

Evel Escapes!

Earlier this month Jim “Evel Knievel” Falls, k6fwt, was involved in a serious ATV crash while at work in the field between Orick and Klamath. He required a complete rescue crew and was extracted by ambulance to a CDF medivac via helicopter to St. Josephs hospital here in Eureka. Of the many broken bones was a broken leg. Jim emailed me from the hospital to tip me off that he wouldn't be able to run the HF net!! I just got off the telephone with the old man and he is HOME! He was cut loose from hospital Thursday afternoon as was able to have Thanks Giving with his family. He is in good spirits and adjusting to the new equipment he needs to move around. Jim, we are all so glad you are on the mend.

In other news, Humboldt County HF Emergency net has an immediate opening for a Net Control Station!

Humboldt Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of Meeting - November 1, 2016

Officers Present: Jim Armstrong **KW6JIM**, Pres.

Dan Eaton **KB6DE**, Secretary / Marcy Campbell **KE6IAU**, Treasurer

Peter **W6IES**, V.P., Jaye **KE6SLS**, Newsletter Editor Pro Tem., and Anthony **KG6LHW**, Events Planner, were absent.

Jim called the meeting to order at 1901 PDT in the Eureka, 6th St. Fire Department meeting room. Jim told us the next meeting *might* be held at the new location, but we are still waiting for the keys. The address is 406 11th St. (11th & E St.) at the rear of the Municipal Auditorium.

Introductions were made and the log book was and passed. We welcomed guests Jon Shell and David Kaftel. I noted some new (to me) faces, Tyson Moore **KF6AAL**, and Gordon Inkeles **N6IJB**. Welcome!
Also, welcome back to Tari Livingston Hughes **KI6TMT**.

Health and Welfare: Peter is on the mend from his back surgery on Thursday October 27th.

Secretary Report: The October 4th minutes were passed around for review.

Del Freret **W6KOZ** made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Colleen Ridlon **KM6DUP**. The club members voted to accept the October minutes without dissent.

Treasurer's Report: Marcy told us the current balance was \$2888.03 including the October raffle and dues of \$236.00.

EMCOMM report: Don Nelson **WA6NBG** told us of the Eel Valley Emergency Exercise scheduled for Saturday November 5th. Don N. will be OES Net Control based in the Fortuna Fire Station. The mission is to establish and maintain 2M (146.580) simplex communications between various local fire stations and the OES. The exercise will take place from 0900 to approx. 1300 PDT. We will first meet at the Bayshore McDonald's at 0730 for a briefing. The travel frequency will be FWR 147.000. A sign up list was passed. Steve Underwood, Assistant Chief of the Fortuna Fire Dept., will be running the exercise.

Old Business:

- a) Jim told us Miles Slattery, is working to give us access to the new (Red Cross) site. We might still have it to use for our annual December Potluck supper.
- b) Jim told us he re-listed the communications van on California and Oregon Craig's Lists, asking \$4500. No interest yet.
- c) HARC did not pay a share of the SHARC Grasshopper Repeater battery that was requested by Don N. and approved in October. Gary **K6JXM** did not renew his request for our contribution.
- d) A planned meeting with Reg Kennedy **KJ6DXX** at the U.S. Weather Service has not been scheduled.

New Business:

- a) Jim said our new site will need chairs and other items and suggested we might buy chairs by subscription and put our individual call signs on them as acknowledgement of our contributions.
- b) Don N. volunteered to buy new high quality co-ax for the repeater antenna at the new site, as noted last month. Del mentioned it would be good to provide for easy cable access when planning the radio room.

Past Event Report: Don N. participated with SHARC members to provide communications for the Humboldt Redwoods Marathon, Half-Marathon and 5K on Sunday, October 16th. He reported the Grasshopper repeater was used. It was wet and cold.

Future Events:

- a) Dale Bridges **KF6QIB** reminded us about the annual Truckers' Parade to be held in Eureka on December 10th. A sign-up sheet was passed around. Communicators will be at their assigned places at 1800 PDT.
- b) Nic Yancheff **KK6UJH** told us of plans to have a Ham Radio Demonstration at HSU on the first Wednesday of February (2-1-17). Anthony and Del have signed on for this educational event.
- c) Del alerted us to the upcoming Noontime Net QRP Saturday on Nov. 26th on 7.268.5 MHz starting at 1000 PST.
- d) Don C. told us the annual SKYWARNS Recognitions Day event will be hosted by the U.S. Weather Service station on Woodley Island again this year on Fri. Dec. 2nd 1600 PDT to Sat. Dec 3rd 1600 PDT. Drop in and operate the HF

radio. It's fun.

