

The OSCILLATOR

Volume 34 Issue 5
MAY 2011



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Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club



"MY TWO CENTS" Pat Roberson

Greetings...I hope everyone had a happy Easter or Passover and enjoyed the April 21st club meeting. I wish I could have been there to see the presentation, but I was under the weather (and still am) and missed out.

I've been enjoying having the bands open for PSK-31. Places are showing up like Indonesia, South Africa, Poland, Saudi Arabia, and many more on my screen recently. Can't say I worked any of them, but I did see them. Sorry Ron!

May is the club's anniversary month and I hope we have a great turnout at the May 19th meeting. We'll celebrate our 33rd Anniversary with cake.

It won't be long before *Sea-Dac* and Field Day will be here. It's all just around the corner. Jenny and I are getting the travel trailer ready for some weekend trips.

Hope to see you at the May 19th meeting at our usual site, until then...

73,

Pat Roberson, KA7PAT
President

OTVARC CELEBRATES 33 YEARS

In 1978...Some dedicated amateur radio operators saw an opportunity and acted on it. Those hams realized there was not a general interest amateur radio club on the west side of Portland.

Some of these founding members had been members of a deceased club based in Newburg that had existed primarily as a "contest club." It had been known as Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club.

Founding members: George Morgan K3HCS, who now lives in Canby; Bob Orr WF7Q, still a member and living in McMinnville; Norm Roberts KB7CD, living in Vernonia; Warren Winner W7JDT, currently a member and your Treasurer;; and, Mac McQuary W7KBR (SK). The first meetings were held at Portland Community College Rock Creek Campus. We have several other Charter Members on the current Club Roster.

Incorporation papers were signed and validated by the State of Oregon May 8, 1978.

See 33rd Anniversary, page 3

CLUB MEETING THURSDAY, MAY 19th

Our May Club Meeting will be at Sunset Presbyterian Church. We'll have cake to celebrate the club's 33rd Anniversary.

OTVARC is affiliated with ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio and is a *Special Service Club*. We meet at the *Community Building, Sunset Presbyterian Church, 14986 NW Cornell Rd, just off US 26 (Exit 65) in Beaverton*. Check out the map at: tinyurl.com/otvarc-site

Our meeting on May 19th meeting will include a presentation by Chuck Forsberg WA7KGX on VLF experiments operations currently underway. Our meeting opens at 7:00 pm.

Guests are always welcome. An amateur radio license is not required. Invite another ham to come with you.

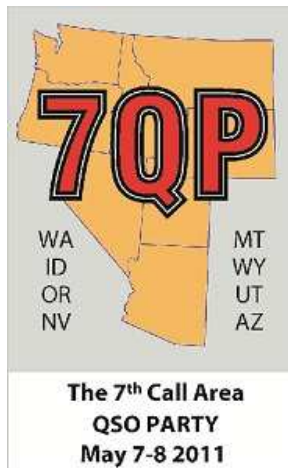
Club meetings are good places to meet new friends.

Questions? otvarc@gmail.com

WATCH
WWW.OTVARC.ORG
FOR UPDATES
AND BREAKING NEWS

7th Area QSO Party - May 7th

The 2011 7th Area QSO Party takes place May 7th, the day before Mother's Day. The 7QP team is working to organize activity from all 256 counties in 7-land. If you plan to activate a particular location, send your intentions to 7qpops@codxc.org. If you would like advice on what the needs are, please drop us a line. We want to make sure that all 36 Oregon counties are active this year...and beat those guys down in Arizona for the maximum participation award.



The 7th Area QSO Party is a premier event each year with eight states containing 256 counties. Many chase counties for the USA County Award. Not only is this an exciting contest, but an opportunity to share skills with a newer ham in our ranks or "Elmer up" with someone who can help you.

We are at <http://7qp.org>. Thanks for your support of Oregon's share of the best QSO party in the land, the 7QP.

73, Dick, K4XU
7QP Oregon Captain
k4xu@arrl.net

2011 Club Roster

Your 2011 Club Roster is now posted on the web. You received a notice by email indicating where to find the current roster if we have an email address for you. The Club Roster is published each year containing the names of all new, renewing, and life members.

The information in the roster is for use in the club and may not be used for any commercial purpose. Updates may be mailed to the club postal box or emailed to otvarc@gmail.com

Spectrum Plan Threatens Amateur Radio

The following is from NPR, Saturday, April 30, 2011:

Across Alabama, emergency communications systems fell silent this week when tornadoes knocked down antennas and cell phone towers. Amateur radio operators are helping to restore emergency communication in some of the areas hardest hit by the storms. But those volunteers say their ability to provide that help is threatened by a new bill in Congress.

