

MINUTES for UCARS March 2016 Meeting

Bill Foust, KB4NET, opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with 11 Members and 1 Visitor

Members attending:

Bill Foust KB4NET	Chris Whitaker AE4WS	Norm Beasley K04CB
David Keever K8IP	Alfred KoKoszczyński KC2GZI	Paul Corso KK4PIB
Andy Kabasakalian WB2WZC	Galen Stutzman KC4AN	Ricardo Fisher KM4QJO
Mal Speer WA2TWA	Brad Cansler AK4RE	

Visitors attending: David Higgs K3WL

Treasurer's Report: Current Balance \$ 1,775.79

- 1) Bill opened the meeting with an Introduction of a visitor, David Higgs, K3WL who is new to the area.
- 2) Bill reported on UCARS/JAARS activities and sales at the Charlotte Hamfest last weekend.
- 3) Bill reported that he was approached by a Cabarrus (CARS) club member suggesting that area Amateur Radio Club representatives meet to discuss what the clubs are doing and sharing ideas for other clubs to use.
- 4) David, K8IP gave the treasure's report for March.
- 5) A detailed discussion of UCARS involvement in the Camporee to be held at Cane Creek Park on April 16.
 - a. Members tentatively planning to be at the event include Chris Whitaker, Paul Corso, Alfred Kokoszczyński, Andy Kabasakalian (?), Norm Beasley, David K., Bill Foust
 - b. Members to meet at the park at 11:00 AM.
 - c. Exhibition will be from 1:00 PM-6 PM
 - d. Bill Foust will bring his Go Box
 - e. David will bring vertical antenna
 - f. Paul Corso will finalize details with Jim King with the Scouts.
 - g. Small Generator is all that is required.
 - h. Goal is to keep the installation simple but be able to show and generate interest with the Boy Scouts.
- 6) The NCQSO party was discussed with results presented.
 - a. Unfortunately, we did not perform as well this year. But everyone had fun.
- 7) A Reminder that next month's meeting will be held at the Siler Presbyterian Church in Wesley Chapel. A reminder is to be sent out prior to the meeting.
- 8) Bill reminded all that Alfred K had provided CW study disks to those interested and hopefully we can stir up interest.
- 9) A long discussion about a proposed "Fox Hunt". Different options were discussed. There was no definite decision made of when and how. Encouraging all to building a simple direction finding antenna. Alfred will provide the cost to build the tape measure antenna per person. The information will be provided at the April meeting with a suggestion of building the antennas at the May meeting.
- 10) There will a Catawba Nuclear Test on April 5. Union County ARES is planning to participate with personnel at the County EOX, Marvin Ridge High School and the Red Cross Building in Monroe. We are looking for volunteers for the Red Cross Building preferably with Packet experience.

- 11) Alfred KoKoszczyński and Paul Corso to give a status and update of Field Day in June. A number of questions need to be addressed. Who is going to attend, antennas, how many transmitters, GOTA station, what equipment is needed.
 - a. We have the following volunteering for Field Day, Chris, Norm, Brad, Andy, Alfred, Paul, David for Field Day.
- 12) The need for contest training was discussed if we plan to be competitive in scoring.
- 13) We discussed the availability of voice recorder assistance for field day. Norm suggested "Logitalker". There are several version of voice assistance available.
- 14) We discussed antennas to be used for Field Day. Need dipoles for 160, 80 & 40 meters. The tri-bander and tower and possibly a vertical.
- 15) David K. gave a status of the Digital repeater installations. There are some issues that are being addressed. Currently the analog repeaters are functional on VHF and UHF, VHF also has C\$FM digital in operation.
 - a. All members were encouraged to use tone squelch for reception so as not to hear the digital noise on their receivers.
- 16) The next VE session presented by UCARS will be on May 7, volunteers are being requested.
- 17) 50/50 drawing for \$16.00 was held. Mal Speer won the drawing and contributed the proceeds to UCARS.

The formal meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM

- 18) In the informal session Andy Kabasakalian gave a presentation on alternative methods of building antennas. He emphasized the concept of offering the transmitter a matched impedance to minimize the transmitter throttling back power due to antenna mismatch. He also showed different forms of Baluns and antenna that he has been experimenting with. A very interesting presentation. Thanks to Andy for taking the time to prepare and give his presentation.

The next Regular meeting will be **April 21, 2016** at the **Siler Presbyterian Church**.

The next UCARS breakfast is **Saturday April 9, 2016** at the Monroe Golden Corral at 9:00 AM

REMEMBER: The April Club Meeting is at SILER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH in WESLEY CHAPEL.