



# WATTS NEWS

## *Welcome to the OARC Newsletter*

[www.OgdenArc.org](http://www.OgdenArc.org)

**December 2004**

Next Club Meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday - **December 18, 2004**

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### OARC OFFICERS

President: [Gary Liptrot N7ZI](#)  
Vice Pres: [Mary Hazard W7UE](#)  
Secretary: [Jim Southwick K7JS](#)  
Treasurer: [Charles Horn KD7SST](#)

Director #1: [Mike Fullmer KZ7O](#)  
Director #2: [Jim Clarke KD7SWL](#)

### WATTS NEWS EDITOR

Editor: [Val Campbell K7HCP](#)  
Photographer: [Maggi Campbell N7HCP](#)

### OTHER CLUB FUNCTIONS

VE Liason: [Mary Hazard W7UE](#)  
Repeater Engr: [Mike Fullmer KZ7O](#)  
Web Master: [Jim Clarke KD7SWL](#)

# Club Meeting

## November 20, 2004

We had our November meeting for the first time at the Health Department located at 2570 Grant Ave. Thanks Mary W7UE for making this possible. As usual Gary N7ZI had the plentiful supplies of juice and bagels. These are not some old next day bakery bagels by the way, but first rate ones with all the fixings. That alone is worth the price of admission - FREE.

I had about 4 hours sleep from the night before, so I am going to have to see if a coffee maker might be a new fixture at the Sat. morning meetings.

For announcements - Mike Fullmer KZ7O told us they are still working on the auto patch for the repeater. They may possibly have this corrected by the time you are reading this. The culprit is no dial tone. As I write this, I realize that is like saying there is a water problem with the problem being no water. So just let me say it this way, it wasn't working.

CQ Worldwide at Earl Sanders NT7Y place was a success and a lot of fun. Believe it or not, the 10 meter band was hopping. I had the privilege of Earl showing me his Hallicrafters and other boat anchor collection in a room that has been known to have had a few Cub Scouts visit and then disappear into the maze of sheer volume of metal, tubes, and transformers. You either love this stuff or you hate it. Usually the spouse hates it.

We had our free drawing and giveaway again. This meeting was a bonanza with everything from more Carabiners (don't use these for tower work - we will not be held responsible), another Leatherman

type tool, lots of parts holder boxes, to things I can't remember and a couple of grand prizes being a VHF oscillator and 10 meter CW transmitter kit. Thanks Jim Clarke KD7SWL for donating the oscillator kit and I'll just pat my back for the CW kit.

"Show and Tell" was next with Gary N7ZI showing his latest temp mobile setup that may just turn into a permanent setup. Everything works inside the car. Watch those RF exposure limits Gary! I know, it's only temporary.

Mike Fullmer KZ7O then showed his portable morse code key made from a clear plastic pill box, momentary switch, and a credit card. He was inspired by the mini manufactured key I showed off the meeting before however Mike's key was made for next to nothing. I didn't want to admit it.....but it had a much better "feel" than the little mini key I had. Good work Mike and a great excuse for anyone wanting to cut up credit cards.

Gary then went into his monthly feature - "The Upgrade Corner", this month focusing on frequency allocations, power limits, and basic rules. Those frequency allocations are always good to brush up on even if you are an Extra Class. Did I hear someone say "Why, I can talk anywhere I hear someone else talk". There's always gotta be someone. You too can go around saying that if you will just upgrade, but learn the allocations to be on the safe side as that doesn't always work that way - besides you'll need to know them for the test. Our next VE test session will be Feb. 2, 2005 at 5PM at the Weber Center located at 2380

Washington Blvd. Rm 112. Contact Mary to get set up. It's a lot easier to study for this stuff when the weather is bad, so don't procrastinate.

Stan Sjol WOKP did a very prepared presentation on antique radios as well as having a couple of gems on display. Stan still resents that he didn't hang on to a Zenith Tombstone style radio he bought for 50 cents many years ago. Unfortunately, it eventually transformed itself into the junk parts drawer. Thanks for the great job Stan.

