



Hermiston Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.ai7ho.org>

PO Box 962

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# Spurious Emissions

February 2019

The Hermiston Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

## New Officers

For those who aren't able to make to as many meetings as we would all like or are our "snowbirds", the club has new officers. Jeff Sak, KJ7MI is still our fearless leader as President. Dennis McKenry, KI7CUS has taken over as Vice President and has already led our first meeting of the new year in Jeff's absence. I am happy to report it went smoothly. Rob Rizk, KD8FAI was elected again as secretary-treasurer. We have one board of directors' position which will be expiring in March of this year, so be thinking about nominations. Currently, Emery Heintz is serving in that position.

Just a reminder, anyone nominated for a position must be present when nominated or give written consent if they will be absent. To be eligible to be elected to the position the member must be in good standing (dues paid) and have attended 8 meetings in a one-year period.

## The Revival of this Newsletter

It is amazing the things I have learned in trying to revive this old newsletter. I honestly didn't start reading the old newsletters until I began creating this one. It is amazing to learn that many of the ideas which I have had for the website and even others that were simply for the club are ideas which others have either had in the past or existed and when membership dropped off, things just went away.

I hope to not only bring back some of the great things this club once had but update us to the 21st century in the process.

This newsletter was used, once upon a time, to remind us to bring our ideas to upcoming meetings. I hope we can do that once again. This club is a great bunch of guys and gals. We will start having email reminders, but the next club business meeting is February 14th, 2019.

# Planning for Upcoming Events

We now have Winter Field Day successfully behind us, it is time to think about the events ahead of us and begin planning. Most are still in the distance, but it's good to not only start thinking about them, but also to be thinking about new events which the club should try and be involved in. Events which we regularly participate in are:

- The Picnic
- Parades
- Field Day

It would be good to look for other events in the community such as walks, runs, bicycle events, carnivals, fairs, and other community events which we can use our skills to help the community at large and get ourselves out there to improve visibility of the club and potentially discover other HAMs and recruit new ones. Part of the Amateur Radio Philosophy is to be of service to our community.

Another idea is to have a booth at local/regional events like HAM fairs, and even events which aren't HAM related. I will be on the lookout for these along with Don and we will bring them up at meetings as we come across them.

## Items for sale

Starting next month, I am going to try to include some items from the classifieds at the bottom of the newsletter. If you have anything you would like to post, just go to the website, login and post!

You can post as many items for sale as you like, and they are viewable to anyone on the net.

## Forums

Sometimes I feel like I am beating a dead horse. I finally have most of you logging in and accessing the site. I would really like to get the forums more active. There are discussions to be had and doing so before a meeting would be helpful. I will try posting some this next week so have a look when you have time and engage in the conversation.



The 2019 Winter Field Day crew after tearing down for the day.

## Winter Field Day 2019: Success!

Winter Field Day 2019 was a qualified success. While we had a small group and didn't get the visitors we had hoped for, we all had a great time and made some contacts.

All total, the club made 12 contacts over two days. There were an additional 4 which we could hear but were unable to get a two way contact established.



Our newest member, Jordan Liebe, made his first contact during Winter Field Day. Jordan hasn't yet received his call sign due to the government shut down but has passed his test and paid his club dues and we are extremely happy to have him as the latest member of the club. We look forward to his input and hope we can collectively be as much help to him as he is to us.

We set up an HF multi band antenna provided by Don (AA7DD) and a 2m/70cm. An HF rig was provided by Whitley (KD7VX) and we were up and going. We may not have made as many contacts as we would have liked, but there was good conversation among members and good food from the hospital. We were nice and warm, and a good time was had by all.

## HARC is now on Social Media!

I am happy to announce that HARC can be followed on social media.

I have created Twitter and Instagram accounts. Both accounts usernames are ai7ho. We might eventually add Facebook, but Facebook is just so much more work and isn't much different than our website.

<https://www.instagram.com/ai7ho/>

<https://twitter.com/AI7HO>

## Winter Field Day 2019: HARC hosting event at Good Shepherd Wellness Center 1/26/19

Winter field day this year is January 26th to 27th, the club will be hosting an event group at the Wellness Center at Good Shepherd Hospital. We will begin setup and erecting antennas at 8 AM.



We will be inside and warm. We will be there through Sunday at noon at which time we will begin tear down. All are welcome to attend with or without equipment. You are welcome to show up anytime you can. We encourage everyone to get out join the fun.

If you have never been involved in amateur radio, are an expert, or would just like to see what it is all about we would love to have you stop by. There will be plenty of folks to talk to and ask questions of.

What is Winter Field Day?

Winter field day this year is January 26th to 27th beginning at 1900UTC until 1900UTC 24 hours later. The goal is to foster Ham camaraderie, field operation, emergency operating preparedness, and just plain on the air, outdoor fun in the midst of winter for American, Canadian and DX Amateurs. Don't let those winter doldrums keep you locked up in the house... get out and play some radio!! For more information go to: <https://www.winterfieldday.com>

## Insurance for your Equipment



This article is in no way an endorsement, but just information for HAMs who aren't aware it is available.

ARRL, our national organization has partnered with Risk Strategies Company to offer equipment insurance specifically for amateur radio operators.

Our hobby has special risks associated with our equipment and as such it is difficult to get coverage through homeowners' insurance which covers our equipment. When you can get it, it not only increases a premium substantially, but also large homeowners' deductibles usually apply.

ARRL coverage, specifically covers the items you request to be covered.

### ARRL Insurance Program Coverage Highlights

- Property Covered: Ham radios and related equipment including computers!
- Deductible: Only a \$50.00 deductible applies!
- Competitive Rates: Minimum premium of only \$20.00!
- Computer Equipment: Computers, hard drives, printers.
- Theft from an Unattended Vehicle: Included with your premium.
- Coverage for towers & antennas included up to \$15,000.00 replacement cost!
- A great rate of \$1.40 per \$100 of equipment covered!

Go to, <https://www.arrlinsurance.com/application/equipment/> for an online application. This link redirects to the ARRL site.

## A Note from Me

I don't seem to get many responses to email I send to anyone. I know some just don't use email and others don't have time. I am not holding that against anyone. My offer still stands though if anyone wants to help creating items for this.

This month is a trial run. If you guys like it, I will keep making this as it is a tradition for our club that died for some reason. If you guys don't want it, it can die again.

My goal is to include our previous meetings minutes and an upcoming meeting's agenda, but that has proven to be elusive thus far.

Thanks,

— Will (N7WSY)

## MEMBERS ONLY

There are a few articles which are available to club members only by logging into the website. Please click below and login. Once you are logged in you can click the link on your account page for members only articles.

You can also click this link: <http://www.ai7ho.org/category/membersonlyarticles/>

This month some of the members only articles are about:

- Uploading photos to the site directly
- How to sign up and access HARC email
- Our GMRS Repeater
- Membership Cards

## Website Request

I am still seeking those who have special information to share, those who are good teachers, and those who can review equipment well to submit anything they can for content for the website.

One of my goals is to create a wealth of information for new HAMs and those interested in getting their license. When I got into the hobby a few years back I discovered that there was so much about the hobby that you can't find in a book. It used to be that you could get an elmer to teach you all these little things, but it has gotten harder and harder to find elmers to mentor and in the time of "millennials" it's just best to have as much information as possible out on the net.

I know there are many of you that buy equipment regularly and it would also be great to have some reviews for folks that aren't sure about buying something. It's always better to hear it from someone local.

I have already begun some of this and have so many more ideas, it's just a matter of time. Please, if you have any ideas or material you think would be helpful, let me know!