

Solid Copy



Newsletter of the Kitsap County Amateur Radio Club
PO BOX 2268 -- Silverdale, WA 98383-2268 Website
<http://www.kcarc.org>

NOVEMBER 2018

From the Editor - Gordon K2GLW

Although I have had to watch it from afar, it looks like the club has had an amazing October.

Hamfest went well, we came to the rescue of **JOTA** and we helped put the county's **Great ShakeOut** drill on the air. The club has a new Librarian, and our November elections for club officers are just ahead.

I wish I could bottle up some of that drive and energy and bring it to New York. I returned to New York to find the city does not have a functioning ARES. The city's Emergency Management unit (NYCEM) won't assign a role to volunteers in any capacity. The Red Cross has been so swamped by seemingly endless

deployments to disaster scenes it has no time to think about EmComm..

At any rate there has not been a New York City on-air EmComm net in months.

I will be working the NYC Marathon on November 4, working DMR. And I will be back in time for the January meeting. Until I have a chance to do so in person, I will use this opportunity to congratulate **Melissa** (now **AG7QL**) on earning her Extra Class.

Finally, I do need your help to keep doing **Solid Copy** from afar. When you have news, send it along to my email at: willgord@yahoo.com.

73 to all

Gordon K2GLW, Editor, Solid Copy

CLUB CALENDAR of EVENTS

KCARC CLUB BREAKFAST SOCIAL

Saturday, November 3rd @ 9-11 AM.
Location: Silverdale Best Western Hotel
3073 Bucklin Hill Road, Silverdale.
(\$10 cash or check only)

**KCARC BoD Meeting 8:30AM,
Saturday, November 17th.**

(All KCARC members are welcome)

KCARC GENERAL MEETING

**10:00AM - 12:00 Noon, Saturday
November 17th.** Location: Bremerton
Public Works Building, 100 Oyster Bay Ave.
in Bremerton.

CHRISTMAS PARTY - FRI DEC 14

**Our annual Christmas Party will be
FRIDAY NIGHT, DEC 14 at Ambrosia
Catering in Bremerton.** Attendees last
year raved about how great the food
was, and what a nice, quiet a venue
Ambrosia Catering provides. Save the
date - join again this year. **Watch for
RSVP emails from Steve AF7MS**



HEADS UP: Scheduled date for the club
December meeting is the morning of
Saturday, December 15th—just hours
after the Christmas party. Status of the
meeting is TBA, says President Steve
Burton (AF7MS). Steve says, “I may
possibly ask folks to meet for the
purpose of planning 2019.”

Stay tuned for more details about the
December meeting.

WEEKLY NETS

WEDNESDAY EVENING

UHF- 7:00 PM on 444.075 MHz (+5.00
MHz offset, PL Tone 103.5)

VHF - 7:30 PM on 145.43 MHz, (-600
offset, 88.5 PL Tone)

HF - 6:30 PM on 3983 +/- 5KHz

HF - 8:00 PM on 28.330 MHz

HF - 8:30 PM on 3983 +/- 5KHz

KARS / ARES / RACES / ACS NETS

Sunday nights at 7:30 PM on the
145.43 repeater (-600 offset, 88.5 PL
tone). Check in to be well-informed on
EMCOMM in Kitsap County.

NEW AND UPGRADED LICENSEES

Melissa Burns (now **AG7QL** instead of
K17SCE) **Amateur Extra**

**WE HAD A GREAT HAMFEST THIS
YEAR SAYS STEVE AF7MS**

Hamfest Co-Chair **Ron Sefton (N7EM)**
says we were within two tables of a
complete sell-out with 44 of the 46 available
tables in use. Based on ticket sales we
drew around 150 people.



Brian Roads KC7FYX

Club President Steve Burton (AF7MS)
reports that, “I circulated around and tried to
talk to as many vendors as I could,
spending particular time with the multi-table
vendors.”

Solid Copy November 2018



Mark W7BBO, Key Peninsula, back in 2019

"Out-of-area vendors that I spoke with were very happy with sales and plan to return next year. Two hams from Key Peninsula raved about the event and promised to come back next year."



