

Watts News

Monthly Newsletter of the Olympia Amateur Radio Society

November 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	Artt Taylor	KL7SK	578-0162
Key Contacts			
RFI Committee	Ghery Pettit	N6TPT	867-0756
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	W7BHN	456-6260
WebMaster	Ray Goble	W7BHN	253-344-3408
Newsletter	George Lanning	KB6LE	438-5797
Classes	Lee Chambers	KI7SS	951-2538
License Exams	Klaus Neubert	AC7MG	280-2428
Equipment Custodian			
OARS Website: olyham.blogspot.com			

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	

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.

OARS Net Check-ins

The following stations checked in one or more times on the OARS General Information Net in October 2017:

AC7MG	KB6ZDS	KI7PAZ	W6EGV
AE7UG	KB7ED	KI7QCK	W77BRR
AF7IO	KC7MJI	KI7QCL	W7PLC
AG7BA	KD7OQS	KI7SS *	W7RUE
K6EKB	KD7PLJ	KL7SK	WA4RAY
K7HTZ	KD7SQU	N7GQP	WA7BAM
K7TAG	KG7CCE	N7TLE	WA7SH
K7TST	KI7CQ	N7TPT	WB7QEU
KA7FRZ	KI7FKQ	N7WW	WB7ROZ
			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

Learning from Disasters

"We really have to cultivate a new generation of Amateur Radio operators. We found that they are all on the northern side of 50° said Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) Secretary-General Bernadette Lewis on International Disaster Reduction Day, Friday, October 13. While perhaps not a new observation about our amateur radio community, such a direct statement from a radio official is a wake up call for all. With local clubs being the heart and soul for much of this hobby, this quote from the October 19 ARRL Letter (available to members via email) needs to be a call to action.

Coincidentally, this last weekend was Jamboree on the Air for scouting programs world wide. I had about 12 cub scouts come through my home station Friday afternoon and they talked to 3 local hams that graciously gave their time to encourage young people to participate in the JOTA event, and provide them (and their parents) a chance to be aware of the fun, purpose, service and necessity of our great hobby. With many of the cub scouts are interested in technology and associated careers their ham radio mentors helped to make the technology connection to the amateur radio hobby.

Additionally, on Saturday, Lee, KI7SS, and I set up an HF station at Camp Thunderbird about 10 miles west of Olympia to help more scouts participate in JOTA. Our goal was to build a station with pizzaz, and it was. From the gold colored screen on the microphone to the visual band presentation of the Flex 6300 radio to 3 morse code stations the eye candy and involvement worked. Cub scouts and their parents were captivated despite a compromise antenna, poor band conditions and a significant storm. Scouts worked hams near Reno, LaGrande and Helena and the the magic of radio was discovered for perhaps as many as 100 scouts.

We will never know if we accomplish longer term goals of bringing new and active hams into the hobby, but the repair of the situation realized by Secretary-General Lewis was started locally this last weekend. But we need more opportunities to become involved with young people in this way. Rest assured I will follow up with local scouting personnel to see if we can make more happen. If you have ideas on how to involve more young people with radio please share them with me.

Continuing with the learning from disasters theme, the 'Force of 50' volunteer radio

operators for the Red Cross in Puerto Rico have started to return home. Their stories will be told in the general media, QST and the through various podcasts. Everyone of these stories will be worth listening to and learning from. Perhaps when things settle down, we can find one with some available time and Skype them into our meeting.

During the Camp Thunderbird JOTA event band conditions appeared very poor. We were really working hard to find hams with a strong enough signal to talk to the scouts. Saturday afternoon we found an AM signal near the top end of the 40 meter band and had a nice conversation with John near LaGrande, Oregon. This was my first AM contact and John was perfect to talk with the young cub scouts. It is always good to try new modes in this hobby, many of which require only the push of a button on the radio. Earlier this week I pushed the button for 160 meters at about 8:15 pm local and found a qso in progress. Sometime soon I will be joining the low band enthusiasts, along with more digital modes.

Good inside work for those wintry days we all know are coming. What are your radio goals for winter?

Get on the air, make some electromagnetic noise and have a lot of fun!

