



Watt's Up

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

October 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 UVARC members and guests.

Well if you missed the September meeting you missed a good time. We had another great turnout of members and visitors. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to the decisions made.

At the September meeting a motion was made by Mike Harbin (W7OVN) to increase yearly dues by 50%. After a lot of discussion and great input by members present the motion passed unanimously. Dues for the 2015 year are now \$15.00 for individuals plus \$7.50 for each additional family member living at the same address. The decision was also made to review the June 2015 bank balance and see if we are heading in the right direction with dues.

It was reported that the Ice Cream Social was another resounding success and plenty of food and ice cream was consumed. The hot weather helped us out again.

It was brought to my attention that the club Constitution and By-Laws were not available on the club webpage, this has been corrected.

It was brought up, as general discussion, that the club needs some sort of fund raising activity to help with offsetting the costs of the repeaters. If someone would like to help in this area please contact me.

I have also placed an "Equipment For Sale" area on the website. If you would like to list equipment, send me a list with prices and a way to contact yourself (no phone numbers is preferred).

Also brought up was Field Day 2015. I hope to have a discussion at the October meeting on this event.

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President's Message cont'd from page 1

As we transition into the fall season, several key events are upcoming. The October meeting is important as we need a slate of officers for the upcoming year. Ham Of The Year nominations are due by November also.

The Club has received a "Thank You" from the Audubon Society for our help with the Vaux's Swifts Tracking Project. I would like to say Thank You to Steve Randolph (KF7UBQ) and Jim & Doris Rucker (KC6CWO & WA6KHG) for their help in the project. We could not definitively say we heard locator beacons from any of the birds, but we had a great time on a number of beautiful September evenings watching the birds go to roost in the chimney.

I hope everyone has a great month and I am hoping to see everyone at the next meeting.

73's Jim Stuntz KF7FIB

UVARC MEMBERSHIP

As of July 18 the club has 71 members.

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

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 callsigns) is online.
4. Club **constitution** is available as a linked page.
5. Recent issues of **Watt's Up** are available in PDF format.

**If you have ham equipment to sell,
it can be advertised in Watts Up
and on the club's web page.**

Club meeting minutes September 18, 2014
24 present

President Jim opened meeting, Roll Call with name and call sign.

Reading of July meeting minutes. No minutes of August -- Ice cream social at Singleton Park.

Communication from Audubon Society in Yakima, WA asking UVARC Ham radio members to watch for the Vaux's Swifts that return each year to Roseburg on their migration south. Six birds have been equipped with radio transmitters that send locator signals. The birds may stay several days then fly on. A large group roost in the chimney of the Clay Place behind the Umpqua Arts building in Fir park on Harvard. We do not know how far their signal reaches. Hams in Yakima, Portland, Eugene and others participated.

We discussed the radio equipment and a tower with beam antenna that is available from the estate of Jim Zurcher, WB7OTM (SK).

Cynde Pakros brought a list of radio equipment that will be available from her fathers radio station. She also displayed one of many binders of the QST magazines that her father saved. They need a home.

Break for refreshments. (Thanks to Lee for providing)

We discussed the equipment being used at our repeater sites. The Lane site has nine batteries for power backup. These are very expensive. These and other units may have to be replaced in the future. The club is not generating enough income to be able to meet some

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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.

Remaining 2014 Testing Dates Second Wednesday of each even Month

October 8
December 10

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

FCC licensing change!

Do you know of someone that has let their license expire beyond the two year renewal grace period and would like to get back on the air?

The FCC has recently revised the Amateur Service Part 97 rules to grant partial written examination credit to holders of expired General, Advanced, and Extra licenses!

At a minimum, previous license holders must take the current 35 question Technician Examination at a VE exam session to return to Amateur Radio! The FCC will issue a new call sign and a new license.

Upon satisfactory proof of prior licensing, such as a copy of the expired license, and passing the exam, a previous Extra will be given credit for a new Extra license. A previous Advanced, or General will be given credit for a new General license and, a Technician license granted before March 21, 1987 will be issued a new General license.

If you have let your Technicians license expire, you still need to pass the current test for that written element as in the past.

