



July/August 2018 Newsletter

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President's Comments

Welcome to the Yelm Amateur Radio Group's monthly newsletter for August 2018. This is a reminder for our August 4 meeting and for Testing on August 11th. For those wanting a license class please let us know so it can be scheduled. We will be continuing training on setting up an HF station in the Church with the group's HF radio and antenna.

On Sunday night, after ARES net, we are moving from 146.55 MHz simplex to 440.200 MHz PL: 100 MHz. Everyone is invited and encouraged to join in. I hope all of you can make it to the meeting Saturday August 4th at 9:00 for coffee and conversation followed at 9:30 by our brief business meeting and training.

73's
Richard WBOSRJ
President YARG

Editor's Notes

YARG Newsletter Editor: Chris Kennedy KB7NMU

Hello, as you may have noticed we are switching to a bi-monthly publication schedule for the newsletter. Since I've taken on the Secretary duties within the club, and also due to my work schedule, I always seemed to be running out of time to work on the newsletter. Going bi-monthly will allow more time to continue to produce the newsletter.

Thanks, and see you on the air.

Chris KB7NMU

ARES

By: Ed Braaten, N7EKB

In my previous newsletter column, I mentioned that we were going to focus on personal/family communications plans and the general public during our June 30th, 2018 disaster communications drill. I'm happy to report that we sent out 22 ARRL Health & Welfare Radiograms addressed mostly to non-hams.

For some of the recipients of these radiograms, it was their first contact with ham radio and its potential use for communication in a disaster. The message recipients were in North Carolina, Florida, Texas, California, and Oregon. One non-ham citizen walked down to City Hall in Rainier to request a radiogram be sent to their relative in California. It was a good start to our goal of including the general public in our drills.

Related to the topic of ARRL Radiograms, I'd like to mention that the template used in Winlink RMS Express to create a radiogram was recently updated with some critical new features. Previous to the update you had to have "insider" knowledge in order to actually send a completed radiogram into the National Traffic System (NTS). With the updated template you are now presented with a dialog box allowing you to select the state of origin. Once your radiogram's state of origin has been selected, the Winlink message containing the radiogram is automatically addressed to the relay station responsible for sending your radiogram on its way via NTS.

Your ARES team is switching from Internet e-mail to Winlink e-mail for all of their team's electronic communications. The benefits of this switch are:

- The team becomes familiar with the Winlink e-mail client of their choice by way of daily usage.
- The team members become familiar with the Winlink infrastructure in our area prior to a disaster scenario.
- When the internet goes down our team communications aren't affected!
- There is no SPAM in the Winlink e-mail system!

Winlink e-mail is open to all hams, not just ARES members. I'd highly recommend every ham try it out: <https://winlink.org>. It would be well worth the effort of learning something new - especially with the "no SPAM" feature!

You know you're a HAM if:

You check out a new car for rig and antenna mounting BEFORE you know the price or do the test drive.

You use phonetics when someone asks you to spell your last name.

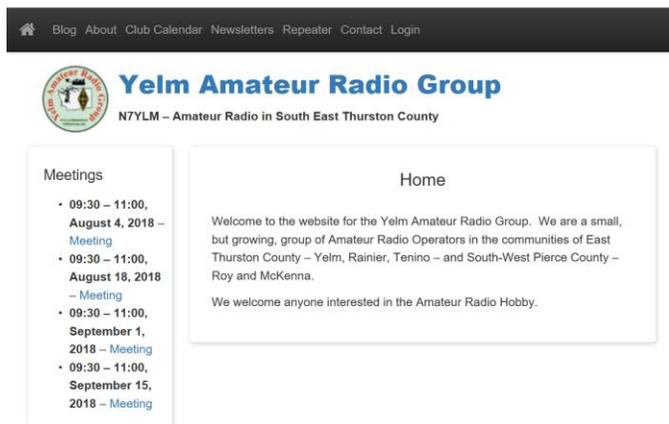
You scream at your TV when they use CB lingo for a HAM communication episode.

(somewhat taken from QRZ.com)

The New YARG Website

By Chris KB7NMU

The Yelm Amateur Radio Group's website has a new look. Some extensive updating has taken place to the website during July.



The website now has multiple sections which you can find in the menu bar across the top of the site. Of

particular note is the Club Calendar and Newsletters sections. The Club Calendar lists all upcoming YARG events. Visit it today to see what is going on.