The club voted to go ahead and sponsor the Ogden Amateur Radio HamFest 2005. This will most likely be held in April ahead of field day. We should soon have the location secured, so start gathering up all that crap (I mean equipment) you have been wanting to get rid of. In all seriousness, I scooped up on some great deals at the last hamfest, so

you don't want to miss one of these - especially if it's within a few hours drive or less.

Well, that wraps it up for the synopsis of the November meeting. We really would like all the members to share your knowledge at our upcoming meetings. Give us a few minutes on anything related to ham radio because we all have something to learn, and we have a very knowledgeable member base.

Let any one of the officers know if you have something you can share. Don't make us call you. As always feel free to bring any novel items you have to show off. Hams love to show off for the mere fact we have a lot of cool stuff and there is nothing wrong with that.

73 Jim Southwick N7JS

## Upcoming Events

### 2004 ARRL Straight Key Night Announcement

In this era of digital communication, keyboarding, FM and electronic keys, once a year many excellent operators bring the past to the present and participate in the annual **ARRL Straight Key Night**. The object of this friendly event is to enjoy some good, old fashioned QSO fun, using straight keys. The emphasis is on rag-chewing rather than on fast contest-type exchanges. *SKN* 2004 begins at 7:00 p.m. EST December 31 and runs for 24 hours through 7:00 p.m. EST January 1 (0000 - 2400 UTC January 1, 2004).

When participating in *SKN* 2004, instead of sending RST before sending the signal report send the letters *SKN*, to indicate your participation, and to clue in passers-by who may be listening that *SKN* is going strong.

For more details visit ...

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2004/skn.html>

# From The OM's Shack

Gary Liptrot N7ZI

Hi folks,

The OARC board and myself have been working hard to provide you with a quality meeting every month. I hope that you like the format that we have come up with. Since we hold the meeting at 09:00 on the third Saturday we thought that the bagel and juice idea would help give you a good start for the day. We also thought that it would be nice to give away some fun and useful items at each meeting. We have a drawing early in the meeting to give these items away. You don't have to be a club member to participate so make sure that you fill out a ticket when you walk in the door. The items are carefully selected by yours truly to help you establish a grab-and-go kit or to use while you are homebrewing that QRP rig in your shack.

We are also busy planning activities that are fun for the club. The CQ WW SSB Contest in the latter part of October was a blast. We had a bunch of people pop in and out throughout the day. A lot of good DX was worked. We saw openings on the 10-meter band that was amazing considering the fact that we are near solar minimum. We busted a few pile-ups and learned a lot about how to work a contest with our new software from N3FJP. I had fun talking with our club members and working a little DX, I hope that others did too. We will plan more of

these get togethers after the holidays. Early next year maybe we can go county hunting. We could go to a county like Rich and make contacts on the County Hunter's 20-meter net. I've listened to their net on Jim's (N7JS) online tuner and it sounds like a lot of fun.

While I'm rag-chewing I thought that I'd emphasize a little of my philosophy about the club. I hope when you walk in the door to our meetings that you feel welcome and a part of the group. I think that the most important part of OARC is to provide a place for hams to get together and share knowledge, experiences and tall tales. If you feel like an outsider at the meetings then I'm not doing my job. There are a bunch of great people in this club so come join the fun. Together we can get some things accomplished this year and become better operators to boot. I'm excited about the upcoming year and I hope that Santa Clause brings you that multi-thousand dollar HF rig with the matching tower for Christmas. If not maybe that lump of coal has a few flecks of crystal in it that we can homebrew into something that will get you on the air. Have a Happy Holiday from the OARC staff and I... B)

Tnx es 73 de n7zi Gary Liptrot

*"Why buy something for ten bucks when you can make it for a hundred." JR*

## Biography – Vice President

Mary Hazard W7UE

Hi everyone, this is Mary, W7UE. I got my Technician license in January 2002 and upgraded to Extra in 2003. While upgrading, I became interested in the VE program and made an application to become one myself in order to begin offering test sessions in Ogden. We now have a team of fourteen VEs. We are also field stocked which means that we can offer test sessions whenever a need arises without having to wait for supplies from ARRL.

