

April Meeting

The April general membership meeting will be held on Saturday, April 8, 2006 at 10:00AM at the Everett Activities Center. We don't have a formal presentation planned at the present time but there is a variety of club-related subject matter that needs to be discussed and stasured.

March Meeting Summary

Due to the annual Puyallup Hamfest, there was no general membership meeting held in March.

BEARONS Repeaters Update

The weather has not been overly cooperative lately and so we have not been able to get up on the factory roof to survey and install the repeater antenna. Presently, it looks like we'll be shooting for the week of April 10th or 17th to try and get this last piece of the puzzle in place to restore our repeater to full operation. It's been a long wait but the end is in sight.

2006 Club Membership Renewals

Officially, the time has passed when everybody should have renewed their BEARONS membership. If you haven't renewed by now, you will be dropped from the e-mail distribution list until such time that you have renewed. If you need a renewal form, there are some located in the lobby of the Everett Activities Center or they are available on-line at the club's website at the address shown below. Click on "Other Links" to get to the forms.

<http://mysite.verizon.net/evernhamms91/bearons.htm>

Upcoming Operating Activities

Of significant note, our sister club in St. Louis, WØMA, is sponsoring the Missouri QSO Party, slated to take place on April 1-2. See the latest edition of QST or the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet for details. Please make an effort to get on the air and hand out a few contacts in support of their efforts. There are other state QSO parties going on in April – Montana, Georgia, Michigan, Florida, Nebraska, and Alabama. If you're a county hunter, be on the lookout for these events.

7QP Update

The inaugural 7-land QSO Party is fast approaching – have you made plans to participate? Be sure to set aside some time on May 6 to participate in this event. The contest runs from 6:00AM to midnight, local time. Get all the latest details and updates at the official 7QP website, located at:

<http://www.7QP.org>

Field Day 2006

As announced via e-mail earlier, Field Day 2006 will be held at Dwayne Broderson's QTH this year. We're planning on a 2E operation just as last year with minimal changes. Under some consideration is switching the CW station to a QRP effort in order to maximize point scoring potential. A final decision on that has not yet been made. We will also be trying some new techniques to minimize station interference which was a big problem last year and kept us from having both the SSB and CW stations on the same band at the same time.

ARRL Newsletters

Are you subscribed to any of the newsletters that the ARRL publishes? If not, here's a list of what's currently available:

The ARRL Letter – published weekly, contains a news summary of all things amateur radio related.

The Contester's Rate Sheet – edited by local ham Ward Silver, NØAX. Published every two weeks, it contains a comprehensive contest calendar with articles and technical content.

The ARES E-Letter – a monthly publication – it is a source of news of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

The VE E-Express Newsletter – published 4 to 6 times per year, this document keeps Volunteer Examiners up to date on the ARRL VEC program and other items of interest to VEs.

New Products

Oak Hills Research is offering an 80 meter version of their OHR 100A CW QRP transceiver kit. The kit can be configured to cover any 70 kHz segment of the 80 meter band. Power output is 5 to 8 watts. The kit includes all parts, PC board, and cabinet. Price is \$139.95.

TG Electronics has a battery boost regulator available – it's a DC-DC switching converter designed to provide a constant 13.8V output

for portable radios as the battery voltage runs down. Maximum rated current is 20 amperes at 50% duty cycle, which makes it suitable for most 100 watt transceivers. Price is \$140.

CWTouchKeyer introduces their P3 touch paddle keyer kit – make your own touch sensitive keyer paddle or straight key by adding the conductive metal object of your choice for the paddle/key contacts. The unit requires 5 to 14 VDC @ 2 mA to operate. Price is \$28 complete or \$18 as a kit.

BEARONS VE Testing

There is a BEARONS VE test session scheduled for Wednesday, April 26nd at 6:30PM at the Everett Activities Center. There's no time like the present to get your first ham ticket or going for that upgrade you've been talking about for months!!

Classifieds

No listings this month