



Waved Newsletter

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

Club Officers:

President:

Dave Carleton, K7DSR

Vice President:

John Barnett, W7JRB

Secretary:

Rick Nungester, WA6NDR

Treasurer:

Mike Grounds, KE7PG

Director (2019):

Karl Shoemaker, AK2O

Director (2018):

Lynn Lambert, KI7JVQ

Director (2017):

Jerry Bosch, KG7RRG

Trustee: Harold Hepner,

AD7QJ

Technician:

Karl Shoemaker, AK2O

Webmaster:

Harold Hepner, AD7QJ

Net Manager:

Bob Peterson, KE7RAP

An **ARRL** affiliated club

Monthly Club Meet-

ings 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.

Wishing You All — All the Seasons' Greetings

President's Corner



First I wish to thank all of the VHF Club members for their continued support of the club. The VHF club has a great history of welcoming those wishing to get into the great hobby of Amateur Radio as well as those that have been in the hobby for many years. I want to wish everyone Season Greetings. I hope you all had a Happy Thanksgiving and will have a wonderful Merry Christmas and a pleasant and safe New Year!

2017 has been an interesting year, and it has just flown by for me. 2018 promises to be a great year and I hope as we go through the year ahead you may all continue to support this great hobby and of course the VHF club. We have some great members and I cannot say enough to those that continue to serve on after so many years of service. I am grateful for their help as well as for that of past board members who have made this transition from Vice President to President so easy. I am still learning and hope to accomplish all I can to continue the great tradition that is the VHF Club.

In the New Year I hope to see new members as well as the standing members come out to more events and meetings and to spend time with folks. I truly hope that our great members welcome the new folks to the hobby as well as the well-seasoned members with open arms. We have a great group of people that is very diversified and has a wealth of knowledge from which to pull.

Thanks for allowing me the privilege of being your president and please if you

have any concerns or thoughts to make us better, feel free to contact me.

Don't forget that Skywarn Recognition Day in Airway Heights will kick off the month of December on the 1st and 2nd. The weather report forecasts rain, so dress appropriately! Or play from home!

Hope to see you all December 16th at 1 p.m. at the Longhorn BBQ in the Valley where we are joining KBARA for a no-host, just-show-up Christmas luncheon for radio operators, their families, and friends. The Longhorn is at 2315 N. Argonne between Trent and I-90.

The VHF club does not hold a regular meeting in December. See you all in 2018!

David Carleton
President VHF Club



Next Club Meeting

- **VHF Club Meeting** on January 11 at SCC

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Spokane Hamfest Rocked

The 41st Spokane Hamfest weathered a last minute change in venue with great success for the five clubs involved!

*Left: Jack Tiley checks equipment.
Right: Hams shop equipment.*



Recent VHF Club Meetings

In September, we recruited volunteers for the 41st Spokane Hamfest. Then Rick Anhorn, AA7AD, led the discussion about why to go to a hamfest and how to go prepared.

In October, Rick Nungester, WA6NDR, spoke from the classes he teaches on the Fundamentals of Digital Logic at local colleges, and introduced us to computer engineering. He also helped us under-

stand the math behind logic circuits. *(Pictured above is Rick giving his talk.)*

In November, Del Morisette, WA7AQH, from ARES-RACES spoke about Winlink which is an infrastructure providing worldwide e-mail via amateur radio, internet, or both. For a video overview, visit winlink.org and watch "What Is Winlink" by Rick Frost, K4REF, under "The Book of Knowledge".

ARES-RACES

Since one of the purposes of amateur radio is to have a group of people ready to help with communication in a time of need, you may want to get involved with the local Spokane County ARES-RACES Group as well. The group meets the **third Thursday** of the month at 7 p.m. at the Spokane County Fire Training Center Auditorium at 1618 N. Rebecca next to SCC — turn north onto Rebecca from Mission just east of Greene St. The building is midway down, to the right through gates in a chain-link fence.

ARES-RACES amateur radio operators recently helped with such activities as runs for Valleyfest in the Spokane Valley and Bridge-to-Brunch in Spokane.

The group provides training and exercises (Second Saturday, Fifth Saturday) to be ready to provide communications support for public service events and emergency communications support for local and national government and other non-government agencies.

Calendar 2017-2018

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

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

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

Activities

December 1 and 2 — Skywarn Recognition Day will begin setting up in Airway Heights shortly after noon on Friday, operate afternoon through evening, and continue from early Saturday a.m. to 2 p.m. Then the operation will be broken down. Contact Robert Wiese at total-ham_5@msn.com so he can add you to the list of attendees. Rain is forecast, so dress appropriately.

