

# ROADS REPORT

September 2010

Vol 3 No 9



## The Prez Sez....

We had 27 folks attend our social meeting/dinner at Abby's Pizza. There were no announcements or business meeting, just good conversation.

We have VE Testing coming up again on September 11, 9 am at the Courthouse, so if you know someone needing to upgrade, give them the scoop on this session.

Bob W7LOU told me he had the form for Swaptoberfest that is always sent to Irene, and we need to send it in pronto to get a table, so Bob did. Swaptoberfest is in October, not sure of the date, probably the 16th or 23rd.

Larry Dole moved back east and left Fred W6KXA, his next door neighbor, a couple of boxes of older equipment he is donating to ROADS. If there is time after our meeting and program we could take a look and either auction off some things or just save the items for the Swaptoberfest table. ROADS gets 100% of whatever we can get--Thanks Larry !!

Our upcoming program is on Computer Aided Transceiver Control and a survey of various computer logging programs. Have you ever desired to control your transceiver with your computer; or would you like to have your computer log be filled with information from your transceiver, automatically? Mike Fuller, K7CIE will give an overview of CAT Control--what is needed and how to make it work. He will also show various computer logging programs and how the CAT interface (control) works with them. I will learn a lot from this presentation.

So come on out to our next meeting, 7 pm, Sept 16 at the Court House.

# Station Of The Month

## KX5W



*Doc sent along the following, which really sums up his station and his current passion - chasing DX!*

The transceiver is a Yaesu FT-890 with a little SB200 linear running 500 watts thru an MFJ tuner 989B. The small beam is an A3 up a whopping 23 feet sitting on a 4 feet tripod from Glen Martin Engineering sitting on the single story roof. It is turned by a small Alliance rotor. The other HF antenna is a Carolina Windom, 80 - 10 M, up 30 feet in the middle and 15 feet on the ends. I run CW and SSB looking for new countries, but settle for what I hear coming in at the time. I operate about 50% on each mode.

The DXCC total currently is 319 confirmed with 320 worked, and the ARRL sticker on the wall is for 315 countries. I'm waiting for #320 to come in to send them in for the 320 sticker. I've only had one good antenna and tower, for a nine month period, which was in Oklahoma City in 1985; a 48 foot Rohn freestanding HDBX-48 with a KLM

KT34XA (6 element tribander) and I worked over 250 countries in that 9 month period-- then moved back to Oregon.

Patience and persistence is what I recommend to other DXers with average equipment like mine. I try to find them BEFORE they are on the cluster or I don't have a chance. Probably the best one I found just tuning around while a couple of pileups were on 20 meters was a 4W1 in East Timor, Thor from Iceland calling CQ on 28.005 and not even touching my S meter, nor his.....but we worked each other Q5 and gave each other a 519 report !!

*The photo below shows Doc's antenna system - well, part of it - and that proves that you can work the rare ones with patience and perseverance.*

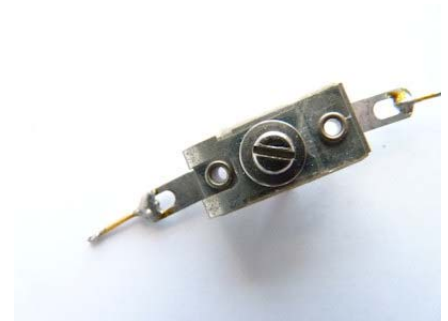
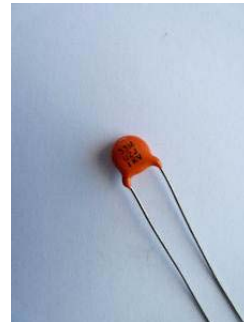


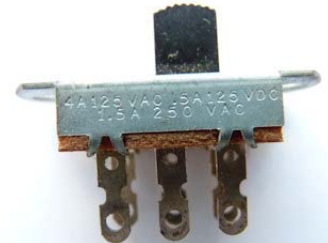
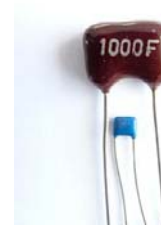
If you take a close look at the **first photo**, you will see several license plates adorning the wall along the upper right side of the picture. Note the interesting 7 land calls.

Doc is our current President, and he has held that position before - in Oklahoma. That club had more than 400 members, which makes ours seem rather puny. Doc is always well organized when he conducts ROADS meetings, and has managed to find candidates to fill the other officer positions. It is hard work by officers like this that keeps ROADS chugging right along when other clubs often face early failure.

# Quiz Time Again !

Below are photos of 18 parts. Name 12 to pass. Send the answers to K7QXG. One member knows them all: KE7JNT. Not fair to call him on the landline... that is cheating!





Well folks, how did you do? A pro like KE7JNT should have 100%. Remember, I am not asking for the value of the part...just the name of the part, i.e., I just want to know if it is a capacitor, and the kind or type of capacitor.

**QUESTION:** Do you want more items like this quiz? Or would you rather see more features on individual members and what they are doing? Let me know.



