
W7PL News

Volume 5.4

January 2002

H A D D V NEW YEAR



Pendleton Amateur Radio Club- W7PL
P.O. Box 563
Pendleton OR 97801-0563

President:

Richard Wilson, KC7AM, 278-2863

Vice President:

Michael Califf, Sr., AM7OC, 276-8132

Secretary-Treasurer

Karen Wilson, KC7LTH, 278-2863

Newsletter Editor

See article "FB Brett Mueller" below.

THE PREZ SEZ.....

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Happy Y2K+2 to all! This has been a rather hectic Holiday season around the Wilson household, so things are a little on the late side. Many thanks to Keith Schubert for doing the bulk of this months' Newsletter, it has been sitting on my computer waiting for the finishing touches for about two weeks! Thanks again, Keith.

Please make sure to note that **THERE WILL NOT BE A REGULAR CLUB MEETING FOR THIS MONTH. THE HOLIDAY PARTY ON JAN. 12 AT ROOSTERS WILL BE THE MEETING DATE.** You can get all of the details later in the Newsletter.

This year is set to be an exciting one for active club members. Coming in February is the Bigfoot Rendezvous Dogsled Races at Tollgate, we will again be providing a communications net to ensure the safety of all of the participants. Plan to take part in the fun. This winter will also be the start of our MORSE CODE CLASS. As soon as everything is ready, we will start the classes. Please let me know if you are interested in the class. Other activities are in the works too, so plan to join in the fun!

73's and see you at the Party! Richard Wilson, KC7AM.

DON'T FORGET THE HOLIDAY PARTY

W7PL HOLIDAY PARTY

Your W7PL Annual Holiday Party will be held this year on Saturday, January 12th, at 5 PM, at Roosters in Pendleton. This is a family affair, so bring them along. Any interested Amateur is invited to attend. We have reserved the Banquet room, and you can order off the menu if you would like to have dinner. They are not charging for the room as long as most of us have something to eat while we are there.

Bring a \$5.00 value non-gender-specific gift if you would like to participate in the gift exchange. We will use the same format as last year for the gift exchange, so get ready to have some fun!

Roosters is located at 1515 Southgate in Pendleton. I hope to see everyone there!

73- Karen, KC7LTH

(Note: There will be a SHORT business meeting as well at the conclusion of the party.)

Dogsled Races

The Tollgate dogsled races will be the weekend of February 9 and 10. This is always a fun time for club members when we provide radio communications for the race. We will have our initial discussion of the race at the end of our party at Roosters and do our final organizing at our February 4th club meeting.

W7PL WEBSITE

Webmaster Mike Califf, Sr. has been busy at work on the W7PL Web Site. There is a wealth of good information, links, and club info available. Thanks for the hard work, Mike! Stop by the site at the following address and see what's new.....

<http://www.freeyellow.com/members2/w7pl/index.html>

Thanks, Alan

W7PL club members wish to thank Alan Polan, KE4TRR, for all his hard work as past Secretary-Treasurer. Alan has done an excellent job in handling the club's finances and in keeping careful notes on meetings. He has produced detailed, well written minutes and has worked hard to keep other club business, such as the constitution, up-to-date and accurate. Thanks again, Alan.

W7PL Meetings

The next regular W7PL meeting will be the first Monday in February. This will be February 4th at 7:00 PM. The January meeting will be the party at Roosters.

Directions: The Umatilla County EOC is housed upstairs in the new Justice Center building located above Pioneer (John Deere) Implement. From I-84 exit 207 (Airport exit), turn towards Rieth. About 200 yards from the freeway, turn left onto Pioneer Place. Follow this road ¼ mile and turn left as you reach the parking area. Find any convenient unmarked parking place. The access door to the media conference room is near the fence on the north (freeway side) of the main building.

FB Brett Mueller

Brett has done an outstanding job as newsletter editor and I for one would like to express my appreciation for all his hard work. Brett has decided to step down from his position as editor in order to give other club members a chance to try their editorial skills. If you are interested in being editor or becoming part of the editorial team, please contact our president, Richard Wilson KC7AM@arrl.net, or Keith Schubert [WA7VIF@arrl.net, 541-276-2869]

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Red Cross First Aid Class

The First Aid class session at the Red Cross Exam Room on Jan. 02 was a smashing success with a 100% passing rate!!! Those attending were:

Michael Califf AB7OC Howard Califf KE6PWH

Richard Wilson KC7AM Ricky Wilson KD7KFB

Matthew Severe KC7MSQ Brett Mueller WA7V

Jack Davis KC7URF Kyra Davis Keenan Davis

After the lessons and questions were done, we retired to the Up With Donuts to celebrate our success, and were joined by Emery Heintz KE7YX. Congratulations to all!!

Michael E. Califf, Sr. AB7OC

Club Net

The combined Hermiston/Pendleton club net meets every Monday at 7:30 PM on the 147.160 MHz repeater. Club members are invited to check in and participate in the club net. This is now a joint net with the Hermiston Amateur Radio.

If you would like to be Net Control Operator for an evening (or on a regular basis), please contact Keith Schubert (see below).

