



The Repeater

Next Club Meeting

Thursday,
October 1, 2015, 7:00 PM

Red Cross Building,
60 Hawthorne St., Medford, OR
Across from Hawthorne Park

Program:

1. ARRL NW Division Director Jim Pace, K7CEX.
2. RF Linear Amplifiers, Mike Bach, WB6FFC

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President & Webmaster
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Newsletter & Membership

President's Report

Turnout for the club September swapmeet (held at the end of August due to the Labor Day holiday) was good. The Red Cross room was pretty full of various old and new goodies, hope you found something useful to buy or sell. Many folks stuck around until the 1 PM closing time.

The October meeting will be interesting this year. We have two speakers—Jim Pace, K7CEX is the ARRL Northwestern Division director, and he will talk about ARRL and other amateur radio matters.

Mike Bach, WB6FFC will talk about RF amplifiers, an area in which he has more experience than just about anyone.

The Repeater is the official newsletter of the Rogue Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc. It is published 10 times a year—once per month excluding July and August.

Secretary's Report

The September meeting was Held Saturday, August 29th, from 9 AM to 1 PM. It was the club's annual swapmeet. No business meeting was held, so there is no secretary's report for September.

President's Report, Continued.

Elections for next year's officers will be held at the November meeting. We need a nominating committee to solicit candidates.

Please contact me if you have an interest in running for office or being on the nominating committee.

Allan, K7GT

This Month's Programs

1. ARRL NW Division Director

Program: The ARRL Northwest Division Director, Jim Pace, K7CEX, will visit the RVARC during our October meeting and conduct a forum on ARRL and Amateur Radio issues. This will be your chance to discuss amateur radio, the ARRL, and various ARRL programs, and give input directly to your ARRL representative on matters of interest. It's been 3 or 4 years since we've had this opportunity.

Biography: James (Jim) D. Pace, K7CEX, ARRL Northwestern Division Director was first licensed in 1957 as KN7CEX, he upgraded to General in 1958. Over nearly 56 years, Jim has been an active operator, promoting Amateur Radio and ARRL at every opportunity. He has served as an OES, DEC, SEC and ASM in Western Washington. As Section Manager, he worked hard to strengthen Amateur Radio in Western Washington, including the ARES program which has become one of the more successful in the Nation. The Western Washington OO program is the most active in the Nation, logging several hundred hours of monitoring each month and the Technical Specialist program has become a Technical Assistance program, for the benefit of all Hams - new or old.

Over the past four years Jim has worked hard to develop good relationships between Western Washington Amateur Radio Community and our served agencies, such as: Department of Natural Resources, FEMA Region 10, Washington Emergency Management Division, Washington State Patrol and State Guard, and many others including our County Emergency Managers. Jim is currently serving as the Washington State RACES Officer and represents Amateur Radio on the State Emergency Communications Committee (SECC), which oversees the EAS and AMBER alert programs. Jim has 2 children; Tammy who Lives in Pensacola Florida and Zach who lives in Beaverton, Oregon. Jim is retired but fills his time with church work, time with his children and Ham Radio.

2. RF Linear Power Amplifiers

Program: Mike Bach, WB6FFC will give a presentation on RF Linear Power Amplifiers. Mike will bring along one or two of the RF power amplifiers that he's built. This will be an informative program, and one not to miss if you have current or future interest in RF amplifiers.

Biography: Mike has extensive experience in RF power amplifier design, development, and test. Mike is an Applications Engineer for Kathrein/Scala. He worked for many years as an Advanced Product Engineer at EIMAC in Vacuum Tube and amplifier production and test.

Pacificon Convention, October 16-18, 2015

After several years in Santa Clara, the Pacificon ham convention has returned to San Ramon California, at the San Ramon Marriott.

There are a large number of events during the weekend, here's a list of a few of them.

Friday is the always-sold-out Antenna Seminar:

8:00 - 9:00 Open

9:00 - 10:00 Antennas at the VK0EK Heard Island DX-pedition. Rich Holoch, KY6R

10:15 - 11:15 Tri-Band J-Pole Antenna. Professor Ed Fong UC Berkeley

11:15 - 12:15 30 Minute Antennas Design & construction of an antenna in an extraordinarily short period of time. Rob Hill CEO of Antenna Magic, LLC

1:15 - 2:15 TBA. Tom Schiller, N6BT Antennas

2:30 - 3:30 Making a Home-Brew 70 cm Eggbeater Satellite Antenna. Werner Vavken, Valley Christen Schools

3:30 - 4:30 A Killer 80M Vertical Dipole for Field Day and QSO Party that Old Men can Build and Install. Jim Brown K9YC.

