



WWRA 2005 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Held at the
KITSAP REGIONAL LIBRARY, 1301 SYLVAN WAY, BREMERTON, WASHINGTON
Saturday, January 29, 2005

1. PRESIDENT. Brought the meeting to order at 12:46pm
 - a. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:
 1. Acknowledged that refreshments were prepared, donated and brought by Mike, WA7YNY and his wife.
 2. Acknowledged an unnamed Motorola technician in Pennsylvania for providing us with a free Operators Manual for our new communications analyzer.
 3. Acknowledged the many members who came a long way to our meeting.
 - b. INTRODUCTION
 1. Bob asked everyone to TURN OFF his or her CELL PHONES or set them to STUN.
 2. Bob reminded everyone about the WWRA website.
<http://www.ww7ra.org>
 3. An introduction of all present was conducted. There were **55 members** in attendance.
 4. DOOR PRIZE & RAFFLE: IMMEDIATELY announced that the door prize drawing and raffle for two VHF HT's will be held at the end of the meeting.
 1. YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN either HT.
 2. YOU MUST BE A WWRA MEMBER to win the door prize.
 - c. SIGN IN SHEET: Pass sign in sheet around and get it back to the Treasurer.
2. Officer Reports:
 - a. **Treasurers report:**
 1. Bill, N7YT read 2004 FINANCIAL REPORT. No questions and the report was passed as read.
 - b. **Chief Operator report:**
 1. Joe, W7COM reported on the previous years technical work.
 - c. **Secretary minutes:**
 1. George, N7GME read minutes of last 2004 GENERAL MEETING. Minutes were passed as read with no amendments.
 - d. **Board of Directors: ORGANIZATION 2004 WORKLOAD REPORT**
 1. George, N7GME presented a detailed report on administrative and technical work done in 2004. It also included information on the contributions of many who support the WWRA infrastructure.
 - e. **President's report:** Bob, KC7DRQ presented information and the current policies that the Board of Directors is using to managed the WWRA.
 1. **FACTS:** In January of 2004 we did a thorough assessment of our 2003 membership support.
 - i. BEGINNING: 208 users with 86 supporters. 41%



- ii. AFTER 3 MONTHS of DILIGENTLY SOLICITING USERS: 166 users with 116 supporters. 69%
2. There has been a sudden influx of no-code tech class licensees who have come over from the CB ranks with the attitude that the radio waves are free. Some understand and support the repeaters but some don't. It is an educational issue.
3. MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT POLICY: In October the BoD voted on and reaffirmed a recruitment policy; basically it was an extension of what previous groups managing the WWRA have done since 1976. Any amateur who uses the repeater on a continuous basis is expected to support the repeater.
4. NO GROUP MEMBERSHIPS: There is no such thing as a family membership for your buddies. If they routinely talk to you on the repeater then we expect you to get them to support the repeater.
5. SOLICITATIONS: Membership recruitment is an important part of the administrative infrastructure.
 - i. Many hours a year are expended on recruitment alone.
 - ii. I am constantly sending out solicitations year round to users getting 21% return.
 - iii. N7GME, George and myself have talked to most of the I-5 corridor repeater managers and have found out that the people who have not supported the WWRA are also not supporting their repeater systems either.
 - iv. There are various ways to do this.
 1. Email, US Mail, word of mouth by members off the air, etc.
 - v. **We do not solicit over the air and additionally we do not discuss repeater business over the air.**
 - vi. ENTITLEMENT: Unfortunately some hams have a feeling of ENTITLEMENT. Some rationale we hear is:
 1. I sent \$20 a few years ago and I only use the repeater a little bit so I don't feel I owe anything
 2. I am disabled – president Bob is disabled!!
 3. I belong to another repeater
 4. I have four children
 5. I don't work
 6. And the best one we hear is that the FCC gave me permission to be here and the air waves are free – our equipment is not free.
 - vii. BOARD MEMBERS & VOLUNTEERS: It would be good to make mention now that all of the



people who work on the repeaters pay their \$20. NO ONE GETS A FREE RIDE.

