



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.

Summer Memories & Fall Opportunities



VH F Club President Dave Carleton spent the second week in August at a Scout Camp for 3,000 young men helping them earn a merit badge in amateur radio. About 40 scouts completed the work for the badge which included making contacts outside of class time -- an activity which resulted in one scout making a contact with New Zealand. Despite an early and unexpected move, the effort was a success. About 7 young men arrived at camp having already studied for the technician exam.

At the camp which had no wifi, an exercise to show the power of amateur radio had the boys send messages to the cell phones of their group leaders via radio. In turn, the leaders sent a reply back to the kids at the radio base station. Later many of the group leaders poked their heads in at the van to find out what was going on and to get more information about ham radio for themselves.

VHF Club Meeting Place to Remain the Same

We had discussed the pros and cons of keeping the club meetings at SCC or possibly moving them to another location, but decided to **keep our current venue at SCC**. So our next meeting will be September 13 at SCC in LAIR, Building 6, Room 004. There will be a board meeting at 5:30 p.m. before the general meeting at 6:30. The presentation will be _____ by _____

Spokane Hamfest

Get ready for Hamfest on September 22nd. Buy your raffle tickets with a chance at great prizes! at our next meeting, Jerry Bosch, KG7RRG, will be signing up volunteers to help set up on Friday afternoon and tear down on Saturday afternoon. Read all about Hamfest on page 2.

Our Club Repeaters

Rick Nungester reports that our four FM club repeaters have been updated on RepeaterBook and now will be indicated by a six-character grid square to better preserve the privacy of the locations. The updates are also linked to our website.

VHF Club Meetings

- **VHF Club Meeting** – Sept. 13 at SCC
- **Spokane Hamfest** – Sept. 22 at University High School, 12420 East 32nd Avenue, Spokane Valley, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

42nd Spokane Hamfest & ARRL Washington State Convention



Six Radio Clubs are getting ready for the 42nd Spokane Hamfest to be held on September 22 and which will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at **University High School**. Are you ready? Admission is \$5 (18 and under are free). When parking, use the high school's east entrance at 12420 East 32nd Avenue, Spokane Valley, 99216. Afterwards at 5 p.m., all are invited to a **no-host dinner** at Timber Creek Grill and Buffet, 9211 E. Montgomery Drive, Spokane Valley.

There will be more than 16 commercial **tables** and 13 swap tables at the event.

Confections and refreshments will be available at the **snack bar**

during the day; **lunch** may be purchased from Toby's BBQ outside the main entrance starting about 11 a.m.

Jack Tiley, AD7FO, ARRL TC. TS, VE Instructor, will again host a **radio and general electronics test table**-- to evaluate HF and VHF radios you have or and anything being considered for purchase and to answer your questions. What do you need to **bring**? If you have an HT to test, it will need a fully charged battery and you must be able to set it to the necessary simplex test frequency and be able to fully open the squelch. For a mobile or base radio, you will need the power cable and microphone.

In addition, **seminars** will be offered throughout the day. Scott Har-

vey, KA7FVV, will present on *Satellite Communications* (10 a.m.). Del Duree, KE7VMN, will explain *Radio Basics* (10 a.m.), clarifying how a radio actually functions. There will be an *ARRL Northwest Director's Candidate Forum* (11 a.m) moderated by Mel Ming, N7GCO. There the candidates will talk about their backgrounds in amateur radio and will answer some questions. Chuck Williams, KI7DG, will talk about *PC Logging* (11 a.m.). Mike Ritz, W7VO, will present on *HF Noise Mitigation Techniques* (1 p.m.). Dave Carleton, K7DSR, will speak on setting up communities or groups in *Community ECOMM, a Start* (1 p.m.). Dan Croskey, NV2Z, will talk about *GPS, the Ins and Outs* (1 p.m.). Jack Tiley, AD7FO, will help beginners understand their gear and next steps in *I Have My License, Now What?* (1:30 p.m.).

At 2:30 p.m there will be a junk auction for the benefit of Hamfest. At 3:30 p.m., there will be raffle drawings. Don't miss out. Get your raffle tickets (\$1 each) at your club meetings before the event. Prizes include radios and gift certificates for great outlets.

VHF Club Recent Meetings

In June, Del Morissette, WA7AQH, was scheduled to present on Field Day 101, but was unable to do so due to a family emergency. So the group discussed Field Day among themselves, talking about their own experiences with the event. In addition, the general meeting approved the new bylaws.

