# *Spotlight – Spencer Ellis KM7BLA*



Spencer Ellis KMBLA has been interested in radio communication since watching his father, a police officer, at work with his radios. His grandfather was also involved with radio communication in World War II.

Spencer and his brother Nick decided to study for their amateur radio licenses together. Nick passed the exam, and is presently licensed as N7CKE, but Spencer didn't take the test until 10 years later. Before testing for his ham license, Spencer became licensed in GMRS. He wanted to be able to be able to communicate with his family when they went camping together. Then he discovered repeaters and realized that there were more ham radio operators than there were GMRS operators. He also discovered that he could talk with hams that lived farther away over amateur radio frequencies than he could with GMRS, so he decided to get his ham ticket. He used the materials that he found on HamStudy.org to prepare for the exam.

In June 2025, Spencer attended Field Day with the Utah Valley Amateur Radio Club, and took the test that the club administered, passing his Technician exam. Then, this past December he passed the General exam, and now he's studying for his Amateur Extra ticket.



Spencer and his wife Megan have an 8 year-old daughter Norah. This past June, Spencer took Norah to UARC's Field Day at Payson Lakes, where she made a call to New York on 20 meters. She was so excited that she kept repeating the club's call sign W7SP over and over. To the left is the Field Day photo of Norah and Spencer that appears in the August 2026 issue of *Microvolt*.

One of Spencer's favorite things about amateur radio is meeting new people on the air. He mentioned that there are a lot of wonderful people he would have never met if it wasn't for ham radio. Now, he encourages others to get their ham license and wants to help them do it.

For the past 26 years Spencer has worked for a company that recruits hospital workers. Sometimes he and his co-workers go on medical missions. On one such mission, he was excited to talk to Guatemala on his HF radio. Spencer has an ICOM IC-7300 for HF and a Yaesu FTM-510D for VHF and UHF. For POTA activations, he uses an ICOM IC-705. Besides POTA activations, Spencer's hobbies include camping with his family, hiking and learning new things.

Spencer is a member of UARC, the Salt Lake Crossroads Amateur Radio Club, the Utah VHF Society, and the Murray Amateur Radio Club, which he says is his favorite club, because of all the fun activities the club has, such as transmitter hunts, and building Yagi antennas. He also likes to get on the 10-meter Net each Tuesday evening and the 6-Pack Net on Friday nights. He also likes to talk over repeaters and even contributes to their upkeep.



Spencer, we wish you all the best in your endeavors, and the best of luck in passing your Extra exam!

*– 73, Linda Reeder N7HVF*