

CLALLAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

QTC

MAY 2006

President's Log

Welcome to the June QTC.

I hope you are enjoying reading the monthly offerings. Please let us know what you think and also don't hesitate to submit something to **YOUR QTC**. The publishing committee consists of Nita, KE7DRT, Bob, K6MBY and Chuck, N7BV. When you hear these members on the air, or see them at CostCo or Wal*Mart, please say "thanks". They are doing a tremendous job. The editors note, however, that without all the great submissions, there would be not QTC to read. Submissions please to ccarcqtq@yahoo.com. Remember the current and past issues of the QTC are available on-line at olyham.com.

While I am on the subject of committees, kudos also to the membership directory group of Leah, KE7EZZ, Paul, WB8BVK, John, K7NIA and Chuck, N7BV. Also thanks to Karen Jones for the computer directory set up work. The new directory is now available from myself, K7RGR, or at club gatherings. Special delivery arrangements are possible.

Finally, put your hands together for the program committee, Chuck, N7BV, Bill, W7WEC, and Bob, AC7RK. They have provided quality speakers and programs all year long. Great work, Guys!

Summer begins June 21st and things are heating up in the club activities as well.

Our instructors, led by the incomparable Tom, KE7XX, just completed another successful Technician license class and VE exam session held on Saturday, May 20th. Six new technicians received their calls, including our Clallam County Director of Emergency Management, Bob Martin and his capable assistant, Jamye Wisecup. We also welcomed a Technician WITH CODE (you see - it can be done!!!). Two of our friends from VE-land joined us for upgrades and did not disappoint. Alice, VA7ALU (KE7GJA) passed her General written and Peter, VE7PMR (KE7BWB) completed his run to Extra Class.

We are considering conducting a VE testing session during Field Day and a General Class in July or August. Contact Tom, KE7XX or myself, K7INA to get on the list!

Field Day IS rapidly approaching and I for one can't wait. T-shirts and pins have been ordered and should be available by the time you read this. Our June meeting will be devoted entirely to planning. The Clallam County ARES / RACES group has committed to provide support this year with an emergency management and preparedness display complete with representatives to answer questions from the public. I am also working on a PR campaign including a live radio talk-show / call-in format program. Proclamations are being received from the local political entities and the guest list is growing. Come to the meeting, Wednesday, June 14th and get involved. It will be fun!!

Remember, Amateur Radio is a contact sport.

See you on the air.

73, Russ, K7INA

Measurements, Math & Formulas

Or as the opening page of the program says "Painless Math for Radio Amateurs".

Want to know how much capacitance is in 2 feet of coax, or how long a dipole is at 10.120 MHz., or convert meters to centimeters?

You can find the answers in a program call HamCalc by VE3ERP which can be found on CQ Magazines website <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/HamCalcem.html>

Follow the instruction page from the Web; note the short cut to maximize the program under Windows XP!

Now go forth and do the math – easily.

73, Chuck N7BV



See [www. Hello-Radio.org](http://www.Hello-Radio.org) for information on the new ARRL 2006 public relation and marketing campaign based on the word "HELLO."

New Club Directory

The new club directory is hot off the press. Pick one up at the next Club function.

Clallam County ARES/RACES

Clallam County ARES/RACES is actively looking for new members and would like you to consider joining our emergency communications group.

This year we have planned quarterly field exercises.

Training is conducted at each general meeting the first Tuesday of each month. At July's meeting Dave Hull will cover chapter 15 of the ARRL Em-Comm Handbook (Personal Safety, Survival and Health Considerations) and Paul Honore' will cover chapter 6 (Safety Guidelines) of our local manual.

All RACES members are required to take the FEMA training IS-100, 200, and 700 by the end of the year. These courses are free and have been mandated by Homeland Security. They are available on-line at <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/is/>.

