

March Club Events
Thursday March 1st
Technician Class Begins
Saturday March 3rd
Monthly Breakfast
9AM Pastry Pub
Tuesday March 13th
Regular Club Meeting
7PM Senior Center



2018 Club Officers

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RCARC Amateur Radio Club Monthly meeting

February 13, 2018

ATTENDING:

Tom Adams KI7LUI, Brian Amos KF7OVD, Isaiah Arnold KI7SXJ,

Michelle Arnold KG7YID, Larry Bell N7SND, Brad Beidermann WA7HHD,

Bruce Bishop LI7LUM, Kevin Bishop KG7HZZ, Sherry Bishop, Don Blanchard WA7GTU, Daniel Carlson KI7LUR, Larry Coles KI7DRE,

Jack Coulter KG7VEJ, Johnny Ellison KE6ZIM, George Gallis AL7BX,

Fred Govedich KI7TPD, Brad Gunderson KD6SFS, Collette Gunderson KI7LUU,

Larry Heddings WD0CDG, Wayne Holcomb KI7QZA, Brody Johnson K7VXV,

Jerel Johnson KI7SDA, Terry Lee KD7TTT, Bruce McDonald KI7DRB,

Tamera Nesmith KI7LVB, Burton Nichols KI7DRA, Ed Padgett KK7ZL,

Dick Parker, K7ZI, Ken Richter KR7KR, Monti Rugebregt KG7WEN,

Denice Sheffield KF7WIY, Fred Sheffield KF7GPZ, Ronald Shelley K7HDX,

Linda Shokrian KG7PBX, Roger Simister KC7UT, Bill Stenger K6QOG,

Boyd Woolsey KG7YIA.

CALLED TO ORDER: Brad Gunderson KD6SFS, Presiding, called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

And then asked the board to stand and introduce themselves.

Brad, Monti Rugebregt KG7WEN, Larry Bell N7SND and Tammy Nesmith KI7LVB stood and introduced themselves.

When Brad asked for first time attendees or visitors we acknowledged Fred Govedich KI7TPD who joined on Saturday at the Monthly Breakfast and Bob Olla KC7VAG who is back after a 6 month break, and Tom Adams

KI7LUI who just tested and passed his General level.

MINUTES: Last month's minutes as they were reported in the

Club Newsletter. Denice Sheffield

KF7GPZ motioned to accept and Monti Rugebregt KG7WEN seconded.

TREASURER REPORT: Larry Bell N7SND, Treasurer. Reported a \$50 check for Linda for reserving 3 Peaks area for our Field Day. A \$300 check for our insurance, and a \$150 check for Ken for the smoked ham provided for our Christmas Party. Don Blanchard WA7GTU motioned to accept, Bill Stenger K6QOG seconded. After the meeting he also reported \$2512.60 with a \$200 deposit from new members.

REPEATER UPDATE: Don Blanchard WA7GTU said that everything works! The VHS Manuals are out this week (a week from Saturday) He will pick them up and bring them down to save on postage.

QUESTION and ANSWER time: Terry Lee KD7TTT was Moderator.

Dick Parker K7ZI asked "Why doesn't the club have our own HF Filters for Field Day?

What does it do? Prevents running 100 watts on CW killing the other frequencies.

It would be expensive if purchased, however it is very possible to make.

*Suggestion: Build Filters before Field Day as a Club Activity.

Wayne Holcomb KI7QZA asked: Can the coax be a part of the antennae?

Yes, is the antennae is resonate. The coax won't make much difference. But it does make a difference. You don't have to have a specific length.

Tony stated that the subway system in New York has the outer jacket of the wires perforated with holes to act as part of the system. Radiacts. (?)

Russ is the most knowledgeable about this subject.

Terry Lee KD7TTT made an announcement: After 15 years he has finally grounded all radios in his house. There was a huge improvement. It went from S6 to S2.

Tony Bennett KA7HGX asked who to contact to set up to Echo-link? Linda Shokrian, Don Blanchard, or Terry Lee all have an Echo-link. Look up the IRLP, put the number in with your touch tone pad. Is there a wall plate for an antennae coming into the house? Yes. They are in any of the equipment catalogs: DX Engineer, MFJ, Quicksilver, or even Google. It's called a Wall Plate Antennae Pass Through. Or you can make your own out of metal or a wood plate.