December 16 — KBARA/VHF Club Holiday Luncheon at Longhorn BBQ at 2315 N. Argonne at 1 p.m.

January 13 — ARES/RACES Digital Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at the Fire Training Center at 1618 N. Rebecca.

IEVHF/ARES-RACES Sponsored Classes, Tests

✓ A **technician class** and **testing** session will be held by Jack Tiley, AD7FO, an ARRL TC, TS, and VE instructor, as follows in the coming year:

Dates:

- Feb. 10
- May 12
- Aug. 11
- Nov. 10

Location: Fire Training Center, 1618 N. Rebecca (just east of the SCC Campus)

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Testing: Optional **technician, general and extra license** testing will start at the end of the class (approximately 3:30 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.

✓ A **general class** will be held at some point.

✓ **New Ham classes** will be held 3-4 weeks after the technician classes/exams by Dave Carleton — for Greater Spokane Emergency Management — at the Fire Training Center, 1618 N. Rebecca. Classes will cover radio programming, nets, repeaters, and etiquette. Dates TBA.

Upcoming Amateur Radio Classes

Send an e-mail to Jack Tiley at ad7fo@arrl.net for information.

December 2 — Technician Class is full and will be held at the Spo-

kane Police Academy from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. with testing from 3-5 p.m.

• Testing

Please contact Mary, AA7RT, at (509) 991-2192 or e-mail her at AA7RT@arrl.net 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 for December, on the **second Thursday** of each month at **6:30 p.m.** — 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.

VHF Club Membership

Membership applications are available online at the club web site, www.vhfclub.org. The cost to join is \$15 per year; submit your payment online or give it to Treasurer Mike Grounds at a club meeting.

Dues are due January 1-31 for the new year - unless you were an early bird and paid at Hamfest.



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,
 - the **145.43** repeater near Chewelah - was transferred to the Spokane Repeater Group,
- 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.



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 occur at 5:30 p.m. at the same location as the general meeting. Highlights of board activity during the previous three months follow.

Rick Anhorn, AA7AD, resigned as President early in October for personal reasons. Now Dave Carleton, K7DSR, is President; John Barnett, W7JRB, is Vice President; and Lynn Lambert, KI7JVQ, is one of our three Directors.

Harold Hepner, AD7QJ, did several updates to our **website** at www.vhfclub.org including home page content and organization, an updated membership application, and updated names and contact information for the new club officers.

The local **hamfest** on September 23rd was a success with 442 entry tickets and 1,841 raffle tickets sold and yielding about \$500 net profit to the club.

2018 Membership Dues –

Can be paid online at the club website using PayPal, or by mailing a check to the club (IEVHF Radio Amateurs Inc., 2910 E. 57th Ave., PMB 255, Spokane, WA 99223), or by giving cash to Mike Grounds, KE7PG, at a club meeting. Yearly dues are \$15 per year for an individual or \$20 per year for a family at the same address. Contact Mike at treasurer@vhfclub.org if you need to know your current dues status.

Mike Grounds, KE7PG, and Rick Nungester, WA6NDR, updated the club's master **e-mail list**. Monthly meeting announcements currently get sent to 149 e-mail addresses. Send any **e-mail ad-**

dress changes to Rick at secretary@vhfclub.org.

Rick Nungester, WA6NDR, updated our **ARRL club website** which is at www.arrl.org/Groups/view/inland-empire-vhf-radio-amateurs. We currently have 76 voting club members, 75 of which are licensed amateurs, and 37 of which are ARRL members.

Karl Shoemaker, AK2O, and John Barnett, W7JRB, as it is possible will be repairing and maintaining radio **repeaters and hardware** to get us ready for winter. Please note that currently there are issues with the packet nodes to the north on Mt. Spokane (145.09) and to the south on Krell Hill (145.010). Our thanks to all who tirelessly and generously contribute repeater use, knowledge, and expertise!

Technical Notes

Our friends at the Rowan County Amateur Radio Society in North Carolina, recently recommended a podcast by ARRL called "The Doctor Is In" which discusses all kinds of technical issues. This is an instructional, radio program which is posted for two weeks, then archived. If you are interested in a topic, you can then look it up and listen. For example, the current podcast covers "Coaxial Cable vs Balanced Lines." The program is available on Apple devices via the Podcast App at "ARRL The Doctor Is In." The ARRL website adds, "You can also listen online through Stitcher and through the free Stitcher app for iOS, Kindle or Android devices. Subscribe to the podcast free of charge through either service and never miss an episode."