

**Sussex Amateur Radio Association**

**Minutes**

**August 17, 2017**

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

Meals were served prior to the meeting.

No applicants showed for FCC testing

20 In attendance

**Secretary Herb Quick called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M.**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Moment of Silence**

**Introductions**

**Presentation** – Bill Duvenek, KB3KYH, ARRL Delaware Section Manager.

Topic: ARRL Update

There are 811,193 ham and club licenses in the USA. More than 50% are Technician class. Many Technicians stall at that level and never go on the air.

Ham radio is growing. We need to figure out ways to get Techs on the air and upgraded.

Delaware has 2,000 licensed hams. 734 of them are in Sussex County. HamData and QRZ.com are sources for populations of radio amateurs.

Delaware is 50<sup>th</sup> of the FCC entities and is rare territory.

The hobby of amateur radio has two facets:

1. Fun
2. Public Service

There is a lot of volunteerism in Delaware. 4,372 volunteer hours (109 person weeks) were contributed by Delaware hams. This information is good to know.

ARRL Atlantic Division Data: Delaware has a slight membership loss which is less than others in the division. This may be attributed to the ARRL dues increase.

ARRL governance is incorporated in CT. It has an elected leadership with 15 Directors and 71 Section Managers, all with 2 year terms, elected by the membership.

ARRL Board of Directors Meeting Topics:

- Entry level license to bring in those less than 30 years of age. Change in the Technician license is being considered. The license should match the interest level of the applicant.
- Official Observer Program
- A new ARES mission statement
- Improvement of contesting and awards
- Log of the World (LOTW) improvement

Benefits of ARRL Membership:

- QST Magazine
- Advocacy and regulatory assistance
- Contests
- ARES Program and training
- Members only services
- Email service
- Newsletters

To obtain the benefits, members should go online to their ARRL profile page and check off the items desired.

Other items:

- Public Service Roll Call
- Section Traffic Report
- Section Emergency Coordinator

The Amateur Radio Parity Act is getting close. It is now SB1534. The League is working with U.S. Senate staff, and lobbyists are working on the bill. Delaware Senators Coons & Carper should support the bill. Be sure to sign up online to populate letters to your senators. See the ARRL website for FAQs on the Amateur Radio Parity Act.

Sign up for Amazon Smile to contribute a percentage of your purchase to the League.

The Eclipse QSO party is coming up. This event will test scientific data and effects before, during, and after the solar eclipse.

Additional items:

- Repeater linking initiative (DE)
- Various DE nets and club meetings. Bill D. will send the net/meeting list to post with the minutes (attached)
- A new band plan was distributed.

**President's Report** – None

**Vice President's Report** - None

**Secretary's Report** - Herb Quick

Minutes of the July 20, 2017 meeting were distributed to the membership and posted on the SARA website. The membership moved for acceptance of the minutes. Motion approved.

**Treasurer's Report** – Ray Deskins

The Treasurer's report was distributed to the membership. The membership moved for acceptance of the report. Motion approved.

**Testing** – Herb Quick

- Re: Last month's motion to purchase a wireless computer printer and a tote for same, total cost not to exceed \$250.00 – The purchase of printer and rolling tote was completed. Photos/receipts were sent to the SARA Treasurer for equipment inventory.
- The FCC will require a felony question to be answered for all license related applications except change of address and license renewal. This will take effect September 7, 2017.

**ARES** - Chuck Betyeman

- The SET hotwash will be discussed at the next ARES meeting.
- The Bethany Triathlon and the Dogfish Dash will take place on the same date. Help is needed.

- A General Class license prep course will be held on the weekends of December 2<sup>nd</sup> and December 9 with FCC testing to follow on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Races – John Ferguson**

- Monthly meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday.
- SET went well.
- See John if you need an antenna or coax cable.

**Old Business – None**

**New Business – Paul Ross**

- Lightship Overfalls (Lewes) will be activated for a special event. LARS is seeking operators for the event. Special event call sign W3L will be used for the operation. Operation starts this Saturday GMT (9PM local time) and Sunday at Lewes/Overfalls Lightship next to the lifesaving station.

**50/50 Raffle** - \$30.00 awarded to the winner.

**Meeting adjourned** at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Herb Quick, KF3BT

Secretary

<u>Regional Nets</u>		<u>Regional Club Meetings</u>	
<b>Sussex Amateur Radio Association</b>	Tuesday, 8:00 PM, 147.090(+), PL 156.7	<b>Sussex Amateur Radio Association</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 7:30 PM (6:00 PM Dinner), Sussex Pines Country Club, Georgetown
<b>Sussex County ARES</b>	Wednesday, 8:00 PM, 147.090(+), PL 156.7	<b>Lewes Amateur Radio Association</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday, 12:00 PM, Green Turtle Bar & Grill, Lewes
<b>Lewes Amateur Radio Association</b>	Wednesday, 7:15 PM, 147.330(+), PL 156.7	<b>First State Amateur Radio Association</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday, 7:24 PM, Corporation Service Company, Wilmington
<b>Christiana CARES</b>	Tuesday, 8:00 PM (except on meeting nights), 146.730(-), PL 131.8	<b>Kent County Amateur Radio Club</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 7:00 PM, Kent County EOC, Dover
<b>Kent County ARES</b>	Saturday, 9:00 AM, 146.970(-), PL 77	<b>Nanticoke Amateur Radio Club</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday, 9:00 PM, Nanticoke Hospital, Seaford
<b>Kent County Amateur Radio Club</b>	Wednesday, 7:00 PM, 146.970(-), PL 77	<b>Delaware Repeater Association</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in March, June, September, December, 7:00 PM, Public Safety Bldg., New Castle
<b>Nanticoke Amateur Radio Club</b>	Monday, 8:00 PM, 146.715(-), PL 156.7		
<b>Delaware Traffic Net</b>	Monday thru Saturday, 6:30 PM, 3.905 MHz		
<b>Delmarva Emergency Net</b>	Sunday, 6:30 PM, 3.905 MHz		