

UNION COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Meeting Minutes for April 16, 2020

Chris Whitaker, AE4WS opened the regular meeting at 7:00 PM with 12 members present.

Members in attendance:

David Keever, KV4N

Andy Kabasakalian, WB2WZC

Rick Lanier, N4RCL

Trip Helms, K4DCJ

Alfred KoKoszczyński, KC2GZI

Chris Whitaker, AE4WS

Christopher Whitaker, KK4WJL

Mel Spear, WA2TWA

Jeff Weiss, K4EVT

Gordon Lyman, N4YTM

Michael Segersin, KN4CQA

Henry Hicks, K4HCH

1. Chris Whitaker (AE4WS) opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.
2. Chris announced that tonight's on-air meeting replaces the meeting at the Red Cross due to the pandemic.
3. Attendees were requested to check-in.
4. Last month's meeting was reviewed.
5. Treasurer's Report given by David K. Balance \$2,378.78.
6. Reminder to those that have not paid their 2020 UCARS Dues
7. Announced a new club member, Phil Stanley, KO4BEB in Monroe.
8. COVID19 update, Union County has 137 confirmed cases resulting in 3 deaths.
9. Curfew is still in effect for Union County 11 PM to 7 AM. Stay at Home order is also in effect.
10. Announced that Mecklenburg County is not expected to peak until the middle of June.
11. Announced that UCARS is entertaining Skywarn training. There are courses online but if you want to be an official spotter and entered to the database you are required to take the in-class course. Information will be sent out via HCOL as it is received.
12. Requesting a volunteer that would like to run the Skywarn program for UCARS. If you are interested, please let Chris know.
13. Chris announced that UCARS will begin a digital (C4FM) Net beginning next Wednesday at 8:00 PM on the 145.390 MHz repeater.
14. Field Day - Still planning to go forward and need volunteers for the Field day committee. There are a lot of decisions to made and possibly changed due to the covid19 virus restrictions.
 - a. Andy Kay advises that Siler Presbyterian will follow the Governors guidelines which will directly impact our Field day plans.
 - b. Plan B for Field Day will be created by the Field Day Committee.
15. Trip Helms, K4DCJ gave a recap of Union County policies for the COVID19 virus restrictions.
 - a. Reported that there has been an outbreak (meaning more than 2 cases) and mainly at long term health care facilities.
 - b. In cases outside the nursing facilities has been minimal showing that the implementation of social distancing and protection is working.
 - c. Union County and State of NC are pretty much on the same plan.
 - d. Union County is working on contingency plans for the time when things can be opened.
 - e. Union County will not open everything up at one time.
16. Trip Helms provided an update of Skywarn and the Charlotte Piedmont Spotters Group.
 - a. Charlotte Skywarn & Piedmont Spotters Group came to an end on April 14.
 - b. No succession plan in place
 - c. There have been some discussions about Union, Anson and Stanly Counties not being in a good footprint of radars in Greer and Raleigh. These counties are not served by Skywarn. The thought is to build a Skywarn network with these counties to have our own Skywarn
 - d. Announced there will be a Skywarn Spotter Talk at 10:00 AM on April 21.
 - e. A new person, Trish Palmer in Greer has taken over the program.

17. Chris W. will send out some link to the club for training, there are two courses, an Introduction and a Basic. Chris will try to arrange training from the Greer office.
18. Chris repeated his request for a director or manager for the Skywarn for the UCARS/Union County. If you are interested do let Chris know.
19. Henry Hicks, K4HCH inquired about the CERTS members participating in training with UCARS. Henry is to respond with the number of CERTS members that would be interested in the class.
20. Christopher W. requested loan of a tall ladder for antenna installation. Rick Lanier responded with a ladder.
21. May's meeting will be held on the repeater.
22. Chris closed the meeting at 7:44 PM