

UNIVERSITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB N7UW

**Department 3625
1000 East University Avenue
LARAMIE, WYOMING 82071**

May 2006

<http://www.uwyo.edu/uarc>

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UARC MEETING

The next regular meeting of the University Amateur Radio Club will be held Tuesday 2 May 2006 in room 10 on the lower level of the Wyoming Student Union. Alternate location is room 02 in the same area. All radio amateurs and interested persons are invited to attend. Talk in on the UARC repeater at 146.610 MHz 600 kHz standard negative offset.

A program will be presented after the meeting by Bob Kubichek N7CII.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT Jim KD7KMU

May 2nd will be our last official meeting until Sept 4th. I will be scheduling a meeting June 6th to finalize everything for Field Day and for the up-coming scheduled events that we will be working this summer. I'd like to mention that we still need volunteers for these events. For those of you, who are available to help out with them, sign up at the May 2nd meeting. It's good to know ahead of time that we have enough people available to cover these events.

I would like to wish Judy, K7JMS, a speedy recovery. She had a problem with her heart and hopefully, with the medical treatment she received, the problem will be solved and she will lead a long and active life. Congratulations go out to Jonathan Held, on getting his Technician's license. His call sign is KE7HIS. Bob Kubichek, N7CII, will be presenting a program after the meeting.

The Tower

A letter to an Insurance Company

I am writing in response to your request for additional information on my insurance claim. In block #3 on the accident reporting form I put "poor planning" as the cause of my accident. You said in your letter that I should explain more fully and I trust the following details will be sufficient: I am an amateur radio operator, and on the day of the accident I was working alone on the top section of my 80-foot tower. When I had completed my work, I discovered that I had, over the course of trips up the tower, brought up about 300 pounds of tools and spare hardware. Rather than carry the now un-needed tools and materials down by hand, I decided to lower the items down in a small barrel by using a pulley, which fortunately was attached to the gin pole at the top of the tower. Securing the rope at ground level, I went to the top of the tower and loaded the tools and materials into the barrel. Then I went back to the ground and untied the rope, holding it tightly to insure a slow descent of the 300 lbs. of tools. You will note in block #11 of the accident reporting form, that I weigh only 155 lbs. Due to my surprise of being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope. Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate of speed up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming down. This explains my fractured skull and broken collarbone. Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley. Fortunately, by this time, I had regained my presence of mind and was able to hold onto the rope in spite of my pain. At approximately the same time, however, the barrel of tools hit the ground and the bottom fell out of the barrel. Devoid of the weight of the tools, the barrel now weighed 20-lbs. I refer you again to my weight in block #11. As you might imagine, I began a rapid descent down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles and the lacerations of my legs and lower body. This encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell onto the pile of tools; and fortunately, only three vertebrae were cracked. I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the tools, in pain, unable to stand, and watching the empty barrel 80-feet above me -- I again lost presence of mind. I let go of the rope.

I hope to see you at the May 2nd meeting.

Jim, KD7KMU 73s

UARC CALENDAR

- 2 May 2006** **UARC Monthly Meeting** 7:30 pm local time in room 10 of the Wyoming Student Union. Alternate location is room 02 near by. All persons interested in amateur radio are invited to attend.
Regular meetings are the first Tuesday of each month.
- 9 May 2006** **ARES RACES regular meeting** 7:00 pm local time in Room 134 of the Physical Sciences Building on the University of Wyoming west campus.
All persons interested in the role of amateur radio in emergency situations are invited to attend. Regular meetings are the second Tuesday of each month.
- 6-7 May 2006** **7th Call Area QSO Party** Contact Walt W7SE for more information -
w7se@arrl.net. Operators are needed for several WY counties. Please see the information flyer included with this COTW.

