



The Pacific Northwest's Largest Amateur Radio Convention

“Magic on the Air”

SEA-PAC June 5 – June 7, 2026

Notes from the Chair

Welcome to the March edition of *SEA-PAC Waves*. Now that online registration has started be sure to get tickets for everything you want to attend when you sign up. Check out the latest registration update in this issue, as well as online at www.seapac.org.

Speaking of the website, the www.seapac.org website has undergone a thorough 2026 update. Be sure to check out the revamped website with all of the current 2026 information. DX and YL Luncheon information is there in addition to the three Friday Workshops, and the convention schedule of events Friday June 5 through Sunday June 7, and the information in this edition of *Waves*.

Thanks to the creative hams who submitted designs to the Pin Contest. Judging will be done by the *SEA-PAC* Committee. See details later in this issue.

Check out the Volunteers Portal on the website and the “Volunteer with *SEA-PAC*” article in this *Waves*. Both have helpful information for everyone who wants to volunteer. Please do fill out the Volunteer Intake form if you are interested in volunteering to help during *SEA-PAC 2026*. *SEA-PAC* is a volunteer-led convention. The more volunteers the better we'll be.

The committee is working to get everything put in place for the Friday Workshops and Exhibitor and Flea Market setup on June 5, and the 9 a.m. convention opening on Saturday the 6th.

Hope to see you there.

Barb Yasson, AC7UH

SEA-PAC 2026 Convention Chair

chair@seapac.org

Waves Digest

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Mickley/Berg Memorial Scholarship

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club (OTVARC) is seeking applicants for its 2026 Mickley/Berg Memorial Scholarship.

Each year, \$1000 is awarded to an Amateur Radio Licensee who is, or will be, enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program. The recipient will be announced at the *SEA-PAC* banquet on June 6. Scholarship details and the application form can be found on OTVARC's website, <https://otvarc.org/services/mickley-berg-memorial-scholarship/>. All students with an active amateur radio license are encouraged to apply.

Applications are due by March 31.

SEA-PAC 2026 Pin Design Contest

Thanks to all who submitted a Pin Design for *SEA-PAC* 2026!! We had 8 designs submitted, some by folks that have entered the contest in the past, but most were from individuals that have not submitted a design in the past. Thank you all for your work. The *SEA-PAC* Committee will vote at their meeting March 10th. The winner will be notified via email, and the April Waves will have the winning design, along with the winner's name, in it. The winner will also receive 2 free meal tickets of their choice to the Saturday Banquet dinner.

Schedule at a Glance

March 1 Registration opens

Friday, June 5

Workshops

Fox Hunt (Friday Afternoon)

6:30 – 8:00 PM Friday Reception

7:00 PM Radios on the Beach

Saturday, June 6

9:00 AM VE Testing

11:55 AM – 1:15 PM
DX Luncheon
YL Luncheon

Fox Hunt (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM)

ARRL Forum – Saturday afternoon

Annual Banquet – Saturday evening!

Saturday & Sunday

Seminars
Exhibitors
Flea Market

SEA-PAC Online Registration is Live!

The number one tip your registration staff has for you is to register online!

Why should you register online? Answer: Because many of our events sell out and the registration staff wants you to get the most out of *SEA-PAC*!

Benefits of Registering online (just a few are listed below)

- Save \$5 on adult registrations (\$15 online, \$20 at the door)
- Reserve Flea Market tables and clean up the corner of your shack.
- Attend one of the Friday Workshops: EmComm - Ground Truth, Build an Arduino Morse Code Tutor (hands-on fun for youth and adults!), or the Yaesu Repeater and Radio
- Don't miss out on the much-loved and generally sold-out DX and YL luncheons (these really do sell out fast and space is limited!)
- Meet and Greet with ARRL VIP's and others at the Friday Reception
- Experience fine dining at the Saturday Banquet surrounded by your ham community



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- Use the Comment field to send us your Flea Market Table request or other information or just tell us we're doing a great job!

The registration desk staff are constantly being asked if there are extra tickets to these events. These items are hard to come by after online registration closes and trying to procure one or two while on-site is challenging. We work hard to redistribute tickets that have been turned into us but there is no guarantee that we will have any.

