

# The OSCILLATOR

Volume 30 Issue 2  
FEBRUARY 2007

Oregon Tualatin Valley  
Amateur Radio Club

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club is a special service club related to ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio. We seek to advance the Amateur Radio Service through:

- ⇒ Education and Training of new and licensed amateurs
- ⇒ Public Service and Emergency communication
- ⇒ Hobby nets, contests and meetings
- ⇒ Social events

Membership is available to anyone interested in amateur radio. A license is not required.



## "BOB'S BARREL" Robert Crocker WN7O

February brings to the club a number of new opportunities and challenges. I assume everyone knows that the Morse code requirement for an advanced license has been dropped as of Feb. 23. Now our Technician Class Licensed members can upgrade to a General License or beyond. This will enable us, hopefully, to have more active members manning the radios on Field Day. Our VE testers are ready to help any member upgrade. Also, the DX contesters are ready to help train and put you on the air. Ron has done the club proud with the OTVARC Contest Group.

A problem has arisen in the Oregon Legislature that affects all of us using a mobile communication device while operating a motor vehicle. SB 0293, SB 0246, and HB 2482 each refer to the use of communication devices while driving. These bills titled "Relating to use of Mobile communications device while driving," do not reference mobile nor cell phones, just communications devices. You may wish to call your representative and voice your opinion regarding this issue. As written it could just as easily ban mobile radios operated by non-emergency personnel. If we do not object or comment, then we have, by default, given our approval.

SEA-DAC is coming up and we need to be thinking of how we can make our booth attractive, beneficial to the public, and interesting, as well as, supporting the convention. SEA-DAC is

See BARREL, page 3

## BRUTCHER ADVENTURE IN THE UK

Members of the York Amateur Radio Society were on the party wavelength when they celebrated their 60th anniversary. The club welcomed to their celebration for the first time two amateur radio operators from Portland, Oregon, with whom they have been communicating across the airwaves.

Keith Cass, honorary secretary, said: "We're all extremely proud of the fact that we've been representing the city of York in transmitting all over the world for 60 years.

"We've been in touch over the radio with Marti and Jack from America for a long time - it was lovely to have a buffet supper with them at the party."

- The PRESS, York, England UK  
Wednesday 24th January 2007

This article on the Internet sounded like it referred to someone we in OTVARC know. So, a quick email to Jack W7AAJ and Marti W7AYL Brutcher brought this reply:

Hello from York, England. Yes you are correct it was Jack and I that attended the 60th Anniversary of the York Radio Society in York.

We have been in York since 15 December and will be here until 6th of March visiting friends and extended family.

We have been "honorary members" of the York Radio Society for about  
See BRUTCHER Page 5

## CLUB MEETING WEDNESDAY, February 14th

OTVARC is affiliated with ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio and is a *Special Service Club*. We meet on the second Wednesday of each month, usually at **The Beaverton Elks' Lodge, 3500 SW 104th Ave, Beaverton.,** beginning at 7:00 pm.

Our program for February features **Ron Polluconi KJ7IY**. Ron will be telling us about the mission and purpose of Washington County Coordinated Communications Agency (WCCCA). Ron is an active member of our amateur radio service and serves on the Oregon Regional Relay Council (coordinating body for repeaters in Oregon). [We'll update SB 293 that threatens amateur radio at the meeting.](#)

Guests are welcome. The Elks' have discontinued their evening Buffet.

### [Happy February Birthday](#)

1	Mary Jo Mosby	KB7NJE
4	Ken Davenport	K7SIX
5	Janet Bell	WB7FJC
7	Edwin Elder	KE7DOL
8	Willis Ranes	N7DZR
9	Eric Kosko	WA7YSU
12	Larry Erickson	N7ZZZ
13	George Lottes	WG7U
15	Wayne Schuler	AI9Q
15	Alvin Carlson	KB7VHI
21	Sharon Coan	KA7NAN
24	Richard Booth	W7VPV
26	Roger Noyes	KA7RNN
27	Dale Mosby	K7FW
27	Alan Chinnock	KB7POR
28	Paul Lucas	WB6SHR

Updates and corrections to  
[w6abm@arrl.net](mailto:w6abm@arrl.net)

## FT-2800M TO GO FOR SCHOLARSHIP

The Chuck Mickley Memorial Scholarship is offered to a student who is a licensed amateur radio operator. The club sponsors this \$ 1,000.00 scholarship through its fund raising activities each year (Sea-Pac, drawings, etc.).

