

# The OSCILLATOR

Volume 30 Issue 4  
APRIL 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

The recent landslide event on the Sunset Highway further illustrates the need to have your radios ready and a good emergency pack in your automobile. I was monitoring the 146.960 repeater that morning while on my way to Hillsboro via 26. I used the Sylvan onramp and noticed no westbound traffic. This was at 0930 right after the landslide occurred. It was not until I reached the 185th exit that someone on 146.960 announced that the traffic was halted westbound on 26. This could have been the start of a large-scale emergency situation. We need to always be prepared and have a radio handy.

Remember, we will be meeting at the Hillsboro Elks' Lodge at Orenco, Wednesday, 11 April 2007. This will be our opportunity to evaluate this new facility. If it meets our membership needs, it will be our new home. Your comments will be welcomed and requested. I would like to hear from everyone who attends as to what you like and don't like. This facility may be far for some and closer for others. We need your feedback.

Both *Sea-Dac* and Field Day are approaching. Get your tickets as soon as possible so that the *Sea-Dac* Committee can plan accordingly. Our Field Day location has not been finalized and that has to occur before all the other activities can be organized. Does anyone have a suggestion? J.D. has been in

SEE BARREL, Page 3

## GENERAL CLASS UPGRADE SERIES

The club is offering classes to help Technician Class licensees prepare to pass the upgrade exam to move to General Class. The classes will take place with live presenters on Saturdays April 28 and May 5 and Thursday, May 3. Saturday sessions will begin at 9:00 am and the Thursday session will be held from 6:30 - 9:30 pm.

### GENERAL CLASS LICENSE UPGRADE SERIES

April 28 - 9:00 - 1:00 pm  
May 3 - 6:30 - 9:30 pm  
May 5 - 9:00 am - 12 Noon  
Exam: May 5 at 1:00 pm

Ronler Acres Fire Station  
Community Room  
4455 NW 229th  
Hillsboro

[www.otvarc.org/Classes](http://www.otvarc.org/Classes)

RSVP at [otvarc@gmail.com](mailto:otvarc@gmail.com) if you intend to take this class! We have twenty places available for these sessions. Purchase and read the Gordon West General Class book prior to the first session.

More information? Talk with Everett/W6ABM.

## CLUB MEETING

WEDNESDAY, April 11th

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. Our April 11th meeting will be held at **The Hillsboro Elks' Lodge, 21865 NW Quatama Rd, Hillsboro**, beginning at 7:00 pm.

**Ken Wilhelmi N7QQU** will present a program on planning for a **D-STAR** system to serve ARES and amateur radio in Washington County.

**The Hillsboro Elks' have food available if you'd like to come at 6:00 pm and. Eat off their buffet or menu.**

### Happy April Birthday

4	Kenneth Moore	W7GU
6	Richard Christie	WA6TVX
10	Jame Gorecki	AJ2K
12	Mel Sutton	KB7PVW
16	Ron Remsen	W7YOW
16	Eric Patterson	KB7VFR
18	Wes Allen	K7WWG
19	Darlene Young	KD7FUZ
21	Rick Rasch	K7VLS
24	Ernest Johnson	K7EAJ
25	J. Michael Fuller	K7CIE
26	Sally Butterfield	N7WAL
27	Jeff Repp	KD7EFM

Have we missed your birthday?  
Likely we do not have your correct date in our database.

Send updates and corrections to  
[otvarc@gmail.com](mailto:otvarc@gmail.com)

## People Behind the “DX”

A contest contact, unlike “rag chewing” does not provide time to get to know much about the people making the contact. Many times we exchange call signs and signal reports with multi-op, multi-transmitter operations devoted solely to contesting, or as with our recent W7OTV operations, with clubs and operators out to have some fun.

Fortunately there is a way to learn about the person or group behind the contact using the popular QRZ.com website. Not all stations post biographical or other information, but many do. During the recent ARRL International DX contest, W7OTV operators made a total of 95 DX contacts. Here are a few of the people behind these successful contacts:

- HI3C; Constantino Carlo Pichardo, (Dominican Republic) began in the Radio Amateur world in 1977 when he was 13-years old with a license for 11-meter operation. SEE PEOPLE, Page 4

## SCHOLARSHIP DRAWING



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 *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?