4:30 - 5:00 Questions & Answers; Drawing for Elk Antennas, Ray Gaschk, AG6SI, Former owner & designer of Elk Antennas

The W1AW/6 special events station will run the whole conference duration.

The Vendor exhibits will also be open all 3 days.

On specific days there are a lot of different activities such as electronic kit assembly, the ARRL forum, amateur license testing, QRP sessions, the Emergency Communica-

tions Exam, others, and a long list of technical presentations.

The list of technical forums is now available on the Pacificon webpage:

<https://sites.google.com/a/mdarc.org/pacificon2015/home/education-forums/forums-technical>

Pre-registration for the convention is available until October 5th, and costs \$25. On-site registration is \$30 with discounts for youngsters. The Antenna Seminar requires a separate registration fee of \$20 (and comes highly recommended by Allan Taylor, K7GT).

You can register on-line on the Pacificon website registration page (see link below).

Contact Registration Chair, Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE, at (925) 945-8007 or e-mail: misa@siemons.com if you have any questions regarding registering for the event.

More information available at the Pacificon homepage:

<https://sites.google.com/a/mdarc.org/pacificon2015/home>

Visit to KPH / K6KPH, Scott Cummings, NA7OM

As some of you are aware, I had the distinct pleasure of visiting along with my brother Bill, WA6IOQ not too long ago, the Maritime Coastal Radio Station KPH/ K6KPH located in the Point Reyes National Seashore in West Marin County California. I had planned a trip south to install a new yagi antenna at the

WA6IOQ QTH in Rohnert Park and having successfully got my brother back on 20 meters, figured a day trip to the historic station sites, being just a hour away,

would be the order of the day.

Previously I had emailed a visit request to Richard Dillman, the chief operator at KPH and received an enthusiastic reply and invitation to not only come and tour but to also participate in the so called ritual as Mr. Dillman put it, The Church of the Continuous Wave. My brother and I were to say the least, intrigued at the prospect. And so we set out in the morning traveling roads I had not gone down in 40 years since my high school days first, to the transmitter site and antenna farm located in Bolinas.

As we pulled in the drive way, we saw the huge wire antennas perched upon tall telephone poles stretching hundreds of feet into the distance and an equally impressive white building at the end of the lane as we drove the last few feet to the parking lot. We

had arrived! I could see the massive feed lines from the huge antennas snaking into the edifice at the top of the walls on all sides and felt the same feeling I had when walking around the building as I did entering the Forum in Rome some years past, that this place was historic and hallowed, being truly RF soaked ground and we were set for an

adventure!

WA6IOQ and I were graciously met at the door by Chief Dillman and ushered into the cavernous insides where we met the other members of the TX



Dept. with introductions and call signs exchanged and led by the chief on a tour thru the floor levels, watching the crew as they went thru the process of transmitters being switched on for the day's operation. The chachunk of the power supply levers being thrown to the on position, the hum of transformers, the smell of electronic parts heating and watching the eerie blue glow of the mercury rectifier tubes warming up was quite the sight.

The chief engineer and his minions continued to twist dials, tap on reluctant meters and adjusting who knows what sort of thing sticking out of the massive cabinets and then scurrying away upstairs, then returning racing and muttering under his breath to further massage and coax the old equipment into

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Visit to KPH / K6KPH, Continued

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operating perfection. Finally, all activity ended as fast as it started, The chief engineer with a faint smile, listening as we all heard the halls and rooms fill with the sound of high speed CW coming from speakers mounted everywhere, of the “wheel” in the control room at the Receiving Building in Point Reyes, north by some 20 miles distant and connected by a lead sheathed cable to the TX site, hammered out repeating traffic and WX information into the ether. KPH was on the air!

Later, as Chief Dillman led us thru the bowels, nooks and crannies of the building, showing bits and pieces of KPH history saved while issuing a running commentary on what we were seeing, on to the huge parts room with the spare parts, coils, cases of huge EIMAC valves and other ancient artifacts treasured within and up to the transmitter building control room, never running out of the obvious and infectious enthusiasm he held for what he and his crew accomplished getting this station back on the air. The work, sweat and skill in preserving the history and legacy of maritime radio communications of this mighty station wasn't lost on us.

Chief Dillman brought to life the skill and dedication of past duty operators long since

SK and the sense of always listening on 500 kc for the heart stopping sound of SOS of a mariner in trouble on the high seas.

WA6IOQ and I were floored, but on top of cloud nine of radio heaven. It really doesn't

get better than this or could it. As we stood in the control room with the crew patiently answering our questions, it was announced over the PA that we were to be escorted to the operator's break room for “services”.