This year, you'll have a chance to put a new Yaesu FT-2800M to work if your number is selected. Tickets will be \$ 1.00 each and twelve for \$10.00. The drawing will take place at the conclusion of SEA-PAC '07 on Sunday, June 3rd in Seaside. You do not have to be present to win. This rig was donated by a member for this fund raiser.

Who will take this beauty home?



## VE EXAM SESSIONS

OTVARC sponsors monthly Amateur Radio License exam sessions. Sessions are at 1:00 pm. on the **first Saturday** of each Month. The Club offers exams at Ronler Acres Fire Station, 4455 NW 229th Ave, Hillsboro, across from Hillsboro Stadium. The June 2nd session will be held at SEA-PAC in Seaside.

Pre-register for exams by contacting Carl, WS7L, at ws7l@arrl.net or by phone at 503.629.5796.

Carl Clawson WS7L is our OTVARC VE team leader. Our thanks to Carl WS7L for his leadership.

Check the OTVARC Web [www.otvarc.org/ve](http://www.otvarc.org/ve) for more information. There are other exam opportunities in the area. Email to w7otv@arrl.net for locations and times.

See added story on Page 4.

## LUNCH BUNCH

Saturday Feb 24th  
1:30 pm

### Old Spaghetti Factory

715 S. W. Bancroft St.  
Portland, Or.  
503-222-5375

Take a ride on Portland's new Tram after lunch

For More Information  
call KC7YTD Linda  
503.246.8879

## TRAVELERS'

General information on Travelers' events may be obtained from Betty N7REX at [n7rex@teleport.com](mailto:n7rex@teleport.com) or by phone, 503.642.1284..

## 146.960 MHz Repeater By Shoutcast

The club's 146.960 MHz Repeater is heard via the Internet at [www.shoutcast.com](http://www.shoutcast.com). Search for W7OTV. The stream is up 24/7 at 48 kbps with a max of 32 listeners. Listening only, no transmit capability.

16 DEC06 to 16 JAN 07

Geographic location	Visitors	Play duration
United States	78	18:03:18
Germany	13	0:48:27
Canada	8	2:23:11
Poland	5	0:11:18
United Kingdom	5	0:06:35
Turkey	3	0:26:40
Italy	3	0:06:58
Australia	2	0:02:55
Netherlands	2	0:10:13
Japan	2	0:03:51
India	1	0:01:51
New Zealand	1	0:01:03
<b>Total</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>22:26:20</b>

73. Frank, [K2NCC@arrl.net](mailto:K2NCC@arrl.net)

**No. American QSO Party**

On Saturday, January 20th, the OTVARC Contest Group fired up W7OTV to participate in the North American QSO Party. This twelve-hour contest is a fast-moving event that maintains interest through the period of the contest. We opted to air a two transmitter operation using the O'Connor ham shack. We fielded eight operators and a couple of loggers.

Thanks to each and everyone who participated in the contest. We were very successful despite being at the bottom of the solar cycle and with the limitations of the current "antenna farm." That's one area we can and will improve.

We had less station to station interference this time. This helped our operation but propagation was tough. 15-meters was open for brief periods, 20-meters was usually the best but closed by dinner time. 40-meters is a tough band this time of year. We're pleased that 80-meters added many new multipliers late in the day.

The final result for W7OTV is:

- \* Contacts 161
- \* Multipliers 77
- \* Score 12,397 Points
- \* States 37
- \* Canadian Provinces 3

We had more than twice the contest points compared to our Fall 2006 effort. We had 51 more contacts, 5 more states and 24 more multipliers than last time!

