



Your Amateur Radio Committee held an intensive one-day review class on January 7th, 2006. The class was followed by exams for boaters interested in obtaining an FCC Amateur Radio License. A total of 28 boaters took the seven-hour review session. During and after the review session a total of 45 E1, E2, E3, E4 exams were administered. The

median score result for the Technician (E2) exams was 32 out of 35 (92%!). Through international agreement, new operators are assigned call signs by the FCC – which are unique in the world. For example, you can look up a call, e.g., W7SYC, on the FCC [1] or other websites to learn more about the licensee or send a QSL card. The following participants were issued new call signs from the FCC which will entitle them to operate on 2 meters and join the growing number of Boaters on the BC Boaters Net this summer: Brett Hoopes, KE7GCE; Chris Otorowski, KE7GCU; Chuck Lowry, KE7GCX; Dale Sherrow, KE7GCJ; Dave Kelly, KE7GDB; David Griffith KE7GCK; Ed Brighton, KE7GCM; Ed Scripps, KE7GDC; Ed McLean, KE7GCR; Greg Guyman KE7GCZ, Hector Cyre, KE7GCG;

Janice Cyre, KE7GCF; Jeff Ayers, KE7GCO; Kim Lorenz, KE7GCP; Larry McCarthy, KE7GCW; Marc Sidell, KE7GDE; Michael Bell KE7GCN; Suzan Nettleship, KE7GCV; Mike Milburn, KE7GCS; Perry Tobe, KE7GCI; Rick Meslang, KE7GCT; Stacey Hoopes, KE7GCD; Steve Alarcon, KE7GDA; Sue Kruller, KE7GCV; Tom O'Brien, KE7GCQ; William Anderson, KE7GCH. If you have a 2m radio - look for these new operators on the air. The group has been frequenting the Green Mountain repeater (146.88 MHz) on Sunday evenings.

In addition, the following members took exams on January 7, 2006 to upgrade their licenses: Charles Steward (KE7FZU) and Ruellene Morganti (KN0TEE) passed the FCC E3 exam (KE7FZU recently passed the code test and is now a General Class operator). After they take the FCC E1 code exam of 5 words per minute they will receive a General License. David Kelly passed the E1 code exam. Dwight Shaw (KC7ACP), Peter Powell (KB7RSD), and Frank Dean (KD7RAB) passed the FCC E3 exam after passing the E1 code test previously – they are now entitled to a General license. A General License enables the operator to operate on SSB High Frequency radios. A General can check-in on the NW Boaters net on 75 meters (very useful in going to Alaska, the West Coast of Vancouver Island, or off-shore). In addition to the members mentioned above, we were able to

accommodate six Amateur Radio operators from outside the club in taking exams.

The seven member ARRL/FCC Certified Volunteer Exam (VE) Team and Instructors included five Amateur Extra Class licensees: Bill Whitney, WO7O; Day Chapin, W7HDC; Dan Withers, WM7W; Heather Ballaine, AB7JT; Bill Webber, K7IK (from Port Ludlow Yacht Club); one Advanced; Barrie Arnett, N7ATC; and one General, Bob McConnell, N7DOS. Assisting the class were Dave Ballaine, KE7FUO; Dwight Shaw, KC7ACP; Frank Dean KD7RAB; and Ruellene Morganti, KN0TEE.



*Amateur Radio Committee Instruction and Exam Team (left to right): Bob McConnell, N7DOS; Barrie Arnett, N7ATC; Bill Webber, K7IK; Day Chapin, W7HDC; Heather Ballaine, AB7JT; Bill Whitney, WO7O; Dan Withers, WM7W.*

Amateur Radio Committee Instruction and Exam Team (left to right): Bob McConnell, N7DOS; Barrie Arnett, N7ATC; Bill Webber, K7IK; Day Chapin, W7HDC; Heather Ballaine, AB7JT; Bill Whitney, WO7O; Dan Withers, WM7W.

The SYC Amateur Radio Committee now consists of 115 experienced boaters and Amateur Radio operators. There are 13 members in the process of renewing or getting a license; 51 Technician and Novice Licensees, 33 Generals, 8 Advanced, and 10 Extra Class Operators. Seven of our members are qualified VEs (Volunteer Examiners) certified by the ARRL – one of the VECs

certified by the FCC to conduct and grade FCC Amateur Radio exams. The station license is W7SYC located at Portage Bay Mainstation with an HF station.

Upcoming Committee events include a radio expedition to the “Mike & Key” Hamfest in Puyallup on Saturday, March 11th, and a Radio Rendezvous on April 1st & 2nd at Port Madison. The next Committee meetings are scheduled for March 29th (the theme will be Nets with FCC exams given before the meeting). On April 26th, the theme will be “Installing Radios on Boats.” The next scheduled meeting after April will not be until September 13th; however, we expect an active summer cruising season on the various boating nets. All SYC members and guests are welcome to attend meetings.

In addition to meeting “on-the-air” on a 2m repeater – the Committee has an active email discussion group [2]. If you are interested contact one of the ARC members, or send me an email at chapin@activesoft.net.

W7SYC - For more information about the Seattle Yacht Club Amateur Radio Committee: send an email to chapin@activesoft.net, 73s – Day Chapin, Chair.

