



HAM radio expands kids knowledge of US



Class members are Katie Hams, Cyd Tullis, Natalie McElligott, Tim Doherty, Til Tullis, Jason Zinter, Curtis Thompson, Emily Key, Billy Gates, Sarah Barrow, Meghan McCabe, Johnny Collin and teacher Barbara Collin.

By April Sykes

The third grade class of Barb Collin at Lone Elementary School has discovered a novel way to learn geography--HAM radio.

Collin says that her third-grade class each year studies the United States, but usually writes or calls to receive information about the states. This year however, Collin's combined third-fourth grade class has a HAM radio operator in its midst, Til Tullis. Til, a fourth grader, and his mother, Becky, have passed the HAM radio operator's exam and have a HAM radio at home. Til's sister, Cyd is a third grader.

The process of receiving messages is much like a telephone modem, except the HAM radio is hooked up to a computer and the messages come over the radio waves. The messages are then typed out through the computer's printer. The messages can include graphics, such as one message that included a printout of the Simpsons cartoon characters and another which was a printout of Mickey Mouse.

The whole thing started out when the Tullises received a message from third graders in Arizona asking about other states. The lone third graders then decided to send out a request for information themselves.

So far, they have received

messages from 33 states and three Canadian provinces. One man not only sent them a huge amount of information, but also went to the capitol building for a photo of the governor to send them. A man from Petaluma, CA, cut out newspaper articles for them. Another man, now living in California, said he grew up in Arlington and remembers playing in the lone gym and another, who also lives in California, grew up in Irrigon. One operator said he had a daughter teaching at Mosier, which is near The Dalles. One man sent the kids pictures of his children and another said he lives in Florida near "Banana George", a famous barefoot waterskiier, who is said to have been included in the Guinness Book of World Records for skiing on all continents. Apparently if you met Banana George he would give you a banana.

"It's really personal," said Collin. "We were impressed that people took that much time and money to send stuff to us. We've had so much fun."

The kids, who have been working on the United States since right after spring break, have each done a packet on a different state. They know the details on their states, down to the names of the governors. There is a huge map in the hallway at the school with the

postcards the kids have received from the radio operators pinned to the appropriate place on the map. Becky Tullis even made a HAM radio postcard with the kids' picture on it, which they sent out.

Besides learning about the states, Collin says that the exercise also incorporates language arts, writing skills, geography and social studies, with a little bit of HAM radio lingo thrown in. The kids say that 73 means 'best regards', BBS-bulletin board system, CUL-chat with you later, and 88-love and kisses. A QSO is a conversation and a QSL card is confirmation of a conversation, which, says Becky, are collected for fun and for HAM radio contests.

Becky adds that Til is the youngest HAM radio operator in Morrow and Umatilla counties and in the youngest group of operators nation-wide. Cyd is learning. The Tullises plan to attend a HAM radio field day on June 24 at Frazier, which is near Ukiah. At the field day operators camp out and communicate using solar panels for power. This duplicates the conditions of a real emergency, when power would be down. The operators then try to communicate with as many people as possible. The event is open to the public.

Boardman clinic payments increased

By April Sykes

The Morrow County Health District, at their regular meeting Monday night, June 5, voted to increase monthly payments to Dr. Robert Boss, operator of the Boardman Health Care Center, by \$2,000 a month. The board also approved an increase of \$6,000 per year for clinic and capital expenses. The action is an addendum to Boss' current four-year contract, which will expire May 1, 1996.

The increase will put the district's annual payment to Dr. Boss at \$154,000, with an additional \$26,000 to be put into a reserve account for clinic and capital expenses.

The board tagged a provision on the increase that would require a comprehensive audit of the clinic's funds to be completed by March 1, 1996. The addendum specified that the health district would pay for the audit, which would be completed at the center, and Dr. Boss would pay for any additional staff time for completion of the audit.

The health district owns the clinic and Dr. Boss is paid a stipend to operate it.

The former medical board had requested an audit of the clinic's operations for several years and the current board maintains that the figures supplied by Dr. Boss are not comprehensive and do not constitute an audit, especially concerning public funds.

"You don't want to know all this," said Boss. "You don't need to know all this. You are contracting with me to do a job for you."

Boss, in a letter to the health district, said that he had directed his accountant "to provide the necessary financial information on clinic expenses and receipts," but the audit "has been going on for 18 months and has accomplished little". Boss claims that "any further information is unwarranted" and blames the impasse on a personality conflict between him and Kevin Erich, Pioneer Memorial Hospital administrator and district CEO.

Boss says that he needs additional monies because of his expansion of services the clinic offers and inflation. He says he hasn't received an increase since 1990. The board, however, maintains that they cannot justify an increase unless they have a complete financial picture of the clinic's operations. "If the clinic has grown," said board member Norma Stahl, "why is it operating at a loss?"

Erich stressed that no one wanted to see services decrease in Boardman. "We want to increase services," he said.

