

2016 Leadership**Elected Positions****President**

Ray Spreier, KG7AV
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Vice President

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Secretary

Max Vaughan, KF7MAX
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Treasurer

John Cherry, KE7GYB
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Director At Large

Brian Case, KF7WPK
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

Max Vaughan, KF7MAX

Webmaster

Bryan Ivie, N7VME

Meetings**Weekly Lunch Gathering**

Wednesdays at 11:30am
Jake's Diner in Bend

Monthly Business Meeting

1st Thursday of every Month
At 7:00pm
Mid Oregon Credit Union

HIDARG - W7JVO

PO Box 723
Bend, Oregon 97709
USA
www.hidarg.org

Running Digital Modes – Remotely?

It is easier than you might think. Sure running a ham station remotely can be difficult at best if you are doing CW, and SSB voice. Not only do you need to have some kind of setup to remotely use the key, you have to be able to send audio back and forth for SSB voice contacts. There is specialized software and hardware out there that lets you do just that, most of it is fairly expensive, not to mention the setups and hoops to get it working correctly.

But if you have PC software like Ham Radio Deluxe, or FLDigi for example and want to use it via a remote connection to your PC it is much simpler to setup than you think. It can be used to run your radio in conjunction with some simple remote desktop software. For example, if you are like a lot of hams nowadays, you have a PC either dedicated to controlling you rig, or providing normal PC stuff and rig control as well.

Setup correctly you can run your radio from a remote location, all without the expensive hardware and software mentioned previously. There are some tradeoffs, tuning the antenna for example. If you do not have an auto-tuner beside or in your rig, you may be forced to stick on one band. If your PC software allows you to activate the tuner, that would be great.

How would a setup like this be useful you ask? Well for example, you could have your laptop in the living room, running some PSK using the PC in the shack, or from the comfort of your bed, all while the spouse reads or watches TV. And if you want, maybe from your hotel room when hundreds of miles away. However you want to keep in mind that when you are a fair distance away, keeping the rig on when not in use, might not be the best idea.

There are ways around that as well, simple home automation software for lights and such can turn your rig on or off as needed all being controlled by the PC you are logged into.

I will describe how I do it. I have an ICOM 756ProIII with a "Signal Link" USB sound card interface. Both the ICOM and the SL are hooked via USB into my Windows 10 desktop PC.

On the desktop PC I am running the commercial version of Ham Radio Deluxe(6), it retails for around \$99, and you can sign up for yearly updates and support for about half that. I admit that I do not update all the time. And there is still a free shareware version (5) available that you can try, however depending upon your needs or what you want to do, there are tons free software that allows you to connect to your rig and run all or most its features direct from you PC's desktop. (Links in the Resources box)

If you want to do Packet or WinLink, RMS Express etc, but need to control it from a remote location or a location better suited for the task at hand, then consider this simple setup which would be great for EmCom as well.

The program I am currently using for remote access is called TeamViewer, I have it installed on my laptop as well as on several of my home PCs. The commercial version is fairly expensive, but when you install it, you pick that it is for private and personal use. This gives you free access to use. You do have to have an account registered, this is so that when you log-in to the program, it can run out and find all the other PC's that you may have installed it on, to see if they are active or not.

When installing you are given the choice of setup for remote access in unattended mode or in normal Mode. What that does is install the software in such a manner that your PC can be accessed remotely by another TV install that is registered to you. During the install you are asked for the PC ID, and a password to use. After that when you log into any other TV install on any other PC; your home PC, (which is in unattended mode) will allow you to log into its desktop and run any software as if you were sitting in front of that PC. As a note the PC running in unattended mode can have the mode disabled, or shutdown when not being used.

I might also mention that I use TV to access the Sharps Ridge repeater which is off the grid, but has wireless internet, and currently running a Windows XP PC monitoring the solar charge system. Some future enhancements, will allow us to actually control radio's, and do system re-configures as needed.

