



Western Washington Repeater Association

PO Box 1001, Silverdale, WA 98383-1001

<http://www.wv7ra.org>

146.620MHz and 442.650MHz pl 103.5Hz

In response
Please reply:
080313ke7gsl

March 14, 2008

KE7GSL
Robert E. Shepard
127 E. Barnacle Blvd.
Shelton, WA 98584

Hi Robert,

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the WWRA dues reminder. In accordance with the WWRA constitution and by-laws the membership cycle for all of us runs from 1 January to 31 December annually. We expended over 620 hours last year in administrative chores alone. I myself joined in August the first year so I know what you mean. You also have something in common with many WWRA members who support the WWRA but hardly ever use the repeaters. I haven't been on for several years but like to know it's available for emergencies.

The board of directors works very hard to treat everyone equally and consistently so we have followed the rules established many years ago. We have an administrative system we follow and we send out reminders to everyone. You were not singled out. Occasionally we get a note from someone saying that they thought they already had paid their dues and thanks for the heads up.

Since you only have a radio in your boat you must have missed our request for renewals at the end of last year and we also announced our meeting in late January. You missed a real great meeting as we raffled off a top of the line mobile rig and also a door prize. These items pay for themselves and help raise needed revenue. Although this meeting is primarily a fund-raiser and we also vote in the volunteers who will be responsible for running and maintaining things for the rest of the year.

Your point about the economy is a valid one as it especially effects our volunteer organization where every penny counts. If it were not for membership support like yours the WWRA could not function. In 2007 our operations committee volunteers made a total of 30 trips to Gold Mountain spending 121.5 hours at the site. Fuel costs are a worrisome factor for our planned maintenance but we have to go no matter the weather when something breaks down. We buy the best equipment available but it still needs TLC. You can ask any ham and they will all tell you that the WWRA repeaters have an excellent track record for reliability and that comes at a price. There is a wealth of information located at the volunteer maintained WWRA website. It will enhance your understanding of how the WWRA operates. <http://www.wv7ra.org>.

You are absolutely correct about not owing the WWRA. From one volunteer to another I want to thank you for your last years and this years contribution to the WWRA, happy boating and enjoy the repeaters.

Sincerely,

Terry Christiansen, N7YZX
Secretary, WWRA

Encl: Letter from Robert Shepard - not to all (no callsign no date)

Cc: All WWRA Board Members
All Operations Committee Members
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