—Bruce, WA7BAM

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Treasurer's Report

As of October

GENERAL FUND (checking account)

Previous balance	\$ 2,044.96
Income	75.16
Expenses	0.00
Ending balance	2,120.12

REPEATER / PACKET FUND (savings account)

Previous balance	\$ 1,053.92
Income	0.00
Expenses	0.00
Ending balance	1,053.92

— Ed Fitzgerald, N7WW, Treasurer

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If it weren't for electricity we'd all be watching television by candlelight.

—George Gobel

What is “Ham Radio”?

Better question; “What is Ham Radio to you”?

Ham radio is a hobby. We all enjoy this hobby but it is more than just a hobby. This hobby is so versatile that it can be whatever each individual wants it to be. It can be a devotion to volunteering and community service through the ARES organization. It can be a constant learning experience. It can be a lot of work AND a lot of fun! Whatever it is to you, it is what you make it. It is a hobby that has many different facets. It is a hobby that can be simple and inexpensive or it can be complex and cost thousands of dollars and take up hours of time each day. It is a hobby that can give you hours of entertainment. It is also a hobby that can literally save lives. The saying “...when all else fails, ham radio” has been proven to be true in the past months, hurricanes in Florida, Texas and Puerto Rico, Earthquakes in Mexico are just an example.

The 2018 ARRL Handbook has a good explanation on page 1-1:

” Amateur Radio, better known as “ham radio,” is many things to many people — more than 700,000 of them in the US alone. Ham radio hobbyists have at their fingertips the ability to directly contact fascinating people they may never meet who live in distant places they’ll never visit. They do this without any external infrastructure, such as a cell network or the Internet, sometimes using simple, inexpensive — often homemade — equipment and antennas.

Since the early days of wireless, these experimenters, who had to learn by trial and error, because little information was available at the time, developed and refined the means to contact one another without wires. They do this because it’s fun and offers a sense of accomplishment — “I made this happen!” — that you can’t get on a smartphone.

As a radio amateur, you can meet new friends, win awards, exchange “QSLs” (the ham’s calling card), challenge yourself and

others in on-the-air competitions (“radiosport”), educate yourself about radio science and technology, contribute to your community, travel, promote international goodwill, and continue the century-old wireless communication tradition. Your station is yours and yours alone, and it’s independent of any other communication network — no contract, no bill to pay each month.”

This is but the tip of the iceberg that is ham radio. Many of the current modes of communications have been developed with help from ham radio enthusiasts. The transistor, television, cell phones, data communications, microwave communications, satellites, radio telescopes and more have all had a ham involved in their invention and development. Did you know that the International Space Station has at least one ham on every mission? Current Crew:

Expedition 53

Joe Acaba. KE5DAR

Alexander Misurkin

Mark Vande Hei, KG5GNP

Sergey Ryzansky

Commander Randy Bresnik

Paolo Nespoli, IZ0JPA

Future articles will delve into some of these aspects of ham radio in more detail but for now I would like to hear from you on what ham radio is to you. Email me at ka7frz@arrl.net with your story and, with your permission, I will include it in future articles.

Future articles:

- QSO’s, how and why, ham radio vs. facebook and social media.
- Homemade equipment and antennas.
- Experimenters.
- Ham radio history.
- A basic station, your station, mobile.
- The ARRL and other organizations.
- New developments.
- Your ideas...
- Phil KA7FRZ

Caribbean Telecommunications Union Head Calls for “New Generation” of Hams

10/16/2017

In remarks made on International Disaster Reduction Day, Friday, October 13, Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) Secretary-General Bernadette Lewis described Amateur Radio as a “bedrock of sustained communications” during emergencies, and strongly suggested cultivating a new and younger generation of radio amateurs to carry this role forward. She spoke as **part of a panel** on emergency telecommunications during the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) World Telecommunication Development Conference 2017 (**WTDC-17**), now under way in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The CTU, she said, has been considering the role of Amateur Radio in light of this “very, very, violent hurricane season.”

“Amateur Radio has been a staple, and it is because of...the Amateur Radio operators in the region that we get a lot of the information that we need,” she told her audience. Her presentation defined Amateur Radio as one component of the coordination of preparedness, response, and recovery efforts on the part of national emergency management agencies.