Questions: email registration@seapac.org

Online Registration closes May 26, 2026 at 11:59:59 Pacific Time.

Trouble with Online Registration?

If you are experiencing trouble with online registration, please send an email to registration@seapac.org. Please be sure to include your phone number and other information on the browser you are using (edge, chrome, safari, etc.).

Tips and Tricks for online Registration

1. Refresh your browser history before you start the online registration process. Clear those little cookies.
2. Have your credit card handy. Once you get to US Bank's secure payment system (Elavon/Converge) you only have 15 minutes to complete the transaction.
3. Type your information accurately and carefully. Make sure it matches the billing on the card.
4. Incorrect card numbers, expired cards, and wrong security codes (the little 3 digits) are common areas for mistakes. Enter this information SLOWLY and ACCURATELY. We do not see your card information, so we can't help you here. We do see the error description, but no detail.
5. Multiple attempts that end in declines due to incorrect information can flag your card as fraud by your bank and block your card. We can't fix this.
6. If you get a decline, try again. But please don't try more than 5 times without reaching out to us.

We are here to help you and if you have any questions or need assistance, we are willing to schedule Zoom sessions to help you get through the process.

Lodging at SEA-PAC

Visit our lodging page on our website, seapac.org. While we list multiple hotels at the top, scroll down to the bottom of this page for additional resources. Seaside is basically a resort town but there are affordable options. Sharing with friends is also another great option and while you rent a larger space, the cost per person generally drops.

Just in! Rivertide is offering 20% off as a SEA-PAC rate. You have to call and ask for the discount. The flyer and information are on the website under Lodging and Rivertide!

If you like camping, RV's and there are a few RV parks as well as a handful of Oregon State parks within a short driving distance. Adjacent or "next over" towns, such as Cannon Beach, or Gearhart, or further out towns such as Warrenton and Astoria also have lodging. If you are Military, Camp Rilea could be another resource – however, they won't accept requests further than 90 days out.

Driving to Seaside, Oregon

For those driving to Seaside, Oregon and are planning to take highway US 26 there are multiple areas that have buckled the highway due to the heavy rains that have built up pressure under the roads. These "bumps" have sent cars flying off the road. It is our understanding that the Oregon Department of Transportation has reduced the speed to 5mph throughout these areas. Pay attention to posted speeds and recommended speeds. Please drive safely.

Parking in Seaside

Please note that Seaside has some unique rules regarding parking.

There is parking adjacent to the Convention Center. On the Northeast side, on Necanicum Dr and directly to the West in the public parking lot, however, overnight parking is not allowed. We hear



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reports of hams who have been awoken by the local police only to be told they have to move their RV, Truck/camper combo, car, etc. in the middle of the night.

Per the Seaside OR website, a limited number of overnight parking permits are available for extra/overflow vehicles that cannot be accommodated onsite at vacation rentals or hotel properties in the City of Seaside. Permits available at the Seaside Welcome Center during normal business hours for qualifying use. This program is a collaboration between the Seaside Police Department, Seaside Visitors Bureau, and SEPRD. Note that overnight lodging must already be arranged at time of permit, vehicle make/model and license plate are shared with police, and there is **NO sleeping allowed in vehicles** with overnight parking permits. Permitted parking is at the Welcome Center lot. Visit <https://www.seasideor.com/parking/> for more information.

Radios on the Beach

Friday evening after dinner, all who enjoy a walk on the beach meet up at the south side of the Seaside Promenade on the beach at 7:00 pm. If you have a portable radio and antenna, come have fun and help promote our hobby while transmitting from the beach. If you don't have a portable radio setup, come on down anyway to see how many varieties of portable radio rigs there can be. If you are on wheels, the walkway along the beach is quite accessible to transmit from as well. As always, if it rains, the event is canceled.

I get asked whether this is HF or VHF, operate on any band your license allows. Be prepared for fun; we usually have around 30-50 people in attendance, sometimes more.

Friday Reception

Friday evening from 6:30 to 8 PM we will hold a reception upstairs in the Convention Center so you can meet and greet friends (old and new), ARRL guests (Rick and Holly Roderick, Bob Inderbitzen, and probably Kristen McIntyre) plus the ARRL Northwestern Director and Vice Director, section

managers, and SEA-PAC Committee members. The food is plentiful and great conversations await. This is a fee event.

