

Puget Amateur Radio Society

SPARKS

VOLUME 14 No. 6

June, 1998

President: Lorie Graff N7LC0 392-5846

NEXT MEETING:

Vice-President: Bob Adams KJ7BP 454-0506

7:30 pm Thursday

Secy-Treas. Jim Von Seggern KC7FEH 885-7333

June 18, 1998

Bellevue Senior Center

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PROGRAM NOTES

June 18--Steve Stroh N8GNU on spread spectrum transmission.

Sept. 17--to be held at the Emergency Operations Center in Bellevue.

As this issue of SPARKS is coming together, we are looking forward to Field Day, and the summer break during July and August. This also the last issue of SPARKS from this editor (maybe some of you are looking forward to that also)! It has been my pleasure to be the newsletter editor for these past 2 1/2 years, and I must say it will feel a little strange the first time it arrives at my house by mail next fall.

THE PREZ SEZ

This is my last message to you as your President--but my year isn't over yet and there are still things to do.

It's been a good year, the members have pulled together and we've definitely been revitalized. We have three new officers who have volunteered to steer the club (and this one old hanger-on who doesn't know when to quit.) Our membership didn't make it up to my goal of 50 this year, but that gives us something to work on next year.

I want to thank all those members who volunteered for the many club projects and committees such as trailer maintenance, programs, flea market, fox hunt, etc. I asked for help and my calls were answered. I hope that our new President, Jim Von Seggern, will receive the same cooperation. I know that Jim is looking for a new flea market chairman for next year. I volunteered to help with the programs, but I'm also asking for help and input from all of you. If you know of someone who might present an interesting program, or if you're willing to give a program, please let me know.

The trailer is up and running with operating radios so we should have another fun Field Day weekend at Bellevue's Downtown Park on June 27/28. We'll start setting up around 8 am on Saturday, and begin operating at 10 am and quit about 1 pm on Sunday. Don't forget our annual pot-luck picnic on Saturday

evening, June 27 at 6 pm at the trailer. The club Will provide the soft drinks and everyone should bring a hot dish, salad or dessert. There's always plenty to eat.

Since our last meeting club members have volunteered to help with two community public service events, the Arthritis Foundation Walk-a-Thon in Kirkland and the Northwest Burn Foundation Phone-a-Thon at Harborview Hospital in Seattle. Thanks for giving your time to two worthy causes.

I hope to see many of you at the dinner at Coco's in Overlake at 6 pm before the meeting June 18. 73 Lorie N7LC0

MINUTES
of
THE PUGET AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY MEETING
May 21, 1998

The meeting was called to order by President Lorie Graff N7LC0 at 7:30 pm, with the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 13 members and 3 guests present.

The program was presented by Joe Sloss K7MKS, who gave a most interesting capsule history of the major amateur radio manufacturers up through about 1975-80. He then went through the essential steps in locating, cleaning and repairing vintage gear. There were several tables of examples from his personal collection of vintage radios.

Following refreshments, the business meeting was convened. The minutes of the previous meeting, as published in SPARKS, were approved. The Treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer Jim Von Seggern KC7FEH, and was approved. At the present time, we have 28 paid members, including John Heflin KD7E who sent in dues after the last meeting, and Doug Bell who joined at the break this evening.

The election of officers was then held. The nominees for Treasurer, Joyce Stroehrer N7JPW and Jim Darby W7FYH, have both withdrawn for personal reasons. Chuck Beckmeier KC7GMF has agreed to be nominated for Treasurer. There were no nominations from the floor for any of the elective offices. By voice ballot, the following were elected: Jim Von Seggern KC7FEH-President, Lorie Graff N71LCO-Vice-President, Kirk Bellar N7UK- Secretary, and Chuck Beckmeier KC7GMF- Treasurer. All terms are from July 1, 1998 to June 30, 1999.

Pres.-elect Jim then asked the membership whether they wished to have a 4 member Board of Directors, since the V-President and Immediate Past President are the same person. Since Al Staples N7VOF has agreed to continue to host the Board meetings, the members voted to retain Al as a Board member.

Neither of the Publicity Co-Chairmen were present, but Lorie announced that Don Hickman KC7MDA has written a nice article on Field Day which Lorie is

going to submit to the area papers.

Public Service announcements were made by Chuck Stroeher WA7EBH. He needs some volunteers for the Seafair events in July and August. He requested anyone interested let him know so he can send them the schedule. John Black W7HIL added that there is a continuing need for more volunteers for the 911 group. Lorie announced that the Arthritis Foundation is having a Walk-a-thon on Sat. May 30, and needs about 8 amateur volunteers to cover dangerous intersections with event officials. Contact Al Staples if interested. Lorie also announced that the Northwest Burn Foundation is asking for volunteers to help with a telephone solicitation to raise funds for the camp for burned children.

Trailer Chairman Kirk Bellar reported that he has ordered the discone antenna previously authorized by the membership, but it has not yet arrived. He says the trailer should be in good shape for Field Day, but there is some question about the batteries. After some discussion, a motion was made and seconded and passed authorizing Kirk to purchase new batteries. Chuck Stroeher has some sources for obtaining near-new gel cells. Lorie said that Chuck Graff K7CHV will tow the trailer to the Field Day site.

Since V.-Pres. Bob Adams KJ7BP, the Field Day Chairman, is not back from an extended trip, Al Staples is going to call the City Parks Dept. to be sure that we are OK for the site. Bob had previously inquired but had not received a definite reply.

John Black W7HIL requested authorization to look for and purchase if possible enough coax cable to make some dipole antennas for various HF frequencies, along with the necessary insulators and baluns, to be packaged and kept permanently in the trailer. He would like to get this at the swap meet at Seaside, OR. A motion was made and seconded and passed to authorize up to \$100 to be spent for this.

