

Watts News

Monthly Newsletter of the Olympia Amateur Radio Society

April 2017

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Club Information Page

OARS Officers			
President	Bruce Montgomery	WA7BAM	259-9300
Vice President	Dennis Niles	WV7S	(808) 283-3208
Secretary	Rue Palmer	W7RUE	790-5633
Treasurer	Ed Fitzgerald	N7WW	491-2289
Member at Large	Art Taylor	KL7SK	578-0162
Key Contacts			
RFI Committee	Ghery Pettit	N6TPT	412-1340
Repeater Committee	Fred Baker	W7SIX	791-2444
Repeater Committee	Ken Dahl	K7TAG	534-9357
Club License Trustee	Duane Braford	WB7ROZ	412-1902
Information Net	Lee Chambers	KI7SS	951-2538
ARES Net	Tom Bohon	KE7EJJ	456-6260
Web Site	George Lanning	KB6LE	438-5797
Newsletter	George Lanning	KB6LE	438-5797
Classes	Lee Chambers	KI7SS	951-2538
License Exams	Klaus Neubert	AC7MG	280-2428
Equipment Custodian			
OARS Website: www.olyham.org			
OARS Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/ARRLOARS/			

License Exam Sessions

6:00 pm before each monthly OARS meeting
Walk-ins allowed
To apply contact Klaus Neubert 280-2428
oars-ve@comcast.net

In an effort to provide the best testing environment possible, the examiners request non-candidates remain outside for the duration of the exam session.

—Thank you.

Membership Application	
<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	
Date	
Call	
Name	
Address	
City, State	
Home Phone	
Cell Phone	
email	
Annual Dues: \$ 50 single or family Pay to Treasurer at any meeting, or mail to:	
OARS PO Box 2861 Olympia WA 98507	

OARS Net Check-ins			
The following stations checked in one or more times in March on the OARS General Information Net:			
KI7SS *	AC7MG	AF7IO	AG7BA
K3AL	K7HTZ	KA7FRZ	KB6LE
KB7GP	KB7HPP	KD7DUH	KE7IHC
KE7JTU	KE7KQI	KG7CCE	KG7ED
KG7HYX	KG7ITT	KG7NQT	KG7OOO
KG7OQR	KG7OQS	KI7CQ	KI7FKQ
KI7JOR	KL7SK	N3MO	N7DAG
N7DFF	N7DIT	N7QGP	N7ITT
N7TLF	NU7D	NW7J	W0JCS
W6EGV	W7BRR	W7RUE	WA7BAM
WA7SH	WB7ROZ	WC7I	WV7S
* Net Control Station			
The net meets at 7:30 every Tuesday evening on the 3 linked OARS repeaters: 147.36, 224.46, and 441.40 MHz. All Hams are invited to check in.			

President's Message

Oh Boy! Planning has started for the OARS Field Day event scheduled for the last weekend in June. While Field Day's founding is in emergency communications, I have seen it billed as the largest radio event of the year. Get this on your calendar and plan on attending. Anyone can get on the radio; licensed or not, experienced or not, all can participate and have fun. A separate email will give preliminary details, as will presentations at OARS meetings. Watch for them.

Anniversary: I was very recently reminded that March 22, 2014 is the anniversary of the Oso, WA landslide that killed 43 people and destroyed 49 homes, a state highway, communications lines and isolated a town. While the slide occurred at 10:37 am, the call for amateur radio assistance didn't happen until shortly after 1 pm that afternoon. I know because I was at Communications Academy at South Seattle College when a minimum of 3 communications devices began making a variety of noises. The workshop went silent and one conversation I overheard was to from level 1 to level 3 and yes, I am leaving as soon as our communications trailer is hitched.

Destructive events can occur at any time there are unbalanced forces in nature. These might be predictable like many weather events or unpredictable as with the Oso landslide. The Boy Scout motto is "be prepared". Good words to live by.

Web Resources: A recent Tuesday night net topic that gained traction was of Internet resources for amateur radio. I'll start off with the 2 radio related pages I always have open while operating.

QRZ.com is a great source of information about amateur radio. This site has individual operators pages providing information about stations, education, and interests. The QRZ home page lists current radio related news, podcasts, propagation forecast, new product information, and a short list of used equipment for sale. Quality discussion groups deal with a variety of radio questions. Dig a little deeper to find practice tests and other topics.

