

W7TCK News

Capital City Amateur Radio Club

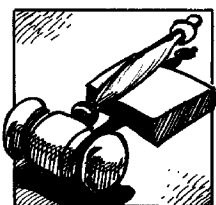
Helena, MT

John McDougall K7JM – Editor

February 2005

From The Pres...

January is gone and February is now here. I can't believe we're already done with January – but again, I'm not sure where 2004 went.



At our January meeting we discussed possibly having the next meeting at the County EOC. Due to several concerns, we decided to back off of that idea. Instead, our February meeting will be at the Salvation Army like normal.

I've been working on several different options for visitors for our February meeting. All of them have fallen through at this point, however, all is not lost. We do have a lot of events coming up for this summer, and it's time to start getting a lot of them going. For example, we need to make some printing deadlines to let the world know about the Lewis & Clark special event station in July which are coming up soon. Plus, we need to get the general “feel” of each event nailed down so we can work towards that direction.

(Cont. P.2 PRES)

FEBRUARY MEETING

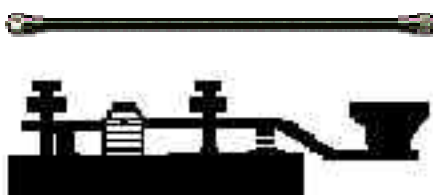
Monday

February 7

Salvation Army Church

1905 Henderson

7:00 pm.



Board of Directors

- Pres: Forrest Christian, AC7DE
- Vice Pres: John Curry, K7EBL
- Sec.: Rich Weddle, KC7VVZ
- Tres.: Dan Stinson, KC7KKH
- Newsletter Editor: John McDougall K7JM
- Training: John Geach, KS7R
- Technical: Don Heide, W7MRI
- Volunteer Exam Team Leader: John Geach, KS7R

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Upcoming Events

Some dates to remember:

- Governor's Cup. June 4th**
- Field Day. Weekend of June 25**
- K7L/C Special Event Station.**
- Dates in July to be Determined**
- Glacier Waterton Hamfest. July 15-17, 2005**

(Cont from P.1 PRES)

Before I go into each event I have on my calendar for this summer, I need to mention that I have tentatively arranged for Dan Hawkins, N7SHM, to be at our March (not February) meeting and provide a technical overview of the P25 and possibly some Trunking discussion. For those of you who missed our last meeting and don't already know, P25 is a newer digital radio standard which is being used by public safety organizations around the country.

So, back to the summer calendar:

Governor's Cup. June 4th. Bob Solomon, K7HLN has indicated that this will be the last year for him to coordinate the Club's involvement with the Governor's Cup. As a result, we need a person who is willing to work with Bob this year to "learn the ropes", and then to head up the activity for next year. In addition, everyone should mark their calendars for this event, since this is arguably the Club's biggest event of the year – and definitely it's biggest on-the-air activity. And it's great practice for your operating skills.

Field Day. Weekend of June 25. This year, we're planning on holding Field Day somewhere "out in the hills" - and also having the event be more "family oriented". I even envision some people showing up as early as Friday evening and camping with their family both Friday and Saturday nights. We're going to be working on the overall details during this coming club meeting and hopefully having a lively discussion on exactly what everyone would like to see for this event. We're also looking for people willing to coordinate different parts of this event (or the whole thing, if someone wants the job).

K7L/C Special Event Station. Dates in July to be Determined. We'll be talking about the details of this special event at the meeting. Initially it looks like there are two reasonable periods to operate the special event station. The first is a period while the Corps II tour is visiting Helena from July 9th through the 17th. The second, and my favorite, is during the exact period when Lewis & Clark first visited the county 200 years ago. This anniversary

is during the week of July 18th, which is right after the Hamfest. We will discuss the details regarding this special event station also at the meeting.

Glacier Waterton Hamfest. July 15-17, 2005. No rundown of summer activities would be complete without mentioning the Hamfest, even though it really isn't an official club event. My schedule looks like it will prevent me from attending this year, but I'd encourage anyone who can to attend. This is the "signature" hamfest of the region, and is well attended by hams from around the entire region and beyond.

I think I got everything. That said, I have a nagging feeling I forgot something. If I did, we'll mention it at the meeting. There is one last thing though. I really would like to encourage each of you to think seriously about helping coordinate one or more of the events above. If you're thinking about helping, but feel that coordinating the entire event may be more than you can handle, let us know. I'm more than willing to divide the responsibility for an event between different people.

I think that's all for now.