Chuck Jones, N7BV, EC Clallam County

PROGRAM FOR THE JUNE 14th MEETING

Field Day Committee

July program—Digital Modes by Clint Hurd, KK7UQ

Thanks: AC7RK N7BV W7WEC

2 METER NETS

CCARC :

Every Thursday 7:00 pm on the W7FEL Repeater.

ARES/RACES:

Every Tuesday except 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm on W7FEL Repeater.

W7FEL Repeater: 146.76 MHz., offset down 600 KHz. with a tone of 100 Hz.

Repeater Report

by Casey Hicks KJ7XE

Repeater operation this month appears to be well. I have received no complaints. Russ K7INA reports that at Striped Peak the average in-cabinet temperature is 76 degrees F, and the average amplifier temperature is 78 degrees F, which is definitely in the 'green zone'. Anything out of the green zone could possibly signify dead fans in the fan rack or a problem with the ventilation at the site, which has no air conditioning. We will keep an eye on the temps this summer for sure.

I have not gotten a chance to make it to our temporary UHF repeater at North Point (which is linked to the Striped repeater). I had an opportunity last Monday but it was reported that there was a tree down over the road about a quarter mile from the site. I will make another attempt this weekend and make sure everything's OK. My co-worker walked up there in the snow a couple weeks ago to inspect the Olympic National Park repeater equipment and told me that the amateur equipment physically looks OK and the fans are turning on when there's activity.

I would like to introduce a friend of mine and member of the Club, Steve DeBiddle N6DPP. He is a retired self-employed radio technician from California and a seasoned radio amateur, and is great asset to the Club. He has offered his professional technical assistance, so I hope to have him assist us with the maintenance of the repeater system in the future.

Casey

Your Ad Could Go Here

Please note:

Your ad will run for two months. If your item(s) sells or you want it to run longer, please E-mail the QTC Staff at ccarcqtc@yahoo.com.

Thank you.

FOR SALE OR TRADE

ICOM IC-211, 2 Meter SSB, FM, CW, 10 Watt Digital Synthesized Transceiver. Excellent condition with manual \$100.00

Contact Jim Cloud 457-9299

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Kenwood TS-830S transceiver, SP-230 speaker and AT-230 antenna tuner for sale. Package price is \$500, negotiable. All cosmetically great and in good working order.

Contact John Moore 681-2425 or email at k7nia@hotmail.com

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SOLD

- Kenwood TS-120S Transceiver
- PS-30 Power Supply
- VFO-120 Outboard VFO
- SP-120 Outboard Speaker
- MC50 Desk Mike
- MC-30S hand Held Mike
- HS-5 Earphones
- And Operating Manuals

All solid state, covers 80-40-20-15-10. This group would make a good back up rig or a beginning HF station for a new General class ham. \$275.00 takes the lot. Contact Bruce Thompson W7DNA, 457-6134 or bgt@olypen.com

(Proof that ads placed here work. Bruce reports these items sold 1 day after our May QTC was published. ED)

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Nye Tuner MB-V-A. \$400 Burt KN7R. 457-4049.

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The Elecraft K2: a superb HF transceiver in kit form

Back in the '50s, those who could afford it could buy slick, powerful equipment from suppliers such as *Hallicrafters* or *Collins*. If your budget was more modest, you could assemble a respectable station in kit form from *EICO* or *Heath*. The rest of us were left to fend for ourselves. Still, it wasn't too hard to get something on the air. When I first became interested in Ham radio, you could travel a mile in any direction and find a store that specialized in electronic components, so with a few dollars earned from mowing lawns, I was able to tinker together a 40 Meter QRP CW station consisting of a modified war surplus ARC-5 aircraft receiver, four watt home brew transmitter and 200 volt power supply, and a folded dipole antenna made from 300 ohm television 'twinlead."

