

# Solid Copy de KC7Z

## Newsletter of the North Kitsap Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 2268

Silverdale, WA 98383-2268

website: <http://www.nkarc.org>

May-June, 2007

### President's Corner

The May 19th breakfast meeting was another success! After some good coffee, a delicious breakfast and some friendly talk, the meeting was called to order. Once the formalities were out of the way it was time to get down to business: FIELD DAY 2007! A site has been selected: The Wal-Mart Super-Center in Poulsbo. Jerry, K9CCZ, has tried this spot on HF from his mobile rig with great success, so we may very well have a winner!

We will be needing operators to work all bands and modes throughout the weekend. Come on out! If you have a rig or antenna you would like to bring and set up, please let me know ahead of time so I can make sure we have room and power ready for you. The only thing you really need to bring along is a willingness to have fun, lend a hand when you can, and share some good times with friends!

Setup will begin approximately 1:30PM on Friday, June 22 in the parking lot of Wal-Mart. Talk-In for the setup will be on the 145.43 repeater (Tone 179.9). It was also decided that Saturday's dinner during field day would be a potluck where everyone could bring their family out to enjoy some good food and share in the creation of more great memories.

More details will be hashed out at the meeting on Saturday, June 16th at the Holiday Inn Express in Poulsbo at 10AM. We will be looking for operators, discussing the Saturday evening potluck, and the

like, so come on out! This will be the last meeting before Field Day, so that will be our main topic of conversation, but also I hope to have more information with regards to the new 440MHz repeater being worked on by Malcolm, NF7M, and also the possibility of a club setting up a 6m. repeater (see elsewhere this newsletter for additional information). Hope to see you there!

73,

Chris, KB2SKP

### Minutes of the NKARC Business Meeting Saturday, 21 April, 2007

The meeting was called order at 10:45 a.m. by President Chris McGraw at the Holiday Inn Express. This was the first meeting held on a weekend, and there were 21 in attendance. Breakfast was available before the meeting.

The minutes of the March 28, 2007 business meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer reported that the checking account held \$638, the savings account held \$3,845, and there was \$2,025 in the CD. The report was approved.

Hamfest planning was on track, and letters to prospective vendors will be sent out around May 1.

Ham support for upcoming events, the Governor's

Run May 6 and the Hot-Foot 5k race in June has been requested. Ham support for the Port Gamble Old Mill Festival will not be needed; they had in mind broadcast advertising support.

Some members will participate in the May 12 Boat Show on Bainbridge Island. In this connection, a Technician class for members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary is being set up.

Field Day (June 23-24) planning is pressing. A decision on where to hold the event and to make support arrangements should be completed by the May meeting. Members were asked to serve on a Field Day committee.

Radio equipment donated by Betty Bibeau KF6BOI was reported and described. Some of this equipment was sold to members at the end of the meeting; some will be placed in the trailer to support emergency operations, and some will be sold at the Hamfest.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 Noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Horace Ory K7ORY, Temporary Substitute Secretary

### **The NKARC “440 Repeater Project”**

Malcolm, NF7M, has graciously offered to donate a 440 MHz, 30 Watt repeater he has to the club. It is currently setup to operate on 445.750RX/449.750TX. The transmitter, receivers, and PA's are from Hamtronics, and the repeater controller is a Micro Computer Concepts RC-1000 with a tone decoder module from ComSpec (TS-32P). Currently the repeater is configured to operate with a tone of 123.0.

Malcolm is currently in the process of updating the wiring and replacing some of the feed through capacitors that were found to be broken. He has my full confidence, that when he has completed, all will

be working.

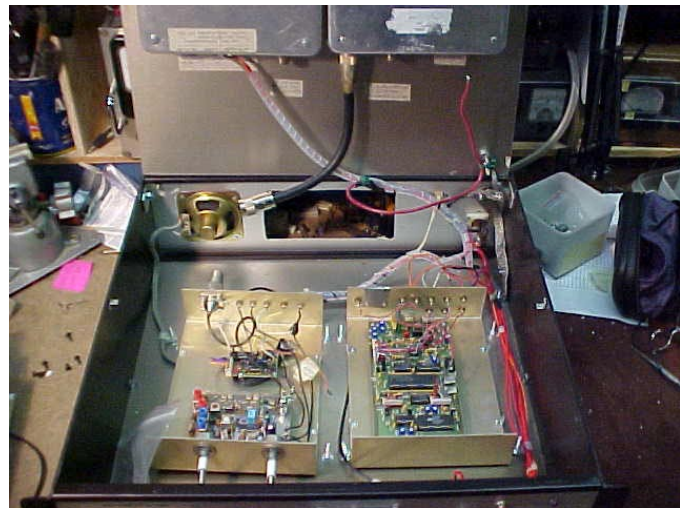
OK now for the hitch in the giddy-up; the pair of crystals currently installed has been reserved by another fellow on the other side of the sound. We are looking at trying to identify a different pair or investigating the possibility of using the same pair with a different tone. Some things we would have to purchase are an antenna and a duplexer, which are very affordable.

