

Snohomish County HAMS Club
Meeting Minutes
April 28, 2012

President Rob Salsgiver called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.

Discussion of room change not really being a problem. We will be meeting in the Rainer room for the rest of the year. Dr. Tom looking into a coffee fund and equipment.

Introduction of new members: New member Dave Albo KFBII (?). Continued with general introductions around the room. The new sign in sheet was welcomed by Dave Cornell with approval around the room.

The treasure's report was skipped because Pam Snook was not available.

Dr. Tom suggested attaching printed reports to the minutes. This was seconded and unanimously approved. (Secretary's note: Some of the reports are not in a format to do this and must be added to the minutes. Those that are printed are kept in a folder with the minutes).

VE Report: Loren says 9 people attended the March VE session with 11 tests and 9 passes. 7 new techs and one new Extra. The club gave out 4 free memberships. One person came from fort Lewis and one from Yakima. \$135 was sent to the ARRL.

Dave Cornell asked how people find VE sessions. These are listed on the ARRL website and some local publications.

Education Report: Garry Hopper said that Grant Hopper and Jim Blake were doing a scout function so an education report was not available.

Tech Report: Steve Burling said there are still issues with the repeater. The control boards like to turn themselves off at fairly regular intervals. Steve re-booted the controller and the problem happens about once a week. Steve replaced the controller with a spare controller but that did not clear the problem. Good news is it turns off and does not burn things up or stay on the air. A repeater in Canada is on the same frequency and does not use a PL tone so sometimes interferes with our repeater when conditions are right. UHF continues when VHF turns off. The auto patch was turned off and phone discontinued (secretary's note: this was a board decision to better direct the funds).

Emcomm: Went to new place for first time with 150 foot tower.

DX report: The bands are acting squirrely, but they are coming back. A radio operator in Thailand is a teacher crossing the boarder to Burma to teach. He is required to have a license in each country so he will be a new station. 6 meters is also opening up.

Frank will give a presentation on QSL cards at the May meeting. Loren Hole asked what HF frequencies are best for making DX contacts. There is Dxexpiditions website with published frequencies. DX-world.net also keeps an updated list as well as the ARRL website.

XZ1K Myanmar (Burma) is the new amateur station.

XX9E MACAU May 17-23

YJ0VK Vanuatu April 21-May 5

T03X St Barelemy April 16-30

CY9M St Paul July 26-August 1

Field Day: There was a question of special event call and any interest in that. Loren Hole suggested we continue with the club sign because it is better to let people know who we are. The general consensus around the room is to keep the club call sign.

General Announcements: Current ham fests are the one in Stanwood May 12 and Seaside in June.

Frank (K7GSE) discussed Tim Pratt and said he just got back from Kenya. Jim got a contract and needs a license in Sudan. He will be the first operator in Sudan. Frank may have a chance to go to Kenya and help set up there. Jim contracts weapons and security.

Club Website: The board reviewed the new website. The question is, is it possible to replace yahoo groups. It will take a lot of work to keep the website up to date.

Bylaws: Frank Remington and Curt Green will be working on the bylaws but need one more volunteer.

The board is putting together a nominating committee. Nominating officers, board members, HAM of the year. There will be a call for nominations in July and the HAM of the year is kept confidential even from the board.

We discussed membership and other projects going on. The battleship Missouri in Hawaii has an amateur radio club that is trying to bring the ship's radio room up using WWII equipment.

The FCC is taking comments on CCNR's. Dave Cornell is setting up a flag pole antenna, but has no restrictions. He wants to keep a good relationship with neighbors. There was then a general discussion of home owners associations.

Dave KF7BII asked for help on a project. 128th in Everett. Equipment is 2 meter and a battery.

Rob Salsgiver discussed the mobile tower and the fabrication of a rotor and beam attachment.

The KK7M endowment fund for the repeater was discussed with the initial contribution. Membership can add to those funds. The principle is not to be touched. The general membership thanked Loren for the contribution. Discussed the possibility to set up separate subset bylaws to the regular club bylaws.

Field Day: Rob Salsgiver: Funds approved for county park fees. \$275 Food money for committee. The food committee is expanding to support all meals. Asked the membership to bring potluck items for the main meals and maybe some others. Banners: Dave Cornell mentioned that some commercial vendors such as Pepsi might be willing to support the banners with some advertising. Dianne and Alexis are communicating on Responsibilities. Dianne wants to get communications on local Radio or TV. The Monroe paper was suggested.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 AM with no opposition.