

Lower Columbia Amateur Radio Association

Notes of the Activity Meeting of Feb 4th, 2015.

We were planning to start a Morse code class this evening but Brian Rickman, KJ7OX, couldn't make it here tonight.

HF Night

Randy Greeley, NU7D, welcomed everyone to the meeting. He turned the time over to Shane Ball, KD7JWC, to do a presentation about D star

Shane KD7JWC put on a DSTAR presentation with slides from a Dayton ham fest presentation. DSTAR stands for digital smart technology for amateur radio. The basic concept of how DSTAR works is that a ham uses a radio or other digital device that has the ambe vocoder device in it to connect through a repeater, reflector or other type of digital access device and then through the Internet the transmission goes to the intended repeater or reflector and is transmitted for anyone who is connected to that device or the system can do call sign routing directly to the intended ham. One point of interest, you have to be registered on the DSTAR network to use it so that call sign routing will work. It offers secure point to point transmissions so you can go direct from one call sign operator to another call sign operator connected to the DSTAR network allowing for private secure conversations and data transmissions.

Shane covered the types of devices that can be used to get connected to the DSTAR network. He then demonstrated how it works with his equipment, he talked to a ham in Texas and Arkansas from Reflector 30 Charlie and then to a ham in Coeur d'Alene Idaho from Reflector 35 Charlie in Washington. Open discussion followed the presentation.

Meeting ended at 7:50pm we had a good turn out.
A copy of the slide show should be on the disk or flash drive.

Attendance: 22
Respectfully submitted by:
Rick Ouzts, WA7NWN, Secretary.