

# Watt's Up

*Newsletter for the Umpqua Valley  
Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 925 Roseburg, OR 97470*

**April 2014**

*Watt's Up Staff: Editor, email distribution - Wayne W9AE  
Paper distribution - Russ, W7DUR*

## **President**

Jim Stuntz KF7FIB

## **1st Vice President**

Lynn, W7HDU

## **2nd Vice President**

Rick, W7DFV

## **Secretary**

Russ, W7DUR

## **Treasurer**

Jim AE7QK

## **Member-at-Large**

Steve, KF7UBQ  
Hutch, KE7JFQ

## **Club Call Signs**

**KC7UAV  
KC7TLY**

## **ARES Nets**

*Douglas County ARES*  
146.900 repeater  
Mondays at 7 PM

*District 5 ARES*  
3964 kHz  
Sundays at 5:30 PM

## **President's Message**

Greetings to all of the UVARC Members and Guests

I wish to thank everyone who attended the March meeting; once again we used all the chairs and ate all the cookies with 24 members and visitors attending. Thank you for your time.

Steve Burke (KB7WDP) had his first code class before the meeting and had 3 attendees for the class. Steve had a very attentive class to listen to the tapes and hear the basic code sound bites. If interest picks up he might schedule the class to a weekly event as the meeting participants make listening difficult.

Main topics of the meeting were Field Day locations. With Whistlers Bend booked Wayne (W9AE) was looking at the Glide High School Track location as a backup but our own Russ Nelson is investigating using a spot on his property to hold the event. So keep tuned for updates on the location selection.

The Technician Class is well on the way for the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of March at the American Red Cross Building. Class will be from 6PM to 9PM and is open to everyone.

The club's new website ([www.uvarc.net](http://www.uvarc.net)) is fully operational now and I am open to additions or corrections as it gets a fine tune so to speak. I seem to be changing things around daily but mostly to the main page announcements. If you want an event added to the calendar just drop me a line using the "contact UVARC" link, this lets me know what you want plus I know the link still works.

A great presentation from Wayne Estes (W9AE) on using battery power for HF Radios and Computers was again the hit of the meeting, Great Job Wayne. If you missed the presentation or would like to see it again it is on the website under Equipment Tips and Tricks. Wayne's past presentations are there also.

As spring time is here, we will be outside enjoying the warmer weather and catching up on outside jobs, please be safe. I am trying to play "beat the rain" and get up an antenna for DX or 10 Meters, I am finding that ladders seem to move more than I remember and wire has to be heavier than last year.

Well the sun is out and the temp is above freezing. Hope to see everyone at the next meeting.

73's to everyone

Jim, KF7FIB

## UVARC MEMBERSHIP

As of April 1, 2014, the club has 68 members and associate members.

The renewal form is on the last page.  
Online renewal is no longer available.

**If you have ham equipment to sell,  
it can be advertised in Watts Up.**

## April Meeting Presentation

At the April meeting George KE7MVX will give a presentation and live demonstration of WinMor and AirMail software which can be used to send email via amateur radio.

## Editor's Note

I always need articles about club activities, operating events, etc.

Every member is encouraged to submit articles and photos to w9ae@charter.net

Wayne Estes W9AE



## SUNSHINE

If you hear of someone who is ill or in the hospital, please let me know. Also notify me of any silent keys.

**Russ Nelson, W7DUR, at 440-3840**

## UVARC REPEATERS

146.900-, PL 100 (Lane Mountain)

147.120-, PL 100 (Boomer Hill)

## PACKET NODE

144.930, DC:WB6RHW-10

## New UVARC Web Page

<http://www.uvarc.net>

### NOTES:

1. Watt's Up is **online** in the UVARC web Page. It may be viewed in PDF format.
3. The **club roster** (names and call signs) is online.
4. Club **constitution** is available as a linked page.
5. Recent issues of **Watt's Up** are available in PDF format.

## VE Testing in Douglas County

Testing sessions are affiliated with the ARRL. They are scheduled the second Wednesday of even months except August. Sessions are held in Roseburg at the Douglas County Courthouse, room 310, 6 PM.

### ARRL VEC Test Fee for 2014 is \$15.00

This fee is charged once, no matter whether taking any one, two, three or all four test elements, one time. Retests of an element failed at the same test session will require payment of an additional test fee.