How important is a Lightening Arrester?

Terry Lee KD7TTT: For static electricity it is handy, but it only works for one lightening strike. It does save the radio.

Don Blanchard WA7GTU: It is important. Yes it works, but usually only once. You can do other things to help divert lightening. Take all the excess cord and tie in loose over-hand knots. Lightening does not like to do circles.

Don't spend a lot of money on it. Depot has them for \$15.

7:25 pm Back to Brad and the "Meat" of the meeting.

RIBBONS FOR PARTICIPATION: For the Friendship Net: 1st place goes to Dick Parker K7ZI, 2nd places go to Lee Hone K7NKH, Lance Jackson KA7J, Bruce Bishop KI7LUM. 3rd places goes to Tony Bennett KA7HGX and Jim Beal KG6LFU (who will turn 92 on the 19). For the Breakfast Net the 1st place ribbon was awarded to Russ Chaffee N7BO, 2nd place to Ed Padgett KK7ZL, and 3rd place to Sylvia Clements KB7UMU.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

There are fliers available for the Tech Class being offered. There are only 4 people signed up at present. Swap Meet is on the 24 in Farmington (north of Salt Lake City, by Lagoon). It is a lot of fun and well worth going.

OLD BUSINESS: Liability Insurance needs to be paid.

Those interested in joining the ECOMM (Emergency Communication) group see Don Blanchard WA7GTU after the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Vote on as a club:

It has been proposed to decrease the Net from 7 days a week to 3 or even 1 day a week. We

would still have an informal net the other days.

This was voted down.

Don Blanchard said the Beehive Net has been going for 55 years at 12:30 pm. If there is no Net Control, someone else picks it up.

Keep it the way it is – Every night of the week.

We need more Net Control Operators to back up the ones that are on weekly.

Vote 2: It has been proposed that we change the time of the Net from 9pm to 8pm or 8:30pm.

There would be multiple conflicts: Panguitch at 8pm on Wednesdays. ORCA at 8:30pm and

VHF is on Tuesday at 8 pm.

Keep it the way it is – 9 pm

Volunteers for next month's refreshments:

Johnny Ellison KE6ZIM – Treats and Bruce Bishop KI7LUM - Water

Tuesday the 27 – Brody Johnson K7VXV needs someone to substitute for his night as Net Control.

Tim Nesmith LI7LVC said he would cover Brody's shift.(Terry Lee KD7TTT actually covered for Brody as Tim was sick.)

Saturday the 17 - Tim Nesmith LI7LVC needs someone to substitute for his night as Net Control. Brad Gunderson KD6SFS said he would cover Tim's shift.

PRESENTATION: Time was turned over to Monti Rugebregt KG7WEN and Ed Padgett KK7ZL.

Fun Fact: Albert Hyman, Bob Almy, and Pogie Murray were the three Harvard Radio Club forefathers in 1908. (Don Blanchard said that was one theory.) That's why it is known as HAM radio.

Why get involved with HAM radio?

1 – To talk to others.

2 – Participate in Fox Hunts

Hidden Beacons, Use a Sniffer to locate them. There is usually food involved.

3 – Field Day. It lasts 24 hours. You see how many contacts you can make from 12 noon on Saturday thru 12 noon on Sunday. Last year we met at the 3 Peaks recreation pavilion and Monti brought a refrigerator and a generator to hold all the food. There is camping allowed and encouraged.

4 – Possibility of connecting to a Space Satellite on HAM radio. Every astronaut is a HAM operator but they mostly talk to grade schools.

5 – Packets can be sent. A packet is a formatted package of data that includes additional information necessary for accurate transmission and reception. A few months ago Russ Chaffee N7BO and Terry Lee KD6TTT demonstrated how to send photos from one radio to another using SWTV.

6 – APRS (Auto Position Radio System) similar to GPS can track a persons location. A nice backup when hiking/camping by yourself. Stalking versus Safety System.

7 – If there is an emergency and the power takes out most forms of communication. Can be involved with Search and Rescue.

Monti showed a You Tube video that explained a lot of the basic possible connections in HAM:

1 – Simplex. Line of Sight. About 6 miles if no trees or buildings blocking the way.

2 – Repeaters. Can extent the range to 50 miles.

3 – Can set up own repeater to expand coverage.