Questions? Contact one of your local Volunteer Examiners!

UVARC Repeater History

Historically, the 146.900 repeater was built by N7JAJ and other club members. It was originally on Mt. Nebo. It then moved to Ed Pahl's place off of Sunshine Road. When Ed began to travel, it was moved to Lane Mt. in Fred Meyer's building. The UVARC radio club paid an amount directly to Pacific Power to be in the building. When the power bill lapsed, I made trips up the mountain with batteries to keep it running. Douglas County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Jerry Eifert AE7ER and Wayne Stinson of the Douglas County Sheriff's Office Emergency Management, acquired the current building. The entire 146.900 repeater was built with new equipment entirely paid for by grants from Homeland Security. That included the repeater, controller, duplexer cavities, antennas, coax, etc. It was required that the building on BLM property meet the Motorola R56 grounding. The copper wire was donated, and ARES and Emergency Management paid for the equipment and supplies to meet that standard. ARES and Emergency Management acquired the rights-of-way for access to the building. ARES members have maintained the building, patched the roof, installed the antennas, and kept the grounds around the building free of weeds and grass. The club did have radio equipment linking to Chilcoot Mt. in the past, but that was stolen from a building on Mt. Nebo. ARES has installed an alarm system in their current building to prevent unauthorized access, and it is inside a fenced and locked compound. This includes the packet system that the UVARC radio club owns. The APRS system in the building belongs to AE7ER. The 440.300 and the 441.875 repeaters belong to Doug Hansen, W7IRJ. The old 146.900 repeater owned by UVARC remains in the building and can be turned on remotely if the new repeater fails.

The Cinnamon Butte repeater and link were ALL paid for by Homeland Security Grants, ARES, and Douglas County Emergency Management. The Tiller link was paid for entirely by ARES.

For future consideration is the Boomer Hill repeater owned by UVARC. That site may be lost, and a new home will need to be found for 147.120. Keith Peterson, who owns the 145.430 repeater, is now facing over \$900 per year to stay in the building on Mt. Scott. Hopefully, these facts will clear up any misconceptions about mountain top repeaters and their financing.

To have available and use the best repeater system that covers the remote areas of Douglas County is a bargain at \$36 average monthly power bill on Lane Mt.



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

The October UVARC meeting will have a presentation about remote control of HF ham transceivers.

The ARRL Board of Directors created the Barry Goldwater, K7UGA, Achievement Award last spring to recognize outstanding support of Amateur Radio by an elected federal official. The recipient must be an official who has, in a significant way, supported the well-being and continuity of the Amateur Service in the US. Earlier this month, the Board voted to confer the first such award upon US Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI, (OR-2), “in recognition of many years of exceptional contributions to the strength and vitality of the Amateur Radio Service in the United States.”

ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN; Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, and General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, presented the award to Walden in Washington on September 18. In a letter accompanying the award plaque, President Craigie wrote, “Your understanding of the importance of Amateur Radio to the public interest and to the pursuit of scientific and technical knowledge has led you to act in the spirit of Sen Goldwater, whose exemplary support for Amateur Radio in Washington caused the ARRL Board to name this award in his honor.”

President Craigie called Walden “a great friend to Amateur Radio over the last 12 years with regard to key issues including spectrum protection.” Walden chairs the House Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, the panel to which “The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014” (H.R. 4969) was referred for consideration.

In 2002 Walden was an original co-sponsor of H.R. 4720, the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act, and sent a “Dear Colleague” letter seeking additional cosponsors. In 2003 he was a co-sponsor of H.R. 713, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act. During a hearing on the bill at which then-ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, testified, Walden called for a halt to the “astonishing” erosion of Amateur Radio spectrum.

In 2004 Walden wrote the FCC chairman seeking to have the Commission defer action on the BPL rulemaking until the release of an NTIA study and an opportunity for public comment. That same year, during a hearing on telecom convergence, Walden grilled a BPL industry representative about interference.

In 2010 Walden co-sponsored H.R. 2160, the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act. May of 2011, the ARRL was invited to testify before Walden’s subcommittee on “Creating an Interoperable Public Safety Network,” offering an opportunity to defend 420-440 MHz against reallocation.

