

OREGON AMATEUR TELEVISION

WINTER

January 2001

Our Next Meeting...

The Meeting - January 15, 2001

7PM at EMA Video, 1306 NW Hoyt.....
No Pizza this meeting.

Besides Election of new Officers, we will discuss organizing for Rickreall and decide how to best deal with the Repeater Problems.

Elections of new Officers will take place for President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Unlike Titles of Nobility, these offices don't run for the life of the office holder. You get a year to show your stuff and then someone else is supposed to take a turn.

There is not a great burden in any of these offices. Our officers run the club meetings, keep our records and count the votes when the club decides what to do next. Let yourself in on the fun and run for office.

As always bring along your new goodies to share the knowledge. We always enjoy the latest gadgets for ATV.

We will also discuss the ATV demonstration planned with SATVA for the Rickreall Hamfair in February (see next column).

Hamfair Rickreall 2001

Equipment donations for the February Rickreall Hamfair are now being sought. The equipment will be sold on the clubs table and proceeds will go to maintaining the ATV repeater. The date this year is February 17. Admission is \$7 for both pre-registered and at the door.

Ticket sales and pickup begins at 7 AM Saturday, with sales on the floor starting at 9 AM.

OATVA and SATVA are going to try to carry out a demonstration of ATV at the hamfair again this year. Salems' ATV repeater has been working well and we should be able to send pictures from Portland which will appear on the Salem machine. Volunteers will be needed to send the programming on the day of the Hamfair.

And we'll be hashing out equipment needs for the Hamfair demonstration at the January 15 club meeting.

Annual dues are due

OATVA dues are paid once per year in January. The actual due date is January 1. The dues provide for rent on the tower, newsletters, and other publishing costs, and helps to support ATV promotion in the local area.

OATVA Dues: \$30 per year or \$55 for two years
Its never too late to pay your dues if you have forgotten!

Donations are also accepted with great enthusiasm.

Make your checks payable to OATVA.

Mail to OATVA
3210 SW Dosch Rd
Portland Oregon 97201

Or you may pay at any general meeting.

REPEATER Report....

The Salem Link is up and running well.
Pictures from Salem on the link are P5 Perfect.

For the past couple of months the repeater goes belly up after about 40 minutes. We can conjecture that one of several things are happening. First of all, that the environmental controls are not working. This we have known since the machine went up. If the fans are not coming on, the amp may get hot and quit. The fans on the power supply may have failed and hence lose power there. We have thought that if an antenna was not working right then maybe the high SWR would heat up the amplifier. In any case, something is causing the system to go to half power or less after about 40 minutes. On colder days we can get 50 minutes!

Ed, WB2QHS has started to make plans for building a temporary repeater that we can put up while the main system is brought down for repairs. There are several things that need to be repaired. The environment controls. We need to set up the serial port and run a cable down the center of the tower so some things will be able to be configured on a laptop at the bottom. The AM mode is inoperable and needs to be figured out as well.

Several quirky things can also be fixed.



Bob, W7LOU Checks in from Dallas, OR

OATVA Honors W7AMQ

At this meeting special honors will be bestowed to Gail Sells, W7AMQ for his generous support of ATV in Portland. Gail is an enthusiastic participant in almost every weekly net, supports the club fundraising efforts at hamfairs and has contributed more than generously to the repeater construction fund.

Please join with us at the January 15 meeting to honor Gail, W7AMQ for his long association with Amateur Television and Ham Radio.



Gail, W7AMQ in the shack and On The Air

Oregon Amateur Television Association
3210 SW Dosch Rd.
Portland OR 97201

<http://www.lloydio.com/oatva.html>

Newsletter published quarterly



**ATV.....
Radio
With
Vision !**

Summer fun hunting for the 2.4 GHz signal,
Ed, WB2QHS homes in on a picture from
Salem

NASA TV comes to local ATV

Thanks to George, K7GEN; for inspiring the effort, Ken, KA7OSM; and Ed, WB2QHS; we now have access to the NASA television channel. The downlink antenna is an artifact from the channel 4 commercial station. It has had an appropriate tuner attached to downlink the NASA channel from a geo-synchronous satellite. The picture is then sent to the controller of the WB2QHS 900 MHZ ATV repeater at Cooper Mt., then transmitted to the WA7DRO ATV repeater on the KGON tower.

We enjoyed live video of the last shuttle rendezvous with the International Space Station. Ed is working on a control link to allow other users to access the NASA pictures when he is not available. The controller now is operated on the 900 MHZ audio channel and so can only be controlled by those who have 900 MHZ transmitters.



We collect NASA video from this dish located near the Wb2QHS ATV 900 MHZ repeater

From The President.....

Well here we are - another year gone by. It seems like just yesterday that you folks left me with the presidency for another year. And at the January Meeting it will be time for you to chose new officers again.

The positions we need to fill are:

President (outgoing Ed Mellnik)
Vice President (outgoing Dave Gettman)
Secretary (outgoing Mike Hemel)
Treasurer (outgoing Ron Polluconi).

I am not going to give a "vote for me" speech, since I wish you wouldn't. Last year no one wanted it so I picked it up for another year.

Something terrible happens when a club has no president. If someone is interested it the post, please make it known.

The club has accomplished a lot in the last ten years. We have put ATV on the Oregon Map. We have created a ATV network that is growing. **AND WE ARE BROKE.**

Due to several problems getting the Salem Link running we spent more than planned on Tower work.

The clubs money comes from three places: Membership dues; Membership contributions; and selling membership contributed equipment on our Rickreall Hamfair table.

From The President (cont.)

Rather than pitch for the office, I am making a pitch for all of you to send in your dues and send in a contribution AND look around in your shack for something that might bring the club some bucks on our Table. With 12 to 15 active members at \$30 dues per member and \$35 tower rent for the repeater - you don't have to be a math genius to see that there is nothing there to deal with repairs or even newsletters for that matter.

For the last three years, half of the cash the club has needed has been paid for by three or four of the club members making additional contributions. Those members were not any richer than the rest of you.

It has been suggested that we should raise the dues but the club has always chosen to leave it at a level that is affordable by all. You can all afford your ham toys, so think of the repeater as one of the toys.

I know most of you personally and I can't think of anyone in the group that an extra \$30 to \$50 donation would hurt too much. IN FACT, some of you with higher incomes, \$200 would be more appropriate.

The Rickreall table is another case in point. The donations on that table have come from a handful of us.

Whether I take on another year as President (because no one wants it) or am just an active ATV member, I would like to see the club be supported by the greater whole. If it does not start looking like that maybe we should forget the whole thing.

Right now we are \$150 in the red, and we need to bring the repeater down for repairs soon. So sit yourself down and write a check to the Oregon ATV Association (OATVA).

I rest my case.



The view from the top ... or at least from the platform which is home to the OATVA ATV repeater.

