



Waved Newsletter

Inland Empire **VHF** Radio Amateurs, Inc.

Club Officers:

President:
Dave Carleton, K7DSR

Vice President:
Jerry Bosch, KG7RRG

Secretary:
Lynn Lambert, N7JVQ

Treasurer:
Jake McCarty, KI7QPJ

Director (2019):
Karl Shoemaker, AK2O

Director (2020):
Harold Hepner, AD7QJ

Director (2021):
Jonas Hiner, K7RTA

Trustee: Harold Hepner, AD7QJ

Technician:
Karl Shoemaker, AK2O

Webmaster:
Harold Hepner, AD7QJ

Net Manager:
Bob Peterson, KE7RAP

An **ARRL** affiliated club

Monthly Club Meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Spokane Community College, the LAIR, Building 6, Room 004. Park in the P1 area; there are handicap spots near the LAIR. The meeting is in Room 004 which is downstairs; an elevator is available.

Club Net, Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., on the 146.880 repeater, tone of 123.0, minus. Please join us.

Stepping Up to Spring's Challenges



Bloomsday 2018

Spring is a great time to serve your community using your ham radio expertise. Hams are an important part of Spokane's calendar of events starting with the St. Paddy's Day Five-Miler in March through Bloomsday and the Lilac Torchlight Armed Forces Parade in May.

Bloomsday on May 5th still needs a few good radio operators. Radio amateurs have been part of Bloomsday from the beginning and are placed at critical positions along the course to be the eyes and ears of the race officials, helping to ensure that the race remains on schedule, injuries are reported and medical aid and law enforcement are dispatched.

Positions include start line groups, aid stations, amateur television and rid-

ing in the sweep van.

This is a great opportunity to utilize your radio skills. Requirements are a dual band HT and a desire to serve. An HT headset, patience and a sense of humor are recommended. If you would like to participate in this event, please send your name, call sign and t-shirt size to dancroskrey@comcast.net.

The Lilac Torchlight Parade on May 18th could also use some operators. Contact Todd Cady for more information at k7pkt@arrl.net.

**VHF Club Meeting including Elections & Board Meeting at SCC
May 9**

Hamfests on the Horizon

• **Kennewick Swap Meet** on May 4 starts at 9 a.m. Bring your own tables or work out of the back of your own vehicle to sell or trade ham radio equipment, electronics, drones, etc. Held at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 2505 W. 27th Ave., Kennewick, WA 99336. For more information, contact Dan, KD7KJJ, at dancar68@aol.com.



• **SEA-PAC 2019 -- "Solar Cycle 25" and "Year of the Tech"** will include workshops May 31, 2019 and exhibits and seminars June 1-2, 2019 at the Seaside Convention Center, 415 First Avenue, Seaside, Oregon 97138.

Online registrations are open at www.seapac.org.

Jeri Ellsworth, AI6TK, will be the keynote speaker at the Saturday evening banquet and also at the Saturday YL lunch. Jeri was born

in Georgia and then grew up in the cities of Dallas, and Yamhill, Oregon, where she was raised by her father. As a child, she persuaded her father to let her use a Commodore 64 computer which was originally purchased for her brother. She learned to program for herself by reading C64 manuals. Later, while attending high school, she drove Dirt Track racing cars with her father, and began designing new models in her shop, eventually selling her own customized race cars. This allowed her to abandon her studies to continue with the business. In 1995, when she was 21 years old, she decided that she wanted to get away from the racing car business, and together with a friend she started a business of assembling and selling computers based on the Intel 486 microprocessor. This new business became a chain of 4 stores, called "Computers Made Easy." In 2004, she created a complete Commo-

dore 64 system on a chip located inside a joystick, which she called "C64 Direct-to-TV." So she is a self-taught entrepreneur, designer of integrated circuits, and American inventor. In 2016 she became a licensed amateur radio operator and holds an Extra Class License.

The Saturday DX lunch presentation will be about the 2018 Norfolk Island DXpedition. Learn how the amateur operators planned and carried out this journey and what they learned in the process.