Dxsummit.fi is a spotting network: Caution: Use of a spotting service during a contest may change your contest category to 'assisted'. Read the rules and make your choices carefully. Under the banner ad click on the word 'filters'. Choose which sections of this hobby you want to include and

which to exclude. You don't have to over-select. I usually have 20 meters and ssb selected. Click 'set filters' and as the page reloads you see those stations currently posted by spotters. If you work a station you can post that station's information under 'share a spot' in the right hand column. Jim, KG7CCE, shared <http://www.hrdlog.net/>. HRD is short for Ham Radio Deluxe, a very popular integrated radio control program. This page displays the results of recent log entries. Scroll down to a world map showing contacts within the last hour, color coded by band. At the top of the map are buttons to adjust the time frame displayed on the map. By clicking on the 'start animation' link I just watched the gray line move across the globe as different qso's are displayed. As daylight moved onto North America, 20 meters to Europe came alive, first from the east coast and then the whole continent. What a great device for learning propagation patterns for different bands. Thanks for sharing, Jim.

Promoting Radio: Watch the calendar at <http://www.olyham.org/olympia-ama/home/oars-google-calendar> or <https://www.facebook.com/ARRLOARS/> for upcoming events. We are going to need your help; please consider volunteering as you can.

Another idea I would like you to think about is to have OARS place the 'Dummies' book by Ward Silver in the high school libraries. It would take a review of the OARS account balance and budget, and perhaps a fund raiser, but what do you think? Let a board member know. This project could take place over several years. The TRL system already has a number of Ward's books available.

Not on the calendar but coming to the airwaves is a contest called the ARRL Rookie Roundup. To be a rookie you must have been licensed 3 years or less. Read the rules. If you want to practice and don't have an HF station, even for an hour or two, contact Bruce, WA7BAM@ARRL.net

Finally, I am beyond excited about the flow of ideas among members for expansion of amateur radio, at a number of levels, within our area. These are all thoughts of great merit, and as they firm and look practical to pursue, we will be sharing them with you.

Until next time, get on the radio, make some noise and have fun!

—Bruce, WA7BAM

Treasurer's Report

As of March 1, 2017

GENERAL FUND (checking account)

Previous balance\$ 1,813.47
Income 175.00
Expenses0.00
Ending balance1,988.47

REPEATER / PACKET FUND (savings account)

Previous balance\$ 1,052.74
Income 0.00
Expenses0.00
Ending balance1,052.74

— Ed Fitzgerald, N7WW, Treasurer

— ... —

20 Meters Lives !

While on Maui earlier this month I had an enjoyable eyeball QSO with Tom, NH7Y, who lives a short distance from the site of the KH6RS DX beacon. Tom has a four element SteppIR atop a 50 foot tower. Notwithstanding this impressive array he lamented a recent absence of propagation to Europe even on 20 meters due to the decline in solar activity. This caused me to question whether I may be a little late in building a two element quad for that band which I have been planning. I myself had managed to work Europe only twice from Olympia, two Finnish stations last November. This is explained by my modest station. I run 100 watts from a FT-991 into an 80 Meter off-center fed dipole that hangs in inverted vee fashion from a nearby tree at about 40 feet; like I said, modest indeed.

You can imagine my surprise when I tuned around 20 meters on the first day of the CW weekend of this year's ARRL DX contest (February 18) and heard many strong DX stations. I pounced on a South Cook Island station. To my delight he came right back. But more was to come. I was surprised to begin hearing Euros, some near S-7 on the meter. Even more surprising, they were able to hear me! The conditions were even better the next day, Sunday. I ended up working 52 DX entities including numerous west and eastern Europeans,

distance-wise capped by P3X in Cyprus. Another surprise came a few days later when I uploaded my log to the ARRL's Log of the World. I immediately received in response confirmation of the EF6T and P3X, Balearic islands and Cyprus QSOs, along with MD2C, the isle of Man, and others across Europe (but nothing further east of Slovakia, Croatia and the Czech Republic). The quad plan is back on track!

— Den WV7S

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Culinary Obituary

Did you hear about the Italian chef who died?

He pasta way. We cannoli do so much. His legacy will become a pizza history. Here today, gone tomato. How sad that he ran out of thyme.

Sending olive my prayers to the family. His wife is really upset; cheese not over it. You never sausage a tragic thing. It's such a shame good people have to die fusilli reasons.

It was a farfalle from grace.

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Changing Times

We took the kids to one of those restaurants where the walls are plastered with movie memorabilia. I went off to see the hostess about reserving a table. When I returned, I found my 10-year-old granddaughter staring at a poster of Superman standing in a phone booth.

She looked puzzled. "She doesn't know who Superman is?" I asked my wife.

"Worse," my wife replied. "She doesn't know what a phone booth is."

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Yes It Is Complicated

The American Medical Association has weighed in on Trump's health care package:

The Allergists were in favor of scratching it, but the Dermatologists advised not to make any rash moves.

The Gastroenterologists had sort of a gut feeling about it, but the Neurologists thought the Administration had a lot of nerve.

Meanwhile, Obstetricians felt certain everyone was laboring under a misconception, while the Ophthalmologists considered the idea shortsighted.

