

The ROADS REPORT

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KD7VLP Resigns As President Of ROADS

Dave Moellenberndt, KD7VLP, suddenly resigned as President of ROADS due to commitment overload - something many of us are guilty of all too often. It is more frequently referred to as "burning the candle at both ends".

Dave kept our club on a steady course and was rarely absent from our monthly meetings or other gatherings. He is still very involved with ARES and his volunteer work at the Polk County Museum. In between these activities, and speeding off to California to help "Arnold", Dave has had to maintain his acreage outside Dallas. Dave had also been Editor of this monthly news letter and he has given up that post. Yours truly, K7QXG, has once again decided to burn the candle at both ends and has taken over the position of Editor.

KX5W, "Doc" , who is your current Vice President, has declared he is a candidate for Dave's former position.

Candidate For President, KX5W



Meet Don "Doc" Bowers, who announced his candidacy for President of ROADS on December 29, 2009. He is the current Vice President of ROADS and hopes to fill the position vacated by KD7VLP following Dave's resignation.

"Doc" was first licensed in 1959 as WV6IEG and later held the call K7RFQ, which expired while he was in Vietnam. He took the test again and came away with N7ATO. Later, while assigned in Oklahoma, he became KX5W.

"Doc" lives in Corvallis and Dallas, and at his Corvallis home he uses a Yaesu rig and a Carolina Windom. He also has an ancient A3 beam that is only 23 feet high. Even so, he has managed to work 322 countries and has 316 confirmed. "Doc" uses both CW and SSB in equal amounts and is very proficient when in the CW mode.

"Doc" is active in ARES and is a member of 10-10 International, #32732. He is a member of the local Oregon Trail chapter of 10-10, #412L. He has been a club officer in many organizations in the past, including President of the Newberg ARC, President of Rotary, President of Lions, and President of MORI, an Oklahoma repeater organization. MORI is very involved with Sky Warn, a tornado warning system. "Doc" returned to Oregon in 1986 and has been very active with amateur radio ever since, especially since his retirement in 2003.

In a future issue we will give you a snapshot of your new Vice President.

Why We Must Vote For A Replacement for our officers.....

The ROADS Bylaws mandate that when an officer position becomes vacant, it must be filled by a Ballot at the next meeting. The Vice President cannot just simply move up to the President's position. So, at the January meeting, which will be run by KX5W in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, nominations from the floor for President will be entertained. After nominations are closed, the ballots will be distributed to those in attendance and a vote will be taken. There is no installation procedure.

Please attend the next meeting on January 14th so we can maximize the vote.

About Your New Editor



K7QXG, Bob Peschka, has been a licensed amateur for 49 years this month, and presently is an Extra Class licensee. He is also a VE and once held the post of VE Coordinator. He enjoys CW and digital modes of operation, and is seldom found on SSB, except for 10 meters when it is open. He enjoys a little of everything, which ranges from rag chewing on PSK31 to chasing DX on 20 meter CW.

Bob is a former Editor of the Polk About Sams Good Sam newsletter, and a former Editor of Random Radiation, which is the official publication of the Pacific Amateur Radio Guild. Bob has also been published in QST magazine and World Radio magazine. He has authored many articles and columns in the past that have appeared in various small publications and newsletters.

Bob is very active in 10-10 International and has held several posts in that organization, including a four year term on the Board of Directors; QSL Bureau manager; and manager of the BAR 1000 and Lucky 13 Awards. He presently is Chapter Head of the Oregon Trail Chapter of 10-10 International. Outside of ham radio, he is one of the Assistant State Directors in Oregon Good Sam and oversees 5 chapters in that capacity.

Remember When

Rigs had tubes? And they really did glow in the dark. Lets have a show of hands now...How many of you remember what a 6146 is? And what was it used for? And then there was the venerable 807. And too many more to mention. Most resistors were as big around as pencils, and capacitors were as big as a Tootsie Roll. Back in those days of yore, I had friends who worked for Tektronix in Beaverton (What? You've never heard of the famous 'scope maker?). One day one of the guys asked if I had any use for used tubes. He mentioned a few and I quickly told him to bring me all he could find. It seems that in the 1960's, Tek would change all the tubes in their test equipment every 6 months...whether they needed it or not. The used tubes were then tossed out.