The stumbling block right now (besides the freq) is where do we put it? A few locations for been mentioned, but we need to actively seek out points of contact and hammer out the details.

This will also be a topic of conversation for the Saturday June 16th breakfast meeting!

Chris, KB2SKP

[editor's note: Malcolm adds: “The testing and rebuilding of the repeater is coming along fine. I have tested all the modules and now have them to working together. I am now finishing up the rewiring of the power and ground wires. I replaced the power switches and fuse holder with one rated for more current and expect the power loss across the



*Photo credit: Malcolm Mannan, NF7M*

internal components to be much less than 2.2 volts it was exhibiting. The repeater draws about 7 amps at 13.6 volts. I hope to have that done this weekend, then I want to change the programmed call sign and voice announcement. I was surprised to hear it announce in voice as I thought it was the non-voice controller.”]

## **“The 6m Venture”**

We are still looking into what it would take to put together a 6m repeater that could cover Central & North Kitsap County. Currently I and a few other members are gathering more information on prices and equipment. I encourage anyone interested to feel free to do some digging of their own and either bring your info to the next meeting or feel free to contact me or any of the club officers/board members. The preliminary information I have been seeing, indicates this band is becoming more popular, and with the decline in equipment costs and the availability of 6m on many different rigs now, this may be a good time to get established before the band is full!

Chris, KB2SKP

## **Additional VE exam session scheduled**

We have scheduled an additional VE exam session for June 30, 2007, at 9:00 a.m. at the Poulsbo Library. This will help to fill the long gap between our May 19 and upcoming August 4 sessions. It will also provide a last chance for those who want to take the General exam before the question pool changes.

We are also scheduling a Technician class for the North Kitsap Coast Guard Auxiliary in Bainbridge Island in late September. The timing should make it convenient for the class to take their exams at our Hamfest Exam Session October 13, 2007.

There will also be a November 3 exam at the Poulsbo library.

Horace, K7ORY

## **NKARC “Off-The-Wall” net**

Some of you may not have gotten the word, so I would like to take this opportunity to invite all members to join me on the 145.43 MHz Repeater on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 for the NKARC “Off-The-Wall” net! At our last meeting it was discussed that we don’t get on the air with one another enough and for those members who are unable to make the meetings, this would be a great way to get the word out and keep everyone up to date.

Chris, KB2SKP

## **Dozens of California repeater systems ordered to mitigate interference or shut down**

The USAF has asked the FCC to order dozens of repeater systems to either mitigate interference to “PAVE PAWS” radars or shut down. The situation affects 15 repeaters in the vicinity of Otis AFB and more than 100 repeaters within some 140 miles of Beale AFB near Sacramento, CA. Amateur Radio is secondary to government users from 420 to 450 MHz and must not interfere with primary users. The Phased Array Warning System is a missile and satellite detection and tracking system. As a “first step” to mitigate the interference until other solutions can be found, the ARRL is recommending that all affected repeater owners reduce power==possibly to as little as 5W effective radiated power(ERP). (Taken from “Monitoring Times” magazine, Vol 26, No 6 June 07).

73,

Jerry, K9CCZ

## Calendar of Events

June 16th -- NKARC breakfast meeting - 10:00AM at the Poulsbo Holiday Inn Express (North of Albertson's)

June 22nd -- ARRL field day NKARC setup - 1:30PM at the Poulsbo Wal-Mart parking lot

June 23rd -- Hot Foot 5K. Point of contact: Merv, N7IZ, n7iz@arrl.net

June 23rd - 24th -- ARRL Field Day (NKARC at the Poulsbo Wal-Mart parking lot)

June 30th -- 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 dates>

## Club dues notice

It's still not too late to renew! The club's operating year is the same as the calendar year. 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 business or breakfast meetings. Dues are \$15/year (\$12 for seniors & students).

An application has been included as part of the newsletter (as an email attachment for those who receive it that way).

Scott Hogin, N2ZEN

## 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.

## Underpaid Authors Wanted

Here's a thought that comes to mind concerning getting interesting articles into the newsletter. Not all of us have great writing skills, but most of us have opinions, interesting tales to tell, or questions to ask. Our newsletter is a great place to put your ideas out to the rest of the ham world. If you would like to tell of your experiences, or to ask questions, technical, or ethical, submit them to our editor. Send them in any form and don't worry about being grammatically perfect. The Editor can tidy your handiwork and our readers will get more variety.

Ron, N7EM

## **Washington State Emergency Net**

The Washington State Emergency Net (WSEN) currently meets at 1730 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.).

## **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.

## **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](mailto:webmaster@nkarc.org)

## **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](mailto:nf7m@arrl.net).

## **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 (at the usual ARRL email suffix), and it will be emailed out in .PDF format immediately after proofreading. It costs approximately 70 cents per copy to print and mail a hard-copy of the newsletter. Receiving your newsletter electronically helps keep publishing costs down allowing the funds to be used for other club projects.

## **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>