



The objectives of the Willits Amateur Radio Society are:

- to promote interest in fellowship and fun in Amateur Radio;
- to further the cooperation between Mendocino County Amateur Radio Operators;
- to provide emergency or public service communications when normal means of communications are disrupted;
- to advance the state of the Amateur Radio art through individual and collective research;
- to conduct programs and activities so as to increase the general interest and welfare of Amateur Radio in the community including classes and testing;
- to support lawful, responsible conduct by its members and the amateur fraternity in general.

The above text is taken from our society constitution.

The Willits Amateur Radio Society meets the fourth Monday (not the last Monday) of each month except for December. The regular meeting is held at the Brooktrails Fire Department training room starting at 7 PM. There is a weekly informal breakfast meeting held every Tuesday morning starting at 9 AM at Perko's Restaurant in Willits.

On the coast, there is also a weekly Koffee Klatch starting at 10:30 AM on Tuesday mornings at the Tradewinds Restaurant in Fort Bragg and a weekly informal breakfast meeting held every Friday morning starting at 8:30 AM at Perko's Restaurant in Fort Bragg.

All interested in amateur radio are welcome to attend any of these meetings whether licensed or not. Please introduce yourself.

In Willits, Ukiah, and surrounding territory, call in on the 145.130 MHz repeater, PL 103.5. In Mendocino or Fort Bragg, call in on the 146.820 or 147.030 repeaters respectively, PL 103.5. Many times these repeaters will be quiet but a call for assistance will often be answered.

### **WARS OFFICERS for 2007**

PRESIDENT: Tim Hanna, WB9NJS

SECRETARY: John Lemmer, W6FQX

TREASURER: Dean Durbin, KE6COB

WEBMASTER: Danny Richardson, K6MHE

TRUSTEE OF W6MMM, Tim Hanna, WB9NJS

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: John Lemmer, W6FQX

WEB PAGE: <http://www.k6mhe.com/wars>  
MAIL TO: P.O BOX 73, WILLITS, CA 95490

### **DUES ARE PAST DUE**

**If you are a renewing or new member, annual dues for 2007 are now past due.**

Dues support our activities, purchase the required liability insurance, and provide for contributions to selected worthy causes. In the past, these contributions supported the Brooktrails Firefighters Association, provided gifts to Santa's Night in Willits, and contributed to the hurricane Katrina children's gift fund. As before, annual dues are \$15 or \$22.50 for a family rate in the same household. Dues are \$7.50 for members less than 18 years old.

If you are a renewing member and your personal information such as address, phone number, and email address have not changed from that listed on the WARS web page (under the members only button), you may simply mail a check to P.O. Box 73 or deliver to the treasurer at the February meeting. If you have an email address change only or prefer to receive WARS email at a different address than you received your newsletter email, please inform the secretary of WARS.

**If your personal information has changed or if you are a new prospective member, please download the application form from the WARS web page under the JOIN US button and fill it out with all your current information. Please send the form together with your check to WARS to at P.O. Box 73, Willits, CA 95490 or deliver it to the treasurer at any regular meeting.**

If your are a past or present member of WARS, check in on the Members Only section of the web page and check your personal information for accuracy. If your information is in red, your dues are past due. If you have misplaced the members only pass word, please email the secretary for an update.