The Newsletters section has an archive of recent past Newsletters (I'm working on finding older newsletters and getting them loaded on the site). In future Newsletters I'll highlight various sections of the web site and explain the functions you will find there and how to use them.

Visit the site today:

<https://YelmAmateurRadioGroup.org>.

How to use the YARG Mailing List

By Chris KB7NMU

Along with the new website we also have a new mailing list or email reflector. This mailing list is very simple to use. You can sign up for it by going to <http://lists.YelmAmateurRadioGroup.org/listinfo.cgi/yarg-yelmamateurradiogroup.org> and entering your email address, name, and optional password in the Subscribing to YARG section. Many of the club members have already been subscribed to the list. You can also manage your subscription from this page (such things as unsubscribing, changing email address, suspending delivery while on vacation, etc.).

To send a message to the list you must be a list member and then simply address the message to yarg@lists.yelmamateurradiogroup.org. This will send your message to all list members directly. The message will be addressed as coming from you, and to the list. If you reply to the message your reply will go to the person who sent the message. If you want to reply to the list simply select Reply All in your email client when replying.

An archive page is available to the list members, but it not necessary to interact with the list website in normal usage. You only need to use the website if you want to change options on your subscription.

If you don't want to use the website at all, the list will also accept emailed commands, such as SUBSCRIBE and UNSUBSCRIBE. Simply put the command in the body of your message followed by END on a separate line and send the message to yarg-request@lists.yelmamateurradiogroup.org. A full list of

commands is available by sending the message HELP to yarg-request@lists.yelmateurradiogroup.org.

I hope you find this new resource useful.

Field Day

The Yelm Amateur Radio Group held ARRL Field Day on June 23rd, 2018 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Yelm. The group decided to only run a 2A station for a single day (2A means a 2 radio club station).



Dale once again allowed us the use of his tower trailer. Several members of the group assisted with the positioning, leveling and raising of the tower. Two inverted V antennas were run on the tower – One 40 meter and one G5RV.



We also set up a “Welcome Center” closer to the road. Group Member Roger Calvert was instrumental in helping to set up the portable garage which was used for this.



Gary Hurnblad also provided a radio to join the Group’s Yaesu FT-450 on the HF bands, as well as a portable shelter for the “radio shack”.

RadioShack "Express Stores" to Open in HobbyTown USA Locations

From the ARRL Letter July 17, 2008

According to a July 13 [article](#) in the New York Post, [RadioShack](#) is planning to open "express stores" within [HobbyTown USA](#) locations. The nearly century-old, twice-bankrupt retailer has signed a deal with HobbyTown USA to put a mini RadioShack outlet in some 50 HobbyTown USA stores across the country that would sell items that might appeal to radio amateurs and experimenters. Those locations will be identified with RadioShack signage. HobbyTown markets remote-controlled cars and boats as well as drones and other hobby-related merchandise.

RadioShack shuttered all of its company-owned retail outlets. Its last unsuccessful effort to bail itself out of debt involved a deal with cellular provider Sprint. HobbyTown USA has 140 retail outlets, and, according to the Post article, RadioShack eventually could carve out a presence -- on the order of 500 square feet -- in all of them. Stores in HobbyTown USA's headquarters town of Lincoln, Nebraska, as well as in Parker, Colorado, and Mooresville, North Carolina, will be among the first to host RadioShack express concessions.

"HobbyTown is purchasing the RadioShack merchandise and offering it to its hobbyist customers who need the tools, wires, and other accessories that RadioShack makes," the Post article said.

The article quoted Steve Moroneso, chief executive of General Wireless Operations Inc. -- an affiliate of hedge fund Standard General, which acquired RadioShack in 2015 -- as saying that RadioShack's strategy now is not to own brick-and-mortar stores. RadioShack came out of bankruptcy in January with 400 dealers, an online retail presence, and a distribution center. General Wireless acquired the 1,743 retail outlets that survived RadioShack's 2015 bankruptcy.

Moroneso also told the Post that there is "plenty of interest from dealers who want to open a full-line Radio Shack." [Read more.](#)



While not many on-the-air contacts were made, we were successful in our goal of being visible and making contacts in the community. Special thank to Lynne Calvert for providing the pictures and also taking over the Welcome Center for several hours.



Thanks to everyone who showed up and I hope you all had a fun time! The group is completing an After-Action Report for field day to help improve planning for next year.

