

SCHC General meeting
Saturday, March 23, 2013

Rob NR3O called the meeting to order at 8:02 AM in the 13th Street Conference Room of Providence Medical Center. Welcome was given to several newcomers, and regulars introduced themselves too.

REPORTS

Treasurer Rob initiated the report by telling of a meeting including Loren Hole, Rob Salsgiver, and Pamela Maring.. Pamela has kept a strong paper record, which helped keep things tidy during her physical recovery. Rob highlighted the documentation that occurred during this time. No formal report is given at this time, although account totals were mentioned. Club finances are in good shape, with total of \$6852 at this time. Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion passed.

Minutes, from Club meetings on Feb. 23, 2013 and Jan. 26, 2013 have been available for member inspection on the Club website. Motion to approve minutes as read was approved.

VE session. Loren reported on two sessions. A total of 17 persons were given 22 tests and 18 passed. Club VE's provided oral questions for a special-needs examinee, and he narrowly missed passing the test. Future tests are planned for today and April 27. Loren thanked the VE team, which does an excellent job.

Education. Jim Ludden on the class concluded March 17. The dual-class model (Tech and General) was successful, all students passing Technician test, and two passing the General in addition. He thinks another class may be held as soon as the month of May. Rob mentioned that the Cascade had its class on the same day as ours; nevertheless we had six participants. Regarding the Tech-General format, the Tech format is still oriented to help those who come in "cold"; General applicants probably need more exposure before the class to pass.

EMComm report. No report.

Tech Report: There is no further word regarding the Gunsight Ridge location. There is need for testing other sites, e.g., Firetrail Ridge, for effectiveness of coverage.

DX report. Frank reported variation in band conditions during and following solar flare, which made a major interruption on HF propagation. Station HVOA, the Vatican, was active recently, causing a big pileup, through which Frank finally penetrated. Future DXpeditions include a possible new rare country, but this is currently speculative, maybe even North Korea! One current expedition is on Easter Island. Next weekend is the CQ worldwide DX contest on SSB -- a "biggie".

Contesting: The 7QP contest will be in May 4-5, in Lake Stevens, with active club participation in Eagle Ridge Park. Jack Rookaird will operate CW on 7QP in Grayland Beach State Park, Pacific County. Jack reported on his six weeks in San Diego County, where he rented a house together with some Canadians. They put up an S9 antenna and made many QSO's, running out to QSL cards. En route Jack worked all the counties that he could. Carl mentioned the Alaska QSO party this weekend.

J-Pole project. Dave W9LD noted that the two-meter J-pole should be completed at the scheduled group project meeting Saturday, April 13, at 10AM at his house.

Field Day: Jim K7KFB reported on the recent FD meeting for coordinator Ray KD7AVP, who was absent. The group needs to know what rigs will be donated. Food donations are welcome. Location for 2013 will be Willis Tucker Park again, hoping for non-monsoon weather. In 2014, the action returns to Harborview Park, after which all options will be evaluated and a decision made. The next planning meeting is Wed, April 3.

Website update: Rob has tested a new email transmission vehicle to improve success in mailing to members who have not been receiving Club email, e.g., those with gmail accounts. Options for one-way or reflector mode will be provided. Loren requested that the member password be changed to one which is easier enter from the keyboard. The Club roster is accessible on the member area.

Repeater endowment fund: There is no update on the Club's eligibility to receive tax-free donations. Gary Hopper is studying this concept.

Miscellaneous: Jim Ludden passed around a signup sheet for the "Living the Dream" bike ride in Everett on May 11. Members are invited to serve as radio communicators at check points on the ride.

Announcements:

May 13-14 Comm Academy with miscellaneous reports, see www.commacademy.org
April 14 Whidbey Island Marathon
May 11 Stanwood hamfest
April 13 Selah hamfest (Yakima, WA)

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:15 AM.

Respectfully submitted
Dave Cornell W9LD, Secretary

Approved
Rob Salsgiver NR3O, President