



Watts Up

Monthly Newsletter of the Umpqua Valley Amateur Radio Club
Sept. 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 Sept 13 @ 6 pm

Next Meeting Sept. 21 @ 7pm

No testing was done in August

Extra Exam Question of the Month

G1E05

What are the restrictions on messages sent to a third party in a country with which there is a Third-Party Agreement?

- A. They must relate to emergencies or disaster relief
- B. They must be for other licensed amateurs
- C. They must relate to amateur radio, or remarks of a personal character, or messages relating to emergencies or disaster relief
- D. The message must be limited to no longer than 1 minute in duration and the name of the third party must be recorded in the station log

Answer at the end of the newsletter

Ice Cream Social

I have it in good authority that we had 21 people in attendance at the Ice Cream Social. I was hoping for a picture or two, but so far I haven't seen any.

>>>>>Club Positions Available<<<<<

1. VE Liaison for our Ham Radio testing, beginning Jan. 1, 2024. The person must be a VE and must have an Amateur Extra license.
2. Watts Up editor
3. Someone willing to promote and coordinate Club social and radio activities such as Field Days
4. Club officers, including President. Nominations for officers will be in October, with election in November.

Volunteers on the Air

On Sept. 9th, W7PEB will be operating as a W1AW/7 Volunteer on the Air for the ARRL. I will be operating on 15-Meters from 9 to 11am. Check DX Watch (dxwatch.com) or DX Summit (dxsummit.fi) for spot information and specific frequency. I won't know until startup time exactly what frequency I'll be on. I'll be somewhere between 21.275 MHz and 21.450 MHz. I will be in the General portion of the 15-meter band.

General Class

There will be a General class on Sept. 23rd, 30th, and Oct. 7th. The class will be held at the LDS church at 1864 Calkins in Roseburg. Call 541-315-2818 for more information. The VE test will be held on Oct. 11th at The Way Church in Sutherlin, so all the class information will be fresh in your memory.

Quarterwatt is also teaching a Morse Code class at the same location. His class is on Wednesday evenings at 6pm. Contact him at 541-580-4795.

Cycle 25 Progression

I watched one of Dr. Tamatha Skov's internet forecasts last week. The "official" prediction is that Cycle 25 will peak in 2025. Dr. Skov's feeling is that Cycle 25 will actually peak in 2024, but the peak may carry on into 2025. I keep checking the solarham.net website, and I noticed numerous strong solar flares this summer. The sunspot activity seems to have slowed down a little bit, but it's still active.

A New Antenna Launcher

I ran into a bit of a problem this summer with my air powered antenna launcher. Some jurisdictions might consider the air powered launcher a "Spud gun" and might object to it in public places. But for those of us who have high energy dogs, another solution exists! Do you own a "Chuck-It". A Chuck-It is a tennis ball thrower on an 18- or 24-inch arm. You can really throw a tennis ball out there and wear your Border Collie out without giving yourself a rotator cuff injury.

I took a tennis ball, cut a small slit in it, and added 4 to 5 ounces of bird shot. I made a loop out of machinists wire, so I could tie a piece of fishing line on it. I glued the slit shut with Super Glue. With the Chuck-It, I can get to ball 25 or 30 feet into the air, and over a tree limb. I then pull bailing twine or parachute cord back over the limb. The twine or parachute is used to pull up the antenna up into the tree. Don't have any tennis balls? Go down to the park, check around the tennis courts, there are often ones laying around on the ground.

Classified Ads

Got equipment you need to sell. (You know, so you can pay off that new Flex radio before your wife finds out how much it really costs)

Let me know, and I'll list your items in the newsletter: w7peb1@gmail.com

Icom 737 radio. This was Don Fulton's old radio. Seems to work well, it was the radio I used for field operations. 160-10 meters, 100 watts. Good condition. No manual, but the manual is still available for download or on Ebay. \$250. Paul Branchfield – w7peb1@gmail.com

General Test Answer: C