Our next group event is the ARRL International DX Contest scheduled for March 3 - 4 2007. We have asked for W7OTV for this event as well.

Thanks go to Ron O'Connor for allowing the use of his home shack...and to Mary O'Connor for her hospitality and general support.



Ron KD7VIK And Steve KE7EIQ operate W7OTV in contest mode.

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**Barrel, from Page 1**

a club-sponsored event and we need to support it. Volunteers are the lifeblood of this event and we can all assist OTVARC's SEA-PAC Committee.

The Elks Lodge has decided to close their kitchen on weeknights. This leaves us without meals. If any member knows of a location that can accommodate a group of 60 plus members with meal service, please let me know.

See everyone February 14th.

73's

Robert/WN7O



**J. Steven Sanders**  
 Certified General Appraiser  
**Sanders Appraisal, PC**  
**503-320-4100**  
 sandersappraisal@comcast.net  
 Orenco Station, Hillsboro, OR 97124  
**Fax: 503-547-8200**



## VE EXAM SESSIONS

Our most recent session was on Saturday, Jan 6. With the FCC's announcement just before Christmas that the Morse Code requirement will soon become history, the floodgates have opened. Even though it is not yet possible to obtain a General or Extra class license without the code -- the rule changes have not yet gone into force -- we had nine applicants show up just to take their written exams for General and/or Extra.

Eight of these succeeded at the General exam and one went on to get credit for the Extra exam. In order to apply for their upgrades these folks will get to attend another VE session and pay another \$14.00 after the rule change.

In addition to these nine we awarded four new Technicians, three upgrades to General, and one to Extra. Adding in one unsuccessful Technician license attempt gives a total of 18 applicants served at this session. This is three times the normal amount and is the most we have seen in Hillsboro since the big rules change in 2000 when the code speed was dropped to 5 WPM for General and Extra.

The VE team will be busy in the coming months as the pent-up demand for codeless HF licenses surges through the system. We are up to the task. Our two teams of VEs processed this large group in just two hours. My thanks go to everyone involved.

Our examiners were Joel AD7IS (working his first VE session -- welcome to the team, Joel!), John KA7BRZ, Paul KC7PMU, Kevin KD5ONS, Claire N7CM, and Ernie K7EAJ. They formed two teams of three, and with each team we had a leader responsible for managing the work flow, filling out forms, and keeping the paperwork straight.

I took on one team, and I am very happy that Will N7THL agreed to manage the other team. I used this opportunity to train several of the other VEs on my system in hopes of expanding our ability to serve these larger groups -- and of occasionally missing a session myself. This will happen at our February session as I will be in Seattle that weekend, leaving Will N7THL in charge assisted by Everett W6ABM as the second team leader.

Well done, and thanks again to all.

73,  
Carl WS7L

## Morse Code Testing Eliminated Technicians Gain HF Privileges

As you've surely heard, the FCC has published new regulations eliminating the Morse Code test for all Amateur Radio license classes. **These rules will go into effect on Friday, February 23rd.** As of that date two major changes will occur:

- First, all Technician class licensees will have access to the HF frequencies formerly accessible to Technician Plus and Novice licensees;
- Second, applicants can upgrade to a General or Extra Class license without taking a Morse code test.

Many applicants, eager to get on track, have been taking their General and Extra class written exams ahead of the rule change. However, at this time the VEs cannot issue an upgrade for applicants who do not have code credit. We can only issue a certificate that carries credit for the written exam. The applicant holding this certificate will then have to attend another VE session (and pay another \$14.00) on or after February 23rd in order to receive the upgrade. So if you're thinking about the upgrade, why not wait until February 23rd? You'll save \$14.00 and a bit of your time. You'll also help your local VEs as well as the central VEC organizations to cope with the large influx of applicants that we expect over the next several months. Be sure to pre-register to be assured of a seat at the session.

Your OTVARC VE team is already operating at a higher level of effort in order to handle the demand and will continue to do so as long as the demand for exams is high. We are considering adding some mid-month sessions. These are not scheduled yet. We will announce them by OTVARC email bulletins and publish them at <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml>. You can contact me directly.

