



## Radio Sport

By Rob Kingery AE7AQ

I participated in the ARRL SSB Sweepstakes contest this November and was able to work 83 of the 85 ARRL and RAC (Canadian) sections. I only missed getting Saskatchewan and Eastern Washington. I worked 21.5 of the 24 hours allowed over the weekend and made 474 QSOs.

The ARRL Sweepstakes contest began in 1930 and is one of the longest-running Amateur Radio contests. It is divided into two events, one for CW and one for SSB. The contest is further divided into subcategories. I operate in the “Single Operator, Low Power, Unassisted” category, which means that I cannot run more than 100 watts and I am not allowed to use spotting assistance. During the contest I was able to work both of the Montana Super Stations: Pat N9RV in Bonner and Levi K6JO operating KM7W in Shawmut. Both stations are in the running to win first place nationally in the Single Operator High Power category. They finished #1 and #2, respectively last year in the CW Sweepstakes. I also had the pleasure of a brief chat with N7MZW in Wyoming, who was a good friend of Ed-W7MAD. (See

<https://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/k6jo-for-the-win-arrrl-sweepstakes.973399/> for more about K6JO and the KM7W station)

**Coming Events 2026**  
**CCARC monthly meeting** – December 1, 7pm at the Salvation Army, 1330 Hudson St. or on Google Meet, <https://meet.google.com/zfs-ctwp-bax>

**Coffee Net** – Every Saturday at 9 am on 147.22, Belmont Repeater. Eyeball @ Red Atlas at 9:30.

**Trivia Net** - every Sunday, 7:30 pm on 147.22. John Monson AJ7MT

## POTA Fun

By Devin Felix

I activated US-11242 Scratch Gravel Hills for the first time today! It was a great activation with 33 contacts with FT8 on 15m and 23 SSB contacts on 20m. Possibly my farthest contact to date was with Kathe N1NYT all the way over in East Helena. In know I know - WOW, right?!



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# Change to the Hourly Weather Report

By Al Simons WA1TYB

The hourly weather condition report on the Belmont repeater was broken for a week or two, reporting 52 degrees... Wouldn't that be nice? I tracked down the source of the problem to AccuWeather; they withdrew the RSS(\*) feed from which we were extracting the weather info. We use a program that supports the now defunct AccuWeather interface, and an interface to Wunderground.



So, I have switched it over to use my personal weather station in East Helena through Wunderground. Unfortunately, this interface only reports the temperature, not the current weather conditions (clear and sunny, blizzard, etc.). So you'll need to look outside to see what the current conditions are!

\* RSS (RDF Site Summary or Really Simple Syndication) is a web feed that allows users and applications to access updates to websites in a standardized, computer-readable format.

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# NEW Ham Radio Club

By Stacy Webb KK7CJV

Introducing a NEW ham radio club in Southwest Montana: Headwaters Amateur Radio Club of Montana (HARCMT)!

HARCMT will be a full-service club focused on FCC licensing, POTA/SOTA, contesting (Winter/Summer Field Days, 7QP, Lewis & Clark Trail OTA) and hands on building/learning events. Club members will get all builds and supplies at cost.



You may join as either a Regular/Family member or as a Founding Member. A Founding Member contribution of \$150 includes your first year of dues, a HARCMT Founding Member T-shirt, and permanent recognition as a Founding Member of HARCMT. Applications for Founding Membership will be accepted until January 31, 2026. Founding Members will need to specify a T-shirt size. Please fill out the membership application form and either bring it to the meeting on January 19th, 7pm, at Belgrade Chamber of Commerce, or mail it to the HARCMT address: 90 W Madison Ave Ste E-109, Belgrade, MT 59714. I will have additional copies of the membership application at the meetings. Membership applications can be found on the HARCMT.com website or inquire at [info@HARCMT.com](mailto:info@HARCMT.com). Come join in the fun as we learn and explore the radio art hobby!

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## CCARC Membership

Good News on Dues!

By Al Simons WA1TYB

The club approved the 2026 dues rate of \$25 for a single ham and \$31.25 for two hams in a family at the November meeting. These are the same rates as for 2025 and 2024. You can pay your dues to Al, WA1TYB, at a coffee, a meeting or by mailing a check to:

Al Simons  
4321 Berkshire Rd.  
East Helena MT 59635

If paying by check, please make it payable to "CCARC."

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**Tower Installed!**

Darrell Harris KG7LNA

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Capital City Amateur  
Radio Club  
Helena, Montana



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[CCARC Shack Tour](http://CCARC Shack Tour) – website  
with member profiles

**JOIN US!**

Membership \$25 per year. Contact Al  
Simons for application info.  
[al@simonshome.org](mailto:al@simonshome.org)