Don W7DDR, Key Peninsula, back in 2019

Aim of the event is to make money for the club and we did make money—income of \$1,930.27 and a **net profit of \$710.32**. Entrance fees brought in \$747 and table rentals brought in \$474.52. The rest came from food and coffee donations, sales from the club table and our percentage from the sale of estate items..



The West Sound Improvement Club

Our venue for the event, show above, has worked out so well that we will be coming

back there next year for Hamfest 2019. Date will be the second Saturday in October—October 12, 2019.

Summing up the event, Steve had this to say, "Thanks, **Hamfest Committee Chairs, Jim Nicolet (N7SYD) and Ron Sefton (N7EM)**. Congratulations on your great organization, and great execution."

HERE IS THE FINAL WORD FROM SALMON RUN—BUT HOW DID WE REALLY DO?

Attached to the end of this **Solid Copy** is our **Certificate Of Participation** in the 2018 Salmon Run from the event sponsors, the Western Washington DX Club. Our participation was led by **Phil Housel (KC7SVI)** and was based for the first time at the Public Utility Building on Oyster Bay Road—same place we have our club meetings.

So our taking part in the event is confirmed. What is less clear is exactly how we did in the event.

If you simply look at how well we did overall, we finished 22nd among 27 clubs.

But **John Zantek (W7CD)** says, "Not quite correct." There were only five clubs in our category—multi-operator, two transmitters. And in that category we were fifth of five clubs. But John further explains that if our category had been split into categories based on operating power, we would have finished first in this sub-category. (**That brought an appreciative "John, I love the way you see the data," from, Phil**). In our category we were only outscored by stations running high-power linears.

One thing that is not in dispute is that **Doug Smith (W7ZZ)** finished first in the WA-SOAB HIGH PH category. Translated,

Solid Copy November 2018

Doug ran Single Operator All Bands, High Power (over 100 watts) on phone. That did not boost our score, however, since Doug entered as a member of the Western Washington DX Club, not KCARC.

HOW WE HELPED MAKE A BOY SCOUT SUCCESS of JOTA

The October issue of *Solid Copy* told how **Phil Housel (KC7SVI)** became **K2BSA/7** to help local Boy Scouts take part in this year's **Jamboree on the Air**. Through the October 19-21 weekend, with help from **Randy KG5OFG**, Phil activated **K2BSA/7** from **VFW post 4992** in Bremerton. That let **Troop 1539** get on the air as part of **JOTA**. Other club members who came by on Saturday to help were **Dave N7DUE**, **Tim AF7RV**, and **Brian KC7FYX**.

The Scouts did get on the air through a timely assist from our club. On the evening of the 19th, **President Steve (AF7MS)** put out an urgent call for voices on 40 meter phone—we had Scouts at our rigs looking for QSO's and no one at the other end. Hams from KCARC came to the rescue.

Club members got on 40 to give the Scouts voices to talk to. **John (W7CD)** got on the **WWDX Club reflector** and several of that club's members joined in. That made all the difference to the Scouts, say Randy and Phil. That brought a "bravo...well done" from Steve.

Here are excerpts from the on-scene report from **Randy KG5OFG**:

"We brought our **KCARC Equipment Trailer** and parked it outside the VFW hall on Friday afternoon and began unpacking. We only set up the radios and dual band vertical early before scouts got there after school around 5:30. When they got to the **VFW Hall** later they assisted and learned how to set up the Crank IR along with guy ropes. We attempted contacts on HF until

10:00PM with very little success but Phil worked with the scouts on his DMR rig fairly successfully. We had a few FT8 contacts on Friday night.

"On Saturday we started up the HF radios again around 1:00 PM and again with little success. We then had 10 scouts assist us in setting up the second HF club dipole using the tall trees around the VFW Hall. They learned about a "potato launcher" and stringing wires between trees. By 5:00 PM we were having some limited success contacting a few HF stations on 20 and 40 meters. Steve AF7MS contacted all of our club members by email with a request to come meet the Scouts on the air. After that the Scouts were scrambling to talk and keep up.

"By 8:30 PM Saturday most of the HF bands had abandoned us and we could not receive calls from even our local friends in the Washington DX club who were so helpful, with all the success going to John Zantac for helping to contact those Hams. The moral of the story is we were successful in getting young Boy Scouts on Ham Radio (we had a three-year-old little brother also on the radio) and they learned about issues, problems solved and unsolved, and many elements of Amateur Radio.