VE Licensing Sessions

Examinations are given on even-numbered months, the second Wednesday of the month, at 7:00 PM, at Harris Junior Academy on SW Hailey in Pendleton. The next testing session will be on February 12th at 7:00 PM. Look for a sign posted at the front door of Harris Junior Academy for directions.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Rudy Rittenbach, KC7N, 541-276-6545

Keith Schubert, WA7VIF@arrl.net, 541-276-2869

E.C. Meetings

The W7PL Executive Committee meets on the third Monday of every month (September through June) at 7:30 PM, at the Umatilla County EOC. Committee members deal with routine business decisions, discuss possible club activities, and determine the agendas for the following club meetings. By holding these business meetings between the regularly scheduled club meetings, officers are able to take care of items that would (and have, historically) otherwise consume considerable time during the regular club meetings. These meetings are open to the public and input is welcomed. If you would like to know what goes on in the club's business, plan to attend an E.C. meeting. E.C. meeting minutes are published in the W7PL newsletter.

W7PL Membership

Dues for the Pendleton Amateur Radio Club are \$20 for a full individual or family membership, or \$6 for associate membership. Please send your check to W7PL at P.O. Box 563, Pendleton, OR., 97801. KC7LTH will send you a receipt.

CLUB DUES Due !!!

Please remember that club membership expires on December 31, 2001! Please plan on renewing your membership before January 1, 2002 to maintain your full membership and voting rights with W7PL. Memberships not renewed by January 1 will place you as an associate member for 60 days. Please send your check to W7PL at the address printed above. Thank you for renewing your W7PL Membership.

Spout Springs Repairs

On Saturday, December 12, Richard, KC7AM, Brett WA7V, and Ricky KD7KFB traveled in very deep snow to the 146.80 repeater site to repair Brett's packet antenna. They also made some repairs on the 146.80 while they were there. You can find more photos of this daring expedition at www.digitalhams.com/spout.

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Here is a sample of the 146.80 carnage. KC7AM is on the snowmobile at the base of the shack.

Minutes for Regular Monthly Meeting

Date: December 3, 2001

Location: Umatilla County Emergency Operations Center, Pendleton

Members Present:

Richard Wilson, President
 Mike Califf, Sr., Vice President
 Alan Polan, Secretary-Treasurer
 Brett Mueller, Newsletter Editor, Executive
 Committee Member-At-Large
 Jack Davis, Past President
 Denton Sprague
 Emery Heintz
 Clarence Gross
 Karen Wilson
 Rick Wilson
 Keith Schubert

Paul Weston
 Whitley Smith

Program Speaker/Visitor:

Robert Tapley, NL7ES

Agenda**Transaction of Business:**

Call to Order: Richard Wilson called the meeting to order for the transaction of club business at 7:09 PM. The meeting followed the order of business outlined in the club constitution under ARTICLE 7: ORDER OF BUSINESS.

The Reading of the Minutes:

The minutes of the November 5, 2001 regular club meeting were published in the December club newsletter.

Motion: Keith Schubert moved to adopt the minutes of the November 5, 2001 regular club meeting as published in the December club newsletter.
Second: Clarence Gross
Vote: *Approved.*

Committee Reports:Executive Committee

The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on November 19, 2001 were published in the December club newsletter. Alan Polan reported that the club's checking account balance was \$1,812.24 as of December 3, 2001.

Unfinished Business:New 146.880 Repeater System

Paul Weston, W7ZKH, said if there are hams in the area who do not have a PL Tone capability in their 2-meter radios, he and Jody Cross, N7ERT can help.

Club Christmas Party

The club's Christmas Party will be on Saturday, January 12, 2002. The location has not been determined yet. [*The location and time is Roosters at 5 PM --see above--ed.*]

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Mike Califf reported that the Red Cross will charge club members a discounted price of \$5.00 for each course. The total cost of both courses comes to \$10.00.

Red Cross Base Station

The Red Cross would like the 2-meter and 70-centimeter antennas installed at their new office.

SKYWARN Recognition Day

Richard Wilson reported that SKYWARN Recognition Day went very well, except for the high winds at Pendleton Airport. The National Weather Service (NWS) at Pendleton Airport measured a maximum 2-minute average sustained wind of 50 mph with a peak wind gust of 62 mph on Saturday, December 1, 2001. The strong winds broke the 80-meter dipole antenna that Richard had suspended from the NWS's Doppler radar tower.

New Business:Club Post Office Box Annual Rental Fee Due

The club's PO Box annual rental fee of \$55.00 is due in December. The due date is December 31, 2001.

Combined Club Nets on 147.160 Repeater

Due to low participation in each club's net, Richard Wilson suggested that there would be better participation if the Pendleton Amateur Radio Club (PARC) and the Hermiston Amateur Radio Club (HARC) combined both nets. Richard will approach the HARC and see what they say. The combined club nets would be held on the 147.160 repeater at 7:30 PM.

Motion: Mike Califf moved that the PARC combine nets with the HARC.

Second: Keith Schubert

Vote: *Passed*

PL Tones on all Repeaters

Paul Weston reported that the ORRC and BMUG have agreed to implement a policy whereby, eventually, all new repeaters will be required to have PL Tone access and existing repeaters will be required to install PL Tone access.

