

Loose Gravel

Newsletter of ROADs

Volume 1, Number 5

AB7X~Editor

From the office of the President of Vice, and the ever so humble Den of Coyóte, I greet you one and all!

Since the last edition of 'Loose Gravel' many things have transpired in our world, including another Category Big hurricane in the Gulf region! Twice in one month is incredible, and especially so for the people who have been killed, displaced, looted, and shifted around like so many cattle. The willingness and readiness of Amateur Radio was once again called to task and came to the call. All else failed, and we were there again! Kudos to those to dedicate their time and resources to help during disastrous times.

We now see in the headlines a devastation earthquake in Southern Asia that has taken the lives of over 30,000 people, and the casualty count is not over yet! I remind you all again, that just because we residents of the Pacific Northwest do not often see severe emergency situations does not mean that we are immune to the same sorts of events that happen elsewhere. In the history of the Northwest there have been tornados, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, floods, hurricanes, drought, civil rebellion, and enemy invasion attempts. Complacency only fosters

lack of readiness for the inevitable. Do you have your survival kits ready for the hard times???

I go now to things of immediate importance. Have you all made sure that your club dues are paid up? There will be a list available at the meeting this Thursday at the meeting for those of you who have forgotten, and someone present who will be available to take your checks (or cash). Thank you all for supporting ROADs!

Greg Milnes, W7OZ, ARRL Northwest Region Director, was our guest speaker last month, and I'm pleased to note that attendance was good and many of us were actively seeking answers to questions. Greg was generous in coming down to our meeting on such short notice, and I extend a personal invitation to him to attend any of our meetings in the future.

This Thursday evening we are fortunate to have Mark O'Malley and Dan Kierns coming to us from the National Weather Service in Portland to give a seminar about Skywarn and the Severe Weather Spotter program. Be ready to sign up to be a 'Spotter' at the meeting, as it is a valuable resource during some of the severe weather we do experience here in the Valley. Let's all make it worth their while, as it took a bit of schedule juggling of their schedules to make this happen, and again on short notice! (I don't know how much longer I'm going to keep pulling rabbits out of hats, and will therefore be forced to entertain the gathering with sleight-of-hand!)

Our Treasurer, Dudley, W7NLI, now has had at least 11 casts on his right leg, and continues to hobble around as best he can. One of the breaks that were incurred has failed to knit in a timely fashion, and hopefully that will begin in the near future. He does get out occasionally, and was spotted on Olympia, WA, with Nurse Feryl, KE7BII, where they visited her brother who is in intensive care in a hospital there. We wish him wellness, Feryl.

Bob Peshka, K7QXG, will be back in time for the meeting. Yep...another vacation! That Willy Nelson tune sure fits 'im...'on the road again...'. He will be taking over as VEC from Bob, W7LOU, at our November VE Testing Session, and was on hand at the last one in September to sign a couple of certificates of completion with the team. One of the participants was none other than our own Chris, KD7BCV (now AD7GT), who took the plunge into Extra Class! Fine business, Chris! Our other success was Jim, KE7BCT, from Lake Oswego, who passed his CW test with solid copy, and is now enjoying HF immensely! He can be heard frequently on 29 meters chasing the 'rare DX'.

From Dave, KD7VLP, is this contribution:

"A while back Bud Smith loaned me the 1966-1967 Call Book for my amusement. I was hoping to look at a 1969 Call Book, but I found this one interesting and was able to look up an acquaintance...but that was about it.

So I decided to make some lemonade...

I looked up Polk County call signs from the book and found 24 of them. There are two listings for Dorothy Jones--- WN7DMU seems to have been upgraded to WA7GEL during this period. Maybe someone will remember some of them. I think Bud Smith should know everyone...since he was one of the names I found."

K7BEY	JAMES WALLACE	IND
K7EJY	ALVIN JONES	MON
K7GBV	MICHAEL RICE	MON
K7NEU	DONALD BAGGS	DAL
K7PEK	WAYNE LINSCHIED	DAL
K7PLA	GEORGE NYE	MON
K7PRY	LARRY HARRIMAN	DAL
W7WXC	TIMOTHY PETTIBONE	MON
K7WTL	JACK MULL	MON
W7AEN	DANIEL BLAIR	DAL
W7AVV	VERNON SAHNOW	IND
W7BIB	BETTY HOLGATE	DAL
W7CQW	BYRON SWIFT	MON
W7DXN	GEORGE TOEWS	DAL
W7EUH	RONALD POMEROY	MON
W7RXJ	RODNEY STEEN	MON
W7SZW	MARVIN KRAUSE	MON
W7WNM	CLAYTON PARKS	DAL
K7ZRL	CLIFFLEWIS	WIL
WA7ASH	CHARLES JONES	IND
WA7GEL	DOROTHY JONES	IND
WN7DMU	DOROTHY JONES	IND
WN7FAH	SCOTT WOOLDRIDGE	IND
WN7FEN	DELRAY KRIER	MON
WN7FJF	CLAUDE SMITH	MON

"During my research, I noticed an interesting factoid...Bentley Ave in Monmouth appears to be a hot bed of Ham activity. Two of the signs I found were located on Bentley. W7CQW (Byron Swift) and WNFJF (Claude Smith). The reason it caught my eye is that we have one more ham currently located on Bentley...W7NLI (Dudley Berry). Coincidence or conspiracy?"

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dm
KD7VLP

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In India, "cold weather" is merely a conventional phrase and has come into use through the necessity of having some way to distinguish between weather which will melt a brass door-knob and weather which will only make it mushy.

---Mark Twain

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So you see folks, it is not hard to come up with something to insert into the newsletter, and I'll bet all of you have something interesting to share with us!

Well done, Dave!

On the Homefront (not to be confused with Homeland!), Shadow and I have had the opportunity to rescue two Goldfinches from a fate worse than Cat Death. Below is a photo of one of the little guys, and I must admit it has left a very special place in our hearts to be able to hold on a fingertip such a fragile creature.

We named this little fellow 'Sun', which we warmed him in after finding him knocked out by flying into the glass pane on our screen door. A few drops of cool, filtered water and a little love was all it took...



This is about as close to Nature as it gets!



This Summer, Shadow and I spent many an hour with the birds, getting to know some of them individually, and gaining their trust. Shadow was eventually able to hand-feed a couple of Red-Breasted Nuthatches! We also logged in American Goldfinches, Mountain Nuthatch, three varieties of woodpecker, Juncos, Brown Creepers, Hummingbirds, Flickers, Hermit Thrush, Rufous-Sided Towhee, Pine Siskins, California Quail, Stellar's Jay, Scrub Jay, American Crow, Sharp-Shinned Hawk, and the comical and ever-present Chickadee.

I hope to see the entire membership present at the meeting, with stories to tell, time to spend, and fellowship to share. Thanks for being there...and don't forget that SwaptoberFest happens on the 22nd of this month! Bring items for sale (or give-away) to offer on the table, and we will have a sign-up sheet for those who wish to do so. The consignment fee is 10% (discussion during the business meeting Thursday) and will go toward the ROADS club fund, and will help defray the cost of the table fee and other club items. See you there!

73 de AB7X