

HOOTERHAM NEWS.

July 2018

What a very busy and good month June has been.

Preparations for the Christmas DX Dinner have continued to progress since last month. The Great Southern Club venue deposit has been paid and the raffle Grand Prize has been purchased and is in the Clubs hands. The prize is a brand new, in the box Icom 7300 HF plus 6 meter transceiver, which is currently retailing for about \$1100-1200. Tickets are available from the Club secretary, the always affable Charlie Otnott (WD5BJT), and are selling well for the nominal price of \$10 each. If you would like tickets see Charlie or e-mail him and your wish will be granted.

We also have confirmation that our Guest Speaker will be Bob Allphin, K4UEE. Bob has been involved with, or been a participant in, very many DXpeditions over the years, including the Bouvet Island expedition earlier this year. Should be a very interesting evening.

Our lunchtime gathering at Dickeys Barbecue in June was attended by about 12 members and guest visitors and was a culinary delight. It was nice to see some members wives in attendance, keeping an eye on the behavior of the OM's. This is mostly a social event and guests and visitors, who may not be radio active are always welcome.

The next Dickeys BBQ lunch meeting will be on July 4th, so if you do not have to work that day lunch at Dickeys is a good all American alternative.

WQ5L, Ray, AE5MI, Yvette, and WD5BJT, Charlie, represented the club in the ARRL June VHF contest. Working with low power and 4 elements at 25 feet they made a total of 263 contacts for a score of 28,667 points. The conditions were not very good, but they did make several FT8 DX contacts in the Caribbean, although it was a slow and arduous process due to the number of stations and the slow contact speed of FT8. We shall see when the final scores are published but it looks like a fine entry.

Field Day has come and gone, and the club did participate. The weather was perfect and all the equipment worked without problems for the whole time. We were able to operate simultaneous stations on 20 and 40 meters without damaging any radios and that helped the score. Our final raw score was much better than last year and slightly better than 2016, even though solar conditions have deteriorated. Our most serious problem was the lack of operators, only 5 ops to keep 4 stations running for the full 24 hours is not enough.

There was more food than operators to eat it all. Operators were AE5MI, WQ5L, WD5BJT, KF5BA and WM5DX. Visitors included the Red Cross and the Fire Department, and also a couple of young lads who did operate briefly. TV station WLOX had a good segment about Field Day in general on the news and Charlie Carney, AG5CC, did a very nice job of representing the amateur community.



Score - 6,010 Points			
Band	Mode	QSOs	Pts
3.5	CW	127	254
3.5	LSB	24	24
7	CW	346	692
7	LSB	203	203
7	RTTY	6	12
14	CW	346	692
14	RTTY	160	320
14	USB	112	112
21	CW	245	490
21	RTTY	2	4
21	USB	142	142
28	USB	60	60
Total	Both	1773	3005
Score: 6,010			
1 Mult = 1.0 Q's			

Next year we need more operators or we may have to consider reducing the number of stations that we run. Considering the excellent facility that the Club has the lack of operators is disappointing.

On the 7th/8th July the DL-DX RTTY contest will be held. This should be a nice one for RTTY ops because stations with only one radio will be in a different category than SO2R stations, and also there is a 6 hour category for ops who do not wish to enter the full 24 hours. Interestingly, there are also categories for operators who only use ground plane or dipole antennas. Weather permitting WM5DX will be operating SO1R high power, 24 hours.

There is also a Club entry category that requires logs to be submitted from at least 3 club members. **How about it guys?** Rules at <http://www.drcg.de/dldxrtty/dl-dx-rtty-english.html>

Last month there was a wedding in England. Not just any old wedding but a real Royal affair, some very observant viewers may have noticed it on TV.

The Cray Valley Radio Society, in London, England, is a good size club and has been established for 70 years.

It is active in many facets of our hobby and has established an excellent reputation as a Special Event station, including operating during the 2012 London Olympics with the call sign 2O12L. It was not surprising, therefore, that it came on the air as GR9RW, the first time that this prefix had been issued, and in a five day period made over 8,500 qso's



This is a very special QSL card showing the happy Royal Couple with Windsor Castle in the background and all QSL card collectors would be very happy indeed to acquire one.

Full disclosure: WM5DX is very proud to be a member of this great club, www.cvrs.org

That's all folks, see you at the next Club meeting, July 21st and Open House, July 28th, or at Dickeys on July 4th.

73, Mike, WM5DX.

