

Solid Copy de KC7Z

Newsletter of the North Kitsap Amateur Radio Club

PO BOX 2268 -- Silverdale, WA 98383-2268

Web page: <http://www.nkarc.org>

October 2009

Pres Sez

First of all I would like to thank Bob Tomas – N7KTP for resurrecting the newsletter once again. It is my hope that the Club members will rally behind him on this project.

The year is coming to an end and the Club has much to be proud of. Our membership has grown by approximately one-third. A good portion of those members came in as Technicians and are now Generals. Field Day was a great success and Lighthouse on the Air was one of the best events I personally have ever attended. Although we did not hold a Hamfest it's successor the swap meet was a moderate success even if it was the hottest day of the year and there was no shade. Since we live in western Washington we needed a little sun anyhow. The new project nights were not well supported but those that did usually can away with new knowledge and a few sea stories.

As the year draws to an end we still have a couple of items that need our attention. One is the December holiday dinner and the other item that goes along with the dinner is nomination and election of new Officers and Directors for 2010.

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NKARC Web Page

Visit the NKARC web page at:

<http://www.nkarc.org>

and take a look at what is there.

If you have any questions or ideas, email webmaster Dave, N7ORM at:

webmaster@nkarc.org.

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Hello, I'm back:

In December 2005, I wrote "73 es cul" as I relinquished the job of Solid Copy editor to Eric, AD7EP. This was because my wife Lois, N7ZAD, became sick and I had to spend more time at home. She has since recovered and we both say "thanks" for the wonderful support of the NKARC members. Thanks, also, to Eric for his work in putting out the club newsletter during his tenure. He, too, was forced to relinquish the job because of work and family commitments.

Now, for the newer club members who do not know me, I have been a member of NKARC since 1987, the year I got my license as a Tech Plus. That year, I volunteered to help Dave, N7HTK, put out the club newsletter and I have been doing so for most of the years since. I started on a Kaypro2 using MSWord in DOS and a dot matrix printer. Printed a master copy and then went to Office Depot to print more than 60 copies for mailing. Today, I will be doing the job using MSWord 2003 on an IBM NetVista machine which is one of 4 networked in a LAN and send over 55 copies on e-mail. Never dreamed back then that I would have my own LAN network.

It's a challenge and enjoyment to put together the club newsletter during its cycles of up and down activity. Reporting on Field Day, Hamfest, Subs on the Air, Special Events and other activities has shown me the wide spectrum of participation available to the members. Finding material to share with the club members has led me to sources I would have never found if it were not for the need. I expect that this will continue.

Suggestions and material from club members are greatly appreciated. Don't worry about style and/or format. Get the ideas down on paper and we can work together to get an article into the newsletter. I heard that the great authors have editors to help them with their material.

Bob, N7KTP

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Calendar of Events:

Oct.17th – General Club Meeting -- Fire Station #51,
Silverdale – 10:00 AM

Oct. 23rd -- Project Night – Fire Station # 51 Silverdale
– 6:30 PM

Oct. 31st – Club Breakfast – All Star Lanes – 9:00 AM

Nov. 13th – Directors/Business Meeting – Fire Station #
51

Nov. 18th -- VE testing -- Poulsbo Library – 7:00 PM

Nov. 21st -- General Club Meeting -- Fire Station #51,
Silverdale – 10:00 AM

Nov. 27th -- Project Night – Fire Station # 51 Silverdale
– 6:30 PM

Nov. 28th – Club Breakfast – All Star Lanes – 9:00 AM

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From the VE Team:

VE Exam Results

So far this year we have completed 5 bi-monthly VE exam sessions. In addition, we have had two class-related sessions, one for a Technician class, and one for a General class. New licenses or upgrades earned total 16 Technician, 10 General, and 6 Extra licenses.

The last VE exam session for 2009 will be at 7:00 p.m. November 18, 2009, at the Poulsbo Library.

Vanity Call Sign Fee

The registration fee for a vanity call sign will be \$13.40 for the ten-year license term, effective September 10, 2009.