## 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 FEBRUARY 2007—16 MARCH 2007

Location	Visitors	Play duration
United States	53	1d 11:20:01
Germany	7	0:23:21
Sweden	5	0:58:40
Switzerland	5	3:57:59
Canada	3	0:06:36
Trinidad and Tobago	1	0:01:56
Romania	1	0:01:44
Mexico	1	0:02:29
France	1	0:01:02
Netherlands	1	0:10:08
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>1d 17:03:56</b>

73. Frank, K2NCC@arrl.net

## LUNCH BUNCH

Saturday April 28th  
1:30 pm

### Costa Vida Fresh Mexican Grill

22277 NW Imbrie Dr.  
Hillsboro  
503.615.6868

Map at [tinyurl.com/2edl5t](http://tinyurl.com/2edl5t)

Lunch with Members - Just across the street from Ronler Acres Fire Station where we are holding the General Class Upgrade sessions.

Everyone welcome!

For More Information  
call KC7YTD Linda  
503.246.8879

## MARCH 3RD VE SESSION

The surge of new applicants continues but does not appear to be growing. Indeed, we had somewhat fewer applicants on March 3rd – 29 as compared to 34 in February. We had 8 “drive-by” applicants who just needed to have their CSCEs reviewed and applications issued, and 21 applicants who took exams. This was just enough that we could seat everyone at once. (The 8 drive-bys were processed out in the lobby.) Only one applicant failed, which is very good for a session this size. Overall we issued applications for 3 Technician Class, 18 General Class and 7 Extra Class licenses.

Thanks to all the volunteer examiners at this session. Special thanks go to VEs Will N7THL for leading the second VE team and Paul KC7PMU for leading the drive-by team and not even really complaining when I shanghaied him for the job. The other VEs were Dennis AC7UY, Ernie K7EAJ, Claire N7CM, Jerry NB7PX, and Joel AD7IS.

The ARRL VEC is doing a fine job keeping up, having added temporary staff and increased work hours to keep up with the demand. They are running about a week of backlog, which meant that for the session on March 3rd they received the session package from me on Wednesday March 7th and issued licenses on Wednesday March 14th. Those of you who remember the big surge when they dropped the code speed to 5 WPM will agree that this is much better than the many weeks of delay we saw back then. Nationwide, there are about twice as many exam sessions being offered as before. I don't have figures on the number of applicants but based on our experience here I imagine it is four or five times the normal amount.

The OTVARC team will continue holding sessions monthly. I had considered adding mid-month sessions but it does not look like we'll need to do that. I'll continue staffing sessions with two separate VE teams until the activity drops back down closer to normal. →

### Barrel, from Page 1

discussion with a new State Park. He is not sure if it will be opened in time. Therefore, we need an alternate site to plan around. Contact Ron O'Connor or myself with any suggestions. Lets make this a great Field Day.

See you on the 11th.

Robert Crocker  
WN7O

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Also, if any of you newly-minted extra class hams want to give something back to ham radio, we always welcome new VEs to our team. Simply review the VE manual and fill out the application. You can find instructions at <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/become-a-ve.html>.

Our next session is Saturday April 7. Until then 73 and enjoy your new privileges!

Carl WS7L

Exam Sessions are a service of our club to the amateur radio and general communities. We thank Carl WS7L, Will N7THL, and our volunteer team for their fine service.



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



**PEOPLE, from Page 2**

He obtained his first call sign, (HI3NIB) in 1995. An upgrade in 1997 set the stage for the beginnings of a contest station located on "The Hill of the Bull", (Loma Del Toro) at a height of 1,084 meters.

At the present time the contest station on "The Hill of the Bull" has been completed including multiple antennas on all bands. The station is equipped with three FT1000MP's; one FT857 from Yaesu and an Icom 706MKII G. Amplifiers include; Yaesu FL700, Drake L4B and a Kenwood TL922.

- 6HIL; Luis Chartarifsky, home call XE1L (Mexico City) operates this station as a special commemorative call. Granted by the Mexican FCC, "COFETAL" to be used during 2007 to celebrate the 75 years of the Mexican Radio Relay League "Liga Mexicana de Radioexperimentadores" (LMRE), now the Federacion Mexicana de Radioexperimentadores, (FMRE) which was founded in 1932.

- KH6BZF; Lee R. Wical, (Hawaii) also known as "KH6 Bloomin' Zipper Flipper" is located in the Honolulu bedroom community of Kane'ohe, which translates as "Man of the Tall Bamboo". He has been involved in Radio/Telecommunications as a profession since 1954 and has been a Ham Radio operator for 50-years.

