

02/24-Feb 2013 Meeting Minutes

Rob called the meeting to order at 8:01 AM in the Rainier Room of Providence Medical Center. First, new persons introduced themselves. The rest of the group introduced themselves too. The signup sheet went around for attendance and updates.

REPORTS

Treasurer Pamela Maring reported \$3010.67 in the checking account. Individual fund amounts are on her report, which is filed with these minutes. Moved, 2nd, and passed to approve the Treasurer's report.

Minutes, modified by Rob, from Jan. 26, 2012, general meeting, were available for reading on the back table, but web posting was too late for membership review. Approval of minutes is delayed until the March 23rd meeting.

VE session. Loren reported that last month's session was very good, surpassing expectations. There were 14 persons being tested, 14 tests given, 13 passed, 8 new technicians, 3 general, 2 extra class licenses. VE session will happen today as usual. One test-taker today asks that VE's read the test questions for him to assist with a physical problem.

Education. **Jim Ludden K7KFB** reports that classes are March 15-16-17 in the Rainier Room at Providence Hospital. Subjects will combine technician and general license information. Class will be the third week of March, which complements Boeing's planned test session. Our classes will conclude with a VE test session at 2:00PM Sunday, March 17. Registration goes through the WA7LAW.org website, or by mail to SCHC, P.O. Box 946, Everett, WA 98206.

Technical. Steve Burling reminded us that our Gunsight Ridge remote receiver site has been lost. The question remains of where to replace the remote receiver. He continues to monitor and care for glitches on the system, including announcement updates. Steve is researching Echolink as an option. He invites Club input about the value of the repeater facilities, in order to maximize effectiveness for users in the County. More flexibility exists for moving and coordinating equipment on 440 MHz than on two meters.

EMComm report. Rob mentioned a network which would encircle Puget Sound. He also mentioned a county-wide effort to organize disaster-preparedness, paper documentation for which is available for reading. Mike Kelly, KC7IFI, reported that Snohomish DEM has extensive new equipment and facilities up and running. DEM would appreciate reception reports from anyone; so far they are not aware of "dead spots" in their area of coverage.

DX report. Frank said HF bands are in pretty good shape, including ten meter openings. He mentioned DXpeditions from Brunei, Burkina Faso (XT2TT), and Clipperton Islands. Contests coming up display on the ARRL website.

J-Pole project. Dave W9LD will circulate an email to schedule the project work date in March. A February date was canceled owing to health concerns.

Jack Rookaird travel report: Rob read a report on Jack's mobile activities, which sound extensive and exciting.

CW study: Rob introduced a visual sheet which relates CW characters to one another by dah- and dit-connections. The Club study will move from visual to audible soon.

Trailer storage: The fund is modest but growing. Members need to express themselves about it. Jim Ludden described what has been found available so far, and the Committee is looking for something that is more cost-effective than what it has seen. Mike Kelly claims that the Club can build what it needs more effectively than by purchasing one.

Repeater endowment fund: Gary Hopper explained that, while our Club is 501C3, it is not currently authorized for members to make tax-free donations to the fund . We must jump through some IRS hoops, in order to become so authorized.

Announcements:

Tour: Rob referred to Carl Maring to invite our Club to visit CKC Labs, Bothell, at 10:00AM after our meeting today. There are six spots still available for this special tour.

SK: Rob mentioned the passing of David Friedman, KE7GOY, who remained active without flagging throughout his years..

QSL's. Dave passed around the Club QSL card, 1000 of which have been printed as gift by Jess AD7PZ.

Board changes: Grant Hopper and Vickie Hopper are no longer on the Board. Don Anderson and Dennis Bradford have been welcomed as new members.

Public service: Rob mentioned several activities coming along which will be listed on the website.

Hamfests: Mic & Key (Puyallup) and Stanwood come soon. Check the website for more complete information.

Program: The club proceeded to discuss options for Field Day 2013. Rob introduced the options and costs for various parks, including Harborview, Willis Tucker, and Legion. Club needs a decision to proceed. Straw vote showed strong preference for continuing at Willis Tucker. Members favored the idea of deciding upon the 2014 site during this year, thinking that the July meeting might be a good time to decide.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:56 AM.

Respectfully submitted
Dave Cornell W9LD, Secretary

Approved
Rob Salsgiver NR3O, President