(cont pg2)

(Remote Access cont. from pg1)

Least I get off track here, a few things to keep in mind. You have access to the software that controls your radio, you do not have access to your radio. So before I do any remote session, I need to make sure my radio is on, and everything is working correctly, antenna tuner enabled, Signalink active, etc. Depending upon your software you may not be able to use all the features of your radio. With HRD, I can do just about everything I need to do from the remote PC's desktop. I log into my desktop PC, start up HRD, and check settings, since I am doing digital modes, I have no need to key a mike or pound a key. Currently the only thing I can't do is swing my MFJ-1775 dipole around with the rotor. It means I have to put it into the direction I want to work. I need to replace my rotor controller which would then allow HRD to properly swing the dipole where ever I want.

At the April 7th meeting I gave a small demonstration of how I can remote into my home PC from Classroom D at St Charles. I might mention that getting setup to do that was a real pain, and a bit stressful to say the least. The St. Charles Guest network, would NOT! allow TeamViewer to connect to my TV account. This meant that I could not log-in to my account to access my home PC. Fortunately at the last minute I was able to turn my Samsung phone into a WiFi hotspot and connect that way. At the time I figured I was going to eat up my data plan for the month, but when I got home and checked, I had used only about 175megs during the half hour session, which was not to bad.

There are other types of software out there other than TV but for the ease of use, (once properly setup) it can't be beat. VNC is a semi-commercial product that works on PC's as well as Raspberry Pi's, BeagleBones, and other micro PC system that can run the various flavors of UNIX. Another product that some might find useful is Ammy Admin. It has a bad reputation of being exploited by hackers, who use it to gain access to your PC. The software is safe, the folks using it to gain access to your PC are not!. One example is you may get a phone call and they say that they are from your bank or Microsoft, and that they have detected some serious issues with your PC and need to remote into it so as to fix the issues. This is the program most often used for that, because it is easy to setup and use on both ends. For personnel unlimited no time restrictions use it runs around \$67 dollars, means you can use it to connect to as many PC's as you want.

In closing please review the information in the "More Resources" block and decide what might work best for you. Both with the remote software as well as the digital mode software. One thing I will mention is that I have tried most of the DM software, and find them all beneficial with respect to their limitations. But for PC control of my rig, and logging contacts as well as working the digital modes I use Ham Radio Deluxe. As I heard one ham say at our meeting last night you mileage will of course vary.

(cont. on pg3)

TECH Corner: Lightning Protection

A lot of hams just disconnect their coax from the back of their radio during a thunder storm, in reality this will just provide a conduit to the inside of your home for lightning. If you are going to disconnect, disconnect outside of your home or shack long before the danger of the storm, you don't want to have the connection in your hands when it strikes either.

Grounding systems require multiple ground rods coupled together with low impedance wiring such as flat copper strap, All grounds need to be tied together including the buildings service grounds. Grounding rods should be spaced twice there length apart, the rods don't necessarily need to be real deep, sometimes four 4 foot rods spaced 8 foot apart will provide a lower impedance ground than two 8 foot rods 16 foot apart, and will likely be easier to drive here in Central Oregon. UFER grounds work very well in desert like conditions, if you have a long concrete footing planed you can incorporate a UFER into your system.

Each leg of a tower should be grounded, if the current flows though the concrete it will superheat any moisture and blow it apart.

Coax cables should not be relied on to provide coupling between grounds, it should be grounded every 70 feet or so down the tower and at the base of the tower, then every 70 feet or so and at the entrance of the building, the magnetic impulse associated with a lightning strike can induce currents on long runs of coax and things like ugly baluns. So this needs to be grounded at the end of the coax as well.

After the majority of the current has been dissipated to the grounding system a RF surge protector has a chance of protecting you, your shack and your equipment. Many of the same techniques used in lighting protection are used for EMP protection as well.

This is by no means everything you need to know about lightning protection. For further information please read Lightning Protection & Grounding Solutions for Communication Sites by Ken R. Rand. there are additional white-papers to be found on Polyphasors site, and the ARRL has several links to more reading.

