

CLALLAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

QTC

JULY 07

BV Rambles:

I am having writers block or something. I should have a hundred things to say, but for some reason the thoughts won't come together.

Field Day was a success, despite the rain, the different location, and the high noise level. We almost thought we were not going to make any contacts on 40m CW, but suddenly around 8 pm the noise went away, and 40 meters rocked! The interference was 30-40 db over 9, which would need to be identified and dealt with before going back next year.

So what did you think of Field Day 2007? We used computers for the first time to log which facilitated easily figuring of the base score. Everyone seemed to do OK using computers, well OK, not everyone, but almost everyone. Being the first time, much was learned about computer interfaces and actual logging techniques, etc. Over at the CW tent we learned the computer is our friend and makes things easier – with less fatigue.

The prior planning by the Field Day committee certainly went a long way to having all the antennas up and working by Friday evening. For a group's first time, with some different towers, masts and antennas, and at a different location things went amazing smooth. The facilities were a great addition, a dining area, a place to meet out of the rain, a fire place, full size stoves, a refrigerator and convent toilet facilities were certainly pluses. Only deterrents were off the beaten track for bringing in the public, the QRM, and the charges for using the Grange facilities.

The biggest hurdle to get over next year will be replacing Priss and Roger Steelman who will have moved to the new home in Nevada (who knows the cool summer weather here may draw them back!).

The club has quite a few field day items now (tent, towers, tri-band antenna, vertical antenna and some coax), a site for storage would be great. Someone having spare space in a shed or a barn would be a great asset.

I extend an open invitation to anyone who might be interested in trying to gain some more operating time to try out the IARU contest at my QTC this coming weekend (14-15 July). Please let me know (Email and telephone info else where in this QTC). The contest period is 0500 local time Saturday to 0500 local time Sunday.

Olyham.com has been down since 27 June due to non-renewal of the web site name. As many of you know, the Olyham web site and sever have been a long time service of Casey, KJ7XE. Casey often works out of town and we have had difficulty contacting him. We hope the domain name renewal issue will be corrected soon but, we are actively seeking alternatives for hosting the CCARC web site.

Again, my thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make Field Day 2007 a fun and enjoyable endeavor.

Thanks for the time and space. Chuck, N7BV

Vanity Call Signs

ARLB012 FCC poised to lower vanity call sign fee The FCC has proposed reducing the regulatory fee to obtain or retain an Amateur Radio vanity call sign by more than 40 percent starting later this year. In a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) released April 18, "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2007," in MD Docket 07-81, the Commission is proposing to cut the fee from its current \$20.80 to \$11.70. If ultimately adopted, that would mark the lowest fee in the history of the current vanity call sign program. The FCC proposed to collect nearly \$290.3 million in FY 2007 regulatory fees. "These fees are mandated by Congress and are collected to recover the regulatory costs associated with the Commission's enforcement, policy and rulemaking, user information, and international activities," the FCC said. "Consistent with our established practice, we intend to collect these regulatory fees in the August-September 2007 time frame in order to collect the required amount by the end of the fiscal year." Comments on MD Docket 07-81 are due May 3. Reply comments are due May 11. The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 11 years of the current vanity call sign program, from a low of \$12 to a high of \$50. The FCC says it anticipates some 14,700 Amateur Radio vanity call sign "payment units" or applications during the next fiscal year. The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign but upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. The first vanity call sign licenses issued under the current Amateur Radio vanity call sign program that began in 1996 came up for renewal last year. Those holding vanity call signs issued prior to 1996 are exempt from having to pay the vanity call sign regulatory fee at renewal, however. That's because Congress did not authorize the FCC to collect regulatory fees until 1993. Such "heritage" vanity call sign holders do not appear as vanity licensees in the FCC Amateur Radio database.

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Amateur Radio licensees may file for renewal only within 90 days of their license expiration date. All radio amateurs must have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before filing any application with the Commission. Applicants can obtain an FRN by going to the FCC Universal Licensing System (ULS) at, <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>, and clicking on the "New Users Register" link. You must supply your Social Security Number to obtain an FRN.