Dog Sled Races: February, 2002

Richard Wilson said the club needs an overall event organizer. Jack Davis will be the Net Control Station. We will need to get Randall, the Organizer for the Dog sled Races, to come to the club's Christmas Party.

Bike Races: August, 2002

Denton Sprague reported that the Bike Races will be held on the Umatilla Indian Reservation in August, 2002. Our club will be asked to help with communications.

Morse Code Class

The club will start a Morse code class in late January or early February. We will use a 2-meter simplex frequency. We will use a commercially produced (recorded) code session for on-the-air code practice.

Support of New 146.880 Repeater System

Paul Weston said that people who want to support the new 146.880 repeater system can contribute donations to Jody Cross, N7ERT. Donations will help with the cost of the power bill and the phone bill. The phone bill for the new 146.880 repeater site is over \$20.00 per month. The telephone line is used for the repeater's autopatch interface with the local telephone system.

Election of Officers & Executive Committee Members At Large:

The following club members in good standing were elected as Officers and Executive Committee Members At Large for 2002.

President: Richard Wilson

Vice-President: Mike Califf

Secretary-Treasurer: Karen Wilson

Executive Committee Members At Large: Emery Heintz, Keith Schubert, and Jack Davis

Program Presentation:

Bob Tapley, NL7ES, of Pendleton gave a program presentation on the Navy-Marine Corps Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS). Bob provided everyone with an information handout on Navy-Marine Corps MARS. Navy-Marine Corps MARS holds regional daily nets at 7:00 PM on 4.0 MHz USB (use a suppressed carrier frequency at 4.0035 MHz as their central frequency). MARS nets are held on frequencies near the ham 160/80/40/20/2-meter bands. MARS has a new digital mode known as MT63. Navy-Marine Corps MARS uses formal military protocol for its nets. Anyone with an Amateur Technician Class License or higher can become a member. Large metropolitan areas have Navy-Marine Corps MARS 2-meter repeaters that operate on 148.375

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MHz, which is just outside the amateur radio 2-meter band. There are MARS 2-meter repeaters in Portland, Seattle, and near Beverly, Washington. Each net lasts about an hour. To maintain membership in the Navy-Marine Corps MARS program, you are expected to participate in the MARS nets with a minimum of 12 hours on-air time per quarter, and a total of 18 hours of MARS activities per quarter. The additional 6 hours of off-air activities can consist of studying MARS manuals, working for MARS, etc. The biggest advantage of MARS versus ARES/RACES is that MARS can use frequencies allocated by the Federal Government that are outside the amateur radio bands.

Adjournment:

Motion: Jack Davis moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded: Keith Schubert

Vote: *Passed*

Richard

E.C. Meeting Minutes

Date: December 17, 2001

Location: Up With Donuts, Pendleton

Executive Committee Members Present:

Richard Wilson, President;

Michael Califf Sr., Vice President;

Karen Wilson, Secretary-Treasurer;

Jack Davis, Member-At-Large

Emery Heintz, Member-At-Large;

Club Members Present:

Alan Polan, Rick Wilson, Laura Wilson

Guest: Howard Califf

Agenda

Call to Order: Richard Wilson Called the meeting to order at 8:05P.M.

Holiday party- Party is scheduled for January 12th.

Roosters has reserved a room for 5:00 P.M.. It is expected that most of us will be eating. A 15% gratuity will be added by Roosters.

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The Dog Sled races at tollgate are scheduled for February 9th-10th. Brett Mueller will coordinate the communications if another volunteer does not step forward. More information should be available at the holiday party.

ALW packet node was worked on by Brett Mueller, Richard Wilson and Rick Wilson. On December 15th they made the Journey to the snow and worked on the antennas and feedlines. ALW is working, but will require more attention, when the conditions improve (Probably in the spring).

A Red Cross First Aid and CPR Training class is scheduled for January 3rd 2002.

A five word per minute CODE CLASS is in the planning!!!! Please let us know if you have any suggestions or questions.

Discussions were held about moving the location of the EC meeting from the Umatilla Co. Justice Center to another place, to allow Brett Mueller to spend more time with his family. Possible locations include KUMA Radio, Up With Donuts, or to hold the meetings at a club members house. No decision was made.

Michael Califf Sr. moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Seconded: Jack Davis

Vote: Passed

Richard Wilson adjourned the meeting.

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LEARN SOMETHING NEW

If you interested in learning more about Ham Radio or radio related Emergency Services topics, take a look at what is available on the Internet! The ARRL has three excellent classes on Amateur Radio Emergency Communications (ARECC). There are courses available from FEMA on a wide range of emergency related issues as well. You may be interested in taking the Packet Challenge, to learn to use Packet Radio effectively in an emergency situation, as well as on a day to day basis. If you really want some information OVERLOAD take a look at all of the links available on www.ac6v.com, truly a great place to get info on almost any radio topic. This is just a small sample of the resources available to the Amateur Radio community. If you would like help in finding on-line information, you can talk to Richard Wilson or Mike Califf, Sr. for assistance.

Richard Wilson