Horace Ory, K7ORY

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Looking for Elmer:

Did you meet Elmer before you got involved in amateur radio? Or did you meet him after you got your license and he gave you good advice on how to start? Think back of the help was in learning what those strange term like propagation meant. There is somebody else who now need help.

Why not introduce Elmer to that person?

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Packet Radio on 145.01Mhz:

The following are excerpts from an e-mail received by Chris, KB2SKP, from Gary, K7EK, regarding the availability of packet radio services in the Puget Sound area on 145.01 Mhz. Those in in Packet Radio in Kitsap County should try to connect to the nodes listed and see what the connect situation is. If connection nodes need to be setup, that could be arranged.

Scott::

My BBS and all packet services are now on 145.01 mhz. That includes SEABBS / K7EK, TELPAC / K7EK-4, DXTAC / K7EK-1, SOTAC / K7EK-5, etc. Please try to connect to any of those direct if you can.

There is still some things to adjust in SEA so that node won't try to connect to my stuff through the old 220 connection. If you try connecting to SEA and then to any of those entities listed above, it may end up going the long (slow) way around. Worst case is that you can connect to any of them VIA SEA if you can't make it directly. Please give it a try. We (may) need to find other ways to get to my system. I am sure that there are enough stations on 145.01 that can be used as digipeaters or nodes (KA-nodes), etc, that we could effectively stop using SEA altogether if we had to. I am on 145.01 mhz for the long haul and won't be going back to his 220 link as before.

I am running 50 watts and a Diamond X500 antenna on 145.01. You should be able to hit me quite easily, either direct, or using SEA as a digi (VIA), or using automatic netrom routing by first connecting to SEA and then to me.

Please tell everyone you know on packet of the changes. Thanks....

Best regards,

Gary, K7EK

I live in Hansville, the most isolated VHF area in Kitsap County with high ridges to the east and south. Made a connection to KB2SKP -7 (the node) and then connected to SEABBS and K7IK-1 (DXCluster) using 10 watts. The initial connection to KB2SIP-7 was solid with no “bumps” and the connections to K7EK worked the same way. This shows that we can maintain packet communications throughout the county and Puget Sound area in a LAN

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configuration. Great for emergency communication.

Bob, N7KTP

Ten Commandments of Electrical/Electronic Safety

The following looks like it was part of the lessons learned in a naval school for electricians and/or electronic technicians. There is humor in the writing but there is important safety advice for all of us. Enjoy.....

I. Beware of the lightning that lurketh in seemingly uncharged capacitors lest it cause thee to bounce upon thy buttocks in an unseamanlike manner and cause thy hair to stand on end, thereby exceeding regulation length.

II. Cause thou the switch that supplieth large quantities of juice to be opened and thusly tagged, that thy days may be long in this earthly vale.

III. Prove to thyself that all circuits that radiateth and upon which thou worketh are grounded and thusly tagged, lest they lift thee to radio frequency potential and causeth thee to radiate with the angels.

IV. Tarry thou not amongst those fools that engage in intentional shocks, for they are not long of this world and are surely unbelievers.

V. Take care thou useth the proper method when thou taketh the measure of high voltage so thou dost not incinerate both thee and thy test equipment. For verily, though thou hast no NSN (National Stock Number) and can be easily surveyed, the test equipment has one, and as a consequence, bringeth much woe to thy supply officer.

VI. Take care thou tamperest not with interlocks and safety devices, for this incurreth the wrath of thy department head and bringeth the fury of thy Commanding Officer on thy head.

VII. Work thou not on energized equipment without proper procedures, for if thou dost so, thy shipmates will surely be buying beers for thy widow and consoling her in ways not generally acceptable to thee.

VIII. Verily, verily, I say unto thee, never service equipment alone, for electrical cooking is a slow process, and thou might sizzle in thine own fat upon a hot circuit for hours on end before thy maker sees fit to end thy misery and drag thee into his fold.

IX. Trifle thee not with radioactive tubes and substances lest thou commence to glow in the dark like a

lightning bug and thy wife be frustrated and have no further use for thee except thy wages .

