

W7TCK News

Capital City Amateur Radio Club

December 2007



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Tod Glen, N7WD

Vice President:

Blake Running,
KE7EWN

Secretary:

Rich Weddle, N7GC

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John Geach, KS7R

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John Geach, KS7R

www.w7tck.org

From The Editor

John McDougall, K7JM

Merry Christmas 2007. What a great year we have had for Ham Radio.

Hamfests, Field Day, Governor's Cup, Elkhorn Endurance Run, Emergency Communications Expo., Operating Events, Antennas, and lots more.

In between putting different sections of this newsletter together, my family and I have been busy putting up our Christmas tree. We like to get maximum bang for the buck and the Christmas season starts early at the K7JM QTH. My kids have had Christmas music playing for the past couple of weeks. In a way, Ham Radio is like that. No, I am not suggesting that Ham Radio is as important as Christmas; Christmas has eternal importance and consequences. But, do you like "celebrating" Ham Radio in a way that you like to start it early, and enjoy it as long as you can? I am enjoying Ham Radio while I celebrate it. There are so many facets of Ham Radio and if you get tired of one phase of it, there are a dozen more to take its place.

One phase of Ham Radio for me, is about to end. This is my last installment of "From The Editor" as I am retiring from

this position in our great Ham Radio Club. There are many talented members of the club and someone else will have to

take this job for awhile. Thank you to all who have faithfully read my rants for the past five years. I am sure to pick up another phase of the hobby soon to replace this one. It has been enjoyable for me to serve you this way. I am sure I will be no stranger to the club newsletter in the future if the new Editor will allow me to.

I enjoy sharing my Ham Radio experiences with the masses. Thank you all again.

Switching directions a bit, please read John's (KS7R) second part of the great article about Dick Beaton (N7RB) and his years as a Ham Radio operator. If you have not read the first part of this great article, go to the Capital

City Amateur Radio Club's web page at



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www.w7tck.org and click on "Newsletters" and read last months (Nov. 2007) installment. What will "they" be saying about us after we spend as many years in this hobby? If we want to make a difference, it's not too late to start.

Since this column has been written before the December meeting of CCARC, I do not know who the club officers will be for 2008. I want to personally thank those in office during 2007. Thanks you Tod. You are a man of very many interests with a lot of knowledge in each of them. It was a pleasure serving under you this past year. Blake, I know you have a busy schedule, so I haven't had the opportunity to work with you much. Rich, there is no better record keeper than the job you do. John G. thanks for faithfully supplying me with current membership lists and for the many articles you have written during my term as Newsletter Editor. Thank you all.

Finally, I want to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year. Don't forget the reason for the season.

73 and God bless you all,

John – K7JM, Editor



Dick Beaton, N7RB - 73 Years of Amateur Radio Operating (Part 2)

John Geach, KS7R

Part 2 of the article written by John Geach, KS7R about the Ham Radio life of Dick Beaton, N7RB. Read part 1 in the November 2007 issue of W7TCK News available on the CCARC web site at www.w7tck.org.

After the war, there was a lot of surplus military radio equipment available for very reasonable prices. Many articles

on how to convert surplus equipment to the amateur band could be found in QST, CQ and other ham publications of the day. Surplus military transmitters were Variable Frequency Oscillator (VFO) controlled and would operate either AM, FM or CW with approximately 55 watts of output power. This equipment worked great until television came along in the 50's and RFI began to haunt most amateurs. The military equipment put out numerous harmonics which weren't a problem until TV began using frequencies where those harmonics fell.

This led to the dawn of the manufacture of commercial equipment for the amateur, many in kit form. Amateur equipment became readily available from suppliers including Allied Radio, Knight Kit and Heathkit. Dick built several Heathkit radios, including a HW-101, one hundred watt transceiver.

Dick got his Extra Class license in the early 1980's and took his 20 WPM CW test with a typewriter! The FCC examiner was surprised anyone would show up to take their test with a typewriter, which was allowable. She gave Dick his test alone with headphones so the typing wouldn't bother anyone else taking the CW exam. Dick was a good typist from his years at Northwest and says "at 20 WPM, CW may seem fast, but typing at 20 WPM is slow."