-73, Brian KF7WPK

<http://www.radio2way.net/Polyphaser%20Guide.pdf>

<http://www.arrl.org/lightning-protection>

<http://polyphaser.com/services/media-library>

(Remote Access cont. pg 2)

If anyone has questions or needs help with setups etc, drop me an email. Have fun checking what is available and see what works best for you. Again check into the info below. If your PC challenged with software installs, best get some help to fully understand how it needs to be setup.

-KF7MAX

Remote Access Resources.

www.teamviewer.com Remote PC access. Need an account to use, and best to use your ham call and domain if you have that type of email. Ham friendly folks, but they get upset, if they suspect inappropriate usage.

www.vnc.com VNC software. Have not used this one much, used to be shareware, careful to read all info as you install so that you do not get the time limited version.

[Www.ammy.com](http://www.ammy.com) Ammy Admin. Can be set to allow auto logins to the PC from authorized remote users. Shareware version allows 15hrs usage per month. \$67 dollar version has more features and no time limits plus it can use your own server for two-way communications.

<http://www.hrdsoftwarellc.com> Ham Radio Deluxe When finalizing info I discovered that the digital component of HRD now supports using your voice with a PC headphone and mike, which should allow SSB voice via remote. I will have to upgrade and see if that is in fact the case. As a note the HRD folks use TeamViewer to help support their software.

<http://www.w1hkj.com/> FLDigi Open source software lots of features like HRD, tried it liked it, moved on. Lots of hams like this because its free and has really decent online community support.

<http://wb8nut.com/digital/> More information on the different modes and what they sound like.

<http://www.qsl.net/rv3apm/> RV3APM Russian hams digital info site, lots of links, a few were broken when I tested a them at random.

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Presidents Corner: Thoughtful musings from our fearless leader.

HIDARG, OHA, and the R7HPP

Most members know that HIDARG is active in supporting ham radio operations at St. Charles Medical Center in Bend and Redmond, and have heard the term "R7HPP" tossed around quite a bit. R7HPP stands for the Region 7 Hospital Preparedness Program. This is a program that is part of the Oregon State Health Authority (OHA) program on emergency preparedness, and focuses on the hospitals in rural central and eastern Oregon. Within our club's operational area, the St. Charles Healthcare System (Bend, Redmond, Prineville, Madras), Harney District Hospital (Burns), and Blue Mountain Hospital (John Day) are the major hospitals. The R7HPP also includes the county health authorities.

Our involvement with R7HPP came through St. Charles, primarily due to overlapping missions - our repeater network happened to coincide with the SCHCS service area. To condense a lot of history into a single bullet point - it was federal grant funds to us via R7HPP and St. Charles that allowed for the upgrade and standardization of our repeater network a few years ago, as well as the purchase of ham radio equipment for the hospital stations. Today, HIDARG (and ARES) provide support to the St. Charles system by providing engineering and design assistance, and in providing volunteer operators for hospital station operations at KF7IKY (Bend) and KF7IKX (Redmond). Ken Quiner is the current St. Charles Emergency Manager, and is our primary contact.

Ray KG7AV and Jim KF7TGE recently met with Andrea Kidder, the OHA liaison for the R7HPP and R6HPP (Columbia Gorge) regions. We had the opportunity to brief her on the history and involvement of HIDARG in supporting healthcare continuity of communications. One of the ongoing issues from our 3 March meeting is a desire for more regional and inter-group coordination. While the SCHCS spans most of our service area, the R7HPP is uniquely poised to help bring together the various parties for ongoing conversations about interoperability and cooperation. We spoke about the upcoming orientations and SETs that will culminate in the Cascadia Rising SET 7-10 June. We also discussed implementation of a separate BPQ32 messaging network to serve healthcare. A separate network could provide both traffic and frequency separation to allow both continuity of government (ARES / W7HWY) and healthcare to fulfill their missions without interfering with each other in an emergency. As the R6HPP liaison, Andrea is also uniquely poised to help facilitate discussions between HIDARG and our counterparts in the gorge - which opens interesting possibilities in light of a potential repeater site in the Condon area.

