

Ogden Amateur Radio Club - Historical Document

Member Information Manual

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If you are not already a member of the Ogden Amateur Radio Club, then we hope this manual will show you what the OARC has to offer for your membership. You are encouraged to join, whether you like to just be around others with your same interests or whether you want to take an active, working part in club projects. Ask a club member or officer for a membership application and send it with the appropriate dues payable to:

Ogden Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 3353
Ogden, Utah 84409

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An Introduction to the OARC

What is the OARC?

The Ogden Amateur Radio Club (OARC) is a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Utah.

The purpose of the club is to promote interest in amateur radio communication and experimentation, education, advancement of the art of radio, public service, the exchange of information between members and to conduct club programs and activities to advance the general interest and welfare of Amateur Radio.

Full membership is open to all licensed Radio Amateurs. Associate membership is open to all other interested parties.

As a member you may attend monthly club meetings, receive the Watts News, take part in club activities and enjoy the friendship, help, or advice of the many others in this interesting and enjoyable hobby. Full membership is required to vote or hold office.

OARC members are encouraged, but not required, to maintain membership in the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). OARC is an ARRL affiliate as long as a minimum percentage of the club members are also ARRL members. ARRL affiliation provides the club with services not otherwise available. OARC members can obtain ARRL membership through OARC, which is advantageous to the club, or directly from the ARRL.

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month, at a date, time, and place announced in the Watts News. Meetings consist of programs provided by club members or guests on a wide variety of subjects.

Services

Club Newsletter

Watts News is the official newsletter of the OARC and is received as a benefit of membership in the club. The Watts News brings you news of club meetings, club officers' names and phone numbers, and informative articles of interest. You are encouraged to submit articles to the editor for publication.

License Classes

License classes are provided by club members to help those interested in obtaining their first ham "ticket" or to help those amateurs who want to upgrade to a higher class of license. Contact any OARC club officer for more information.

Emergency Services

The amateur radio community provides a ready source of communications personnel for service in the community during times of emergency. The OARC works with the Weber County Emergency Groups in simulated emergencies. The club maintains equipment that is intended to support emergency operations plus regular club activities.

ARRL Affiliation

The OARC is affiliated with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) of Newington, CT. The ARRL is the largest non-commercial association of radio amateurs in the world that stands as a unified voice to promote the interests of the radio amateur community. The ARRL produces a complete line of reference manuals and publishes QST Magazine, popular with radio amateurs. The ARRL also operates amateur station W1AW, providing on-the-air bulletins and code practice. Consult QST for W1AW's current broadcasting schedule.

As a member of the ARRL, there are many fine and challenging award programs available. Membership in the ARRL is not required, but you may join the ARRL directly or through the OARC. A small portion of their membership fee is rebated to the OARC.

Events

The following are regular club events. If you are interested, make a note of them on your calendar and contact any activity committee member that is responsible for any particular event. Always check the Watts News or stay in touch via the seventy-centimeter nets for the latest information on these events.

August Steak Fry

Each August, the club holds a Steak Fry at an area park, with a steak dinner for all that attend. The dinner is potluck so everyone takes a passing dish to share with others. This is a perfect time to meet and share all your old stories with your friends and their families. Our Gourmet Chefs insure that this is one of our top annual events.

Fox Hunts

At least once a year, fox "hunts" are held to find hidden transmitters. Members select an amateur to be the "Fox". The Fox moves to a location he selects and transmits signals that the others attempt to locate in the shortest time possible. Members may use everything from simple radios and antennas, to developing special locating antennas and receivers. No matter what method you finally select to use, this event always ends up with everyone gaining the knowledge of how to do it better next time, and having lots of fun doing it too!

Field Day

Perhaps the premier operating event of the year, Field Day is a test of the amateur's abilities in many ways, from such mundane everyday tasks as cooking to digging weak signals out of a pile of QRM. This even is an AARL directed event and is open to all of the amateurs in the AARL and CARL. Foreign stations may be contacted but are not eligible to compete.

Field Day takes place on the last full weekend in June. The object is to contact as many stations as possible under less than optimum conditions. The most common condition is that a temporary station location is selected, often in an empty field, hence the name "Field Day". Antennas are erected, tents or campers are set up, portable power generators are started and equipment is all checked out. At 12:00 noon local time, Field Day begins. During the next 24 hours, hams attempt to contact as many other hams as possible, all the while contending with equipment failures, meals, bugs (the real kind), and the many other problems that can arise while operating possibly many miles from civilization.

Many may choose to use solar power, battery power, or utility company power. Others may operate from their home. If you choose to operate "in the field", then your skills and equipment and your ability of operation will be tested. The publicity generated will acquaint the public with the capabilities of the radio amateur under adverse conditions.

Points are awarded for everything from type of power used to public relations, from satellite contacts to message originations. Field Day always starts and ends with hard work, but the enjoyment of operating in the middle and the reflections afterwards, give you one of the most rewarding events in ham radio today.

Swap Meets

Swap meets are an important part of amateur radio. They are an electronic Mecca to which all hams must travel time and again. Swap meets provide a source of new treasures and a place to dispose of treasures of the past. The OARC usually has at least a couple of its own each year as a part of a regular meeting or as a part of the August Steak Fry.

Nets

Weber County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) Net; Held on Tuesdays at 6:30 PM for handling message traffic, announcements, equipment sales, and wants. All hams, especially those interested in public service activities, are invited.