Remember Coffee!

We will break for coffee (decaf) and socialize for a few minutes or so during the meeting. Several of us will bring coffee in thermoses or carafes to share.

PROGRAM FOR July.

Field Day review

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.

Net Checkins

Congratulations to those making 100% for Net Check ins this month. WTG!

N7BV Chuck*
KE7DRT Nita*
W7GRS Roger*
KE7JEJ David
KE7KWG Becky*
WA7LDM Jim
KE7LKA Jody
K5MTW Don*
K7NIA John*
KC7NPP Theron*
W7PRS Priss*
KJ7SK Frank
KD7TFK Al
K7VQF Ray
W7YLV Al

Those with an asterisk behind their names are 100% for the year. WOW!!

Those who make 100% all year are going to be invited to a Pizza Party early next year. If you are willing to be Net Control please contact me. The 2nd and 3rd Thursdays are always open to 'spell off' Nita and myself, if you haven't already been scheduled. You are all welcome to give it a try.

John K7NIA

Clallam County ARES/RACES

Clallam County ARES/RACES is actively seeking new members and would like you to consider joining. This is a chance to prepare to be part of a solution during an emergency.

All RACES members are required to pass the FEMA/NIMS training IS-100, 700 and IS-200, 800. 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

Amateur Radio Classes and Exams:

The Clallam Country Amateur Radio Club will give a [Technician Class](#), July 21, 28 and August 4th; 0845 at PA Fire House on 5th and Laurel.

To purchase books please call Tom Newcomb 452-8228.

To sign up for next class, Email n7bv@yahoo.com.

Please spread the word.

Thanks. 73, Chuck

Herb KA7PXL tells us there's some interesting Amateur Radio coverage at the following web site:

<http://www.youtube.com/>

Do a search on ham radio and find many videos associated with ham radio.

We need articles for the QTC newsletter. This is after all your newsletter.

Tell us how you became interested in Ham Radio. What did you do over the summer (just like school) huh!

The more you submit the less we have to do, or think of. Or less blank space!

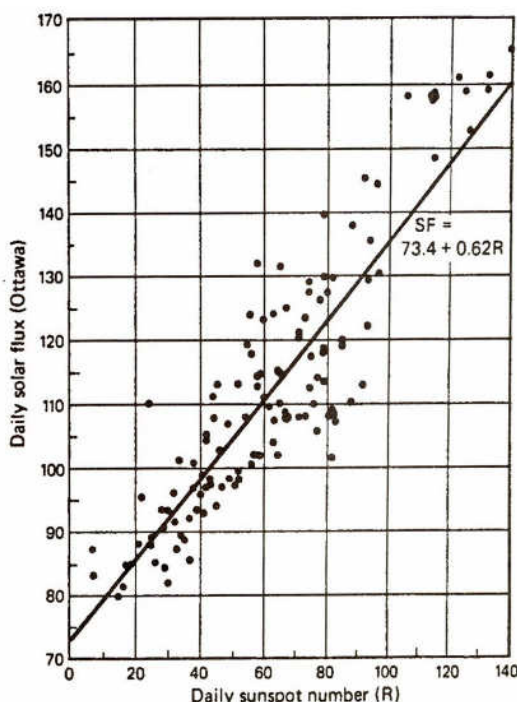
Thanks, the staff!

Sunspot Numbers vs Solar Flux

Ever wonder why two numbers are used to describe solar activity? I did. Recently while scanning a number of old radio magazines obtained from Frank, KJ7SK, I ran across an article in a September 1993 issue of CQ. The article is paraphrased below.

