

Loose Gravel

Newsletter of ROADS
Volume 1, Number 1
Harry~AB7X Editor

As we enter into a new term for officers of the Radio Operators Association of Dallas, I would like to thank all of our members and non-members alike for choosing me to serve our club as Vice President this year. It is a trust that I will do my best to honor.

On the 10th of May, last month, we re-elected Bob, W7LOU, to serve another honorable term as President...long live the Prez! Steve, KW7DSP, stepped aside as Secretary/Treasurer, and taking those positions are Feryl, KE7BII, our Secretary, and Dudley, W7NLI, our Treasurer. Elected as Directors of the Board were Chris, KD7BCV, #1; Dave, KD7VLP, #2; and Dennis, WA7FXF, #3.

On that evening we also had a mini-HAMsale, and the club received more than \$20 as a percentage donation from the sales. The meeting this coming Thursday evening will have some more offerings, I am told...so bring something that has been taking up valuable shelf-space in your 'shack' and put it on the 'For Sale' table! It will help proceeds for the Club.

This Thursday evening we will also feature Vince, K7VV, from OEM to talk about 'Part 97, FCC Rules and Regulations'. I hope all of you are able to attend...one can never learn too much, and if you have a recent copy of the Rules and Regs, bring it with you and be prepared to ask plenty of questions!

The 'Query' I sent out on the 1st of June was replied to by a few of our members...I thank those who did, and your input is appreciated.

Bob, K7QXG, has returned from Curry County where he spent some weeks serving as host for the Elk River Fish Hatchery. I understand that the experience was enjoyable. Bob writes:

“...a little something about the successful adventure of two ROADS members in the 2005 Oregon QSO Party. W7LOU, bob, operated from home in the party using the call sign W7O and racked up a very nice score with more than 200 contacts for the one day event. More important, I operated mobile from my pickup in Curry county, on 20 and 40 meters, and had a ball. No big score like Bob, but lots of guys asking for a Curry County contact. Most fascinating: The "Hotspot" on 20 meters was next to a pioneer cemetery on the road leading to the Cape Blanco lighthouse! The second best was the parking lot at Ray's Supermarket in Bandon for 40 meters! Who would have thought...”

Many thanks, Bob, and good to see you back home!

Don, KX5W, has had some troublesome days and nights, having to be between Dallas and Corvallis nearly every day, taking care of a loved one. You're a good man, Don, for doing what has to be done.

Bob, W7LOU, recently had surgery on his hand, and is recovering nicely, as he says that even now he is able to sit up and take nourishment! That's good news, Bob! Maybe we'll hear the other side of the story from 'The Blonde' one of these days...

SeaPac is coming up soon...June 17,18, and 19...coinciding with Father's Day, so if any of you are attending the event, it would be a good reason to be nice to your self, your father, your son, your husband, or just a good friend. The weekend following is Field Day. The Polk County group will be at the Polk County Fairgrounds at Rickreall, so

plan to support your local Field Day! One of Dallas' recently established citizens, and a supporter of ROADS, Chuck, AC7RF, is planning a QRP event that weekend at his house east of Dallas. Be on the alert for weak (but very intelligible) signals from that direction, I have offered some operator time to his new location and it should be great fun!

On 9 July, Mr. Boswell himself will coordinate a VE session at the Polk County Courthouse, Conference Room main floor, first door on the right. Enter thru the East parking lot entrance...session begins at 09:00 local time. We offer tests for all the elements, including [CW](#)! If you have a need to upgrade, or know someone who does, this is the place to get it done. We have a very competent team of VE's ready to serve you. For more information, write to Bob at W7LOU@arrl.net .

This edition is the first of hopefully many to come, and is made possible by input from any who care to write me with offerings, at AB7X@arrl.net . Progress is being made at putting this newsletter on one of my Blogs, or perhaps a webpage somewhere soon.

In closing, Dave, KD7VLP, spotted this gem and thought it to be very profound...thanks Dave...and Al...

"You see, wire telegraph is a kind of very, very long cat. You pull his tail in New York and his head meows in Los Angeles. Do you understand this? And radio operates exactly the same way: you send signals here, they receive them there. The only difference is that there is no cat."

---Albert Einstein-