Lee's activities in Ham Radio include in part; Charter Life member of ARRL, Life Member QCWA, VP/Director Battleship Missouri A.R.C. (KH6BB), ARRL WAS and 5BWAS award field checker, Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Merit Badge Counselor/Advisor, ARRL DXCC field checker, Chief Amateur Radio Volunteer Examiner (CVE) as well as a FCC Commercial Radio Examiner for all FCC Commercial Radio Examinations.

Lee is also proud to be a 20+WPM Amateur Extra Class operator and says; "Remember, I will Contest for food !!!!!"

- 8J3YAGI; Dr. Yagi Memorial Station (Osaka, Japan) is operated by the Osaka University Amateur Radio Club (JA3YKC) under the sponsorship of Osaka University to commemorate ; The 120th anniversary of the birth of Hidetsugu Yagi in Osaka, the 30th anniversary of his death, and the 80th anniversary of his patent on the YAGI antenna invented at Tohoku Imperial University.

Finally, my personal favorite from the contest:

**Program for April 11th****ARES D-STAR INTEREST GROUP**

Plans are being developed for the creation of a D-STAR system in Washington County. Washington County ARES (you're a member, right?) is conducting tests to develop information that will determine where various installations will be completed. Funding for this project is through Washington County ARES in cooperation with the Washington County Sheriff. These are Homeland Security funds and are available because amateur radio promise to be available "when all else fails."

Ken Wilhelmi N7QQU will be introducing us to the planning process and survey work underway. His presentation will bring us all up to speed with respect to D-STAR and its contribution to amateur radio. See you at our meeting, April 11th at 7:00 pm at Hillsboro Elks'.

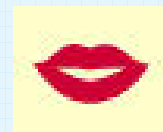
- VP8KF; John Wright, (Falkland Islands – British South Atlantic) normally resides in Wantage, Oxfordshire UK but was first licensed in the Falkland islands June 1968 through May 1974. He has returned for Dxpeditons several time, including; January/April 1984, January 2004 and January/February 2005. His most recent trip, from February 28th to March 20th 2007 put him on the air in the ARRL DX phone and RSGB (CW) Commonwealth contests.

John was running 200 watts when successfully contacted by W7OTV, using 100 watts from a dipole antenna.

I hope you've enjoyed learning a little bit about the "people behind the DX" as much as I have.

73' and Good Dxing.

Ron O'Connor KD7VIK



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**73. Frank K2NCC**

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**OTVARC ADDRESS:**

**880 NE 25th Ave Ste 2-160  
Hillsboro OR 97124-6258**

Most public safety communications systems are designed to perform in emergencies at any time of day or night. These systems generally fulfill the demands placed on them by normal conditions or small emergencies and operate within their system design. It is when these systems are expected to perform beyond their design that volunteer communications are considered as an alternate means of communicating.

In Part 97.1, the Federal Communication Commissions (FCC) rules and regulations are designed to provide an amateur radio service having a fundamental purpose as expressed in the following:

*(a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.*

This is an essential element of the "public interest, convenience or necessity" doctrine embodied in the Communications Act of 1934. With this in mind, the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL) makes emergency communications an objective for its Field Organization, using Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) as its vehicle for accomplishing this task.

Part 97.407 of the FCC rules provides for RACES, Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services. RACES is a special phase of amateur radio recognized by FEMA, that provides radio communications for civil preparedness purposes only, for local, regional or national civil emergencies. These types of emergencies are not limited to war time activity, but can include natural disasters such as fires, floods and earthquakes.

The Oregon State Office of Emergency Management Amateur Radio Unit is part of the Emergency Services System and consists of both FCC licensed Amateur Radio operators and interested volunteers. All unit members are registered with the Department's Citizens Volunteer Program, and processed with a background check, are finger printed, and issued a state identification card. All unit members are provided a unit handbook, and training on equipment and facilities located at the Anderson Readiness Center in Salem. Vince VanDerHyde K7VV, serves as Amateur Radio Unit Coordinator.

This Amateur Radio Unit is activated by OEM Staff to provide statewide backup and/or alternate

See W7OTV, Page 6

## SEA-PAC SPECIAL EVENT STATION

### *SEA-PAC* SPECIAL EVENT STATION

With this being the 25th Anniversary for *SEA-PAC* Amateur Radio Ham Convention, the proposal was made and approved by the *SEA-PAC* Committee Co-Chairmen to have an HF Station consisting of either one or possibly two stations to be on the air during Saturday and Sunday June 2nd and 3rd of 2007.