Looking back on it, my first Ham station was pretty miserable by today's standards. The receiver wasn't very selective and I could only transmit on 7.025 MHz, because I only owned one crystal. There was a pronounced "chirp" in my signal due to poor power supply regulation. With no RF Wattmeter, I had to tune the transmitter with the aid of a fluorescent light hung near the antenna. Yet with that flea-powered rig I managed to work most of the 48 states, (Alaska and Hawaii had not been admitted yet) and I had the satisfaction of doing it with stuff I'd built or modified myself.

Fast-forward 50 years. FCC specifications have tightened, equipment has become a lot more sophisticated, electronic parts stores are hard to find and the price of high power RF components is beyond the reach of the average experimenter. One is tempted to take the path of least resistance and settle for off-the-shelf equipment but, if you are a die-hard experimenter, take heart, there are still some excellent kits available. Let me tell you about one of them, the *Elecraft K2* HF transceiver.

Designed by a team of Amateur radio/backpacking enthusiasts in Aptos, California, the K2 is one of the best engineered and smartest designs anywhere. Everything, from the glass/epoxy circuit boards to the smallest components are MIL spec for reliability. Operation is intuitive and much of it is under on-board firmware control. The K2 operates drift-free with a low current 10 to 15 volt power source. It comes with a built-in keyer and a programmable memory that can hold ten 200 character CW messages for contesting and the like. Receiver sensitivity and noise floor specifications are incredible. I could go on and on but you can check the details for yourself by Googleing "Elecraft" on the internet.

The K2 is not a first time builders kit nor is it for the faint hearted. You'll need a magnifying glass to read the component markings and a good ohmmeter to verify your best guess. After struggling with an analog meter during the initial construction and the first upgrade, I invested in a digital multimeter - *Radio Shack 22-812*. It will measure just about anything you can name and has an RS232 output and software to record data on a computer. You'll also need a temperature regulated soldering iron. I use a *Radio Shack 64-2185*. *Elecraft* is very fussy about the type of solder used to assemble their kits. They refuse to warranty anything that is not soldered to "specification." Fortunately, one solder type on their acceptance list is *Radio Shack 64-009*, available in both the Port Angeles and Sequim stores.