73, Carl WS7L  
ws7l@arrl.net  
503.629.5796



If your valentine's lips are dried out from the cold weather, why not give a useful gift on Feb 14th?

Some soothing lip balm would be greatly appreciated!

### OREGON TRAIL LIP BALM

Created by: Maureen O'Rourke KA7LAP  
mcorourke@netzero.com

Available at University of Oregon's Duck Shop in downtown Portland

## Emergency Communications Conference

The Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference, GAREC-07, will take place in Huntsville, Alabama on August 16-17, before the annual Huntsville Hamfest and ARRL National Convention. GAREC started as an initiative of IARU Region 1. The first meeting was held in Tampere, Finland - the "Capital of Emergency Telecommunications." In 2006 GAREC met in Tampere for a second time. The "global" expectations were not too high: All three IARU Regions were represented. Reviewing various proposals received for 2007 and 2008, the participants agreed to accept the offer from Region 2.

The agenda of GAREC-07 will focus mainly on the topics discussed in Tampere. GAREC is a forum for the exchange of information.

**YORK**, from Page 1

10 yrs or more and enjoy our visits here with them. The group meets EVERY Friday night but their meeting are not like the meetings of OTVARC. We also attend the Ripon Amateur Radio Club in Ripon, No. Yorkshire which meets on a Thursday evening. Amateur Radio is great in meeting people from all over.

All for now.

73,

Marti / W7AYL & Jack / W7AAJ

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## MICROHAMS DIGITAL CONFERENCE

### **NORTHWEST DIGITAL CONFERENCE SPONSORED BY MICROHAMS**

Saturday, February 24, 2007  
9:00 to 17:00+

Main Microsoft Corporate Campus  
Redmond, Washington

Lunch of Sub sandwiches Provided

\$10.00 covers the cost of the event and lunch

Space is limited - Register Immediately

This year's NWAPRS Winter Gathering will be hosted by the Microhams Radio Club and will be held on the Microsoft Campus in Redmond, WA. It was relocated closer to Seattle as a result of comments made after last year's Winter Gathering.

The agenda covers many different areas in digital communications, including a beginning APRS Presentation; 9600 APRS Network; Introduction to the D-Star system and demos; New Amateur Technology. In addition to the presentations, a demo area will be setup along side the conference space and door prizes donated by different manufactures will be given away. If you are willing to setup a demo on your favorite APRS or packet or any other digital station, please contact Mike Mraz - N6MZ. (n6mz@arrl.net)

Because of space limitations and parking requirements, we require pre-registration for the event. We are required to register all the vehicles that will be parked on the campus ahead of time. So in addition to registering for the event, we must collect some basic information about the vehicle which you'll be parking on the campus. No registration will be considered complete until all required data is provided.

The registration fee will be collected at the door when checking in. If you would like to pre-pay the registration fee, please indicate so when you send your registration e-mail for the event. Details will be provided at that time.

Please send the following information to  
registration@microhams.com

- Full Name and Call sign (if licensed)
- Make, model, color and year of vehicle
- License plate number and state issued

For information, please contact Ku7mradio@gmail.com.

## 12 MHz CW With 15,000 Watts

Those who were monitoring the KSM 12 MHz signal on Saturday, January 20th were hearing the historic Press Wireless PW-15 transmitter the Maritime Radio Historical Society (MRHS) has restored to operation. There's quite a bit of history attached to this transmitter.

Built in the 1940s, it was used during WWII by Press Wireless to transmit press reports across the Pacific and around the world. When Press Wireless was absorbed by Globe Wireless, the transmitter was installed at the Globe transmitter site in Palo Alto, CA. After the era of point to point press broadcasts ended, the PW-15 was used as a Morse code transmitter in the marine service for station KFS, talking to ships at sea.

