Minutes for UCARS August 21st, 2014 Meeting

Bill, KB4NET, Opened the regular meeting at 7:04 PM with 13 members and guests.

Members attending:

Andrew Kabasakalian WB2WZC	Moe Gingerich WA4MOE	G Robb Johnson KK4LLB
Paul P Corso KK4NKN	Daniel Brinneman KG4DNI	Craig Sharp KN6OJY
Norm Beasley KO4CB	Chris Whitaker AE4WS	Bill Austin KK4ZAC
Christopher Whitaker II KK4WJL	David Keever K8IP (Treasure)	
Leon Winter WX6I (Secretary	Bill Foust KB4NET (President)	

Treasure report

David, K8IP, gave the treasurer's report with a current bank balance (August 2014) of $982.90. Three sections of tower sold for $150 making our current balance: $1,132.90.

REPORTS and Old-New Business

With the Shelby Hamfest coming up, Bill, KB4NET, showed off the Baofeng VHF/UHF hand-held the club will auction off. The tickets will sell for a $1 each with options to buy 6 tickets for $5. Bill had made up the signs about it as well at the drawing tickets. The radio was purchased for $33.31.
Tickets will state that UCARS will not sell personal information written on tickets.
Note on sign will direct contestants to the UCARS web for results of the drawing

Bill, KB4NET, and David, K8IP, going to Shelby on Sunday the 24th to secure table locations for UCARS' presence at the Hamfest.

In conjunction with our club VE service, a training idea was put forth. In order to help those new to Amateur Radio or those aspiring to a higher grade of license, UCARS would do training/teaching. But with a twist. It was suggested that various members take in upon themselves to become an "expert" in some aspect of the hobby with the idea of doing teaching.

David, K8IP, put forward a suggestion that the club should have liability insurance. This is especially important for anytime UCARS is doing something official with the public. The two main events that come to mind are Field Day and Hamfests. David will be looking into a firm quote, but the annual premium is estimated to be $200.

Coax installed at County bldg. Next step to get a non-penetrating antenna support base. Antenna end anchors (2) will be 5 gal buckets filled with sand or concrete. We need to check with Ralph Bartlett, W4ZO, Co. Comm. Mgr. about structure and placement on the County building. Moe, WA4MOE, made a motion to expend $150 and Chris, AE4WS, 2nd it.

Red Cross exercises are coming up soon. So we need to be ready for this.

Monroe city building rules make it very hard to put up the new tower at the Red Cross office. The decision is to repair the existing mast.

50/50 drawing was won by Norm who kept $5 and $12 went to the Club treasury.

Bill, KB4NET adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Leon, WX6I   See meeting note on the back

Notes from the fellowship time following the meeting:

After the club meeting, Chris Whitaker showed us what he is doing with Arduino – an open source electronics project platform using easy-to-use hardware modules and software. Chris showed us a working voltage monitor project that he has started, the progress he is making on an antenna matching and monitoring project and noted that he is wanting to develop other projects for his ham station. A variety of Arduino project boards can be purchased and wired up to suit specific projects – this is project and kit-building taken to the next level.

For additional information on Arduino, point your browser to: http://arduino.cc/

Thanks, Chris, for introducing us to Arduino. Please keep us updated on your projects and progress.