



The November meeting of the Grand Ronde Radio Amateur Association was held November 24, 2020 on the W7GRA repeater (146.98) The meeting was called to order by Tyson KI7FXJ at 6:01 PM (18:01, 02:01 UTC).

**Present were.**

Name	Call Sign	Name	Call Sign
Tyson Brooks	KI7FXJ	Joel Hinshaw	KD7JG
Ted Ivester	N7NSL	Maggie Ivester	N7OMK
Jason Fouts	W7JSN	Gary Anger	W7GFA
Brian Provence	Guest	Mike Abernathy	KK7MA
Mike Rose	KJ7MFV	Dennis Bottoroff	KJ7ODW
John Britschgi	W7GQE	Keven Lenz	KJ7BJS

Introductions:

Minutes Read & Treasury report:

Mike KF7STP was not present to give a treasurer’s report but last month’s balance was \$2294.59.

Old Business:

The Club breakfast was held at Denney's on 11/14 and was well attended even with the COVID-19 restrictions. The next Club breakfast will be at Denney's on December 12 provided the restrictions on restaurants are eased. Video at 11.

The Club Christmas dinner has been canceled for this year. It was suggested by Tyson KI7FXJ that we hold our normal business meeting in December since the dinner has been canceled. The meeting would most likely be on one of the local repeaters. More on this as it develops.

The 146.98 repeater is now operating the Wires-x mode. Tyson was able to access the repeater at the hospital to reset some software. Tyson said he needs to go back as soon as the COVID-19 restrictions are eased to check the battery condition. The K7RPT repeater on Mt. Fanny is intermittent and has a lot of noise on its signal. An email has been sent to Julian KK7JX and the K7RPT group appraising them of the situation. No response back at this time.

The training class that Tyson wanted to put on has been postponed and it looks like December 19th is a good date which may change if conditions warrant. If you are interested in attending, please contact Tyson KI7FXJ.

Club elections are coming up in January. Anyone interested in holding an office please email the Club secretary at [secretary@w7gra.org](mailto:secretary@w7gra.org).

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### New Business:

The ARRL is offering online classes on different topics. These are presented real time, so you need to register for each class to be able to interact. They are available as a video later if you can't make the scheduled time. You also need to be an ARRL member. More information can be found at ARRL Learning Network on the ARRL's website [WWW.arrl.org](http://WWW.arrl.org). Tyson mentioned that there is a CW class coming up on Dec. 19th.

Ted N7NSL will be doing a J-pole antenna building class at his workshop for anyone who would like to build one of these antennas which operate on 2 meters and 70 cm. Contact Ted for more information and date.

Tyson KI7FXJ reported that the number of sunspots observed is on the increase and conditions on the upper HF bands are improving. Sunspots have been observed every day since October and some being very large.

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### ARES Report:

Jason W7JSN gave an update on the ARES group activities. The group is doing a weekly Win-Link check in at any time during the week by sending a "Sitrep" (situation report) to K7UNI the Union Co. ARES station call sign using any method available. The group also operates a weekly voice net on 3.955 MHz beginning at 5:45 PM local time. Anyone with the proper class of license is welcomed to participate. If you are interested in the ARES activities contact Jason W7JSN for more information. The ARES group holds a monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 PM at the Union Co. EOC. With the current COVID-19 restrictions the December meeting may be by Zoom only. Jason gave a shout out to Mike KK7MA and Joel KD7JG for their help with ARES as well as the rest of the group. Thank you, Jason, for all you do for ARES and Ham Radio.

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### VE Report:

Gary W7GFA reported that the next scheduled test session is set for December 12th. This is tentative and may change so if you are interested in testing for an upgraded or new license contact Gary W7GFA or Tyson KI7FXJ for current information. The VEs can no longer accept a Social Security number for ID to take an Amateur test. You will need to get a "FRN" number from the FCC's website. If you are having trouble getting a FRN contact any of the VEs for assistance. It appears that all testing will be going online in the near future. The last test session saw one new Technician Ken Benjamin and one new upgrade to General Dennis Bottoroff KJ7ODW. Congratulations guys!

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### Events and Contesting:

Mike KK7MA reminded everyone that a good resource for contest information can be found at [contest.calendar.com](http://contest.calendar.com). Winter Field Day is coming up in January. The date is the 30, 31. Anyone interested in participating contact Mike KK7MA. Tyson reported that we did well for Field Day last June with a first place in the 7A class with a score of 2878. There was only one other 7A team this year, but we still got first.

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There was no further business and the meeting was closed at 7:23 PM (19:23, 03:23 UTC)

Happy Thanksgiving to all!