



# The Repeater

## Next Club Meeting

Thursday January 3, 2019,  
7:00 PM

Medford Police Department  
Community Room  
219 S. Ivy St.,  
Medford, OR

Program:  
VHF/UHF Base Station Antenna

Volume 2019, Issue 1

January 2019

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<http://w7dta.org>

President  
 Vice President  
 Treasurer  
 Secretary  
 Newsletter & Membership

## President's Letter

This is my first official column as president of the Rogue Valley Amateur Radio Club. I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for choosing me for this position. I have been a member of the club for about 6 years and will do my best to serve the members to the best of my ability. Along with myself, elected were VP Scott, Secretary John, and treasurer Mike. I will be relying on them and the members of the club to help do the right thing for the club's well being.

In 1981(?) i received my first license - it was a no-code technician (KE6CHC). The person who gave me the test was Gordon West. I crammed for this test for approximately a month. I remember because it was right after my grandfathers death. Why you may ask?

*(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

The December meeting was the club's annual holiday party, and no business was conducted so there are no minutes for the meeting.

### Updated Amateur Exam Schedules

The club webpage has updated amateur license exam information from the Rogue Valley and Grants Pass VECs. We will continue to update the page as more information from other areas is received.

<http://w7dta.org/license-exams>

## President's Letter

My grandfather was a ham radio operator before I was born. We had talked a lot when I was growing up about this hobby, so I got the bug then. One day he mentioned that he would get me a ham radio setup if I would take the test and get my license, so I agreed. When he passed away I made a promise to my self to get my license and did !

In 1998 my wife (Karen) and I moved to Oregon and we bought a house in Eagle Point. I still had my license and some 2 meter /440 MHz radios. I put up a vertical antenna to cover the repeaters in the area and made friends with a lot of people, including Chris Novara (then K7TVL, now AB7BS) before he and his wife moved up north.

As the years passed my interest with the hobby faded, and I let my license lapse. But about 2011 while coming home from work one day in June, I saw the RVARC Field Day setup in the Cascade Christian High School football field (behind the Chevrolet dealer) so I decided to check it out. I got the ham radio bug again !

In 2012 I received my license again (aced the test). Later that year received my general ticket, and later an extra license. The call I hold is a tribute to my grand father (his call was W9WOM).

In closing I look forward to working with everyone to have a successful year.

73 John Laybourne, W8WOM  
Have fun

## LoTW Tops 1 Billion QSOs

As of December 19, more than 1 billion QSO (contact) records have been entered into ARRL's Logbook of The World (LoTW) system. Of these, 187 million have resulted in confirmed contacts.

The one billionth record was uploaded by 7X3WPL, the Sahara DX Radio Club, at 23:32 UTC for a 20-meter SSB contact with Davide Cler, IW1DQS, that took place on December 28, 2016. The upload resulted in a match (QSL).

Currently, LOTW has 112,954 users registered, and 165,410 certificates are active (one user may have multiple certificates, for example club callsigns, DX peditions, etc.).

## Sunspots and Solar Flux Set New Lows

The Sun has been without sunspots for 209 days in 2018. To find a similar quantity of days without sunspots, you have to go back to 2009 when the Sun was experiencing the deepest solar minimum in a century.

The average daily sunspot number for 2009 was 5.05, and average daily solar flux was 70.6.

For the past two months (October 19 through December 19) the average sunspot number was 3.6 and the solar flux 69.4

For 2018 so far the average sunspot number is 6.6 and the average solar flux is 69.9.

It should be recalled that one sunspot results in a sunspot number of 11 (one group containing that single spot which counts as 10, plus the one spot). So a week with just two days having just one spot results in a week-long average of 22/7, or 3.14 sunspots.

## This Month's Programs

### 1. VHF / UHF base station antenna.

- **Program:** Edison Fong will present on VHF and UHF base station antennas that you can build yourself.
- **Biography:** Ed Fong was first licensed in 1968 as WN6IQN. He later upgraded to Extra Class (passing the 20 WPM CW) with his present call of WB6IQN. He obtained the BSEE and MSEE degrees from the Univ. of California at Berkeley and his Ph.D. from the Univ. of San Francisco. A Senior Member of the IEEE, he has 12 patents and over 40 published papers and books in the area of communications and integrated circuit design. Presently, he is employed by the University of California (previously at Berkeley and presently at Santa Cruz –Silicon Valley) as an instructor teaching graduate classes in RF design and High Speed interface design. During his 35 year career he has performed worked for Motorola, National Semiconductor, Phillips Semiconductor and Advanced Micro Devices.