For the last 250 years an unbroken string of telescopic sunspot records has been available, however, cloud cover and adverse weather can make daily recording difficult. Sixty years ago a more precise measure of the sun was devised. This measurement was with very highly accurate calibrated radio receivers of radio frequency radiation emitted from the sun. While the source of these radio waves, called solar noise or solar flux, and the physical process which produces them are not yet fully understood, they are very closely related over time with sunspot measurements. (This last statement was in 1993. In a 1996 article "particle emissions" such as electrons, protons, and waves that cause geomagnetic storms were what influenced solar noise.)

Solar flux measurements are presently made on a worldwide basis on selective frequencies between 245 and 15,400 MHz. The frequency most used



is 2695 MHz. and are often referred to as 2800 MHz. or 10.7 cm measurements. The measurements are taken simultaneously at several observatories throughout the world at 1700 UTC and coordinated internationally by Canada's Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory in Penticton, B. C.

Solar flux numbers, unlike a sunspot count, are available almost immediately on WWV and other solar weather related web pages. Listen to WWV at 18 minutes past each hour for the most up to date solar flux numbers.

The current (today) solar flux numbers are in the area of 70 to 75. As you can see from the chart, all we can do is go up!! At 90 we might expect 15 meters to open; at 100 ten meters may open. So, lets all give a hand to increased solar flux numbers soon!!!

de Bob, K6MBY (what is "de" you ask... CW operators would know it as "this is")

Puzzle

Bill Orr, W6SAI (SK), a very popular and prolific technical writer for amateur radio in days past, published this puzzle a number of years ago.

In a room there are three lights, outside the door to the room are three switches. Switch 1, Switch 2, Switch 3. Each switch controls one of the three lights. You are on the outside of the room with the door closed. You may enter the room once but may not touch the switches once you have entered the room.

How would you determine which switch controls which light? (I know Bill's way but there may be others.)

Bill's answer will be given at the club meeting on July 12th and in next months QTC.

de Bob, K6MBY

Field Day at The Grange

Band	Mode	QSOs	Pts
3.5	CW	2	4
3.5	LSB	144	144
7	CW	203	406
7	LSB	26	26
14	CW	170	340
14	USB	109	109
21	USB	3	3
50	USB	18	18
144	USB	18	18
Total Both		693	1068 + Bonus Points etc = 2936
		Points	



Al's Hardware Store. Al, Thanks for your support...again.

Comments from field day:

I had a great time. I'm looking forward to next year. Don't give up on N1MM! Bill, W7WEC

Gawd I love it !!!! I remember all the razzin we were getting aboutt CW being 2 points, but we could only make 1/2 the contacts that SSB could.....Next year I'm gonna get serious about it. I was just goofin off this year.....Theron, KC7NPP



Matt's military tube tower and A3A for 20 SSB



20 Meter CW Tribander





The GoTa Station
Tom and Shirley



The Safety Officer,
aka. The Ribbon Lady

CLALLAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Minutes of the General Meeting June 13,
2007

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by club president, Chuck, N7BV, who announced that this evening we would go over Field Day logging software. He circulated a sheet for sign-up of Field Day positions.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and then introductions were made around.

Chuck also announced that a rotor and antenna were donated by Ed, W7VNT. Several other antennas (VHF) were donated by Jim, WA7LDM, to be sold for the club's benefit.

Matt, KC7EQO, and Bob, K6MBY, discussed the Field Day layout in detail. Facilities available included a wood stove, tables, chairs, toilet facilities, etc. The station set-ups were explained including transceivers, antennas, generators, etc. Logging will be done on laptops using a wireless system to inter-connect.

There are rules to be followed that include: not interfering with other Grange activities, not disturbing neighbors, and being out by noon on Sunday (unless there is no activity following ours). The Grange charges \$5.00 each for folks who sleep over at the site.

Participants are asked to bring extra lengths of co-ax, if available.

A safety officer will be needed to cover if Paul, W6IAM, is not able to be there as seems likely.

Antenna systems should be flagged when erected (flags on co-ax and guy wires).

Matt, KC7EQO, and Chuck, N7BV, then demonstrated the logging system (N1MM logging program). They showed what entries need to be made and what the computer system does with those entries.