I sent my friend on a recovery mission and he returned with a large sack full from the dumpster. I found that many worked just fine in my radio equipment, but more importantly they also worked well in my TV! Over the next two years many more "discards" found their way into my small radio shack, and at one time I had 400 excellent used tubes on hand. Then I moved....and tossed them all in the garbage. Solid state rigs were making a strong appearance on the scene and the day of radios that glowed in the dark soon disappeared.



The aside photo shows two of the radios that glowed ever so brightly, and which were responsible for many, many fine DX contacts. On the left is a Viking Ranger II, which produced 65 watts AM and 75 watts CW. On the right is a Hammerlund HQ-170...the DXer's dream. The photo was taken while on a county expedition to Wheeler County Oregon in 1964. The location was in an old tool shed in Fossil, OR.

How many of you can identify the mike? Send me your answer and we will see how many get it right. On the bench is an inexpensive "bug"...we did not have "keyers" in those days, and digital had not been invented yet...for hams anyway. This expedition was made by WA7ABW (no longer a ham), W7FKF (now living in Texas), and myself. It was a very exciting adventure.

XP vs VISTA vs WINDOWS 7

Which is right for you? You can find out at the January 2010 meeting on Thursday night, January 14th. 7PM in the courthouse conference room. A special presentation on Windows 7, and how it compares to XP and Vista, will be made by yours truly. I will be presenting a two part program and this is part one. Part two is a challenge event. I recently made an audio tape of a pile up on 20 meter SSB and will play it. Each member in attendance will be given a paper and pencil and will be asked to write down as many calls as they recognize in the 90 second tape. The tape will be played a second time so you can fill in those you have missed.

In the event of a tie between members who manage to get all of them correct, another "test" will be given. It is about 20 seconds long and will clearly separate the winners from the non-winners. There is only one prize to be awarded: A 17 meter home brew ground plane vertical. This is a proven antenna that has already snagged its share of DX on the 17 meter band. You will need to make your own radials (4 of them).

On The DX Scene

by KX5W

DX COMMENTARY by Doc KX5W

This month of January has some good announced DX Peditions coming up as follows:

A6 United Arab Emirates A6/VE6LB from Jan 15 to Feb 8;

CN Morocco CN10NY a special event station celebrating the new year thru mid March; qsl to EA7FTR;

EP Iran EP4MRG Mohammed; is on frequently 20M SSB from 1100 to 1300Z; QSL direct;

6W & J5 Senegal & Guinea Bissau--same ops from Jan 15 to Mar 31;

ST2 Sudan ST2ASC from Jan 22 to 28;

PY0F Fernando de Noronha Jan 23 to Feb 3;

CE0Z Juan Fernandez Jan 19 to Feb 2; and

YJ Vanuatu YJ0MM Jan 21 to 28; plus more common ones.

I was able to work a few South American stations on 10 meters and heard W7LOU report working Argentina while waiting to check into the local 10 - 10 net on 28.450 Sundays at noon, a week or two ago.

I'd like to thank Bob K7QXG for taking on the task of the Roads Report newsletter and also for getting me tuned into eQSL. I printed his card to me and 5A7A' s card from Libya I worked back in '06 and have 87 more cards to either print, save or throw away--just kidding about throwing any QSLs away--a DXer doesn't do that !!

With Dave's resignation there are some changes coming up for our club. Please come to the next meeting and help our club take on some new ideas and direction. C U there!

Coming to a REPORT in the future....

An article on the ins and outs of putting up antennas... from simple inverted vee wires, to verticals, to ground planes to tower installation.

This will be a general overview and may help you avoid pitfalls when you change antennas or put up that new tower.

Closing Note: If you have enjoyed the new format of the ROADS Report, drop us an email and let us know. Your Editor envisions photos of other stations and members in the future.

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