It is refreshing to see so many parties interested in 'regional' thinking beyond county lines. I think that exciting times are ahead. Stay tuned for more.
-73 / Ray KG7AV

ED Comment: On page 7 is some information that can be printed separately from the newsletter to pass out to prospective hams. Feel free to print and pass this out to anyone who might be interested in getting into ham radio.
--KF7MAX

Affiliations and Sponsors



Editorial Commentary -- Hams and Maker Mills!

Over the past several weeks, I have been putting down thoughts and ideas and trying to come up with a mutually agreeable solution that benefits both parties. In talking with our membership over the past year, and reviewing the recent requirements proposed by the High Desert Maker Mill it is clear that we have a number of differences to come to some sort of agreement on. Right now the risk of this not occurring is far ahead of actually seeing some sort of mutual beneficial partnership and moving forward. But before I get into that, I need to voice some things that some folks on both sides of this issue need to think seriously about.

Ham radio in some respects, heck, in a lot of respects was the very first crude “maker mill”. Not as a place to actually go and learn how to do something, or to bring an idea to fruition, but it existed in the sense that it was an “ideal” of a type of discipline if you will. A forum for learning all about this fascinating new world of radio, trying new ideas and a passing of knowledge to those that had it to those that did not.

Back in the early part of the last century, in order to get into this very exciting, and mysterious “hobby” one had to learn a great deal about a lot of different disciplines. To do that, folks that had this interest in this new invention called “radio” got together with each other, most often they formed clubs, and traded information on how-to do various things to either advance in the hobby or apply it to a business idea they had.

Back in the early days and into the early 60’s, many cash poor hams had to build their own equipment from scratch. Commercially made gear was expensive, and “rolling your own” was a way to get into the hobby with less expense. There were clubs who had “ham elmers” willing to teach you what you did not know. You had to learn about metal working, soldering, welding, electronics, even carpentry. Many early hams built some of their equipment and accessories with wood as the foundation for not only radios but antenna towers.

It is common knowledge, (at least to most “hams”), that many started out in the “hobby” and moved on into applying what they learned to either their job or started their own business: and just like the computer revolution of the late 70’s early 80’s, many made their mark in history. Some of the great innovators of the last century started their career because of ham radio. Everywhere you look in today’s technological society; a ham was involved or helped get it pushed forward. Hams doing experiments with repeater systems in the 60’s moved on to either start or work for companies that eventually pioneered the mobile telephone, and eventually the cell phones we use today. Many of the early NASA engineers were hams and even today a large number work there. Byte magazine was started by a ham, looking to integrate hams into the new age of computers.

Fast forward to today and with all those advances, hams play a large part in the mortar of the electronic foundation of what we have advantage of today. Now days, hams are building software defined radios with off the shelf parts, many are into robotics and remote control systems. Flying quad copters, applying what they know about today’s electronics to ham radio and vice versa. It has never been a more exciting time to be into ham radio. And integrating it into the current wave of the electronic revolution.

With Arduino’s, RaspBerry Pi’s, Beagle Bone’s, hams are applying them to their discipline. Young folks of today are learning how to apply radio to their interests as well. What’s more natural for them to learn what ham radio can offer, as well as what they can offer to ham radio. A hobby with a launching pad to the future.

Now that the Memorandum of Understanding is in the hands of the folks at the High Desert Maker Mill. How best our two organizations can form a mutual agreeable collaboration in order provide a piece of that launching pad remains to be seen. Below and on the next page is the MOU we passed to the High Desert Maker Mill folks. Comments suggestions, criticisms are most certainly welcome. The format is a bit off from what was actually presented. But the message remains the same.

..... KF7MAX

Memorandum of Understanding between High Desert Amateur Radio Group & High Desert Maker Mill

HIDARG is a well-established 501(c)3 organization with an extensive track record of public and community service. HDMM aspires to a similar position and is on track to do so. HIDARG is neither structured financially nor has the financial resources to enter into a “commercial” relationship with HDMM. However, HIDARG is willing to share other resources with HDMM in a joint effort to enhance public recognition of both organizations and to promote HIDARGs mission of community and of public service. HIDARG looks forward to cooperating with HDMM in planning and scheduling events promoting awareness of the benefits of ham radio for personal achievement, recreation and public service while demonstrating the resources offered through HDMM. HIDARG further supports the efforts of many of its members, acting as individuals, in their efforts to support HDMM as volunteers - both in ham radio related activities or in any other way that they as individuals can benefit HDMM.