- e) Our Annual December Potluck is planned for Friday December 2nd at *EITHER* our new Red Cross location at 406 11th St. (11th & E St.) *OR* the Sacred Heart Catholic Church parish hall at 2085 Myrtle Avenue. Meat and dessert courses will be provided. You should bring a potluck item, and your own drinks, utensils, plates, and cups. We will gather at 1800 and dinner will be served at 1830 PDT. More details later. We will have ever-popular gift exchange too.

Break and Raffle: Great cookies and juice were brought by Marcy and Don **KE6HEC**. Raffle winners were: Forest Schafer **KI6GRU**, Jon Shell, David Kaftel, Sherry Eaton **KK6MPY**, and Dale.

I spoke with Gordon over cookies and he told me he was planning to set up an IRLP Link soon. That should be interesting.

<http://www.irlp.net> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hGySkr3MtNc>

Presentation: Jim showed new photos of our new site earlier in the evening and described the dimensions and features of the room and kitchen. Also, Jim shared a You Tube video about how to make a "Ham-O-Can" self contained UHF-VHF rig. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vr_rGJ8Rq5c

Selection of 2017 Officers: Jim (Pres.), Peter (V.P.) Dan (Sec.), and Marcy (Treas.) agreed serve again as officers. Members were asked for nominees for election to those positions and none came forward. Greg Deja **AA6GD** motioned to accept the current line-up and Dale seconded the motion. The voice vote to accept was the current slate was unanimous. Jaye (Newsletter Editor) and Anthony (Events Planner) will continue in their appointed positions.

Note to new or prospective Members: The club has an informal lunch every Thursday, 1130 at the Pantry Restaurant on Broadway in Eureka (next to the Motel 6). All are welcome.

Jim adjourned the meeting at 2045 PDT.
Minutes submitted by Dan Eaton **KB6DE**

Do you have a plan to become Silent Key?

No one wants to think about death but it will happen to all of us and most want know it's coming until it's at the door. You should make it as easy on your family and loved ones as you can by being ready for it.

In the HAM community we call that going Silent Key. All that HAM gear you have, does your spouse or family know anything about it? How do they get rid of it? How much is it worth and who to sale it to? Who will disconnect all that gear and who will take down your antennas? Maybe you have a

mobile set up in your vehicle(s), if so, who can safely remove it without damaging the vehicle? Help them answer those questions now. If your family is anything like my family, they don't even know how to turn the equipment on or off. I've attempted to get my family interested but they currently have no interest in learning or getting licensed.

You might be surprised at how much radio gear you have. From cables, to connectors to the big items like radios, amplifiers, turners, SWR meters, antennas, keys and on and on. My stuff is scattered in two closets and two chest.

What to do? If you are lucky and have a good friend that is a HAM then I would recommend you make a deal with that HAM. Whomever goes last will help the friend's family with the with the HAM gear. Now that doesn't mean to just let them handle it. Help you friend and write down all the equipment with model numbers, serial numbers, and what a fair value is. Update that list Annually and share it with your friend and your family. Your family should now that your friend has promised to take care of it and they should contact him/her when they are ready to move forward with the sale or disposal. On that list put the name and phone number of the person that will help with the HAM gear so your family knows whom to call when the time comes. Also give your friend the name and number of the person in the family to contact.

If you don't have that friend then maybe ask at a local club if someone handles Silent Key equipment for the club members. I have handled two and one was planned and the other was not. The one that planned wasn't easy but at least the wife knew who I was and was expecting me to handle it. We found stuff for 4 or 5 months from the time she called me after the funeral and she was ready to go through it all to when we finally got it all organized. He had an antenna in his attic attached to the beams, antennas on his roof and in the back yard. Stuff in boxes hidden behind other boxes. We ended up cleaning most of the garage to find those items. I would get a phone call thinking she had found more HAM gear but it was either camera gear or boating gear. She had no idea what was what. In this case I was able to bring the gear to my house and sale it out of my garage as people wanted it. The other spouse would not let me take it out of her home so if someone wanted to see it I would make the appointment and drive by to be there to show the items and if they purchased it she got the money on the spot. This was harder on me but it was how the spouse wanted to do it even after I explained all that was involved. I guess it was trust issue. I had not meet this Hams spouse before but I had meet the other Hams spouse.