Lorie announced that she has received a communication from Mary Lou Brown NM7N, our Northwest Division Director, concerning a new and very strong threat to take away the 70 cm ham band. She will send copies of this to all who are interested. Chuck Stroeher said that he would encourage members to write to the FCC.. He passed out some thoughts that he had sent to the Bellevue emergency services people encouraging them to also write in to the FCC, and included the address at FCC.

The Senior Center is not available for our September meeting, so Chuck Stroeher has arranged for the September meeting to be held at the Bellevue Emergency Operations Center.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Jim Von Seggern KC7FEH

PARS Secretary-Treasurer

June Birthdays

Charlie Beckmeier KC7GMF

July Birthdays

John Black W7HIL

Jerry Sampont WA7BUY

Eppy Eppenstein N7CAL

Al Staples N7VOF

August Birthdays

Bob Adams KJ7BP

Jimmy Horn KA7GKP

Jim Darby W7FYH

Chuck Stroeher WA7EBH

Public Service Opportunities

EARS (Eastside Amateur Radio Service)--interested parties contact John Black W7HIL at 391-8026 or Chuck Stroeher WA7EBH at 392-5303.

Always room for more help in this community activity.

WANTED TO BUY Ham radio and test equipment that glows in the dark (anything with tubes). I enjoy restoring and most of all operating these beauties from a BYGONE ERA. They will get a loving home. Also will buy any tubes, parts, extra manuals, pre 1970 CQ-73-ARRL handbooks, or anything else relating to ham radio of that era. These items are of great value as a resource when restoring equipment.

Jerry Sampont WA7BUY

2309 East 3rd Ave.

Port Angeles, WA 98362-9011

phone 360-457-6671

e-mail bluff@olypen.com

The PARS net on Wednesdays at 7:00pm (443.2 mHz repeater, +, 103.5 tone) needs more check-ins. It's a good time to say a few words about what you're up to, and to disseminate information about the club. Join us, and bring a radio friend.

We are please to announce another new member, who joined at the May meeting. Doug Bell is now on board officially. It is a pleasant duty to send out revised rosters. Welcome, welcome, Doug! We hope your license is not far in the future.

Summary of the Board of Directors meeting of June 4, 1998 All present Directors were present, plus Secretary-elect Kirk Bellar N7UK and Treasurer-elect Chuck Beckmeier KC7GMF. It was decided that the Budget committee would consist of the old and the new Board, since this gave a good mixture of more and less experienced club administrators. Sec-Treas. Jim Von Seggern KC7FEH distributed some information from previous budgets and asked that the committee put their own thoughts down to present at the September Board Meeting. We will have 3 HF operating positions for Field Day, plus a VHF position. There is capability for CW for those wishing to operate with that mode.

TheShoreline Auxilliary Communications Service (ACS) is sponsoring a SKYWARN training class on Monday, Sept. 14 at 7:00 pm, at the Bethel Lutheran Church of Shoreline, 17418 8th Ave. N.E. (location tentative). The

class will run approximately 2 1 /2 hrs. There is no charge for the class. All interested persons, hams and non-hams alike, are encouraged to attend.

SKYWARN is the National Weather Service (NWS) program of trained volunteer severe weather spotters. Severe weather includes flash flooding, hail, damaging winds, blizzards, and tornado funnels. SKYWARN spotters support their local community and government by providing the NWS and their local emergency managers with timely and accurate severe weather reports. These reports, when combined with Doppler radar and other data, are used to inform communities of the proper actions to take as severe weather threatens.

Ham participation in the SKYWARN program is formally acknowledged and encouraged in a Memorandum of Understanding between the NWS and the ARRL. The NWS may utilize the SKYWARN Amateur Radio operators not only to obtain and disseminate severe weather observations, but may also use them to maintain close coordination with the Red Cross and Emergency Managers from local government entities under ARES or RACES.

Fire fighters and police, as well as volunteers such as CB operators and others with access to cell phones or two-way radios, also provide severe weather data to NWS. SKYWARN spotters contribute many hours and the use of their own personal radio equipment and vehicles to give their communities advances warning of life-threatening weather. Since the NWS instituted the SKYWARN program, there has been a significant decrease in the death rate due to tornadoes and other severe weather.

Anyone interested in attending can call Kirk N7UK, at 206-542-6742, or e-mail n7uk@aol.com for more info.

As I prepare to turn over the books to Kirk and Chuck, and to take over from Lorie, I am increasingly aware of the size of the shoes I must now fill. Lorie may not be very big physically, but she has certainly had a very large and very effective presence over this past year, as well as all the years before. Under her very aggressive leadership, the club has made great strides forward. We are all greatly indebted to Lorie. I can only hope that I can in some way carry on in the same fashion.

Many of you know that I am about to move to the Kitsap peninsula. I'm not sure how it will work to be a remote control President, but one thing is for certain--I'll need some help from the membership. I'll be calling a lot, if not all, of you this summer to get people on the various jobs that need to be done. Most of them are not huge tasks, and if we can spread them out among the members, no one will be overwhelmed. I would welcome any calls from any of you who have special interests or would be willing to take on some committee work. It is, after all, your club, and it won't be viable if you don't make it YOUR club.

I guess that's about all for now. It's been fun to do the newsletter these last few years, but it really is time for a fresh perspective, and I look forward to receiving the next issue from Kirk. Thanks to all of you for your support, thanks for your vote of confidence in electing me President. I hope to see you all at the dinner and/or meeting on Thursday. 73 Jim KC7FEH