

Volume 2 | Issue 5
May 23, 2019



Sparks & Arcs

The purpose of the club is:

To promote interest in and the advancement of amateur radio, and electronics in general.

To promote a good relationship between American Legion members who are licensed radio amateurs and the public through public service activities.

To help interested person obtain an FCC Amateur Radio License and current Licensees to upgrade their licenses.

The monthly newsletter for the Post 113 Amateur Radio Club N7LGN.

Meeting Notes

There are still issues with the K7BSE – 147.940 repeater antenna. There is no timeline for its repair/replacement. We tried moving the net to 147.380, but the response was not good. Either folks didn't get the word about the change, or they didn't have the digital tone capability. It was decided to suspend the May 23, 2019 net so we could determine what frequency to move to. Rich is working on it. Notification of the new repeater and frequency will go out to members via email, and also be posted on the website.

If you would like to become a Volunteer Examiner (VE), you can apply to the ARRL for certification. You do not need to be an ARRL member, but you must hold at least a General Class License.

IDQSO Party will be March 13-14, 2020. The party committee will meet in October to start making plans. On the Events & Activities page of our website, there is a button where you can download the PowerPoint presentation.

The club will provide handheld radios to those performing security for Girls State. Anyone involved with either Boys State or Girls State will need to have an American Legion approved background check completed. The link to an approved provider will be posted on the website.

We will be opening an AmazonSmile account. After the account is opened, a portion of any AmazonSmiles.com purchases can be designated to go to the club. More on that later.

Equipment

Work on the radio room in the Veterans Memorial Building is almost complete. The bench tops are installed, and the electrical is all hooked up. We just need to install the antenna in the attic, and plug in the radios.

We have six Saber radios all of which need batteries and programming. Keith KJ7BZC has learned how to program them. A determination will be made at a later date to either keep the radios for member activities, or to sell them.

We have several HT1000 batteries on hand that need to be refurbished. Keith has had success in doing this in the past and has agreed to work on them.

To participate in activities involving or for amateur radio.

To be prepared to respond in cases of declared emergencies or disasters and to offer amateur radio communications where necessary.

Network

We would like more people to be involved as a Net Control Station (NCS). It is very simple to do and takes virtually no time at all. Well, maybe a few minutes once in a while on a Thursday evening. If you have a license, can read, and press the PTT on your radio, then you qualify. You don't need fancy equipment. Some have hosted with their handheld radios. You just need to be able to reach the repeater on Schafer Butte. We would like to have enough operators so that Rich can do up a schedule. That way nobody gets stuck doing it every week. If you would like to give it a try, contact Rich W7BOI at rjdees@aol.com. He will provide you with instructions and the script. It really is very easy. Don't worry. If you screw up, no biggie. We're here to have fun. We don't judge.

Upcoming Events

MAY 28, 30, JUNE 5, 7, 11: Technician license class training.

JUNE 7-8 FRUITLAND MILITARY TRUCK SHOW: We will be set up at the show with various equipment and a field telephone. There will be many displays there and the opportunity to purchase equipment.

JUNE 13 18:30: Ham testing for all license classes.

JUNE 15 FOX HUNT: Registration will begin at 0800 at the Veterans Memorial Building. Hunters will be released at 0900. All hunters need to return no later than 11:30. Teams will consist of two hunters. Entry fee is \$5.00 per team (\$2.50 per head). Half of the entry fee will be used for a 50/50 drawing. The remainder to defray the cost of pizza.

JUNE 22-23 FIELD DAY: The place for setup TBD. If you are interested in participating, contact Rich W7BOI at rjdees@yahoo.com or Mike WB7RWS at wb7rws@gmail.com

MARCH 13-14, 2020: Our club will host the Idaho QSO party. The committee will meet in October. Date and time TBD.

Meetings

We hold our monthly club meetings on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 1900. Meetings will be at the Veterans Memorial Building 22 W. Broadway, Meridian. All who are interested are welcome to attend.

American Legion Post 113

We are always looking for stories, articles, and tips and tricks for the monthly newsletter. If you have something you would like to contribute, please send them to: WA7JUL@gmail.com

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