Pathologists yelled, "Over my dead body!" while the Pediatricians said, "Oh, grow up!"

The Psychiatrists thought the whole idea was madness, while the Radiologists could see right through it.

Surgeons decided to wash their hands of the whole thing and the Internists claimed it would indeed be a bitter pill to swallow.

The Plastic Surgeons opined that this proposal would "put a whole new face on the matter."

The Podiatrists thought it was a step forward, but the Urologists were pissed off at the whole idea. Anesthesiologists thought the whole idea was a gas, and those lofty Cardiologists didn't have the heart to say no.

In the end, the Proctologists won out, leaving the entire decision up to the assholes in Washington.

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Cape Cod National Seashore to Host W1MGY Titanic Memorial Special Event

03/08/2017

Cape Cod National Seashore in Massachusetts has invited organizers of an Amateur Radio

special event in April marking the 105th anniversary of the RMS Titanic disaster to set up at its Salt Pond Visitor Center. The Titanic/Marconi Memorial Radio Association of Cape Cod — W1MGY — is sponsoring the worldwide commemoration to honor the approximately 1,500 passengers and crew who died when the Titanic — thought to be unsinkable — struck an iceberg and sank on its maiden voyage from England to the US. W1MGY operators have permission to operate from the national park for 3 days and 2 nights.

Sponsors point out that the 740 Titanic survivors were rescued by the Carpathia as a result of wireless messages sent from Marconi's Wellfleet Station, today preserved within Cape Cod National Seashore as its "Marconi Beach" site. Between April 13 and April 22, the national park will host commemorative events, including the special event, centering on the Titanic disaster and the evolution of wireless communication, culminating in the worldwide International Marconi Day. All Titanic events will be held at the Salt Pond Visitors Center in Eastham. Events are free and open to the public.

"We will operate from there on April 13, 14, and 15 until 0527 UTC, the time the Titanic's last radio message was heard by the Virginian. The vessel foundered 20 minutes later," said Barry Hutchinson, KB1TLR — the new trustee of W1MGY, which itself recalls the Titanic's MGY call sign. W1MGY, which has been on the air for past Titanic on-the-air events, will transmit a message at the time the ship foundered.

For more than a decade, W1MGY special operations have marked Titanic anniversaries. ARRL Lab staffer Mike Gruber, W1MG, became W1MGY's trustee in 2003, and he and others operated Titanic special events in April from the Titanic Museum in Indian Orchard, a part of Springfield, Massachusetts.

"These events were always very special to me personally," Gruber said. "I'm thrilled to see someone with Barry's experience and enthusiasm now making it happen at Cape Cod National Seashore."

W1MGY will set up two stations staffed by about two dozen volunteers and operate on CW, SSB, and possibly PSK31. All operating will be done in the General class band segments. As starting points, Hutchinson suggested 3.950 MHz, 7.270 MHz, and 14.285 MHz, adding that band conditions would dictate whether they try 15 and 10 meters. W1MGY will be on the air for a public demonstration on April 15, from 9:30 AM until about 2 PM EDT, when the Cape Cod National Seashore will show the movie Titanic to close out the event.

Hutchinson said park visitor center staffers have been enthusiastic and very supportive of the event, and he hopes the park will be willing to host future Titanic events.

The park is a sponsor of the Marconi Cape Cod Radio Club KM1CC. The Marconi Beach site, 6 miles north of the Salt Pond Visitor Center, features exhibits and displays of Marconi memorabilia, including a model of the old Marconi station near the site and a bust of Marconi.

“I expect W1MGY and KM1CC will partner for events in future Aprils, as the dates of the Titanic event are the beginning of the week of the annual International Marconi Day event that is very popular at the park,” said Barbara Dougan, N1NS, who is the current KM1CC trustee and a national park employee. “We average about 400 visitors to our operating location as well as make over 1000 on-the air contacts.”

The event will also feature stories of early marine wireless communication and a short film, The Voice of Cape Cod, which describes the building in 1901 of the Marconi Wireless Station in South Wellfleet and the first transatlantic transmission sent from the US to Europe on January 18, 1903.

On April 21, the longer film, Rescue at Sea, will be shown. It chronicles the collision of the Republic and the Florida off Nantucket in January 1909, and the role of Jack Binns, the Marconi radio man aboard the Republic, who stayed at his key as the ship was sinking. He became known as CQD Binns — the first hero of wireless, more than 1,500 passengers and crew were saved. In 1909 CQD

was the Marconi signal used to call all ships in an emergency. Like the Titanic, the Republic, also hailed at the time as unsinkable, was owned by the White Star Line. Binns later turned down an offer to work on the Titanic.

On April 22, the Marconi Cape Cod Radio Club's KM1CC will take part in International Marconi Day on April 22 from the Nauset Coast Guard Station in Eastham, Massachusetts.