Volunteers from the MRHS recovered the transmitter from the Palo Alto site and installed it (along with another PW-15) at the transmitter site for ex-RCA coast station KPH in Bolinas, CA. It was restored to full operation as the 12.993 MHz transmitter for KSM, the station operated by the MRHS. It is believed to be the only PW-15 transmitter still in operation.

In the YouTube video you will see Steve Hawes [WB6UZX], Senior MRHS Transmitter Engineer, bring the big transmitter to life. Watch as he confirms the frequency of transmission, turns on the primary power, engages the high voltage power supply and sends a test transmission. A cameo appearance is made by our very own QSL Mistress, Ms. Denice Stoops. See the video at:

<<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uaiwKJgS-Q4>>

At YouTube you'll be able to subscribe to our "channel" for future videos.

The primary thing we're interested in is to find out whether you enjoy videos like this showing our operations. Please let me know via return email or by commenting on the video at YouTube.

Enjoy,

Richard W6AWO

[Richard Dillman W6AWO is Chief Operator of the Maritime Radio Historical Society. Our own Phil Kane K2ASP is the local historical source. The Maritime Radio Historical Society (MRHS) is a small group of dedicated volunteers who continue efforts to preserve our maritime radio heritage. Their special area of interest is the coast stations, ships and communications companies of the Pacific coast of the United States. Keep track of their efforts at <http://www.radiomarine.org> ]

How would you like to run a 60+ year old 15 KW HF CW transmitter from your station? Not exactly Ham Radio but all the "usual suspects" including myself are hams. The station operates on the ham bands as K6KSM too, but with greatly reduced power (we claim....).

Finally, the lady who appears in the video is Denice Stoops, KI6BBR, who broke the "old boy" gender barrier as the first female marine coast station operator ever to be hired several decades ago - and I was the examiner who gave her the 20 wpm code test for her Radiotelegraph Operator license! She was hired by RCA Radiomarine.

73 de K2ASP

Phil Kane

## SUCCESSFUL DEMO STATION PROJECT

The Castle Rock Repeater Group and a chapter of QCWA took amateur radio to school in Denver. In January, K1D was activated at the Archuleta Elementary School to introduce ham radio to its kids. Students ranging from Preschool to the Fifth grade were afforded the opportunity to make two-way radio contacts with individual stations around the world. Held over a two-day period from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, advance publicity about the demonstration station resulted in significant media coverage of amateur radio.

The students recorded their radio contacts on a large map. As the contacts were made and logged, the children found the location and placed a pin in the map, which was later presented to the school. It is hoped that the map will be reused for future events and pins will be continued to be added. A "special event" QSL card will be sent to all Ham radio operators making contact with the school. QSL cards received will be given to the school.

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## Highway Changes for Rickreall

Those traveling to Rickreall for the February 17th Hamfair, sponsored by the Salem Radio Club, may use I-5 southbound and at Salem should take Exit 260A as before. Follow the Salem Parkway to the Marion Street Bridge and Highway 22 West.

From there, watch for the changes of access to 99W southbound. There are no signs on Highway 22 that say "Rickreall." There is one saying "Polk County Fairgrounds Next Right."

Get in the right hand lane and take Exit 16 which is marked for Highway 99W: McMinnville and Monmouth. Stay in the right lane. It will loop around and put you southbound on the 99W overpass that crosses Highway 22 and takes you straight into Rickreall.

[Thanks to Bob KU7N for the heads up on highway changes. See you in Rickreall!]

## "Early" Early-Bird Registration for ~~SEA-PAC~~

The ~~SEA-PAC~~ Committee has a new wrinkle in registration options for the June 1-3, 2007 session of ~~SEA-PAC~~. If you register online at [www.seapac.org](http://www.seapac.org) before Saturday, February 17th, you will be added into a special drawing at the Northwestern Division Convention this year. This is an addition to the usual "Early Bird" Registration award. You do not need to be present at the drawing to win.

This is still "the best deal in ham radio conventions" by far. More than two thousand participants enjoy flea market tables, commercial exhibitors, workshops, and "eye-ball" QSOs over June 1-3. Registration remains \$8.00 per person.