Ah, the Church of the Continuous Wave! There, with the sound of the wheel echoing in the background and yes, there's a speaker even in the break room as for the operators to monitor, we sat at a table set with dinner plates and flatware bearing the RCA logo in gold said to be from the executive lunch rooms. Very neat! So, over coffee and pastries today's “sermon” was a tidbit of the daily archived log reports which really put in perspective just how much history in the making the ops were exposed to on a daily basis, hearing the news, good or bad, before most on the planet.

Chief Dillman held, read and then passed around excerpts of logged contacts of U boat attacks on merchant shipping off the east coast during a day in World War Two. The information logged was hair raising as I imagined a doomed REO onboard tapping

Visit to KPH / K6KPH, Continued

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out that of a torpedo strike and a surfaced U boat was shelling his ship, wondering if anyone heard, with a helpless op on the other end of the circuit, headphones on, tapping the keys of his mill with the terrible news. After a pregnant pause, I asked about the start of the war and the answer I got was this. Look at the time of 1900 GMT at which manager of the station F. Geisel, who was on duty that Sunday logged that the US Army Transport Ship Cynthia Olsen was calling SOS in distress. She was charted by the U.S. Army and departed Tacoma, Washington with 33 crewmen and 2 U.S. Army personnel, destination Pearl Harbor. Forty two minutes later, he logged on his mill the receipt of the message that Pearl Harbor was attacked with the famous "THIS IS NO DRILL". At 2120 GMT, he logged the sent message to activate WAR PLAN 46 to all US merchant ships. America was at war. The man must have been beside himself! Shortly after, the order for radio silence to be observed and on Monday the next day, US Army personnel from the Presidio occupied the stations for the duration of the war as KPH was essential for war communications into the Pacific.

Lying in wait for the USAT Cynthia Olson was the Japanese submarine I-26. She had left Yokosuka in Nov. and was sent to recon-



noiter the Aleutians and report on any U.S. warships in the area. Following this the boat was ordered to a station midway between



San Francisco and Hawaii. Dec. 2, 1941 while on station the commander of I-26 received the coded message *Niitakayama nobore 1208* (Climb Mt. Niitaka, Dec 8), this signaled the attack against Pearl Harbor would take place on Dec. 8 (Japanese time). This also meant that merchant ships flying the American flag were fair game. On Dec. 6 USAT Cynthia Olson was sighted by the I-26, however Commander Yokota Minoru of the I-26 could not attack until the following day so he set a course that would place his boat in the perfect position to engage the ship on Dec. 7. This was not difficult as the I-26, while surfaced, could make twice the speed of the Cynthia Olson.

At dawn on Dec. 7, 1941 the I-26 surfaced and fired a warning shot at the Cynthia Olson, the radio officer sent out an SOS from position 33.42N-145.29W which was picked up on the mainland and Minoru reported seeing lifeboats being lowered, after which he began to shell the ship. Sometime during the attack the Japanese commander received the signal "*Tora, tora, tora!*" indicating

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Visit to KPH / K6KPH, Continued

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the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor had been a success. Compared to what was going on at Pearl Harbor his attack would be easy. Since the Cynthia Olson was unarmed she would offer no resistance, however the ship herself was less than willing to become the first victim of the war.

Minoru fired 18 5.5" (140mm) rounds at the ship, but she refused to sink. He then submerged and fired a torpedo which missed as the ship was still underway. He surfaced and fired almost 30 more rounds into the ship, but she still refused to go down. After this and with the ship burning and in sinking condition Minoru broke off the attack concerned about being attacked himself. After he leaves the area the Cynthia Olson finally succumbed to her wounds and sank about 1,244 miles northeast of Honolulu, the first victim of the submarine war in the Pacific.

It is unknown if any of the men on board were in the lifeboats when they were reportedly lowered, or even if the report was true, what is known is that USAT Cynthia Olson also became the first U.S. merchantman lost with her entire crew. The thirty-three merchant sailors and the two Army personnel were the first casualties of the submarine war in the Pacific and in fact. the first before even Pearl Harbor.

As WA6IOQ and I thanked the crew and left to tour the receiving site in Point Reyes 20 miles north and to continue home, it was with a profound sense that we had been privileged to visit an extraordinary place in history.