Chuck, N7BV, talked about his experience at the Contest University, at Dayton. He then showed an ICOM video on the super contest station.

It was moved and seconded that the previous minutes as published be approved. The motion passed.

Leah, KE7EZZ, reminded us that badges may be purchased from her.

NOTE: Field Day participants are to bring their own headsets and CW keys.

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed. The meeting

was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

There were thirty-three members and guests in attendance.

Minutes by Rich, N7NCN

FOR SALE
Collins Transmitter 32S-2
Receiver 75S-3A
Station Control
Power Supply
Microphone
Collins Manuals
Heath SB-220 Linear Amp
Moseley Classic 36 Beam, Rotor, Cables,
etc. No tower.
Would prefer to sell as complete station.
Asking \$1,000 OBO.
Contact Ron Wise (WA4OUD)
360-681-2606 (local in Sequim)

Generators

There was some discussion prior to field day as to how to properly ground the generators. We also found that Matt's UPS was showing a fault when connected to any of the generators. Some investigation turned up these items. The generators should have a ground stake which will provide ground for the entire system through the AC circuits 3rd wire. An RF ground may be used at the radio but, generally, a ground rod tied to the radio ground is not suggested as it may cause a ground loop with the generator ground. Second, the generator third wire ground is **NOT** tied to the neutral of the 110 volt circuit as you would find in a house. Likely this is why Matt's UPS showed a fault. But, the good thing is.... If you were to grab on to the hot side of the 110 V (don't know why you would want to but let's say you inadvertently grabbed something hot) and, you were standing in a puddle of water, you would NOT get a shock. Neutral in the generator 110 V circuit, remember, is **not** tied to ground. Therefore there is no return path to the neutral side. de Bob, K6MBY

FOR SALE OR TRADE

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### **We are moving!!!!!!**

For Sale: ICOM IC-21, \$75.00  
Ant. Tuner, \$30.00  
Tube Testers, \$25.00 ea.  
Heath Kit UHF Rec. \$25.00  
Call Jim Cloud, WA7LDM  
457-9299

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We are moving too!!

A COMPLETE SYSTEM
iCOM 746 TRANSCEIVER
HF, 2 Meter and 6 Meter
Desk Microphone
Diamond Power Supply
Ameritron Solid State ALS-600
500 Watt Amplifier System
Clear Tone Noise Reduction
External Speaker
Like New Condition
Sold Only As a Total Package
\$1,500.00 Firm
Contact Roger Steelman, W7GRS
Phone: 360 681-3534

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### **WANTED:**

One ten foot (10') tower section of Rohn 25G.  
Contact Bruce Thompson, W7DNA  
@ 457-6134.

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WANTED:

I am looking for any antenna books that might be available. I have started playing around with wire antenna's around the property, and I was hoping that someone might have an extra antenna book lying around collecting dust. It really doesn't matter what year, type or anything else. I just want to learn more.
Please contact Theron (KC7NPP) at (360) 928-0127, or catch me on Striped Peak.
Theron

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FROM OUR TREASURER:

The current balance is \$5,776.55
VOC Frank Doherty ARRL ARES VE

COMING EVENTS

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Pacific Northwest DX Convention
Western Washington DX Club
<http://www.wwdxc.org>

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## **CLUB OFFICERS For 2006**

**President:** Chuck Jones N7BV

360-452-4672 n7bv@yahoo.com

**Vice President:** Bob Sampson K6MBY

360-582-9116 k6mby@olypen.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@olypen.com

**Board Member:** Tom Newcomb

360-452-8228 ke7xx@arrl.net

**Board Member:** Bob Kennedy AC7RK

360-457-6177 ark@tenforward.com



**Educational Scholarships - a way to help**

You are all aware, or should be by now, that our own Jody Ray, KE7LKA, has earned a substantial scholarship toward a college education. Congratulations, Jody. Well done! Jody has shown the kind of commitment and dedication that few young people today seem to share -- an ethic that is absolutely essential to the development of our next generation of leaders and the survival of the American way of life.