ARISS LOOKING FOR PROPOSALS

From ARRL NW Division Newsletter

It's been a while since a school or big student group from the ARRL Northwestern Division has submitted a proposal for an ARISS radio contact. The window for accepting proposals is just closing, but another window will open in 5 months. Competition is pretty healthy, but the school doesn't have to have ham activity right now--just be open to having hams come in and do demos and fun activities like fox hunts or building things...and sometimes educators include in their proposals that they want to set up a school club. Actually, ARRL Headquarters has a loaner station that can be shipped out, if needed.

If you know a teacher that would like to become involved in this exciting program for youth, let them know that the next window for proposals opens September 2018. For more information contact me at: k7cex@arrl.org

NORTHWESTERN DIVISION NEWSLETTER – HOAX REPORT

Northwestern Division, ARRL - Monday, July 2, 2018

The following is a note from ARRL CEO Barry Shelley:
Please pass the word in your clubs and teams.

Good Morning:

We've had reports from several sources that an email scam is being sent to some ARRL members attempting to solicit funds for, allegedly, a child of a member who is ill. The solicitation wants the recipient to think it is coming from the ARRL.

In case anyone asks, you can direct them to the news story on the web site which will be linked through our social media accounts as well.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/online-fund-raising-hoax-targeting-some-arrl-members>

73,
Barry J. Shelley, N1VXY
Chief Executive Officer
ARRL, Inc.

NORTHWESTERN DIVISION NEWSLETTER – From Vice Director Bonnie Altus AB7ZQ

Northwestern Division, ARRL - Friday, July 6, 2018

Hello to the Northwestern Division. Since Vice-Director's do not have access to send out messages to the division, I have asked Jim Pace to send this message out for me, so you can hear from me.

For those of you who do not know me very well yet, I am teaching online at Portland Community College in the Health Information Management program. I plan to work two more academic years before retiring from full-time work. Right now, I am also working part-time at a local medical clinic that primarily services the Confederated Tribe of Grand Ronde. Their medical records supervisor of 20 years is retiring this summer and I am helping them through the transition. Because she has worked there for so long, she has assumed most of the electronic health record support for the clinic as well and will be moving out of the area. This is a job that my students will qualify after graduation so if I am getting some current hands-on experience this will benefit them as well.

In a couple of weeks, Jim Pace and I will be attending the semi-annual board meet in Hartford Connecticut. The regular reports are starting to arrive in our in-box and we should be getting preliminary drafts of motions soon as well. I have appreciated the amateur radio operators in the Northwestern division because they come to us and ask questions when they hear rumors that concern them. I hope all of you will continue to do that.

If there are things you are concerned about regarding ARRL policy, please let us know so we can keep your views in mind as these topics come up at the board meeting.

One thing that we do expect to come up is the final selection of a new CEO. A committee of individuals experienced in this type of selection process has been hard at work narrowing down a field of candidates and expects to have a final candidate at the board meeting.

You can always find the agendas, minutes and board reports from each meeting at <http://www.arrl.org/board-meetings>. At the last board

meeting in January, all board members worked very hard to make sure the motions voted upon were clear and complete. There were times when board members requested that a motion be pulled back so clarifying information could be added that would help the members reading the minutes better understand the decisions that were made. Many board members expressed how proud they were of the professionalism of the board after that meeting.

Some of the upcoming events I expect to attend this summer and early fall include the Summer Gathering at Valley Camp, the NW DX Convention (assuming I get my renewed passport back in time), and the NW VHF Convention. I will also attend as many hamfests as I can.

73, Bonnie Altus, AB7ZQ
Northwestern Division Vice-Director

Weekly Nets

Yelm Amateur Radio Group

When: Monday @ 7:00PM

Frequency: 440.200MHz+ 100Hz Tone

Purpose: YARG weekly club net discusses things of interest to the club.

Additional Info: This is a directed net with check-in and general info.

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

YARG VE Session

Date: August 11th, 2018 at 10:00AM

Location: Rainier City Hall

Cost: \$15 test fee

Event Info: Come and get your first Amateur Radio License, or upgrade!

Club Information

Website

<https://yelmamateurradiogroup.org/>

Mailing List

<http://lists.yelmamateurradiogroup.org/listinfo.cgi/yarg-yelmamateurradiogroup.org>

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 | Chris Kennedy | KB7NMU | 360-888-2541 |
| 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