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 the **DEM Building 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 and such other activities as the Eight Lakes bicycle race and Valleyfest. The group also provides training and exercises (Second Saturday, Fifth Saturday) for members to develop and practice their radio skills.

Calendar 2018

September

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

October

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

November

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

Activities

September 8, October 13, and November 10— **ARES/RACES 2nd Saturdays** from 9 a.m. to noon at the **DEM Bldg.**, 1121 W. Gardner Ave., Spokane, WA 99260 or as announced.

September 13— **VHF Club Meeting** – at 6:30 p.m. at SCC, LAIR, Room 004 in the basement.

September 22— **42nd Spokane Hamfest** – from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at University High School, 12420 East 32nd Avenue, Spokane Valley, 99216. Use the east entrance on 32nd for parking. Afterwards at 5:00 p.m., all are invited to a **no-host dinner** at Timber Creek Grill and Buffet, 9211 E. Montgomery Drive, Spokane Valley.

September 29— **ARES/RACES 5th Saturday Exercise** – will build upon our spring multi-county exercise with plans to talk county-to-county.

October 6 — **Emergency Preparedness Fair** – This fair is open to the public and will be held at the Spokane Fire Training Center, 1618 N. Rebecca (at the east end

of the Spokane Community College campus) from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This fair will cover all phases of community and individual preparedness and will have an amateur radio booth. The event is family friendly, includes workshops, games, and prizes, and is accessible for all.

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 this fall:

Dates:

• **Nov. 10 - Spokane Valley** * On **November 10**, the class will be held at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church at 2511 S. Pines Road, Spokane Valley, WA 99206

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.

✓ **New Ham classes** will be held 3-4 weeks after the technician classes/exams by Dave Carleton on behalf of Greater Spokane Emergency Management. Classes will cover radio programming, nets, repeaters, and etiquette. Dates TBA.

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@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 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,
 - 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.

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 Jake McCarty KI7QPJ, 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 Jake at treasurer@vhfclub.org if you need to know your current dues status.

To receive monthly meeting announcements, send any e-mail address changes to Lynn Lambert, N7JVQ, at secretary@vhfclub.org.

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. The board met in June before our general meeting. We held our club picnic in July and did not meet in August. Highlights of our board and club activity follow.

Mike Grounds, KE7PG, and Jake McCarty, KI7QPJ gave the financial report. They reported on the amount of money in the bank account as of June: \$3,569 and some change. Altogether in the bank there is about \$10,000 in funds. Mike reported that we have everything done and paid for from the Club side for Spokane Hamfest. Mike has the radio and Raspberry Pi prizes for Hamfest at his house. Jake has the gift certificates for prizes for Hamfest.

Lynn Lambert, N7JVQ, gave the membership/paid lists to Jake and Dave, and the Google Group email list to Jake. There was discussion of the ARRL Club listing specifics including the Club's location for fall as we considered the pros and cons of using the DEM conference room versus the SCC classroom which has a rental agreement and cost. We also discussed that for an ARRL club, more than half/51% of the Club's paid members need to also be ARRL members!! So we made a list from the monthly meeting attendees, and added 4 to the club's voting, ARRL member list, now at 30 members, which is just the needed number. No changes to club specialties or services were offered for the ARRL listing. Lynn also gave a membership update report drawn from the

June spreadsheet: there are 261 people listed; 59 total paid in 2018 through 2018 even to 2020 (less 3 life, 7 honorary memberships for 49 total paying); and 151 unique addresses on Google Groups list.

We discussed how to reach out to the people still on the list who had not renewed membership.

Karl Shoemaker, AK2O, questioned and found that the previous \$150 emergency expenditure permission is now covered under the \$300 per month permitted under the new bylaws. He reported that both the south and north stacks have been repaired, but that the north stack still needs a UPS.

There was a discussion regarding an antenna for Mt. Spokane. An X50 was recommended for the north stack with UHF at John's site and a rugged antenna for VHF was recommended for Karl's other north site. We are operating on backup at this point. Dave and Karl discussed using the new antenna or the old antenna as backup and decided to use the old antenna as backup. Karl asked Dave and Jeremiah if they would help him raise up a line and an antenna for a third receiver in Newport. Karl suggested we ask members to report problems with our equipment. So members should send an email to either Dave or Karl at the board email address on the website or via the net. Dave will move the WIRES-X station from John Barrette's house to his house. New bylaws were passed at the board and also at the general meeting.



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