



Rob with his license and radio

Amateur Radio Club

LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS, No prior experience needed, No radio needed, No license needed!

Join the folks at the Four Seasons Amateur Radio Club! Just come see what the club has to offer.

THE DAY I GOT MY AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE was a sunny day one year ago. At almost seventy years old I had decided to try something new and different. I don't have any electronics or radio background. I just happened into the HAM radio field while, of all things, playing table tennis one day with Dick Van Bree, an amateur radio (HAM) guru. He invited me to stop by the radio field day and see different radios and antennae in operation. I did stop by; it all looked interesting. Some time went by before I decided to make something of it, to get a license to go on the air, to learn something new, to keep the old noggin working.

Well, Dick and some of the other folks from the Four Seasons Radio Club guided me along the way as I studied for the exam. Pete Hersey was one of the volunteer examiners and welcomed me the day I took the test in Banning. The test was thirty-five multiple choice questions. Everybody that took the test passed with flying colors, including my buddy Fred Weck, now KK6HBQ.

In HAM radio they call the mentors, Elmer's. No one knows where the name 'Elmer' came from for the mentors, but that's the name. Several Elmer's guided me along the way as I found an inexpensive (\$90) starter radio. Dick helped me set it up and showed me how to work the radio.

I was a little nervous when I first got on the air, but then again, the Elmer's were there to guide me through the first few times. Then, rather than nerves, excitement came as I heard and spoke with people over the air. Recently, I obtained an HF radio and have now made contact with folks in South Dakota, Indiana, Kansas, and heard folks from twenty-three plus states.

I've met dozens of new people through HAM radio and the excitement continues. Come meet with the Four Seasons Radio Club -- last Friday of each month, 10AM at RCN, and visit our website: W6FSB.COM

– no experience needed, no license needed, no radio needed, just come have a peek at something you may find new and exciting.

Rob Gardner, KB6ROB