

Snohomish County Hams Club
General Membership Meeting Minutes

Zoom Meeting

0800 September 26, 2020

1. The meeting was called to order at 0800 by the President Ray Smith KD7AVP.
2. Welcome
 - A. Zoom Etiquette and Protocols (Ray KD7AVP)
 - a. First & Last Name plus Call Sign in Screen Name
 - b. Keep yourself muted unless you are called upon to speak
 - c. Use the Hand Raising function in Zoom if you want to speak. The moderator will be watching for raised hands. Thanks to Dave for being moderator today. You can use the Chat or the Hand Raising.
 - B. Any First Time Visitors/Guests? Several visitors... Kathryn Kerby K2AMZ and Steve McKinney, and Paul Flesher N5STQ
3. Reports
 - A. Secretary's Report - Anne K2MTN announced that the minutes of the last meeting in August 2020 had been posted on the Club website. She requested approval of the posted minutes. A motion was made (by John N7AME) to accept the minutes as posted; It was seconded (by Randy AJ7B) and approved by vote. No questions.
 - B. Treasurer's report – Randy AJ7B announced that the monthly treasurer's report had been posted on the Club website. He tried to screen-share the report but had technical difficulties. He verbally summarized by saying Income of \$60.07 and Expenses of \$0. Checking Account Balance of \$7,307.53, Repeater Maintenance Fd \$405.41, Repeater Endowment Fd \$11,584.82. No questions. A motion was made to accept the report as posted (by Anne K2MTN); it was seconded (by Dave KI7DPP) and approved by vote.
 - C. Randy said that we're kind of in a holding pattern. There is a group named Lake Washington Amateur Radio Club which has started doing online tests and they have licensed about 200 people since Covid started. When people have contacted Randy he has referred them to that group so that they can possibly get a test online.
 - D. Education report - Jim Blake KD7JB said that there has been some email traffic when they loosened up some restrictions to meeting in person. We are at the mercy of our venue which is Providence Hospital and they have not opened the meeting rooms to the public, so we are currently in a holding pattern for offering classes. Jim said he is itching to get back at it...but that venue has worked so well for us in the past and it doesn't cost us anything. So, he hasn't made any effort to find a different venue. Jim said we will wait and hear when Providence loosens up and allows meetings in the rooms again...and see what the restrictions are and see if we can get a Technician Class in there.
 - E. New Member Introduction – Anne K2MTN introduced
 - a. Brian Corneal KJ7NUN

- b. Bryan Martin KJ7PRS
 - c. Gary Evans AB7RK...as new members since the last meeting.
- F. List of Attendees – Anne K2MTN read a list of the members attending today using her attendance sheet and the names listed in participants window. There were 42 members marked here on the attendance sheet.

4. Old Business

A. Repeater Update

- a. New Repeaters - Rob NR30...nothing heard. Ray said that we had EchoLink down but he believes it is back up and working. If you noticed anything with the repeaters please reach out to Ray or any of the Board Members and we will get it addressed as soon as possible.
- b. Old Repeaters – Henry KH6VM...The repeater seems to be working well. Rob NR30 got the Ham WAN back up and Henry appreciates his efforts.

5. New Business

A. Ray KD7AVP and Dennis Bradford W7DEB - Nominating Committee. Ray said that it is that time of year. Elections are coming up. The Nominating Committee is preparing a slate for the positions that are open. Dennis said that the Committee recently sent out an email asking for nominations. We don't have a date yet for the Election but we will get there. We will figure out the details of voting...It will probably be by the internet and some return method. Every paid member is eligible to run for office. Talk to your friends. The positions up are Officers and one rotating 3 year Board Position. This year the focus is on President and one 3 year Board Member position. Please give it some thought. Feel free to contact people who have been President or who are today...Talk to them and see what it entails. We will keep you updated as we go along. If you have a friend that you think would be a good candidate...please encourage them to put their name in to the Nominating Committee. Ray added that there is a list of the responsibilities and duties for the positions online in the Members Only section if you are interested. Feel free to browse that and you should get a pretty good idea what is involved. Dennis is taking nominations.

