

## March Meeting

Due to the Puyallup Hamfest falling on the same day as our regular membership meeting, there will be NO March membership meeting. The next regular membership meeting will be on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at 10:00AM in the Everett Activities Center.

## February Meeting Summary

A total of 14 members attended the meeting. We also had one visitor, N5BIS, Don, from New Mexico. He was here visiting his son who is a Boeing employee. As the official rollout for the 787 is still in limbo, our planning for the special event station is on hold until additional information on the rollout becomes available. We will plan on sending a special event notice to QST magazine when our plans are firmed up. We decided that we will use the regular club call for the event in lieu of applying for a special 1X1 or other callsign. The Recreation department will be hosting an open house Event in Everett and we are planning to support it much like we did last year's event. The annual Guide Dog Run will be held on May 19<sup>th</sup> this year. If you are interested in helping out with this event, please contact Mike Atwood, N7XLF, for details. There was some preliminary discussion about plans for Field Day. We identified a couple of different options for us to consider.

## Upcoming Operating Activities

In March, there are two major contests, the ARRL DX SSB and the CQ WPX SSB. For you USA county hunters - Idaho, Oklahoma, Wisconsin, and Virginia all have their state QSO parties in March too. Please see the current editions of CQ, QST, or NCJ magazines for complete rules.

## 7-Land QSO Party

This year, the 7-Land QSO Party will be held on May 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>. There are some rule changes this year, including being able to work up to 10 DX entities for multiplier credit. For the complete set of rules and contest period, visit the link for the 7QP on the BEARONS website. Last year's inaugural event was well received and a great success. Hopefully, this year will be even better. The goal is to activate all 259 counties in 7-land, an ambitious undertaking to say the least.

## 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.

## Communications Academy 2007

This year's Communications Academy will be held on March 31<sup>st</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup> at Seattle Pacific University. If interested, you can visit their website for all the details at:

<http://www.commacademy.org>

BEARONS members who have attended this event in the past have said that it is a very worthwhile event to attend!!!

## BEARONS VE Testing

There will be a VE test session on Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM at the Everett Activities Center. This will be the first session under the BEARONS VE testing program with the new no-CW testing requirement in effect.

## States Consider New Cell Phone Bills

A number of states are now considering new cell phone bills aimed at curbing the increasing problem of driving while distracted by these devices. There is concern in the amateur radio community that the language in many of these bills is sufficiently broad that it may have a definite impact on mobile operations. Several articles have already been written on the subject and amateurs in the states currently reviewing this proposed legislation are being urged to contact their representatives and make their feelings known on the issue with regards to any potential impact to amateur radio. *Washington is one of the states with this proposed legislation on the table.*

## Classifieds

**For sale:** Ameritron AL-80B linear amplifier. Amp is new with less than one hour operating time. Price is \$1000. Contact Bill Kuder, W7PTT, e-mail: [W7PTT@aol.com](mailto:W7PTT@aol.com)

**For sale:** Two (2) military surplus mast kits – each is complete with everything needed to assemble a single 40 foot mast. Each kit includes: mast sections w/carrier and cover, swivel base, base plate, guy rings, guy rope assemblies, guy stakes, stake swivels and clips, halyard with pulley, and a small sledge hammer. Yes, these are the mast kits that are most sought after but no longer available in the regular military surplus outlets – nearly impossible to find at hamfests or on E-bay. The ONLY reason I'm selling these is because I purchased an AB-577 tower and can't justify keeping these around for a "rainy day". These are medium duty units and can be deployed for long periods of time with virtually no maintenance required. Most popular use is as a center support for an inverted vee. Use two of them together to form a support system for a flat-top, inverted L, vertical loop, etc. Can't be beat in a Field Day application!! Price is \$150/ea. Contact Mark McLauchlin, KN7T, 425-486-6275.