

SPARKS

Vol. 19, No. 2

Puget Amateur Radio Society

February 2003

Dues Due

Annual dues for 2003 are due at the general meeting, which is on Thursday, February 20, at 7 PM - \$15.00 for individual membership, \$22.50 for family (2 or more persons at the same address).

Upcoming Presentations

February 20	Harry Detman WX7S of Kirkland ARES
March 20	Ron Verschuyl K7AAE
April 17	Rick Beaty NU7Z

Cleanup Party for Mike & Key Swap Meet

The Mike & Key ARC Swap Meet is on Saturday, March 7. The cleanup party for the equipment we will sell at our table at the swap meet will be at Don Hickman's house on Sunday, March 2, at 1 PM. Please make arrangements with Don to drop off your donations before then. Please come and help clean and price the equipment.

QSL Cards Received

At the last meeting, Van handed me 6 QSL cards received by the club, but I forgot to show them off, so here is a transcription:

ITU Zone 28 Hungary, Europe CQ Zone 15
HA0DU

Istvan "Steve" Bogyo
P.O. Box 16.
Debrecen
H-4003

Confirming QSO with K7PAR
QTH Locator KNO7TM

Date	UTC	MHz	2way	RST
2001-09-15	19:34	15m	SSB	59

QSL: Pse Tnx (neither was circled)

Rig: FT-1000MP, homemade linear 1kW

Antennas: TH7DX, A3WS on a 30 m tower,
28 m vertical + 8 Beverages

73 es DX de Steve

JR3NZC, Jim Matsumoto, Nara Japan (JCC #2409)

[The photograph shows three towers with at least 15 Yagis of all sizes! The inset shows a well-stocked ham shack with Jim seated in front. - Ed.]

Jim Matsumoto
160-16 Takayama Cho
Ikoma City 630-0101
Japan

To Radio K7PAR Confirming Our QSO

Date	UTC	RST	MHz	2-Way
3/28/99	2300	59	21	SSB

LOC:PM74US

Rig: TS-940S, FT-1000MP, TL922 Kenwood,
5K-C Henry, 2006-A (50MHz)

Antenna: 1.9MHz: Full Size Dipole
3.5MHz: 3/4 Wave Sloper
3.8MHz: Dipole, G.P
7MHz: 2-el Yagi
14MHz: 4-el Yagi
21MHz: 6-el Yagi
28MHz: 3 stack Yagi

TNX FB QSO
PSE QSL
Jim

Amateur radiostation from Central Russia

UA3ZH

Vladimir V. Likhachiov
P.O. Box 9, Stary Oskol, 309530, Russia

To Radio: K7PAR

Day	Month	Year	UTC
28	03	1999	04:38

MHz	2-Way	RST
14	SSB	S9

WAZ-16 ITU-29 Obl-BO

73!
PSE QSL TNX

Next general meeting - Thursday, Feb. 20 at 7:00 PM at the Bellevue Senior Center, 4063 148th Ave. NE in Bellevue. Harry Detman WX7S of Kirkland ARES will speak. And be sure to join us at 5:30 PM for dinner at Coco's, 14804 NE 24th St. in Redmond. Visitors are always welcome at the meetings and at Coco's.

Next board meeting - Thursday, Mar. 6 at 7:00 PM at the Cowboy Steakhouse, located on the east side of the Totem Lake Mall in back of the Bank of America Bldg. Take the 124th St. exit off of I-405 and go east to the first street with a left turn lane. Turn left, cross the railroad tracks, continue to the next light, turn right at the bank, go one block and take a right. All PARS members are welcome.

Happy birthday to you!

Feb 17 John Heflin KD7E

Electronics Parts & Ham Stores Dwindling

Kirk Bellar reports that Active Electronics in Bellevue has abruptly gone out of business Tuesday, Feb. 4. All the US stores in the chain have closed but the Canadian stores are still open. Another source thought that only the western US stores have closed.

Radar Electric in downtown Seattle has been planning to move soon. I still don't know where.

Radio Depot in Georgetown is also closing. On Feb. 6 they were having a going-out-of-business sale, getting cleaned out rather quickly, according to Kirk, who mentioned that Proprietor Dave used to have a store in Bremerton, still lives there and has been commuting to Seattle every workday. He's getting tired of that, not making much money competing with mail order houses, especially because of the state sales tax.

Kirk reports that the Western Washington DX Club is talking about setting up a co-op similar to REI Co-op for group buys of ham equipment for club members to make up for the loss of Radio Depot.

To Heighten Your Awareness

From: "Ed Bruette" ebruet@silverlink.net
Date: Sat, 15 Feb 2003 21:35:45 -0800
Subject: Fw: SPECIAL EMCOMMWEST BULLETIN

All,

There are 2 messages below. The first is a suspicious activity alert from CA and the second documents activity described in the first msg. I have confidence in the source of the first msg but have not verified the second.

These messages are offered for your consideration and to heighten your awareness.