Boss concluded the letter to the board saying that if the matter wasn't brought to a reasonable conclusion in the coming month, he may seek formal independent arbitration. He added that he would re-

main available to meet with the board to resolve the impasse.

However, after a brief exchange of words between Ed Glenn, Boardman, a supporter of Dr. Boss, newspaper columnist and former lawyer and board member Meg Murray, Glenn and Boss abruptly walked out of the meeting. After Boss and Glenn left the meeting Murray said she would write a letter of apology to Glenn "for getting personal". Murray had admonished Glenn for not confining his comments to the first 10 minutes of the meeting.

In a separate matter, the board voted to include a line item of \$150,000 in the district's budget for establishing a clinic in Irrigon.

The board also approved contracts with Dr. Ernie Atkins, Doctor of Osteopathy, a new physician who will be working in the Heppner area; and Dr. Paul Marshall, a dentist who will be working in both the Boardman and Heppner dental clinics.

Dr. Atkins, who is most recently from an eastern Washington town near the Canadian border, will receive \$110,000 a year for three years under the contract. Dr. Marshall, a graduate of Oregon Health Sciences University, is finishing a residency program. Under the contract, Marshall will earn \$65,000 a year for three years with a bonus potential if the clinics show a profit.

lone swimming pool to open, list swim lessons

The Lone Swimming Pool will open on June 13. Swimming lessons have been scheduled for two sessions, June 20 to 30 and July 11 to 21.

Session I schedule is as follows: level IV, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.; level III, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.; level II, 11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.; level I, 12 to 12:30 p.m. Session II: levels VI and VII, 9 to 10 a.m.; levels IV and V, 10 to 11 a.m.; level III, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.; level II, 12 to 12:30 p.m.; level I, 12:30 to 1 p.m.

Costs are \$15 per student for lessons, \$1 per individual for daily swims, and \$20 for an individual or \$50 for a family for a season pass.

Stop by the pool to sign up for lessons or call Brandi Ball, instructor, 422-7583.

Gunderson coach of the year



Dave Gunderson
By April Sykes

Heppner Middle School teacher and coach Dave Gunderson has been selected the state coach of the year out of all the schools in the state. The award was presented in a ceremony in Eugene, but Gunderson was unable to attend.

Gunderson, who grew up in Heppner and graduated from Heppner High School in 1971, has been teaching and coaching for the past 19 years. He has

taught "just about everything", but the past few years has taught math, science and reading.

Gunderson graduated from Oregon State University in 1976 with a bachelor's degree in elementary education. He taught at Eastwood Elementary School in Roseburg for five years, from 1976 to 1981. Once on a visit back to Heppner to paint his parent's house, Gunderson received a call from then-Heppner Elementary principal Don Cole, who asked him if he wanted to return to teach fifth grade.

"I hadn't thought about it," said Gunderson, "but I'm glad I did. It's a good place to raise kids. You always know who they're with and where they're at."

In Roseburg he coached volleyball, basketball, football and track and in Heppner he has coached football, basketball and baseball. He has also coached T-ball, minor league and Babe Ruth baseball and Colt basketball. "It's pretty easy to coach here because the kids are so committed," said Gunderson, adding that the staff is "great" and the parents supportive.

G-T deadline enforced

The deadline for news stories for the Heppner Gazette-Times will be strictly enforced starting Monday, June 5. No stories will be accepted after the deadline which is 5 p.m. Mondays.

Bank of Eastern Oregon to offer \$600 scholarship

The Bank of Eastern Oregon is offering a \$600 scholarship to a second, third or fourth year college student majoring in agriculture or business, bank

President George Koffler has announced.

College students who have graduated from either lone or Heppner high schools are eligi-

ble to apply.

Applications may be picked up at the Bank of Eastern Oregon in Heppner and lone. The deadline for application is July 5.

County conservation tour set at Kemps

The 1995 Morrow County Conservation Farm Tour and potluck barbecue will be held at the Stan Kemp farm, Lexington, on June 16, beginning at 4 p.m.

According to Morrow County Wheat League president, Judy Rea, Kemp was given the conservation award for "a lifetime of stewardship." Kemp began farming in 1947. He

quickly realized that wind erosion was his biggest problem. He has remedied this problem by leaving residue and clods on the surface of his tilled ground, and by spreading straw on very erosive spots in his fields.

Kemp serves on the Lexington Blow Control District, Morrow County Grain Growers board, and is a member of the Elks.

Kemp has three grown child-

ren, Sherry Kemp, Pendleton; Steven Kemp, Patterson, WA.; and Gary Kemp, who lives in Lexington with his wife Marcia and their two daughters.

Community members are invited to the tour and potluck. Steaks, hamburgers, hot dogs, beans, and beverages will be provided by local sponsors. Call the Morrow SWCD, 676-5452, for coordination of salads and desserts.



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