## 2007 CALENDER OF EVENTS

<u>MONTH/DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>CONTACT or INFO</u>
February 24	Radiofest 2007 – Seaside CA	<a href="http://www.radiofest.org">www.radiofest.org</a>
March 28	School Disaster Drill	WB9NJS
April 28	VOMARC Hamfest, Sonoma	<a href="http://www.vomarc.org/">www.vomarc.org/</a>
April 27-29	DX Convention, Fresno	<a href="http://www.dxconvention.org">www.dxconvention.org</a>
May ?	WARS Campout	Open
May 20	NHRC Hamfest Sacramento	<a href="http://www.k6is.org">www.k6is.org</a>
May 18-20	Dayton Hamvention, OH	<a href="http://www.hamvention.org">www.hamvention.org</a>
June 1-2	SF Section Conv., Ferndale	<a href="http://www.humboldt-arc.org">www.humboldt-arc.org</a>
June 9-11	VHF Contest from Walker Ridge	WB9NJS or WA6OEM
June 16	Santa Maria Radio Swapfest	<a href="http://www.satelliteARC.com">www.satelliteARC.com</a>
June 23-24	Field Day in Willits	Open
July 4	Willits 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade	Open
July ? or August ?	WARS Picnic	Open
August 4	Fresno Hamfest, Fresno	<a href="http://www.w6to.com/">www.w6to.com/</a>
September 7-9	SW Division Convention, LA	<a href="http://www.hamcon.org">www.hamcon.org</a>
September 8-10	VHF Contest from Walker Ridge	WB9NJS or WA6OEM
September 28-29	TEN-TEC Factory HamFest	<a href="http://radio.tentec.com">http://radio.tentec.com</a>
October 19-21	Pacific Div. Conv., San Ramon	<a href="http://www.pacificon.org">www.pacificon.org</a>
November ?	Hospital Disaster Drill	W6FQX
December ?	WARS Holiday Dinner	Open

Anyone with additional information about any activity is encouraged to contact the editor of this newsletter with this information for inclusion in a future edition of this newsletter.

The activities shown as open indicate an opportunity for you to step up and organize something. The significant opportunities are as follows:

WARS Campout. It has been several years since we had a group camping activity. I thought that it was fun. If you are so inclined, please organize the event. We can solicit interest from members and others at meetings and via this newsletter and you can arrange for a location. Please volunteer.

Field Day. This is the annual event at which we demonstrate our ability to operate away from commercial power sources and pass messages (however trivial) to other stations outside the area. We camp out and picnic at a public location. Even non-licensed and Technician Class hams can operate on HF as long as there is a General or higher class licensee present as control operator. We need a chairperson to obtain commitments from operators and arrange for a location – public access and/or visibility is a plus. Please volunteer.

Willits 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. Do we want to participate? Do we want to march? Do we want to ride in a truck? Do we want to offer our services as communicators to the parade organizers? Who wants to organize this? Please volunteer.

WARS Picnic. We didn't have a WARS picnic last year so maybe we should have one this year. It can be at a private home or in a park. Who wants to organize this? Please volunteer.

WARS Holiday Dinner. Charlie and Arlene Davison (W6FXO and KG6CTJ) have done this for several years now. I think that they have done an excellent job. Maybe they want a rest or maybe someone else wants to organize the event. Maybe you can help. Please volunteer.

Fox Hunt. Do you want to start a monthly or less often hidden transmitter hunt. Let's get together and set up the program again.

Is there anything else that you would like us to do as a group? Some have suggested a Skunk Train trip as a group. Some have suggested a booth display of ham radio at a Roots of Motive Power steam-up event or at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Bar-B-Que. How about a spot at one of the Brooktrails flea markets (buy or sell equipment or simply a public information presence)? What do you want to do?

### **MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAMS**

What would you like to see as a meeting program? Do you have any suggestions for speakers? Can you put on a program. Please contact the President of WARS to communicate your wishes and abilities. Check the phone book or the WARS web page for all contact information.

### **ONGOING HAM RADIO SWAP MEETS**

Some of you travel out of the area occasionally and are looking for a ham radio connection. Here are some of the ham radio swap meets in California that I know of:

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>WHEN</u>	<u>INFORMATION</u>
Livermore	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday except when raining	<a href="http://www.livermoreark.org/swap">www.livermoreark.org/swap</a>
Cupertino	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday March-October	<a href="http://www.asvaro.org">www.asvaro.org</a>
Manhattan Bch.	Last Saturday	<a href="http://www.w6trw.com">www.w6trw.com</a>
Santee	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday	<a href="http://www.ac6v.com/sdswap.htm">www.ac6v.com/sdswap.htm</a>
Upland	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday	<a href="http://www.qsl.net/w6ier">www.qsl.net/w6ier</a>
Chino Hills	3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday	<a href="http://www.ac6v.com/sdswap.htm">www.ac6v.com/sdswap.htm</a>

If you know of more, please let the editor of this newsletter know.