## WINNERS!

It has been announced that W7HO, Ron, and K7QXG, Bob, placed 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respectively in 7 Land in the 10-10 Spirit Of 76 QSO Party that was held over the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. When you consider the band conditions, these two ROADS members, who are also members of the Oregon Trail Chapter of 10-10, proved there are contacts out there on 10 meters if you take the time to look for them.

W7HO is presently the Certificate Manager and K7QXG is the Chapter Head for the Oregon Trail chapter.

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## Familiar Calls In The News

Many of you who belong, or did belong, to Polk County ARES will remember K7UN, Don, who lives in Salem. On Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, Don contacted several local members of ROADS and 10-10 on 10 meters in his drive to gather ten 10-10 numbers for his membership application. A strong turnout for the net provided Don with his required 10 numbers and several more for good measure. Don is still very active with state emergency resources and is very sharp when it comes to technology. Welcome aboard the 10-10 bandwagon Don!

N7WWH, Jim, of ROADS and Oregon Trail, is now working at the coast. He had to give up his role as one of the Net Control stations for the Oregon Trail Chapter. Jim has been temporarily replaced as Net Control by WA7MZM, also of ROADS and 10-10. Once Jim returns to Falls City, he will resume his role as one of the Net Control stations.

W7HO and W7LOU were active on 10 meters on a Sunday morning and managed some contacts with the East Coast. By 1630Z the band was dead again, except for the local nets, but opened lightly to AZ at about 1930Z. Later W7HO managed some more 10 meter contacts, including one DX station.

Missing from Net check-in on recent occasions are Chris, Les, and Trent. I know Trent has been busy. Any word on the other two?

While on a camping/fishing trip to Westfir, Oregon, K7QXG drove up to Salt Creek Falls, near the summit of the Willamette Pass, and worked stations in different states on 10 meters with his mobile. When he began his descent from the high elevation, all signals disappeared. He didn't catch any fish either.

KE7JNT took time out from working DX to build a new deck on his home. Now that doesn't sound like any fun at all! It does look quite spiffy though!

N7WWH returned from the coast. He had barely started his "new" job when he broke the truck he was driving. So, he is home for three weeks while they fix the truck (no, they did not give him a "time-out" and tell him to sit in a corner).

W7HO reports he received a QSL card confirming his contact with E4X, the Palestine Dxpedition.

K7QXG and XYL Shirley headed "North to Alaska" for two weeks and had a return date of September 7<sup>th</sup>, which explains why most of the "news" in this newsletter is from pre-travel and may seem a bit old to some of you. Most of the newsletter was prepared before they left on the trip.

W7EET, Richard, is now on the air. He checked into a recent 10-10 net on a recent Sunday. Welcome aboard!

## August Pizza Meeting



There was an excellent turnout for the ROADS Social meeting which was held at Abby's Pizza in Dallas. Many of the wives came with their spouses. No announcements were made and everyone seemed to enjoy the friendly banter. W7NAT and XYL were there from Salem, and W7RIS – the antenna launcher man – was a late arrival. XYLs present included those of K7QXG, W7LOU, W7NAT, KA7HBB, W6SVP, KE7JNT, WA7MZM, and one more whose call I did not get before they left. KX5W brought his friend and I missed getting her name too. As the photo shows, this has become a popular event.

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## September Program

I learned at the social meeting that K7CIE, Mike, who is a computer guru, will put on a program at the September meeting that will show you how to link your transceiver to your computer. This will enable control of your rig with your computer. This should prove to be a fascinating presentation for all of you computer buffs.

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## DX Report by KX5W

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The Netherland Antilles are breaking up politically as of Oct. 10 and so some of the islands will become "new countries" to be announced by the DXCC desk soon. In the meanwhile Bob Allphin, K4UEE, has already scouted out two locations on Saba and will lead a DXpedition team and will begin operation on 10/10/10 thru the 23rd. It's expected that Saba/St Eustatius will be named a new country, so work them if you can. Their new website is [www.saba2010.com](http://www.saba2010.com)

If you have ever worked Saipan it was probably Len, KHOAC. Len is now a silent key. He moved there in the 60's as a Jesuit priest and fell in love with a local girl. Well he had to quit the priesthood to marry. The girl's father said no, so it took a letter from the Pope to convince Dad. I have had several ragchews with Dr Len and he was a great DXer and contester. He will certainly be missed.

August has been slow for DX. I worked a few Europeans, Jersey, Germany, Finland nothing exotic and some Caribbean stations like Martinique. Then it rained last night (today is 8/30) and this morning 20 meter phone opened up to the Indian Ocean and SE Asia. So I just worked Sri Lanka; India (several); Singapore, Thailand and China.

Haven't even gone down to the cw portion yet. So the rain and eventual winter will be an improvement over the skinny DX conditions this summer. Hope you all work some new ones soon and be on the lookout for the islands that will be no longer officially part of the Netherland Antilles.

End Of This Issue. 73, K7QXG

