

December Meeting

The December general membership meeting will be held on Saturday, December 9th, 2006 at 10:00AM at the Everett Activities Center. There are a number of old business items that need to be statused as well as discuss plans and activities for 2007.

SnoCoHams Yahoo Group

There is a new Yahoo discussion group formed – it's called SnoCoHams. At last count, there were about 75 members signed up to it. If you'd like to become a member of the group, send an e-mail to: SnoCoHams@yahoo.com and ask for information regarding membership. The group is meant to be an informal gathering area for hams to discuss all aspects of amateur radio and related goings on in Snohomish County. As the name implies, you must be a Snohomish County resident as a condition of membership.

Upcoming Operating Activities

November contesting is in full swing. The ARRL CW Sweepstakes has already gone by but you can still catch the Phone portion of Sweepstakes, it is scheduled for 11/18 – 11/19. On Thanksgiving weekend, the CQ WW DX CW contest is scheduled – this is one of the best opportunities of the year to work lots of DX or search for that hard-to-find country. There are a number of DXpeditions scheduled for this time, including the 5A7A DXpedition to Libya. The rarest of the rare, Lakshadweep Islands will also have a DXpedition operating during CQ WW. In December, we can look forward to the ARRL 160 and 10 meter contests.

Update on FCC Report And Order

The FCC recently released Report and Order FCC 06-149 on October 10th, 2006. In it, the long awaited re-farming of the old Novice bands was announced. There is an expansion of the phone band spectrum on 75, 40, 15,

and 220 MHz. In addition, changes were made to the vanity call system and a whole host of other minor changes. These changes do not take effect officially until December 15th, 2006 so you must wait until then before taking advantage of the new rules. The FCC has not made a formal decision on the code/no code issue that is still before it and there is no indication of when they will rule on that, although the rumor on some of the amateur radio chat groups is that the FCC ruling on the no-code issue is imminent, likely before the end of the year.

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

Alpha Radio Products recently introduced their new high power dummy load. The Alpha 2100 will handle 1500 watts continuous with no time limit and can handle up to 6000 watts for up to 3 minutes. SWR is flat across all HF bands and including 6 meters. The unit has serial and USB output ports for remote data logging and a bypass shunt so that it can remain inline all the time. It requires 100 to 240 VAC and includes a temperature controlled cooling fan. Price is \$1950

LDG has another breakout box available, this one is for DC voltage distribution. It has one 12 VDC input and 6 outputs. Total current handling capability is 3 amps. The unit has an internal regulator to hold 12 VDC output with thermal and short circuit protection. It comes with an input cable and six output cables, each 3 feet long. Price is \$49

MFJ has a new weatherproof antenna feedthrough panel available. The MFJ-4602 mounts in a window sill and then the window closes on it. It will work with any window up to 48 inches in width and can be utilized either vertically or horizontally. The unit is made from 3/4 inch pressure treated wood and painted with white enamel. The edges are sealed with weatherstripping. Price is \$59.95

BEARONS VE Testing

There is no more BEARONS VE testing this year. Testing will resume in January 2007. Please consult the BEARONS website for the 2007 testing schedule.

Classifieds

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. Can't be beat in a Field Day application!! Price is \$150/ea. Contact Mark McLaughlin, KN7T, 425-486-6275.

2006 Boeing Field Day Challenge

This year, the Boeing Field Day Challenge winner was BEARS/Ø in Wichita – callsign KCØAHN.

Club	Call	Participants	Class	Section	QSOs	Score
BEARS/Ø	WØMA	18	4F	MO	1969	6600
BEARS/Ø	KCØAHN	52	6A	KS	844	3760
BEARS/7	K7NWS	24	3A	WWA	563	2800
BEARONS	W7FLY	5	2E	WWA	596	2550
BEARS/6	W6VLD	45	2A	Orange	251	1172
Autonetics	K6NX	N/A				
BEARS/3	K3BA	N/A				
BEARS/6	W6RNK	N/A				
BEARS/5	KD5TFS	N/A				

2006 ARRL Field Day Results

The results from this year's Field Day have been posted to the ARRL website. The scores database, however, is only accessible to ARRL members only. The full listing of results will be published in the December 2006 edition of QST. Below is data taken from the scores database.

