



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.

To participate in activities involving or for amateur radio.

The newsletter for the Post 113 Amateur Radio Club N7LGN

Membership

A reminder that our fiscal year runs from January 1st through December 31st. If you have not yet paid your dues, they are overdue. Please bring your check for \$12.00 to our next general membership meeting on August 26, or mail them to:

Thom Juul WA7JUL
1438 N. Tina Marie Ave
Meridian, ID 83642

New Members

We would like to welcome our newest member, Doug Hanks. Doug is the Post 113 Commander.

Equipment

We would like to extend our sincerest thank you to Idaho State University. They have graciously donated a lot of ham radio equipment to N7LGN. Contact Rich W7BOI at rjides@aol.com to find out what we have. Matt W7LGN also has a lot of donated equipment available for members to look through and see if there is anything they would like to have.

There were some programming problems with the 70 CM repeater and it was off the air for a few days. Rich W7BOI has reprogrammed the repeater and it is back on the air.

Due to the antenna system currently installed in the attic, the repeater range is extremely limited. Thom WA7JUL stated he could reach the repeater from the River Street exit on the Boise connector with his mobile, but it was garbled. He could not reach the repeater from Caldwell. He has purchased a Diamond X510HDM dual band antenna for the club. It should be received by August 7. We will coordinate an antenna party to install it after it arrives.

Rich W7BOI has purchased the antenna mounting hardware so the new antenna can be mounted outside on the East end of the building. That should give our repeater better coverage over the Treasure Valley.

There was discussion at our last meeting about how high the antenna can be mounted because of current city restrictions. If the antenna is mounted at 35 feet, the Meridian City Hall building to the Southeast will present a significant obstruction to the signal. Rich W7BOI is researching this.

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

The club has decided that the repeater will be open to the public. In the event of an emergency, the repeater will be coded so that only club members and the CERT team will have access.

Network

Our network meets on Thursday evenings at 1900 on 146.940. The public is welcome to check in.

We need more people to be involved as a Net Control Station (NCS). It is very simple to do and takes virtually no prep time at all. If you have a license (any class), can read, and press the PTT on your radio, then you qualify. You don't need fancy equipment. Some have even hosted with their handheld radios! You only need to be able to reach the repeater on Shaffer Butte.

Upcoming Events

The fox hunt for July 25 has been canceled and will be rescheduled for August. Date and time to be determined.

Rich W7BOI is in the process of contacting AMSAT to obtain a pass so our scouts can talk with the International Space Station. This should be a lot of fun and very educational for our scouts. More to come on this activity.

ISRA Meets the third Thursday of each month at 1900. The meetings are at the Idaho Pizza 6624 N. Glenwood in Garden City. ISRA has been very generous in letting us use their repeater for our network. Let's show them support by attending their meetings and joining their club.

Larry W7ZRQ hosts a network every Sunday evening @ 2100 on simplex 146.440. All are encouraged to support Larry and check in to the net.

N7LGN will be holding classes in September for anyone interested in obtaining their Extra Class license. Exact times and dates will be announced. Contact Rich W7BOI at rjees@aol.com for further information and to sign up.

If we can get enough interest, Rich W7BOI stated he would hold classes for the Technician Class licenses. Contact Rich at rjdees@aol.com.

American Legion Post 113 The American Legion Post 113 Amateur Radio Club is affiliated with The American Legion Amateur Radio Club, ARRL, and ARES

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<https://n7lgn.org>