

## 2015 Leadership

### Elected Positions

#### President

Ray Spreier, KG7AV  
[hidarg-pres@hidarg.org](mailto:hidarg-pres@hidarg.org)

#### Vice President

Joe Barry, K7SQ  
[hidarg-vpres@hidarg.org](mailto:hidarg-vpres@hidarg.org)

#### Secretary

Max Vaughan, KF7MAX  
[hidarg-sec@hidarg.org](mailto:hidarg-sec@hidarg.org)

#### Treasurer

John Cherry, KE7GYB  
[hidarg-tres@hidarg.org](mailto:hidarg-tres@hidarg.org)

#### Director At Large

Brian Case, KF7WPK  
[hidarg-mal@hidarg.org](mailto:hidarg-mal@hidarg.org)

### Appointed Positions

#### ARES Coordinator

Andy Johnson, KE7TMU

#### St. Charles R7HPP Liaison

Pending

#### Technical Director

Bill Johnson, N7RGB

#### W7JVO Repeater Trustee

Joe Barry, K7SQ

#### Licensing / VE Coordinator

Joe Barry, K7SQ

#### PIO / Media Contact

Don Shurtleff, WB0DVS

#### Scouting / JOTA Liaison

Mike Williams, KB7KLT

#### Newsletter Editor

Ray Spreier, KG7AV

#### Webmaster

Bryan Ivie, N7VME

### Meetings

#### Weekly Lunch Gathering

Wednesdays at Noon  
 Jake's Diner in Bend

#### Monthly Business Meeting

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month  
 7:00pm  
 Saint Charles Medical Ctr. Or  
 Mid Oregon Credit Union

#### HIDARG - W7JVO

PO Box 723  
 Bend, Oregon 97709  
 USA  
[www.hidarg.org](http://www.hidarg.org)

## On the Air With Bill N7RGB

Hello, my name is William (Bill) Johnson. I've been a licensed ham since 1991, and have been involved with HIDARG, which began as the High Desert Emergency Radio Group, since it's inception. The growth and success of the club has always been a team effort. My primary contribution to the group over the years has been the design and engineering of the linked repeater system that is still in use throughout Central Oregon today. The original intent of the repeater system was to provide communication coverage from Bend east to Ontario along US 20. This was, of course, in the days before cell phones and the internet. The first three sites to go up were Glass Butte, Pine Mountain and Burns Butte. A lot of effort was put into obtaining the old telephone building and tower access at Glass Butte by A.J. Parry and others. The original link was based on 10 watt 1.25m (220Mhz) radio. These were later upgraded to 70cm (440Mhz) equipment when that became available. Shortly thereafter, a link to John Day was implemented by Mike Smith.

My interest in radio was first sparked as a youth of about 10 years, as my father and I worked on an Arvin AM music radio, locating a defective capacitor and replacing it to get the radio working again. After that, I started taking all the electronics course that I could in school. Dad and I used to listen to police calls in San Diego on about 1600Kc. When I was 14, I build a 2m AM transceiver. In high school, I was the head of the P.A. audio group. Our team would setup equipment at dances, ball games, and whenever needed. Some of my friends were amateur radio operators, and that encouraged me to pursue my own license. Working toward my Novice license, I had a tough time with morse code, but was encouraged by a Boy Scout leader who was also a licensed amateur.

When television first came into the scene, I was eager to learn all I could about this new technology, with a dream of someday having my own repair shop. Two way radio was also becoming more popular at this time. I prayed diligently to be able to pursue a career in this field, when one day, a man showed up at my door and offered me a job in his business, with the

requirement that I first get a second class phone license. There was a book of about 500 questions that had to be mastered, from which the test would draw 50 questions. I ended up working my dream job in the San Diego area. Later on, my wife Wilma and I moved to Oregon, where I worked for a two-way radio shop in Eugene, and then later on for a shop in Springfield. Eventually, I accepted a position with the State of Oregon, which took us to Bend. I then spent the next 25 years working on radio systems for the Oregon State Police and ODOT until I retired in 1997.

More...



Bill keeps a fully stocked go-kit in his truck for emergency or public event comms support. When we joked about his having everything and the kitchen sink, little did we know...

Bill N7RGB cont...

Some facts and trivia about the club from over the years -

The original charter for HIDERG (now HIDARG) was drafted in 1993 by Dr. Dick Ettinger N7RLX, Cliff Fleury AI7Y, Don Peters W7JVO, Bill Johnson N7RGB, Joe Barry KB7ORY (now K7SQ), Bruce Danielson N7RFM, Walt Cooper WA7VGR, and George Murphy K7YRU. Extensive work was later done by A.J. Parry to rewrite the bylaws and constitution of the club. The first meetings were held at Izzy's, later moving to the Hong Kong restaurant, and finally to Jakes. Past presidents have included Dr. Dick Ettinger, Pete Webber, George Murphy, Bill Johnson, Dave Stangland, Mike Smith, Darrell Fevegeon, Dave Stuckey, and Jeff Moore. The club logo that is still in use was first designed by Don Franks. The club retained the callsign W7JVO in honor of Don Peters. That is the callsign you hear broadcast by our repeaters for ID. ⌋

