

UNION COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Meeting Minutes for January 17, 2019

Chris Whitaker, AE4WS opened the regular meeting at 7:00 PM with 15 members present.

Members in attendance:

Paul Corso, KK4PIB	David Keever, KV4N	Alfred KoKoszczyński, KC2GZI
Ricardo Fisher KM4QJO	Michael Segersin KN4CQA	Galen Stutzman, KC4AN
Kevin Moderow WA9VFD	Steve Goins, KN4CJF	Mal Speer, WA2TWA
Henry Hicks, K4HCH	Andy Kabasakalian, WB2WZC	Chris Whitaker, AE4WS
Christopher Whitaker, KK4WJL	Rick Lanier, N4RCL	Norm Beasley, KO4CB

1. Chris Whitaker opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.
2. Chris gave a recap of the November Meeting Minutes.
3. A Silent Key announcement of Steve Blackford, K4QSI who gave a presentation here in October passed on December 27.
4. Treasurer's Report given by David K.
5. Reminder that Dues are now being accepted for 2019.
6. David K provided information about the upcoming Charlotte Hamfest on March 8th and 9th at the Cabarrus Arena in Concord.
 - a. UCARS will have 3 tables at the Hamfest.
 - b. Instructions given for selling your items at the tables, including, pricing, Bill Foust needs to be shadowed on how he had managed the tables as we will need a replacement next year.
 - c. Club member communication at the Hamfest will be on the VHF repeater frequency in Simplex.
 - d. Hamfest Flea Market Setup time begins at 8:00 AM
7. VE Exams to be held on January 19th. Government shutdown will prevent processing of licenses until Government re-opens.
 - a. VE Volunteers requested: Alfred, Ricardo, Chris, Paul. Henry and Kevin will be present.
8. Henry Hicks request to use club repeater on Tuesday evening at 7:30 for an AMROD NET" Henry has been hosting the Net in Simplex, but coverage is limited.
 - a. Club members approved request.
9. Chris announced changes in Union County ARES. Jerry Brewer who has been the EC is stepping down due to health issues. Chris Whitaker is the new EC for Union County ARES as of December 2018.
 - a. Appointed new Asst EC's are David K. and Kevin Moderow.
 - b. Plans are establishing a HF Net for ARES and members to meet.
 - c. Plans to have meetings for ARES, to also have classes for training in Packet, RMS Classes on exchanging FEMA Forms, how to make your radio support the activities and Emergency Communications.
 - d. Planning on communications needs at evacuation centers and schools designated as centers.
 - e. ICS Classes that require in person attendance (ICS 300 & ICS 400) can be found on the NCTERMS web site. Registration is available on the site. Registration is required.
10. Henry expressed concern that the Thursday evening Net is listed as an ARES Net and as a Net Controller if an emergency should happen, he is not sure of what to do.
 - a. Chris announced that he is reviewing and wants to change the Thursday evening Net to primarily ARES and training for Emergency communications.
 - b. Henry will send a list of questions and concerns to Chris for review.
11. Cabarrus County Club is starting a new class for Technician, General and Extra. A notification by HCOL was sent to all members. (Note: Classes have been delayed a month from published email)
 - a. The class will be in 3 days, 2 on Thursday and a Saturday which will have an Exam at the end.

- b. Gordon West Manual will be used
 - c. Class will be focused on home study and review at on site class.
12. Steve Goins can provide meeting location for classes if UCARS elects to have classes.
 13. The April Monthly meeting for UCARS will be held at another location.
 - a. Steve Goins will investigate meeting at his business location
 - b. Siler Presbyterian Church was suggested
 - c. JAARS auditorium may be used.
 - d. Monroe #4 Fire Department is possibility.
 - e. Location to be decided at next meeting.
 14. UCARS elected not to participate in "Winter Field Day".
 15. Discussion of UCARS Field Day.
 - a. Committee selection:
 - i. Andy Kabasakalian will chair, but he wants to groom the next Chairperson from this year's committee.
 - ii. Andy recommends that we make up cables and antennas to be stored in the Red Cross closet so that we will have to use when needed.
 - iii. Club has a radio that can be used.
 - iv. Committee Volunteers: Kevin Moderow (no heat & flies); Mal Speer, Norm Beasley, Alfred KoKoszczyński, Paul Corso, Henry Hicks and Bill Foust.
 - v. Chris will bring a Coffee Pot.
 16. Kevin M. inquired about availability of a COMM-L class. No one is aware of the class availability.
 17. Kevin M. made a memorial donation for Steve Rockford.
 18. Alfred KoKoszczyński gave a presentation of a new method to learn Morse code.
 - a. The emphasis was on sounds which began with animal sounds that you could recognize.
 - b. That you should learn Morse by sound of the character and not by dots and dashes.
 - c. The environment that you use for learning is very important, some where you are comfortable and not distracted.
 - d. Concentration is important while learning.
 19. Bill Foust Requested to those using "Hot Spots" to avoid using frequencies that are used for Satellite downlinks.
 20. Announced that Gary Pittman a Ham in Waxhaw has terminal cancer is looking to sell his equipment. Contact Bill Foust if interested. Bill will provide list of equipment to be posted on HCOL Mal Speer will also post on the Swap & Fest on Wednesdays on 7.251 mhz.
 21. Request to add Echolink on the UCARS repeater. Chris is working on the required equipment and software.
 22. Discussion of the NC4UC packet network and who is using, possible updating.
 23. The 50/50 drawing was held for \$15.00. Drawing was won by Norm Beasley, KO4CB who donated \$12,00 to the UCARS treasury.

Coming Events:

Next UCARS VE Session is January 19th.