"Many, many Kudos to Phil Housel for his unbelievable efforts to provide this experience to the Scout troop! I was only his "gofer". And a note about Scouting. The award goes to the Scout Master and his assistants who stuck with these kids from Friday afternoon through Sunday morning doing all the grocery shopping, cooking, supervision, planning and basically doing everything possible.

"I would be happy to draft a letter to the Boy Scouts commending them for this troop of scouts and their Scout Masters" ~ **Randy**.

OUR HELPING HAND AT JOTA COULD BE THE START OF SOMETHING BIG

Helping out at JOTA could become a regular club activity. Among other things, this year's effort brought us an accolade from far away—a mention in the **Amateur Radio Newsline National Podcast** for October 5. Here's what they said about us:

"Philip Housel, KC7SVI, will be activating K2BSA/7 from VFW Post 4992 in Bremerton WA. Troop1539 will be operating both JOTA and JOTI. Special thanks to the Kitsap County Amateur Radio Club for use of radio equipment and club members who will be helping make this event a success."

So helping the Boy Scouts also helps us, and what could be better than that.

HOW OUR EMCOMMERS WENT ON THE AIR AT THE GREAT SHAKEOUT DRILL

October 18th was the annual **Great ShakeOut** as more than 1 million folks in Washington and around 50 million people worldwide practiced their earthquake survival skills. Club members played their part by running an emergency communications net from the emergency operations center (EOC) of the **Kitsap County Department of Emergency Management**.

Jim Nicolet (N7SYD) was net control, backed by operators **Doug Blangsted (K7CDF)**, **Brian Rodes (KC7FYX)** and observer **Mike Arnold**. **Randy Sweeten (KG5OFG)** provided radio support at the Kitsap County Administrative Campus, **Mike Montfort (KB0SVI)** was at the Central Kitsap School District Administration Building while **Dan Hebert (KX7DX)** checked in as Medical Group Supervisor.

Dan established a medical net and took check-ins from several medical facilities. He also set up a link with Jefferson County to confirm it could be done.

In keeping with the spirit of the ShakeOut, the building was briefly evacuated at 10:18, the precise time of the drill. All radios went silent until it was safe to return to the EOC.

WE'RE SEEKING NEW NET CONTROLS

Our two main, long-term net control operators - **Ed Saftich(AK7H)** and **Russ Swank (KI7PG)** - are stepping down and the call is out for members who would like to take charge of our various Wednesday night nets. **President Steve AF7MS** says "the club is very grateful to them for keeping the nets running very professionally for years. New hams learn to operate by example & experience. **Week after week, Russ and Ed provided wonderful examples of exactly how it should be done.**"

At the October 20th monthly meeting, President Steve (AF7MS) appointed a **Nets Committee** to update and/or revise our net control guidelines. On the committee are **Chris Hoffman (KG6O)**, **Phil Housel (KC7SVI)** and **Doug Blangsted (K7CDF)** with **Jim Nicolet (N7SYD)** serving as advisor.

We have an interim list of net control operators for the rest of this year. For the first week **Steve AF7MS** took VHF & UHF, while **Melissa AG7QL** took 75m. On the next page is the interim list of net controls for the rest of 2018. As you see, there are some open spots on the list still waiting for sign-ups to fill them: Because of poor band propagation, Melissa can't continue running 75 until she gets a better antenna and a linear. Perhaps maybe Santa brings

NETS ROSTER - WE NEED SOME HELP

Date	75M (Early)	440 Net	2M Net	10M Net	75M (Late)
10/24	AG7QL	AF7MS	AF7MS	KG6O	
10/31		WA7CH	WA7CH		
11/7		AF7RV	AF7RV		
11/14		AF7RV	AF7RV	KX7DX	KX7DX
11/21		KI7MBY	KI7MBY	AF7RV	
11/28		KI7MBY	KI7MBY	AF7RV	
12/5		KG6O	KG6O	KG6O	
12/12		K7CDF	K7CDF	KX7DX	KX7DX
12/19		KI7WZB	KI7WZB		
12/26			KG7ATP		

WE’LL BE ELECTING CLUB OFFICERS AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING

Big event at the November club meeting (on November 17th (at the Bremerton Public Works building) will be the annual election of club officers.