Jody's accomplishment got me to thinking about the cost of education in America. Back in the '50s, the cost of a college degree was minimal and easily achievable. The first two years could be earned at a local community college for a mere \$25 per semester plus books, most of which could be purchased used for a nominal fee. Nowadays, \$25 will barely buy lunch at the school cafeteria and during a four year course of study, the average student becomes burdened with a debt that can take years to pay back. It hardly seems fair and it tends to limit availability of higher education to the very rich -- not a wise policy in a democracy where control of government is supposed to reside in the hands of a diverse and enlightened populace.

Scholarships, and there are many to choose from, are a fine way to help relieve some of the debt burden and to show support for those who are willing to put forth the effort to qualify for them. If you are an ARRL member, you are probably aware of the Goldfarb scholarship that we, as a ham radio community, help to fund. It was endowed by the late William Goldfarb, N2ITP before his death in 1997 and, each year, awards one outstanding high school student a four year undergraduate education in an engineering, science, medical or business field. One student out of many deserving young people doesn't seem like much but it's a beginning. Take a look at some of the qualifications racked up by just three of the recent winners.

**2004 - Jonathan Krenzel, KC0AMG**

Besides an impressive list of ham radio achievements, Jonathan was top of his class and a National Honor Society member. He also found time to serve as manager of his high school football team, earn a silver medal in the Kansas Science Olympiad, and serve his community in church,

nursing home and food drive activities. With funding from the Goldfarb Scholarship, he is now majoring in aerospace engineering at Wichita State University.

**2005 - Tim O'Donnel, AB2LE**

Tim holds an Extra Class license. In High School, he was at the top of the scholastic ladder and winner of the University of Rochester Bausch & Lomb Science Award, the Cobleskill Masonic Chemistry Award, Regents Scholar, Scholet Sequential Math Prize, and the Konta Memorial Award in Biology. Today, he is enrolled at Brown University, majoring in Computer Science.

**2007 - Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM**

Andrea also holds an Extra Class license and has been a contributing editor to the ARRL Youth@HamRadio.Fun Web Column and she is the Georgia Assistant Section Manager for Youth. In 2003, Andrea was awarded the Hiram Percy Maxim Award and in 2004 *Amateur Radio Newslines*'s "Young Ham of the Year". In 2005 and 2006 she coordinated youth activities for the Dayton Hamvention and was also a forum participant. She is active in ARES, CERT and SKYWARN, and regularly volunteers as a communicator for public service events - all this while serving as editor in chief of her school newspaper and participating as a member of the Governors Cooperative Agreement Advisory Committee for Youth Substance Abuse Prevention. While doing all this she manages to maintain a 96.05 grade average.

I think you'll agree, these are pretty impressive credentials. These outstanding students, and many more like them, will certainly become leaders in our society wherever they choose to serve. Don't you think they deserve all the support we can give them? The William Goldfarb Scholarship program is only one of many to choose from. Please consider donating to a scholarship program of your choice. Help a deserving student achieve his or her potential in today's demanding and highly competitive world.

**Paul Honore' W6IAM**

**YL LUNCHEON**

**July 13th  
Café Garden  
Port Angelesine: 11:45 a.m.**

**Find us on the web at  
[www.olyham.com](http://www.olyham.com)  
Check it out. Lots of  
information about ham radio  
in Clallam County!**

### 2007 YL Luncheons: 11:45 a.m.

July: Café Garden  
August: Tarcisio's  
September: Sergio's  
October: Fortune Star  
November: Chestnut Cottage  
December: Café Provence

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

**BIRTHDAYS:**  
Nita Lyman 3rd  
Paul Benadum 23rd

*Happy Birthday!*

(Not sure I have a current list of all  
member birthdays. If I missed you I  
apologize. Bob)

### Call Sign Badges By WB8BVK

Don't be a stranger at club meetings, hamfests or public service events. Wear a durable engraved name & call sign badge to let others know who you are. Available in 1" x 3" or 1-3/4" x 3" in assorted colors and finishes. Reasonable prices from a local source. Custom jobs up to 5" x 8" (custom front panels, door signs, desk plates, clipboards, etc.). See Paul, WB8BVK, at the CCARC meetings or email at [pbenadum@earthlink.net](mailto:pbenadum@earthlink.net).

