

Sussex Amateur Radio Association

Minutes

February 25, 2016

Sussex Pines C.C., Georgetown, DE

Meals were served prior to the meeting.

FCC testing was held prior to the meeting.

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

Vice President Chuck Betyeman, W3DEL, called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Presentation

Paul Ross, W3FIS, gave a twenty minute presentation entitled "The Wonderful World of QRP".

Paul discussed the history, equipment, and methodology of working HF radio signals at 5 watts or less.

His talk included equipment at the low and high price ranges, power sources, headphones & speakers, propagation, and on-air skills.

Vice President's Report - None

Secretary's Report – Herb Quick

Minutes from the January 21, 2016 meetings were distributed via email and are posted on the website. Herb moved for acceptance of the minutes.

Action: Motion was seconded and approved by the membership.

FCC Testing - Herb Quick

Six applicants sat for their tests tonight.

Pass rate was 100%.

- Two new Techs – Raymond Payne and Kenneth Smawley
- One new general passed Tech & General tonight – Robert Young
- Three upgrades to General – Pamela Henderek (KD0OCX), Christian Stanley (KC3GMP), and John Abent (KC3GMO)

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.

Repeater Committee – John Low

The desense problem caused by the commercial transmitter in the vicinity of the Roxana Fusion repeater has been addressed. John will request coordination of the repeater soon.

Hamfest – Vic Gumper

Preparations for the April 16, 2016 hamfest are moving along.

Discussed:

- Raffle tickets
- The next hamfest meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 16, 2016, at Sussex Tech High School. The purpose of this meeting is to address any last minute hamfest items on-site.

ARRL – Bill Duveneck

Discussed:

- Amateur Radio Parity Act – Efforts related to this legislation are moving along. If you have not already contacted your U.S. Senators, please do so, and encourage them to support the Act.
- Bill has a list of 15 amateurs (statewide) who have volunteered their services as “Elmers” to assist other amateurs in various aspects of the hobby. The list will be posted on the internet soon.

ARES – Chuck Betyeman

- The Ocean to Bay Bike event is in some conflict with the April 16, 2016 hamfest. ARES needs additional people to serve as communicators for the event. Contact Chuck via email or see him if you are able to participate.
- The ARES net will be held on March 2, 2016 at 8:00 P.M. Bill Duveneck, KB3KYH will serve as net control.
- The next ARES meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2016.

RACES – John Ferguson

- Open operating night will be held on the first and third Tuesdays, monthly.

PIO – No report

Old Business – None

New Business

- Vic Gumper – Ham Radio Outlet (HRO) will hold a Yaesu Fusion Radio presentation at the New Castle store on Saturday, March 12, 2016.
- Vic Gumper - Microtel (Rt. 113) is the host hotel for the hamfest. Mention the hamfest and receive a 15% discount on your reservation.
- Herb Quick – The hamfest banner ad is active on QRZ.com. It runs from February 16 through April 16, 2016. To date, there have been 1600+ clicks. The same banner is posted on the SARA website home page.

50/50 Drawing

The 50/50 drawing alleviates some of the increased cost of meeting at Sussex Pines C.C.

Pamela Henderek, KD0GCX, an FCC testing applicant and visitor from Estes Park, CO, drew the ticket from the drum.

John Low won the 50/50.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Herb Quick, KF3BT

Secretary