## TECHNICIAN CLASSES

The Mendocino County Public Health Department is planning a two-day (Saturday and Sunday) "Ham Camp" to provide a final review and testing session for Technician Class licenses on March 17 and 18. Priority will be given to employees of the Public Health Department and/or employees of hospitals and/or medical clinics in Mendocino County but openings can be made available for others up until the class limit of 30 students. If you are interested in participating in this event, please email your questions or reservation to Annie Robinson KG6VGZ at [robinsoa@co.mendocino.ca.us](mailto:robinsoa@co.mendocino.ca.us) or call her at 472-2750.

The class will be taught by Dave Perata WN6LOO from Lake County. If more than 30 students register for the class, a waiting list will be maintained for a possible future "Ham Camp".

See also testing schedule to follow.

## TESTING SCHEDULES

The following is a schedule of the known ham testing sessions in the northern California area in the next few months. Call or email for info or appointment. Remember that the CW Morse requirement for General and above class licenses will be dropped effective February 23, 2007 so those of you that have been holding back because of that can now study for the General license.

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>WHEN</u>	<u>INFORMATION</u>
Carmichael	February 17, 8:15 AM	Kenneth Hall 916-492-6115
Petaluma	February 24, 2 PM	Dale Westerterp 762-9414
Lakeport	February 25, 2 PM	Dave Perata WN6LOO <a href="mailto:justdave94577@yahoo.com">justdave94577@yahoo.com</a>
Yuba City	March 3, 9 AM	Eddie Ansley 530-742-2674
Carmichael	March 17, 8:15 AM	Kenneth Hall 916-492-6115
Ukiah	March 18, 1 PM	Annie Robinson KG6VGZ <a href="mailto:robinsoa@co.mendocino.ca.gov">robinsoa@co.mendocino.ca.gov</a>
Petaluma	April 14, 2 PM	Dale Westerterp 762-9414
Sonoma	April 28, 6:30 PM	Joel Nadler 322-0389
Yuba City	May 5, 9 AM	Eddie Ansley 530-742-2674

If you know of more, please let the editor of this newsletter know.

In addition, there is generally a testing session at any of the hamfests or conventions listed in the schedule of events. Remember that the Morse code requirement has been removed from all class licenses effective February 23 so you may find that you can more easily upgrade to General Class than you thought.

## HAPPENINGS

The meeting on January 22 saw a total of 19 members and visitors from all over the county plus guest speaker Sheriff Tom Allman. Visitors include residents of Gualala, Albion, Comptche, Fort Bragg, and Laytonville all interested in what our guest speaker had to say.

The sheriff is very impressed with the potential of ham radio in the event of a disaster and wants to enlist our help in the statewide disaster drill scheduled for March 28. The nominal event triggering this drill is a tsunami but the scenario in Mendocino County will consist of establishing a communications network linking all the schools in the county to the Mendocino County Office of Education (MCOE) office in Ukiah using ham radio.

One major challenge is covering schools in the northern part of the county including Whale Gulch (south of Shelter Cove but in Mendocino County) and Branscomb plus Leggett, Laytonville, Westport, and Covelo. Some of us know some of the hams in those areas but have no regular contact with them. This will require an outreach effort to include them in the exercise.

Members and visitors volunteered to organize the effort including contact with local ham radio operators and surveying the school sites in the various areas.

These included:

Overall Organization	WB9NJS
MCOE Contact	W6FQX
Willits	K6AFL
Ukiah	W6JRC
Hopland	W6JRC
Redwood Valley	WN9AOH
Potter Valley	K7WWA
South Coast	KE6WC
Albion/Mendocino	KI6CHA
Comptche/Boonville	W6XYL
Fort Bragg	KE6EBZ
Covelo	K7WWA

Still open areas of course includes Westport, Laytonville, Branscomb, Leggett, and Whale Gulch. Volunteers for these areas or for any other task are requested to contact WB9NJS or the volunteer for the listed area. Members of WARS have a direct contact email button on the web page. Visitors accepting an assignment but without a listing on the web page may be contacted via email to the Secretary of the association.