X. Commit thou to memory all the words of the prophets which are written down in the 300th chapter of thy bible which is the 'Naval Ship's Technical Manual' and giveth out with the straight dope and counseleth thee when thou hast suffered a ream job by thy division LPO (Leading Petty Officer).

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Change 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 Horace 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 Horace or Bob Tomas at bobtomas@sprintmail.com

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RACES/ACS Net Sessions:

The Kitsap RACES/ACS net is held on Sunday nights at 7:30 PM 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 in on 145.01 Mhz at 7:00 PM. Connect and type "/talk" at the prompt. If you have 10meter capability, check into the HF Net on 28.330 Mhz starting at 7:00 PM

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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 meeting for transfer to the disposal site.

Do not bring lead-acid batteries to the meeting for disposal. Take them to the Solid Waste Facility.

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Underpaid Authors Wanted

Here's a thought 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

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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.

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Scouting Jamboree on the Air (JOTA):

October 17 and 18 will mark the 52nd worldwide Scouting Jamboree on the Air ([JOTA](#)). Held the third full weekend in October each year, this is the premier operating event for Amateur Radio and Scouting around the world. This is the weekend when Scouting groups get together with ham operators and make contacts with other groups. Some troops use the event to accumulate credits toward the communications and electronics merit badges. They welcome contacts from all hams and can ask the most interesting questions.

Fire up the rig and tune across the bands. If you here a station identifying as JOTA return the call and be ready for an interesting experience. At the same time, a scout can be earning credits towards his merit badge. You may be helping that scout become an Eagle Scout.

For more information, go to the ARRL web page at <http://www.arrl.org>. There is a link to JOTA at the bottom of the page.

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A Walk Through Time:

Wireless communications has undergone three major evolutions in equipment from its start to the present day. The first attempts at wireless used the spark-gap transmitter to generate the signals similar to the telegrapher's dot-dash system. The primitive receivers were the "crystal" radio consisting of a tuned circuit connected to a piece of lead-galena that acted as a diode. The resultant signal was fed to a pair of magnetic headphones similar to the earpiece of a telephone.

The second evolution came very quickly early in the twentieth century with the development of the vacuum tube and its ability to amplify the received signals. There were many major improvements in the device and wireless communications became a common item of life.

In the middle of the twentieth century, scientists discovered that certain semiconductors could be configured to control electron flow and perform many of the functions being done by vacuum tubes. There was a distinct advantage in using semiconductors because they were much smaller and used significantly less power leading to great advance in miniaturization. This became apparent during the last quar-

ter of the twentieth century.

With the increased use of semiconductors, the vast store of information regarding vacuum tubes and their place in wireless communications and electronic control is being ignored and lost. There is a web-site that has a large collection of books and article about vacuum tube design and history. One can even download a copy of the 1936 ARRL handbook and get an idea of what the old-timers worked with and they practiced their hobby. Sometimes it's worth the trip to see where we have been to understand where we are now. Visit the web page at

http://www.pmillett.com/tecnicl_books_online.htm

and take a look.

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Round Table Nets:

In days of old when Hams made contacts by CW or AM phone, a favorite pastime was "rag chewing" – the practice of exchanging information about each other in what now would be considered long contacts. They talked about varied subjects including their families, the area they lived in, their jobs and whatever came to mind. Eventually the "rag chews" included more than two operators as others cut in with their call signs and were acknowledged.

Eventually, it became apparent that some control was needed to make sure everybody had a chance to speak leading to what we now know as Round Table Nets. One operator assumed the role of net control and took a roll call of those who wanted to join the net. After the call signs were collected, the net control went down the list and each gave their comments. If someone wanted to join the net after the comments began, they inserted their call sign during the break between contacts and were added to the list. If anybody wanted to make a comment out of turn, they called "Comment" during the interval and waited to be acknowledged by the net control. The same procedure applied if someone wanted to make a contact out of turn. If you tune across the bands at any time of the day, you will find nets for most any reason such as DX Nets or Marine Nets.

