

2015/08/22 August 2015 Meeting Minutes

General meeting

Dave WA7DGW called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM in the Rainier Room of Providence Medical Center.

PRELIMINARIES

Introductions: First-time visitors, new members and members introduced themselves.

50/50 Raffle: Tickets were on sale for the raffle. Cost is \$1 per ticket or six for \$5; half of the raffle income is applied towards Club projects.

T-shirts/patches: Shirts were available in sizes XL and L. Interested parties should speak to quartermaster Phil Meyer KG7OSO and pay Treasurer Randy AG7B. More tee shirts will be ordered in January 2016.

FISTS - CW training disks: These are available for free. Ask quartermaster Phil in back.

Field Day 2015: DVDs for Field Day 2015 are available.

Business cards: Cards and brochures are available as handouts to assist when talking about amateur radio.

REPORTS

Treasurer's report: Randy Mather AJ7B gave the Treasurer's report July 20th through August 16, 2015, details for which have been posted on the website. Motion to approve report was seconded and passed.

Minutes: Secretary Dave Cornell W9LD announced that minutes for the July 25, 2015, meeting have been on the website. Motion to approve minutes was seconded and passed.

VE report: Loren Hole KK7M reported on the July VE session, which served eight people. Individuals took nine tests, and all passed. Four new tech, one general, and three new extra class licensees resulted. Three were new to ham radio. As usual, the VE team sent incoming funds to ARRL. There will be a VE test session today.

Nomination Committee: Loren Hole KK7M announced candidates for President, Frank Remington K7GSE; Vice President, Jill Hatch, WA7JIL; and Director, Ken Dempsey KE7ND and Bob Wheeler KC7QT. Nominations are still open. Treasurer Randy Mather AJ7B and Secretary Dave Cornell W9LD will stand for their positions again. Elections are scheduled for the September meeting. Frank's reason for running for President (with Jill WA7JIL as V.P. candidate) is to include women more actively in the Club.

Education report: Jim Ludden K7KFB has all in place for the next general class October 16, 17, and 18. He drafted an invitation and submitted it to the Board for comment. A police officer expressed interest in getting his license.

Tech group: Curt Green N7OBI has called tech group to his home tomorrow at 2:00 PM. A radio with loose parts inside will be opened, inspected, and attempt made at report. Anyone interested is invited.

EMCOMM Committee report: Bob Wheeler KC7QT reported that there will be ongoing drill activity soon to coordinate communications. The next activity will be August 29, 2015 (the 5th Saturday drill.) The drill includes military as well as civilian components. Red Cross will provide OJT during events. A large Cascadia Rising event is planned to include longer range communications on VHF/UHF/HF.

DX report: Frank Remington K7GSE said that HF bands have begun to rebound after a period of solar interruptions to propagation. He directed members to repeater frequencies that are posted on the WA7LAW website, Chelan, for contacts in case you travel in the fire area. Twisp's repeater is off air currently. Post-fire conditions are problematic, needing support in case of looting.

Repeater update: Rob Salsgiver NR3O said that the UHF repeater has been up and running well for about 1-1/2 months. He has needed time to interconnect the Club's VHF amplifier to the VHF repeater. A Canadian amateur operator provided help on this connection. Pivotal to the connection is reduction of fusion repeater output from five watts to 500 milliwatts with an attenuator. Early tests with the amplifier succeeded recently. Echolink still needs audio volume adjustment, which will require an on-site visit. Eric AD7BF advised that VHF receiver sensitivity may be reduced by de-sensing when the UHF repeater keys. Rob will purchase (privately) a third Yaesu fusion repeater to enable experimentation and development of the new system.

Field Day: The Club is looking for Field Coordinator(s) for 2016. Please see Dave Williamson WA7DGW.

OLD BUSINESS:

Tee Shirts: One tee shirt applicant needs to pay for and pick up his shirt. Please see Randy AJ7B.

Mukilteo Lighthouse (ILLW): Dave Williamson WA7DGW reported that the participants enjoyed chatting with each other. Jim K7KFB described the military mast, which was erected successfully for the first time. Set-up time was one hour, take-down time half an hour. Band conditions were bad.

Salmon Run: Jill WA7JIL and Barry WA7BAR Hatch will host Salmon Run September 19, 20. Their location is on Machias Rd, just south of Hwy 92 and immediately east of downtown Lake Stevens. Last year the Club captured all 39 counties in the state of Washington. Various members will operate from different remote locations and counties. Sponsorship is by the Western Washington DX Club; rules are on their website. Dave Crosby AG7F invited others interested to join in at his site southeast of Chelan.

NEW BUSINESS:

September meeting place: Our next meeting will be in the Bakerview Activity Center, 1401 Poplar, Everett, next to the Bakerview Apartments, at 8:00 AM, Saturday, Sept. 26. The room will be the same as that used for VE testing. The meeting time will be limited, in order to clear out before the VE test session.

Calendar:

Salmon Run, September 19, 20, 2015. 8AM-midnight Saturday, and 8AM-5PM Sunday, club action at Hatch home (see Old Business) and elsewhere.

Christmas Party, December 12, 2015, 6PM. Those willing to help please contact one of the directors: Jess Ray AD7PZ, Jim Blake KD7JB, or Don Anderson AB7V. Setup will begin at about 10:00 AM. They can use as many hands as possible. Those attending morning breakfast at Bob's Burgers will come after that.

Scouting: Tom Hutchinson N7PKK mentioned that Merit Badge classes will be held in September before Jamboree on the Air (October). Next class will be in May before Field Day. Contact Tom for more information. Individuals who are trained will be certified in perpetuity.

Battleship station: Tom Smith K7AFA advised that there is a station on the Memorial Battleship in Pearl Harbor. Operation is easy to arrange. Other similar operating opportunities exist elsewhere.

50/50 Raffle: Winner of drawing was Shelly Salsgiver. Total of \$127 was collected. Fifty percent will be used to help with Christmas party prizes.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:54 AM.

Program: Dennis Bradford W7DEB presented a program about Antenna Analyzers. Randy AJ7B is on deck for the second portion of this program in October.

Respectfully submitted
Dave Cornell, W9LD, Secretary

Approved
Dave Williamson, WA7DGW, President