Dick Beaton, N7RB, in his radio shack

Dick has always been open to the changes Amateur Radio has brought. He was the first Amateur in Helena to get his Volunteer Examiner Certification in the early 80's and has been giving VE exams ever since. He was one of the first in Helena to become active in the PSK31 and encouraged others to join the exciting new communication mode. He has served as the CCARC President, and at least four years as Newsletter Editor. His newsletters always included a cartoon of a matronly lady "Aunt Ida" who always had a humorous opinion or word of wisdom.

Dick's interest in radio lead him to a successful career with Northwest Airlines and an very enjoyable life long hobby. Upon his retirement, Dick was the Manager of the Northwest Airlines operation here in Helena. Today, Dick is still active on the amateur bands and still enjoys "reading the mail between CW stations" and making an occasional CW contact. He is also a regular check in on the Tuesday night 2 meter ARES net and in attendance at the monthly CCARC meetings.

Dick has served as a role model and inspiration to me and others. Dick has a positive outlook on life, never complains or criticizes and always has a word of praise or encouragement for others.

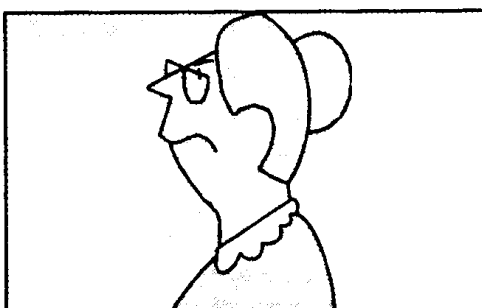
The world need more amateurs like Dick Beaton, N7RB. By John, KS7R

Aunt Idy

I thought it might be nice to add Aunt Idy to the 2nd half of Dick's article, since some of the members may not have seen Aunt Idy before. I just lately learned

from Dick that he is the author of Aunt Idy, I thought he just found the cartoon somewhere and included it in the newsletter. He had an Aunt Ida who looked somewhat like the cartoon figure. Dick found the cartoon picture and would add his own captions. She ran often, almost monthly, when he was the editor.

John – KS7R



Aunt Idy says..... I don't intend to grow old gracefully!

I'm fighting it all the way!

For Sale

FOR SALE: 2 Meter/70 cm Dual Band Handheld Transceiver, Radio Shack HTX-420, 100 channel memory, broad band RX coverage, dual watch- monitor any two channels at same time- on either band. Operates on rechargeable Lithium ion battery pack, or 4 "AA" battery power. In excellent condition. \$100, contact Bob K7HLN, 442-6118 or k7hln@msn.com

For Sale from the estate of Frederick "Rick" Bayer (KJ7VV). Contact Joane Bayer at 442-7600 or e-mail her at jbayer@mt.net for those who are interested.

www.w7tck.org

Capital City
 Amateur Radio
 Club

Ham Radio Appraisal based on eBay and LeHam 11-15-2007

Section: HF Transceiver. Fair price is \$425 for the pair.

Kenwood TS-440S (new in box)

Kenwood PS-50 Power Supply (new in box)

Section Tower and Antenna. Fair price is \$250-\$300 for the lot.

Six sections of Rhon RG-25 tower sections

Antenna hardware for Rhon tower

Box of Ceramic Insulators for antenna (in LaBra Box)

Rhon Tower parts (hardware for fastening cables)

Gin Pole Pulley for Rhon tower

Section: Misc Antenna. Fair price is \$100 for the lot.

All Band Wire Antenna with leadin (in its own box)

All Bander 65GV Wire Antenna

Box Copper Antenna Wire

Big box of misc coax

Two boxes of misc wires and connectors

Yaesu G-800SDX Control and Rotor. Fair price is \$300.

Tektronix 1740A Scope w/probes. Cannot find any costing info. Charge \$100.

Yaesu Musen FRG-7 Communications Receiver. Start \$100, drop to \$50.

Kenwood swr+power meter SW-2000. Start \$100, drop to \$50.

Palomar R-X Noise Bridge. Start \$50, drop to \$35.

Radio Shack RF Frequency Counter (22-306). \$25.

Safehouse Satellite Alarm. Cannot find any costing info. Charge \$25.