At the Friday Workshop, Mark Breakey, KB7RHI, will cover "Power and Communication When Everything Goes Dark." This workshop will deal with how to keep your radio station on the air in an emergency, discussing power, charge controllers and inline meters, wiring, distribution blocks, system sizing, and portable antennas. Also, the session will help with how to take your high power station to portable; how to set up an emergency station using solar power; and how to handle water, sanitation, and light in order to be portable overnight during an emergency. Winlink's Peer-to-Peer messaging will be touched on.

More than 40 seminars are planned on Saturday and Sunday. Visit the website at www.seapac.org to learn the latest about them.

• The **Spokane Tailgate Hamfest** will be held Saturday, June 15th at St. Paschal Church at 2523



North Park Road in Spokane from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. To sell, just bring your goodies and

pick a spot. There will be some tables available. There is no fee to sellers. For more information, contact Duane, KE7NUB at (509) 435-7718.

VHF Club Recent Meetings

In January, the club voted on topics for club meetings in the coming year. In February, Jack Tiley, AD7FO, gave a presentation on the MFJ 269 Antenna Analyzer. In March, Randy Wilkinson, W4LKS, talked about Raspberry Pi. In April, Rob Fisher, WA7RF, gave a presentation on Remote Ops. The elections committee drew up a slate of officers for the coming year.

ARES-RACES

As an ARRL affiliated club, the VHF Club has an interest in the ARRL initiated Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) which provides communication support during

natural and manmade disasters as well as at local events. If you want to get involved with the Spokane County ARES-RACES group, it meets the **third Thursday** of the month at 7 p.m. at **GSEM** at the **DEM Building** on the north side of the Spokane County campus at **1121 W. Gardner Ave.**, Spokane, WA 99260 unless otherwise directed.

ARES-RACES amateur radio operators help with such activities as Bloomsday and the Lilac Torchlight Parade in Spokane as well as the Eight Lakes bicycle race. The group also provides training and exercises (Second Saturday, Fifth Saturday) for members to develop and practice their radio skills.

Calendar 2019

May

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
						5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

June

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

July

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Activities

May 4 — Kennewick Swap Meet starts at 9 a.m. Sell or trade ham radio equipment, electronics, drones, etc. Held at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 2505 W. 27th Ave., Kennewick, WA 99336. For more information, contact Dan, KD7KJJ, at dancar68@aol.com.

May 9, June 13 — VHF Club Meetings at 6:30 p.m. and **board meetings** at 5:30 p.m. at SCC, LAIR, Room 004 in the basement.

May 11 (Practice for Torchlight Parade), June 8 — ARES/RACES 2nd Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon at the DEM Building, 1121 W. Gardner Ave., Spokane, WA 99260.

May 31-June 2, SeaPac 2019 — Solar Cycle 25 and Year of the Tech workshops on May 31, 2019 and exhibits and seminars June 1-2, 2019 at the Seaside Convention Center, 415 First Avenue, Seaside, OR 97138.

June 15 - Spokane Tailgate Hamfest

will be held at St. Paschal Church at 2523 North Park Road in Spokane from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

June 22— Field Day

July 11 — VHF Club Barbecue – at 6:30 p.m. Location TBA.

IEVHF/ARES-RACES Sponsored Classes, Tests

✓ An **extra class** and **testing** session will be held by Jack Tiley, AD7FO, an ARRL TC, TS, and VE instructor, as follows:

Dates for this two session-class:

- **May 18, 25** - the class will be held at the DEM Building, 1121 W. Gardner Ave., Spokane WA 99260.

Times: 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the 18th; 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the 25th.

Testing: Testing will start at the end of the class (approximately 2 p.m.)

Cost: No cost for the class, but there is a cost of \$15 if you wish to take the exam.

Registration: Registration is

required! For registration info, send an e-mail to ad7fo@arrl.net.

For more information about Jack's classes, visit his website at ad7fo.com.

Upcoming Amateur Radio

• Testing

Please contact Mary, AA7RT, at (509) 991-2192 or e-mail her at AA7RT@me.com for test information.

Also, e-mail Glen Day, K7CPO, at K7cpo@yahoo.com for information about testing via W5YI.

