

## Next Meeting

Due to the Stanwood Hamfest being held on Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, we will not be having our general membership meeting on that day. It is possible and entirely likely that we will schedule a Field Day planning meeting later in the month and we will notify everyone via e-mail of the time and place should we decide to do that.

## Upcoming Operating Activities

In May there are several operating events to be aware of. First and foremost, the 7-Land QSO party was held on the first weekend of the month. Other events include the New England QSO Party, Indiana QSO Party, Nevada QSO Party, Mid-Atlantic QSO Party, and the CQ WW WPX CW Contest.

### 7-Land QSO Party

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual 7-Land QSO Party was held on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. The contest started at 1300Z and ended on May 4<sup>th</sup> at 0700Z. Band conditions were way less than optimal and it will be interesting to see how the scores reflect that. Logs are due by June 5<sup>th</sup>.

### Odds And Ends

Local ham radio antenna maker SteppIR has introduced their newest HF beam antenna, the DB-36 "Dream Beam". It is a 60% of full size 40 meter and 30 meter antenna but has frequency coverage up through 6 meters and an optional add-on dipole element for 80 meters, making it a true 80 through 6 beam antenna. The basic DB-36 can be yours for a mere \$4300. You'll also need enough airspace to be able to support the 26 foot turning radius of the basic DB-36 and a tower that can handle a 17.5 square foot antenna wind load.

Also, in the May 2008 edition of QST, there is an excellent article on computer simulations of 160 meter inverted L antennas.

## 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.

## BEARONS VE Testing

There will be a VE test session on Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM at the Everett Activities Center.

## 2008 Pacific Northwest DX Convention

The 53<sup>rd</sup> annual Pacific NW DX Convention will be held on August 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Monarch Hotel in Portland, OR. Questions about the event should be directed to Al Rovner, K7AR, at [k7ar@arrl.net](mailto:k7ar@arrl.net)

## Field Day 2008

BEARONS will be participating in Field Day this year. Once again, we will be up at Dwayne and Judy Broderson's QTH on Camano Island for the event. Details of our operation will be forthcoming in the next newsletter. Plan now to participate in the club's biggest event of the year.