



February 2018 Newsletter

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President's Comments

Welcome to the Yelm Amateur Radio Group's monthly newsletter for February 2018. The election of officers was held in November and the officers and board of directors remain the same.

Our group is working on several events for the coming year and the success of those events depends on the active participation of all of our members. There are several members who still need to pay their dues for 2018 and I hope that each of you will check in with us at our February 3rd meeting.

For those who missed our January 20 meeting and training we constructed two ground plane antennas, one for 2meters and one for 70 cm. This was a simple job using an SO-239 connector and some welding rod. This week Mark will be continuing our education on Ground Plane Antennas. Don't miss this opportunity.

On Sunday night, after ARES net, we are moving from 146.55 MHz simplex 440.200 MHz PL: 100 MHz. Everyone is invited and encouraged to join in. I hope to see all of you Saturday February 3 at 9:00 for coffee and

conversation followed at 9:30 by our meeting and training.

73's

Richard WBOSRJ
President YARG

Editor's Notes

Welcome to the February 2018 YARG Newsletter. This month we have a new format and a new Editor. Chris, KB7NMU, agreed to take over the role of newsletter editor. I hope you like the new format and find the newsletter useful. Please let me know if there is anything in particular you would like to see in future newsletters. This is your newsletter and should reflect what the members of the club are interested in.

This month we are starting some new regular features, such as listings of weekly nets and a calendar of events. If there is a net or event you would like listed, please let me know. We also have some ham radio related humor being provided by Gary, WA7SH.

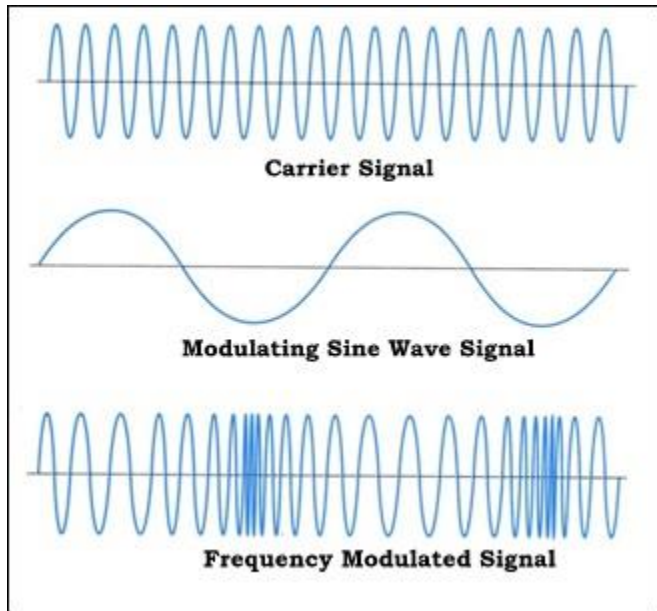
I'm always looking for content, so if you would like to contribute anything, whether it is a review or committee update, please contact me at ckennedy@kb7nmu.net.

*An elderly ham driver was going down the interstate when suddenly his 2 meter rig crackled his call...Answering...he heard a fellow ham's urgent warning....."Hey Elmer, just heard on the news that there's a car going down I-40 the wrong way, please be careful"!!
Elmer replied, "Well I'll declare, it's not just one.....
there's hundreds of them'!!!!!!!!!! –
found on HamUniverse*

Tech Notes

Frequency Modulation (FM)

In Amateur Radio FM is commonly used for analog voice on VHF and UHF. There are also FM sub-bands on 10M and 6M. FM is a modulation technique where the signal modulates the carrier wave by varying the instantaneous frequency of the wave.



FM does consume more bandwidth than other voice modes such as Single Side Band (SSB), which is why its use is generally limited to the higher bands where more spectrum is available.

FM was pioneered by Edwin Armstrong of the RCA corporation in the years between WWI and WWII. Many of the circuits designed by Armstrong are still in use today, such as the Superheterodyne and Super-Regenerative receiver circuits.

FM advantages are:

- Resilient to noise
- Resilient to signal strength variations
- Does not require linear amplifiers
- Enables greater efficiency than many other modes

FM disadvantages are:

- Requires more complicated demodulator
- Other modes have higher spectral efficiency
- Sidebands extend to infinity on either side

These advantages and disadvantages make FM ideal for analog voice, but a poor choice for data based modes, or when spectrum is at a premium.

Weekly Nets

East Thurston County ARES

When: Sunday 7:00PM

Frequency: 146.550MHz Simplex

Purpose: To develop communications skills, familiarize members with proper Net procedures, and to test radios and antennas.

Additional Info: Anyone is welcome to listen in, and we always appreciate visitor check-ins to the net! If you're interested in joining the ARES team feel free to contact Ed Braaten – N7EKB at ed@n7ekb.net.

East Thurston County ARES Roundtable

When: Sunday, after weekly simplex net.

Frequency: 440.200+MHz 100.00Hz Tone

Purpose: General chat among East Thurston County ARES team members.

Additional Info: Anyone is welcome to join. Generally we are on the repeater around 7:15PM, but that can change depending on how long the Net goes.

Calendar of Events

Upcoming Amateur Radio Events

Mike & Key Flea Market

Date: Saturday, March 10, 2018 – 9AM to 3PM

Location: Puyallup Fairgrounds, Puyallup, WA

Cost: \$10 per person

Event Info: 37th Annual Mike & Key Electronics Show and Flea Market - One of the largest ham radio events in Washington. VE Testing Sessions, Commercial Vendors, and over 300 tables selling radios, computers, and general electronics equipment.

Website: <http://www.mikeandkey.org/flea.php>

Communications Academy



Cost: Early bird - \$27 for one day, \$52 for the weekend.

Normal rate - \$35 for one day, \$65 for the weekend.
Walk-in rate - \$45 for one day, \$75 for the weekend.
Event Info: Communications Academy is two days of training and information on various aspects of emergency communications. Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES®); Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS); EOC Support Teams; Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), Civil Air Patrol, Coast Guard Auxiliary, REACT, CERT and anyone interested in emergency communications should attend. Learn, network, and share your experiences with others.

Website: <http://comacademy.org/>

SEA-PAC Hamfest

Date: June 1st – 3rd, 2018

Location: Seaside Convention Center, Seaside, OR

Cost: Pre-registered - \$10 per adult. At the door - \$15 per adult. Workshops & Banquet extra.

Event Info: The Northwest's largest ham convention on the beautiful Pacific Ocean Beach. Commercial Exhibits, Giant Flea Market, Workshops, Seminars, Prizes, VE Testing, and a Banquet. Registration opens February 15th.

Website: <https://www.seapac.org/>

"Yesterday, my XYL said she'd leave me if I didn't give up ham radio. Over." – found on HamUniverse

Club Information

Website

<https://yelmamateurradiogroup.org/>

Mailing List

<https://yelmamateurradiogroup.onlinegroups.net/>

Mailing Address

Yelm Amateur Radio Group
PO BOX 40
Yelm, WA 98597
USA

YARG Officers

President	Richard Bowen	WB0SRJ	360-446-0247
Vice-President	Ed Braaten	N7EKB	360-951-3445
Secretary	Doug Harvey	KE7ZTM	360-489-1619
Treasurer	Donna Moris	KG7WRX	360-894-5142

Meetings

1st and 3rd Saturday. Social time 9AM, meeting starts at 9:30AM. Short club meeting followed by educational/informative program.

Valley Heart Assembly of God
11318 Vail Cut Off Rd SE
Rainier, WA 98576