- 27-28 May 2006** **Wyoming Section Convention** sponsored by the Shy-Wy ARC
Contact Brian Grimm, N7QJB
PO Box 2735
Cheyenne, WY 82003
Phone: 307-630-1098
Email: n7qjb@arrl.net
Casper, WY
Best Western Ramkota Hotel
[800 North Poplar](#)
Div: Rocky Mountain
Sect: Wyoming
- 9-11 June 2006** **Rocky Mountain Division Convention**
HAMCON Colorado
<http://hamconcolorado.org>
Dick Schneider, AB0CD
5630 East Bates Avenue
Denver, CO 80222
Phone: 303-601-8932
Email: schneiderdick@comcast.net
Estes Park, CO
Holiday Inn & Estes Park Convention Center
Div: Rocky Mountain
Sect: Colorado
- 17 June 2006** **Happy Jack Endurance Horse Races**
Medicine Bow National Forest east of Laramie
6-8 amateur radio operators are needed to assist with communication.
Contact Doris KD7RQX or other UARC officers.
- 24 June 2006** **Dead Dog Classic Bicycle Road Race**
Albany to Ryan Park on Highway 130 west of Laramie
Lots of ham volunteers are needed to cover the route on 2 meters.
Contact Bill AF7E or other UARC officers.
- 24-25 June 2006** **ARRL Field Day 2006**
UARC location will again be at Fox Park off Highway 230 – south of Albany via
CR 47 which meets 230 near Jelm for those of us coming from the bicycle race.
- 29 July 2006** **Laramie Enduro Mountain Bike Race**
Happy Jack Recreation Area east of Laramie – Hidden Valley Picnic Area
Race start is at 7:00 am. 6-8 amateur radio operators are needed to assist with
communication. Contact Jim KD7KMU, John KD7NAE or other UARC officers.
- 4-6 August 2006** **Wyoming, Idaho, Montana and Utah (WIMU) 2006 Convention (WIMU 2006)**
Teton Radio Amateur Club
<http://www.redgiant.org/wimu2006/>
Talk-In: 146.91 MHz (PL 123)
Charles Burd, K7ZOO
c/o Teton Radio Amateur Club
POB 7835

Jackson, WY 83002
Phone: 307-690-8896
Email: wimu2006@redgiant.org
Jackson, WY
The Virginian Lodge
[750 West Broadway](#)
Div: Rocky Mountain
Sect: Wyoming

5 August 2006 Jackson Hole Area Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.qsl.net/jhaarc>
Talk-In: 146.73 -600 (PL 123)
Mick Dettmer, W7CAT
PO Box 14691
Jackson, WY 83002
Phone: 307-690-9848
Email: jhaarc@qsl.net
Jackson, WY
The old Colter Elementary School
[255 North Jean Street](#)
Div: Rocky Mountain
Sect: Wyoming

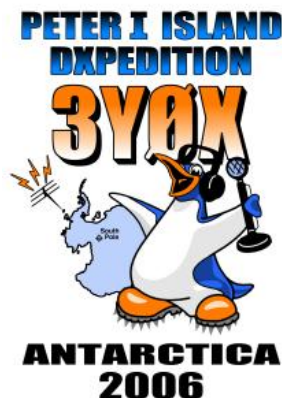
Upcoming contests include:

10-12 June 2006 ARRL June VHF QSO Party
24-25 June 2006 ARRL Field Day
8-9 July 2006 IARU HF World Championships
5-6 August 2006 ARRL UHF Contest
19-20 Aug 2006 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest

see <http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html> for more info including contest rules

UARC and Albany County Amateur Radio news

Thanks to Paul Pheneger W7MO for his program on DXpeditions to Peter I Island Antarctica after last month's meeting.



Most of the summer's local radio volunteer activities are now listed in the calendar above. Please let your club officers know if you can help out with any of these. UARC and area hams have received a lot of praise and good PR for our help with these events. The assistance we provide for these activities is much appreciated and gives us the opportunity to show off many of the skills that would be used in emergency situations. Thanks to all of you who have helped out in the past.

Next weekend is the 7th Call Area QSO Party being organized by Walt W7SE. Please contact him if you plan to participate. Walt has been working hard to organize and promote this event and it promises to be a successful effort with all Wyoming counties covered. Thanks to Walt for all his efforts.

Bill AF7E reports that Bill Frazier N7SXC has returned home to Laramie after much hard work and therapy in Fort Collins recovering from strokes suffered over the holidays. Our continued best wishes for full recovery go out to Bill and his family and we all look forward to hearing him on the air again.

Thanks to Foncey N0FT and Bill AF7E for contributions to this issue of COTW.

N0FT recommends CERT training by Foncey Taylor N0FT

I have completed the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training and recommend it to everyone. The program was started in 1985 by the Los Angeles Fire Department. The department recognized that most of us would be on our own during a catastrophic event and began offering basic training in disaster survival and rescue skills. The fully trained first responders we all expect can't always arrive immediately. This training is designed to teach us and our neighbors to survive until they get to us. Later earthquakes in California proved the value of the training. In 1994 FEMA began offering the program nationwide. Although we don't think of Wyoming as disaster prone, it is interesting that one of the early evaluators of the program was Lt. Stewart Anderson of the Natrona County Emergency Agency. And there was the tornado in Wright.