To put some perspective on this endeavor it is HIDARGS position that having a “club” station has always been one of our goals. Having this opportunity presented to us, and with the possibilities both seen and unseen at this time is extremely important to HIDARG and its members.

(cont Page 6)

(HIDARG & HDMM MOU cont.)

1. HIDARG has no funds or moneys that can be allocated to provide \$200 monthly cash outlay to HDMM, the members that originally had promised to supply some of this money feel that the perceived value is definitely not there and goes against what community service means to those of us in the ham radio community and what we provide. All without cost and expected remuneration. For over 100 years “hams” and dedication to public service have had this one concept ingrained in our culture.

2. HIDARG feels that as currently presented by HDMM, this is definitely NOT in the spirit of community support or partnership that both our organizations have primary goals in pursuing.

3. The fact that many local businesses, and community leaders and private citizens have given a great deal of support to HDMM. HIDARG feels that as non-profit that donates a great deal of time back to the community through our own activities that HIDARG is in need of the same kind of support. I was given the term “Pay it Forward” by one of our members.

4. That it is in the best interest of HDMM to provide us the space at no cost for our “mutual benefit” all this in the spirit of what has been talked about for several years.

5. HIDARG feels that in the interest of coming to some kind of partnership, that offering use of the resources at HDMM for “ham related” projects at this time is not needed but can certainly be addressed in the future as needs and directions change.

6. Access to HDMM benefits is beneficial to a few members at this time and if members wish to have access to those resources, they are free to pursue that on their own, but that it would be outside HIDARGs ability to administrate that process at this time.

7. HIDARG is aware of the value of the space to HDMM, and feels that it is only proper that members wishing to donate funds, volunteer work, teaching, mentoring and other activities that directly benefit HDMM are appropriate and expected as part of this partnership.

8. HDMM can count on support from HIDARG members for various activities, classes, demonstrations, and event support that directly relates to community service and publicity that ultimately benefits both organizations.

9. A HIDARG “Station Committee” will be setup to control access, ensure proper procedures and requirements of HDMM are followed. To be provided at a later date.

10. Direct cash donations by individual HIDARG members will more than cover utility cost for the space, power, water, bathroom use, etc.

11. If required HIDARG will provide HDMM with documents for purposes of tax reporting that reflect real costs and benefits to HIDARG from HDMM.

12. Any use of the space will be within the bounds of HDMM normal operation hours, except as noted.

However a plan will need to be put in place for emergency station use, in the event of disaster or emergency.

Training drills associated with community service or emergency exercises, all to be approved in advance by HDMM.

13. HIDARG will be responsible for all work and materials to bring a station on line with respect to appropriate hours and other users in nearby spaces.

14. The station would always be available to groups such as the scouts, local high school clubs, under the guidance and administration of experienced HIDARG members.

15. It is agreed that some sort of trial period of 6 months or a year be in place.

16. A monthly accounting of benefits will be done so that both can evaluate the relationship

17. What’s working & what’s not sessions as needed with the HIDARG “Station Committee”

With the blessing of the HIDARG members and the HIDARG Board of Directors this is our position. We are willing to discuss exact details and outlines that we will require from our members to ensure that those helping to support the station as well as HDMM understand their roles, and so that both parties benefit from our partnership. HDMM must decide the following questions.

Is this right for HDMM at this time?

If not what needs to change to make it work?

