



Welcome to the world of **Amateur Radio!**

Here are some ideas for your first steps

Valley Radio Club, W7PXL, valleyradioclub.org, rev. 7/6/2024



1. Join a Local Amateur Radio Club!

- Find out what's happening and meet people who can help you get started
- Hate meetings? Join the club e-mail list! (Membership may not be required.)

Valley Radio Club (VRC)

valleyradioclub.org

Meets: 1st Fridays, 7:00pm, Norkenzie Christian Church, 2530 Crescent Avenue, Eugene

Repeater: **W7PXL** 146.72MHz, -600kHz, 100Hz; **W7ARD** 53.03MHz, -1.7MHz, 100Hz

Emerald Amateur Radio Society (EARS)

emerald-ars.us

Meets: 3rd Tuesdays, 7:00pm, Springfield Justice Center, 230 4th Street, Springfield

Repeater: **WA7FQD** 146.74MHz, -600kHz, 100Hz

South Lane Amateur Radio Association (SLARA)

slara.net

Meets: 2nd Sundays, 2:00pm, Cottage Grove Masonic Center, 33322 Row River Road, CG

Repeater: **W7SLA** 145.23 MHz, -600kHz, 110.9Hz; **W7ZQE** 146.66 MHz, -600kHz, 100Hz;
W7SLA 145.31 MHz, -600kHz, 100Hz

2. Get a 2-meter Handheld Transceiver!

- For less than \$100, you can get a 5W HT that can access a nearby repeater
- Meet people; participate in nets and club meetings
- Even if repeaters are not your thing, it's a great back-up when help is needed
- Reputable brands: Yaesu, Icom, Kenwood, Anytone, Alinco
- Reputable sources: qrz.com/jumpstart, Ham Radio Outlet, DX Engineering, GigaParts
- Check club web sites for frequencies. Also see: peakradio.org, swora.net, repeaterbook.com

3. Take Part in a Net; it's a great way to meet people, hone your skills, learn new tricks...

Valley Radio Club "Now What?" Net

Mondays, 7:00pm

145.45 FM, -600kHz, 123Hz

A forum for new hams, like you!

Valley Radio Club Tech Net

Tuesdays, 7:00pm

146.72 FM, -600kHz, 100Hz, or 146.52 FM

For questions about anything technical

Emerald Amateur Radio Society Net

Thursdays, 7:00pm

146.74 FM, -600kHz, 100Hz, or 146.44 FM

Official club net

South Lane Amateur Radio Association Net

Thursdays, 7:00pm

146.23 FM, -600kHz, 110.9Hz, or 146.46 FM

Official club net

"Up the Crick" Net

Thursdays, 7:30pm

28.450 USB

An HF net accessible to Techs!

Check club websites and newsletters for

topic-oriented nets and in-person events

For other locales see netfinder.radio

4. Create a **qrz.com** profile; let other hams know about you and look up other hams

5. Learn the **International Morse Code**; access more HF bands

6. Study for an **Upgrade**; right after you passed the exam is the best time to study

7. And, most importantly, **just get on the air!** That's what it's all about!

We'll see you on the air!



What's Happening in Amateur Radio?

Some upcoming and regular events for you!

Valley Radio Club, W7PXL, valleyradioclub.org, rev. 7/6/2024



- **Topic-Oriented Nets and Meetings**; see club calendar for complete list
 - Lane Medical Amateur Radio Group, Tuesdays, 1:30 pm, 147.08 FM, +600kHz, 100Hz (OHCC net)
 - volunteer to provide emergency communication support to Lane County health care agencies
 - after the OHCC net, local debrief net follows at 1:50 pm, 145.15MHz, -600kHz, 146.2Hz
 - Eugene EmComm Net, Wednesdays, 7pm, 146.88 FM, -600kHz, 100Hz
 - for anyone interested in providing emergency communication support
 - Digital Radio Net, Wednesdays, 8pm, 146.72 FM, -600kHz, 100Hz, and in-person events TBA
 - for anyone interested in digital voice modes, APRS, mesh networking...
 - Ducks on the Air, Thursdays, 7pm, 145.45 FM, -600kHz, 123Hz
 - Beavers on the Air, Fridays at 7pm, 147.16 FM, +600kHz, 100Hz
 - university radio club nets; all are welcome!
 - Slow Code Net, Thursdays, 8:30pm, 28.450 USB then CW
 - send and copy CW at the speed of your choice; practice, practice, practice!
- **In-person Events and Meetings**; check club calendar for details
 - VRC DQ Lunch, Fridays, noon - 1pm, River Road Dairy Queen, Eugene
 - EARS Breakfast, first Mondays, 10am - 11:30am, Prime Time, Springfield (email club VP in advance)
 - SLARA Masonic Breakfast, third Mondays 8am - 11am, Masonic Center, Cottage Grove
 - Eat food... and maybe meet people
 - Eugene Science Center, Fridays, 10am - noon and other times
 - Demonstrate radio to museum attendees; also, drop in to get help from an experienced ham
 - VRC-EARS Swap Meet; see club calendar and newsletters for schedule and location
 - Buy, sell, window-shop, and hang out!
 - SEA-PAC Convention, in May-June in Seaside, Oregon; see seapac.org for schedule and location
 - Everything you'd expect at a hamfest: exhibits, food, flea market, workshops, testing, food...
 - ARRL Field Day, fourth Saturday-Sunday in June; see club calendar for exciting happenings
 - An annual event on the air and in-person for all things radio, with community engagement
- **Community Service Events**; announced at club meetings and in newsletters
 - Provide radio support at long-distance races, demonstrate radio operation at community centers, educate the community on emergency preparedness...
- **Popular Contests to Try**; see contestcalendar.com for schedule, exchange format, and rules
 - ARRL VHF Contest, in January, June, and September
 - Contact everyone within your line of sight! Go mobile! Use every simplex mode you can!
 - 7th Call Area QSO Party, first Saturday in May; same day as New England QSO Party
 - Everyone, everywhere will try to contact as many 7-land stations as possible
 - If you like getting attention, activate rare counties, or try county-line operations
 - North American QSO Party, twice a year each for CW, SSB, and RTTY
 - ARRL Sweepstakes, CW first Saturday in November, SSB third Saturday in November
 - Popular US-focused contests; you can work everyone, everywhere
 - NAQP is super easy and good for low-power stations; Sweepstakes is more challenging