Moderator Vanessa Gray later asked Lewis what “one concrete step” could be taken to make better use of information and communication technologies (ICT) for disaster management.

“We really have to cultivate a new generation of Amateur Radio operators,” Lewis replied without hesitation. “We found that they are all on the northern side of 50.”

“Amateur Radio has been the bedrock of sustained communications during such emergencies,” she continued, “and one of the things we’re looking at is actually facilitating this process of having a network of disaster-resistant centers that that, in times when you *don’t* have a disaster, could be used for training new operators and generating that interest across the region.”

Lewis, of Trinidad and Tobago, reiterated her remarks in condensed form during a subsequent **interview**, in which she called hurricanes “a fact of life” for Caribbean countries, and suggested that hurricane-devastated countries need to think carefully about how to

rebuild their infrastructure to make it less prone to storm damage.

WTDC-17, which continues through October 20, considers topics, projects and programs relevant to telecommunication development. The conference theme this year is “ICT for Sustainable Development Goals.” ARRL Technical Relations Specialist Jon Siverling, WB3ERA, and International Amateur Radio Union (**IARU**) Emergency Communications Special Advisor Rod Stafford, W6ROD, are attending.

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October 18, 2017 Meeting Minutes

1800 hrs. We had 5 candidates for testing: 4 passed Technician; 1 passed General class license.

1900 hrs. There were 25 present. We had a presentation on HamWAN by Kenny Richards - KU7M via Skype. HamWAN is a modern, multi-megabit, IP based, digital network for a amateur radio use. Essentially a line-of-sight WIFI network in the 5.9 GHz range. One of several throughout the country. This one is located primarily in Seattle area. In the future, we may be able to link in to the net through Crawford Mountain. The HamWAN Seattle organization can be contacted at: <http://www.hamwan.org> or KU7M@KU7M.net.

Break: 2017 hrs.

Treasurers report: Ed – N7WW reported that we had \$2044.96 in the General Account and \$1053.92 in the Repeater fund.

Secretaries Report: Rue -W7RUE read last month's minutes.

Bruce – WA7BAM went over the upcoming calendar events and call for an open vote for weekly email newsletter.

Bruce – WA7BAM talked about the upcoming elections in November with secretary and member at large positions open.

Meeting was adjourned at 2054 hrs.

—**Rue Palmer, Secretary**

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Medical Dictionary

Artery	The study of paintings.
Bacteria	Back door to the cafeteria.
Barium	What doctors do when the patient dies.
Benign	What you be after you be eight.
Caesarian Section	A neighborhood in Rome.
Cat Scan	Searching for Kitty.
Cauterize	Made eye contact with her.
Colic	A sheepdog.
Coma	A punctuation mark.
D & C	Where Washington is.
Dilate	To live long.
Enema	Not a Friend
Fester	Quicker than someone else.
Fibula	A small lie.
Genital	A non-Jewish person.
G.I. Series	World Series of military baseball.
Hangnail	What you hang your coat on.
Impotent	Distinguished, well known.
Labor Pain	Getting hurt at work.
Medical Staff	A doctor's cane.
Morbid	A higher offer.
Nitrates	Cheaper than day rates.
Node	I know it.
Outpatient	A person who has fainted.
Pap Smear	A fatherhood test.
Pelvis	Second cousin to Elvis.
Recovery Room	Place to do upholstery>
Rectum	Damned near killed him.
Secretion	Hiding something.
Seizure	Roman Emperor.
Tablet	A small table.
Terminal Illness	Getting sick at the airport.
Tumor	One plus one more.
Urine	Opposite of you're out.
Varicose	Nearby, very close.

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ARRL Expresses Gratitude for Outpouring of Ham Aid Donations

ARRL is thanking the Amateur Radio community for its generosity in support of the ARRL [Ham Aid Fund](#), which is making it possible to provide relief and recovery communications in Puerto Rico. Overall, there have been more than 600 donations to the Ham Aid program in response to a call from ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, and nearly \$125,000 has come in from clubs and individuals. Several Amateur Radio retailers and manufacturers also have stepped up to donate needed equipment. Roderick said he was amazed at the overwhelming response, including those who answered his call to join the "Force of 50" now deployed in Puerto Rico.

