

## **HF ANTENNAS FOR THE SOLAR DOLDRUMS**

**Presented By Doug Campbell, N1CWR**

Monday, September 11, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

**First United Methodist Church**

**1350 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, TN**

They say we're in a prolonged downturn in solar activity, and trying to work the world on our HF bands is no longer the sure thing it was just a few years ago. The poor conditions have mainly affected our upper HF bands (15, 12, 10 meters). Our lower HF bands (160, 80, 40, 30) remain almost as good as ever. Better antennas can help. In this presentation, Doug will describe simple and inexpensive antennas for the lower HF bands, including wire Yagis and extended Zepps, that can significantly improve station effectiveness.

## **President's Notes**

### **by Darrell Cook, WA4LNX**

Hospital radio exercise. Every year ARES practice emergency communication with a simulated emergency exercise. This year the required exercise will consist of a planned hospital disaster exercise. This will give a chance to practice two aspects of our emergency operation. We will have ARES members involved in the county and activate the hospital radio. Since other hospitals may not be activating their radio operation, we will call on some amateurs in the area to simulate operations. We will also be testing our ability to transmit information via Winlink.

Other club news, I haven't heard from Charlie K4LF, but I assume we will have the Oak Ridge half-marathon coming up soon. This is a club activity and we need several hams to help with this. Next, at the board meeting we will name a nominating committee for next year's officers. We will need to nominate a new treasurer, Gwen, KF4ROX, has asked to leave the office (thank-you Gwen for your years of service as treasurer). Also, we need to nominate a candidate for president, since I have served the constitutional maximum two years. If you will serve in either of these positions, volunteers willingly accepted!!

Finally, we had our site survey, now we need the planning and execution stage to get the repeater on the air. The time has come, we need to planning and work times and put action to our talk. One or two or even three members cannot accomplish this task.

## Operating at the Solar Eclipse - 2017

Submitted By Hilary Shreter, KE4BDW

The great American solar eclipse arrived on August 21. Jim Bogard, KY4L, set up radios and logging to advance the science on our sun and share the experience with amateurs around the country.



Jamie Wright, W4ABE, tunes in while Terrie Bogard, N5SFB, Dan Mantooh, KX4CH, and a young swimmer observe.

Jim Bogard, KY4L, makes a contact for the Solar Eclipse QSO Party on his battery-powered portable on the day of the Eclipse.



## August Meeting– Rebuilding the Drake TR3

Photos by Hilary Shreter, KE4BDW



Dave Campbell, K8BYP, gave a riveting presentation on his discoveries and observations while rebuilding a Drake TR3.

Dave showed photographs that demonstrated how time and chemistry act badly on old parts. Don't turn on that old tube radio without checking the health of the parts! And when you're inside the radio, do not underestimate the electrical shock potentials.

Meeting attendees help Dave pack his gear. The comments and questions were plentiful.





## Amateur Radio Outreach at the Children's Museum of Oak Ridge

### By Hilary Shreter, KE4BDW

ORARC's Amateur Radio Outreach is every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at the [Children's Museum of Oak Ridge](#) (CMOR) from 1-4 PM. The August 20 Outreach participants included Hilary/KE4BDW, Jamie/W4ABE, Dan/KX4CH. We awarded certificates for demonstrated knowledge of Morse code to thirteen participants, which included three adults.



Jamie Wright, W4ABE, discusses Morse code with an attentive student and her father.

A father and son take advantage of the opportunity to learn Morse code.



After a successful demonstration of Morse code proficiency, a student of Dan Mantooth, KX4CH studies another Morse code representation.



## **Sept. 22-23: Ham Radio Boot Camp Offered at SEDCO/W4DXCC**

**Contributed by Doug Campbell, N1CWR**

A reminder that the SEDCO/W4DXCC meeting is scheduled for the September 22 and 23 in Pigeon Forge, TN. The Friday sessions are open to everybody without charge, and are intended to offer new hams (and old geezers like me) advice about on-air operating, station set-up, equipment, etc. The organizers have dubbed this program "Ham Radio Boot Camp" and they'll even sell you an olive drab tee shirt with appropriate black lettering in the best military stencilled style. The formal and informal presentations are given by experts in the field, and are properly simplified for the audience. The Friday evening and all-day Saturday sessions are for paid-up registrants. All the details are at their website, <w4dxcc.com>.

## **Children's Museum to Receive Donated Computers**

**Contributed by Doug Campbell, N1CWR**

Jim Tonne and I recently retrieved, on behalf of the club, four fairly new (Win7) computers, still mostly functional (we checked), and all the peripherals and cables, from a company in Oak Ridge that's going out of business. They didn't want to just throw the stuff out. Jim had the idea that maybe, instead of trying to sell them at the next hamfest, we inquire whether the Children's Museum might like them. Thanks to Jim Bogard, KY4L, arrangements are being made to deliver the equipment to the Museum.