NA7OM

Photo Credits: Scott Cummings, NA7OM

Radio Log		S. S. KPH BOLINAS INT. Call Signal		
Sheet No. <u>23</u>		Bound from <u>DEC 7 1941</u> to _____		
RADIO MARINE CORPORATION OF AMERICA A Radio Corporation of America Service.				
GMT	CALL LETTERS	DATE AND PARTICULARS OF COMMUNICATIONS	FREQUENCY	STRENGTH OF SIGS.
	TO	FROM		
		F. GEISEL CONTINUED		
1942	KPH	NPL		
		URGENT TO ALL US MERCHANT SHIPS- FOLLOWING FROM COMMANDER		
		IN CHIEF PACIFIC AIRRAID ON PEARLHARBOR HOSTILITIES WITH		
		JAPAN COMMENCED WITH AIR RAID ON PEARL HARBOR THIS IS		
		NO DRILL- RADIO SANDIEGO. PLS ACK AND BDCAST.	500	
.42	XXX WGBC DE	KPH - QSW 436,126 KC 12.7 16.8 MC		
42	WGBC	KPH BC DE NPL AND DE NPG (LATTER VIA WU) ENDS 1947	436/126	
48	WGBC	NPG REPEATS RE CYNTHIA OLSON		
53	WGBC	KFS QSW AND REPEATS SAME AS OUR NPG		
2001	WGBC	NPL USAT CYNTHIA OLSON SENT DISTRESS REPORTS ENEMY SUBMARINE		
		LAT 33.42 N LONG 145.29 W 071902 - SOME QRM VARIOUS	LOCAL	SIGS
08		KSE EXCHANGE LATEST WGBC NPG/NPL	408	126
15	WGBC	KPH BC 2 DE NPL , 1 DE NPG	436/126	

October 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 • RVARC Club Meeting • Women Hams Net • ARES Net.	2	3 • California QSO Party
4 • California QSO Party	5 • Women Hams Net	6	7	8 • Women Hams Net • ARES Net.	9	10
11	12 • Women Hams Net	13	14	15 • Women Hams Net • ARES Net.	16	17
18	19 • Women Hams Net	20	21	22 • RVARC Newsletter Deadline • Women Hams Net • ARES Net	23	24 • CQ WW DX SSB
25 • CQ WW DX SSB	26 • Women Hams Net	27	28	29 • Women Hams Net • ARES Net.	30	31

Events

- Thursday October 1st - 7:00 PM RVARC Meeting. Red Cross Building Medford.
- Tuesdays & Thursdays 7:00 PM—Women Hams Net K7RVM Repeater 147.000 (+) [PL 123.0]
- Thursdays 7:30 PM - ARES Net. K7RVM repeater 147.000 (+) [PL 123.0]
- Next Newsletter: November Issue. Deadline for input: October 22th.
- Oct 3 & 4—California QSO Party <http://www.cqp.org>
- Oct 24 & 25—CQ WW DX Phone Contest <http://www.cqww.com>

RVARC Membership

RVARC membership dues run from January 1 through December 31. Please bring cash or a check payable to RVARC to a club meeting, or mail (checks only) to:

RVARC Membership
c/o 1058 Linda Ave.
Ashland OR 97520

Regular Member:	\$20.00
Senior Member (62 and over):	\$15.00
Family Member:	\$20.00
Student Member:	\$10.00

For Sale

2015 Amateur Radio Examinations

In the Rogue Valley, amateur radio exams are provided by the RVARC and the SOARC. New exam participants need to provide identification, while upgrading amateurs need to **provide a copy of their current license** as well as show identification. The exam fee for 2015 remains \$15.00. All license candidates must provide a picture ID. Upgrading amateurs must also provide a photocopy of their current license to send in with their application. To search for other exam locations, see:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml> or our club webpage: <http://w7dta.org>

Medford—Phoenix, OR

Time: Saturdays, Registration 8:30 AM. Exam session starts at 9:00 AM. Walk-ins welcome.

Location: Fire District 5 HQ. 5811 South Pacific Highway, Phoenix, Oregon 97535

Dates 2015: Oct 31

Contact: Don Bennett, Email: kq7bp@rfwarrior.com Phone: (541) 973-3625

Grants Pass

Time: Fridays Registration 6:00 PM. Exam session starts at 6:30 PM. Walk-ins welcome.

Location: Fruitdale Grange. 1440 Parkdale Dr., Grants Pass OR 97527-5288

Dates 2015: Nov 20

Contact: John Stubbe, K7VSU, email: jstubbe7@gmail.com Phone: (541) 218-2244

Roseburg, Bend, Redding, Brookings, Crescent City — Please see our club webpage, <http://w7dta.org> for updates as we receive schedules for these cities.

Next Club Meeting

October 1, 2015, 7:00 PM Red Cross Building,
60 Hawthorne St., Medford, OR Across from Hawthorne Park

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