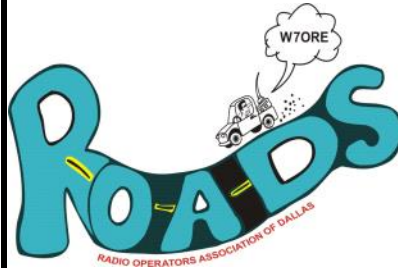


The ROAD Report

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RADIO OPERATORS ASSOCIATION of DALLAS OREGON

The Prez Sez by Jack Schult



I often wonder who reads the words I write each month. That feeling seems so familiar as if lodged somewhere deep in the past. After an excessive amount of thought on the subject I think I stumbled on multiple reasons beyond curiosity.

For those of us old enough to remember it starts with talking on the telephone, while engaged in a conversation of a personal nature a sound is heard, maybe a cough,

breath, or click. The realization is that someone on the party line now knows more than you wanted to share. Back in the day for some, the crank telephones were the center of entertainment. Two long and one short ring announced the call was for the Jones household, five or more other subscriber's phones rang at the same time. When you used the phone you never knew who was listening to your words. You accepted that fact when you used the system.

I guess writing in a publication that has world-wide accessibility is much like the party line of yesterday or perhaps even more like the hobby that we all enjoy today. When we are on the air you really don't know who is receiving your message.

The Oregon Trail net (28.803 Sunday mornings) has expanded the knowledge boundaries for some operators. Checking in mostly pre-net on CW has given some in the group a reason to give it a try beyond the additional points earned. K7QXG, KX5W and K7CIE's talent in this

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area has proven valuable is assisting Net Control Operators that lacked the skill. It gets boring doing the same thing over and over, this added a bit of excitement. For anyone interested in learning code ARRL has a great training program with on the air code practice at various speeds. Starting in March the pre-net check in will include AM. This is a good time to brush up on your AM theory. It also gives a better understanding of SSB. It's hard for some old-timers to grasp the fact that newer licensed hams never were exposed to this mode and that SSB is actually Amplitude Modulated.

Ham Fair at Rickreall February 14th Contact N7WWH if you would like the club to sell any of your treasures.

Our March meeting will feature the Red Cross doing their program on Disaster Preparedness. This is an excellent program that everyone on the west coast should attend. For this meeting we want to encourage our wives/significant others/kids to attend. In a time of a major disaster our family lives can de-

pend on our collective knowledge. This program will help us understand what happens in a disaster and will provide us the tools/knowledge that will enable us to survive until help arrives.

Be kind to each other.

-30-

Here n' There By Bob Peschka, K7QXG



One Switch Does It All

This small switch, with the softly glowing green light, is now the master control switch that allows me to choose between the two amps directly above it.

It connects to a larger box filled with a long row of relays, many connectors for multi coax cables and a small power supply.

So how does it perform? Just as it

Here ' There

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was designed to do. Everything that is labeled #1 refers to the Ameritron amp, while #2 labels refer to the Tokyo HyPower. The Tokyo HP was used in a recent RTTY contest and performed beautifully! It was very easy to switch between 20, 15 and 10 meters and not need to make tuning tweaks as would have been necessary with the Ameritron 811HD. I now use the Ameritron for 20 and 15 meter CW with limited operations on SSB. I rarely use an amp on 10 meters.

Monday Coffee... The group that gathers each Monday at the Washington Street Steak House has been very consistent lately and averages 7 to 8 members. Topics vary widely and everyone is welcome.

Oregon Trail Chapter of 10-10 The Sunday net remains popular and there have been some great out-of-area checkins. One regular is **KA9PCU**, Larry, who runs the Santa Fe Trail Chapter. Stations that checkin with CW (call only) are receiving 5 points.... Which aren't worth anything, but it does add a new twist to the net operation and makes it interesting. This feature of the net will end on March 1st.

January Meeting...

Another interesting program by

W7RIS, Mike, about antenna analyzers. The most spectacular analyzer was the Fox Delta that provided a real time graphic on the lap top computer. This analyzer comes in kit form, must be ordered online, and costs \$54 plus postage, but it is most impressive. Mike replaced four 10% resistors with 1/2% resistors. I have looked over the information and parts displayed on the web site and this would be a great building project for a rainy winter evening. However, be forewarned...this analyzer only provides SWR information. It does not provide other antenna info like the MFJ 259 or MFJ 269.

Coming Attractions...

Of course there is the big hamfest at the fair grounds on Feb. 14th – Valentine's Day! Maybe she/he will buy you a new rig or new amp. Of course, ROADS will again provide VE testing in the 4H building. The VEs will need to scramble to find any bargains since they begin work before the hamfest doors open and are still finishing tests at 11:00 AM.

Field Day Discussions...

At our next meeting we will begin serious discussions about Field Day. We need everyone's support, and especially on take down Sunday. We always have enough members to set things up, but we are lacking sufficient numbers to

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Here n' There

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make the take down go smoothly.

W7RIS needs a March program

Mike has been providing us with a solid diet of programs for our meetings, but he will not be here for the March meeting and needs someone to put on a show and tell program. Don't everyone jump up and say, "I'll do it".

Backyard DX by Bob Peschka, K7QXG



January started out rather poorly with spotty band conditions and weak signals. Even so, there were two expeditions on the air during the opening days of the month and they generated serious pile ups – perhaps indicating what was to follow later when two highly sought expeditions would take to the air.

Stations worked, among others, were 9V1, YC8, KH8, XR0YJ, TX5W, C91RF, C5X, 3D2KM, JW9JKA, CT8,

3Z85, 9H1XT.

Announced DXpeditions WoW!!! Look at what is coming!!!

