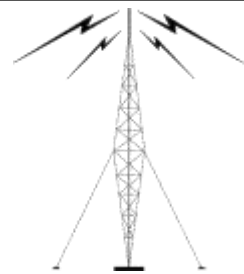




Western Public Service System Newsletter



SPECIAL 2016 SUMMER EDITION

AUGUST 2016



Letter from the President, Genie, KM6D

Hi Everyone,

First off, I want to thank Mike KJ6THI for stepping up to be our Newsletter Editor. It is greatly appreciated and I know that he'll do a wonderful job.

Congratulations to all our picnic prize winners. Thank you to all who showed up to have fun, food and friendship with us at Casa de Fruta. It was a wonderful time and as always it's always nice to finally get an eyeball QSO with people

you talk with on the Net.

I'd like to thank our Prize Chairman Steve W6NFL for the job he did picking all those prizes, also his assistants for the drawing Bill W6WEC, Tom NT6S, Sherman WA6TVS and Neil W6FOG. Thank you to Joe WA6FFJ for taking care of our ticket sales, keeping track of who bought tickets, writing everyone's call signs on their tickets and mailing out their stubs. Also thanks to Dave K6DAW our Treasurer for keeping track of our money and paying all our fees for the event. A big thank you to Gigaparts for the help in putting together our prizes for the picnic. Casa De Fruta, especially Lisa, for being so accommodating to us every year. Famous Dave's Barbeque in Gilroy for handling the food, they did a great job, as always. The picnic next year is on June 10, 2016 again at Casa De Fruta in the Hollister area. I hope you can come over camp and join us at the picnic.

On July 27, 2016 the Executive Board held a meeting to address the dire circumstances of our finances. Without making some changes we would be out of finances in approximately eight years at our present deficit rate. Some difficult decisions regarding the finances had to be made, as much as we did not want to. The prize fund was cut by \$500, the meal cost was increased, mailing of the Election Ballot was eliminated and now will be online and we need your support in increasing the yearly dues by the nominal amount of \$2. The dues have not been increased in at least 20 years regardless of economic changes. This would make the new amounts \$12 for New, \$10 Renewal and \$5 Spouse/Associate. This requires your support and a Special Ballot will be mailed out in August and need to be returned no later than August 31, 2016. They MUST also have your name and call sign on this Special Ballot in order to be valid. The Executive Board voted unanimously on all these difficult changes. You may look at the Executive Board Minutes in this Newsletter. We would like to Thank You all for your understanding and support.

It is also time to start thinking about running for a position on our Board of Directors. We will need people on the Nominating Committee by August 2016. If you are interested in being on the Nominating Committee or running for an Office please contact our Nominations Chairman Dave WA6KEL if you'd like to participate. The nominations are open in September 2016 for Officers and Directors to take office January 2017.

Thank you everyone for helping make Western Public Service System such a great Net.

73

Genie Balentine-Segroves KM6D
President WPSS

From the Editor

Earlier this year I asked Genie, KM6D, why the WPSS newsletter was not being put out on a regular schedule. As soon as I asked I realized that I had stepped into a clever and insidious trap just waiting to be sprung. As Genie explained it the newsletter had been without an editor for some time and no one was willing to take the position. Since I asked about it she thought I would be the perfect person to be editor. I was trapped, roped in, snagged and shanghaied for a trip to the unknown on the good ship WPSS. Genie and I had some face to face talks about the newsletter at the June picnic at Casa de Fruta and after discussing format and content I agreed to do it for a year...as a trial to see if I was a good fit and to see what the members thought about a regular newsletter. So what is a newsletter? Newsletters are published by clubs, societies, associations, and businesses to provide information of interest to members, customers, or employees. Newsletters delivered electronically have gained rapid acceptance for the same reasons email in general has gained popularity over printed correspondence. The most important aspects of a newsletter are that it is not one person's opinion, and that it is never political or hateful. In order for a newsletter to succeed it must have the support and input of the membership. We are lucky that the WPSS has a diverse and knowledgeable membership. We have many members doing HAM related activities with youth and other groups, and many members with a wealth of years of technical experience in the hobby. Newsletters are meant to showcase and share these activities and technical skills with the membership at large. This first newsletter is small, just to get the word out that we want to restart the newsletter. In the future I'd like to see members submit HAM related articles for the newsletter. Views on antennas, equipment, computer interface for rig control, and more. Sure, we can all read about these things in many places on the internet but it is not the same as direct experience from Hams we know. For now, the newsletter will come out every other month, January/March/May/July/September/November. September will be the first regular issue. November will for now be strictly the election/dues renewal edition put out by the club president. I look forward to hearing from those of you that would like to contribute to the WPSS newsletter. I would also like to hear any ideas you may have for regular content. As always in the WPSS this is supposed to be fun...so let's get together and have some fun.

