
HAM HAPPENINGS

Lewis-Clark Amateur Radio Club

May 5, 2009

THE LEWIS-CLARK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB IS A GREAT WAY TO BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH AMATEUR RADIO. OUR CLUB HAS MUCH TO OFFER THE BEGINNER AS WELL AS THE SEASONED VETERAN. PLEASE JOIN US AT AN UPCOMING MEETING AND DISCOVER THE LCARC.

**Meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of each month, 7pm at the EAA Hanger #N14
406 Burrell Ave. in Lewiston, Idaho**



CQ from the President

LCARC meets at 7:00PM at the EAA Hanger #14, located at 406 Burrell Ave. in Lewiston. An ARES-RACES meeting is held right after the club meeting. There will be *FCC license exam testing after the meeting

So, we had the April showers and now we must be in line for the May flowers. I can hardly wait.

Emmett (NA7EM), Kelly (AD5ALU) and Ray (KE7WOE) have been busy planning for our upcoming Field Day and I'm told we will be discussing some pretty neat stuff at our May meeting, this coming Tuesday, the 5th of May. Let's get enthused about this club activity and give it some support. That's how we can make this organization a great organization and more interesting to new members.

Our Lewiston Hill repeater is still giving some grief from time to time and just recently Arne (W7TRO), Bob (WA7UZG) and I were up there to see if we could determine the source of some of the troubles. Unless you are familiar with the site, you may not get the sense of the problem, but several RF sources are located right in the same area and are evidently having a significant influence on the performance of our equipment. Arne demonstrated that just the presence of some corrosion on our guy wires on the tower have a great influence on the static and noise into our receiver. So there will be a work party organized in the very near future to deal with some of the known sources of noise. We'll let you know.

I have recently received some benefit from my association with other club members, and it has reminded me of at least some of the reasons we are members. We have a tremendous amount of knowledge and experience in our club, and it seems those who

have it are very generous with providing help and guidance to those of us who do not. So, come on out to our meetings, coffee chats and club activities. We need to get the benefits of your knowledge too.

Hope to see you at the meeting this coming Tuesday, the 5th. Don't miss it if you can work it into your schedule.

OscarTango, KE7ATD



Are you looking for test sites and dates? Check out the Internet site below.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml>

Lewis Clark Amateur Radio Club
Minutes from April 7, 2009 meeting

The April meeting was called to order by President Jim Otey. There were 8 members and two visitors in attendance.

The members in attendance were:

Alan Russell (KC7CXV), Jim Otey (KE7ATD), Elaine McLaughlin (N7RYL), Paul Woelfel (N7RXY), Ray Ulrey (KE7WOE), Dave Ostrom (KE7OEG), Arne Halleen (W7TRO), Emmett McCormick (NA7EM),

The visitors were: Mark Baker(KB6HDE) from Clearwater (he took a test) and Benjamin Smith

-It was moved that the minutes of the last meeting should be approved as prepared. All were in favor.

--Treasurer's Report: \$660.53 (Paul sold items at the Puyallup Hamfest that helped the club treasury)

OLD BUSINESS:

--**Schweiter Laboratory Visit**--Six of the club members went to Schweitzer Engr. Labs. Those that went were: Jim, Dave, Alan, Paul, Elaine and Arne. Ray joined us after we got up there. Schweitzer served lunch and two guys in charge of their radio program, Ron Schwartz and Dan Ranson, told us some of the history of Schweitzer and how they ended up working there. We saw Schweitzer's mini museum, ham shack and we also went up on the roof to get a closer look at their antenna. After the radio tour, we had a tour of the manufacturing division. It was emphasized that products are not built until a customer requests them; except for a few that are made as loaners in case of repair or replacement needs. They have a 10 year warrantee on all of their products. They have their own products hospital where they use forensics to diagnose what went wrong with the product that needs repaired or replaced. All of their products are repaired and returned to the customer at no charge. We were shown the Electronic Assembly area where a raw circuit board is sent through computers that do surface mounting, masking and auto insertion. There are lots of quality checks and each board is coded so it can be tracked. In the Drop Line area, the parts that are odd shaped are placed by hand.

Each technician has a color coded diagram on a computer screen that shows the circuit board they are working on so they can know exactly where to place the parts. From there the boards go through a wave solder machine and a final process check called After flow. Then the boards are put through mechanical assembly where wire twists, leads, clips are added and they are put in metal cases. The product is environmentally tested with heat and humidity. In the Final Assembly and Shipping Departments the product gets an out of box audit and then it is boxed with a paper user's manual or one on a CD. There are CD's in foreign languages too. Sweitzer has customers in 126 countries. We were shown some specialized products also. The Recloser is a product that is placed on electric lines. It is able to detect problems on the line, isolate them and recover when the cause of the interference on the line has been cleared. We walked by the Calibration Department where Ray our Club's Vice President works. Three new product areas that we saw were the Transformer Assembly, Injection Molding and Custom Enclosure Design and Assembly Departments. It was an interesting tour that took a little over an hour.

--Repeater Status—Jim mentioned that during a time when the 146.86 was not working, 146.52 was used. Jim said 146.86 is working ok now. He asked if the 100 Hertz tone that is on the repeater now is still needed. Arne said the tone has become more of a necessity. It doesn't hurt to have a sub audible tone and it could help. Discussion was held about the repeaters. Arne said Bob offered to relocate the repeater to his repeater shack but it might have interference from KCLK. Arne said he had a plan that might work. He suggested moving the 146.52 repeater to Bob's location and link the repeater site on UHF, don't use a duplexer, have horizontal separation to make it work, and take the transmit signal out of it. A friend of Arne's in Boise has a UHF antenna that the club might be able to obtain. The club would have to get a crystal. If the plan worked it would receive at the Stout Ranch and transmit at 146.86. Paul asked if going out toward the Tammany area with a receiver would work. Arne said it could go through a router to see which receiver would be best.