On another subject, there was a discussion about another meeting place other than the Brooktrails Fire Station due to concerns about driving in Sherwood Road

after dark and in inclement weather. A number of suggestions about alternate sites were heard but no definitive action was taken as yet.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the Willits Amateur Radio Society will be held on February 26, 2007. As usual, this meeting will be held at the Brooktrails Fire Station starting at 7 PM.

The program for this meeting will include a further discussion of the plans to support the disaster drill on March 28 including assignment of operators to specific locations as well as a discussion of frequency plans for local nets and linking of traffic.

Important Change: The disaster drill previously scheduled for March 28 has been changed to a local Mendocino County exercise only. The plan now calls for operators to be stationed at the various school district offices only plus an operator or two at the MCOE office in Ukiah and another operator or two at the sheriff's Emergency Operations Center or communications trailer. This exercise may also require operators at various intermediate locations to handle traffic by relay between the various repeater networks.

Please refer to the Bulletin Board section of the WARS web site to get the most up to date information on this exercise.

### **PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**

The challenge before us....

A pleasant surprise greeted me at the January 2007 WARS meeting. Rather than a room with mostly empty seats, I was delighted to find the meeting room nearly full. By my unofficial count there were 19 licensed amateurs in attendance, more than double the average attendance at our 2006 meetings. For many of those at the meeting, it was the first WARS meeting they had attended. Hams from across the county came to hear Tom Allman, the newly elected sheriff of Mendocino County, ask the amateur community for our support in an exercise scheduled for March 28. Sheriff Allman's challenge was to provide amateur radio communications at each public school location in the county during a simulated tsunami drill.

While the scope of this challenge has changed somewhat since the January meeting, it remains a significant task. Organizing and successfully executing a single communications drill is not our only challenge, however. Greater challenges include building on the enthusiasm present at the January meeting to

increase participation in WARS and interaction with amateurs throughout Mendocino County. This supports a broader goal of an active ham community, trained and prepared to meet the emergency communications needs of our county and region. I feel the willingness of so many people to attend the January WARS meeting (requiring hours of travel for some), and the activities of other amateur organizations in the county (including a licensing “camp” and test session scheduled for March 17 – 18) indicate such a goal is indeed achievable.

Please plan on attending the February WARS meeting, which will focus on refining the plans for the March 28<sup>th</sup> drill. Updated information regarding this drill will be posted on the WARS website, with additional direction from the Mendocino County Office of Education expected prior to our meeting.

Tim – WB9NJS

### **BUY AND/OR SELL**

Readers are encouraged to list items that they want to buy or sell in this space. A reasonable connection to ham radio is required including computer equipment, scanner radios, etc. but not ordinary household items or vehicles.

Swan Mark II HF Linear Amplifier. 100 W PEP input, 1500 W PEP SSB, 1000 W CW Output. Five traditional bands (including 10 m) but will also tune 17 m and 12 m bands. Uses a pair of 3-500Z tubes but is without tubes or plate cap connectors. Tubes available on ebay and from RF Parts Inc. Complete with separate HV power supply and original Operation and Maintenance manual. \$100 or best offer. John Lemmer W6FQX, 459-6342, [lemmer@cwia.com](mailto:lemmer@cwia.com).

### **TECHNICAL DATA**

Following, please find a list of the 2 meter repeaters found in sequence along the route of California 20 from Fort Bragg to the connection to Interstate 80. This list, in tabular form, was created from the ARRL TravelPlus CD ROM, 2006-2007 edition, with corroborative data from the Northern Amateur Relay Council of California (NARCC). Note that, in some areas, there is some discrepancy between the two sources. Your assistance is solicited in correcting this list by eliminating duplications or repeaters no longer in operation and by adding repeaters known to be currently operating. Please email any known additions, deletions, or corrections to the editor of this newsletter.