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING FOR THE WESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE SYSTEM

07/25/2016

Called to order at 1900 PDT by Genie, KM6D President

In attendance and voting:

KM6D - President	NA6D - Director	KI6SUR - Director
AG6IS - VP Net Manager	WA6FFJ - Director	KT6U - Director
W7HUT - Secretary	W6LGS - Director	KA6ZVR - Director
K6DAW - Treasurer	W6NFL - Director	WB6ABW - Alternate
WD6AQH - Director	W6PXD - Director	NT6S - Alternate

All current officers and directors being present, a quorum was declared and the meeting begun.

The primary topic of discussion was the current state of WPSS finances, with the President noting an approximate \$1,000 annual shortfall that has been occurring for several years.

Many suggestions were discussed prior to 3 motions that were made, seconded, discussed and **unanimously** approved:

- 1. WB6ABW** - That dues be raised \$2 across the board (including those for single and multiple years). AG6IS seconded.
- 2. W6NFL** - That the price for lunches at the picnic be raised to \$15. NA6D seconded.
- 3. AG6IS** - That only listed prizes at the picnic be shipped to absent winners. Drawings for all other prizes will continue until a winner is in attendance. Gift cards will be eliminated. K6DAW seconded.

Under WPSS Bylaws, any increase in annual dues will be subject to the approval of 2/3 of current members. The President will proceed immediately to secure such approval.

There being no further business before the board, adjournment was moved by W6PXD, seconded by W6NFL and approved.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1940 hours PDT

Respectfully submitted,

Michael
W7HUT
Secretary

Volunteer it's fun!

The Western Public Service System has three roll call monitors each night 365 days a year. Early Roll call monitor is 6:00pm to 7:00pm, roll call is from 7:00pm until completed (around 8:10pm), and late roll call monitor is after official roll call is completed until there are no more member check ins. Usually late monitor closes out by 9:00pm. Net control stations are listed on the front page of the WPSS web site by time, station I.D., operator name and QTH. The net control monitors are all volunteers that asked to fill a vacancy when one came up. Being a net control monitor is fun but it can also seem intimidating for those that have not done it before. I became a net control operator because as a new HAM I was not accustomed to talking on the radio. I quickly discovered that it was fun and if I stumbled there were plenty of helpful members to get me through any rough spots. I joined the WPSS shortly after I got my HAM license and the members of the WPSS became my "Elmers". The great thing about the WPSS is that everyone is willing to help each other and most importantly to make sure everyone is welcome and has fun. The roll call monitors are like all of us, and sometimes life and family commitments must come first over their roll call duties. When this happens either the Net Manager (Scott, AG6IS) or a director (such as Toby, W6PXD) will put out a call for volunteers to fill a vacant net control monitor position. This is a great opportunity to step up and see how much fun being a net control monitor can be. The early and late monitor spots are best for those that have never been a monitor. There are monitor/roll call scripts listed on the web site that you can view and use. Being a roll call monitor is a lot of fun so next time someone asks for a volunteer to fill a roll call monitor spot step up to the mic and have some fun.

Mike, KJ6TII

Upcoming Events

WPSS events and events of interest to HAMS.

September 8, 2016	WPSS luncheon at the Steer 'n Stein, Hemet
October 8, 2016	WPSS luncheon at China Buffet, Citris Heights
January 22 – 28	2017 QuartzFest at Quartzsite, Arizona

Don't forget that we have a great website!

If you haven't visited the WPSS website do so now at:

<http://3952khz.net>