

4/26 April 26, 2014 Meeting Minutes
General meeting

Dave WA7DGW called the meeting to order at 8:01 AM in the Rainier Room of Providence Medical Center. Visitors and members introduced themselves. New faces were acknowledged in particular.

REPORTS

Treasurer's report: In the Treasurer's absence, Dave W9LD said that the report has been posted on the website for member inspection. The report was approved.

Secretary: Motion to approve minutes (again posted on the website) from March 22, 2014 was seconded and passed.

VE report: Loren KK7M reported on March 22nd's VE session, which served 14 persons. Six new Techs, six new Generals, and one upgrade to General class resulted. One person hitchhiked roundtrip from Chelan (with his dog) to attend, and succeeded in passing his exam. Loren expects large attendance today, even though only two inquiries have come in so far.

Education report: Jim K7KFB reminded the club that the March class was very successful. Course format will change so that students will provide their own books. Accordingly, the class fee will lower to \$25 per person, from which the examination fee of \$15 is deducted.

Tech report: Steve KJ7YL said that the repeater activity has gone up notably with installation of Echolink. He is considering adding an access code to distinguish Echolink from radio access to the repeater. The new access code would be transparent to Echolink users who connect to WA7LAW's repeater from home computers. Also, he investigated an option for a remote receiver site on Clearview Hill. That option would cost \$2100 to start up. That amount sounds high to the Board. Steve encouraged all to think about the goals of the repeater and what is the most cost-effective means of achieving that goal. Jim Blake KD7JB had an idea of an alternative site for the remote receiver. Steve asked Jim to give him contact information for the site, so Steve can make inquiries.

7QP: Jim Ludden K7KFB reported that this is a fun operating event at a good time to test things out before Field Day. In particular, it will enable interstation interference systems (filters and triplexers) to be tested. It starts at 6AM next Saturday, May 3, at Lake Stevens Senior Center park. The tower will be set up Friday evening. All are welcome.

Emcomm Report: Bob Wheeler KC7QT, reported on a recent meeting of the county DEM. Their work still focuses on finding two missing persons and several radios at Oso. To provide for future operations there is a proposal to set up a cache of equipment that is quickly accessible. Frank K7GSE has been busy with Oso operations. He displayed pictures of operations there. The appearance of the devastation appears "unreal." The Club stood for a moment of silence in respect for the lives of those affected by the mudslide. Frank urged Club members to be prepared to serve in emergency. Teri Stone mentioned a program to certify hams as Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members. Teri will give the contact information to Dave WA7DGW.

DX report: Frank reported that HF bands are recovering from doldrums. Several DXpeditions are coming up, including A25GF Botswana, PJ4J Bonaire, Z21GF Zambia, among others. On ten meters, a path opening to Japan occurred in the morning, a rare condition, which should interest Tech licensees.

OLD BUSINESS:

Field Day: Jim Blake KD7JB reported on a fruitful planning meeting this week. Attendance at meetings has been strong. A VHF station will be active, thanks to Mike McClelland WB7FJG. Tech Coordinators are needed on four hour shifts to control switching of rigs/antennas/filters/ etc. Jim listed status of the many parts of the preparation for the event, ending with announcements of last minute planning meetings June 12 and 23 at Alf's Pizza in Everett. Jess recommended that Deborah Wright, KE7NCF, be awarded comp membership for her service to the Club regarding Field Day. There being no objection, Dave W9LD will initiate Deborah's membership immediately.

Net report: Jim expressed appreciation for member support for his son Jesse, who has been net control station recently.

Audit Committee: Dave WA7DGW said that treasurer data is on its way to auditor Gary Hopper KB7WSI, so that the audit may start right away.

Tee Shirts: Members who owe should give money to Treasurer Sharon KF7YJW at the next meeting.

Website: Dave mentioned that we are working to update roster on the web, so that it is correct with regard to license class, correct callsign, etc. He thanks all for their patience

NEW BUSINESS:

Dave WA7DGW reported that the Club will send post cards to newly arrived hams in the county.

Calendar:

7QP, May 3-4, 2302 Soper Hill Road, Eagle Ridge Park, behind Lake Stevens Senior Center

Stanwood - Camano Hamfest, Stanwood Middle School, 9AM – 3PM, May 10.

SEAPAC, ARRL convention for the Northwestern USA, Seaside, OR, June 6-7-8.

Field Day, Harborview Park, June 27-28-29 (no Club meeting)

Program: None today.

Suggestions are welcome for programs or trips. Frank K7GSE mentioned a possible club convoy to Bellingham to view the American Museum of Radio and Electricity. Pamela KF7MYH reported that it was a fascinating tour. Bill KE7C suggested a program about setting up an antenna in restricted conditions. Bill also mentioned an Everett system for ILRP, which is up and running. Dave W9LD suggested that Bill present at a Club meeting to describe the ILRP system and its benefits for members.

Respectfully submitted
Dave Cornell, W9LD, Secretary

Approved
Dave Williamson, WA7DGW, President