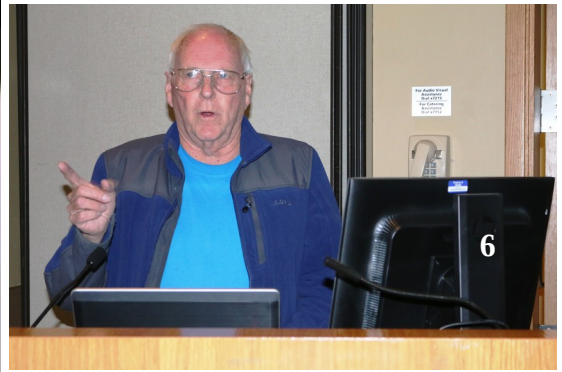
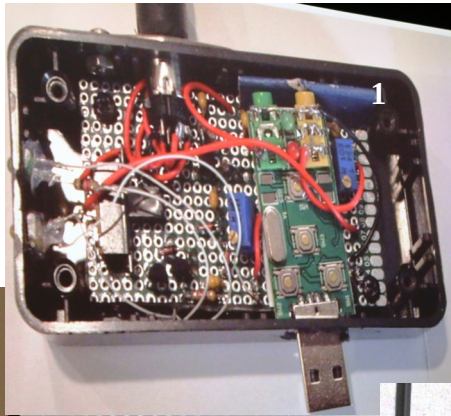
If HDMM is really serious about having an in house “Ham” station, what better way to accomplish that than to have HIDARG set it up, support it, administrate it and control its use under the name of HIDARG. Where the station is, belongs to HDMM, what is in the station belongs to HIDARG. If that is a direction more beneficial to HDMM, then some of the MOU above becomes non-relevant.

Max Vaughan KF7MAX Secretary High Desert Amateur Radio Group.

What is Ham Radio and how can you get into Ham Radio

- In it's simplest form, amateur radio is about communicating with other people via radio frequencies. However, as a hobby, ham radio covers many aspects of communications. Everything from talking across the street with an inexpensive handie talkie (HT) to bouncing signals off of satellites and the moon and all that lies between those two extremes.
- In addition, there are contests, fox hunts, social activities, emergency preparedness, and any number of other activities within the hobby. Amateur Radio is a very diverse hobby considering that it's about communicating via radio waves.
- Ask a group of 20 hams why they got into the hobby and you'll likely get 20 different answers – there's just so much to do and try. That is probably why most people that get into the hobby do so over their lifetime depending on how young they were when they got their first license. Just like life, interest in ham radio grows and declines depending on a person's life experience. It's not uncommon to find ham radio operators just getting back into the hobby after an absence of years or even decades.
- These days, one of the most common motivations to get into the hobby is disaster or emergency preparedness. In the event of a major emergency situation, oftentimes, normal communications such as cell phones and the Internet become compromised. It is in these types of situations that ham radio operators are able to set up radios, establish communications with entities outside of the affected area as well as within the affected area, and provide needed essential communications and health and welfare communications. All of this is done by volunteers from within the amateur radio community.
- **Why should I get into Ham Radio?**
 - The reasons for getting into the hobby are as diverse as the people that are involved. Some people want to help their local community by supporting emergency communications or getting involved helping with local events such as parades and sporting events. Others are more interested in the competitive aspects of contesting and fox hunting, others are intrigued by the satisfaction of exercising their technical skills by building some or all of their own equipment. Whatever the need or desire, there is usually a way to satisfy it by participating in the hobby.
- **What is HiDARG?**
 - HiDARG is the High Desert Amateur Radio Group – a local non-profit organization dedicated to promoting ham radio and educational outreach to the local community. HiDARG supports other local organizations such as Deschutes County ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services), the COARECT group in the LaPine area, and the Region 7 Hospital Preparedness Program(R7HPP) to name just a few. HiDARG supports and maintains a linked repeater system that covers a large part of central and eastern Oregon. The repeater system is used to support member activities and also allows us to provide direct communications support to the R7HPP as well as Deschutes County ARES and the local communities that make up Central Oregon.
 - History – Central Oregon Radio Amateurs (CORA) was the first local ham radio organization and existed for decades. Two other organizations were birthed by CORA in the late 80' early 90's – Central Oregon DX Club(CODXC), and the High Desert Amateur Radio Group(HiDARG). About 8 or 9 years ago, CORA was merged into HiDARG and became part of our history. Initially, HiDARG was called the High Desert Emergency Radio Group (HiDERG), however, when the founders went to apply for non-profit status they were told that having the word "emergency" in their name would prevent the insurance companies from wanting to provide coverage for e the group. So the name was changed and it became HiDARG.
- **How do I get Licensed?**
 - Getting an amateur radio license is easy. These days there are 3 different class licenses you can get: Technician, General, and Extra. The tests were originally administered by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and a small fee is charged. Now the FCC has allowed the ham radio community to administrate the testing process and turn the results over to them to issue the actual license.
 - Technician is the beginner level license, but don't let the term beginner throw you. Technicians can communicate worldwide just like the higher class licenses, they just do it a little differently than Generals and Extras. The highest license class gives you ALL of the access that amateur radio offers in the United States – that is the Extra license. The General license gives you most of what you would get with an Extra license minus some sections in the band plan that are reserved exclusively for the Extra licenses. The traditional model or understanding of what ham radio is about revolves around the General and Extra licenses access to the HF or High Frequency bands. This activity is what has traditionally defined ham radio for the general public – HF operations. Technicians have limited access to the HF bands but they have full access to everything above 50 MHz or the 6m band.
 - To get licensed involves taking and passing a multiple choice test for each license class. The Technician license and the General license tests both use a 35 question test, the Extra license test requires 50 questions and each license level requires more knowledge and math. The questions are standardized and there is a pool of questions to draw from for each license.
 - The process is to contact the local testing authority, determine when the next test session is, study, and take the test. Testing is \$15 per session whether you take just one element test or all 3 which would allow you to go from no license to Extra in one testing session. We don't usually recommend that, but if you have the knowledge and confidence, you are certainly welcome to try and pass all three elements at once. Most people will content themselves with doing one at a time with a delay of weeks, months, or even years in between. The process also used to require a morse code test for each license class, but over the last 10 years or so the morse code requirement has been done away with.
- **How Can HiDARG help?**
 - One of HiDARG's members (Joe Barry – K7SQ), is responsible for organizing the FCC test sessions locally. Joe has set up a regular test schedule with testing about every 6 weeks or so. Joe can also accommodate testing that doesn't fit in the schedule if you are unable to attend one of the scheduled test sessions. In addition to helping with the testing, HiDARG is also making resources available to anyone wanting to get licensed. In the past we have offered classes and we are now looking at also offering tutoring sessions, and other options for getting any interested parties licensed in a timely manner.