- b. **MEMBERS CAN HELP:** It is the job of the elected board of directors [OUR JOB] to be proactive in recruiting. However, you Members can be of some assistance.
 - i. It can be difficult to recruit someone who uses our repeater continuously while talking to paid up members. They may feel "...why buy the cow when you get the milk free..." Some things you can do to help.
 - ii. We encourage Members to read the ROSTER and see who supports the repeater.
 - iii. Encourage users who identify themselves as non-members to support the WWRA.
 - iv. One solution in this case would be to have a short QSO with the continuous users.
 - v. If you want to talk to your buddy who refuses to support the repeater then an option can be to move another frequency.
 - c. **GUESTS:**
 - i. Our Canadian friends from the north.
 - ii. Visitors to our state here temporarily on vacation.
 - iii. Traffic passers.
 1. The traffic passers are our amateur radio representatives to the general public and provide a community service.
 2. There is no commute hour establish on the VHF repeater. Anytime the frequency is open the "traffic passers" can do their thing.
2. **MEMBERSHIP SPEED DIALS:** For those who have speed dials.
- a. If you have not renewed within 30 days as of 1 January your speed dials will be canceled. These same speed dials will more than likely be issued to some other member. When you finally do renew you must request a speed dial number again.
3. **WWRA CAPABILITES INFORMATION:** Capabilities are constantly changing. What may have been the norm a few years or even months ago is not necessarily true now. When capabilities change we get the information out right away, via Email or in the NEWSLETTER. Always ask a control operator for your repeater questions. Members who used to be involved years ago do not always have the correct information.



4. **LOCATION of REPEATER:**
 - a. ONLY discuss the location of our repeater system by saying that it is located on GOLD MOUNTAIN. Please do not say anymore than that. We need to “keep a low profile”. Owners of the site continually change hands and bring aboard new rules. SO FAR we have been grandfathered up there and no new restrictions have been placed on us. We do not want to draw unnecessary attention to our use of the site. We get along with the current engineers and do not want to do anything to upset this relationship.
 5. **NORTH KITSAP AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OCTOBER HAMFEST:**
 - a. Bill, N7YT and George, N7GME represented the WWRA at the October Hamfest for recruitment of Members. The WWRA received thank you letter from NKARC. It was also noted that someone else took the NKARC’s time slot in October so the 2005 hamfest is uncertain.
 6. **SUNDAY NIGHT NET:** We are **canceling** the net due to lack of interest and no volunteers came forward to help Drake, KD7GAR run it. We want to thank Drake for his years of service.
 7. **DOOR & RAFFLE PRIZES:**
 - a. Purchased two Yaesu hand-held radios for general membership door prize and raffle. The reason we have the prizes is to increase membership meeting participation. We raffled the second HT to help defray the costs of the purchases.
 8. **WWRA PROPERTY:**
 - a. Any equipment belonging to the repeater should be turned into the elected board of directors. Currently that is myself who has taken on this task. Every time I think I have all of our gear we hear that there is some more out there. I have spent the last three years gathering up equipment and documentation that was in the custody of others.
3. **OLD BUSINESS.**
 4. **NEW BUSINESS.**
 - a. 30th ANNIVERSARY
 1. Bob asked for feedback on what we wanted to do for next years meeting. The general consensus of opinion for location was that the Kitsap Regional Library meeting room was now too small due to their current remodeling. Also most people wanted to do a potluck and the repeater



BoD would provide a cake. We plan on inviting all the original Charter Members by special invitation.

5. **ELECTION of OFFICERS for 2005 - VICE PRESIDENT**, read off slate of officers and called for nominations from the floor three times.
 - a. **BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINEES:**
 1. Bob, KC7DRQ for President
 2. Drake, KD7GAR for VP
 3. Bill, N7YT for Treasurer
 4. Terry, N7YZX for Secretary
6. **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE NOMINEES:** VP read off slate of ops committee members and called for nominations from the floor three times. .
 1. Joe, W7COM
 2. George, N7GME
 3. Bill, N7YT
 4. Mike, W7MKY
 5. Ed, KD7YRW
7. Alternate operations committee nominees.
 1. Don, KC7VQD
 2. Kevin, WQ1B
 3. Jaime, KD7HPE
 - b. All nominees for board of directors and operations committee were elected unanimously by all in attendance.
8. **AUDIT BOARD:** Drake asked for volunteers for Audit Board. Mike, W7CO and Bob, KE7AMR volunteered and voted unanimously by all in attendance.
9. **GUEST SPEAKER Presentation:**
 - a. Curt, W7CLL gave a presentation on the construction of a J pole antenna.
 - b. Curt, W7CLL was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation by Bob, KC7DRQ on behalf of the WWRA membership.
10. **DRAWINGS:** Conducted door prize and raffle drawing. Steve, W7HDO won the door prize and John, KC7HYL won the raffle. Mike, W7MKY won the J pole antenna donated by Curt, W7CLL.
11. **ADJOURNMENT:**
 - a. Request a motion to adjourn. Motion made and the meeting was adjourned by the president at 2:58 pm.

Recorder/Secretary

President