

Spotlight – Matthew Barnes KL7KUY

Matthew had his first introduction to amateur radio as a scout. His scout leader was a licensed ham, and had shown his troop some ham radio equipment and how it worked. Later, Matthew discovered the value of FRS and GMRS radio among family and friends. Eventually, he re-discovered amateur through a co-worker, Jon Eicher KE7DCL, while talking with others about ham radio.

Matthew started on his amateur radio path being interested in learning how far HF can reach, and the science of how these signals originate. Matthew had some good exposure to electronics in high school, and later in college while pursuing a computer science degree. Originally, he thought about building radios, but today he only has time for antennas.

I've been a year into it now, and I'm currently learning (Morse) code, FT8, and I enjoy building stuff. I've enjoyed working POTA (Parks on the Air) with Dakota Bishop KK7POC out at Camp Floyd State Park and Timp Cave National Monument. Going forward, I want to get into LoRa, DMR, and EmComm (emergency communication). Once I get me Extra, I'd like to get my dad into ham radio too.

Matthew changed his major while in college, and graduated in IT, and now works in IT Security. His involvement with IT has only heightened his love for electronics, tinkering, and helping others do the same.

My equipment includes:

Yaesu FT-710 HF transceiver

QRP Labs QMX HF transceiver

AnyTone AT-778UV dual-band mobile transceiver

Xiegu G90 portable HF transceiver

Pockrus VHF/UHF J-pole antenna

Diamond BB7V telescoping HF antenna



Matthew's currently working towards his levels of certification in UCARES (Utah County Amateur Radio Emergency Service) and part of American Fork CERT (Community Emergency Response Team). He's a member of UARC, UVARC, the 76ers, and the Utah VHF Society.

– 73, Matthew