate exchange. The 13 "Provinces" are VE1-9, VO and VY0-2. County-line contacts may be logged with one entry showing all counties or with one QSO entry for each county.

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2m, simplex only. Suggested operating frequencies: 1815 and 40 kHz up on CW, except on 40m, where 7025-7035 is suggested; 1845, 3855, 7180, 14255, 21355 and 28455 on SSB. 3580+, 7035+, 14070+, 21070+ on PSK; 3585+, 7038+, 14075+, 21075+ on RTTY. Check 80m at 0500Z, 160m at 0530Z. All CW and Digital contacts must be in the CW/Data sub-bands.

Scoring: 2 points per SSB QSO, 3 points per CW or Digital QSO. County-line contacts count as multiple QSOs for both stations. 7th area stations multiply QSO points by states (50) plus provinces (13) plus other DXCC entities (maximum 10). Non-7th-area stations multiply QSO points by 7th area counties worked (259).

Logs: All logs must be received by May 17; logs containing more than 40 QSOs must be submitted electronically via email or floppy disk.

Send logs to 7qplots@codxc.org -- include

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7QP. May 7th, 2016

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the station callsign in the email "Subject" line. Cabrillo is preferred but any plain text format will be accepted. A web form is available for online Cabrillo log-file generation and submission:

http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/7qp_cab.php

Be sure your entry includes name and address and/or email address, station callsign, entry category, location code(s) and operator callsigns. Send paper logs with a completed summary sheet to:

7th Call Area QSO Party, c/o CODXC,
61255 Ferguson Rd
Bend, OR 97702.

Check to make sure your callsign appears on our web site's Received Logs page (normally within two days of receipt).

Other: All equipment and antennas must lie within a 1000-foot diameter circle. County-line operations must be within 500 feet of the county line. Any computer-to-computer mode is considered digital. The same station may be worked on each band on CW, Phone, and Digital. All contacts must be made without using repeaters, digipeaters, satellites, etc. Only one entry per callsign (can't do, e.g., mobile and expedition entries).

Help: On the web site at <http://7qp.org> are the complete rules; lists of county names and abbreviations; state/county maps; county sign-up sheet; summary sheet; state coordinators; logging-program info and configuration files; list of plaques and donors.

Thanks to the Central Oregon DX Club, N7LE — 7QP contest organizers.

Local 7QP activity

Scott Cummings has indicated that a few of our club members, as well as others not in the club will operate 7QP again this year from Agate Lake park in Jackson county. He said that they have received permission from the park authority to conduct the effort.

Last year the site was really nice, on a grassy area overlooking the lake. As the effort fits all into one day, it's an easy Saturday. I'm sure Scott and crew would welcome anyone who wants to spend a little time operating either CW or Phone.

Pacific Northwest Winlink Group

I have set up an email group for Winlink users. Please publish this in your club newsletter or email group. Lynn, N7CFO

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You are invited to join the Pacific Northwest Winlink User Group. This is an email group for Winlink users in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Alaska and British Columbia. The purpose of this group is to share information and facilitate Winlink development.

To join the PNWWUG group, please send your name, callsign, location and email address to Lynn Burlingame, N7CFO, at n7cfo@n7cfo.com. You can only post messages from an address that is subscribed to the group, so if you use an ARRL alias to subscribe, you will only be able to receive messages if your email client can be configured to send "from" the ARRL alias.

[Ed note: Winlink is an Amateur Radio HF to email gateway software and hardware package. It's used when email access is otherwise difficult or impossible (such as at sea).]

May 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 • Women Hams Net	4	5 • RVARC Meeting • Women Hams Net • ARES Net	6	7 • 7QP
8	9	10 • Women Hams Net	11	12 • Women Hams Net • ARES Net.	13	14
15	16	17 • Women Hams Net	18	19 • RVARC Newsletter Deadline • Women Hams Net • ARES Net.	20	21
22	23	24 • Women Hams Net	25	26 • Women Hams Net • ARES Net.	27	28
29	30	31 • Women Hams Net				

Events

- Thursday May 5th - 7:00 PM RVARC Club Meeting
- 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: June Issue. Deadline for input: May 19th.
- May 7: 7QP. See article this newsletter for details

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

For Sale

2016 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 at 9:00 AM. Walk-ins welcome.

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

Dates 2016: Jun 18 Oct 29

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

Grants Pass

Time: Fridays Registration 6:00 PM. Exam session at 6:30 PM. Walk-ins welcome.

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

Dates 2016: May 20 Aug 19 Nov 18

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

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