Saturday Luncheons

The DX and YL Luncheons are both scheduled for 11:55 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. The menu for both will be Roast Beef, Potatoes, Salad, and Dessert. Both are fee events; be sure to sign up for them when you register. The DX Luncheon is limited to 45 attendees and the YL luncheon is limited to 21 attendees. A description of each luncheon follows.

DX Luncheon

Scott Rosenfeld, N7JI, and Hannah Rosenfeld, W7HER/FW7H, will present their experiences at their recent DXpedition to Wallis and Futuna Islands. Wallis & Futuna Islands are currently #204 on the Club Log most wanted list for the western US and is #96 globally.

YL Luncheon

Carla Herman KJ7ZZG will be the YL Luncheon speaker for SEA-PAC 2026. Her topic will be Chasing QSO's--Special Events, QSL cards, and more. Carla enjoys collecting QSL cards, working special events, and activating parks with her OM, Jack KF7UGV. Carla is a history enthusiast and enjoys combining that with ham radio. We look forward to meeting Carla and all the attendees at the YL Luncheon on Saturday.

ARRL guests

This year we expect Rick Roderick, K5UR, ARRL President and his wife Holly; Bob Inderbitzen, N1QR, Innovation Director; Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, First Vice President; Mark Tharp, KB7HDX, Northwestern Director; Michael Sterba, KG7HQ, Vice Director; and several section managers from the six sections in the Northwestern Division.

Youth activities

A few activities that we hope will interest young hams include:

- Build workshop on Friday that includes some soldering and kit construction that will yield a Morse Code Tutor built around an



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Arduino board with an add-on board for power and connections. See the description in the Workshop section for more details.

- We anticipate several seminars aimed at new hams including operating portable (such as Parks on the Air) that will discuss ways to get out of the house and operate.
- Fox hunts that will occur on Friday and Saturday during convention hours. Bring a two-meter handheld radio to participate. The activity will involve some walking to find the QR code near the four transmitters.
- Radios at the Beach Friday evening will display multiple stations operating portable on the beach west of the convention center.
- Soldering activity Saturday on the convention floor towards the west end with a simple kit (purchase during registration or at the registration desk).

ARRL Forum

The ARRL Forum will occur in the early afternoon on Saturday. Learn what ARRL is doing during the “Year of the Club” and America’s 250th Anniversary.

Banquet

Our Saturday Banquet will include good company, food prepared by Oregon Fine Foods, and some talks we hope you find interesting. Our MC, Arnie Kline, is already preparing his intros. We will hear short talks from one or more ARRL dignitaries including Mark Tharp, KB7HDX, and possibly another guest. Our keynote speaker will be Neil Rapp, WB9VPG. Neil was honored as the 2025 Hamvention Amateur of the Year and has received numerous other awards. He is a long-time teacher and keen to introduce amateur radio to as many youths as possible. Enjoy dinner and good talks with us.

Seminars

We plan to have about 40 free seminars on Saturday and Sunday. If you have a presentation you would like to give, send your proposal to

seminars@seapac.org with a working title, brief description, and presenter name and call sign. Same for ideas on topics you would like to see presented. Presentation ideas include:

- How to do a balloon launch with tracking. We could even provide a place where you could launch a balloon if someone decides to do such.
- How to communicate through amateur satellites.
- Presenter experiences and how to conduct outdoor operations such as Parks on the Air, Summits on the Air, or operating outside for fun.
- Chasing paper, such as Route 66 on the Air, 13 Colonies on the Air, Lewis and Clark Trail on the Air, chasing special event stations, etc.
- Chasing DX and how to get confirmations for credit.
- Things to know when operating during an incident such as weather, fire, earthquake, etc. How to be ready when needed since that is what many amateurs do.
- Power for your station.
- What you need to succeed in building kits for your station
- Antennas are always a popular topic.
- Assembling your first station
- Why is HF operating so much fun?
- Your great ideas are welcome and solicited.

