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Newsletter of the North Kitsap Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 2268
Silverdale, WA 98383-2268
website: <http://www.nkarc.org>

January, 2007

President's Corner

Howdy! First I wanted to thank you all for the vote of confidence in electing me President. Things have gotten off to a bit of a rocky start, what with the weather delaying the Holiday Dinner and impacting the January meeting, but I really think it's going to be a great year.

I guess a little introduction might be in order. I've been a Ham for only the last 15yrs or so, but I grew up with two Ham parents. Mom (WA2YSH) & Dad (WA2UDG) were active in the local club in New Jersey and I was always shadowing my father when he went to Hamfests or participated in Civil Defense (remember that term?) drills. From an early age I was hooked. I have a loving and supportive Wife (Rachel) and two boys (Jospeh-6 & Connor-2).

I spent 20 years in the Navy as a Boiler Technician/Machinist Mate before retiring as an E-6 in 2005. Currently I work for Todd Pacific Shipyards as the Work Certification Supervisor on Naval Base Kitsap – Bremerton. I am also taking college courses through the University of Phoenix to finish my BS in Organizational Security Management.

I am really looking forward to working with you all and having some fun! See you all at the February meeting!

73/Chris {KB2SKP}

Correction regarding ARES/RACES/ACS participation during the mid-December wind storms

In last month's newsletter, under the topic "Wind Storms", by Horace Ory, K7ORY, there was a statement that ARES/RACES/ACS radio support was not required. Horace has confirmed that he was only speaking on behalf of the Red Cross. Kitsap DEM mobilized ACS at approximately 2330 hours on 12/14 to man the county EOC and several fire stations. Monte, K2MLS, established a net control on the 145.430 repeater taking check-ins while asking for volunteers; most stations were manned by 2400, including the EOC, FS 51, FS 71 and FS 81, and possibly others. (During one 20 minute period, there were 25 calls to 911 for trees into houses)! The callout was secured at approximately 0345 on 12/15 when the winds and 911 calls subsided. Participants included Lester AB7Y, Jerry K9CCZ, Ed N7NVP, Peter KB7TGF, plus others and those who continued to monitor the repeater. Since the normal lines of communication remained intact, our activity was minimal but we were 'on station' and readily available if needed.

Peter, KB7TGF

New Club Officers

After the January 24 evening meeting, the club's officers were finalized as follows:

President – Chris McGraw {KB2SKP}
Vice President – Jerry Turner {K9CCZ}
Secretary – Malcolm Mannan {NF7M}
Treasurer – Scott Hogin {N2ZEN}

73/Chris {KB2SKP}

License Exam Sessions

The next session of license exams is Saturday, February 3, 2007, at the Poulsbo Library. Note that the elimination of the Morse Code exam requirement will not yet be effective for that session.

The Morse Code change will be effective 30 days after publication of the FCC Report and Order in the Federal Register. As of January 13, 2007, it had not yet been published. Therefore, it will be some time after February 10, depending on when publication in the Federal Register occurs, before the change is effective.

The next currently scheduled exam session after February is May 19, 2007. However, anticipating that there will be an increase in exam attendance after the Morse Code requirement is eliminated, an additional session probably will be scheduled before May 19. The date or dates will be determined after it is known when the change will take effect, and the information will be made available through the club newsletter and the Yahoo NKARC remailer. If you are interested in an additional session, please notify Horace Ory at ory001@comcast.net and you will be informed about additional sessions.

Horace, K7ORY

2007 Communications Academy

The 2007 Communications Academy is open to anyone with an interest in emergency communications, volunteer or professional. The presentations are designed to promote the development of knowledgeable, skilled emergency communicators who will support their local communities during a disaster or emergency response.

DATES: March 31 - April 1, 2007

LOCATION: Seattle Pacific University Campus

WEB ADDRESS: www.CommAcademy.org

Our 2007 keynote speaker is John Cline. As the director of the Idaho Bureau of Disaster Services from 1995 through 2003, Cline coordinated the State's disaster mitigation and preparedness programs and response and recovery operations to overcome the effects of fire, flood, ice and snow emergencies, and landslides. He directed the State's response and recovery for more than 50 local disasters, 25 state-declared major emergencies and disasters, and four Presidentially-declared disasters leading to physical and economic recovery of numerous communities throughout the State of Idaho. John has more than 40 years of combined service in antiterrorism, emergency planning, and response and recovery operations as a firefighter with the U.S. Forest Service, civilian and military police officer, and as an emergency manager.

Harold Kramer from the ARRL will be the Academy's second keynote speaker. As Chief Operating Officer for ARRL, he will speak on future directions for ARRL, with an emphasis on EmComm and Public Service.

This year's event will again offer an Introduction to Radio Communications.

The full schedule and online registration is expected to be available about February 15, 2007.

Sincerely,
Bruce Miller, kc7iay
CommAcademy PIO

Hat Tip: Horace Ory, K7ORY

Tasty Tidbits

URL of the Week - From Slashdot (<http://www.slashdot.com>) comes word of a free 2007 astronomical naked-eye observing calendar (<http://www.astrowhatsup.com/download-the-book>) by Tammy Plotner, called "What's Up? 365 Days of Skywatching". Hams tend to have a passing interest in skyward events so this might be an interesting item to have on one's hard drive.