VHF Club Regularly Meets

The VHF Club regularly meets from September through June except in December on the **second Thursday** of each month at **6:30 PM** – in Room 004 in the basement of the SCC student lounge, the Lair (Building 6) on the Spokane Community College campus. Park closest to the Lair in the northwest corner of the **P1 Parking Lot** using the entrance on Mission east of Greene. The club holds a BBQ in July and recesses in August.



VHF Club Repeaters

The VHF Club owns and operates a number of Amateur Radio Repeaters and Digital Packet Radio systems within the Inland Empire and Spokane area. Its call sign is **WR7VHF**. The Club operates the following:

- the **147.34** repeater in downtown Spokane,
- **146.88** in Spokane,
- the **444.900** repeater in the Spokane Valley,
- the **145.09** packet BBS and node North at Mt. Spokane,
- 145.010 packet node South at Krell Hill,

All PL tones for the Club's repeaters are the 123.0 Hz tone, including the Chewelah repeater.

VHF Club Net

The **Club Net** is on Wednesdays at 7:30 PM, on the 146.880 repeater, tone of 123.0.

VHF Club Membership

Membership applications and payment are available online at the club web site, www.vhfclub.org. The cost to join is \$15 per year for an individual or \$20 per year for a family at the same address. Contact Jake at treasurer@vhfclub.org if you need to know your current dues status. You can submit your payment online or give it to Treasurer Jake McCarty at a club meeting.

Do you have a membership question? Call Harold Hepner at 509/385-2719.



Inland Empire VHF Radio Amateurs, Inc.
2910 E 57th Ave., PMB 255
Spokane, WA 99223

Upbeats & Updates

Board meetings are open to all club members. On months they are held, board meetings begin at 5:30 p.m. at the same location as the general meeting. In 2019, the board will meet before our general meetings in May, June, September and November unless something comes up and we need to add a meeting. Highlights of our board and club activity follow.

President Dave Carleton, K7DSR, reported that Spokane Hamfest 2019 preparations are well on their way with the event. The flyers are out. Treasurer Jake McCarty has raffle tickets in hand. DX Engineering will provide raffle gift certificates (one each at \$750, \$500, \$250). There will also be a Raspberry Pi kit in the raffle.

Dave reported that Karl Shoemaker is recovering from a recent accident and that Jeremiah will be his backup. So Jeremiah will most likely be the one to help put up our new antenna on the .88 repeater.

Director Harold Hepner, AD7QJ, reported that he renewed the club's domain name for the next five years.

Treasurer Jake McCarty, KI7QPJ, said that the club received \$195 in dues in January 2019, \$180 in February, and \$35 in March. In addition, the group received some donations -- in January \$200, in February \$10. At the end of March, our operating account had \$3,590.93. Also, we have two CDs. One matures toward the end of this year. We should talk about in the next couple of months if we want to do anything with those funds or roll it into another CD. And then we have another one at the end of next year. Those CDs total

\$5,710.46. So altogether the club has \$9,301.39 as of the end of March.

Jake discussed the membership roster and what we might want to do regarding the inactive members. We have 66 active members not including life and honorary members. We discussed the requirements for ARRL membership as an ARRL club and how to determine our club members who are also members of ARRL. We also discussed how to handle outdated email addresses.

Jake proposed the board vote on changing the operating account for the club and the Hamfest account to Washington Trust Bank for convenience and practicality. The proposal was passed.

Secretary Lynn Lambert, N7JVQ, suggested obtaining stationery for correspondence for things like membership letters and other notes to members. We also discussed having contacts for membership. There will be a membership contact on the website along with the listing of club officers. Harold Hepner can be contacted at 509/385-2719 with membership questions.

Net Manager Bob Peterson, KE7RAP, mentioned the ongoing need for net control operators for the Wednesday net. If interested, contact Bob at the club meeting.

Jack Tiley, AD7FO, reported the slate of officers is being drawn up this month for the club elections in May. As of the club meeting, the slate includes the following:

- President** – Dave Carleton – K7DSR
- Vice President** – Jerry Bosch – KG7RRG
- Treasurer** – Jake McCarty – KI7QPJ
- Secretary** – Rick Nungester – WA6NDR
- Director** – Steve Watilo - K6SWW
Karl Shoemaker – AK2O
Damian Impett – WA7DGI