If you know the actual physical location of any repeater (peak, mountain, ridge, etc.) please send that information to me also.



## California Highway 20 from the Pacific Coast to Interstate 80

<u>SEQ</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>FREQ</u>	<u>+ -</u>	<u>PL</u>	<u>Call Sign</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NOTES</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>MAP</u>
1	Fort Bragg	147.030	+	103.5	K6MHE		o	NARCC	ARRL2006
2	Mendocino	146.820	-	103.5	WD6HDY	Mathison Peak	#oe	NARCC	ARRL2006
3	Covelo	147.210	+	103.5	WB6TCS	Anthony Peak	oelx	NARCC	ARRL2006
4	Willits	145.130	-	103.5	K7WWA	Laughlin Ridge	oelx	NARCC	ARRL2006
5	Ukiah	147.120	+	103.5	K7WWA	Laughlin Ridge	oelx	NARCC	ARRL2006
6	Willits	147.390	+	103.5	WA6RQX	Laughlin Ridge			
7	Ukiah	146.955	-	103.5	AC6ET	Cow Mountain	oex	NARCC	
8	Clear Lake	147.675	-	88.5	KF6BSC	Hunter Point	#oelx	NARCC	ARRL2006
9	Clear Lake	146.775	-	88.5	KA6JJW	Mt. Konocti	#oelx	NARCC	ARRL2006
10	Clear Lake	146.895	-	88.5	WD6EOP		#oelx	NARCC	ARRL2006
11	Clear Lake	147.330	+	100.0	WD6EOP		#oelx	NARCC	ARRL2006
12	Maxwell	147.045	+	156.7	N6NMZ		oelx	NARCC	ARRL2006
13	Sutter	146.085	+	127.3	WD6AXM		oelx	NARCC	ARRL2006
14	Grass Valley	146.115	+	151.4	N6KOD		oelx	NARCC	ARRL2006
15	Grass Valley	146.625	-	151.4	WB4YJT		oelx	NARCC	ARRL2006
16	Grass Valley	147.015	+	151.4	W6DD		oelx	NARCC	ARRL2006
17	Grass Valley	147.285	+	151.4	W6DD		oelx	NARCC	ARRL2006
18	Nevada City	145.130	-	151.4	KG6TZT		oelx	NARCC	

### NOTES

#	Not a coordinated system
a	Autopatch
e	Emergency power
l	Linked/Crossband repeater
o	Open system
p	Portable system
pkt	Data exchange capability
r	RACES affiliated
Wx	Weather net
x	Wide area coverage
y	RTTY/ASCII
z	Direct law access (usually 911)
Exp	Experimental

## PRONOUNCE IT

No wonder speakers of other languages find English difficult. Consider the following:

- 1) The bandage was **wound** around the **wound**.
- 2) The farm was used to **produce produce**.
- 3) The dump was so full that it had to **refuse** more **refuse**.
- 4) We must **polish** the **Polish** furniture.
- 5) He could **lead** if he would get the **lead** out.
- 6) The soldier decided to **desert** his **dessert** in the **desert**.
- 7) Since there is no time like the **present**, he thought it was time to **present** the **present**.
- 8) A **bass** was painted on the head of the **bass** drum
- 9) When shot at, the **dove dove** into the bushes.
- 10) I did not **object** to the **object**.
- 11) The insurance was **invalid** for the **invalid**.
- 12) There was a **row** among the oarsmen about how to **row**.
- 11) They were too **close** to the door to **close** it.
- 12) The buck **does** funny things when the **does** are present.
- 13) A seamstress and a **sewer** fell down into a **sewer** line.
- 14) To help with planting, the farmer taught his **sow** to **sow**.
- 13) The **wind** was too strong to **wind** the sail.
- 18) Upon seeing the **tear** in the painting, I shed a **tear**.
- 19) I had to **subject** the **subject** to a series of tests.
- 20) How can I **intimate** this to my most **intimate** friend?

How can they decide how to pronounce the English words that we have taken from many other languages. Can you?

73,  
John Lemmer, W6FQX  
Secretary, Willits Amateur Radio Society