



Taylorville HAMnet Newsletter

VSWR Training at the November In Person Meeting



Dick True, W7SAE, explains the theory and effects of VSWR

For more see page 2

Our January In Person Meeting will be held on
January 31st, 10 a.m. to Noon

In addition to training, we will be discussing our
net operating procedures and our efforts to
support the Taylorville CERT organization

You are the KEY to our success

The key to our success is found within each members dedication to the community.

As we go forward in 2015, we need each member to stand committed to our mission statement of providing a pool of qualified radio operators who can carry on the tradition of Amateur Radio service in the community.

As we begin our group efforts in 2015 we will be presented with new opportunities to develop our relationship with Taylorville City and their efforts with emergency preparedness.



Our efforts to support the CERT teams with communication will become more defined and organized.

With the support of you, the members, we will enter into an agreement with Taylorville City known as a Memorandum of Understanding or MOU.

This will help define the expectations the City will have for us as a communication group and also what we will expect of the city in emergency and event communications

NOVEMBER IN PERSON MEETING - VSWR TRAINING



Our November in person meeting was dedicated to understanding VSWR (Voltage Standing Wave Ratio).

Dick True, W7SAE and Richard Evans, N7PCE gave a great presentation on this important aspect of antenna tuning.



Richard Evans, N7PCE shows some of his "antique" and not so antique test equipment

Both Dick and Richard brought examples of equipment used both in the past and present to measure VSWR. Some this equipment was very interesting to see. Examples were shown on the measurement and correction of poor VSWR adjustments.

Both Dick and Richard offered to help members of the group

check antennas and also correct problems they may have with antenna VSWR

As members we need to make sure our radios and antenna systems are tuned and working properly. This is an important aspect of being prepared for emergencies.

Thanks to Dick True and Richard Evans for their efforts in presenting this subject to us.

FYI, The article used in the training is on the website. Look for the VSWR tab on the main page

FROM DAYS GONE BY

As I was researching ideas for this months newsletter, I decided to look into past issues of QST, the magazine published by ARRL. I googled "early QST issues" and it came back with a plethora of hits.

One such offering was a copy of the July 1945 issue for sale on Ebay. Since it just so happens that I was born in July of 1945., I could not resist breaking out the credit card and purchasing the magazine. I paid \$10.00 for a magazine that cost 25 cents in 1945.

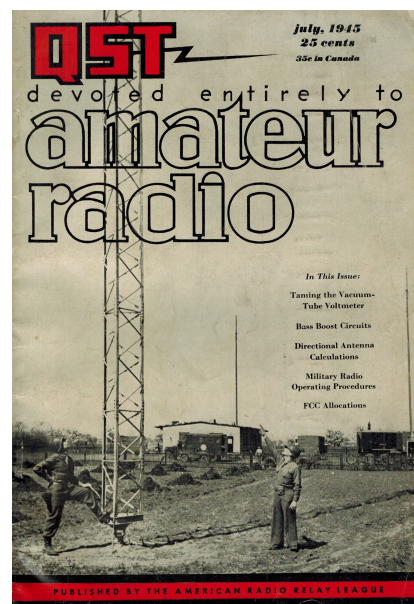
Yes I know that is crazy but when you get to thumb through the pages containing information that happened when you were just a babe, you lose all sight of what is right and wrong.

The cover shows articles in the issue as;

- Taming the Vacuum Tube Voltmeter
- Bass Boost Circuits
- Directional Antenna Calculations
- Military Radio Operating Procedures
- FCC Allocations

I found it interesting to read the Military Operating Procedures article. The problems encountered during the war with different protocols and phonetic alphabets used by the various allied forces caused the leaders to make decisions on the formats that would be used.

Just last week on our net I presented information on the history of ITU phonetics and why we use them in our group. I am glad that over the years we have settled on the ITU phonetics as a basis for letter identification in Ham Radio.



New antennas for City Hall

Two new antennas have been purchased and will be installed on the roof of city hall. The antennas, **Comet GP-6's**, will be part of the communications platform for our group.

The coax will be pulled into the second floor area that is located by the emergency coordinators office.