### 2.

- **Program:**
- **Biography:**

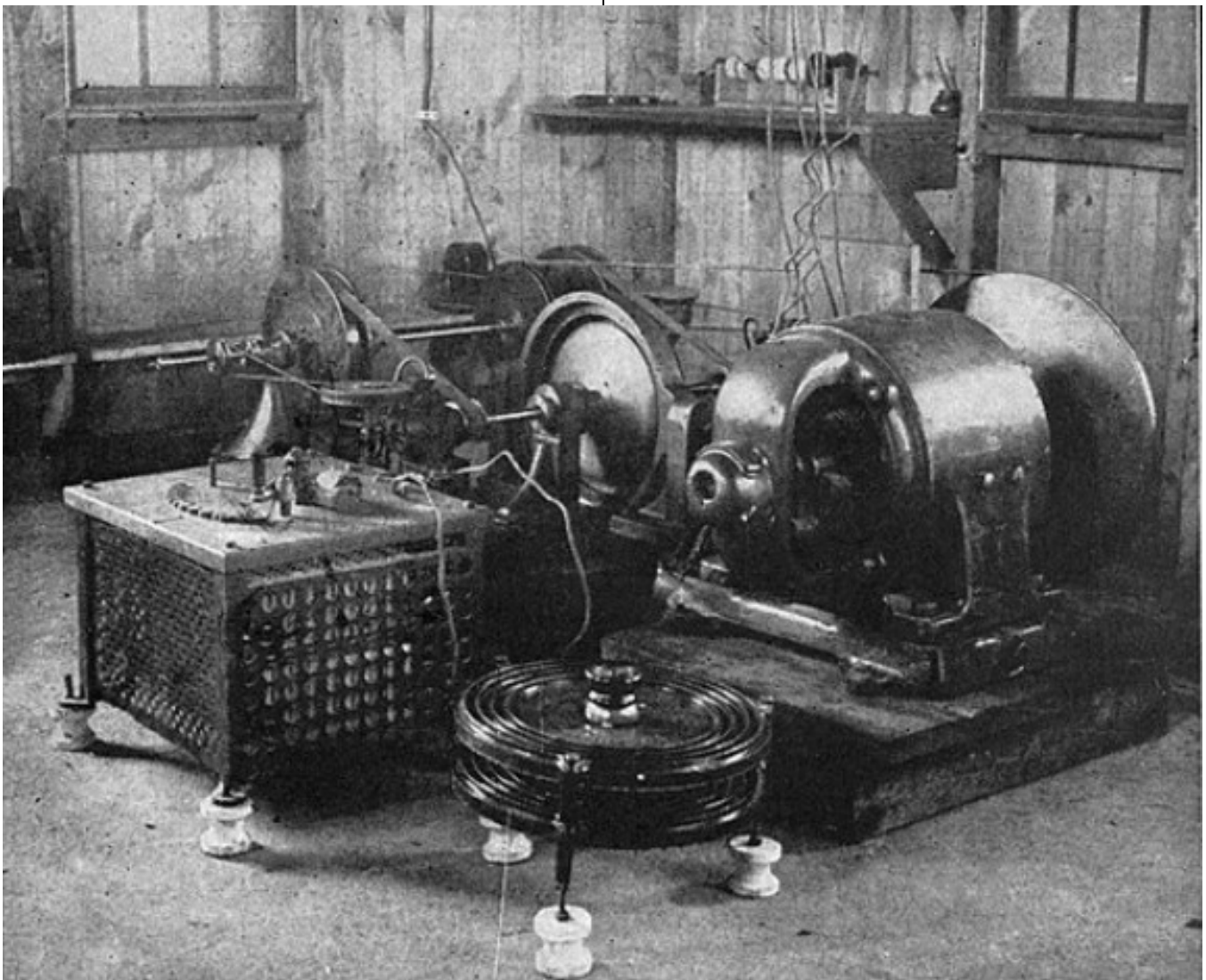
## RVARC Member Station—initial submission

In the interest of more content for the club newsletter, Scott (our new VP) asks members to send pictures and text description of their station(s) to our newsletter editor, Tom, N5EG@TAPR.ORG

Scott wanted to make sure that no one felt intimidated and thus started the bar as low as possible (we think it's as low as possible but could be proven wrong). He sent along this picture of his entry.

Perhaps Scott intends to use this for his ARRL DX Contest submission next month (obviously the high power category). We hope it's the CW contest, but with this equipment it might not make too much difference.

Apparently the strategy could be to crowd out interference well removed from the operating frequency so as to improve the ability to pull the DX out of the other stations on the operating frequency, or perhaps the whole band. Maybe even all the bands.



# January 2019

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

## Events

### Meetings

- **RVARC** Thursday, January 3rd — 7:00 PM, Medford Police Department Community Room
- **Rogue Hack Lab** Thursday January 10th — 6:30 PM, Medford Library
- **CARE** Thursday, January 8th — 2:30 PM — New Far East Restaurant
- **JCARES** Wednesday, January 16th — 6:00 PM — Jackson County Sheriff's Office on Crater Lake Highway

### Nets

- **ARES** Thursdays 7:30 PM - K7JAX Mt. Baldy Repeater 146.840 ( - ) [ PL 123.0 ]
- **CARE** Mondays 7:00 PM—. KB7SKB Jacksonville Repeater 147.100 ( - ) [PL 136.5], open, directed net, visitors welcome
- **2 Meter SSB** Tuesdays 7:00PM 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.

## 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

## For Sale / Wanted

Be sure to visit our club's Sell / Swap webpage for more items.

<http://w7dta.org/sellswap/>

## 2018 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 2018 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 2019:** Jan 26 Apr 27 Jul 27 Oct 26

(note these dates are tentative until confirmed by FD#5)

**Contact:** Don Bennett, Email: [kg7bp@arrl.net](mailto:kg7bp@arrl.net) 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 2019:** Feb 15th May 17th Aug 16th Nov 15th

**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 January 3, 2019, 7:00 PM**

**Medford Police Department Community Room, 219 S. Ivy St., Medford, OR**

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