

The PARC S-Meter

An Electronic Newsletter of the
Panoramaland Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 7
Colville, WA 99114



Issued January 2014 Issue No. 49

Club Website: www.qsl.net/k7jar

S-Meter e-mail: parcnews@hotmail.com

Club Repeater: Output 146.62 MHz; Input 146.02 MHz, No Tone

Next Meeting Friday January 17th 2014

Meeting QTH is: **Walnut and Hawthorne Street in Colville**

(Across from the city park and Colville Junior High School)



First Saturday of each month join the group for breakfast at the American Legion Hall in Chewelah 9:00 am

CLUB NET: Sunday Evenings 8:00p.m. Local

The President's Corner



I would like to thank those of you that attended the January meeting. We are off to a New Year which holds a lot of potential for us to increase our ranks with new members. Also this could be the year for us to increase our knowledge about this sport of amateur radio, through classes, and short 20 minute presentations during our monthly meetings.

So at our February meeting please come with ideas for the kind of lectures to have at our monthly meetings. Also, if anyone has an idea of how we can get our club out to the public so that we can show/tell them what we are all about.

Hope to see you at the next meeting.

Tom Howe KE7TEG

Announcements

Information on the Wilse Morgan NW Division scholarship is here:

<http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/eastern-washington>

Highlights from our January meeting.....

Attendance: 28

Jim W7WDD passed the gavel on to our new President Tom Howe KE7TEG
Welcome Gimmie AL7LB Vice President

Treasurer's Report – PARC fund \$9,811.59
Don't forget to pay your membership dues.

ARES – Dave absent. No report given

PARC Net – George W7WBN thanked all those who are running the Sunday night net and commented that we could use a few more operators.

Board Report - Bruce had nothing to report, except for welcoming the newest board member Tom KE7TEG

Announcements

Diane KC7WQB presented the “Ham of the Year” to Debbie KF7GUB.

Diane KC7WQB informed the club that Charlie was in the Pinewood Nursing Home.

Old Business

Still need a club secretary, Tom passed around a sign-up sheet for temporary secretaries for each meeting.

New Business

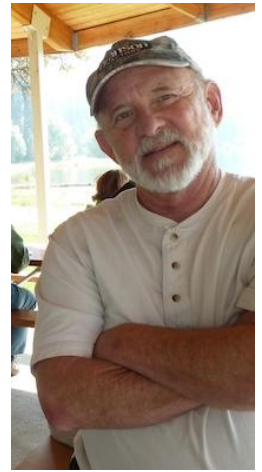
Tom KE7TEG mentioned that we need to come up with a plan to bring in younger people into the club. Discussion followed: some ideas such as using our Emergency Command Vehicle in parades and at the fair to let people know we are here and what we can do. It was also brought up about having a 15 to 20 minute class of some aspect of ham radio during each of our monthly meetings. Suggestions for classes will be discussed at the next meeting.

John KL7LL motioned to adjourn the meeting, Lauren KL7LC seconded it. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

See at our next meeting February 21st 2014. Cynthia don't forget the snacks.

Submitted, Tommy Howe KE7TEG - President

ARES Report by Dave - WD7K



ARES Net is every Sunday at 7:45pm local. The Stevens County ARES net can be heard on the 146.620 repeater located SW of Colville on Monumental Mountain and, when linked, the 147.060 repeater (which has a PL tone of 77.0) located NW of Spokane on Lookout Point.

The Washington State Emergency Net (WSEN) – anyone with HF privileges is welcome (encouraged) to check in, when Stevens County is called. Saturdays at 0900 on 3985 kHz and on Mondays at 0530 also on 3985 kHz.

Dave Klimas - WD7K
Stevens County ARES
Emergency Coordinator
H (509) 738-6876
C (509) 675-8843
wd7k@gotsky.com



PARC Sunday Night Net

Thanks for another great year on the PARC Sunday Night Net.

We had lots of good sessions and look forward to many more this New Year. During the long winter months we tend to have more participation, since more members and visitors are spending Sunday nights at home. Come on, get on the air and join your friends discussing club and other ham activities.

A special thanks to all the Net Control Operators who greatly supported the Sunday Night Net during 2013. They include Cynthia WW7CA, Jim WW7DD, Courtney KE7ZDL, Donna KF7UIM and Karl WX7DX.

We welcome Donna KF7UIM back into the rotation. She will start again in February so please give her all the support you can. If you want to give your hand a try at Sunday night Net Control send George an e-mail at audax@gotsky.com

PARC BIO –January 2014 – sorry nobody stepped forward this month.