Kitsap County has a few nets where hams can join in and have some fun or get experience. Some to look at are:

Net Name	Day	Freq	Start Time
The Alaska Net;	Daily	14.292 Mhx.	0930
Off the Wall	Wed	145.43 Mhz*	1930
60 Meter	Wed	5346.5 Mhz.	1900
Noon Time Net	Daily	7.285 Mhz	1130

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The Off the Wall net is conducted on the Kitsap County
ARES repeater requiring a -600 offset and a PL tone of
179,9

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Formal Minutes
Board of Directors/Business Meeting
North Kitsap Amateur Radio Club
9 October 2009,
Location: Fire Station 51
Silverdale, WA

In attendance:

BOARD

David Norman, Board Member
Edward Saftich, Board Member
Warren Norman, Treasure
Jim Wylder, VP

This constitutes a Board quorum

Members:

Tom Wojciechowski
Bert Boyd

Open:

Mention of County DEM providing CPR training, 12 Dec 2009

Treasurer's report given, hard copies provided to Board of Directors. Treasurer's report approved unanimously by unanimous Board members present.

Discussion and motions to move October breakfast to 8 am; approved unanimously by Board members present.

DX class decided for November's General meeting; approved unanimously by Board members present.

FOR ACTION: Warren (Treasure) to open Board approved Pay Pal and manage same.

FORACTION: David (Webmaster) to open Board approved Craigs List account,
Question to research: Has boat batteries in trailer been replaced? Someone suggested they have.

Discussion on equipment in trailer to sell. All agreed that the preponderance of the membership desire not to sell off equipment. Further discussion by all in attendance to sell off things we definitely do not need; such as failing transceivers. Motions given and unanimously passed by BoD present to sell 751A and advertise that it is "in need of repair."

FORAC: David to put on Craigs list. eBay was not an option recommended for this sale, so dismissed by unanimous vote of all present.

Discussed the need to Field Day (in Navy terms) the trailer. To be mentioned at General Meeting on 17 October at FS51, 10am to Noon.

Discussion on colors of apparel and logos. By unanimous vote by all present, a "Blue and Gold" motif was decided upon in recolonization of the Navy community we dwell with. FORAC: David will update the apparel website choices accordingly.

This years dinner event was openly discussed by all present. By unanimous vote by all present same Bert who had left the meeting, Clearwater Casino buffet facility was again chosen for the event. Ask any board member for discussion issues. It was well reasoned as other options were considered.

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To be discussed at the upcoming general meetings opening, nomination for next years officers.

Tom Wojciechowski has offered to present a 15 minute briefing on emergency generators and fuel storage. Following a short break, we shall go into an open forum on "what does one do when the Big one hits?" By unanimous vote, the VP was directed to draft and send a letter of invitation to the Kitsap County Alternate Communication System (ACS) leadership to attend our Open Forum on the aforementioned subject. Note: Letter sent to Lester Crawford, AB7Y, ACS coordinator to pass to said leadership.

Treasure (Warren, N7SI) indicated he is willing to continue to serve next year as Treasure. He indicated he highly desires an official audit of the books take place early 2010. Informally, all agreed.

BoD/Business Meeting adjourned. 1Hr 10 minutes record time.

Repeater committee, 4 in attendance, commenced. Discussion on purchasing a recently advertised operating UHF repeater for \$500. Tome indicated he already put in a bid, but was willing to sell it to the club if desired. He also offered to locate the same at his unique QTH. After lengthy discussion, his QTH very likely would cover the shaded area over the Hansville ridge, thereby giving coverage to the northern parts of the county. For record, he is located very near the visible cell phone towers on the ridge in Poulsbo. By unanimous vote of the BoD, a purchase of the item was decided upon as an immediate replacement to the repeater at Warrens property in Central Kitsap, and once receiver fixed, next years committee could arrange placement of the two repeaters as they deem appropriate.

Committee closed. 1 hr.

Editors note: the acquisition of aforementioned repeater failed, as a previous bid was awarded. So the discussion and voted approval becomes moot.

Faithfully submitted for approval,
Jim Wylder, KE6OJ
VP