After administering tests the old-fashioned way with pencils and paper, we have been able to start offering them on computers. Since most people study with computer generated practice tests, it seems logical to offer test sessions in the same format. It is also easier and faster for the VE team. Test sessions are a good opportunity to be part of the excitement as a new Technician license is

earned or an upgrade is achieved. I would encourage anyone interested in becoming a VE to contact me or go to the ARRL web site to begin the process.

As far as on-air activities go, I am most interested in DX on 17 and 15 meters. Quick exchanges of call signs and signal reports are fun, but even more satisfying is to be able to share a conversation with someone with a different perspective in terms of time and place. One weekend I made three separate contacts on 20, 17, and 15 meters with a station in Belize. The contacts were not planned. They were serendipitous. Now we are old buddies. I once shared an armchair conversation with a veterinarian in Parma, Italy that was truly memorable. I can't imagine ever losing the thrill of making contact with a different country for the first time.

73, Mary Hazard W7UE

*Next month stay tuned for another OARC Officer/Member Biography.  
It could be you!!!*

# Club Activities

## VE Corner

Since August 2003, the VE Team has offered five exam sessions and one Technician level class. The class was well attended by more than 20 students and supported by several members of the club. The class was based on a video course. One or two segments of the video were shown followed by question and answer sessions, demonstrations of the Kenwood TM-D700 and HF rigs, antenna and other home brew projects rounded out the class sessions. We think we have stumbled on a good class format.

Gary Liptrot, N7ZI, and Charles Horne, KD7SST, provided the technical expertise and home brew projects to keep the students motivated and entertained. Several of the students earned their

Technician license at an exam session scheduled during the middle of the class. They must have enjoyed the class, as they continued to attend. A special thanks to all the club members that supported the class either through attendance or on air activities.

A total of 79 exams have been administered during the five sessions for a total of 37 new Technician licensees, 4 General, and 3 Extra upgrades.

We are now field stocked, so if you know of any testing needs, contact me and arrangements can be made for an exam session most any time.

73, Mary Hazard W7UE

## *OARC VE Team*

To become a VE contact the Team Liaison: Mary Hazard W7UE @ 801 430-0306

<u>Name</u>	<u>Call Sign</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Call Sign</u>	<u>Class</u>
• Brad Bate	N7SWW	Extra	• Gary Liptrot	N7ZI	Extra
• David Black	AC7QO	Extra	• Fred Mabrey	KJ7RH	Extra
• Alan Bryner	KK7UD	Extra	• Greg Moore	KD7BPQ	Extra
• Mike Fullmer	KZ7O	Extra	• Kim Owen	KO7U	Extra
• Mary Hazard	W7UE	Extra	• Mel Parks	AC7CP	Extra
• Charles Horn	KD7SST	Extra	• Mike Stanford	WB7TSQ	Extra
• Cliff Jenkins	N7ZTY	General	• Ken Wilson	N7OG	Extra

# Club News Items

## ARRL MEMBERSHIP

If you want to [join ARRL](#), our club can retain \$15 for each NEW regular or senior membership and \$2 for each RENEWAL submitted. A NEW MEMBER is defined as any individual who has never been a member of ARRL or any individual who has not retained a membership for two or more calendar years prior to the application submission. A RENEWING

MEMBER can renew at anytime, even before their current membership term expires.

If you're joining both the club and ARRL write one check payable to the club and mail both application forms to the club or contact our Treasurer: [Charles Horn KD7SST](#).

## AUTO PATCH

The 146.90 Autopatch should be up and running any day now. In fact it might be up by club meeting this month. The phone line is now operational and we just need to connect and configure the hardware. One thing that we need help with however is the funds for the autopatch.

There is currently only \$77 in the autopatch fund. This will not last very long with a monthly bill of \$25. Many of you out there expressed a desire to have this done and now it's ready. But we need some donations to make it keep working. I propose to all that have any interest to donate one month payment of \$25. This would only take 12 people to get a years worth of support. Make the donations to

the club and be sure to mention that it is for the autopatch fund.

I know that a lot of you out there have cell phones, but remember your cell phone is only as reliable as the cell towers that they talk to. Have you tried to make a call from the middle of Ogden Canyon? You can easily get into the 90 repeater from there.