We will be electing our President, Vice-President, Sergeant-at-Arms and Directors. **Ron "CW" Morse (N7CWM)** has volunteered to stay on as Treasurer and **Tim Johnsrude AF7RV** will stay on as secretary.

Here are the volunteer nominees to date who we will be voting on:

- President: Steve Burton AF7MS**
- Vice-President: OPEN**
(Doug K7CUU had to withdraw)
- Secretary: Tim Johnsrude AF7RV**
- Treasurer: Ron Morse N7CWM**
- Sergeant-at-Arms: Phil Housel KC7SVI**
- Directors (three at-large to be selected)**
- Craig Hatfield WA7CH**
- Jim Cook KI7WZB**
- Dan Hebert KX7DX**
- Jim Nicolet N7SYD**

Last minute note: Because of health considerations, **Doug Hudson K7CUU** has withdrawn his name from consideration as a volunteer to be our next Vice President.

The principal duties of the VP are to seek out and schedule our monthly

programs, and preside in the absence of the President.

There will be a call for more nominations at the November club meeting - followed by the vote. You must be present to vote - the Club By-Laws make no provision for email or absentee voting in our annual election. The new leadership team will take office on January 1, 2019 to serve for one year.

A REMINDER: TIME TO MAIL BALLOTS FOR THE ARRL DIVISIONAL ELECTIONS

Just a head’s up that we are electing both a Director and a Vice-Director of the ARRL Northwestern Division. That, of course is our division—also including Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Alaska.

There are three-way races for each post.

Incumbent Director **Jim Pace (K7CEX)** is not running for re-election. Incumbent Vice Director **Bonnie Altus (AB7ZQ)** of Sheridan OR is one of the three candidates to succeed Pace. The other two are **Horace Hamby (N7DRW)** of Bellevue WA and **Mike Ritz (W7VO)** of Scappoose OR.

The three candidates seeking to succeed Altus as Vice-Director are **Delvin Bunton (NS7U)** of Vancouver WA, **Daniel Stevens (KL7WM)** of Kent WA and **Mark Tharp (KB7HDX)** of Yakima WA.

You should have received a ballot if you are an ARRL member in good standing. All ballots were due in member hands back on October 10. Just in case you overlooked it in the mail, it came in an envelope from the ARRL, with the words “Official Ballot Enclosed,” as in the picture below.



ARRL Official Ballot Envelope

To be counted, your ballot must be back to the ARRL by noon on November 16. All ballots will be counted on November 17th. Winners announced as soon as the counting is done.

PHIL (KC7SVI) TAKES THE PLUNGE INTO DMR (DIGITAL MOBILE RADIO)

DMR radio has been gaining fans in recent years and Phil Housel is the latest to jump in. His radio is a **Hytera** and as you see in our story on JOTA he has already put it to use in an event.

So what makes DMR special, or at least worth looking into?

Audio quality is perfect and there are no drop-offs as you reach the outer limits of a repeater's reach. We have a very high-quality local DMR repeater (AF7PR) on Gold Mountain—linked to DMR repeaters in I (K2GLW) was an early adaptor of DMR. I work DMR at such events as the New York City marathon. Have also taken part in statewide DMR EmComm nets as of part of Fifth Saturday drills. Phil, as always the tech whiz, has gone much more deeply into the technical side of DMR.

One big plus for me is that DMR is virtually jam-proof—and jamming is a huge problem in New York. Every user has a unique ID and that ID is visible to all the moment you press your push-to-talk button.

If you are interested, we have a very good **Pacific Northwest DMR Group** at

pnw@DMR.groups.io. It lists all the repeaters in the region, and has a library of **codeplugs** covering all the repeaters. They have an on-air net - which unfortunately comes on at 7 p.m. on Wednesday - the same time as our Club 70cm net on the KC7Z Club repeater.

Phil is eager for DMR QSOs. Look him up at the next club gathering; he'll be glad to give you a quick lessons in DMR.

LONG-TIME LIBRARIAN BILL HIPPE RETIRES; JEFF WILL TAKE OVER

After many years as our club librarian **Bill Hippe (AF7PZ)** says it is time for him to step down. In a letter to President Steve Burton, Bill wrote, "I believe it is time for a new librarian. My schedule has become so busy that my attendance is too sporadic to be effective."