### On-Air Event and Contest Calendar

- Ten-Ten Winter SSB Party (10m)..... Feb 1-2
- North American Sideband Sprint.....Feb 1
- ARRL School Club Roundup.....Feb 9-13
- 070 PSK31 Valentine Day Sprint..... Feb 14
- ARRL International CW DX.....Feb 21-22
- North American RTTY QSO Party..... Mar 1

This is by no means an exhaustive list! For more info, see

<http://www.radio-sport.net/calendar/>

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

<http://www.ten-ten.org/>

<http://www.podxs070.com>

### Statement of Financial Condition as of 20 January, 2015

Bank of America Opening Balance .....	7,175.60
Income this period.....	314.00
ARES Xfer to LaPine group for CLR event.....	(500.00)
Expenses this period (HIDARG, DHMF).....	(260.06)
Bank of America Closing Balance.....	6,729.54
Paypal Fund Balance (HIDARG).....	474.57

HIDARG (includes PayPal) Unrestricted Funds.....	2,430.31
ARES Designated Funds.....	3,352.45
Drew Holmes Fund (Outreach and Education).....	1,421.35
Total Fund Balances.....	7,204.11

### Upcoming Meeting Topics

Monthly Business Meeting – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month  
Presentation: Basic Antenna Theory, John Ogden W9CZ;  
Briefing about possible comms support for June Volksport event;  
Resolution to authorize budget and purchase of tower trailer.

### Nets

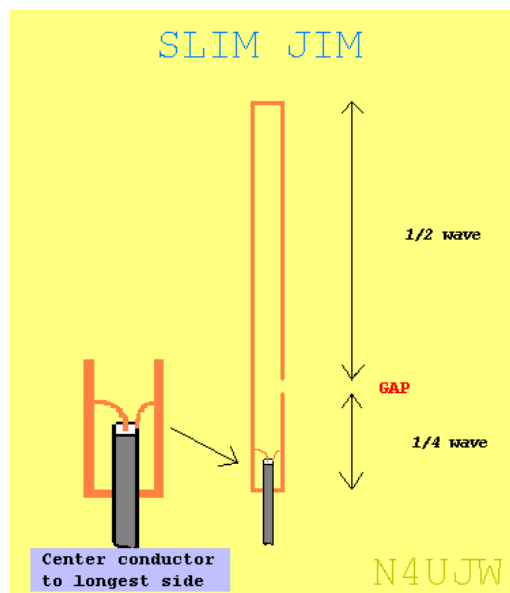
- + JeffCro Net – Mondays 1900H, 147.38+ PL 162.2
- + HIDARG Weekly 2m – Tuesdays 1900H  
See the [HIDARG website](#) a list of repeaters.
- + HIDARG 2m Simplex – Mondays, and Tuesdays following JeffCro and HiDARG nets, 146.58 MHz

### 2015 FCC Licensing Test Sessions

11 Mar, 29 Apr, 03 Jun, 15 Jul, 19 Aug, 30 Sep, 4 Nov, 15 Dec  
Deschutes Public Library, downtown Bend branch, upstairs  
For more information, contact [Joe Barry, K7SQ](#)

## The Slim Jim Antenna

The Slim Jim is a vertically polarized, end-fed antenna that has considerable gain and a flat takeoff angle, making it a very effective design that significantly outperforms ground plane antennas. It is estimated to have about a 6db relative gain over a 5/8 wave vertical. It uses a J-type matching stub (J Integrated Matching = the “JIM”). The original design is credited to F.C. Judd G2BCX. This antenna is very easy to build, and can be constructed for almost any band – although they get very tall and unwieldy for bands longer than 10m. They are extremely popular for 2m applications. There are a variety of plans and designs that can be found on the internet, ranging from roll-up field versions constructed from 300 ohm twin lead or 450 ohm window line, to rigid base-station models constructed from copper pipe. The basic design is shown in the illustration, and formulas for general dimensions are included below. No part of the antenna should be grounded. It should be insulated from the mast and given about ¼ wavelength of free space.



General guidelines in INCHES:

Long ¾ wave side: 8415 / f Mhz

½ wave section: 5610 / f Mhz

¼ wave section : 2805 / f Mhz

Feedpoint is at 10-20% of the ¼ wave section +/- for SWR.

Freespace, the distance away from the mast: 2953 / f Mhz

The “gap” varies by frequency, but gaps of 1 to 1.5 inches have been reported to work very well for 2m.

More details can be found at -

<http://www.hamuniverse.com/slimjim.html> ⌋



## Mark Your Calendar

### February

- 5 Monthly Business Meeting – 7pm @ Mid Oregon FCU
- 14 ARRL – Salem/Rickreal Hamfest, Polk County FG
- 28 March agenda and newsletter to email
- 28 Boy Scouts Radio Merit Badge I
- LDS Church, Thompson Rd., Bend

### March

- 5 Monthly Business Meeting – 7pm
- 7-8 Bachelor Butte Dog Derby
- 14 ARRL – Salem/Rickreal Hamfest, Polk County FG
- 14 Boy Scouts Radio Merit Badge II