



EQ Monthly



The monthly newsletter of the Eagle Rock Amateur Radio Club, Idaho Falls, Idaho

Volume 14, Issue 3

March 2001

“It shall be our purpose to facilitate the exchange of information and general cooperation between members, to promote radio knowledge, fraternity and individual operating efficiency, and to so conduct club programs and activities as to advance the general interest and welfare of amateur radio in the general community.”

— from the club constitution

Club News

Club leadership has been facing increasing schedule challenges, and has called on the club membership to step up and help out. The club president, Jessie Dickson, KC7SIK, is working two jobs and going to school full time. He has been unable to attend recent meetings and keep up with the newsletter. The rest of the executive committee has tried to fill in and keep up without him. Unfortunately, December, January, and February newsletters fell through the cracks. We're very sorry. Also, Danny Anderson, KD7CMR, has resigned as Public Affairs Officer and Net Controller. He has gone back to school in the evenings. Chuck Olsen, AC7GD, and Jeff Cook, KC7URY, have taken over the net, sharing responsibility for the next couple of months.

Upcoming Elections

Elections are coming up. In April, we will be electing a new president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. Come prepared to nominate and vote for your candidates. Better still, please feel free nominate someone (yourself, if you wish) in advance. Provide your nominations to one of the executive committee members as soon as possible. Think about where you want to club to go, and who you think can take us there.

Last Meeting (February)

February's meeting was held on Wednesday, February 7. Blaire Nelson (Bud), W7QAN, taught us about power supplies and wiring. We want to thank Bud for stepping in at the last minute. Everyone learned a lot and had a great time, from the youngest (age 12) to the oldest (age withheld to protect the innocent), both guys and gal (only one).

Next Meeting (March)

Our next meeting will be held on March 7, at 7:00 pm, in the usually place. For those of you that are new or haven't been out in a while, the usual place is the Eastern Idaho Technical College, Session Building (southeast corner of campus), Room 22 (downstairs). Bud, W7QAN, will continue discussing power supplies.

Future Meetings

The subject of future meetings was discussed. Everyone present said that they want to see more technical topics at the meetings and want to learn. We need help coming up with presenters. If you are willing to present a topic or know someone who could, please contact club leadership. Remember, you don't have to be an expert on the subject. You just need to be willing to share what you know.

Executive Committee

President: Jesse Dickson
 KC7SIK
 kc7sik@yahoo.com

Vice-pres.: Mary Anderson
 KD7CMS
 danderson@ida.net

Secretary: Jeff Cook
 KC7URY
 kc7ury@aol.com

Treasurer: Roger McPheeters
 WB7PWT
 rogermcp@nstep.net



Nets

<u>Daily</u>	
Farm Net 0200UTC	3.937
Utah Beehive Net 12:30 pm	7.272
<u>Sunday</u>	
PARC Net 8:00 pm	147.06
UARC Net 9:00 pm	146.85
<u>Monday</u>	
RACES Net 9:00 pm	146.94
<u>Tuesday</u>	
ERARC Net 9:00 pm	146.64
<u>Wednesday</u>	
ERRS Net 9:00 pm	146.88

Editors for March Edition: Danny Anderson, KD7CMR
Mary Anderson, KD7CMS

Feature Article

Idaho Falls' New Antenna Ordinance, by Ralph Throckmorton, K0TRV

In September of 2000, the Idaho Falls City Council approved a new antenna ordinance. The title of the ordinance, while long, gives a fair indication of what is covered. The title is:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1941 BY ADDING A NEW ARTICLE X ENTITLED "WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWERS AND ANTENNAS"; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FOR PERMITTED LOCATIONS; PROVIDING CONDITIONS FOR PERMITTED USES; PROVIDING FOR PERMITS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEALER; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The ordinance does apply to amateur radio operations within the city limits. Fortunately, section 10-1-3 Applicability states

Amateur Radio Station Operators/Receive Only Antennas. This ordinance shall not govern any tower, or the installation of any antenna, that is under seventy (70) feet in height and is owned and operated by a federally-licensed amateur radio station operator or is used exclusively for receive only antennas.

Stated another way, if you plan to erect a new antenna 70 feet or higher, you will have to file the permit application and comply with some of the other requirements of the ordinance.

While the ordinance contains a preference for new antenna locations, hams desiring to erect antennas higher than 70 feet should be able to do so at their own home locations based upon the current case law applying the FCC's PRB-1, provided the hams comply with the permitting requirements and the tower system is safe. On the other hand, should 15 or so neighbors show up in opposition to your proposed antenna at the permit hearing, the ham may well want to contemplate some legal expenses or alternatively, reduce the proposed height to under 70 feet so as to render the ordinance inapplicable.

If you are planning to erect a new antenna that exceeds the 70 foot exemption, it would be good idea to get a copy of the ordinance in order to anticipate the information required for the permit application. Copies may be obtained from the Idaho Falls Planning and Building Division.

Check into the Network

Don't forget to check into the network on Tuesday nights, at 9:00 pm, on the 146.64 MHz repeater (- offset). We miss you when you don't. For now, checking in can be fun and rewarding – a chance to get to know other hams and to practice and develop some skills and some confidence. But some day, we may have to call upon the net to help out in an emergency or disaster. Be there or be square.

Naming the Newsletter

We still haven't come up with an official name for the newsletter. This month's editors took the liberty of giving it a temporary name. We're still looking for ideas.

Please feel free to submit an article or an editorial to club leadership for next month's newsletter.