CERT training prepares you to help yourself, your family, and your neighbors immediately after a disaster of any kind occurs. Teams of 5 to 7 people are taught to assess the situation in their own neighborhood and begin to cope. The goal is to save as many people as possible as quickly as possible. I learned how to get my home and myself ready for any emergency. I also learned some basic medical techniques, how to handle small fires, techniques of light search and rescue, how to organize my CERT team, and how to cope with the psychological trauma of being in a disaster. Terrorism was also covered. This is a broad rescue training program.

We had both classroom instruction and a field exercise over our training sessions. The first consideration was always our own safety and that of our family. A rescuer needing to rescue the rescuer is not a help. In the Northridge Earthquake in California many people offered to help. These citizens were wonderful but often their lack of training was a hindrance to successful rescue. 100 of the rescuers also lost their lives in that disaster.

Eight people in the community who have had been through the "training for trainers" were instructors for our group and we now have ten people trained as CERT responders. While everyone would like to see all 35000 residents in Albany County CERT trained, we at least hope to add to this beginning at least one team per neighborhood. Upcoming training date is always on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. Dates are April 21, 22, 23; May 19, 20, 21; June 23, 24, 25; and July 21, 22, and 23. Email Erin Denson, Emergency Management, edenson@ci.laramie.wy.us, or Sandy Brome, Citizen Corps Chairman, sbrome@aol.com for more information.

This may be the best training I've ever had and I recommend it highly. I urge you to take this course. You don't have to be young and active to be useful, either. We work as a team and there are plenty of things less active, older, and handicapped citizens can do as members of CERT, the Community Emergency Response Team.

Foncey Taylor N0FT

UARC meeting minutes from 4 April 2006

Call to Order:

The March meeting was called to order by President Jim KD7KMU at 7:33 pm in room 10 of the Wyoming Union. 15 members were in attendance; all officers were present. Those attending were: John Pearce, Doug Wheeler KD7W, Mac McDonald WB7K, Gery Simpson, Paul Pheneger W7MO, Foncey Taylor N0FT, Jonathan Held, Wayne Sutherland NQ7Q, John Harrison KD7NAE, Bob Kubichek N7CII, Bob Hansen WS7C, Walt Marshall W7SE, Jim Johnson KD7KMU, Suzanne Luhr AA7AY, and Doris Hutcheson KD7RQX.

Secretary's Report:

There was a motion by John KD7NAE that the minutes of the March meeting be approved as published in the Code of the West, Foncey N0FT seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Suzanne reported the following:

UARC: Expenses: \$21.73 phone
New balance \$662.84

Repair Fund: \$1,000

High Plains: \$646.89

Committees:

Congratulations were extended to John Held for passing the technician exam in Longmont.

Wayne NQ7Q reported that the High Plains Roundup is scheduled for the weekend after Labor Day. The site can be assumed reserved if the check has been cashed. Jerry N7JT is working on door prizes.

Jim KD7KMU thanked the Bernie club committee for the good party in February at Wingers.

Walt W7SE reminded everyone that the 7 call area QSO is about one month away (May 6th). All counties in Wyoming are ready, thanks to mobile stations. Volunteering to participate at the meeting were Foncey N0FT, Mac WB7K and Doug KD7W. There is a special call sign W7Y for the club's use. Walt said his home station would be available since he will be mobile. There was discussion of using the club tower for the event, but Wayne NQ7Q will be away. Doris KD7RQX pointed out that May 6th is UW graduation day. Mac WB7K volunteered his home station for the club's use. Foncey N0FT volunteered her home as a location for a mobile station.

Old Business:

Jim KD7KMU led a discussion on Field day. Mac WB7K made a motion that the site be Fox Park, Paul

W7MO seconded and the motion passed unanimously. There will be additional planning at the next meeting. Jerry N7JT, Wayne NQ7Q, and John KD7NAE will start rounding up equipment.

There was discussion about the .82 repeater. Should UARC repair the equipment and get the site ready for inspection? Jim KD7KMU says that Jim Petty reports that he visited the site recently and that there was still one snow drift in the way. Mac WB7K reports that there is still a bad squelch coming from the repeater. Wayne NQ7Q said that Jerry N7JT had talked to Shy-WY club and it seems they have backed off on repairs. There was agreement that UARC should get the repeater working. Wayne NQ7Q says he will be glad to help, but hasn't had time. Mac WB7K pointed out that it might be time to work on the roof again. Doug KD7W said he thought the Shy-WY club had worked on the roof a few years ago.

Jim KD7KMU said that he would like to see better participation from other club members with the Code of the West and encouraged members to submit articles to John KD7NAE.

New Business:

There was no new business.

Announcements:

There will be an ARES/RACES meeting in Jerry N7JT's lab on Tuesday April 11th at 7:00 pm..