### 2014 Testing Dates

### Second Wednesday of each even Month

**February 12**

**April 9**

June 11

August - None

October 8

December 10

**For further information contact Jim WA6KHG,  
at (541) 496-2262**

## March 20 Meeting Minutes

Minutes of club meeting March 20, 2014

22 present 2 visitors.

President Jim KF7FIB opened meeting.

Reading of minutes of February minutes by Secretary.

Treasury report-balance of \$3000 plus. Paid \$32.78 to Pacific Power. Paid \$50 to state of Oregon.

Discussion of Field Day. Whistler Bend park group sites are booked up. The Winston park could be available. Radio reception is not good in the area.

Acreage at Nelsons residence on Del Rio Rd. could be available, Russ will check with family and report before the April meeting.

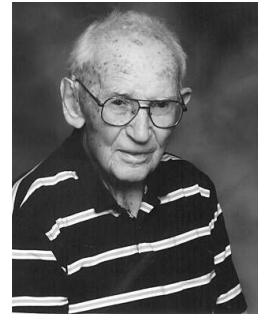
President Jim has built a new Club Web site.

Wayne W9AE, presented information on battery power for HF radio and laptop computer. When transmitting, battery voltage drops .5 volts. Using a DC-DC converter the voltage will regulate at 12.5 Volts to avoid radio malfunctions.

No further business- adjourned

Sec. Russ.

## Don Bell W7FHA, Silent Key



Russ Nelson reports that former UVARC member Don Bell W7FHA became a silent key on March 31, 2104 at the age of 104. Don was one of the earliest UVARC members. He got an Army surplus receiver working when the club station was set up in 1956.

Don was born July 3, 1909 on the Bell family farm in McClelland, Iowa. He was the 4th child of Joshua and Anna Bell. He was the last remaining family member. Don moved his family to Roseburg, Oregon, in 1946. He started working at Lockwood Ford, and later became their Service Manager. Don retired from Lockwood Ford after 35 years and then helped set up the Automotive Department at Umpqua Community College and helped place students in jobs for OJT. After that he read the weather at the Roseburg Airport. He loved doing the weather and working with all the pilots at Roseburg Skyways, Western Wings, UPS and Fed Ex. Don was replaced by the computerized weather station at the airport. He was 92 when he really retired. Don was always ready to work. He was a Charter Member of the West Side Umpqua Lions. He loved selling hot dogs at the ballpark!

## Ham-Developed Software Assisting Search for Missing Airliner

US Navy personnel helping to look for missing Malaysia Air Flight MH370 are using the signal-processing and analysis package *Spectrum Laboratory* by Wolf Buescher, DL4YHF, to analyze recently detected 37.5 kHz “pings” that may be from the missing plane’s “black box.” Some *Spectrum Laboratory* screen shots as seen aboard the Australian Defense Vessel *Ocean Shield* were shown on TV. The US Navy personnel are guests aboard the Australian ship. VLF experimenter Warren Ziegler, K2ORS, said the software is the same package Amateur Radio experimenters used recently to detect [transatlantic signals](#) on 29 kHz.

“Wolf’s package is very first-rate software, and I know that there have been other professional uses, but this was quite an interesting one!” Ziegler said.

The software began as a simple DOS-based FFT program, but it is now a specialized audio analyzer, filter, frequency converter, hum filter, data logger and more, and it is available for [download](#) from DL4YHF’s Amateur Radio Software site.

Buescher said he was skeptical about the initial “ping” detection by one of the search vessels, but now, he says, “the spectrogram taken by the US team aboard *Ocean Shield* is convincing.” He said a screenshot from Australian TV clearly shows the “bip-bip-bip” ultrasonic bursts or pings, “just as they should look,” rather than a “just a wobbly carrier that comes and goes.”

“In slow-CW terms, it would be an ‘outstanding signal.’” Buescher said. “Now keeping fingers crossed that the [“black box”] batteries last a bit longer than specified. The experts say the pinger’s battery usually degrades slowly, instead of going QRT abruptly.”

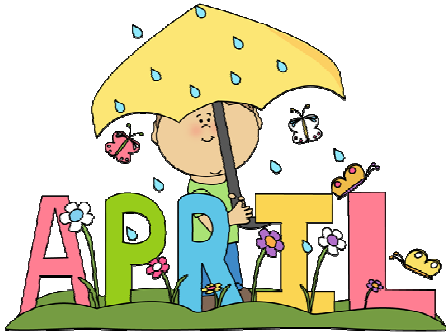
## Amateur Radio Credited in Rescue of Wayward Hikers

Authorities in Kern County, California, say Amateur Radio was responsible for the rescue of five adult hikers, who became lost in San Emigdio Canyon. The group had left Pine Mountain Club on the morning of Saturday, March 22, hiking to a vehicle parked near Highway 166 when they went astray.