"The Amateur Radio community really came together in providing donations of equipment, funding, and personnel in response to the great need in Puerto Rico," Roderick said. "The scale of these efforts and the response is making history. This has got to be one of Amateur Radio's greatest moments. Our sincere thanks go to all involved."

The list of those offering their generosity and support is long and growing. Contributors include International Amateur Radio Union

Region 2 (**IARU R2**), which donated two Ham Aid kits in addition to a monetary donation; the **Yasme Foundation**, which made a monetary contribution to the Ham Aid Fund and donated critical equipment, and the Northern California DX Foundation (**NCDXF**). Donations also came from the Orlando Amateur Radio Club (**OARC**) and from Orlando **HamCation®**.

Amateur Radio dealers and retailers have made in-kind donations. Quicksilver Radio (**QSR**) has contributed antennas and accessories, **Radiowavz** has provided antennas, and **Heil Sound Ltd.** has donated headsets with cables. Other corporate and retail in-kind contributors include **ABR Industries**, **AT&T**, **Icom America**, **Yaesu**, Ham Radio Outlet (**HRO**), and **DX Engineering**.

Monetary donations also have arrived from the CW Operators Club (**CWops**); the SouthEastern DX and Contesting Organization (**SEDCO**), sponsor of W4DXCC; the Northern California Contest Club (**NCCC**); the Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club (**FMARC**); the Wahkiakum Amateur Radio Club; the North Shore Radio Club (**NSARC**), and the Steel City Amateur Radio Club (**W3KWH**).

Ham Aid was created in 2005 in response to the need for equipment and resources to support the Amateur Radio response to hurricanes in the US and the Caribbean, and Ham Aid kits are in use throughout Puerto Rico for the Hurricane Maria relief and recovery effort.

Ham Aid equipment will be needed for future disasters. "Your donation to Ham Aid will help us now, and contributions to Ham Aid are 100% tax deductible," President Roderick said.

You can **donate online** (select "Ham Aid" from the Donation Form list), or by mail by printing a **donation form** and mailing it with your check payable to ARRL, noting "Ham Aid" on the memo line, to ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111 USA.

Amateur Radio Facilitates Another Patient Evacuation on Puerto Rico

"Force of 50" volunteer Val Hotzfeld, NV9L, reported from Puerto Rico today (October 15) that Amateur Radio volunteers on Culebra and in Fajardo — Jeremy Dougherty, NS0S, and Matthey Gonter, AC4MG — made it possible for physicians at the two locations to communicate directly in an effort to evacuate a patient who is an amputee.

"The chief doctor and the administrator at the Fajardo hospital were all smiles, as the doctor told AC4MG, 'You guys saved a life today,'" Hotzfeld reported.

Sixteen Amateur Radio volunteers are stationed at hospitals, while another is at the fire station in Juncos. Another five ham radio volunteers are assisting Red Cross reunification teams.

Mike Logan, KM4WUO, arrived on October 13 — the first of 10 **SHARES** HF radio system operators. According to DHS, "SHARES members use existing HF radio resources of government, critical infrastructure, and disaster response organizations to coordinate and transmit emergency messages. SHARES users rely on HF radio communications to perform critical functions, including those areas related to leadership, safety, maintenance of law and order, finance, and public health."

Dougherty, who was instrumental in saving the life of a burn victim last week, reported that firefighters on Culebra helped to re-install an HF antenna at the hospital there. "We had to climb a telephone pole off the edge of a cliff behind the hospital," Dougherty said. "It was fun." He also got their emergency VHF radio working again, and he presented a class to hospital staffers and first responders on how to use the Icom IC-706 that's on site, encouraging them to get their ham licenses.

Jorge Ortiz-Santiago, WP4ONI, assisted with a reunification between a mother and a son in Jayuya.

Personnel from WTOP radio in Washington, DC, and the National Association of Broadcasters plan to distribute 10,000 AM/FM radios and 1,000 Sirius-XM radios to local governments. — *Thanks to Valerie Hotzfeld NV9L; Puerto Rico SM Oscar Resto, KP4RF, and FEMA ESF-2 Amateur Radio Liaison Gary Sessums, KC5QCN*

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O A R S Meeting

Wednesday, November 15, 7:00 pm
“Election of Officers”

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