The Red Cross will hold a weather spotter class at the North Fire Station on Tuesday, April 18th.

Foncey N0FT encouraged everyone to participate in the Red Cross CERT training. There will be another course when enough people register. The course covers the basics for neighborhood responders (often the first on the scene), including first aid, search and rescue and fire extinguisher operation.

Drawing:

Doug KD7W won a one year subscription to World Radio.

Meeting Adjourned:

Wayne NQ7Q moved and Mac WB7K seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 8:03 pm.

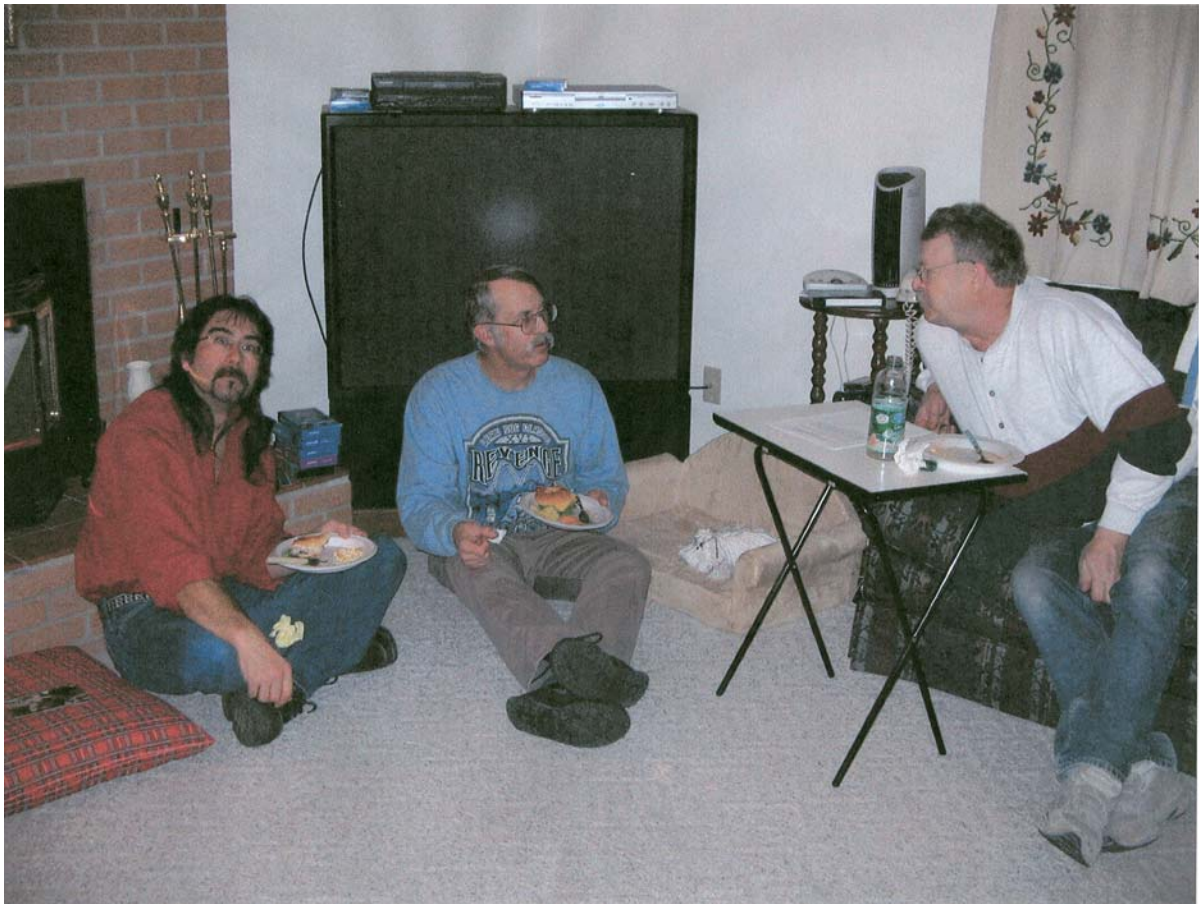
Special Presentation:

Paul W7MO gave a presentation on DX-peditions to Peter 1, an island off Antarctica. He described it as an extreme (bigger and more expensive) field day.

Doris
KD7RQX

Pictures on the following two pages are from the Bernie held at Bill AF7E's home in celebration of Suzanne AA7AY's birthday a couple months ago. Everyone enjoyed good food and conversation. Thanks Bill for hosting a very enjoyable evening.





Submissions to COTW are welcome from all UARC members, area hams and persons interested in amateur radio communications and activities.

Printed copies of COTW are available from John KD7NAE.

Please contact

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