

# UNION COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Meeting Minutes for November 21, 2019

**Chris Whitaker, AE4WS** opened the regular meeting at 7:04 PM with 13 members and 1 Guest.

## Members in attendance:

Chris Whitaker, AE4WS

Michael Segersin, KN4CQA

Kevin Harbin, K4KII (G)

Jeff Weiss, K4EVT

Paul Corso, KK4PIB

David Keever, KV4N

Alfred KoKoszczyński, KC2GZI

Peter Gulish, K1NEM

Christopher Whitaker II

Gordon Lyman, N4YTM (G)

Steve Goins, KN4CJF

David Funderburk, N4DKF

Rick Lanier, N4RCL

Ricardo Fisher, KM4QJO

Chris Whitaker opened the meeting at 7:04 PM.

1. Review of the October meeting minutes.
2. Treasurer's Report was given by David Keever. \$2,005.88
3. Announced new member Steve Bonnell, WA3KTI.
4. Recognized a guest, Gordon Lyman N4YTM.
5. Introduction of members present.
6. VE results were announced.
7. Warbirds over Monroe, we did not receive response about participation, UCARS did not participate this year.
8. BSA had requested Merit Badge presentation at the end of December, but due to time of year near Christmas participation was not available from members. Plan is having presentation after first of year.
9. For the next BSA Camporee at Cane Creek Paul suggested that we have multiple locations at the Camporee to allow Scouts to communicate between Scouts in order to give hands on operation.
10. Chris presented the Field day results for UCARS. UCARS participated in the 4A category and were first in North Carolina. Paul Corso questioned why score ratios were so different. Chris explained why.
11. Winter Field day will be on January 25 & 26 at the Red Cross building. Two antennas will be installed, plans are to run two stations. Red Cross is planning on attending to see the action.
12. Announced that towers are still available for purchase.
13. UCARS is in the planning stages for WIRES-X installation. Radio has been received. Plan was to install at the Red Cross, but an obstacle is preventing other locations are being reviewed.
14. Chris and David attended LEPC meeting and found that there will be a FEMA grade exercise on April 7, 2020 for the Catawba Nuclear test. Some training exercises be presented prior to the April 7<sup>th</sup> exercise. There will be a full practice drill on February 17. Details are not available currently.
15. A proposal was presented to have a practice session for UCARS members. UCARS would have a person(s) at the EOC, at the Red Cross and possibly at a shelter location. (possibly Marvin Ridge School) Note: Marvin Ridge High will be used as a de-contamination station. Details will be presented later. An ARES meeting will be held before these events.
16. Request was made to connect WIRES-X to Red Cross internet connection. Found that the internet connection is not controlled locally but by Red Cross and doubts were cast that it would be permitted
17. Announced that Red Cross is looking for volunteers. Sign up and you will be contacted to determine your interests. They specifically asked about ex-military personnel to do case work. (contacting military families) Other needs were discussed.
18. Paul Corso questioned that Red Cross actions overlapped with the Serts operations. Discussion of the different responsibilities followed. Red Cross has resources to help victims.
19. Red Cross training is available free if you sign up as a volunteer. Sheila is planning additional classes at the Red Cross in Monroe next year.
20. Paul asked about the ICS classes. It was pointed out that older ICS certificates are in most cases not valid and you must take the courses over.
21. Chris presented there is conflict between ARRL proposal and NC's AUXCOMM.

22. Chris explained ARES and where to take the ICS classes.
23. Chris explained equipment at the EOC for use by the ARES members.
24. State Towers in California have been assigned to a private company to manage the lease of tower space. The management team is now charging for all occupants. Amateur Radio repeaters are looking for alternative locations.
25. UCARS repeaters are experiencing interference. Currently need to have tower climbed to look at top cable and connectors to determine if issues are in cable or antenna. This is being investigated.
26. Chris mention a tentative Meteor shower expected the evening of the 21<sup>st</sup> (tonight) around 11:25 PM from a Mystery Comet. Should be able to work 2 meters via the meteor shower???
27. UCARS Holiday part will be held on December 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM at the Asia Buffet in Matthews.
28. David explained that a Flea Market site has been added to the NC4UC.org.
29. Chris gave a presentation about "Packet Radio Emergency Communications".
30. 50/50 drawing was won by Peter Gulish. \$10.00 was donated to the UCARS treasury.
31. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

#### Coming Events:

UCARS Holiday Dinner – December 5, 2019 @ 6:00 PM

Saturday breakfast – December 14, 2019

UCARS VE Session – January 18, 2020

Winter Field day – January 25 & 26, 2020