

**Sussex Amateur Radio Association**

**Minutes**

**January 21, 2016**

**Sussex Pines C.C., Georgetown, DE**

Meals were served prior to the meeting.

FCC testing was held prior to the meeting.

19 people are listed on the meeting sign-in sheet.

**President Dell Palmer, K3AXR, called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Moment of Silence**

**Congratulations to tonight's FCC upgrades:**

- Trevor Roe, KC3DZT, upgraded to General class.
- Francis Tafelski, KC3GCZ, upgraded to General class.
- Thomas Sesson, Jr., KC3FZL, upgraded to Extra class.

**Presentation**

Dell Palmer gave a talk with PowerPoint slides on *Ham Radio Deluxe Software*.

HRD software is an integrated package for rig control, logging, digital master, rotation control, satellite tracking & pass prediction, award tracking, and DX cluster alerts.

The package costs approximately \$100.00; however, a free version is still available.

Questions were taken immediately following the presentation.

**President's Report – Dell Palmer**

SARA bylaws require an Executive Committee consisting of seven (7) members (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Director I, Director II, and the Immediate Past President). The position

of Immediate Past President is vacant, as consecutive Past Presidents present hold elective office. Bylaws forbid the holding of multiple offices by the officers, except in the case of a Secretary-Treasurer. The President proposed that we add Bill Duvenek, KB3KYH, to the Executive Committee. Bill is the next available Past President eligible to fill the vacant office.

**Action:** The proposal was moved, seconded, and approved.

#### **Vice President's Report – Chuck Betyeman**

None

#### **Secretary's Report – Herb Quick**

The November minutes were sent out to the membership via email, and were also posted on the SARA website.

**Action:** Acceptance of minutes was moved, seconded and approved.

#### **Treasurer's Report – Ray Deskins**

The Treasurer's Report sent out to the membership via email.

**Action:** Acceptance of minutes was moved, seconded and approved.

#### **Repeater Committee – John Low**

John Low was in contact with T-MARC regarding the .015 repeater. This repeater is still under construction coordination due to desense caused by a commercial transmitter in the vicinity.

#### **Hamfest – Vic Gumper**

1. Raffle tickets are 4 for \$10.00 or \$3.00 each.
2. Ham Radio Outlet (HRO) is having a Yeasu Fusion event at the New Castle, DE store on March 12, 2016.
3. The Hamfest date is April 16, 2016.

### **ARRL – Bill Duveneck**

1. Amateur Radio Parity Act – 116 U.S. Representatives are supporting this act. Bill Duveneck and Pat Ryan are working to get the support of Delaware’s U.S. Senators Chris Coons and Tom Carper.
2. National Parks On The Air – Amateurs will activate some 400+ national parks in the U.S. Information is available on the ARRL website.
  - a. Jamie Ashton and Paul Ross activated Assateague, the Captain John Smith Trail (Seaford), and others.
  - b. On January 22, 2016, Jamie Ashton will be transmitting pedestrian mobile from the National Mall in Washington, D.C.
  - c. Amateurs must be on Logbook of the World (LOTW) in order to activate a national park.
3. Elmers – ARRL is trying to assemble a list of “Elmers” for the Delaware section. Elmers are amateurs who mentor others in the hobby of amateur radio. Some of the SARA members volunteered for the Elmer list at tonight’s meeting.

### **ARES – Chuck Betyeman**

1. When the 2015 Hamfest was postponed to April 16, 2016, a conflict was created, as April 16<sup>th</sup> is also the date of the Ocean to Bay Bike-A-Thon. Chuck apologized for the inadvertent double booking of the day, and asked for volunteers to serve at the bike-a-thon. He noted that ARES duties should be completed by 11:30 A.M.
2. Winter Storm “Jonas” – Chuck participated in a 4:00 P.M. statewide bridge call to discuss Winter Storm “Jonas”. Lower Delaware may not get the brunt of the storm. Tidal flooding is expected in Lewes and back-bay areas. High wind gusts are expected. Snow is expected for Friday (1/22/2016) into Saturday. Four (4) to six (6) inches of snow are expected in lower Sussex County. Sussex Central High School is the only shelter expected to open. Chuck expected that on-air snow reports will be requested. Chuck asked that amateurs stay near their phones and monitor their radios for phone tree activation and additional information.
3. Herb Quick, Assistant Emergency Coordinator for the Delaware section, discussed a Winter Storm “Jonas” email he sent to the ARES Emergency Coordinators in the three counties. The email stressed basic preparedness (household safety, food, fuel, meds, go kits, updated software and radio programs, etc.) since the weather forecast for the storm was quite broad at the time of this meeting.

**Old Business – None**

**New Business – None**

**50/50 Raffle**

**Motion To Adjourn** – moved, seconded, and approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Herb Quick, KF3BT

Secretary