Where is he?

January 2nd 2014 Alberto was promoted to “Corporal”

Congratulations!

**Updated Mailing Address: CPL Gomez, Alberto
3D MLG CLR- 37 MT HQ
Unit #38404
FPO AP 96380-8404**





THE DRAKE 1A SSB RECEIVER

Hi all. Last month I described the Collins KWS-1 Trans and the 75A-4 Receiver. They were Collins' first real step into SSB. Now I'm going to spend a little time on the RL Drake 1A Receiver. It was Drake's first entry into SSB. In fact, it was their first 'major' product to the amateur radio community. I'll first start out with some history and then move on to the radio.

History:

The RL Drake Co was founded by Robert Lloyd Drake Sr. in 1943. He was an avid ham. Products of the time were mainly low pass filters and high pass filters for the amateur radio operator and for military use. Tank jamming equipment was one his main products during WWII. The equipment was successfully used in major events of such as Normandy Beach on D-Day. Times were tough after WWII. Besides still making filters, he did many other small jobs such as making table lamps for SS Kresge, spring contacts for GE, and winding coils & chokes for Delco Electric. In 1953 he moved his company of 12 employees to Miamisburg, Ohio. The new location was the once famous Baum Opera House. While recovering at home from a bad case of the hives, partially due to worrying about the survival of the company and its employees, he began the design of the 1A single sideband receiver. Once the 1A design was finished, he was unsure that he could mass produce it or even finance it. He decided to offer his design to well known receiver manufactures such as National, Hammarlund and Hallicrafters. Since SSB was in its infancy, and was only a fad that could not compete with AM, there were no takers. (Notice the list did not include Collins). Fortunately he had a good friend and radio supplier Francis R Gibb (Gibby) that told him that if he built them, he would take the first 100. The 1A was born. The receiver was long, thin, and tall like a mail box. Its nickname was the 'Black Box'. It was the first receiver designed solely for SSB reception. With its small size, it was to sit next to and compliment the big "AM Boat anchors" of the time. The first ten or so were built at the old Baum Opera House location. In 1958, more room was needed and the company moved to a new location at 540 Richard Street in Miamisburg. It was a huge success. Collins and Drake became the leading US manufactures in ham radio equipment for years to come. There was a saying: Rich hams buy Collins. Smart hams buy Drake. But REAL hams buy both. Several years ago I went to the Dayton Hamvention. Since Miamisburg was close to Dayton, I sought out to find the original manufacturing facilities of Drake. I have included a couple pictures.

Drake 1A Receiver:

It was produced from 1957-59. It is a 13 tube amateur band receiver that covers 80-10 meters plus WWV. It is designed for SSB and CW only. The receiver features a rear speaker, plug in crystal calibrator and pass band tuning (PBT). Interestingly PBT had been introduced only two years earlier in 1955 on the Collins 75A4 Rcvr. It is a triple conversion receiver, which was pretty fancy for those days. It is very sensitive and allot of fun to listen to.

My first Drake 1A:

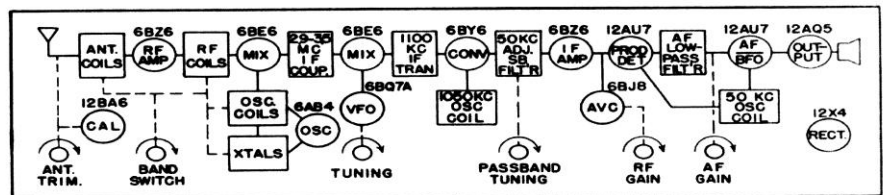
Well I needed to have one. I found one on E-Bay. It didn't look too bad from the outside. I E-Mailed the seller to see pictures of the chassis. He never responded. That should have keyed me not to bid, but I did. It arrived. I was so excited, because they are quite rare today. I opened it up and was I ever disappointed. Talk about a rust bucket! The chassis is copper plated steel. Well it WAS copper plated steel. It was now a nice, badly pitted, rust brown. I put it on the shelf and tried to convince myself I hadn't wasted my money. Well eventually I decided to do SOMETHING with it. I thought maybe I can at least get it working. I started to tear it down, but was