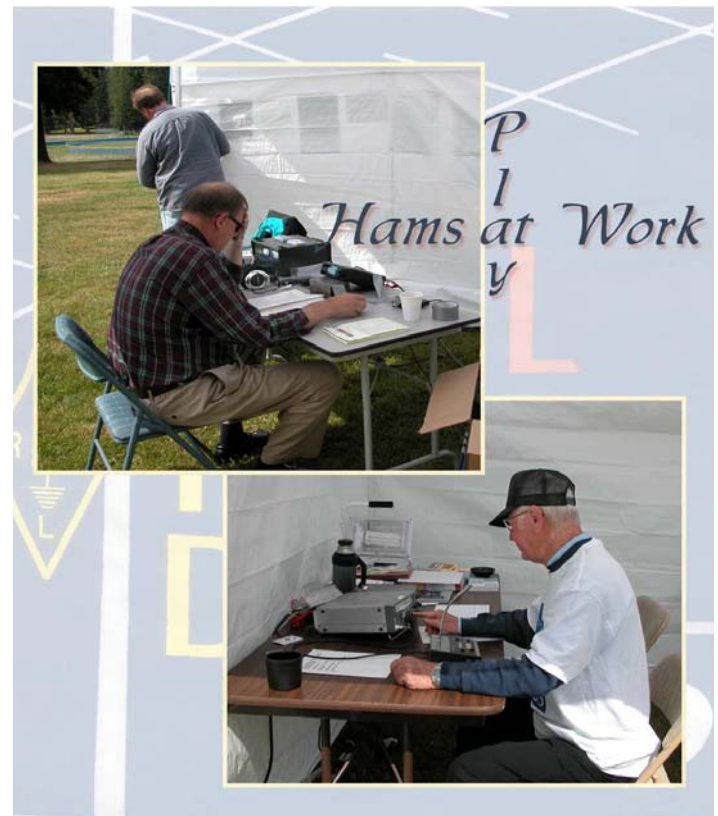
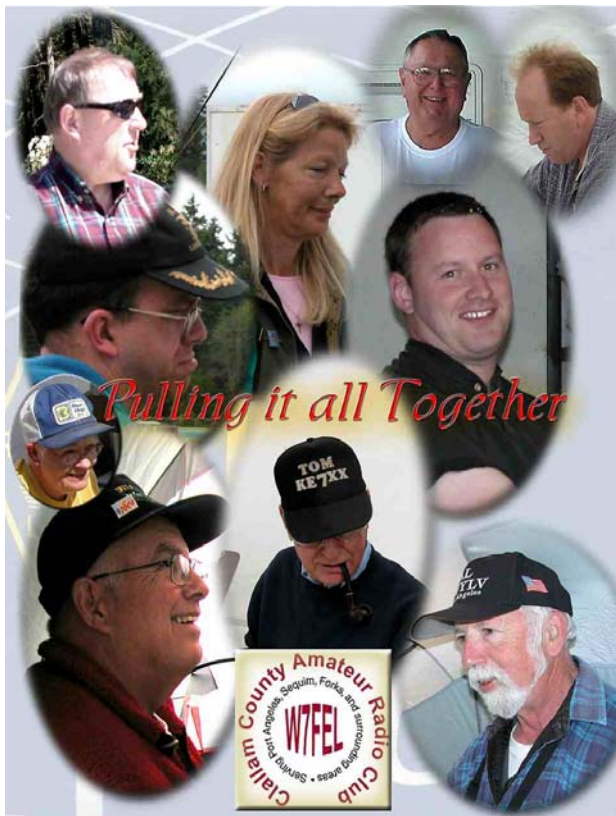
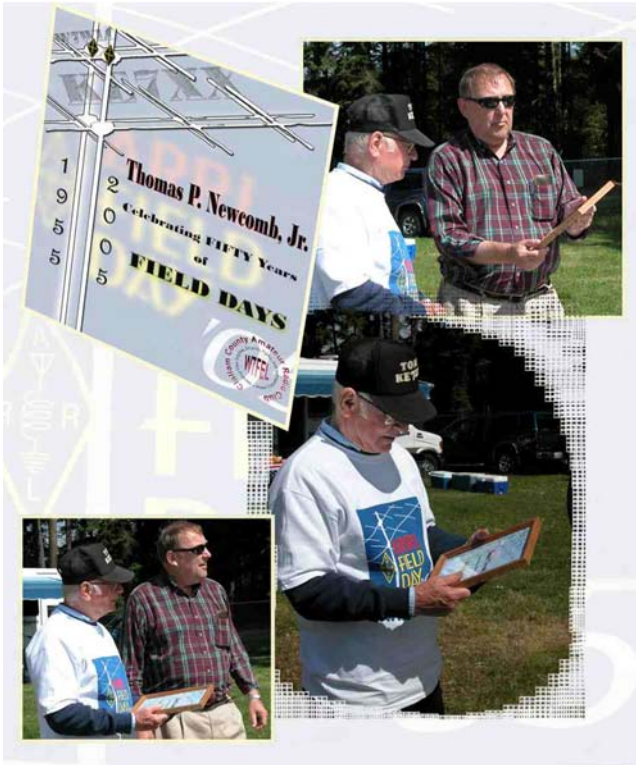
Most components come pre-sorted and bagged and there is a complete inventory, along with photos and descriptions for identification. The assembly manual is excellent and if you follow the instructions **exactly**, you shouldn't have any problems. Plan on taking a long time for construction. The work is straightforward but tedious. Don't try it if you are tired or distracted. I did and found myself having to backtrack and correct mistakes. A vacuum type de-soldering tool is a must!

Some of the components are static-sensitive and require special handling. I found that simply touching "ground" before picking them up was not good enough. I made a wrist strap using an old wristwatch with a metallic band and a clip lead. Everything should be connected to a common ground: wrist, circuit board, and soldering iron.

