

## May Meeting

The May general membership meeting will be held on Saturday, May 13, 2006 at 10:00AM at the Everett Activities Center. This is the last general membership meeting before Field Day since there is no general membership meeting in June.

## April Meeting Summary

Annie, AA7AG, reported the following financial particulars for the club – balance in the checking account is \$808.44 and the balance in the savings account is \$2573.24. There was no formal presentation at the April meeting but there was a very informative summary on the recent Communications Academy held in the local area. It was announced that the Fifth Annual Guide Dog Run will be held on Saturday, May 20. BEARONS members will be providing communications support for this event. Contact Mike Atwood, N7XLF, for additional details.

## BEARONS Repeaters Update

The weather has improved in the last couple of weeks. Unfortunately, increased workload has prevented us from getting up on the roof to complete the antenna installation. The plan is still to have it done in time to support the Guide Dog Run on May 20.

## 2006 Club Membership Renewals

This is the last warning for those who haven't renewed their club 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

The inaugural 7-Land QSO Party is scheduled for May 6 & 7. The Boeing Guide Dog Run is scheduled for May 20 and additional volunteers are needed to help with that. Indiana and Oregon have their state QSO parties in May as well as the New England QSO Party. Memorial Day weekend features the CQ WW WPX CW Contest. The 2006 Dayton Hamvention is this month, it runs from May 19<sup>th</sup> to May 21<sup>st</sup> in Dayton, OH.

## 7QP Update

May 6 is the inaugural 7-land QSO Party. 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>

There have been a number of recent updates to that website so be sure and check it often prior to the contest. A number of us have the N3FJP logging software and even though it doesn't currently support the 7QP, it has been suggested that the New England QSO Party program will work as a substitute. I have not verified this but it would be worth looking into if you are one of the users of the N3FJP software.

## Field Day 2006

Don't forget to plan your participation in Field Day 2006 with BEARONS. You will be notified via e-mail and website announcements concerning specific details as the event draws nearer. Let's make this year's Field Day one for the record books!! The official 2006 Field Day Announcement is in this month's edition of QST. A complete rules package is available as a download from arrl.org.

## 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

MFJ has announced a new line of RF current meters. These are handy devices which can be used for adjusting transmitters, amplifiers,

antenna tuners, determining feedpoint impedance, and troubleshooting. There are several versions available and they range in price from \$69.95 to \$139.95

The HeathKit Shop introduces the new AmpKeyer – a convenient way to safely interface modern transceivers to older amplifiers that have large voltages present on the keying relay contacts. The unit requires 8-18 VDC or AC for operation and uses standard phono connectors for the interface connections. The circuit uses an optocoupler to provide the interface. The unit is priced at \$39.95.

## BEARONS VE Testing

There is a BEARONS VE test session scheduled for Wednesday, May 24th 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*