This year, there were a total of 52 entries from the Western Washington (WWA) section. BEARONS finished 12th out of 52 entries with a total combined score of 2550. Interestingly, the BEARS, K7NWS, finished in 11th, just 300 points ahead of us. Nationally, in Class 2E, BEARONS finished in 10th place out of 24 total entries.

Here's the listing for the top 25 scores from WWA (all classes):

Call	Score	Class	QSOs	Participants	Club
K7LED	13,022	6A	4069	70	Mike & Key ARC
W7DK	9,814	6A	2693	109	RC of Tacoma
K7AW	6,988	2A	1800	3	Oregon High Desert CC
W7DX	5,952	3A	1604	16	WWDXC
K7RX	4,446	4A	1082	52	NW Society of AR
W7RDR	3,950	2A	878	11	
K7ZC	3,828	4A	812	47	Mt. Baker ARC
K7R	3,638	5A	812	60	
W7VMI	3,332	2A	670	26	Vashon-Maury Island RC
W7JCR	3,318	3A	551	54	Jefferson County ARC
K7NWS	2,850	3A	563	24	BEARS
W7FLY	2,550	2E	596	5	BEARONS
W7VE	2,528	3A	451	9	AR Association of Bremerton
W7AIA	2,170	3A	375	89	Clark County ARC
NT7H	2,004	3A	426	22	Olympia ARS
WA7UHD	1,994	4A	551	12	Chehalis Valley ARS
W7FEL	1,912	3A	456	77	Clallam County ARC
W7DG	1,761	4F	990	11	Lower Columbia ARA
W7AUX	1,682	3A	384	14	Shoreline Aux Comm Service
W7NNN	1,564	1B1	531	1	
K7EBC	1,550	1B1B	140	1	Evergreen Baptist Church ARC
W7BI	1,532	2A	273	18	Issaquah ARC
KC7KEY	1,452	2A	424	28	Maple Valley ARC
WA7LAW	1,382	3A	146	19	Snohomish County Hams Club
W7MRC	1,374	1B1	281	1	Maltby RC

Here's the listing for the top 25 scores across the country (all classes):

Call	Score	Class	QSOs	Section	Particip.	Club
W3AO	31,144	22A	9504	MDC	40	Potomac Valley ARA
W4IY	23,038	18A	6670	VA	49	Woodbridge Wireless
W6YX	21,106	5F	6622	SCV	50	Stanford ARC
VE3GMA	19,842	9A	6023	ON	31	GMA RC
K1R	19,192	5A	5754	NH	35	Port City ARC
W9CA	18,142	3A	4946	IL	22	CorTek RA
N1FD	17,646	13A	5162	NH	30	
K2AA	16,404	6A	4799	SNJ	55	South Jersey RA
AA5B	16,165	7AB	1549	NM	8	NM FD Coalition
N6ME	16,052	6A	4484	ORG	35	Western ARA
K8UO	16,050	13AB	1633	MI	121	
W4CA	15,320	5A	4559	VA	70	Roanoke Valley ARC
W9LO	14,034	5A	4061	WI	80	Ozaukee RC
K8ES	14,010	4A	3974	OH	36	Delaware AR Assn
W1NVT	13,858	2A	4643	VT	22	Radio Amateurs of N. Vermont
K4BFT	13,700	5A	4154	AL	47	Huntsville ARC
K6MI	13,605	1AB	1240	SCV	7	Chew's Ridge Gang
W0CQC	13,160	2AB	1286	CO	8	Colorado QRP Club
K7LED	13,022	6A	4069	WWA	70	Mike & Key ARC
KJ9D	12,676	2A	3242	IN	19	Hoosier DX & Contest Club
W2RDX	12,546	3A	3261	WNY	19	Rochester DX Association
K0GQ	12,474	2A	3450	MO	18	Raytown ARC
W4KJ	12,462	2A	3701	GA	8	Buckhead Contest Club
W5QGG	12,424	4A	3487	WTX	38	Midland ARC
W4UG	12,236	5A	3408	VA	86	Virginia Beach ARC & VADXCC