As President Craigie handed the award plaque to Rep Walden, she added, “Sen Goldwater was a statesman for Amateur Radio, and so are you.”



Club meeting minutes cont'd from page 2

of these potential future expenses.

Motion by Mike Harbin ,W7OVN , seconded by Ed Stinson, KC7UFZ to raise dues 50% to \$15.00 plus \$7.50 for each additional family member living at the same address beginning January 1st, 2015. Discussion and vote taken. Motion passed. No further business. Meeting adjourned.

Russ Nelson, W7DUR Sec..

The [FT4TA DXpedition](#) to Tromelin Island in the Indian Ocean is in its final stages of preparation, and in less than 1 month the six-man team will depart for the small French possession. Operation is scheduled to commence on October 30 and continue until November 10. The DXpedition is the recipient of an ARRL [Colvin Award](#) grant.

“I and about 10,000 of your ‘best friends’ will be tuned up and listening for you,” Warren Croke, NW4C, quipped on the [Tromelin2014](#) Facebook page. “Be safe and have fun.”

The FT4TA DXpedition said its operation is a chance to get Tromelin Island off the Top 10 most-wanted lists. Right now, it’s number 8 (mixed) on the ClubLog [DXCC Most Wanted List](#). Located some 280 miles east of Madagascar, Tromelin has not been activated on Amateur Radio since 2000, when a four-person team logged some 50,000 contacts using the somewhat unwieldy call sign of FR/F6KDF/T. No one has been authorized to operate from the island since. Tromelin Island is administered as part of the French Southern and Antarctic Lands (abbreviated in French as “TAAF”).

The DXpedition has announced plans to be active on 160 through 10 meters on CW, SSB, and RTTY. “Openings toward the USA and Japan are short,” the DXpedition has advised. “We will do our utmost to give this entity to worldwide deserving hams while openings last.”

The DXpedition has said that its operators will take into consideration information from their pilot stations regarding propagation and feedback from the Amateur Radio Community.

Operators are expected to concentrate on “the higher-volume bands,” but will give a second priority to the low bands. Logs will be updated daily to ClubLog via a satellite connection, but there will be no leader board. An as-yet-unreleased postage stamp commemorating the 60th anniversary of the first Tromelin Island Amateur Radio operation will be applied to all direct, OQRS, or donor-requested QSL cards.

In June, the FT4TA team shipped three boxes of gear to Réunion Island, and the DXpedition team members will fly between there and Tromelin.

“Our operators will make their best to exploit the propagation windows towards certain areas,” a pre-departure news release said, asking for the cooperation of everyone. “Let’s hope that our equipment and effort will provide good results.”

The FT4TA DXpedition also will be using [Twitter](#)



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 !

October 2014

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----|--|---|-----|--|
| | | | 1 UVARC net 7 PM 146.90 rpt | 2 | 3 | 4 Club breakfast 7 AM Denny's Roseburg |
| 5 ARES Dist. 5 net 3964 kHz, 5:30PM | 6 DC ARES net 7 PM 146.900 | 7 | 8 VE Test Session 6 PM DC courthouse RM 310 UVARC net 7 PM 146.90 rpt | 9 | 10 | 11 Club breakfast 7 AM Denny's Roseburg |
| 12 ARES Dist. 5 net 3964 kHz, 5:30PM | 13 DC ARES net 7 PM 146.900 | 14 | 15 UVARC net 7 PM 146.90 rpt | 16 Club Mtg 7PM D.C. courthouse Rm.310 | 17 | 18 Club breakfast 7 AM Denny's Roseburg |
| 19 ARES Dist. 5 net 3964 kHz, 5:30PM | 20 DC ARES net 7 PM 146.900 | 21 | 22 UVARC net 7 PM 146.90 rpt | 23 | 24 | 25 Club breakfast 7 AM Denny's Roseburg |
| 26 ARES Dist. 5 net 3964 kHz, 5:30PM | 27 DC ARES net 7 PM 146.900 | 28 | 29 UVARC net 7 PM 146.90 rpt | 30 | 31 | |

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.