

## Snohomish County Ham's Club Meeting Minutes for July 26, 2008

Meeting was Called to order by President Grant Hopper KB7WSD at 8:08 am. Grant asked for introductions around the room. There were 18 in attendance.

The May 24<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were read (by Secretary Melisa KE7KRS) and motion to approve as read was made by Bill Painter N7AOB and seconded by Bill Hughes N7YH. <sup>1CE7UFV</sup>

The Treasurer's report was read by Gary Whittinger W7MGG. Eric Nordin AD7BF moved to approve and Bill Painter N7AOB seconded. Please see attached report.

Membership: Gary Whittinger W7MGG announced there were two new members Michael Ludden and Dana Alcott KE7UUA, for a total of 114 members.

The VE report was given by Loren Hole KK7M. He stated that for 2009 Field Day he would like to see the club make room at Harborview Park to administer radio license tests rather than at Baker Heights Community Center. It was agreed that it would be good for new ham's to be at the field day sight to have hands on and hopefully become involved with the club. A discussion followed regarding tent and table set up for 2009 VE testing. It was also brought up that the club should have their own tent for next year and not rely on using Dave Crosby's vintage tent for the communication tent since it was torn at field day this year.

There were 9 served on June 28<sup>th</sup> by only three volunteer examiners. 10 tests were given and 9 passed, one person accepted a free club membership. The VE's were kept very busy. 100 % of test fees were sent to the ARRL (\$126.00). Loren announced that a new Extra exam question pool went into effect July 1, 2008 which two people took advantage of.

Education committee Report was given by Jim Ludden KD7RHI. Jim is working with the The Everett Clinic conference room schedule, planning a Tec class and later, TBA, a General class. Jim is hoping to get some folks involved from the Everett Clinic, a doctor and a physician's assistant.

A brief Web Report was given by Grant KB7WSD. Gar Thom is not feeling well. More help is needed with the web site and especially the front page and administrative work. Keith AD7FT volunteered to help out.

The Technical committee Report was given by Steve Burling KJ7YL. Steve reported the link receiver had water in it. There's been some kerchunking on the repeater; Steve is keeping track of this and offers to lend assistance when he hears it. No word on when the Gunsite Ridge receiver will be back in action.

### Old business

Possible new meeting locations were discussed. A copy of the Eagles breakfast menu was passed around for consideration. The manager of Sockeye's Resteraunt in Monroe has also offered their facility for breakfasts or dinners but Sockeye's menu appears too expensive to be an option for a regular meeting venue. It may be a possibility for a special event such as a Christmas party or awards dinner.

The possibility of meeting in various locations around the county was also discussed. Loren suggested that the room we meet in currently might be reconfigured to accommodate more. Basic requirements are privacy and ability to seat between 80 and 100. One concern regarding moving to a larger facility is whether or not we would be able to regularly meet the minimum ordering requirements. Bob KA7YBQ, an Eagles member, suggested we try the Eagles as a group on an open sign in day. Grant is considering making arrangements for the group to have breakfast there some Sunday in the near future. He will talk to Bob and will try to arrange for middle of August, probably before the August meeting.

#### Presentation

Jess Ray's Field Day 2008 photo DVD was shown. Copies of the DVD were distributed to members who were in attendance. More copies can be made for members who would like to have one.

#### News

Radio Club of Tacoma is having their swap meet on August 9th at Bethel Junior High School. Northwest Swap Net is on the BEARS Repeater, Seattle 145.330, uses the Evergreen Intertie so it has very wide coverage. It is an excellent place for finding good deals on gear locally.

#### Field Day Summary (given by Grant)

Increase in total number of participants: 93 this year.

33% increase in contacts from last year. 403 contacts this year, up from 302 last year.

More people were working the radios this year and antennas were improved this year.

There was less member participation this year and very little participation by new members.

One new member, Skip, participated and "did a yeoman's job" helping out.

→ We had a real GOTA station this year and also had numerous contacts on six meters.

Dave Crosby has informed Grant that his tower and generator will probably not be available for Field Day after next year because it will be getting permanently installed at his property east of the mountains. Grant is considering building a trailer mounted tower to use instead of Dave's. Grant has an old boat trailer that might be usable for this.

DX Report was given by Frank K7GSE.

Grant reported that in addition to the IOTA program, there is also a US Islands program. Grant and Jim are discussing activating one of the local islands and possibly using Salmon Run as a dry run for getting the equipment together and planning and using either Smith Island or Jetty Island.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tom N7PKK and seconded by Eric AD7BF.