B. Ray KD7AVP – Net Controllers. We've had a couple of Net Controllers leave...One actually left the state completely...Thank you to Jim for all he has done at Net Controller in the past. Members who are interested in learning more about being Net Controller during weekly Nets should contact Ray to apply. We have a script for the job and it is well documented exactly what you need to do during the Net. We will definitely train you and get you comfortable with it beforehand. If you have an interest in being Net Controller for the Sunday night 2-meter Net at 7pm...let us know because we could use a few more people in the rotation. Kerry Burnette KC7YL said that the YL Net on Thursday night could also use another Net Controller or two. If you have an interest...reach out to Ray or Kerry.

C. Dave Cornell W9LD asked if there are any reported results yet for Salmon Run? John N7AME said that the results aren't due for two weeks after the event. We are still 3 days out from the due date. John N7AME participated and had fun and got just under 19500 points and all 39

counties (Side-band only). Usually that is not easy to do. He was at Lewis & Clark State Park in Lewis County. Dave W9LD just submitted a modest report from out of state in Boise Idaho... 1200 points on 40 meter CW only.

Jim Blake & Jennifer Blake were in a southern county and they made contact with John and their score was 9200 points which is the highest they have ever done. The majority of their contacts were from out of state (in the Midwest and in the East) and they had difficulty in getting people in Washington. Jennifer got a contact in Solvenia (Europe). They got all the counties except 5. They couldn't set up in the normal spot they do and had to set up in a Baseball diamond in the State Park and run off battery and generator to charge the battery. They got a pretty good score but had a rough time. They got 17 or 18 states.

Chris Wartes K7II said he made 8600 points. 72 contacts 86 multipliers...missed 8 of the counties, He was in a group of 10 operators and was in a multi-operator classification. 3 transmitters on the air. John N7AME said that he talked to Roger Hoot who was on Saturday morning for their group. Ray could hear Chris on 20 meters but he had a good sized pile up. John N7AME said he got the same guy that he has gotten before in Iowa... N7HJZ who roves state to state. If you ever think of doing County hunters...listen for him.

Jack Rookaird KC7YE ...said he worked Dave W9LD and Chris Wartes K7II. He did all CW and got 175 contacts.

D. Dave KI7DPP – CW Training. The “Long Island CW Club” (just google it) has amazing classes throughout the week that are all Zoom based. That Club has about 800 members. It is pretty low key...you can hop in or hop out of any classes going on. He highly recommends the classes. Meg Engelter posted the link in the chat. <https://longislandcwclub.org/>

E. Randy AJ7B – got his Century DX Club – 100 contacts through low power CW. He worked on that for about 5 years and he got it done.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32am. Moved by Anne K2MTN, second by Dave Cornell W9LD, passed by vote.

Presentation: Kerry Burnette KC7YL did a presentation “An Introduction to EchoLink”. The presentation included some background info about EchoLink. EchoLink is Voice over internet protocol. It is free VoIP software developed by Jonathan Taylor K1RFD in early 2002. The majority of EchoLink users use it to make contacts through repeaters. The repeater must be EchoLink enabled. For example our 2-meter Club repeater WA7LAW is EchoLink enabled. Our 70 cm repeater is not.

Go to www.echolink.org if you have a PC and <https://www.apple.com/> and search for EchoLink app for mac or ipads. Download the software. You will be asked to provide authentication of your callsign if you have not used Echolink before. You can scan your license and upload it to the site. Or, you can provide a credit card which will be charged the nominal \$1.00 fee so EchoLink can verify your callsign electronically.

The best way to start using Echolink is to find and star your favorite repeaters. Star the Club's 2-meter repeater WA7LAW-R. You have to put “-R” for repeaters when you Search for them. Kerry showed the

application on the screen “Live” during the meeting. The settings in the EchoLink software were covered in detail.

Kerry had a slide deck about the subject and if you would like a copy, please email Secretary@WA7LAW.org or Kerry directly.

Submitted by Anne Garay K2MTN
SCHC Secretary