The latest issue of Microwaves & RF magazine contains an overview of the new ALMA millimeter-wave radio telescope (<http://tinyurl.com/y4hapb>) that is under construction in the northern Chilean desert. There will be 66 dishes operating from 31.3 - 950 GHz!

Lots of answers to questions about RFI are addressed in the tutorial that has just been published by Jim K9YC. He says it's not finished, but far enough along to publish. Grab a copy at <http://audiosystemsgroup.com/RFI-Ham.pdf> (Thanks, Jim K9YC)

From: "CONTESTER'S RATE SHEET", 10 January 2007, edited by Ward Silver N0AX

Hat Tip: Horace Ory, K7ORY

Mike & Key ARC Hamfest

The 26th annual Mike & Key ARC Hamfest will be Saturday, March 10, 2007 at the Pavilion Exhibition Hall of the Western Washington Fairgrounds in Puyallup, WA. This is one of the largest and best attended hamfests in Washington. It will include extensive radio, electronics, and computer gear. It will also offer amateur radio license exams. Talk-in will be on the Mike & Key repeater: 146.82 (-) PL 103.5.

Hat Tip: Horace Ory, K7ORY

RACES/ACS Net Sessions

The Kitsap RACES/ACS net is held on Sunday nights at 7:00PM on 28.330 MHz, and at 7:30PM on the 145.43 repeater (-600 offset, 179.9 PL tone). Check in and be informed on emergency communications in Kitsap County. The packet radio net is on 145.01 MHz at 7:00PM; connect and type "/talk" at the prompt.

2007 Club Dues

Time flies and it's time to renew our memberships again. Put a check for your dues in the mail and address it to the club (Box 2268, Silverdale, WA 98383-2268), or bring it to one of the presentation meetings. Dues are \$15/year (\$12 for seniors & students).

Scott Hogin, N2ZEN

Calendar of Events

February 3rd -- Ham radio license (VE) testing - Community Room, Poulsbo Library, 700 NE Lincoln St., Poulsbo. Doors open at 9AM. Picture ID, original and photocopy of current amateur radio license and pending CSCE's needed. Cost of session is \$14.00. Cash only - No checks accepted. If you have any questions, please call Horace, K7ORY, at 360-779-2215. <see elsewhere this newsletter for additional details>

March 10th -- Mike & Key ARC Hamfest. <see elsewhere this newsletter for details>

March 31st - April 1st -- 2007 Communications Academy. <see elsewhere this newsletter for details>

Washington State Emergency Net

The Washington State Emergency Net (WSEN) meets at 1830 hours (local) for its Monday evening net. The WSEN also meets each Saturday morning at 0900 hours (local). The frequency of the net is 3985 kHz. (alternate: 7245 kHz.).

NKARC “Yahoo! Group”

Did you know that we have a NKARC group on Yahoo!? To join, you should obtain a free Yahoo! email account if you don't have one. This can be obtained at <http://www.yahoo.com/r/m1> - click on the “Sign Up” link. Once you have your email account activated, send an email to “NKARC-subscribe@yahoogroups.com” and await the response, which will contain instructions on how to complete the transaction.

NKARC web page

Visit the NKARC webpage at: <http://www.nkarc.org> and take a look at what is there. If you have any items advertised on the site that have been sold, please notify the webmaster of them. If you have any questions or ideas, email Bill, W7ARC at: webmaster@nkarc.org

Early Newsletter Delivery?

Want your newsletter as soon as it comes out of the word processor? Send your e-mail address to the newsletter editor, W7DY, and it will be emailed out in .PDF format immediately after proofreading. It costs approximately 70 cents per copy to print and mail a hardcopy of the newsletter. Receiving your newsletter electronically helps keep publishing costs down allowing the funds to be used for other club projects.

Change of Address or Call Sign?

Please notify the club secretary to update the roster if you changed your address, call sign or e-mail address. Include your phone number so that you can be contacted in case of emergency or for assistance. This will insure that you will get the latest news via the club newsletter. Either notify Malcolm at the meeting or drop a card to NKARC at PO Box 2268, Silverdale, WA 98383-2268. You can also send the changes via e-mail to Malcolm at nf7m@arrl.net.

NKARC Roster

The NKARC roster is distributed only to members in order to protect information that members may wish to keep private. Changes to the roster occur frequently, as members renew dues and update information throughout the year. A current copy of the NKARC member roster is maintained in the Files section of the NKARC Yahoo Group, where members of the group can download it. Not all NKARC members are members of the Yahoo group, and some may prefer not having to download it. Therefore, in order to provide copies of the roster to members, it will be emailed each January and July to members who have provided valid email addresses for the roster. Also, members may request copies from the club Secretary.

Keep Kitsap Green

Help the environment by properly disposing of discharged household batteries. This includes alkaline, regular zinc carbide batteries, and batteries with heavy metals such as ni-cads and lithium ion. The Solid Waste Facility on Hansville Road accepts the batteries as part of the county-wide recycling program. Otherwise, bring them to the club meetings for transfer to the disposal site. Do not bring lead-acid batteries to the meeting for disposal. It is your responsibility to take them to the Solid Waste Facility.

For more information:
<http://www.kitsapgov.com/sw/default.htm>