The phone patch will be an open patch available for all to use. The access codes will be announced as soon as it is on line. If you have any questions feel free to ask.

Mike Fullmer KZ7O, Repeater Engineer

## Other News Items

### Mysterious "Intruder Signal" @ 7238.1 kHz Baffles Radio Operators

An odd and unidentified signal has been reported to have shown up on the 40-meter phone band on or about 7238 kHz in mid September 2004. The signal's presence has reportedly generated a lot of discussion throughout the amateur community. Numerous amateurs in the western US and Canada have reported hearing the signal over a period of a few weeks. Earlier FCC monitoring indicated the "buzz" was centered on 7238.1 kHz with a bandwidth of about 1 kHz and consisted of a series of discrete signals spaced about 90 Hz apart.

According to a FCC HF Direction Finding Facility, radio amateurs have reported

hearing the signal at nearly 40 dB over S9 as far away as Edmonton Alberta Canada. While no one's sure *what* it is, they have been able to determine that it's coming from somewhere north of Prescott, Arizona, and west of Interstate 17.

The FCC offered no firm opinion as to the signal's source. Stations with information on unidentified signals in the amateur bands are asked to report them via e-mail to International Amateur Radio Union Region 2 Monitoring System Liaison.

*WorldRadio - November 2004*

### Stuff Happens

In the November issue Amateur Radio Newslines reported "Strange signals at 7238.1 kHz." Before we go into this, we will say unequivocally that accidents do happen.

That said, the story goes that an elderly Ham was tuning a 40-Meter antenna in his RV. He finished tuning and inadvertently "left" his rig keyed. It was also reported

that after the faux pas was discovered some weeks later and he had partially recovered from the embarrassment, he stated that he would "never get on the air again" and gave away all his equipment. Quite a punishment he leveled upon himself for a simple mistake.

*WorldRadio - December 2004*

### FCC Continues Trucker Crackdown

The FCC is continuing its crackdown on truckers illegally operating on the low end of the 10-meter ham band. In the past month, a half dozen letters were sent out by the FCC Enforcement Bureau to truck owners, citing transmissions monitored in

various locations and warning the owners that they could be fined if the illegal transmissions continue.

CQ - November 2004

## Announcements

### Next Club Meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday - December 18, 2004

- Each meeting of the Ogden Amateur Radio Club is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month.
- **Time:** 9:00 AM (*snack provided*)
- **Location:**

Health Department Building  
Auditorium  
2570 Grant Ave Ogden Utah

This is on the corner of 26th and Grant west of Washington Blvd, NE corner of the street.

Enter through the East door on the North end of the building (parking lot side).

Parking is located on the North and East side of the building.

Talk in on 146.82 (123.0).

- **Meeting Topics:**
  - Practical balans...
  - How they work
  - Why they are used
  - How to make them

Check Oarc web page for details  
[www.ogdenarc.org](http://www.ogdenarc.org)

- Please invite a friend to join you. You do not have to be a member of the club to participate in our club meetings or activities. We invite all to join us.
- If anyone is interested in doing a presentation on something or just have something unique to show at the meetings. - Please get a hold of any of the officers and let us know.

### Next Weber Co VE Test Session: - February 2, 2005

- Exam sessions are held in Ogden every few months, *usually* the first Wednesday in February, June, and October.
- **Time:** 5:00 PM Walk-ins allowed
- **Location:**

WEBER CENTER  
2380 Washington Blvd, Rm. 112  
OGDEN, UT 84401

**Contact:** Mary Hazard @ 801-430-0306

- **Cost:** \$12.00

Those seeking a ham license should bring two forms of ID, one of which must be a picture ID. Those seeking an upgrade should also bring a copy of their current license, any CSCE, and a picture ID.

Most calculators are **allowed**.

## Club Web Site

Be sure to visit our club web site.

- [www.OgdenARC.org](http://www.OgdenARC.org)

Club membership is open to anyone interested in Amateur Radio. You do not need an amateur license to join us. Dues are used to operate the club, field day activities, and repeater equipment maintenance.

You do not need to join the club to participate with us.

## Club Call Sign

Listen to the club repeaters for this very familiar CW ID. You do know Morse Code don't you?

