



RADIO AMATEURS OF SKAGIT COUNTY

PO Box 814
Mount Vernon, WA 98273-0814

www.RASOnline.net

RASOnline@gmail.com

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Friday, October 9, 2026

Meeting Location: Old Skagit PUD Building, 1411 Freeway Dr, Mount Vernon, WA.

Officers present: John Bellinger K7LVJ; Chris Davis KB7CX; Dan Hildebrand W7ILR.

Officers absent: Chris Skeels KJ7FZF; Rick Gilbert KG7JBV.

Total number in attendance: 13 members, 2 guests.

Chris KB7CX opened the meeting at 1902 hrs. The format of this meeting was informal. Chris talked briefly about the last-minute meeting room change. Skagit PUD had double-booked the Aqua Room for tonight. Chris was contacted and we were asked to move our meeting to the conference room in the old Skagit PUD building. Chris asked for suggestions of methods to notify members of last-minute schedule changes. Rich N7FDM suggested having a call tree. This subject will be revisited at a later time.

Chris talked about the discussion from last month's meeting about our club's meeting format. He reviewed the club's constitution and there are no requirements for meeting format. The only requirements are that we meet monthly and that a treasurer's report is provided to the members. He advised that the format for tonight's meeting would be informal. He asked for input from anyone present. A couple of members agreed with the informal format. Rich N7FDM said he has been a member since 1984 and the meetings had always been formal. He likes the informal format. Dan W7ILR suggested that a topic for discussion could be chosen in advance for meetings. John K7LVJ said that it would be interesting to have a member give a 15 minute presentation on how they got involved in Amateur Radio.

Everyone was given a chance to introduce themselves and we had the pledge of allegiance.

Chris provided a reading from the treasurer's report. There was not a quorum present, so no vote was called.

Chris advised that it is time for nominations for club officers. Rick KG7JBV will be at the end of his two-year term, so a new treasurer will be needed. Alex KJ7FZK said that Marilyn KJ7FZG might be interested in serving as treasurer provided that she does not have to deal with filing an income tax return. Chris said he was sure that Rick would be available to help the new treasurer with tax filings.

Chris asked John K7LVJ if he would be continuing as vice-president. He replied that he does not intend to continue on the board. Dan W7ILR agreed to serve next year. At the least, we will need nominations for vice-president and treasurer. Chris said he will send out an email to the membership asking for nominations.

Dan talked about the upcoming RASC holiday party. He said the club is planning for the same kind of gathering that was planned last December before it was canceled due to the flooding at the time. The party will be a potluck held at the First Lutheran Church in South Mount Vernon on December 11th beginning at 5:00 PM. There will be no cost for members. Non-members are asked to pay \$10 and to bring a dish to share. Options for the main meal were discussed, as well as whether wine would be allowed. More information will be forthcoming.

Dan provided a repeater report. N7GDE is working well, but KF7CFR, the DMR repeater, has been off the air for a while. A work party has not yet been scheduled to make repairs to KF7CFR.

Dan said that there is new repeater equipment in operation on Lookout Mountain for 220 MHz. That new repeater is working well.

On the subject of DMR, Laura KJ7CMU advised that anyone with a DMR ID number should check their status at RadioID.net to ensure an inactive DMR ID is not deleted.

Dean KG6AKV provided a briefing on the status of West Skagit CERT. The Skagit County DEM has suspended operation of CERT due to a lack of a qualified liaison person. They will revisit the possibility of restarting CERT sometime next year.

Dean talked about the remodel that has been completed at Anacortes Fire Station #2. Amateur Radio license testing will be held at Anacortes Fire Station #2 this month. Check the club website calendar for more information.

Dean provided information about a new message format created by the ARRL National Traffic System called I Am Safe. He gave information about a new portable repeater that SARECC will be testing for use during emergencies. Also, Thursday, October 15th, will be this year's Great ShakeOut earthquake drill for those who want to participate.

Dan advised that Saturday, October 10th, will be the DMCC Fall COMEX. Associated net traffic will probably be heard on several local repeaters.

Rich asked for the club to obtain a propane tank to be used with the new club generator. Dan said that he has a spare propane bottle that he can donate.

Mike KG7HQ provided a briefing about new administrative initiatives that are in process at the ARRL. He hopes that these initiatives will address some of the concerns that have been expressed by members during the past few years. He will keep us informed about the progress.

The meeting as adjourned at 8:05 PM.

The next General Meeting will be Friday, November 13, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Davis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "C" and "D".

Chris Davis KB7CX
Secretary

RASC Treasurer's Report for Sep 2026

9/1/2026	Begin balance	\$9,452.32	
	Deposits	\$60.00	Dues
	Expense	\$2.72	PayPal Fees
	Harborstone CU	\$9,452.32	(note transition from SaviBank as of 9/14)
	PayPal	\$57.28	
9/30/2026	End balance	\$9,509.60	
	Repeater Fund Balance (incl above)	\$4,787.76	