Toroid winding is a chore a lot of kit builders hate. I didn't find them difficult but I did break one, pulling too hard on the wire to tighten it around the core. If winding toroids is not your idea of a good time, for a modest fee you can order a set pre-wound and ready to install.

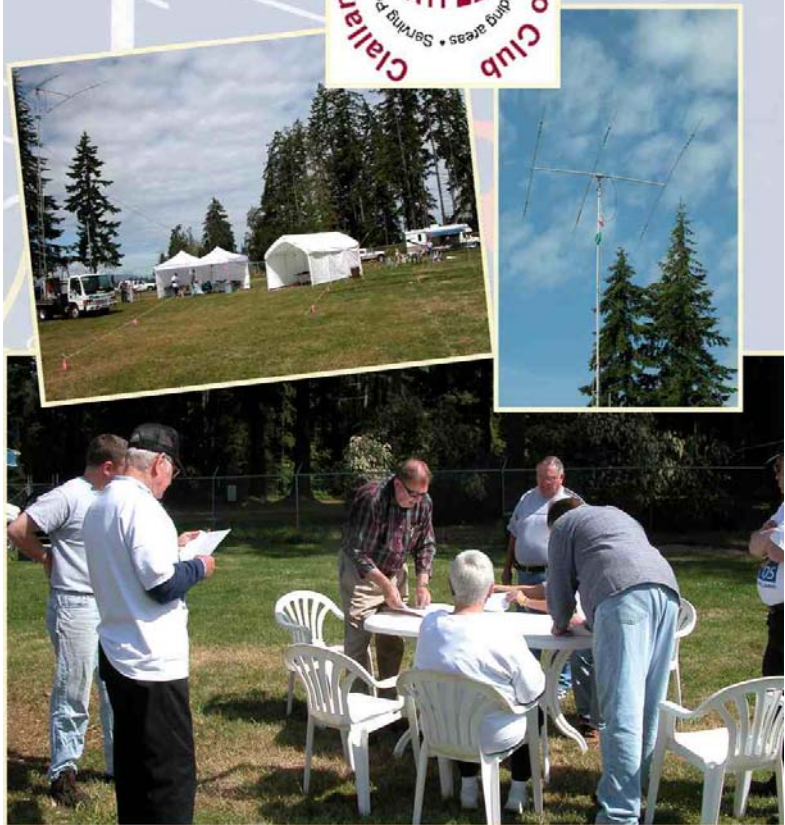
I began by building the basic CW QRP version and operated with it for a few months before adding the 20 Watt automatic antenna tuner. Recently, I upgraded with the 100 Watt power amplifier and the external KAT100 antenna tuner. Where will I go next? Perhaps the SSB module for phone operation or maybe the DSP module. Who knows? As my own horizons expand, so can the K2. With add-ons and modifications to keep it abreast the latest advances in technology, it's a joy to operate and there's no way it will ever become obsolete. If you are contemplating an upgrade to the next generation of HF transceivers and want to try your hand at building the K2 in any of its incarnations I'll be glad to "Elmer" you through the process.

Paul Honore' W6IAM





Ready, Set



Communications Academy

By Mike Miller

I went to the Communications Academy in Burien 4/1 and 4/2. It was a weekend all about emergency communications. A lot of different agencies were there. It had 28 sessions, in 6 concurrent groups. So, we could only pick the 6 we most wanted. That made it very hard, because many good ones ran at the same time.

The Academy had a lot about the importance of standardization for everything (especially communications)—often called interoperability. They further focused on the Incident Command System (ICS), and even had classes for it. They also recommended that everyone have a disaster plan--and exercise, exercise, exercise.

It started with a very good keynote talk by the Seattle Director of Emergency Management, Barb Graff. She gave a couple good examples of problems with communications. During the 9/11 incident, police helicopters could see the imminent collapse coming and warned policemen to get out. But, they couldn't warn the firemen.