73,
Ed, N7NVP

----- Original Message -----

From: "David and Nannette Thorne"
Sent: Saturday, February 15, 2003 09:57 AM
Subject: SPECIAL EMCOMMWEST BULLETIN

To all ARES, other EMCOMM Operators and Public Safety Officials

D. W. Thorne, K6SOJ- Chief Editor - k6soj@arrr.net

INTERNET: www.emcomm.org E-MAIL:
k6soj@arrr.net

AT THE REQUEST OF THE CALIFORNIA
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

THIS SPECIAL BULLETIN IS SENT TO ALL
EMCOMMWEST SUBSCRIBERS -

Homeland Security Threat Advisory: Suspicious
Activity

We have received information from APCO (Associated Public Safety Communications Officers, Inc.) members that they have received numerous calls of a suspicious nature from people describing themselves as college students performing research.

The questions have included specific communications infrastructure location information requests. Additionally, there have been reports of people recording and photographing public safety communications towers.

While there has been no evidence to suggest these are not legitimate actions, APCO advises you to pay close attention to such activity and report anything suspicious according to your local Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). APCO further advises not to release information to persons of unknown origin at this or any other time. Additionally, APCO recommends that you re-evaluate your internal Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for procedures on handling these types of calls to ensure this issue is addressed specifically for communications related information during this time of heightened security.

Subject: FYI...Use caution

This afternoon, I received a suspicious call from a gentleman claiming to be long distance and representative of a "study of a Western College", desiring to speak to the person who could best answer questions concerning the radio repeater system we operated on in Rockdale County, Georgia.

He volunteered he had gotten my name and address from APCO Int. and that this research was for a college paper.

He spoke and sounded middle-eastern and was very disappointed when I told him I did not give "any" information out concerning my radio system to anyone by phone, and he could place his request in writing... He started to stammer and ask how he would do that, and I informed him he had my name and number and he should have my address and I ended the call.

I do not expect to receive anything in the mail from this individual. Recently, a discovery in Virginia upon a routine traffic stop it was found that a map of the entire state's radio system (towers etc) was found in the possession of a suspicious individual. WE DO NOT NEED TO ASSIST IN THE COMPILATION OF THIS INFORMATION.

Please DO NOT give out any information to inquiries about your communications system, 911 switches, or other type of surveys that could furnish information to wrong people.

I wish I had been able document the caller's phone number, as I have caller ID, but it was not retrievable on my system. If any of you receive these calls, if you can get a call back number or more information, please do so and forward to GEMA. I am notifying GEMA at this time.

Thanks
Carolyn H. Hunter

(Communications Director - Rockdale County GA)

**Minutes of the PARS general meeting,
16 January 2003**

The members met at the Bellevue Senior Center. The business meeting began at 7:06 PM, with 6 members (a quorum), 3 guests, and our speakers.

Our speakers, Gene Underwood N7AKA, and his XYL Fran, gave an interesting presentation about their work providing ham radio and physical support for entrants in bike and foot races and parades.

The business meeting began at 8:38. The minutes were approved as they appeared in Sparks.

Discussion on ham activities: More about the 11 AM weekday HF net on 14.305 MHz called the Prestigious Group. A contact from Michigan was mentioned.

Trailer report: The trailer was inspected and moved closer to the building. We talked about the need to find a better way to stow our antennas. We still need to reduce RFI to the Senior Center's PA system.

Hamfest report: We sent in the form, but haven't received the reply yet.

Field Day report: We're still pursuing a joint Field Day with the Microsoft employee ham club, the Microhams. Haven't heard from them yet.

Treasurer's report: Van received a copy of the Ham University software.

Christmas Party report: A good time was had by all. The Ham of the Year award was given to Doug Bell.

Upcoming contests: Van will coordinate the CQ WPX in late March.

Trailer Inventory: Charles and Don completed the trailer inventory and provided copies to members of the board.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted –
Doug Bell, KD7KKR
PARS Secretary

PARS 2002 - 03 Club Officers:			
President	Don Hickman	KC7MDA	425-821-7025
Vice-President	Charles Beckmeier	KC7GMF	425-822-2339
Secretary	Doug Bell	KD7KKR	206-362-2421
Treasurer	Van Kichline	KD7QIT	425-820-7278

The Puget Amateur Radio Society (PARS) is an ARRL-affiliated club serving radio amateurs in the greater Seattle area. Meetings are normally held on the third Thursday of the month (except July, August, and December) at 7:00 PM at the North Bellevue Senior Center, 4063 148th Ave. NE. Visitors are always welcome.
Annual dues are \$15.00 for individual membership, \$22.50 for family (2 or more persons at the same address). PARS will prorate the dues of new members joining after Jan. 31. Call Kirk, N7UK, for a membership application.
Visit our Web page at http://www.qsl.net/k7par . This is always a work in progress, so check back often.
Visit our Repeater at 443.200 MHz, positive offset, PL tone 103.5 Hz.
Send articles , comments, want ads, etc. for inclusion in this newsletter to Doug Bell, KD7KKR, 12755 27th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98125-4311, or e-mail to Doug at warrenhb@msn.com .
Send all other club-related correspondence to PARS, PO Box 32, Kirkland, WA 98083-0032.