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Minutes of March Meeting

1800 hrs. We had five candidates for testing; two passed their Tech test; three passed their General test and one passed his Amateur Extra test.

Because our quest speaker was presenting via Skype we changed our normal meeting agenda.

Guest speaker: Steve Schwarm, W3EVE who gave a wonderful presentation on Ham Emergency Communications. Everyone appeared to enjoy his presentation.

Short Break

Bruce – KD7BAM, our club president lead the introductions. There were 33 present with two new club members.

Business:

Ed N7WW; Treasurer gave the treasurer's report.

Rue, W7RUE; Secretary read the minutes of last month's meeting.

Lee- KI7SS continued the discussion about emergency communications encouraging members to have back-up communications including extra batteries, other charging systems, and other means to communicate such as WinLink, UHF, and LOG4OM etc.

Upcoming calendar events:

April 8-MS Walk, Horizon Elementary School, Setup at 9 am until last walker returns, Klaus, AC7MG, POC <http://main.nationalmssociety.org/site/TR/Walk/WASWalkEvents?>

pg=entry&fr_id=28435 Three volunteers so far
(Lee, Jim, Bruce).

April 28, 29-Olympia Arts Walk with OlyMEGA
(firm; may just do Saturday, the 29th)

Friday, April 28 (5-10pm) & Saturday, April 29
(Noon-8pm) [http://olympiawa.gov/city-services/
parks/community-events/artswalk.aspx](http://olympiawa.gov/city-services/parks/community-events/artswalk.aspx)

April 22, 23-Communications Academy 22
(Register 8, starts at 9) & 23 (Register 8:30, starts
at 9:30) <http://comacademy.org/>

May 6 (10-6) & 7 (11-5) Lacey Spring Fun Fair
<http://laceyspringfunfair.com/>

May 6 at 10 am on ROD ROMBERGER WB7CRD
church/neighborhood preparedness fair

May 13 & 14, Olympus Road Rally [https://
www.olympusrally.com/2017-event](https://www.olympusrally.com/2017-event)

May 21-Capital City Marathon; starts 7am [http://
www.capitalcitymarathon.org/](http://www.capitalcitymarathon.org/)

ENDEX: Meeting was adjourned at 2100hrs.

Signed: Rue – W7Rue, Club Secretary

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Communications Problem

Room Service (RS): "Morny, Ruin Sorbees."

Guest (G): "Sorry, I thought I dialed Room
Service."

RS: Rye...Ruinsorbees...morny! Djuwish to odor
sunteen?

G: Un...Yes...I'd like some bacon and eggs.

RS: Ow july den?

G: What?

RS: Ow july den?...pry, boy, pooch?

G: Oh, the eggs! How do I like them? Sorry,
scrambled please.

RS: Ow july dee baychem...crease?

G: Crisp will be fine.

RS: Hokay. An san toes?

G: I don't think so.

RS: No? Judo one toes??

G: I feel really bad about this, but I don't know
what "judo one toes" means.

RS: Toes! Toes!...Why djuw don juan toes? Ow
bow inglish moppig we bother?

G: English muffin!! I've got it! You were saying
"Toast!" Fine.

Yes an english muffin will be fine.

RS: We bother?

G: No...just put the bother on the side.

RS: Wad?

G: I mean butter...just put it on the side.

RS: Copy?

G: Sorry?

RS: Copy...Tea...Mill?

G: Yes, coffee please and that's all.

RS: One minnie.— ruin torino fee, strangle ache,
crease baychem, tossy inglish moppig we bother
honey sign, and copy...rye??

G: Whatever you say.

RS: Tenjuberrymud.

G: You're welcome.

— ... —

From the Mouths of Babes

A friend hosted a dinner party for people from work
and everyone was encouraged to bring their
children. All during the sit-down dinner one co-
worker's three-year-old girl stared at the man
sitting across from her. The girl could hardly eat
her food from staring.

The man checked his tie, felt his face for food,
patted his hair in place, but nothing stopped her
from staring at him. He tried his best to just ignore
her but finally it was too much for him. He asked
her, "Excuse me little girl, but why do you keep
staring at me?"

Everyone at the table had noticed her behavior,
and the table went quiet for her response. The little
girl said, "I just want to see how you drink like a
fish."

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O A R S Meeting

Wednesday, April 19, 7:00 pm

South Sound Manor Event Center
455 North Street SE
Tumwater

If you are a Ham who has received this newsletter, but are not yet a member of OARS, you are cordially invited to join us. Please complete the membership application found elsewhere in this newsletter and mail it to:

OARS
PO Box 2861
Olympia WA 98507

or bring it to an OARS meeting and see Treasurer Ed Fitzgerald.

OARS
PO BOX 2861
OLYMPIA WA 98507