She said the most chilling, tho', was the story about a Columbine incident. They knew that the suspects were wearing black trenchcoats. A battalion fire chief was there and went up on a grassy knoll to use a radio that only the fire department could hear. He was wearing a soot-blackened, bunker coat. For a long 20-seconds he was in the cross-hairs of a police sniper, who could only make out that he had something in his hand.

Barb ended with a poem which seems appropriate for anyone helping in disasters. And, for the harsh criticism of FEMA after Katrina (there was also a talk by Tom Miner, the Program Manager for WA-1 Urban Search & Rescue on the gulf coast task force). The poem is often mistakenly attributed to Mother Teresa because it was on her wall in Calcutta. It was actually written by a Harvard sophomore in 1968, Kent M. Keith. Besides Mother Teresa, it has been used as an inspiration for many. I found it on the internet with just the words: poem "Do It Anyway".

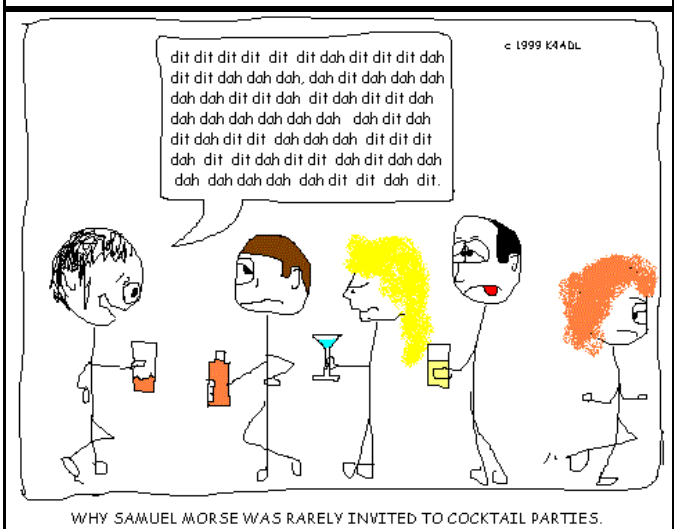
Another example worth mentioning here was given in a class on Marine Transportation. The Seaport Security Systems Manager for the Port of Seattle, Russ Read, said that we have the

largest ferry system in this country, and the second largest in the world. Sometimes security jurisdiction falls to the Port, Seattle Police, King Co. Police, the Washington State Patrol, or others.

The USCG may have escorts alongside, and there may be undercover teams on board. But, with different radios they can't communicate with each other. And, they probably have different operating procedures.

A U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary communications officer, Bob Kesson, from Coeur d'Alene, ID, told a story that illustrates the importance of emergency communications, and that people involved might need a security clearance (it may not always be needed, but sometime it might). Many of you may recall the Groene incident near Lake Coeur d'Alene. Three adults were murdered and 2 children were abducted—but, 1 of them was later also murdered. The FBI set up a multi-jurisdictional task force with a command center to communicate and coordinate. The auxiliary there was originally asked just to search the water side. However, the FBI required a security clearance for anyone in the command center. Most did not have it, but all of the auxiliary did. So, the command center was more than half auxiliary. You never know when you might be called upon to have something. Better to be prepared than not have it.

As a final note, I would just like to say that this academy seemed to be a very good step in the right direction. I came away not only knowing a lot more about communications and how important it is, but also with the strong realization that everyone involved must be on the same page.



WANTA SEE SUMTIN OLD?

Bob N7XY, passed this along the other day on the Western Washington DX Club Email reflector:

“Here's an interesting site which has a lot (over 1 GB) of old books of interest for hams for which the copyright has expired, including some Radio Amateur's Handbooks, Radio Handbooks, etc., all in PDF format. Most are from the pre-solid state era.

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

(Note the misspelling of "technical".)”