When Hurricane Katrina came ashore in 2005, it destroyed cell phone towers and electrical infrastructure. That left law enforcement and relief agencies without a viable way to communicate — until amateur radio operators stepped in.

Hundreds of amateur radio operators — or hams, as they call themselves — poured into Louisiana and Mississippi from all over the country, bringing their own portable antennas and amplifiers to temporarily replace what the storm had wiped out.

"They set up communications for the agencies, both governmental and relief agencies that were trying to help people there," says Kay Craigie is the president of the American Radio Relay League, an advocacy group that represents hams. "And they stayed there for weeks under very, very difficult conditions."

Craigie says Hurricane Katrina is just one example of how volunteer ham operators have responded to emergencies all over the country. But she says their ability to provide that help is being inadvertently threatened — in the name of improved emergency communication.

Peter King is a Republican congressman from New York, and the chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee. At a hearing in March, King lamented that police, firefighters and other first responders have trouble talking to each other during emergencies.

"As we approach the 10th anniversary of September 11th, public safety must be allocated sufficient spectrum so that a national,

See Spectrum Plan, Page 4

FIELD DAY PLANNING ON TARGET

Plans for the 2011 Field Day Event are on time. June 24 - 26 is just eight weeks away as this issue goes to print. Ron O'Connor KD7VIK is leading a team of OTVARC leaders putting together the 4A operation. There are still positions available for coordinators of Field Day activities.

Everett W6ABM is coordinating the "Bonus Points" activities. He is looking for volunteers to serve as Elmers for our proposed GOTA station. This activity will give operators who are either inactive or are newly licensed since last Field Day an opportunity to operate with the aid of more experienced hams.

Field Day will be at L.L. "Stub" Stewart State Park in Buxton (Highway 47 North of US 26 about 7 miles). There will be a Saturday night Potluck Meal (Details in the June issue). Setup begins on Friday with operation opening at 11:00 am Saturday morning.

Have a special interest? Haven't been on a Field Day event yet? Talk with Ron KD7VIK or Everett W6ABM and they'll find a niche for you.

LOOKING AHEAD

May 8	33rd Anniversary
May 19	Club Meeting/Celebration
June 3 - 5	SEA-PAC 2011
June 16	Club Meeting
June 25 - 26	Field Day
July 21	Club Meeting
August 18	Club BBQ/Ice Cream
September 15	Club Meeting
October 20	Club Meeting
November 17	Club Meeting
December 8	Holiday Dinner
January 19	Club Meeting
February 16	Club Meeting

TRAVELERS' OPEN CAMPING SEASON



The TRAVELERS' RV Group opens its' 2011 Camping Season the weekend of 20 May with a trip to Sunnyside County Park near Sweet Home. The park is located between Foster Reservoir and Green Peter Dam at 44930 Quartzville Drive, Foster, Oregon.

Check out the park web site:

www.co.linn.or.us/parks/parks/sunnyside.html

Check In Time is check in is 2:00 pm. Pets are welcome. Some campers arrive on Thursday and stay until Monday. Tent camping is available at the spring and summer sites.

Even if you don't camp with The Travelers', you're invited to the Pot Luck meal on Saturday, May 21st at 5:30 pm.

Advance notification is helpful. Call or email Dick Ballard 503-646-4503, dickballard@comcast.net.

TRAILER RENOVATION

The first Trailer Work Party of the year was held on Sunday, May 1st. at Buddipole's new site. Completion of several major projects and significant work on additional goals made this a successful event. The Trailer replaces the construction trailer previously used by the club to provide communications support for events. More Work Parties will be scheduled. We plan to have the OTVARC Communications Trailer available for use at Field Day. Watch the Web Site for updates.

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Spectrum Plan, from Page 2

interoperable public safety wireless broadband network can finally be built," he said.

King is sponsoring a bill called the Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011. The measure would take some of the broadcast spectrum that was freed up by the transition to digital television and set it aside to build a new emergency communications system. That idea has wide support in both parties, and both houses of Congress. To pay for it, King's bill proposes auctioning off another band of broadcast frequencies that are sometimes used by first responders. The problem is, those same frequencies are used by ham radio operators, too.

