

Puget Amateur Radio Society

SPARKS

VOLUME 11 NO.5

May, 1997

President: Al Staples N7VOF 454-2882
Vice-President: Bob Adams KJ7BP 454-0506
Secretary: Jim Von Seggern KC7FEH 885-7333
Treasurer: Chaz Hitz N7NNS 821-5963

NEXT MEETING:
7:30 pm Thursday
May 15, 1997
Puget Auditorium

This issue of SPARKS is a particularly important one for each of us to read carefully. We all are going to have to make some basic decisions about the future of the club, and I would urge that ALL members attend the meeting on May 15. We need opinions and input from everybody.

For those who might be interested in sending items to me in the future (and I would welcome them), you can reach me on e-mail at arzetta@aol.com. However, I have to announce that I'll be down for about a week after this issue arrives, so the computer can be overhauled.

As you will note on the enclosed roster, I have some e-mail addresses, but I'm sure there are more. You can send them to me at the above e-mail address, and I'll put what I have on the next roster revision.

THE PREZ SEZ

A couple of months ago I had a call from a Mary Ann O'Brien who said that her husband was getting out of the Ham business, and would I be interested in some equipment. I said sure, and picked up the stuff. It's a miscellaneous assortment, most of which I plan to bring to the May meeting so club members may have first pick.

I hope you will attend this meeting, because as you can see in SPARKS, there

TREASURER'S REPORT PUGET AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY April 30, 1997

Beginning balance 4-1-97	\$1081.54
Deposits (Dues and swap meet receipts)	\$ 976.75
Expenses	(\$ 93.83)
administrative expense \$93.83	
Balance on 4-30-97	\$2001.21

Respectfully Submitted

Chaz Hitz N7NNS
Treasurer

MINUTES of THE BOARD
of
PUGET AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
April 30, 1997

Chairman Jim Von Seggern KC7FEH called the meeting to order. Other members present were President Al Staples N7VOF and Treasurer Chaz Hitz N7NNS.

Treasurer Chaz reported that the treasury currently has \$2001.21 as of April 30. A complete report will be published in SPARKS.

President Al voiced some concern about the direction the club seems to be going. To date, no one has been willing to stand for president for the coming term. He has consistently been unable to find anyone to act as program chairman. We are losing in the very near future some valuable members, and the replacement rate is not keeping up. There seems to him to be little enthusiasm among the membership.

Secretary Jim pointed out that there is no provision in the By-Laws for the circumstance of not being able to elect a President. The question then arises as to how to continue the club without a slate of officers. President Al posed the question as to whether the club should be disbanded.

Treasurer Chaz stated that while he has found the club valuable to him personally for the relationships he has developed, he also does not feel that there is a lot of enthusiasm, and it does not hold the attraction for him that it used to.

After considerable discussion, it was the unanimous opinion that the club is in trouble. It is recommended by the Board that at the May general meeting, the membership at large should discuss the issue of continuing or disbanding.

Respectfully submitted Jim Von Seggern
KC7FEH Board Chairman, Secretary,
P.A.R.S.

The next general meeting will be Thursday May 15 at 7:30. The program may be largely taken up with discussion, as recommended in the Board minutes, but in June we are scheduled to hear a talk by Suzi Crickmore, a supervisor at the Bellevue 911 center, on 911 operations.

Public Service Opportunities

Chuck Stroher WA7EBH needs some radio people for the Ballard Seafair parade on May 17. Anyone interested call Chuck at 392-5303.

EARS (Eastside Amateur Radio Service)--interested parties contact John Black W7HIL 746-7611 or Chuck Stroher WA7EBH 392-5303. Always room for more help in this community activity.

Minutes of the General Meeting of April 17, 1997

The meeting was called to order by President Al Staples N7VOF. Thirteen members were present, a quorum. Those present introduced themselves. Two guests were also present, Harry Lewis W7JWJ and Mary Lewis W7QGP.

The minutes of the March 20 meeting were approved as published in SPARKS. Treasurer Chaz Hitz N7NNS was not present so no report was given.

No committee chairpersons had reports to make.

President Al elected to discuss the matter of nominations for the officers for the coming term. So far, V-Pres. Bob Adams KJ7BP is willing to serve another term, and Secretary Jim Von Seggern KC7FEH is willing to serve again as secretary and also assume the duties of Treasurer. President Al Staples N7VOF will not accept another term, and thus far no one has indicated willingness to take the office. Tom Grotte WB7TEJ stated that he felt that Al has done a good job of delegating club functions, and that when that is done well the office is a relatively easy one. Tom is acting as the nominating committee chairman, and will be polling the membership in the next month. The nominations will be kept open until the May meeting, at which time the elections must occur.

Al announced that he and Eppy Eppenstein are not currently doing the evening code practice on 28.180, although they did for several days.

Al picked up a collection of parts and some equipment from a party moving to Oregon, and would like to determine what is suitable at a swap meet, and what is junk. Chuck Stroehrer WA7EBH will take a quick look after the meeting tonight.

After some discussion, a motion was made and passed to send out a flyer about PARS next fall, using an address base acquired through ARRL. Chuck Stroehrer said that we can probably use the Mike and Key club's postal permit, which would save us considerable postage (17 vs 32 cents). It was felt that this would be a reasonable experiment in promoting the club in the area, particularly with new licensees. It was pointed out, however, that the current generation is not inclined to join social groups, and that if we are to attract and retain new members we need to have some solid benefits to offer, particularly programs. Lester Ellis KC7TQP also mentioned the advertising potential of simple things like caps with call signs. We also could try putting a card on the bulletin board at Amateur Radio Supply. We will also get some publicity at Field Day. Chuck Stroehrer said that World Radio magazine will send out to clubs a packet costing \$65 which includes some subscription certificates which can be raffled off, and also a column in the magazine describing the club.

John Black announced that the final letter to the Internal Revenue Service has been mailed and we will probably not be re-examined regarding our tax-exempt status. We will have to keep better records regarding donations of equipment in the future.

V-Pres. Bob Adams KJ7BP said there was nothing that needed to be discussed regarding Field Day at this time.

Chuck Stroehrer mentioned a need for radio people for the Husky crew races on May 3, and a parade on May 17. The Arthritis Foundation is also looking for 5 radio people for a walk-a-thon on May 31, which Chuck thought might be a good opportunity for the club to do.

Lester Ellis stated that he would like to see the meetings open with the Pledge of Allegiance, and he would see about getting a flag from one of the Veterans organizations.

No further business was offered and a motion to adjourn was made, seconded and passed. Following refreshments, a very useful overall survey of the subject of fox hunts was given by Jimmy Horn KA7GKP, along with appropriate information concerning the fox hunt to be held May 17.

Respectfully submitted
Jim Von Seggern KC7FEH
PARS Secretary

May birthdays

Ben Bennett	N71VM	Ron Mawer	KB7TYB
Dale Scott	KC7KHD	Eric Johnson	KC7QLS

Well folks, that's about it. We all need to think about what we want, and how much do we want it, as this next meeting comes up. We have a number of long-time members who have served in many capacities. Some of us are holding down on-going jobs at this time. However, if there is no one among the newer members who are willing to step in, we are rather rapidly going to run down. The bottom line is: does this club have the will to continue to exist?

On that rather somber note, I will close this issue of SPARKS. I hope we'll have a high turnout next Thursday at the meeting, and I hope it will result in the continuation of the club.

73 de Jim KC7FEH