Feb 2 – Feb 13, **Navassa Island, K1N.**

Feb 5 – 25 **Laos, XW8BM**

Feb 16 – 23 **Cocos Island, TI9/3Z9DX** 2 stations

Feb into March CE0Z, FP, 9Q0, and VP2M

April 1 – 30 **Spratly Island, DX0P,** big team!

October: **Chesterfield Island, TX3X.**

November: **Heard Island, VK0EK**

December: **Bouvet, 3Y0F,** big team.

And in 2016, look at this....

Jan – Feb **South Georgia and South Sandwich!!!** Big team, multi stations.

Jan to April one man on **Bouvet**

March **Palestine !**

Now, is that enough to keep you busy?

DX Hunters Society Standings 300 or more:

K7AA	369
K7QXG	335
KX5W	333

250 - 299:

KE7JNT 297
 K7CIE 293
 W7LOU 278
 W7HO 261

200 - 249:

N7WWH 215

Associates

AE7OA 156
 KF7SEY 103
 W7RIS 98
 KW7DSP 66
 W7SCT 39

Surprise....!

KE7JNT got a surprise call on 10 SSB from a **9J2**. John has been trying for that country for a long time.

EP6T...The Chase....

Here in NW Oregon we don't get the opportunities to work some of the rare DX that seems to be an easy capture for the East Coast and Midwest stations.

Real Reason Why You Can't Work Them... Take the time to go to QRZ.com and look up the following calls: K6XT, AA7A, and W7UT. I heard these three on 80 CW calling the EP6T, but once I saw what they were using for antennas, or their

Honor Roll standings, I knew why I can never compete with them. One of them has a 150 foot tower with three KT36A beams stacked at different levels. Another a 135 ft tower. They all have worked all DXCC entities on SSB and Mixed, and lack just P5 on CW for all on CW! Makes me feel like finding another hobby. I also notice they like to brag more than just a little in their QRZ bio.

For **W7SCT**, take a look on QRZ at **N7XM**. He has some great photos of his station that includes the Viking Valiant, NC-300, and Globe Scout. His 105 foot tower with 2 element 40 meter monobander isn't shabby either!

EP6T Boondoggle...

It's over; they are gone; we are not happy! Rarely were they heard here in the Northwest. Nearly all postings indicated they hung out continuously on 40 and 30 meters, and worked Europe again and again on those bands. I noted a post by a DL5 that he had 15 contacts with them! Greedy, greedy, greedy. Nuff said about this flop.

The Guano Act Of 1856

Why aren't there DXpeditions going to Howland, Baker, Johnston Atoll, Jarvis, Palmyra, Midway and Kingman Reef Islands? It is because they are all protected National Wildlife Refuges administered by the U.S.F.W.S. So, what is the history behind their current status?

The Guano Act was enacted by the US Government in 1856 to authorize Americans to take “peaceable possession” of uninhabited, unclaimed islands for the purpose of mining guano. The bird poop (guano) is an excellent fertilizer and the droppings had been accumulating for thousands of years. The mining was short lived and the islands eventually became wildlife refuges. It took a huge effort for the Navassa expedition to get permission to go to that island, and the same will hold true for some of these other refuges. It is for that reason that I believe they should be dropped as a DXCC entity. Oh, I have mine all confirmed – from QSOs in the 60s, 70s, and 90s. I just believe that to be fair to the upcoming crop of wanna be DXers, we should level the playing field.

Donations Wanted....

The K1N expedition to Navassa Island is begging for donations to defray the cost of the trip. Maybe some of you will be able to give them a dime or two if you work them. Financing has become a major problem for these expeditions and there is a constant plea for money to support their effort. Have we priced ourselves out of working the really rare DX? It’s starting to look that way.



Your 2014-2015 ROAD's Calendar

- 14 February 2015** **Salem Hamfair & Computer/Electronics Swapmeet,@ Polk County Fairgrounds, Rickreall**
- 19 February 2015** **Club Meeting - 7 pm @ Polk County Court House—TBD**
- 14 March 2015** **V.E. Testing @ Polk County Courthouse**
- 19 March 2015** **Club Meeting - 7 pm @ Polk County Court House—
Appoint Nominating Committee**
- 16 April 2015** **Club Dinner Meeting - 6 pm—TBD**
- 9 May 2015** **V.E. Testing @ Polk County Courthouse**
- 14 May 2015** **Club Meeting - 7 pm @ Polk County Court House**
- 5 June—7 June 2015** **Sea-Pac—NW Division ARRL Convention @ Seaside, OR**
- 18 June 2015** **Club Meeting - 7 pm @ Polk County Court House—
Elections**
- 27-28 June 2015** **ARRL Field Day**

Your 2014-2015 Current Club Officers

Position	Name	Callsign	E-mail	Phone
President	Jack Schult	W7SCT	jackschult@msn.com	(503) 831-0756 (503) 881-5836
Vice President	Mike Shelby	W7RIS	w7ris@arrl.net	(541)745-7058
Secretary	Troy Greenberg	KF7SEY	kf7sey@gmail.com	(503) 302-5746
Treasurer	Jim Campbell	N7WWH	N7WWH@msn.com	(503) 787-5006
Director 1	Dave Goetz	KT7H	dave@begonias.com	(971) 241-9922
Director 2	Hollis Ferguson	WB7IEO	HollisHBM@msn.com	(503)623-1936

For Sale, Swap, Trade, or Wanted

For Amateur Radio and Amateur Radio-related items may be listed for sale, trade, swap or as "wanted" only by club members. There is no fee and the ad will be listed for two publications of the ROADS Report. Individuals must submit to the ROAD's Editor complete wording to include price and contact information. A picture may be included. All listing are non-commercial.