Buy local!

**The next few pages are additional field day comments received at CCARCQTC.**

**THANK YOU**

There are so many people to thank for Field Day, that Karen warned me I would surely fail to recognize someone and thus run the risk of hurt feelings. So up front let me apologize to anyone that I might have forgotten.

Sort of starting by a timeline:

The expanded committee consisting of Matt KE7EQO, Judie KE7EQP, Bob K6MBY, Johan KO6I, Al KD7TFK, John KE7AQT, Steve W6MPD.

Dan N7DWA for a donation of a 40' crank-up.

Frank KJ7SK for a donation of a 24' tower.

Nita, KD7DRT and Tom KE7XX for organizing our publicity. Nita for getting the Port Angeles, Sequim, and County Proclamations. Tom for being our spokes-person when proclamations were presented.

To all those people who brought their laptops to a special meeting to load and learn more about N1MM logging software.

To everyone who helped with setting up and tearing down.

To everyone who operated or ran a station, brought equipment etc.

To Matt who worked diligently to provide the promised remote Internet connection and local wireless LAN.

To Nita, KD7DRT for setting up and manning the ARES/RACES booth and for looking after the county's Incident Command Vehicle (ICV).

Bert, KN7R for making up the needed paper logs.

To some very special people who provided us with food, Priss and Roger Steelman, W7PRS & W7GRS. Priss Steelman for the great photo Album.

To someone, who without his knowledge and bag of tricks some of the antennas, tents etc might not have stayed in the air – Al Fisk, KD7TFK.

Lastly to the entire membership who without their dues etc, we might not have been able to meet the financial obligations of Field Day.

Thank you one and all.

Chuck  
N7BV



CCARC Field Day 2007 Soapbox  
by  
Paul Benadum, WB8BVK

Field Day 2007 is over and now it's time to take a look back and see what we liked, didn't like and recommend changes for next year. Note that these are personal observations and not a consensus of the club as a whole or that of other participants. Since the weather can't be controlled regardless of the location I refrained from any comments (but it was better than some of the Field Days I have experienced like 104° with high humidity and inside a metal building). Overall I thought it was a good exercise and felt good about it.

**What I liked (in no particular order):**

- o The location was great. Finding a better physical location would be difficult. Whether it is a good rf location remains to be seen.
- o For me it was only about 4 miles away and easy to find (I already knew where the Grange Hall was).
- o The large flat area allowed for lots of elbow room both for stations and antennas.
- o Guy wires, tent stakes, etc. were well marked with bright pink ribbons.
- o Shelter house with kitchen and fireplace (and restrooms!) was a definite plus. It provided a common place to meet, eat and get shelter from the rain.
- o Lots of stations, with a variety of antennas and equipment.
- o Lots of participants. There seemed to be plenty of hams available to operate the stations.
- o Emergency Communications vehicle from Clallam County Sheriff.
- o Very little noise. The generators were very quiet. No disturbing the neighbors!
- o Good food, drink and fellowship.
- o Youth participation. Yea!! Active and enthusiastic.
- o No accidents or injuries that I was aware of.

**What I didn't like as much (in no particular order):**

- o No signs leading visitors (general public) from Cays Rd. to the site (like at the entrance to Macleay Rd.).
- o Did not find any articles on Field Day in the local papers.
- o Nothing to direct visitors where to go first (like the information tent).
- o Except for one station there were no explanatory signs at each station.
- o It was too quiet. Except for a few cases (GOTA and the VHF/UHF stations) a visitor wouldn't hear the radios. Boring!
- o Only one person manning the Information/ARES booth.
- o Was there an ARES/RACES presence (besides the Information booth)?
- o Nobody available to show off the Clallam County Sheriff's emergency vehicle. It was great that we had it there but it might as well have been someone's RV.
- o Erection of antennas seemed to go very slow. Maybe too slow? Field Days that I have participated in in the past didn't set up until Saturday morning. Granted, being in the eastern time zone, we had 3 additional hours to get set up before operating.
- o No makeshift protective coverings for the generators when it rains, etc.