stopped dead in my tracks. I couldn't even get the dial off the rusted tuning shaft. Fortunately I had a friend and machinist at the nuclear plant willing to design and fabricate a miniature 'bearing puller' to jack it off. It worked and I was off and running. I decided to go whole hog. Everything was removed from the top of the chassis, IF filters, everything. I used a 'flapper' and emery cloth to remove the surface rust. I used a combination of lacquer thinner and Tarnex to save what copper plating I could. I then bought some copper plating solution that you use with 5VDC to reapply the copper plating. Next went on new lettering. The chassis was then resprayed with lacquer. The front and back's lettering and paint were another issue. About 2/3 of the lettering was good, but allot of the black and white paint needed to be redone. I put typing correction tape over the good lettering and then repainted the panels. I then matched some new white lettering to the 2/3s present. I then resprayed the entire panels to lock in the lettering and try to make them as smooth as possible. Electrically the radio was quite good. The audio transformer was not original and was replaced. I melted at potentiometer with cleaning solvent so that had to be replaced with a modern day equivalent. I even had to fabricate a new red dial pointer using a large sewing needle soldered to a small piece copper sheet, so it could be slid sideways as correction to the frequency readout when using the freq calibrator. But at last, it was done. I have included pictures of the rebuilt unit. It works very well and is a nice addition to the collection. While it has little value as an 'original' example, it has special value to me.

I hope you enjoyed the article. See you next month! Jim W7JWT



The Baum Opera House was built in 1884. It was the first manufacturing facility for RL Drake and where the first ten Drake 1As were built.



BLOCK DIAGRAM—MODEL 1-A SIDEBAND RECEIVER



540 Richard Street Miamisburg, Ohio. This was the second manufacturing facility for RL Drake where most of their Amateur Radio Equipment was manufactured.



The completed front of the Drake 1A.

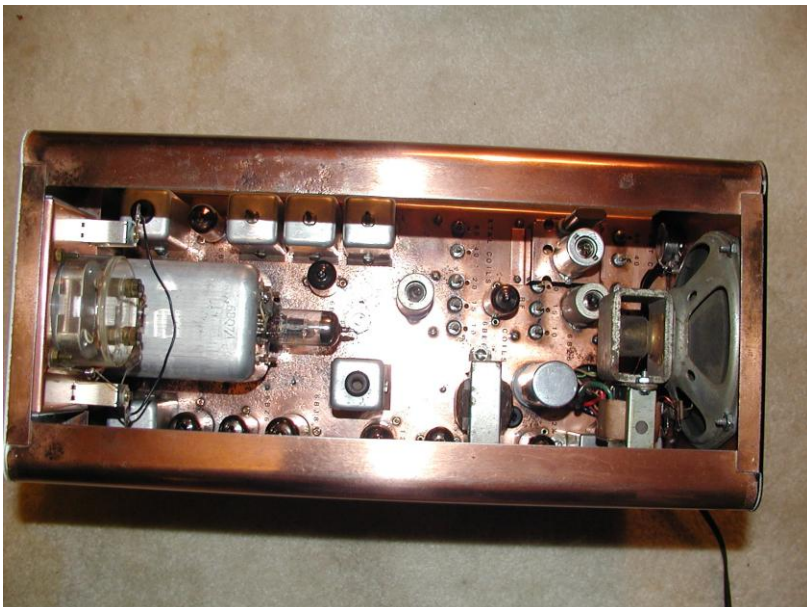
Unless you get the right angle, it is hard to see how the black paint was sprayed around the good lettering, then new lettering applied, and finally a clear finish coat of lacquer sprayed on. The Red Dial Marker is a sewing needle, soldered to a moveable copper piece, and then painted with gloss nail polish.



Not Bad looking if I have say so myself!



The back was lettered and painted using the same process as the front.



You can see how badly pitted the chassis still is. Fortunately the copper plating material did a reasonable job drawing the rust out of the pitted areas; not perfect, but not bad either. All of the labeling had to be redone and the chassis then got a clear lacquer finish coat. To do the work, everything had to be removed from the top of the chassis except for the tube sockets themselves.

Radio Tower

Jim WW7DD
& Cynthia WW7CA



Calendar of Events

February – 2014

- 1st British Columbia QSO Party & Mexico RTTY International Contest
- 1st Exam Chewelah Club Abundant Life Church 11:45am
- 2nd North American Sprint, CW
- 2nd [Sunday Night Net – Net Control Operator – Donna KF7UIM](#)
- 6th Spokane DX Club Meeting 7:00pm Argonne Library
- 6th Senior Ball at CHS 4:00pm
- 8th CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest
- 8th SARL Field Day Contest
- 9th [Sunday Night Net – Net Control Operator – Courtney KE7ZDL](#)
- 14th **Valentine's Day**
- 15th ARRL International DX Contest, CW
- 15th Salem Ham Fair – Rickreall Oregon
- 16th Mid-Winter Hamfest & Computer Show – <http://W8WE.org>
- 16th [Sunday Night Net – Net Control Operator – Karl WX7DX](#)
- 17th President's Day
- 20th DX Net third Thursday of each month 7:00pm 2-meter FM 147.16 MHz
- 21st **PARC Meeting 7:30pm Corner Hawthorne & Walnut in Colville – Snacks: Cynthia**
- 22nd North American QSO Party, RTTY
- 22nd Wedding Faire at Agri-Trade Center - Colville
- 23rd High Speed Club CW Contest
- 23rd [Sunday Night Net – Net Control Operator – Cynthia WW7CA](#)