Al W7SIC, Will N7THL, and Wayne AI9Q serve as ~~SEA-PAC~~ Committee Chairs and act on behalf of OTVARC and The Northwestern Division, ARRL.

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Web: [www.dcpwr.com](http://www.dcpwr.com)

## HAMFESTS & CONVENTIONS

### 17 February 2007

#### Salem Hamfair - Rickreall

Salem Repeater Association  
[www.qsl.net/w7sra/](http://www.qsl.net/w7sra/)  
Talk-In: 146.86; 186.2  
Denis Miller, WC7M  
4802 Carriage Ct. NE  
Salem, OR 97301  
503-507-6523  
[wc7m@arrl.net](mailto:wc7m@arrl.net)

### 10 March 2007

#### Electronics Fleamarket

Mike & Key ARC  
[www.mikeandkey.org/flea.htm](http://www.mikeandkey.org/flea.htm)  
Talk-In: 146.82/22 (PL 103.5)  
Michael Dinkelman, N7WA  
22222 148th Avenue SE  
Kent, WA 98042  
425-867-4797  
[mwdink@eskimo.com](mailto:mwdink@eskimo.com)

### 27 - 29 April 2007

#### International DX Convention

Northern California DX Club  
[www.dxconvention.org](http://www.dxconvention.org)  
John Eisenberg, K6YP  
25 Parsons Way  
Los Altos, CA 94022  
650-941-7426  
650-941-7426  
[k6yp@arrl.net](mailto:k6yp@arrl.net)

### 1 - 3 June 2007

#### ~~SEA-PAC~~

#### Northwestern Division Convention

Oregon Tualatin Valley ARC  
[www.seapac.org](http://www.seapac.org)  
Talk-In: 146.660  
C. Wayne Schuler, AI9Q  
16414 NE 21st Avenue  
Vancouver, WA 98684  
Phone: 360-892-5580  
Fax: 360-892-5580  
Email: [ai9q@arrl.net](mailto:ai9q@arrl.net)

**CLUB MEETING  
FEBRUARY 14TH**



**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

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223.94 MHz (Goat Mtn)  
440.250 MHz (Goat Mtn)  
440.350 MHz (127.3 KGON Tower)  
Editor: Everett W6ABM w6abm@arrl.net

**OREGON TUALATIN VALLEY  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
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Hillsboro OR 97124-6258**



**www.seapac.org**  
**NORTHWESTERN DIVISION ARRL CONVENTION**  
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**June 1, 2 & 3, 2007**

## **"Ham Radio . . . Getting The Message Through For Your Family and Community"**

"As we begin launching the 2007 emergency communications campaign, the friendships and good will developed in "Hello" will aid in future promotions of Amateur Radio," Allen Pitts W1AGP said. "For 100 years, radio in its many forms has saved lives and aided in crises. We have a great legacy and a bright future." A new brochure and website will carry this message: [www.emergency-radio.org](http://www.emergency-radio.org). Both the brochure and the "Ham Radio . . . Getting the message through" Web site note: "Amateur Radio . . . has consistently been the most reliable means of communication in emergencies when other systems failed or were overloaded." The campaign stresses that ham radio works and works well and it doesn't require any external infrastructure, such as telephone lines or even the Internet, to get the message through. The Web site provides page space for emergency communication and disaster relief organizations to tell about their work. "So far, SKYWARN, MARS, SATERN and RACES have taken advantage of our offer, showing the versatility of ham radio in disasters and emergencies," Pitts says, "and more are expected." One page on the Web site and in the brochure cite examples of the varied emergency communication role of Amateur Radio. It supports National Weather Service forecasters through SKYWARN, and it helps relief agencies communicate in the wake of hurricanes and tornadoes -- such as the devastating 2005 hurricane season and the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

The campaign emphasizes, ham radio is fun and a good way to keep in touch with friends or family. "You can have this capability for yourself and your family," the campaign points out, inviting members of the general public to get an Amateur Radio license and become active in emergency communication through the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) or other organization. A "How to Get Started" tab on the Web site offers step-by-step instructions.