It took a little over a minute with high-speed cable to download the 1936 ARRL Hand Book. Real interesting to page through it and see all the old circuit and antenna drawings.

If you have dialup, it probably will be very frustrating.

73, Chuck N7BV

OPERATING SKILL OPPORTUNITY OFFERED BY KO6I

The second Operating Skills gathering started with 3 people in attendance. Due to the SeaPac convention and Field Day weekends being taken we have to skip a June meeting and will pick back up in July. Johan will be working on his 2 element, 3 band quad and 50' tower installation. Feel free to stop by during the week.

Eventually we will cover everything you ever wanted to know about setting up and operating an amateur base and mobile station. This setting will be ideal for beginners or old timers who want to refresh their skills. My shop is located just north of the Grey Wolf Elementary school on the east side of the street at 288 Carlsborg Rd. Turn in at the New Lighthouse sign and be careful of the 20 MPH speed limit in the school zone.

Bring your questions as we will have experienced Elmer's to help. I am just beginning to put my station together and as such you will be able to see first hand how a base station is designed and set-up. We will also cover mobile installations and have a fully equipped test bench for demonstrations and trouble shooting as well as a technical reference library.

Again, due to the SeaPac convention and Field Day weekends being taken we have to skip a June meeting and will pick back up in July. If you want more information please call Johan KO6I at (360) 809-0777 or Chuck N7BV at 452-4672.



CLALLAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Minutes of the General Meeting 10 May 2006

The meeting was called to order 7:00 p.m. by Russ K7INA with twenty-eight present. May birthdays were acknowledged.

Neil WA7NBF mentioned that a few hams participated in the recent 5K run at Sequim. Neil accepted an award from the event sponsors in behalf of the hams who have participated.

Russ announced that a license class is going on with seven participants that plan to become Technicians and one ham reviewing the class. There will be seventeen applicants for testing at various levels on Saturday, May 20.

It was reported by a member of the Directory Committee that the directories are here and ready for distribution.

Roger N7BV announced that the May edition of the club newsletter, QTC, has been published and is available on line at www.olyham.com. Copies are also available for those who don't have internet access.

Bob Kennedy AC7RK introduced Tom Riepe, the Port Angeles Chief of Police, who presented the evening's program. He told us about the Port Angeles Police Department organizational structure, policies, and other information. He called for citizen involvement and community support. He discussed various community issues.

Russ advised that the June club meeting would be concerned with Field Day preparation. He advised that we would be a class 3A operation. The club will operate five stations. (80/40m; 20/15/10m; CW; GOTA; VHF/UHF Packet) There may also be a demonstration of an ATV station. The operation can earn points for being in a public location, publicizing the event in the media, doing message handling, satellite operation, having an elected official in attendance, visitors from local agencies, and youth participation, etc.

Roger W7GRS asked for a count of who is going to eat what meals. He needs a final count at least seven days before Field Day.

Russ announced that the Olympic Cycle Classic Bike Ride would be held May 20. The club repeater will be in use most of the day for that event. There will be a marathon on June 11. Russ is taking orders for Field Day t-shirts and pins. Please order before the end of the month. *(Continued top of next column)*

(meeting minutes continued)

The next club meeting will be June 14 at the Port Angeles Fire Station.

The meeting adjourned about 8:30 p.m.

Minutes by Rich N7NCN

CLUB OFFICERS For 2006

President: Russ Fish K7INA 360-452-9195
k7ina@aol.com

Vice President: Roger Uhden K7RGR 360-681-7450
k7rgr@olyphen.com

Secretary: Rich Golding N7NCN 360-683-9309
n7ncn@myfam.com

Treasurer: Frank Doherty KJ7SK 360-681-0691
kj7sk@arrl.net

Board Member: Roger Steelman W7GRS 360-681-3534
w7grs@olyphen.com

Board Member: Chuck Jones N7BV 360-4524672
n7bv@yahoo.com

Board Member: Tom Newcomb 360-452-8228
ke7xx@arrl.net

TREASURERS REPORT

The bank balance as of 6/03 is \$5,331.65

VOC Frank Doherty ARRL ARES VE

QTC Editors: Nita Lyman, KE7DRT, Chuck Jones, N7BV, Bob Sampson, K6MBY
Please send submissions to the QTC via ccarcqtc@yahoo.com

YL LUNCHEON

The next luncheon is July 14th at the Downrigger in Port Angeles.