**What about next year:**

- o Personally I'd pick the same location. I might even operate.
- o Monitor speakers (mutable?) so visitors can hear what is going on at each station (like the GOTA station had.).
- o Signs at each station describing what makes up the station (frequency/band, antenna type, mode of operation, etc.). Nothing fancy, but might explain advantages of the different types.

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- Continued from page 13
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- Articles in local media (newspapers, radio) promoting Field Day and inviting the public to come on out and see what it is all about. Show them how amateur radio is used when an emergency occurs. Normally this requires 14 – 21 days advance notice.
- o A laptop at the information booth or shelter house connected to the network (if it's working) so that visitors and non-operating participants can see how we are doing score-wise.
- o Assuming the Sheriff's Emergency Vehicle is on display, have someone available to explain what it is.
- o Have a test/repair bench and a crew to man it. I realized too late that Al Fisk had a workbench in his trailer. My bad – I didn't think to bring my tool kit or test equipment.
- o Be able to locate rfi sources.
- o Should there be a station run by ARES/RACES members? Like right next to the information booth? While Field Day is not an ARES event it is a practice emergency exercise. People who have never been in a real emergency situation (especially where the pre-set up stations are incapacitated) would benefit with going into the field and practicing setting up a station.
- o First Aid kit and someone qualified to use it? This didn't come to mind until I started writing this paper.

de Bob, K6MBY

First let me say that it was the best field day of the three I have attended. "Best" being described as the number of club members to turned out to help set up as well as operate, the facilities, the camaraderie, the food, etc.

Things that worked:

Adequate separation between stations seemed to keep interference down.

Multiple generators rather than one big, noisy one with lots of cords.

Paper logs for those that did not want to log by computer.

The younger generation willing to stay up through the night.

Things that could be improved on:

Better control of the weather.... the rain was not helpful but having the garage with a hot fire was nice.

There were lots of receive noise issues. Some was due to power line arcing and some was due to switching power supplies. While this location has lots of space and great cooking and bathroom facilities; the power lines running down MacLeay were presumably a source of intermittent noise. It made 6 meters unusable at times. We found a 12 volt power switching supply we were using to power the 2/6 meter rig was very noisy and changed it out. After the fact we found that Al Dawson's computer switching supply was very noisy and the source of much of his issues.

The list of people signing up for food vs actual attendees was far from being accurate. The sign up sheet had 15 people while, in reality, we had closer to 25-30. I am not sure where we were to sign up as I never saw a sign up list. Roger and Priss will not be around for next field day; a great loss for field day but also to the club in general. We will need to discuss a new feeding methodology for next year.

Our low QSO count on 20 meters has to make one wonder if we have antenna/rig issues. Do we need some basic wire antennas? We certainly have the trees. Are the beams really working?? I wonder if joint corrosion in the older antennas is causing just plain old resistance which would reduce efficiency?

Contest operating procedures.... need to get a couple of the younger people into more contest situations. Salmon Run, CQWW CW and SSB. Contacts attempts must be made with a loud, forceful voice and not a speaking voice. ( I know.... I am not the one to talk about this)

*continued page*

14

Continued from page 13

Fix the GOTA vertical or decide to use the G5....or both.

Have a meeting 30 minutes prior to the opening of field day so everyone knows the status of the various tents, what additional help might be needed, what our class is, who is responsible for gassing the generators, a round of applause for those that are in attendance, etc.

Have a sheet at each station with the sections and their abbreviated letters.



Information Tent



Chow Hall Discussion



Keeping Warm By The Fire