Workshops

The three workshops on June.5:

- An Emergency Communication workshop will include lectures and discussions in the morning followed by a sandbox exercise in the afternoon where you will use various stations and learn by doing. Fee: \$25.
- A build session where you will assemble an Arduino module with parts (with some soldering) to create a Morse Code Tutor. There will be two half-day workshops (one morning and one afternoon). The fee is \$79 that covers all the parts you need to build



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the kit. Participation is limited to 20 per session.

- A half-day workshop presented by Yaesu representatives on their new repeaters and related radios. The session will include hands-on experiences. The workshop will be limited to 20 (current limit) with a \$12 fee.

Fox Hunt

Dennis Doolittle, WB7UFJ, plans to hide several low-powered fox hunt transmitters near the Convention Center on Friday, June 5, and Saturday, June 6. When you are close look for the QR code near the transmitter and enter your name, callsign, date and time found. More information will appear in the Convention booklet. Hunts will be set up on Friday afternoon and Saturday during convention hours. The hunt will use 2-meter frequencies, so bring a handheld and join the hunt on Friday or Saturday.

VE Testing

VE Testing will be conducted at *SEA-PAC* on June 6th, 2026.

Location:

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
320 1st Ave
Seaside, OR 97138

One Session only at 9:00 am

Seating is limited so reserve your place by registering now.

Pre-Registration preferred - Walk-in's allowed dependent on available seats!

Registration deadline: June 1st, 2026.

All we need to know is your Name, Call sign (if licensed), what license you will be testing for and your email/phone in case we need to contact you.

A form is available on the *SEA-PAC* website under VE Testing.

Mail the completed form to:

John Bucsek, KE7WNB
P.O. Box 220333
Milwaukie, OR 97269

Or email all information to: VE@seapac.org

Questions? Call John Bucsek at 1 (503) 803-6134 evenings, or email John at VE@seapac.org.

Please bring the following:

- a photo ID
- the original plus a photocopy of your current license
- the original plus a photocopy of any CSCE that will apply to the upgrade
- And a check for \$15.00 payable to *SEA-PAC*

Exhibitors

Exhibitors are signing up for booths. Check the *SEA-PAC* web for current list. If you would like to exhibit as a club or commercial vendor but do not have a contract, send a query to exhibitors@seapac.org for a prompt reply.

Flea Market

We have a new flea market coordinator this year, and he plans to communicate with past flea market customers soon. If you have questions about flea market, send an email to fleamarket@seapac.org. Last month in the Waves we enumerated some policy changes that elicited some conversations. We prefer that flea market table renters not sell items before Saturday, but we also recognize the futility to enforce such a ban. We apologize for causing a bit of a ruckus. We also understand that flea market renters are a great community and enjoy socializing which we encourage.

Volunteer with SEA-PAC!

SEA-PAC is powered by its volunteers—from committee members who plan the convention throughout the year to those who step in during key registration periods and on-site event hours.

If you've volunteered in any role in the past, you played a vital part in making *SEA-PAC* happen, and we are deeply grateful for your time, energy, and commitment. All past volunteers should see an email in the next couple of weeks thanking you for



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your past service and checking with you about this year's *SEA-PAC*.

The 2026 Volunteer Intake Form is now LIVE in the Volunteer Portal on our website. Please take a few minutes to complete this form whether you're a returning or new volunteer. This allows us to better understand your interests, availability, and any details that help our committee leads support you effectively.

If you have any questions, please contact us at volunteers@seapac.org.

SEA-PAC

Silent Key Recognition Project

The *SEA-PAC* committee continues the recognition of attendees who became a Silent Key. The Silent Key names will be listed on the rotating screens around the convention center that provide *SEA-PAC* convention information. We ask that you send us the Silent Key's name, call sign, and year they passed away. We are asking for Silent Keys who attended *SEA-PAC* and who passed away in the period May 19, 2025 – May 18, 2026. Please send your SK information to: vice-chair@seapac.org. Thank you for helping us to remember the Silent Keys.

Marketing

The *SEA-PAC* Committee seeks one or more individuals who undertake marketing the *SEA-PAC* Convention to new and experienced hams and others who enjoy wireless communication activities. Our current reach is less than we desire, and we seek help in this area. If interested, please send an email to chair@seapac.org with some thoughts on how you would approach the opportunity. Since *SEA-PAC* is the Northwestern Division Convention, any respondents need not reside in the Portland/Vancouver area.