

Sussex Amateur Radio Association

Minutes

July 21 2016

Sussex Pines C.C., Georgetown, DE

Meals were served prior to the meeting.

2 Applicants were present for FCC testing.

- William Geoghegan – new General
- Daniel Lockhart, KC3FCM upgraded to General

23 members were in attendance.

President Dell Palmer presided, and called the meeting to order at 7:15 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Introductions

Presentation

Al Waller, K3TKJ gave a presentation on powering the ham shack via solar panels.

Most solar panels available through www.amazon.com are manufactured in China. Al purchased some panels and constructed a home-made mount for them. A 2' x 4' panel yields 100 watts.

Solar panels behave like a battery. $100\text{ W} = 20\text{V at } 5\text{A}$. Hooked in series, his panels yield 88V at 5A (400W).

Panels are highly standardized, and use the same connectors.

A charger takes 22V and drops it to battery voltage. Al has approximately 1000 amp hours of battery. No AC current is generated. The shack is all DC current. Anderson Power Poles are used extensively. Panels are adjusted for summer & winter sun angles.

Harbor freight has a \$129.00 18.9V panel. Al demonstrated, on site, the small panel with an inverter powering a desk lamp. Harbor freight has locations in Dover, DE and Salisbury, MD.

Various photos of grounding and the shack were shown. Images include vintage AM gear to state of the art software defined Flex radio.

Al's power system has worked continuously for about one year.

Vice President's Report – Chuck Betyeman

The Fox Hunt date of September 17, 2016 will not work. The Bethany triathlon will be held on the 18th. The new Fox Hunt date is Sept. 11th.

Dell Palmer will send an email to the membership.

Secretary's Report – Herb Quick

Minutes from the June 16, 2016 meeting were distributed via email and were posted on the website. Herb moved for acceptance of the minutes.

Action: Motion was seconded and approved by the membership.

Treasurer's Report – Ray Deskins

The Treasurer's report was distributed to the membership via email.

Ray moved for acceptance of the report.

Action: Motion was seconded and approved by the membership.

FCC Testing – Herb Quick

Herb gave an annual report for SARTT. SARTT is sponsored by SARA.

SARTT Annual Report

To SARA

July 2015 – June 2016

	Tech	Gen	Extra	Pass	VEs	Exams
2015	37	15	4	85%	19	67
2016	34	18	6	81%	12	74
	-9%	+20%	+50%	-5%	--	+10%

Thanks to SARA and all who serve as volunteer examiners for your support of the SARTT FCC testing program.

Repeater Committee – John Low

The repeater went off-air recently. Please set timeouts on your radios to less than five minutes.

ARES – Chuck Betyeman

No Report

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Old Business - None

50/50 Drawing – The \$55.00 prize was won by Wayne Brittingham, N3UFG

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Herb Quick, KF3BT

Secretary