Slope front Archer Metal Cabinet, Cat No. 270-265. Charge \$1.

Johnson Viking Match Box. Start \$75, drop to \$25-35.

Mystery project in box. Charge \$1

Heathkit HD-1424-A Gain Active Antenna. Charge \$35.

Astron RS-20M Power Supply. Charge \$75.

President HR2510 with Wilson 1000 mobil mount Antenna ... ten meter communications. Charge \$60.

Alliance Tenna-Rotor Model U-100 (controller and rotor). Charge \$35.

Belden 9913 10 (blk) 500 ft Roll of coax. Charge \$220.



AUNT IDY'S

HOLIDAY RUM CAKE RECIPE

Before you start, check rum to make sure it's of good quality. Select large bowl, measuring cup and spoon, then check rum again. With an electric mixer, beat 1 cup butter in a large fluffy bowl, add 1 teaspoon sugar and beat. Meanwhile, check rum again. **Add 3 rarge yggs**, 2 scups fried druit and beat til very high. If druit sticts in beaters, pry it out with screw-driver. Taste rum again. Add fre scups baking powder, a pint of rum, 1 seas poon of toda and 1 scup of pepper. Sift one half pint of wemon juice and fold in chopped buttermilk and strained nuts. Add 1 babblespoon of scron burger ore whatever else you have. Check the rum again. Turn pan to 350 degrees, grease over and pour whole mess in. Sample rum while waiting. If cake doesn't turn out well, change brand of rum and try onth more.

Best wishes for good lucky!

Slightly edited somewhat by

Dick N7RB, Editor

Membership Application / Renewal

(Fill out and give to Treasurer or mail to P.O Box 1112, Helena, MT 59624)

Date: (Month\ Day\ Year) _____ \ _____ \ _____
Name: _____ **Call:** _____ **License Class:** _____
Mailing Address: _____ **City:** _____
State: _____ **Zip code:** _____ **E-Mail address:** _____
ARRL Member?(Check One) Yes ____, **No** ____ (See www.arrl.org)
Dues: \$20 per year. See treasurer for mid year proration of first year. Amount Paid _____
Membership type:(Check one) New ____, **Renewal** ____

Welcome to the Capital City Amateur Radio Club. Within the “Club”, you will find a very diverse cross section of interests in Ham Radio. From Contesting, to Award Chasing. From High power stations to QRP minimalist to emergency communications, and everywhere in between. Please, let us know what interests you currently have in Ham Radio. If you are like most, they will probably change over time. There are so many hobbies within the hobby of Ham Radio. Please, circle any items you are involved in, or interested in, or would like more information about. If you would like a presentation on any items, please note it. This will help make our club more interesting for all. **Our meetings are on the first non-holiday Monday of each month at the Salvation Army Church, 1905 Henderson**
 Thanks and 73. John, K7JM – Newsletter Editor.

Capital City
 Amateur Radio Club

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contesting ● Amateur TV <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SSTV ○ ATV ● Dxing ● Satellite ● RDF/Fox Hunting ● Digital Operations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Computer/Radio interfacing TNC ○ Packet ○ RTTY ○ PSK31 ○ APRS ○ Other _____ ● Radio Control ● Design/Building <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Antennas ○ Equipment ● QRP (Low Power) ● General Operation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ HF ○ VHF/UHF ○ Mobile VHF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mobile HF ● Awards Chasing ● Public Service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Traffic ○ ARES(Amateur Radio Emergency Services)/RACES(Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services) ● How to build (Workshop format) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Soldering ○ Installing Equipment ○ Mobile Installations ○ Setting up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ a station ■ new equipment ■ test instruments |
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Comments: _____



Capital City Amateur Radio Club
W7TCK
Helena Montana USA
www.w7tck.org



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P.O. Box 1112
Helena, MT 59624

CCARC Web Page: www.w7tck.org
Editor's E-Mail: jandcmcdougall@jeffbb.net

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.

**December 2007 Meeting
Monday, December 3**

**Salvation Army Church
1905 Henderson**

7:00 PM



**Return Address: Newsletter Editor
Capital City Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 271
Jefferson City, MT 59638**

e-mail: jandcmcdougall@jeffbb.net

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!

First Class Mail