“They had hand-held radios with them and called an Amateur Radio operator in Pine Mountain Club to report [they were] lost,” a Kern County Sheriff’s Department summary said. “Air-1 quickly located the lost hikers in a dry creek bed, approximately 12 miles south of Highway 166, and a ground unit transported them to their vehicle.” The sheriff’s office said the hikers, who had plenty of food and water, “were extremely exhausted, but did not require medical aid.”

In the hiking party were Cliff Brunk, K8BUW, and his wife Judith, KG6BXM. According to Don Quick, KW6PMC, who knows the couple, Cliff Brunk — who was carrying a hand-held transceiver — fell and struck his head. While not seriously injured, he was in pain. At that point, the group decided to return home, but then realized they were lost and outside of cell phone range. Using his radio, Brunk was able to reach Bill Hopper, AB6CF, via the Pine Mountain repeater, Quick said. The injured ham reported the hiking party’s predicament but couldn’t provide details regarding their location. Another member of the party was able to pass along the group’s location, however, and Hopper called 911.

The Kern County Sheriff’s Department dispatched a helicopter, which was able to locate the hiking party, but the nearest landing site was too far away for the rescue party to communicate with the hikers. A sheriff’s deputy drove into the canyon near the spot where the hikers were stranded, and they walked to his patrol car. The weary hikers got back to their homes late that evening. — *Thanks to Donald Quick, KW6PMC, and the Kern County Sheriff’s Department*



*Just a reminder: If you have e-mail capability, Let Russ, W7DUR know! you'll be able to see all pictures in color and save money for the club !*

# April 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 UVARC net 7 PM 146.90 rpt	3	4	5 Club breakfast 7 AM Denny's Roseburg
6 ARES Dist. 5 net 3964 kHz, 5:30PM	7 DC ARES net 7 PM 146.900	8	9 UVARC net 7 PM 146.90 rpt	10	11	12 Club breakfast 7 AM Denny's Roseburg
13 ARES Dist. 5 net 3964 kHz, 5:30PM	14 DC ARES net 7 PM 146.900	15	16 UVARC net 7 PM 146.90 rpt	17 Club Meeting 7PM, Room 310, D.C. courthouse	18	19 Club breakfast 7 AM Denny's Roseburg
20 ARES Dist. 5 net 3964 kHz, 5:30PM	21 DC ARES net 7 PM 146.900	22	23 UVARC net 7 PM 146.90 rpt	24	25	26 Club breakfast 7 AM Denny's Roseburg
27 ARES Dist. 5 net 3964 kHz, 5:30PM	28 DC ARES net 7 PM 146.900	29	30 UVARC net 7 PM 146.90 rpt			

**ON-LINE FORM AVAILABLE ON CLUB WEB PAGE**

## UMPQUA VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC

**ON-LINE FORM AVAILABLE ON CLUB WEB PAGE**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CALL SIGN \_\_\_\_\_ LICENSE CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_ CITY/STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL MEMBER YES [ ] NO [ ] E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Other names at your address desiring family membership

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CALL SIGN \_\_\_\_\_ LICENSE CLASS \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL MEMBER YES [ ] NO [ ]

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CALL SIGN \_\_\_\_\_ LICENSE CLASS \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL MEMBER YES [ ] NO [ ]

**Please show names the way you want them to appear in the roster**

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ RECEIVE YOUR NEWS LETTER BY: U.S. MAIL [ ] OR E-MAIL (PDF) [ ]

RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_ \*AMT. ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE OF BIRTH (STUDENTS)** \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

Membership dues are \$10.00 for individuals and \$5.00 for each additional family member living at the same address per calendar year. Associate membership dues are \$5.00. Dues are prorated (NEW members only): Jan - Mar \$10/5 (each additional member); Apr - Jun \$7.50/3.75; Jul - Sep \$5/2.50; Oct - Dec \$2.50/1.25. Membership is free for **Licensed** students, 18 and younger. Make checks payable to: **UVARC, PO Box 925, Roseburg, OR 97470.**