

# Puget Amateur Radio Society

## SPARKS

VOLUME 10 NO.10

OCTOBER 1996

President: A1 Staples N7VOF 454-2882  
Vice-Pres: Bob Adams KJ7BP454-0506  
Secretary: Jim Von Seggern KC7FEH 885-7333  
Treasurer: Chaz Hitz N7NNS821-5963

NEXT MEETING:  
7:30 pm, Thursday  
October 17, 1996  
Puget Auditorium

### FROM TEMPORARY EDITOR TOM GROTT:

When the cat's away the mice might play. Well, maybe not, but since Jim, KC7FEH, our Sparks Editor, PARS Secretary and Board Chairman is out kicking around the world somewhere with his charming wife, Arzetta, some of us get to deviate a bit from his way of doing things. So please hang on and we'll try to cover all of the bases in Jim's absence.

### MINUTES of the SEPTEMBER 19, 1996 PUGET AMATUER RADIO SOCIETY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President A1 Staples, N7VOF. A quorum was present.

Those present introduced themselves including guests Lyman Petersen, KJ7YK, Joe Langjahr, KJ7DG, and Erik Johnson, KC7QLS.

The members approved the Treasurer's Report that was presented in the September issue of Sparks.

Chuck Stroehner, WA7EBH, reported that the EARS 911 group could use more support. He would also like more help for the Issaquah Salmon Days Parade on October 5.

Bob Adams, KJ7BP, told of the Field Day activities of last June when President A1, N7VOF, guarding the trailer overnight, was awakened at 11 p.m. and again at 3 a.m. when the sprinklers sprayed the trailer.

Tom Grotte, WB7TEJ, in accordance with our By-Laws, made a motion to present and discuss changes to the PARS By-Laws. Although members had been mailed a draft which showed most of the recommended changes, our By Laws require that changes first be presented as a motion at a meeting, followed by a mailing of the proposed By Laws to all members at least

20 days in advance of a meeting at which a vote to accept can be made. The members requested to further revise ARTICLE IX, Paragraph A, to drop the word "written" and include the word "timely" rather than "each month" regarding reports to the newsletter editor. All other changes to the proposed By-Laws were deemed acceptable. It was noted that the changes will also require a vote to extend the term of our present officers for an additional six months in order to properly enact the new By-Laws. A vote to accept the proposed By Laws and also adjust the present term of office will be made at the October 17 meeting.

Chuck Graff, K7CHV, reported bad and good news. The parking lot north of the Puget Power Auditorium has apparently been sold and a sale of the building may be pending. But he said we are in good standing with Puget because a middle management person decided that it would be good to establish a ham radio group under Puget to assist communications in the event of an extreme emergency. Chuck notified the person that we have been in existence for about ten years, and that we are prepared for an emergency.

Chuck also said he has all of the hardware to reassemble the PARS Bulletin Board System computer and that the phone line is still available. All he needs is a bit more time.

The meeting was adjourned.

Following our social time, Bob Adams, KJ7BP, made an excellent presentation about aircraft directional radio systems from the original loop direction finders up to the present GPS equipment.

-- Tom Grotte, Temporary PARS Secretary.

#### THE PRES SAYS:

Just a reminder that we need a good turnout on the 17th to vote on approval of the revised By Laws. Also, a vote is needed to extend the term of the current slate of officers until June 30, 1997, assuming the revised *By-Laws* are approved.

#### THE TREASURER'S REPORT:

Chaz Hitz, N7NNS, reports this has been a wonderful month because nothing changed.

#### PROGRAMS:

At the October Meeting, Jim Hossack, W7LS, and Stuart Whiting, , will tell us about their ham support during a Tacoma Trail Cruisers motorbike event. Stuart will also tell us about his trip to an ARRL Digital Convention.

Jerry Sampont, WA7BUY, is scheduled for November. Jerry always digs up a good program. Better plan to attend.

#### EASTSIDE AMATEUR RADIO SUPPORT GROUP:

The 911 group meets the second Tuesday of each month. They "call out" at 6 pm on 147.10 MHz and 443.7 MHz prior to each meeting. For more information contact Chuck Stroehner, WA7EBH, at 392-5303 or John Black, W7HIL at 746-7611.

#### OTHER EVENTS:

It is once again time for members of PARS to suggest a nominee for the annual "Ham of the Year Award". Please look over the roster and be prepared to write the name of your choice on a slip of paper to be collected at the October meeting. The last three active recipients of the award will make the final selection and the award will probably be presented at the December meeting (or party). The rules we have followed are:

Nominees should be members of PARS, but could be selected because of service or achievement outside of PARS.

Nominees can be selected because of service or achievement over several previous years, not just the last 12 months.

People who have been previously honored can be nominated again.

The new honoree can retain the plaque for most of the year, returning it to the committee in preparation for the new year.

#### OTHER ITEMS FROM TOM:

The FCC has a new "information" toll free phone line. Just dial 1-888-CALLFCC, or 1-888-2255-322. Be prepared to listen

to recorded instructions telling you which buttons to push to get to your item of interest. I called and stayed on the line until they answered and talked with a very polite person who says complaints should now be mailed to their "San Francisco" office at:

FCC 3777  
Depot Road Room  
420 Hayward, CA  
94545-2756

They will dispatch people as necessary to investigate the problem. Their local office is now closed to the public but I am told that two people are still located in this area to solve problems.

Several things should be done before entering a complaint to the FCC. Start by documenting the date, time and nature of the problem. Try to make a tape recording if appropriate. Contact other hams to help witness the problem. Report to the ARRL Section Manager, Harry Lewis, W7JWJ, at 523-9117 and/or Official Observer Merle McLaughlin, W7DNY at 206-316-3133, who now lives in Everett. They know hams who are experienced at locating troublemakers and dealing with them before calling the FCC.

The FCC issued a new rule in August of this year regarding the "Placement of Direct Broadcast Satellite, Multichannel Multipoint Distribution Service (wireless cable) and Television Broadcast Antennas.'

You may not be interested in these DBS, MMDS and TVBS gizmos but this new ruling is a step in our favor. The fine print says a covenant in your neighborhood, which is a restrictive agreement between you and your neighbors, can not prevent you from having a means to receive a TV signal. This is the first time the FCC has acted to break into a covenant. Now there is a further move to allow cellular phone equipment to be exempt from these neighborhood covenants. If and when they get around to including us, we will still be required to adhere to local building codes, primarily to assure safety for our neighbors and ourselves.

Ben, N7IVM and Phyllis Bennett will be moving to Olympia before the end of this month. We'll get his new address and phone number for the next SPARKS.

#### ADDRESS CORRECTIONS:

The correct street address for Jim, W7LS, & Julia, N7KWI, Hossack is:  
15221 342nd Avenue NE.

And the correct ZIP Code for Herschel Whiting, WS7K, is: 98033.