"They start taking these frequencies away now, and then down they take a few more. And pretty quick, it becomes a major problem instead of just a minor issue," says Vince Kolar, the emergency manager for Cascade County, Montana... "Those people are all volunteers," he says. "They all volunteer their time and their equipment, mostly. If it makes it harder for them to do what they need to do, then I'm certainly opposed to it."

HAM KILLED IN AFGHANISTAN

James McLaughlin WA2EWE was qualified to fly helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft and spent 32 years in the Army before retiring as a lieutenant colonel in 2007. He has trained Afghan helicopter pilots as an employee of L-3 MPRI, a private contracting company in Virginia, since 2008. "He was the ultimate professional," said Rick Kiernan, at the firm. "He was a good man who was working as a mentor to help others. He was a natural teacher. He was such a good and giving man. We really miss him as a colleague and wonderful individual."

McLaughlin and eight members of the U.S. Air Force died when a veteran Afghan pilot opened fire during a meeting in which he targeted trainers. NATO forces shot and killed the gunman.

McLaughlin lived in Santa Rosa, California. He intended to return to the North Bay to teach high school science and math after his contract with the Virginia company ended this fall, his widow said.

"He loved his ham radio and loved his family," Sandy McLaughlin said. McLaughlin operated out of his quarters in Kabul under the Afghan call sign T6AF. Ham radio was an important morale-boosting pastime and he usually spent a couple of hours per day QRV, logging thousands of QSOs" As of March 26, 2011, McLaughlin had logged 4359 QSOs, most of them on RTTY and PSK.

McLaughlin was also an active MARS operator. "He was one of our most dedicated MARS members in Army MARS Region 11," Dan Wolff KA7AGN/DL4VCW/AEM1WF/AEA1RD, told the ARRL.

King, the author of the House bill, declined requests for an interview. In a written statement, King says he's working to address the concerns of the amateur radio community, while still moving forward with a new public safety network. And when a future disaster knocks that network offline, hams hope they'll still be in a position to help.

HAMFESTS & CONVENTIONS

3 - 5 JUNE 2011

SEA-PAC

NW Division ARRL Convention

Seaside Convention Center

Seaside Oregon

Online Registration Open NOW

www.seapac.org

C. Wayne Schuler AI9Q

16414 NE 21st Street

Vancouver, WA 98684

360-892-5580

ai9q@arrl.net

12 AUGUST 2011

PACIFIC NW DX CONVENTION

Western Washington DX Club

Holiday Inn - Downtown Everett

3105 Pine Street

Everett, WA 98201

wwdxc.org

Denny Bowman W7SNH

6916 160th Street SW Edmonds, WA 98026

425-745-6149

w7snh1@gmail.com

8 OCTOBER 2011

Pacific Northwest VHF Society

Conference

The Riverhouse

2850 NW Rippling River Court

Bend, OR 97701

www.pnvwvhs.org

Talk-In: 146.94 (PL 162.2) & 144.24 USB

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HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAY

1	Don Branda	N7DDK
1	Jim Graffy	AE7W
3	Herb Hirst	K7HLH
3	Len Lardieri	W7JLX
4	David Bissell	KF7AGC
6	David Palmrose	NY7C
6	Chuck Forsberg	WA7KGX
6	George Bates	K7GWB
8	Robbin Heath	AD7RN
16	Willy Lund	KC7ICQ
16	Leonard Premelaar	KS6U
18	Wally Boleen	KC7TB
23	Kevin Curry	KA7KYQ
23	Patricia Rickman	N7UUD
24	Stephen Coan	KA7MOW
26	Richard Morgan	KD7GIE
26	Sue Dauntless	KB7RHH
30	Joel Simmons	AD7IS

MAY LUNCH BUNCH

Saturday May 7th at 1:30 PM

(Note Date Change)

Happy Panda

1415 NW 185th Ave

Aloha Oregon 97006

South of Baseline

503.690.3663

Talk In: 146.960 MHz Repeater

Questions?

Linda KC7YTD

kc7ytd@gmail.com

503.246.8879

CLUB FREQUENCIES

Simplex: 147.54 MHz

Repeaters: 146.96 MHz (Goat Mtn)

223.94 MHz (Goat Mtn)

440.25 MHz (Goat Mtn)

CLUB MEETING
MAY 19TH



FIRST CLASS MAIL

OREGON TUALATIN VALLEY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
880 NE 25th Ave. Ste 2-160
Hillsboro OR 97124-6258



NORTHWESTERN DIVISION ARRL CONVENTION
SEASIDE CONVENTION CENTER
Seaside Oregon

June 3 - 5, 2011

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www.seapac.org

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