

Spotlight – Greg Gibson KI7VWJ

I've always loved tinkering with machines and electronics, even from an early age. Growing up I would often take discarded equipment and make it work or repurpose it into something I wanted. Through high school and early adult years, I played with CB and what I now know as FRS and GMRS radios.

Early in 2018, a good friend, Ross Wille N6SJD, asked if I wanted to attend a ham radio class he was about to teach. I told him about my fears of the dreaded Morse code requirement, but was excited to learn that it was no longer required. Over several weeks, I attended the class and then went to the BYU Law building to take my test. Although nervous, I remember the joy I felt when Noji KNOJI, graded my test and congratulated me as a new ham. Within a few days I made my first contact with the aid of Ross, to Alan Rasmussen AJ9R, on the ERC Lindon VHF net. It turned out that Ross' motive for inviting me to his class was to slide me into a position as an Emergency Communication Specialist for our stake. Soon I bought my first HT, a Yaesu FT-70D, and attended the New Ham Net often.



Almost a year later, Ross came knocking again and asked if I had ever considered moving up to a General Class license. In quick succession with his help, I advanced to General and then Extra Class. Since then, I've been involved with the ERC Lindon net almost every week, often as net control, but usually the assistant net control, acting as a spotter. Besides helping run our stake net, I love attending other nets such as the 76ers, the UCARES Net, and others as often as my schedule permits, and am grateful for the encouragement I receive from them.

I love EmComm and am always tinkering with my portable shack. I also love encouraging others to take the leap into ham radio and helping new hams get started. I'm ever

grateful to my Elmer and friend Ross for guiding me into what has become my favorite hobby. Late next year I plan to semi-retire and take my shack on the road to try my hand at POTA.

Currently in my home shack I have an Icom IC-7300 HF transceiver, and an Icom IC-2730A mobile transceiver. Occasionally I break out the old Cobra 25 CB. In my portable shack I have an Icom IC-2730A, a Yaesu FT-891, and a Midland MXT-115. Among my emergency gear I still have my trusty Yaesu FT-70D and several Baofengs and Midland GMRS radios, for which I'm licensed as WREL268.

Greg is a member of UARC, UVARC, UCARES, the 76ers, and the Lindon Bishops' Storehouse ERC.

– 73 and God bless, Greg