4 – Through HF Communication you can talk to the world. (TinHatRanch.com)

Ed Padgett had a Power Point Presentation.

Ed explained lot of the knobs and dials on the front of a radio.

Volume, Squelch, Tuning, RF Gain, Delta Tune.

He talked of 2 filters: Band Pass and Notch Filter.

Ed defined the 2 parts that make up a Repeater. Receiver and Transmitter.

Reverse means to listen to the signal that is going into a Repeater.

Sometimes a signal does not “make it” to a repeater because the tone is not enabled.

Sunspots determine weather and affect the bounce of signal on the ionosphere.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm with Ken Richter KR7KR motioning and Bruce McDonald KI7DRB seconding.

Amateur Radio Emergency Service Transitioning to New Online Reporting System

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) will phase out the traditional ARES report forms later this year in favor of an online system called *ARES Connect*, a volunteer management, communications, and reporting system. The new system will allow information to be logged by ARES members and managed through the Field Organization. The advent of *ARES Connect* was among other highlights in “The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) 2017 Annual Report,” released this week. “*ARES Connect* is a volunteer management system that covers event signup, reporting, and roster management,” ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, K1IU, said. “It does not change how ARES operates when serving a partner entity; it is simply a system that will make managing volunteers and events easier.” Beta testing of *ARES Connect* will begin in March. ARES made changes to its report forms last year to make it easier to process information at ARRL Headquarters and to standardize the format for all forms. ARES Monthly Reports have been posted to the ARRL website, providing regular information on Amateur Radio public service communication activity, the report noted. According to the 2017 report, ARES membership stands at 31,332, up by nearly 13% from 2016. The number of emergency operations events reported was up by 665 from the previous year, with 1,913 reported in 2017. The top three states in terms of ARES membership in 2017 were California (2,265), Texas (1,930), and Ohio (1,858). Reported ARES events amounted to 51,673 in 2017 — a 4% increase — accounting for 718,930 volunteer hours at a calculated value of more than \$17.3 million. “There was a noticeable increase in reported activity during August through November,” the *ARES 2017 Annual Report* said. “During this period there was Amateur Radio response activity for hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria; wildfires in the western states, and the total solar eclipse that occurred on August 21.” According to the report, 26 states gained ARES members, while 13 lost members.

The K7RA Solar Update

Average daily sunspot number dropped from 24 during the previous seven days, to 5.6 in the current reporting week, February 15-21. That average is so low because no sunspots have been seen since

February 17, and no new sunspot regions were observed since February 4. Average daily solar flux dropped to 70.1 in the current period from 77.4 in the previous week. Based on the latest 45-day prediction for solar flux, I expect sunspots to re-appear by March 2 or 3, when solar flux is expected to increase suddenly. Predicted solar flux is 68 on February 23 to March 1, 69 on March 2, 76 on March 3-12, 74 on March 13-14, 72 on March 15, 70 on March 16-25, 72 and 74 on March 26-27, and 76 on March 28 through April 8. Predicted planetary A index is 8 on February 23-25, then 12, 16 and 8 on February 26-28, 5 on March 1-3, 8 on March 4, 5 on March 5-13, then 10, 8, 12, 16, 14 and 12 on March 14-19, 8 on March 20-22, 5 on March 23-30, 8 on March 31 and 5 on April 1-8.

National Hurricane Conference in Late March to Include Amateur Radio Session

The annual National Hurricane Conference is set for March 26 – 29, in Orlando, Florida. The theme this year is “Improving Hurricane Preparedness.” Some 1,500 attendees are expected. The Amateur Radio session will take place on Tuesday, March 27, at 10:30 AM. Presenters will address various aspects of the Amateur Radio response to hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria. ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, K1IU, will discuss ARRL’s unprecedented mission to Puerto Rico to support the American Red Cross in the wake of Hurricane Maria, considered to be the worst natural disaster of all time for Dominica and Puerto Rico. A National Hurricane Center representative will discuss the importance of Amateur Radio surface reports to the hurricane forecasting process. Other presentation topics will cover the operations of several groups during the 2017 hurricane season, including WX4NHC, the National Hurricane Center Amateur Radio station; the Hurricane Watch Net; the VoIP Hurricane Net; the Canadian Hurricane Centre; the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN), and best practices in SKYWARN activations.

Looking for bargains?
Check out the
SWAP MEET
at RCARC.INFO