

Ham Basics Workshop

Where: Ridgefield LDS meetinghouse, 21720 NE 29th Ave, Ridgefield, WA, 98642, which is west of Battle Ground and just south of SR 502 (WA I-5 exit 11 eastbound).

When: Saturday, Sep 12 from 0900-1300

Purpose: teach basic principles of topics that are not generally taught during license classes

Event Schedule and cost: Cost is zero, donations accepted to cover cost of handouts.

Times	Relief Society ¹	Cultural Hall East ²	Primary ³	Cultural Hall West ⁴
900-945	General session will cover a variety of topics⁵			
955-1045	Simple VHF/UHF antennas⁶	How to get the most from your handheld⁷	Getting started with HF communication⁸	Communications during an emergency⁹
1055-1145	Connectors and Grounding¹⁰	Simple HF antennas¹¹	Digital communications¹²	Operating mobile and portable¹³
1210-1300	Care and feeding of batteries¹⁴	Station types from handheld to HF¹⁵	Using your radio for community service¹⁶	Operating in a contest¹⁷

Class details:

- **Care and feeding of batteries.** When the grid power goes off, or you want to operate portable, batteries become your primary power source. Solar can fill in the gaps when used properly.
- **Communications during an emergency.** During the onset of widespread communication outages, chaos will reign. Learn how to communicate during these emergencies.
- **Connectors and grounding.** Connectors allow the electrons to flow smoothly, and grounding keeps the radio safe and happy.
- **Digital communications.** This session will show how you can get started with digital (meaning text) communications, including equipment and communication methods.
- **Getting started with HF communication.** Many hams like talking to distant hams. HF can provide reliable regional communications with the right equipment; discussion includes how to contact other stations and operating etiquette.
- **How to get the most from your handheld.** Properly programming your handheld will improve your chances of pleasant contacts. Set the offset, frequency, simplex/duplex, and tone. Learn about programming software, basic signal enhancement techniques, and radio etiquette.
- **Operating in a contest.** Contests can be a fun way to improve your operating skills. Just how do I get started talking with others during a contest? What do I need to know?
- **Operating mobile and portable.** Operating from your car can be fun and useful. So can operating from a picnic table or an emergency shelter. The session will discuss how to assemble usable mobile and portable stations, how to contact other stations, and radio etiquette.
- **Simple HF antennas.** Review of various simple HF antennas for your home and portable station.
- **Simple VHF antennas.** Simple VHF antennas usually cost little to build and improve your signal.
- **Station types from handheld to HF.** Review of various kinds of stations you might consider assembling and what you can do with the various types.
- **Using your radio for community service.** Parades, community walks, emergencies, and other opportunities can be fun and help you gain radio experience. Nets provide a way to manage the activity.

Class schedule and room assignments subject to change based on instructor availability.

¹ The Relief Society room will not have a projector. Set about 65 chairs facing the chalkboard. If available, some chalk and an eraser would be useful.

² Aim the projector towards the drop down screen in the SE corner. We need about 125 chairs with a rack or two along the walls in case we need more chairs. We will need one small table for the projector, and one for the speaker.

³ Aim the projector towards the south wall. We need about 65 chairs. We will need one small table for the projector, and one for the speaker.

⁴ Aim the projector towards the south wall. We need to hand a sheet for the screen. Set about 70 chairs. We will need one small table for the projector, and one for the speaker.

⁵ The general assembly will be in the East Cultural Hall. Delvin Bunton, N7QMT will present the general discourse.

⁶ Dave Phemister, WB7ESV.

⁷ Delvin Bunton, N7QMT.

⁸ Jerry Schue, KD7KWO.

⁹ Rick Knapp, KE7FHK.

¹⁰ Dave Phemister, WB7ESV.

¹¹ Steve Mathis, KE6NUE.

¹² Rob Haller, K7JAO.

¹³ Kevin Bier, K7VI.

¹⁴ Dean Wagstaff, KC7IOW.

¹⁵ Delvin Bunton, N7QMT.

¹⁶ Don Young, N7DY.

¹⁷ Kevin Bier, K7VI.