

Monroe Tribune

Volume 3, Number 16 • Wednesday, April 15, 1992 • 127 Avenue C • Snohomish, WA 98290

Postal Patron

Full Page
U.S. Postage
PAID
West Publishing
Washington

50c

Sky Valley ham operators chat all over the world

By Bruce Greeley

Some Sky Valley residents really know how to ham it up — ham radio, that is.

Member Dave Axe who started the Index branch that grew into the Sky Valley Amateur Radio Club, said one main goal is "to interest young people in amateur radio."

"I'm interested in any project that involves kids and technology," said the school board member.

The present club grew out of this Index branch and one following a parallel path in Sultan.

Axe has been enthusiastically pursuing his hobby for 37 years — since he was a Seattle teenager.

"(Involvement with ham radio) has proved to be beneficial," noted Axe. "It's opened up job opportunities."

"It gives more of an outlook on the world," he added.



(Dan Bothell photo)

Russ Sumpter tries picking up a familiar voice on his trusty ham radio at home in east Monroe.

noting Index elementary school students are excited now to be playing a game of chess against an Australian

teacher via this communication network.

But Axe, who maintains

(Continued on page 2)

On Easter Sunday, at 1 p.m., on Monroe Plaza, the Easter Bunny will be available for free polaroid pictures courtesy of the Monroe Plaza Merchants Association until 11 a.m.

Monroe Eagles

On Easter Sunday, at 1 p.m., on Monroe Plaza, the Easter Bunny will be available for free polaroid pictures courtesy of the Monroe Plaza Merchants Association until 11 a.m.

All children are welcome

there will be ice cream for ev

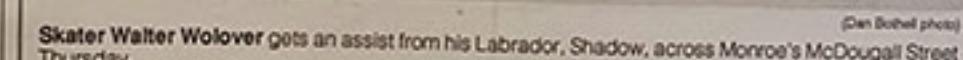
usually affecting u
Symptoms, said Mockler,
a persistent cough, w
and night sweats.

Some TB skin tests
residents have come t
ive, said Mockler, wh
they are probably carryi
germ although he ad
doesn't mean they will
cally contract the illne
person has no sympt
germ is likely inactive
immune systems can
effectively combat it.

Mockler stressed the
TB discovered in Index i
drug-resistant strain
discussed in national new
casts.

The one known infected
also worked in Seattle, b
said it is unknown wh
picked up the disease, a
he pointed out since the i
contagious "it is around."

Health department c
said once identified, TB
easily treated and cured
two-week medical prescr



(Dan Bothell photo)

Skater Walter Wolover gets an assist from his Labrador, Shadow, across Monroe's McDougall Street Thursday.

Radio hams inspire related careers

(Continued from page 1)

regular communications with other hams in Winnipeg, Canada and Pitcairn Island in the South Pacific, pointed out it's not all fun and games.

"One of the primary aims is to provide communication in times of emergency," he said, noting the common flooding in Sky Valley makes this purpose especially relevant.

Communication with hams overseas is not as tough as it may seem. "Fortunately for us, the international language of communication is English," said Axe.

Club treasurer Ernie Allsop said he even made contact with the space shuttle from his

car the other week.

Every summer, the Sky Valley Hams participate in a field day, an international contest for each club to try to contact as many other hams as possible in 24 hours.

"Last year, we contacted all but four state and provinces," said Allsop.

Sultan resident and club vice president Mike Lee is planning on starting a ham class at Monroe Christian School.

"(They'll) build a little shortwave radio," he said, noting one of the students — his daughter — is already studying for her novice ham license.

Monroe's Jill and Russ

Sumpter are both members of the club — Russ has been involved since he got a shortwave radio as a youngster in Nebraska.

"It's not as archaic as a lot of people have in mind," he said, noting the radios can now be hooked up to computers and use satellites to broadcast signals.

Russ has talked to about 130 countries and keeps in regular touch with operators living near his hometown in Nebraska.

Though the hams are somewhat at the mercy of the ionosphere for their reception, Sumpter noted one advantage ham radio has over the telephone: it's free!

Overeaters Anonymous

Overeaters Anonymous meets Thursday nights at 7 p.m. at Sky Valley Medical Center, 17707 162nd St. S.E., Monroe. For more information, call 794-0354.