

Next Meeting

There was no club meeting in July due to the proximity of Field Day. We will be having a regular membership meeting on Saturday, August 8th, at 10:00AM at the Everett Activities Center. We'll talk a bit about the goings on at Field Day and some upcoming events that will probably be in the works. We're working on a program for the meeting so stay tuned.

Upcoming Operating Activities

Interestingly, there are no state QSO parties scheduled for July 2009 !! Other operating events are: NA RTTY QSO Party (18th – 19th), CQ WW VHF Contest (18th – 19th) and Islands On The Air (25th – 26th).

Kansas QSO Party

After an absence of 6 years, the Kansas QSO Party returns for 2009. One of our sister clubs, BEARS in Wichita is the co-sponsor of the contest. Dates for the event are August 29th and 30th. Take advantage of the opportunity to work those rare Kansas counties!

Field Day 2009

by: Dwayne Broderson, W7GD

I want to thank everyone who helped out this year. We had a very successful Field Day with about a dozen people show up during the course of the weekend. Some folks came to help setup and others came to help take down and some stayed the whole weekend.

Raising and lowering the cw tower went well and I really think we are getting that down to a science. We had antennas on 160 thru 2 meters - beams on 40 thru 2 and wire antennas for the lower bands. This year we put up a wire antenna between two trees for 160, 80 and 40. Thanks to Bruce Schauss and John Willott for coming up early in the week and launching a pulley setup into a tall cedar on the bluff. I had planned on using the small tower on the garage as the second support, but the aluminum mast sections I have on top were nearly bent sideways in trying to raise

the 170 foot wire antenna. A couple of the guys from the Stanwood club came over Friday night with their version of the compressed air cannon and put a pulley over the top of a douglas fir just to the north of the small tower. I had a 300 foot spool of cord and used most of it to pass a line thru the pulley. The pulley must have been about 100 feet up the tree. The antenna is a winner and the pulleys are still there for next year. We had quite a few solar panel setups thanks to Arthur Wright to charge the batteries. The local PUD had a planned power outage from midnight to early morning for all of Camano Island. We used a couple of generators during the outage and both worked great. We had some new operators this year who weren't BEARONS members. The WWDXC wasn't having field day this year and one of their members came up Saturday and ran the CW station. During the last testing session in June, we had a father and son come up and take their tests. They both showed up Saturday, father/son and girlfriend. Dad and son got on the air and both had a good time. Dad had to go home Saturday evening reluctantly, but son and girlfriend operated until about 3 AM and spent the rest of the weekend as well. Next year, Mark and I have been talking about getting more use out of the third radio. Two radios are effectively used in the primary CW and SSB stations. The third radio has been used for 6 meters, which for most of time is quiet. We could use an additional receiver to monitor a beacon on 6 meters and only go up there when the band opens. With the addition of the low band wire, we have the chance to get on 80 and 40 CW while the main CW station is still on 20. New this year was the doublet wire antenna, the bonus points for a message from the site to the ARRL section manager and the new operators.

Everyone had a good time and we are looking forward to next year.

BEARONS VE Testing

The next scheduled BEARONS VE test session will be on Wednesday, July 22nd, 2009 at 6:30PM at the Everett Activities Center.