--Clarkston Fire Station—Jim asked if the antenna was up at the Fire Station. Dave said only the mast is up at the Fire Station. The antenna will be an inverted V. it just needs to be pulled up. Jim said to let him know if any help is needed.

--Walmart —Jim asked Dave if he has heard anything more from Walmart about the community grant it is offering. Dave said they keep telling him to check next month. Jim gave Dave a new application and asked him to fill it out and take it to Walmart and insist on giving it to a manager and asking the manager when the grants will be looked at.

--Riggins Boat Race Updates— People are still needed to help at the boat races according to Ray. The Riggins Boat Races that will be held on April 18th and 19th. There is mandatory attendance at the safety meeting on April 17th. Contact K7HBJ@ARRL.net or N7UBO@msn.com right away if you are planning to help.

--Puyallup Hamfest—Jim, Bob, Paul and Arne drove and Ray and his wife drove to the Hamfest. When the four guys got there they didn't have any tickets to get in. Arne was able to get them in and he got a table so Paul could sell the items that they took with them.

NEW BUSINESS:

--Hats for the Club —The man making the hats said they aren't done yet.

--Web Master Emails—Ray said about two weeks ago, they receive an email from NOHI who has a web site with other links. This web site is a mobile logging site in Illinois. NOHI thought our web site was really good and linked our site to his and his to our site.

--Field Day—Ray asked if there are any plans for Field Day. It will be held June 27th and 28th. Discussion was held concerning available locations to hold the event. Jim asked for volunteers to coordinate the activity. Jim, Ray and Emmitt will coordinate it.

--**Ray's Show and Tell**—Ray had a transceiver on 12Volts. It was advertised in QST. He thought it might be something that the club could build as a group.

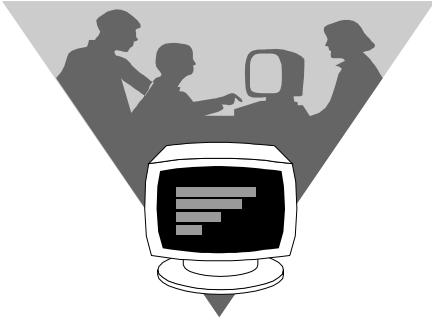
The meeting adjourned around 8:00p.m.



LCARC-BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT.....	JIM OTEY.....	KE7ATD	208-746-XXXX
VICE PRESIDENT.....	RAY ULREY	KE7WOE	208-746-XXXX
SECRETARY.....	ELAINE FRASER-MCLAUGHLIN.....	N7RYL	509-758-XXXX
TREASURER.....	PAUL WOELFEL.....	N7RXY	208-743-XXXX
HISTORIAN.....	JACKIE CABLE.....	KB7UEK	509-758-XXXX
TECHNICAL SUPPORT.....	ARNE HALLEEN.....	W7TRO	208-746-XXXX
PROGRAM DIRECTOR.....	LYLE CABLE.....	K7LWC	509-758-XXXX
VEC.....	LYLE CABLE.....	K7LWC	509-758-XXXX

LCARC PROGRAM NOTES



Program Director –Lyle Cable **K7LWC**

*****Any comments, suggestions or HELP is greatly appreciated*****

JAN.6

FEB. 3--- VE Testing

MARCH 3 -- VE Testing—FEMA Emergency Communication Training contact Ken Tuning if interested at Robert Finch's number 208-926-0088—Idaho QSO Party March 14th per Kelly

APRIL 7-- VE Testing—April 11, 2009 Yakima Hamfest at the Selah Civic Center (216 S. 1st Street) see page 7 for more information.

-- Riggins Boat Races, April 18th & 19th

--- State Ham Convention in Boise on April 24th, 25th and 26th.

MAY 5-- VE Testing—Pacificon 2009, (ARRL Pacific Division Convention, will be held May 1 thru 3 at Emcommwest at the Circus Circus Hotel in Reno, Nevada—Reservation and info at pacificon.org

JUNE 2 --

JULY 7 --VE Testing

AUGUST 4 --VE Testing

SEPT.1 --VE Testing

OCT.6 --VE Testing.

NOV.3 -- VE Testing

DEC.1- Dinner meeting at Antonio's- 1407 Main St.- Lewiston, Idaho

2009 Dues Paid Members 1-29-09

Call	Last Name, First Name	Phone	E-mail
KD5ALU	Blackmon, Kelly	509 751-XXX	
KE7OEH	Blackmon, Michael	509 751-XXX	
KB7UEK	Cable, Jacquelin	509 758-XXX	
K7LWC	Cable, Lyle	509 758-XXX	
KD7XD	Clark, Ray	208 750-XXX	
KB7VPN	Cline, Leo	509 758-XXX	
WA7UZG	Dickeson, Robert C.	208 746-XXX	
W7TRO	Halleen, Arne	208 746-XXX	
NA7EM	McCormick, Emmett	208 798 XXX	
N7YFY	McCormick, Richard	360 678-XXX	
No Call	McCullough, Jim	509 758-XXX	
N7RYL	McLaughlin, Elaine	509 758-XXX	
KE7OEG	Ostrom, David	509-758-XXX	
KE7ATD	Otey, James	208-746-XXX	
W7NCP	Rozelle, Walt	208-798-XXX	
KC7CXV	Russell, Alan	509 758-XXX	
KB7VPC	Saari, Allen	790 XXX	
KE7WOE	Ray, Ulrey	208 746-XXX	
N7RXY	Paul Woelfel	208 743-XXX	

REMINDER

CLUB DUES FOR 2009 ARE DUE. DUES ARE \$25.00. Please remit to Paul, N7RXY
