



# The Repeater

## Next Club Meeting

Thursday  
October 6, 2016, 7:00 PM

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

### Programs:

1. End-Fed Half Wave Antenna
2. FCC Database on R-PI

Volume 2016, Issue 10

October 2016

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Club Web Page:			<a href="http://w7dta.org">http://w7dta.org</a>	

## President's Report

We were not able to arrange a President's Report as of the publication deadline.

## Secretary's Report

The September meeting (held August 27th) was the club swap meet. No formal business was conducted, so there are no minutes for the meeting.

*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.

## This Month's Programs

### 1. How-to: The End-Fed Halfwave Antenna

**Program:** The End-Fed Half-Wave (EFHW) antenna is a mysterious, magical antenna that befuddles many hams. The How-To program will discuss it's peculiarities and give some suggestions on taming it's many idiosyncrasies.

**Biography:** Tom McDermott, N5EG, enjoys modelling antennas.

### 2. FCC Database on a Raspberry-Pi

**Program:** Dan will show how to download the FCC database onto a Raspberry-Pi computer and automatically keep it up to date.

**Biography:** Dan Curtis, N6WN, is one of our club's resident computer geniuses. He operates CW on HF, and runs the local Thursday evening 2 meter FM net (147.000 + PL 123.0).

## Sixty-Meter Oregon Net

Announcing a new 60 Meter Net: The "Five Dot Three Net"

This is a 60m Band HF Radio Check and Propagation Test Net and it is for all Amateur Radio Operators, who want to test their stations on the 60m band. Hosted by NCS Christine Masters, AF7OK located in Douglas County, Oregon. Here are the Net details:

1. Principal Contact/NCS: Christine Masters, AF7OK at [af7ok@arrl.net](mailto:af7ok@arrl.net)
2. Weekly on Mondays starting Sept. 12th, 2016 at 2000z to 2100z (1300-1400 PDST)
3. Frequency:  
5330.5 KHz USB (Channel #1) or  
5346.5 kHz USB (Channel #2)
4. Purpose: To gain experience operating on 60 meters; test station antennas and propagation conditions. As the sunspot cycle declines, 60 meters is likely to become a very useful band.
5. Other information: Christine will be building an email list for persons interested in participating in the net, serving as net controls/relays as well as offering suggestions on net activities.

Please be aware of FCC restrictions on the use of the 60 meter band prior to joining the net.

Everyone is welcome to check into the "Five Dot Three Net, share signal reports and say hello!

73, Christine Masters, AF7OK

Courtesy: ARRL Oregon Section News  
Section Manager: John E Core, KX7YT  
[kx7yt@arrl.org](mailto:kx7yt@arrl.org)

## Bandmap Contest Operating Tip

Use the Bandmap When Searching and Pouncing.

If you're tuning up or down the band, enter each station you copy or work into your logging program's bandmap. When you revisit a frequency later, the bandmap will help you more quickly determine whether you've worked the station before. Even in a casual contest operation, it will reduce frustration and increase your rate. It's also a good way to develop that skill.

Many loggers have a setting for the time interval after which an entry in the bandmap 'expires' and disappears. This is sometimes called the 'packet spot timeout,' but it applies to calls that you enter by logging or inserting into the bandmap by typing them, even when you're not using packet cluster spots.

You'll likely have to change this interval based on a particular contest and conditions, and how you are operating. In a single-band contest for say 160 meters, stations may not move around too much in the middle of the contest, and you may want to use a longer timeout. If propagation is rapidly changing and stations are prone to move around a bit, a shorter interval would be in order. For example, for a sprint-format contest, the N1MM logger documentation suggests setting it to 1 minute, as stations don't really have run frequencies.

Thanks to ARRL Contest Update, 9/21/2016

You can subscribe to the bi-weekly email Contest Update and other ARRL newsletters by visiting the ARRL webpage and updating your account preferences:

<http://www.arrl.org/myarrl-account-management>

## Pacificon 2016, October 14-16, 2016, San Ramon, CA

The ARRL Pacific Division Convention will be held again this year at the Sam Ramon Marriott hotel. The theme this year is "Looking into the Future of Amateur Radio".

The website is up with registration information, seminar schedule, vendor listing, maps, license testing schedule, and other.

<https://sites.google.com/a/mdarc.org/pacificon2016/home>

The always-sold-out antenna seminar is on Friday. Here is the current schedule:

There will be an ARRL booth, many of the key folks from ARRL usually attend.

There will be a kit assembly area, where you can purchase a kit, and then assemble it right at the convention. With the tools provided.

The vendor list for not-for-profit and not-for-profit exhibitors is quite lengthy. Check the webpage for the current list.

Time	Topic	Speaker
8:00 - 9:00	<b>Antenna Modeling for Radio Amateurs</b> How antenna modeling programs work, What their limitations are, What is the state of the art.	Steve Stearns, K6OIK
9:00 - 10:00	<b>Principles of Directional Antennas</b>	Paul Zander, AA6PZ
10:00 - 10:15	Break	
10:15 - 11:15	<b>RF and Antennas in Magnetic Imaging (MRI)</b>	Prof. John Pauly, AG6WH Stanford Univ.
11:15 - 12:15	<b>Elevation Angle Control, Solar Cycle Update</b>	Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA
12:15 - 1:15	Lunch Break	
1:15 - 2:15	<b>Project Sandy</b>	Tom Schiller, N6BT
2:15 - 2:30	Break	
2:30 - 3:30	<b>Making a Home-Brew 2 Meter Eggbeater Antenna</b>	Werner Vavken; W6RAW Valley Christen Schools
3:30 - 4:30	<b>Antenna Potpourri: A Selection of Topics of Interest to Home Brewers</b>	Ward Harriman, AE6TY
4:30 - 5:00	<b>Questions &amp; Answers; Drawing for Antennas *</b>	Ray Gaschk, AG6SI Designer & former owner of Elk Antennas

Saturday and Sunday have a variety of seminars and topics from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM with some exceptions. The detailed schedule can be found at:

<https://sites.google.com/a/mdarc.org/pacificon2016/education-and-forums/schedule-forums>

There are one-day Technician and General license classes. License exams will be held Saturday from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM, and Sunday 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

W1AW/6 will be operating during the conference, and of course there are lots of prizes given away.

There will be a parachute mobile operation / drop on Saturday on 146.43 MHz (FM simplex).

There are several folks in the club that have attended Pacificon in the past—be sure to ask them at the next RVARC meeting !

# October 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 • Women Hams Net	5	6 • <b>RVARC Club Meeting</b> • ARES Net	7	8
9	10	11 • Women Hams Net	12	13 • Rogue Hack Lab • ARES Net	14	15
16	17	18 • Women Hams Net	19	20 • ARES Net	21	22
23	24	25 • Women Hams Net	26	27 • ARES Net	28	29
30	31					

## Events

- **Thursday, October 6th 7:00 PM RVARC Club Meeting**
- Thursday October 13th — 6:30 PM Rogue Hack Lab, Medford Library
- 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: November Issue. Deadline for input: October 20th.
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## 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 / Wanted

## 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:** Oct 29

**Contact:** Don Bennett, Email: [kq7bp@rfwarrior.com](mailto:kq7bp@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:** Nov 18

**Contact:** John Stubbe, K7VSU, email: [jstubbe7@gmail.com](mailto: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***

**Thursday October 6, 2016, 7:00 PM. Red Cross Building,  
60 Hawthorne St., Medford, OR Across from Hawthorne Park**

**Programs:**

- 1. End-Fed Half Wave Antenna**
- 2. FCC Database on R-PI**