March – 2014

- 1st ARRL International DX Contest, SSB
- 1st The Secret Garden opens at the Woodland Theater Kettle Falls 684-9096
- 2nd [Sunday Night Net – Net Control Operator – Jim W7WDD](#)
- 6th Spokane DX Club Meeting 7:00pm
- 7th Colville Gem & Mineral Show – Colville Grange across from Colville High School
- 8th Puyallup HamFest
- 9th Idaho QSO Party
- 9th North American Sprint, RTTY
- 9th [Sunday Night Net – Net Control Operator – George W7WBN](#)
- 14th Home and Garden Show – Agri Center Colville 3-day event
- 15th Colville Gun Club Gun Show
- 16th North American Sprint, SSB
- 16th [Sunday Night Net – Net Control Operator – Donna KF7IUM](#)
- 20th DX Net 7:00pm 2-meter FM 147.16 MHz
- 21st **PARC Meeting 7:30pm in Colville – Snacks: Lauren KL1LC "Spring Auction"**
- 21st Spring Crafters Retreat starts at Agri-Trade Center 3-day event
- 22nd ARRL Convention – Seattle
- 23rd [Sunday Night Net – Net Control Operator – Courtney KE7ZDL](#)
- 29th CQ WW WPX Contest SSB
- 30th [Sunday Night Net – Net Control Operator – Karl WX7DX](#)

- Calendar of events will be an ongoing part of the news letter, submit your dates to parcnews@hotmail.com

Lemony Lemon Brownies

Ingredients:

1/2 cup unsalted butter, softened
3/4 cup flour
2 eggs, large
2 tbsps lemon zest
2 tbsps lemon juice
3/4 cup granulated sugar
1/4 teaspoon sea salt

For the tart lemon glaze:

4 tbsps lemon juice
8 tsps lemon zest
1 rounded cup powdered sugar

Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.
2. Grease an 8×8 inch baking dish with butter and set aside.
3. Zest and juice two lemons and set aside.
4. In the bowl of an electric mixture fitted with the paddle attachment, beat the flour, sugar, salt, and softened butter until combined.
5. In a separate bowl, whisk together the eggs, lemon zest, and lemon juice until combined.
6. Pour it into the flour mixture and beat for 2 mins at medium speed until smooth and creamy.
7. Pour into baking dish and bake for 23-25 mins, should turn golden around the edges.
8. Allow to cool completely before glazing. Do not over bake, or the bars will dry.
9. Filter the powdered sugar and whisk with lemon zest and juice.
10. Spread 1/2 the glaze over the brownies with a rubber spatula and let glaze set.
11. Spread 1/2 the glaze over the bars, and let it set (not harden like most).
12. Cut into bars and serve.



K7JAR

Panoramaland Amateur Radio Club Membership Application

Welcome and thank you for supporting your local Amateur Radio association.

Annual Club dues are \$15.00 for individuals and \$20.00 for a family (all must be living at the same address). Membership extends from January to January of each year. Annual dues that are paid after the 1st of September will be applied through the following year. If you would rather just donate toward our repeater fund, any amount would be gladly accepted. Please make sure to note this on your donation so that the money is applied to the right account.

Please remit your payment, in person at a monthly meeting, via our Website (below), or by check, made out to PARC, mailed to the following address:

PARC
P.O. Box 7
Colville, WA 99114

Name(s) _____

Call Sign(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State _____

Zip _____

Telephone _____

Amount Paid _____

Email Address _____

ARRL Member _____ Yes/No _____

The PARC maintains the 146.620 (77.0 Hz tone) repeater located on Monumental Mt., near Colville, WA. All licensed Amateur Radio operators are welcome to use this open repeater system. Your support would also be greatly appreciated. For more information, please contact Randy, N7CKJ, at (509) 684-3361; Dave, WD7K, at (509) 738-6786 or visit the PARC website at: <http://www.qsl.net/k7jar/>