

10/26 October 2013 Meeting Minutes
General meeting

Rob NR3O called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM in the Rainier Room of Providence Medical Center. Visitors and members introduced themselves. Ken Dempsey circulated a card with best wishes for local members in hospital.

REPORTS

Treasurer's report: Tom Smith reported for Sharon. Grand total \$7100 (rounded to nearest \$100.) Quick Books records agree with bank totals. Rob reviewed the Club's 501(c)(3) status. Tom will verify whether the Club's status is clear in this regard. Club should expect audit soon.

Minutes from Club meeting on September 28, 2013 have been available for member inspection on the Club website. Minutes to approve them passed unanimously.

VE session. Loren KK7M reported regarding testing last month. The session served seven applicants, gave ten tests, and came away with one new tech, five generals, and one extra class licensee. Testing will occur twice in November, following instruction in the education program, and after the next Club meeting. Test site is still at the Bakerview Apartment building.

Education. Jim Ludden K7KFB said that the next class will be Nov. 15-17 (starting 7PM Friday evening, 9AM on Sat/Sun) in Providence Hospital's Rainier Room. Instructors are still needed. Rob described the combined Tech and General class material in regard to prospects of participant's passing the respective tests.

Tech Report: Steve KJ7YL was absent, so there was no report.

EmComm: Ole W7OLE was absent, so Scott Honaker substituted for him. Items of current interest include: 1) radios for command vehicles, and 2) station manuals for equipment operations. New radios have been installed, including touch-screen operation. RFI issues affect the emergency department's facilities under key-down conditions; these effects are being addressed. The HamWAN system provides upgrade to higher speed operation on the network. Cost for connection to HamWAN is a modest \$200 or so. Meetings at DEM are Thursday at 7:00 PM, net Tues. at 8:00PM, on Granite Falls machine (146.92 MHz). Rob emphasized the impact of HamWAN on local system speed, which enables 10-Megabit speed or higher.

DX report. Frank K7GSE said that the CQ WW DX (Phone) contest is this weekend. Ten meters and other HF bands have been wide open recently, with routine openings to Europe. DXpeditions include South Sudan, St. Andreas Island, Amsterdam Island, and Wake Island. There will be a new country for DXCC purposes, the Republic of Kosovo.

Group project. Dave W9LD invited members to consider a project to build code practice oscillators and use them to learn Morse Code.

JOTA. Tom Hutchinson N7PKK was absent. Rob reported on the activity at Camp Freeman, near Camp Brinkley. There was a 30'x 40' pavilion with cabins there. It was chilly, but there were warm hearts among the members of three troops. Up to 30 boys operated five radio stations. Antennas included Buddi-pole and tower. Jim Blake directed five runs of a fox hunt. Lessons learned were plentiful. For example, attention span varied widely among the boys. Solving the hunt puzzle was tough when signal overloaded the receivers. Tape-measure beams and attenuators would be a possible item for a group project work in the future. (After the meeting, Jim said that he would happily direct a project to build tape-measure beams.) Interference between digital and voice modes on a single band is a problem that needs to be addressed. The project manager was grateful for the JOTA project, and hopes the Club will participated again next year!

NEW BUSINESS: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

Brochure: Dave shared the updated brochure of Club information. Updates are still welcome.

Club storage trailer: Rob reviewed the history of storage of club equipment. Most equipment now is at Rob's home. The Board recommends a 6'x12' trailer, new, with one-year warranty, LED lights, doors on rear and side. Price MSRP \$3200, on sale \$2600. Insurance coverage and down-time protection were issues discussed. Membership discussion was brief, but there was no objection to proceeding on this basis.

Shirts: Ken Dempsey showed a tee shirt used by the Sky Valley Club in Idaho. There was general approval of the idea by the group.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Christmas Party: No club meeting in December in deference to party. However, date remains to be set for the event

County Fair (Monroe). There is interest in operation at the County Fair in Monroe. Dates for the event are in August 2014. For further information contact: Kevin, KC7CLD.

PROGRAM: Dave W9LD presented a short program on the expected pass of sun-grazing comet ISON, which comes closest to the sun on Thanksgiving Day. He shared a NASA website which displays a simulation of the comet's motion seen from two perspectives. To find the site, Google "STEREO Comet ISON."

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:49 AM.

Respectfully submitted
Dave Cornell W9LD, Secretary

Approved
Rob Salsgiver NR30, President