Taking over a new club librarian will be **Jeff Mills (AG7KP)**. Handover of the library took place at the club's October meeting.



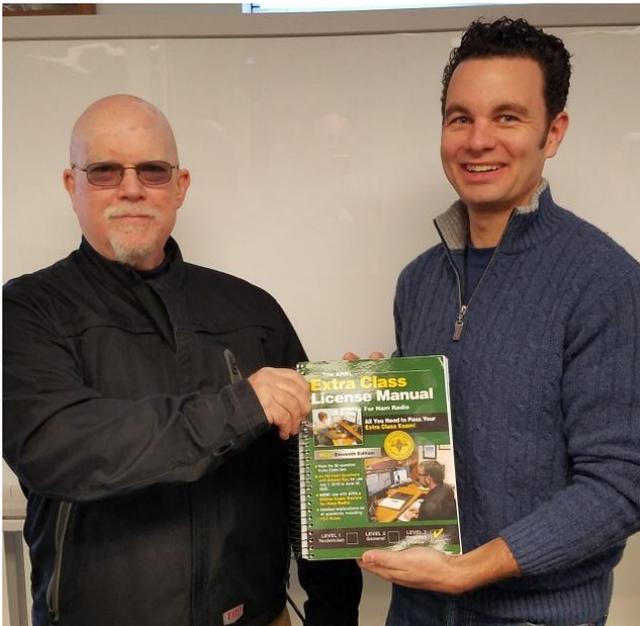
Jeff Mills AG7KP & Bill Hippe AF7PZ

Formal name for the library is **The Horace Ory (K7ORY) Memorial Library**. Horace, now an **SK (Silent Key)**, was a club member many years ago. His estate donated money to establish the library.

Solid Copy November 2018

Doug Smith (W7ZZ) recalls. "A librarian was recruited and given the autonomous authority to decide what we should have in the library, order it and then retain possession of it. Bill Hippe took the job and built up the library, bringing it to club meetings every month."

The library should be on display at the November club meeting. That will give members a chance to see what is in the library,



Bill & Jeff showing the new ARRL Extra-Class Study Manual. Note the spiral binding. It was Bill's very good idea to spend the money for the spiral-binding edition of that study guide because, with that binding, the book will always lay flat when you open it to study.

Jeff and his wife **Melissa Burns (AG7QL)** will be cataloging the library and a list of all the material avail to club members will appear in the December issue of **Solid Copy**.

By the way, if that call sign for Melissa looks a little strange, it is because it is brand new.

As we noted on page 2, She is no longer **K17SCE**. Melissa has passed the exam and earned her **Amateur Extra Class Ticket**, now sports her new **Extra-Class 2X2** call sign of **AG7QL**.

WHAT IS COMING UP IN CONTESTING

The contest calendar lightens up considerably in November. For instance, there isn't a state QSO party on the air during the month. Here is what there is, with all times being GMT:

Ukrainian DX Contest: 1200 November 3 to 1200 November. A chance to nail another entity for DXCC.

10-10 International Fall Contest for Digital: 0001 November 10 to 2359 November 11. Primarily for members of 10-10 but a chance to nail some 10 meter contacts if the propagation Gods are friendly.

CQ-WE Contest. 1900 November 10 to 0500 on November 12. Read more about this oddity below.

LZ DX Contest: 1200 November 17 to 1200 November 18. LZ translates into **Bulgaria** and a chance to pick up another not-so-easy-to-collect entity.

ARRL Sweepstakes Contest for phone: 2100 November 17 to 0300 November 18. Read more below about this old-timer of a contest.

CQ Worldwide DX Contest for CW: 0000 November 24 to 2359 November 25. The most important contest November. Read more about it below.

HERE'S MORE ABOUT THOSE NOVEMBER CONTESTS

Contest #1: CQ-WE. The WE here stands for Western Electric and it is open to any current or former employee of any part of the pre-divestiture Bell System. That means AT&T, Western Electric or any of

the regional Bell operating companies. If you ever worked for Ma Bell or any of her kids, this contest is for you. For more, Google CQ-WE Contest.

