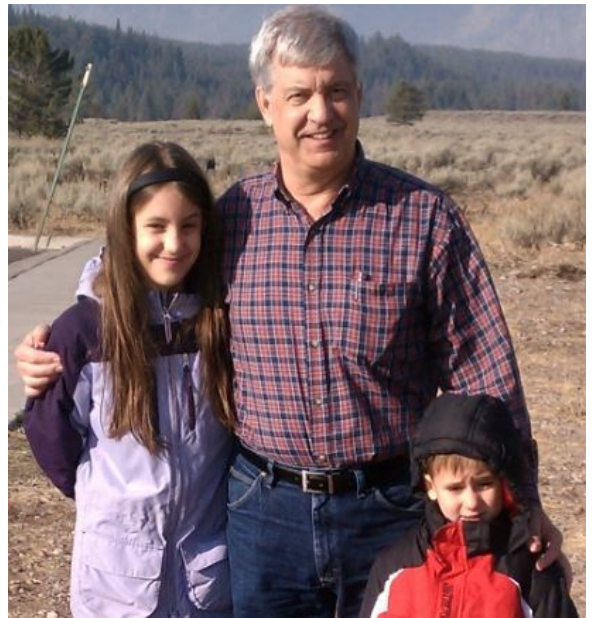


Spotlight – Lynn Hancock K7LSH

Growing up in Idaho Falls I was fascinated by science, especially physics and electronics. From the neighbors I collected broken radios, TVs, and motors to dismantle and use in various projects. I enjoyed building "cat whisker" crystal and single-tube regenerative radios to listen to local as well as foreign stations like Radio Moscow. Science fairs were fun; once I even won a Heathkit CB transceiver and got my first taste of electronic kit building. My first job after receiving my graduate degree in electrical engineering was with Bell Labs in New Jersey. I joined the company's amateur radio club and earned my Novice License in the late 70s but was too busy raising a young family to do anything with it. It wasn't until we moved to Utah and I became involved with our church's emergency preparedness program that I got back into ham radio. I passed the Technician exam one night and both the General and Extra Class exams a month later.



A few years ago my daughter Liisa, KG7KYO earned her technician ticket. During COVID my grandson Nathan, KJ7ZOG, passed his technician exam over the internet.

I've had some interesting experiences with ham radio: while backpacking in the Hells Canyon Wilderness Area in Idaho, I used a home-brew 3-element "arrow shaft" Yagi to bounce a 2-meter signal off a mountain across a lake to hit a repeater in Joseph, Oregon. Using that repeater's EchoLink connection I checked in to the weekly 76ers net in Utah County. On another occasion I made an SSB contact using 100 watts and a 10-meter dipole mounted on our roof to a station 7650 miles away in Australia. It blew me away that a signal that weak could travel that far!

I'm interested in making QRP, SOTA, and POTA contacts using different kinds of home-brew antennas. To increase my ability to make contacts, I'm working to improve my CW skills. I also like to build different electronic projects in general and ham radio projects in particular. My modest "shack" consists of both radios and



electronic development and test equipment, including an Icom IC-7200 HF transceiver, Kenwood TM-281 VHF transceiver, Baofeng BF-F8HP HT, refurbished Heathkit SA 2060 manual antenna tuner, MFJ-259 SWR analyzer, 2-channel O-scope, Sig-lent Signal/Arbitrary waveform generator, NanoVNA, ZS406 TinySA, various power supplies, and a whole bunch of "cool" electronic parts and modules I've sneaked into the house over the years under cover of darkness.

Because we have 7 grandchildren in Wisconsin and 5 in Kentucky, we spend a lot of time on the road to visit them so my next investment is in a mobile rig to help pass the time as we travel. I also enjoy backpacking in the wilderness areas in Utah, Idaho, and Wyoming, and am working on building some lightweight QRP units to experiment with on these trips. If you hear a faint message requesting a helicopter extraction for an over-the-hill codger out of some remote area, it'll probably be me.

Lynn is a member of UARC, UVARC, and the Utah VHF Society.