## **Oak Ridge Library has ARRL License Manuals**

Oak Ridge Library has copies of the ARRL License Manual for Technician, General, and Extra Class. (NOTE: always check the edition to ensure that it covers the current exam question pool.) The Library has other helpful ARRL books such as the Antenna Book.

## **Equipment Is Still Needed!**

**By Jim Bogard, KY4L**

The Children's Museum of Oak Ridge (CMOR) recently received donations of a Yaesu Model FC-901 antenna tuner, YO-101 monitor scope, and SP901P speaker (with phone patch) from Nancy Gray, the daughter of David "Pat" Prusinski, W4LZS (SK). The equipment is in excellent condition and is intended for a permanent display of a working amateur radio station at CMOR.

**We need a matching transceiver.**

**Please let Jim, KY4L, know of anyone who might want to donate a Yaesu 901DM or 902DM transceiver to CMOR. The donation is tax-deductible.**

## Upcoming Events

### **ORARC Wednesday Lunch**

Every Wednesday at 11 AM at Shoney's on Illinois in Oak Ridge

For an email reminder for the lunch, write to Willard Sitton at [W4HZD@arri.net](mailto:W4HZD@arri.net)

### **Amateur Radio Outreach at the Oak Ridge Children's Museum**

Every third Sunday afternoon (next event is September 17, 2017)

Contact: Jim Bogard KY4L, email [KY4L@ARRL.NET](mailto:KY4L@ARRL.NET)

### **Annual AUXCOMM Exercise**

September 28-October 1, 2017

Takes place at the Tennessee Fire and Codes Academy (near Murfreesboro)

Contact: Darrell Cook WA4LNX, phone 207-4827

### **Jamboree On The Air (Boy Scouts)**

On the radio bands October 20-22 (always 3<sup>rd</sup> week in October)

## Local Hamfests

### **DX and Contest Convention (W4DXCC by Sedco)**

Sept 22-23 in Pigeon Forge, TN

### **Greenville Hamfest (non-ARRL)**

October 21 in Greenville, TN

### **Hamfest Chattanooga 2017**

October 21 in East Ridge, TN

## Club Volunteers Needed

### **Education Coordinator for ORARC to advance amateur radio in our community**

Contact: Darrell Cook WA4LNX, phone 207-4827

### **Additional Ideas and Suggestions?**

Contact: Darrell Cook WA4LNX, phone 207-4827

# Oak Ridge Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

**P.O. Box 4291**  
**Oak Ridge, TN 37831-4291**

## 2017 CLUB OFFICERS

President	Darrell Cook WA4LNX	207-4827
Vice President	Jim Bogard KY4L	806-8069
Secretary	Roy Freeman KE4TG	482-4474
Treasurer	Gwen Cole KF4ROX	457-1806
Technical Director	Carl Lyster WA4ADG	588-7120
Membership Director	Jim Tonne W4ENE	425-2359
Publicity Director	Chet Morris W4GEK	483-1798
Past President	Jim Tonne W4ENE	425-2359

## COORDINATORS

Control Operators	Carl Lyster WA4ADG	588-7120	Public Service	Gwen Cole KF4ROX	457-1806
	Roy Freeman KE4TG	482-4474	Programs	Roy Freeman KE4TG	482-4474
	Ralph Lockhart WB4CTW	945-3890	Trustee-W4SKH	Chet Morris W4GEK	483-1798
Education	OPEN		Trustee-K4PJ	Charlie Hargis K4LF	481-3573
Field Day	Roy Freeman KE4TG	482-4474	ARES Coordinator	Darrell Cook WA4LNX	207-4827
Historian	Chet Morris W4GEK	483-1798	RACES Coordinator	Darrell Cook WA4LNX	207-4827
			Website Manager	Jim Tonne W4ENE	425-2359

## Visit our Web Site at

[www.orarc.net](http://www.orarc.net)

Club meetings are held at the First United Methodist Church, 1350 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, TN on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Guests, friends, family members, and prospective Radio Amateurs are welcome at all Oak Ridge Amateur Radio Club meetings.

Board meetings are at 6:30 p.m. before each monthly meeting. Members are encouraged to attend.

Annual dues are \$20. Download and print the Application/Renewal form on the Club's website, ORARC.NET. Bring the form and \$20 cash or a check made out to "Oak Ridge Amateur Radio Club, Inc." to Gwen Cole, Treasurer, at the upcoming Club meeting. Or send the form and check to the Club at P.O. Box 4291, Oak Ridge, TN 37831-4291.

The Reflector is the monthly newsletter of the Oak Ridge Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

**Please submit Items and announcements for the Reflector on or before the first day of the month in which they are to appear. Send submissions as Word attachments or as text within an email message, with "REFLECTOR" in the subject line, to Hilary Shreter at [ke4bdw@arrl.net](mailto:ke4bdw@arrl.net).**