- **W7SU**

ARRL Field Day is held on the last full weekend of June every year. Location may vary each year so watch this notice for details as time draws near. See you there.

OARC REPEATERS			
FREQ	CLUB	TONE	LOCATION
146.820-	OARC	123.0	Mt Ogden
448.600-	OARC	123.0	Mt Ogden
146.900-	OARC	123.0	Little Mtn (auto patch)
448.575-	OARC	100.0	Little Mtn

OTHER AREA REPEATERS			
FREQ	CLUB	TONE	LOCATION
146.620-	UARC	none	Farnsworth Pk
449.100-	UARC	146.2	Farnsworth Pk
147.040+	DCARC	123.0	Antelope Isl
447.200-	DCARC	127.3	Antelope Isl
449.925-	DCARC	100.0	No Salt Lake
145.290-	UBET	123.0	Brigham City
145.430-	UBET	123.0	Thiokol
448.300-	UBET	123.0	Thiokol
146.640-	BARC	none	Logan
146.720-	BARC	103.5	Mt Logan
147.260+	BARC	103.5	Promontory Pt
449.625-	BARC	103.5	Mt Logan
145.250-	WSU	123.0	* coming soon
449.250-	WSU	123.0	* coming soon
145.490-	RACES	123.0	Promontory Pt
146.920-	N7top	123.0	Promontory Pt
449.775-	N7top	123.0	Promontory Pt

### AREA CLUB MEETINGS & WEB SITES

CLUB	WEB SITE	DATE/TIME	LOCATION
OARC	ogdenarc.org	3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday 9:00 am	Health Dept Bld Auditorium 2570 Grant Ave Ogden Utah
WC ARES		3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday 11:00 am	Weber Co. Sheriff Complex West 12 <sup>th</sup> Street Ogden Utah
WsuArc	arcweber.edu	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday 5:30 pm	WSU Blding #4 Room ? Ogden Utah
Barc	barconline.org	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday 10:00 am	Cache Co. Sheriffs Complex 200 North 1400 West Logan Ut
Ubet	27meg.co/k7ub	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday 7:00 pm	BE-Thiokol Old Intermountain Indian School Brigham City Utah
Dcarc	dcarc.net	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday 10:00 am	Davis Co. Sheriff Complex Farmington Utah
Uarc	xmission.com /~uarc/	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday 7:30 pm	UofU EMC Bldg Room 101 Salt Lake City Utah
UvhfS	ussc.com /~uvhfs/	Each Tuesday 8:00 pm (refer to web site)	Weekly 2 meter net (no eye ball meetings)

### LOCAL AREA NETS

DATE	CLUB	FREQ
Daily @ 12:30 PM mst	Utah Beehive net HF	7.272 Mhz - HF
Daily @ 7:00 PM mst	Utah Farm net HF	3.937 Mhz - HF
<b>Tuesday @ 6:30 PM</b>	<b>Weber ARES</b>	<b>448.600 - 123.0</b>
Tuesday @ 8:00 PM	VHF Society	147.120 + 100.0
Tuesday @ 9:00 PM	Bridgerland ARC	147.260 + 103.5
Wednesday @ 8:00 PM	UBET ARC	145.290-,145.430-, 448.300 (all 123.0)
Wednesday @ 8:30 PM	CSERG	145.770 - simplex
Wednesday @ 9:00 PM	No Utah 10m net	28.313 Mhz
Thursday @ 7:00 PM	Davis ARES	147.420 = simplex
Thursday @ 8:00 PM	Weber State ARC	146.820 - 123.0
Sunday @ 7:30 PM	UBET ARC	145.430 - 123.0 (training net)
Sunday @ 9:00 PM	Morgan	147.060 = simplex
Sunday @ 9:00 PM	UARC Info net	146.62 – no PL tone required
Thursday @ 8:00PM	RACES State VHF	145.490 - 123.0, 146.680 – 123.0 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday - even months only
Saturday @ 8:00AM mst	RACES State HF	3.918 Mhz - HF 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday – odd months only

**73 es cul de W7SU**

[www.OgdenArc.org](http://www.OgdenArc.org)