



Watts Up

Monthly Newsletter of the Umpqua Valley Amateur Radio Club
May, 2023

New Hams, and Upgraded Licenses

The Umpqua Valley Amateur Radio Club meets monthly at The Way Church, 1352 East Central, Sutherlin.

UVARC.NET is the club website. Check the website for updated information about testing, meetings, events and radio nets. The website also lists local repeaters and frequencies.

VE Test May 6 @ 6 pm * at the Winston VFW Hall
Next Meeting May. 18 @ 7pm

Our newest Hams from our April tests:
No one took the April exams

Extra Exam Question of the Month

What is the National Radio Quiet Zone?

- A. An area in Puerto Rico surrounding the Arecibo Radio Telescope
- B. An area in New Mexico surrounding the White Sands Test Area
- C. An area surrounding the National Radio Astronomy Observatory
- D. An area in Florida surrounding Cape Canaveral

Correction

Stan Miller's correct callsign is KL7KUH. I reported it incorrectly in the last newsletter.

Answer at the end of the newsletter

Upcoming Ham Events

*Winston HamFest – May 6, 9am to 2pm. Winston VFW Hall

SeaPac – June 2-4. Seaside, OR Website: seapac.org - Registration is finally open.

7QP – The Area 7 QSO party – May 6, 6am to midnight. See below

STEAM at UCC – The science, technology, engineering, art and math exhibit at UCC – May 6

Club Meeting Minutes

Looking for the minutes of the last club meeting? Check our website, www.uvarc.net. Read the minutes and check for any errors or missing information. We will not read the minutes at the meeting, so bring corrections to the meeting and bring them up before the vote to approve the minutes.

Sea-Pac

Sea-Pac is the Northwest's largest Ham convention, and also the ARRL's Northwest division convention. SEA-Pac usually has lots of vendors, seminars, and special events. Go to their website www.seapac.org for more information. They now have much more information on their website

Area 7 QSO Party

I know it's a little early to think about the Area 7 QSO party, but I also found out it's the same weekend as the New England QSO party, which includes: CO, ME, MA NH, VT. Indiana and Delaware are also that weekend. If you are interested in participating in 7QP, you need to go to their webpage, 7qp.org and download the State and County abbreviation list. The exchange is the signal report (the usual 59) plus your state and county code (in our case: ORDOU). Even if you aren't big into contesting and don't plan to send in your results, it is a good way to start talking to people on the radio, and building up the list of states you have had contacts in.

STEAM

The STEAM event at UCC will be on May 6th (along with lots of other events, it seems). STEAM is designed to get young people interested in science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics. The Club will have a table set up. If you are interested in helping, contact Jim WN7COO.

Armed Forces Day Cross Band Test

This is an unusual radio exercise, in that the MARS radio stations involved will transmit on a MARS frequency and will monitor a Ham frequency for the response. Stations operate at specific times and frequencies. If you are interested, search "Armed Forces Day Cross Band Test". There are several links to get to the MARS webpage. You may have to go to one webpage and look for a link to the DoDMars link. Don't forget that all times listed are Zulu (UTC).

Field Day

Our annual Field Day is not far off (June 24th as a matter of fact). This year we will hold it at Sutherlin City Park. The park has a large pavilion with tables, and the community building has a wide covered porch area surrounding it. There are no tables at the community building. Trees in the park will provide shade as well as a possible location for supporting antennas. I suggest staying toward the back of the park away from Central Ave. A set of large powerlines might cause some radio noise if you set too near them. If you are looking for Sutherlin Park, it is the park with the big old Steam Locomotive parked next to the street.

If you don't know how to set up a Field radio, come on down and see how we do it. Also, you need to check with Dennis, the Club President - the radio at The Way Station might be available for use. We will also have our potluck dinner at The Way Church after Field Day.

I know. Field Day is a pretty popular event, all over North America. The bands are pretty crowded and any strong station has a bit pileup. But it's worth a try, anyway. With the 10- and 15-meter bands available to us this year with the better propagation, hopefully it will be better than last couple of years.

----->>>>>FCC RF Exposure Rules <<<<<-----

The RF Exposure rules go into effect May 3rd. While previously excluded, Hams are now required to calculate if they are creating an RF hazard for themselves or the public. An easy way to do the calculations is to use the ARRL's RF Exposure calculator, to see if you are in danger of violating the exposure rules. Go to: <http://www.arrl.org/rf-exposure-calculator> for an easy-to-use calculator. Once you do the calculations, you need to print out the worksheet and keep a copy in your records. If the worksheet shows you might have an exposure problem, you need to correct it. You need to do this for all of your antenna and radio combinations.

General Test Answer: C