Contest #2: ARRL Sweepstakes. The objective, says the ARRL, is “For stations in the United States and Canada (including territories and possessions) to exchange QSO information with as many other U.S. and Canadian stations as possible on the 160, 80, 40, 20 15 and 10 meter bands.

This is a very old contest, going back to 1930. As the ARRL describes it, “This event draws amateurs of all levels, from hardcore competitors to casual participants.” **The challenge is to work all 83 ARRL / RAC (Radio Club of Canada) sections in a single weekend.**

For more details, including a guide for first-time participants, go to:

<http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes>

Contest #3: CQ Worldwide DX for CW: This is the third of the global DX contests “run by **CQ Magazine**. First came the contest for RTTY in September and the contest for phone at the end of October. Now comes the third leg of this particular stool—the contest for CW.

As with the phone version, there are multiple categories based on operating power, number of operators and years of experience.

As with the phone contest, it will draw operators from all over the world—including some exotic locales you are only likely to hear on contest weekends. The exchange is signal strength and CQ zone.

We are in CQ zone 3. In contests, the signal report is **always 5-9** even if you only hear a whisper, and **599 on CW.**

WHAT'S NEW IN THE NEWS

It will be time soon to start filling out your 2019 calendar. When you do, here are a couple of important dates to plan ahead for:

Mike and Key Hamfest Hamfest. This one is poised to become a regular club event. Plan ahead date is **March 9, 2019.** Location is the **Washington State Fairgrounds, Pavilion Exhibition Hall in Puyallup.** You can expect to hear this event talked about at the next few club meetings. This is the premier regional hamfest, well worth attending.

2019 Pacific Northwest DX Convention. The event for 2018 was held up in British Columbia—a bit far for most of us. Well, the 2019 convention will be a lot closer—in **Everett, WA in 2019,** to be precise.

Dates are **August 9-11, 2019 at the Delta Marriott/Seattle in Everett.** If you want more details, you won't have to look very hard. Public contact for the event is none other than our own **John Zantek (W7CD).**

Have You Heard from DUCIE ISLAND?

As Baker Island was to last summer, so **Ducie Island** is to the autumn. It is a 1.5 square mile uninhabited island in the South Pacific—an atoll in the **Pitcairn Island Group.** It is being put on the air by the **VP6D DXpedition.** First activity was a 04:18 GMT on October 20—first on 40 meter CW and then on 20 meter phone.

It ends on November 3, meaning you will probably have made your contact before you read this. As we did with Baker Island, we will report on the club members who did make contact. Drop me an email when you do connect and your feat will be duly recognized in the next issue of **Solid Copy.**

I Get my Marching Orders for the NYC Marathon. I (**Gordon K2GLW**) will be working the New York City marathon this for a 10th year—one of around 300 hams from all over the country that work the event. For a second year I will be operating

DMR. And for a second year, my job is to shadow the operator of Jumbotron 2—one of five huge electronic signboards along the course. Should there be an emergency, I would pass messages to the runners and spectators from Race Command to the operator. My tactical call sign is Jumbo 2.

Like it or not, we hams have become part of the security apparatus at these events—watching the race but keeping watch for terrorists. At the NYC half-marathon last March, I got a runner taken off the course for running with an American flag. The flag was on an aluminum pole and no poles or sticks or anything that might serve as a weapon are allowed in the course.

I'll report on the race in the next issue.

And finally a couple of special event stations worth noting. On **November 10th** from 1700-2359 (GMT) **NI6IW** will operate from the **museum ship USS Midway (CV-41)**, honoring **Veteran's Day** and the birthday of the Marine Corps (born in 1775). Frequencies are **14.320, 7.250 and 14.070 for PSK31.**

On November 11 from 1800 to 2359 (GMT) the **American Legion Amateur Radio Club** operating as **K9DC** will hold a Salute to Veterans **on 14.275, 7.225, 147.315**—also on **IRLP** and **Echolink.**

- 30 -

Gordon K2GLW Author & Editor

Steve AF7MS Editor & DTP Layout

Washington State 2018 Salmon Run

Hosted by the Western Washington DX Club

KC7Z

Kitsap County Amateur Radio Club

Thank you for your participation in

The 2018 Washington State Salmon Run

September 15-16, 2018

Rob N7QT

President, Western Washington DX Club

Mike N7WA

Contest Chair, Western Washington DX Club