April 7th Wed night meeting.



Picture Puzzles. Match the caption with the number of the picture. Put in your call, clip and give to KF7MAX, all correct entries will be put into a general drawing to be done at the May Meeting. If you are present and your call is drawn you will get some kind of prize. **Call sign contest:** In the blank box: NOTE the picture number and add the call signs of the folks in the each picture. Person with the most correct calls will get a shirt. Note that some pictures are very tricky you have to get all the folks even partially visible. Pass to Max at the lunch meeting or at the May Thurs. night meeting.

- They are the same but different! _____ Your Call: _____
- The restorative hair process. _____
- Really! Really? _____
- 40 meters at 8:30pm _____
- Wonder Guts _____
- Dont make me stop this presentation! _____
- Zap! _____
- MMM, OK, Don't believe it!, Oh my!, So that's how it works., What the...! _____

2. _____ 6. _____ Your Call: _____

4. _____

5. _____



Mark Your Calendar

April

7 HIDARG Meeting 19:00 MOFCU
13 ARES Meeting 18:30

May

5 HIDARG Meeting 19:00 MOFCU
11 ARES Meeting 18:30

June

2 HIDARG Meeting 19:00 MOFCU
8 ARES Meeting 18:30

July

7 HIDARG Meeting 19:00 MOFCU
13 ARES Meeting 18:30

Please note that times may change after publication, keep an eye on the HIDARG email list for latest information for club meets and ARES dates and times as well as the website. MOFCU is of course the Mid-Oregon Federal Credit Union.