If you are a member of a HAM Club, ARRL Member, QST Magazine, or other magazines, you should make sure either your family or that friend knows to cancel your memberships, magazine subscriptions and reporting yo SK. You don't want your family getting that renewal notice in the mail or that monthly magazine. Every time they get those it will remind them of you. That may be good or bad.

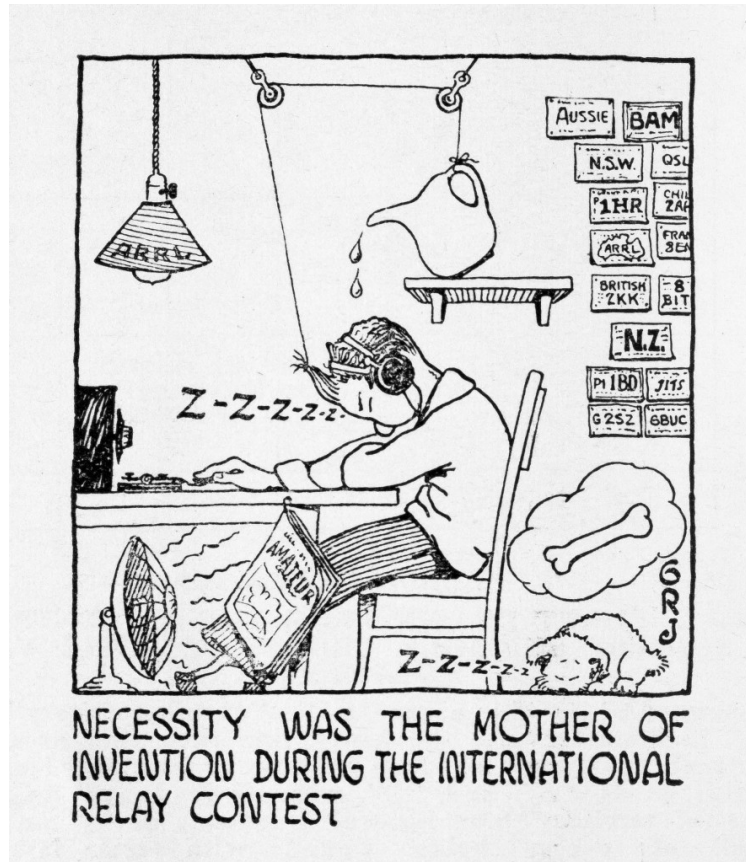
What about Social media accounts. In my example above, I still get LinkedIn notices of his birthday. She has no idea how to deactivate and it doesn't bother her because she doesn't use a computer.

All of this can result in a significant amount of money to your family or loved ones at a time where they may need that extra income. Luckily in my example above the spouse was well taken care of and was not in need of that money but we made more than \$3000 dollars on his items.

Your family will be dealing with a lot during this time and you should make the process of disposing of your ham gear as easy as possible.

KH6OWL, Honolulu Hawaii

(<http://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/do-you-have-a-plan-to-become-silent-key.542669/>)



Modernizing the Technician Class License

There are nearly as many Technician Class licensees as all other classes, combined.

After getting licensed as a Technician, the big question becomes, “Now what?”

Before we go there, let’s give thoughtful consideration to how the world has changed since the last modernization (elimination of the “Tech Plus” license).

Aging club membership and a dwindling supply of Elmers (the two things most people believe are pivotal to hobby success) leave many new, young (and not so young) licensees “high and dry.”

The generally local nature of VHF operations limits an essentially VHF-bound licensee with few options to expand their amateur radio friend, peer and Elmer resources through on-the-air interactions.

The fact that so many people “stall” at the Technician level implies that they see little reason to upgrade despite being part of the “incentive licensing” thought process. One has to wonder if the

traditional approach to “incentive licensing” works in the modern world.