Along with



the radio room at the pantry, this communications location will become part the cities efforts to provide locations, equipment and communication resources for the Taylorsville HAMnet. We will be implementing both a voice and packet capability at these two locations.

The city is evaluating the possibility of other locations on the western boundary of our city for another location.

We will also be working to develop BBHN-Hamnet (formerly MESH) Ubiquity nodes within the communication platform.

CERT Support by the Taylorsville HAMnet



The City of Taylorsville has had organized CERT teams in some areas for the past several years. Unfortunately, all areas have not been fully staffed.

In 2015, the city will be placing more emphasis on the role of CERT in the community. The city will also place more emphasis on the role of HAM radio in support of this new CERT program. As part of this emphasis, the city has appointed Bruce Holman, KE7ZPT (a

member of our group) as the CERT coordinator over the program under the direction of Ben Gustafson, City Emergency Coordinator. As a HAM RADIO operator, Bruce will have insight into the needs of CERT and how the HAMnet can better fill the support role. As part of the new program, the city has created a new CERT map containing 4 areas.

A new communication program for CERT called CERT-Comm will be implemented this month.

As we embark on supporting the development of the new CERT organization, we, The Taylorsville HAMnet are going to be called upon to provide a greater level of service and dedication to our

community. We need to step up and be dedicated and committed to the cause of providing emergency radio communication. This will include being committed not only to actual events, but also being committed to participate in training classes, exercises, emergency roll call nets, S.E.T's and shakeouts.

As a member, you will be asked to commit to being more fully involved in our activities and nets. As a member, you will be assigned to specific CERT areas and leaders. You will be asked to provide a greater response to the city and the HAMnet organization.

Are you committed?

Calendar Events – Jan. 2015

Jan 5th - Weekly Net, 8:30 p.m. 146.94 repeater
 Jan 12th - Weekly Net, 8:30 p.m. 146.94 repeater
 Jan 19th - Weekly Net, 8:30 p.m. 146.94 repeater
 Jan 26th - Weekly Net 8:30 p.m. 146.94 repeater
 Jan 31st - In Person meeting - Taylorsville-Bennion Heritage Center

Calendar Events – Feb, 2015

Feb 2nd - Weekly Net, 8:30 p.m. 146.94 repeater
 Feb 9th - Weekly Net, 8:30 p.m. 146.94 repeater
 Feb 16th - Weekly Net, 8:30 p.m. 146.94 repeater
 Feb 23rd - Weekly Net, 8:30 p.m. 146.94 repeater
 Feb 28th - In Person meeting - Taylorsville Bennion Heritage Center

Calendar Events - Mar, 2015

Mar 2nd - Weekly Net, 8:30 p.m. 146.94 repeater
 Mar 9th - Weekly Net, 8:30 p.m. 146.94 repeater
 Mar 16th - Weekly Net, 8:30 p.m. 146.94 repeater
 Mar 23rd - Weekly Net, 8:30 p.m. 146.94 repeater
 Mar 28th - In Person meeting - Taylorsville Bennion Heritage Center
 Mar 31st - Weekly Net, 8:30 p.m. 146.94 repeater

Who's calling the net?

January 5 th	Rulon	K7BTU
January 12 th	Woody	KC7YLH
January 19 th	Doug	AD7LO
January 26 th	David	WA7RYV
February 2nd	Rulon	K7BTU
February 9th	Open	Please Volunteer
February 16th	Open	Please Volunteer
February 23rd	David	WA7RYV

Published for the benefit of members of the Taylorsville HAMnet...

... and others who are interested in developing their Ham Radio Skills for the purpose of providing communication resources within our community.

Ideas or articles for consideration to be published in the newsletter should be sent to

tville.hamnet@gmail.org

Editor - Rulon Swensen, K7BTU

We need you to volunteer to take your turn in calling the net.

Each member should call the net as part of their readiness training. **Please, take your turn in calling the net.**

Thanks to those who have volunteered to help.

To get your name on the list, send an email to

tville.hamnet@gmail.com

and indicate the day or days you can be net control. You can call the net from your home or if you want to call it from the pantry radio room, let us know and we will make sure you can get in.