K9JF, Jim Fenstermaker, the Northwestern Division Director for ARRL has petitioned the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) and has received the approval for the use of W1AW/7 for our special event station. Operating frequency to be determined at a later date.

Make sure you get on the air and work this station and receive a QSL card later in the mail.

The following Amateur Radio Clubs take part in sponsoring the operations of *SEA-PAC* Ham Convention at Seaside Oregon:

Oregon Tualatin Valley ARC  
Clark County ARC  
Hoodview ARC  
Sunset Empire ARC

They all thank you for your continued support of this event.

*Sea-Pac* News Release

**Your 2007 Club Roster is available for use at:**

<http://tinyurl.com/296rdb>

This URL takes you to a spread sheet with roster information. It will be kept current. Your role in the freshness of the information is to notify the club when something changes.

Thanks to those who verified information for the roster.

## W7OEM, from Page 5

communications during times of emergency - when other methods or modes are overloaded or disrupted. This Unit will utilize HF, VHF, UHF, and Digital Modes to provide communications between county and state emergency management offices, and to border States, as required. The unit's Amateur Radio call sign is W7OEM.

In Oregon, the Department of State Police, Oregon Emergency Management (OEM) Division concurs with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) in advocating dual registration in both the Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) organization and the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES) organization. When operating under a RACES activation, operators are limited to specific frequencies and may only communicate with other RACES organizations. By combining ARES and RACES (under local and state registration) roles may be switched to meet the requirements of the situation as it develops.

From The Oregon Emergency Management Web

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**THAI HAMS GET CONTEST ONLY PRIVILEGES**

E21EIC (and others) report that the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand has received authorization from that nation's telecommunications regulator for Thai operators to operate on 80 and 160 meters during 2007 contest periods. During those periods Thai operators may operate their stations on CW and SSB from 1.800 to 1.825 MHz and 3.500 to 3.536 MHz. Split operation has also been authorized.

Stations in Thailand currently can only operate on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters. They are barred from 30, 17, 12 and 6 meters. Activity on the WARC bands and 6 meters is sometimes granted with special permission.

(From OPDX)

**NOISE REPORTS ON 146.96 REPEATER**

There was a report of problems with the Goat Mountain repeater at the March club meeting. Its important that Wes Allen be made aware of issues as soon as possible.

There is an issue which has not yet been figured out. It sounds like extremely weak signals trying to access the repeater. It doesn't happen in the morning but tends shows up later in the day.

Phil Kane pointed out that the repeater ID always comes through loud and clear.

Due to snow on the mountain, it's not possible to get up to the site immediately. Fortunately the club owns spare repeater equipment, so if any equipment swap-out that may be required is already on-hand.

Wes reports that there is still a need to resolve the antenna issue with respect to vertical alignment.

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**HAMFESTS & CONVENTIONS**

**27 - 29 April 2007**

**International DX Convention**

Northern California DX Club  
www.dxconvention.org  
John Eisenberg, K6YP  
25 Parsons Way  
Los Altos, CA 94022  
650-941-7426  
650-941-7426  
k6yp@arrl.net

**1 - 3 June 2007**

**SEA-PAC****Northwestern Division Convention**

Oregon Tualatin Valley ARC  
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

**Registration for SEA-PAC '07**

The 25th edition of *SEA-PAC* will take place June 1-3, 2007 in Seaside, Oregon. *SEA-PAC* is the ARRL Northwestern Division Convention. Register online at [www.seapac.org](http://www.seapac.org) before Tuesday, May 15th and you will be added to the "Early Bird" drawing.

*SEA-PAC* is "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 in advance, \$10.00 at the door for the full two-day convention. A special Friday afternoon Antenna Workshop is also available when you register for \$15.00 in advance and \$18.00 at the door on a space-available basis.

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

**CLUB MEETING  
APRIL 11TH**



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Web: WWW.OTVARC.ORG  
w7otv@arrl.net  
Simplex: 147.54 MHz  
Repeaters: 146.96 MHz (Goat Mtn)  
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  
880 NE 25th Ave. Ste 2-160  
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[www.seapac.org](http://www.seapac.org)  
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