Area Exercises and Events on the horizon

Fri-Sat 22-23 April 2016 ARES Sprint SET TBD

Saturday 28 May 2016 St. Charles Radio Station Bend
Orientation and checkout 0900-1200

Tu-Fr 7-10 June 2016 Cascadia Rising SET TBD

First event of the year, is the Pole Peddle Paddle, May 21st, if interested in supporting this event, the primary ham coordinator is Jim Sellers, N7RDN. More details will be sent out via our email list. Note that this is a HIDARG sanctioned event, but not limited to HIDARG members to support.

Statement of Financial Condition as of April 1st March 2016

Bank of America Opening Balance 1 April 2016.....	4,324.06
(a) Paypal Balance (HIDARG).....	310.49
(b) HIDARG general fund.....	3238.83
(c) Drew Holmes Fund (Outreach and Education).....	1,395.72
(d) Trailer Fund	300.00
(e) Total Cash Assets (BOA bal + a).....	4634.55

Upcoming Meetings and Topics

May 5th. J-Pole building workshop, some how to's, demo's and misc items. Selecting Field Day Site (A MUST!)

Nets

+ JeffCro Net – Mondays 1900H, 147.38+ PL 162.2
+ HIDARG Weekly 2m – Tuesdays 1900H
See the [HIDARG website](#) for a list of repeaters.
+ HIDARG 2m Simplex – Mondays, and Tuesdays following JeffCro and HiDARG nets, 146.58 MHz This net has been very active and interesting, set some time in to check in.

2016 FCC Licensing Test Sessions

April-27 June-1 July-13 Aug-31 Sept-28 Nov-2 Dec-14 All days are on Wednesday 1Pm at Deschutes Public Library, downtown Bend branch, upstairs. BUT Please confirm the location prior to the day of the test. For more information, contact. Joe Barry, K7SQ joek7sq@gmail.com www.hidarg.org

Repeater Maintenance & Planning

Now is the season for repeater maintenance. Here is what is on tap in the next several months. Work parties are being put together. Keep in mind that the word “work” is a given. We have room sometimes for extra folks, but if wish to take part, you may have to provide your own transportation in some cases. The only site that might be an issue is Mt-S, it has controlled access, and looki-loo's are discouraged by the owners. However if you want to learn and be part of the repeater maintenance team, please let KF7MAX know. Long Butte: Replace old back up batteries with new set.

Mt. Stephenson: Spring inspection. Test coax etc, document any issues, evaluate for replacing antenna. Replace or add set of batteries if appropriate.

Pine Mt: Replace backup batteries with new set. Test coax. Glass Butte: Bring digi-peater on line. Add set of batteries.

Sharps Ridge: Revamp computer system, add remote systems control. Add another bank of batteries, tie in the wind generator to provide better backup support and control.

JohnDay: Revamp current system, add local access from 2 meter system to link system into Mt. Stephenson.

HIDARG WEBSITE NEWS!

We are finally live at www.hidarg.org Thanks to Bryan Ivie N7VME whose hard work over the past year to get moved to a new provider, moving old content over, and other stuff to get things setup and working. There is still some work to do, the members area is still under construction. A picture gallery.

Getting the new site up has been challenging, to say the least, Bryan has been working full time at a “normal” job as well as taking courses at COCC, and what time he has left to help with the site is very much appreciated.

I also should mention that if you are NOT on the HIDARG email reflector please let us know. As a reminder, having your email on the roster does not make you a member of the list server. Please keep that in mind.

ARRL Membership Reminder.

Please keep in mind that if you are not an ARRL member, that in order for the club to have official status from the ARRL, 50% of members in HIDARG need to be ARRL members. And something I have recently become aware of is that if you join the ARRL through HIDARG, the club gets to keep \$15 dollars of the ARRL membership fee for NEW ARRL memberships, this is also true for any former ARRL members who have let their dues go past 2 years. For renewing ARRL members: HIDARG will have \$2 coming back.

INTRO TO HAM RADIO

This will be a presentation on how you can get your ham license and start your adventure into this exciting hobby. Please RSVP via the HIDARG Web site.

WHEN: 6pm-8pm April 26th

WHERE: St Charles Hospital Classroom ?xx

We will provide more information on the HIDARG Website as soon as we have it. -KF7MAX