Social Interaction In The Non-Ham World

Research has shown that modern, young-adult enjoy peer groups that extend well beyond the bounds of the physical world. They make friends, grow relationships and communicate globally as “digital natives” on the Internet. If they don’t find local peers, they find peers and friends “anywhere in the Internet universe.”

That level of communication is available to people without a license. This reality begs the question, “Why are federally licensed Technicians restricted to frequencies that are mostly VHF and “local”, especially when we want them to communicate with others, find peers/Elmers and grow their skills?”

Giving The Technicians A “Taste”

Exclusion is no longer an incentive to upgrade. Consider “flipping” the strategy by giving Technicians expanded (but appropriately limited) HF voice privileges to give them a taste of what awaits them by upgrading.

Consider this modest proposal:

Technicians already have (vastly unused) CW privileges on 80 meters, 40 meters and 15 meters. Suppose they had HF voice privileges on those same bands, too! Something as simple as the same spectrum that General Class licensees enjoy, but restricted to 10 watts (I’m just spit-balling the power-level, for discussions’ sake).

Stop. Think about it for a day before you react.

This is where you are asked to resist an “attitude of entitlement” (e.g. – “I had to work to get this...I don’t want to give it away to a ‘lowly’ Technician!”) and focus on what is best for the hobby.

Remember: The suggestion focuses on just 3 HF bands and a power limit that is over 10 dB lower than all other HF voice licensees. Giving them a “taste” can be a strongly motivating factor to them to both continue activity and upgrade.

Concrete Benefits

With almost as many Technician Class licensees as there are ALL other classes, combined, there would be an immediate DOUBLING in the number of potential consumers of both new and pre-owned HF equipment and accessories.

With this many new HF operators, your “CQ’s” are likely to be answered by more than “static hiss”. Operators could find Elmers and niche-interest groups “anywhere in the HF universe.”

In Conclusion:

Does this go far enough? Maybe you think that this proposal should include other aspects or clauses? Share your thoughts, please.

As you assemble “contrarian thoughts”, also think about how to address/fix the “cons” rather than using them as a reason to avoid innovative thought. If you think of a “down side”, propose a “fix” too!

Ev Tupis (W2EV)

(<http://www.eham.net/articles/37444>)

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For more information, please visit our website <http://www.humboldt-arc.org> or write to:

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Eureka, CA 95502-5251

* No Far West Repeater report this month

* No Redwood Amateur Radio Club report this month

* No Southern Humboldt Amateur Radio Club report this month

Exam Session

12/17/2016 | Fortuna CA 95547

Location: Fortuna Volunteer fire Dept

Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Daniel R. Martin

(707) 768-9147

Email: Dan.AG6JW@gmail.com

The Humboldt Amateur Radio Club is inviting all HAM's and their families to the annual Holiday Potluck Dinner on Friday, December 2nd, at 6:00pm. The event will be at Sacred Heart Church in Myrtle town unless the new clubhouse location becomes available. Club will provide coffee and main course meat. Bring a side dish to share and utensils. White Elephant gift exchange following dinner. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, please no gifts over 10 dollars.

The Truckers Parade, Evening of December 10th. If you can't see it, just listen!

RAIN
Box 5251
Eureka, California, 95502-5251

North Coast Nets

Sunday	0800	North coast emergency net	3.855 MHz SSB
Monday	1900	Arcata Emergency simplex net	146.430 MHz
Monday	1900	Eel River Emergency net	147.090 PL103.5
Monday	1900	Eureka Emergency simplex net	146.460 MHz
Monday	1900	Southern Humboldt Emergency net	146.790 PL 103.5
Monday	1915	Eureka & north UHF Emergency net	444.400 +5000 PL103.5
Monday	1930	Humboldt county Emergency net (nearest FWRA repeater to you)	146.700 PL1031.5 147.000 PL1031.5 146.760 PL1031.5 146.610 PL1031.5
Monday	1945	Humboldt County HF emergency net	3.955 MHz SSB
Monday	2000	California State net	3.992 MHz SSB
Monday	2005	Humboldt HF Digital emergency net	3.582 USB
Tuesday	1930	ORCA digital operations net	3.581 MHz USB
Tuesday	1930	California-Mendocino net	3.915 MHz SSB
Wednesday	1000	California State net	7.230 MHz SSB
Wednesday	1930	FWRA net	146.760 PL103.5



[humboldt-arc.org](http://www.humboldt-arc.org)