Time: 11:30 a.m.

COMING EVENTS

SEA-PAC 2006 - June 16-18, 2006 in Seaside, Oregon! Seaside Convention Center. Registration and Entry Fees - \$8 for pre-registration, \$10 at the door. See <http://seapac.org/> for details and online registration.

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The Pacific Northwest DX Convention (DX 2006) will take place July 21, 22 and 23, 2006, Vancouver, BC, Canada. The BCDX Club takes pleasure in announcing Bob, K4UEE as the keynote speaker. Please see <http://www.bcdxc.org/2006convention.htm>

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**Find us on the web at www.olyham.com
Check it out. Lots of information about ham radio in Clallam County!**

| Description | Time/Date | Location | Contact |
|--|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Clallam County ARES/RACES meeting | 7 pm, first Tue of every month | Clallam County Courthouse EOC, 223 E. 4 th St., PA | Chuck Jones N7BV 360-452-4672 |
| Clallam County Amateur Radio Club general meeting | 7 pm, second Wed of every month | Port Angeles Fire Station 5 th & Laurel Streets, PA | Tom Newcomb KE7XX 360-452-8228 |
| Clallam County Amateur Radio Club social breakfast | 8 am, first Sat of every month | Joshua's Restaurant Hwy. 101 & Del Guzzi Dr. | Tom Newcomb KE7XX 360-452-8228 |
| Clallam Country Amateur Radio Club YL social lunch | 11:45 am 2d Fri of every month | Rotates - announced on Thursday night Net | |

JUNE BIRTHDAYS:

- Jan, N7JAN, June 2nd
- Rich, N7NCN, June 5th
- Jack, KC6ZXS, June 9th
- Bob, K7PVZ, June 11th
- Chuck, N7HFL, June 14th
- Jerry, W6JGC, June 16th
- Richard, WA6CUE, June 16th
- Louise, XYL of Jerry, WA7BUY, June 18th
- Mary, N7MES, June 19th
- Jack, K7VII, June 24th
- Jack, K7JBH, June 24th
- Bill, K7WWU, June 29th
- Frank, KJ7SK, June 29th

Happy Birthday!

NET CHECK IN HONOR ROLL: Stations that have checked in more than half of the Thursday night net check ins (in alphabetical order)...they are...drum roll please....

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| N7BV, Chuck | WB8BVK, Paul |
| KE7CIA, Troy | AD7DG, Mike |
| W7DLK, Dennis | KE7DRT, Nita |
| N7DWA, Dan | AE7EA, Steve |
| KG6EI, Carl | KE7ENQ, Steve |
| KE7EZS, Leah | N7GAM, Gail |
| W7GRS, Roger | KC7GVG, Stu |
| N7HFL, Chuck | W6IAM, Paul |
| K7IDX, Bruce | K7INA, Russ |
| K7KEA, Elizabeth | WA7LDM, Jim |
| WA7LIK, John | KC7LTW, Donald |
| K5MTW, Don | WA7NBF, Neil |
| N7NCN, Rich | K7NIA, John |
| KC7NMN, Bess | W7PRS, Priss |
| K7PVZ, Bob | K7QCK, Jim |
| K7RGR, Roger | AC7RK, Bob |
| KJ7SK, Frank | K3SWH, Jerry |
| KD7TFK, Al | KD7TFL, Jerry |
| K7VQF, Ray | W7WEC, Bill |
| K7WZ, Bill | W7YLV, Al |