73's
Forrest
AC7DE

**ARES Notes...**

A WMD (Weapons of Mass Destruction)/Terrorism Exercise is scheduled at the Helena Regional Airport, June 20 through 24, 2005, from 8 AM until 5 PM each day. (Field Day, June 25 and 26 is that weekend.) The joint exercise involves more than three dozen local, state, and federal agencies, and will draw national level attention and review. It is funded with multiple resources and has been in the planning phase for some time.



There are four individual components, which are intermingled and interdependent. They are

BIOTERRORISM, FIRE, HAZMAT, and MASS CASUALTY. There will be involvement of a military Civil Response Team, complete with arrival of a C-5A aircraft and deployment of the team and its support equipment. This will also be a "Show and Tell" and demonstrations for the public. One of the regional Hazmat trailers will also be put on display.

The Lewis and Clark County EOC will be activated during the exercise. I was asked by Paul Spengler if we were interested in participating. He invited me to a planning meeting on Monday, February 7. That is the same day as the CCARC February meeting. I should be able to offer more information about the exercise and our possible participation at the club meeting.

We will need to have individual clearance and credentials to participate. That will necessitate all participating amateur radio operators completing an application form for ARES, which will then be used as basic documentation for any background or clearance purposes. If you have not completed that application in the last couple of months, then you will have to update the information.

I'll plan to have more information at the club meeting. 73.. Bob K7HLN

From The Editor

It is February 2005. The ground hog says that we are due six more weeks of Winter. Where is it??? As they say in Montana, "If you don't like the weather, wait five minutes."

What an interesting Winter we have had. Being at a new QTH this winter, our family has been going through the "Training Process." First, we had two feet of snow, and the road to our house goes straight up (with some switch backs in between). How do we remove all of this snow? WE NEED BETTER TIRES! The propane bill is breaking us!!. Shall I continue?



With all of this snow, did I have more time to work on the construction of my new ham shack? NOPE! It was time to plow snow, morning, and night. I wore my self out.

Then, it all melted. In about two days it all melted. Did I have time to work on my shack then? NOPE! All that plowing and shoveling wore me out and I ended up sick for two solid weeks. I would go to work, come home, take a nap, eat dinner, get the kids to bed, and crawl into bed myself. Hmmm. I think the Good Lord was telling me to slow down and He caught my attention. So, now I am slowly gaining speed and energy, being careful not to wear my self out.

As the weather cooperates, you might be finding yourself out doing some of those outdoor Ham jobs you didn't get done in the fall. Remember, this is MONTANA and as I said before, "If you don't like the weather, wait five minutes," so be extra careful as it is STILL winter and things can change quickly.

One last reminder. DUES are DUE. Your 20 bucks go a long way in supporting the Capital City Amateur Radio Club.

God bless you all, keep warm, and GET ON THE AIR!

73,

John – K7JM Editor

For Sale

ICOM IC-207H VHF-UHF FM base /mobile transceiver, direct keypad entry to VFO from mic, instruction manual, detachable face plate and separation kit, 5 to 50 W on 2 meters, 5 to 35 watts on 70 cm, programmed and ready to use, very good condition, \$175; contact Bob K7HLN, 442-6118



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Editor's E-Mail: jdmcdougall@juno.com

CCARC Regular meetings are at 7:00 pm on the
first non-holiday Monday of each month at the
Salvation Army Church 1905 Henderson.

VE exams are offered monthly, just prior to the regular
CCARC meeting, but on an appointment only basis. If
no appointments are made, VE exams will not be
scheduled for that month. Those wishing to take an
exam should contact John Geach, KS7R, 442-7107 at
least two days prior to the CCARC meeting to schedule
an exam.

W7MRI Repeater: 147.82 (-offset)
**Net every Tuesday at 7:30 pm local time on the
147.82 (-offset) repeater.**

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All expressions of opinions and all statements of
supposed facts are published on the authority of
the author and are not to be regarded as
expressing the view of CCARC.

Biscuits and Gravy

**Come to Hardee's on Saturday. Every Saturday
morning between 9:30 and 11:00, as many as
twenty hams show up for "EYEBALL" QSOs.**

COME JOIN THE FUN!

SOME INTERESTING ARES INFO:

The 2004 ARES Annual Report recently submitted
to ARRL contains the following information:

Lewis and Clark County ARES has 31 operators
with current information on file. Thirteen of them
received their license since 2000, 11 work CW, 30
can work VHF from home, 17 can operate HF
emergency powered from home, 21 can operate
VHF emergency powered from home, 30 can
operate VHF mobile or portable and 3 are able to
work packet.

de Bob K7HLN

First Class Mail