

Sussex Amateur Radio Association
Minutes
November 17, 2010

Call to Order: 7:30 PM

Location: Marvel Barrel Barn, Georgetown, DE

Pledge to Flag

Moment of Silence for fallen protectors of our country and community and silent keys,

Introduction of tonight's guest speaker and presentation by Dick Drevo, W3GNQ. Dick's presentation on the various topics surrounding HF radio signal propagation included a slide presentation about sunspot plots, cycle 24 predictions, various propagation prediction tools, DX spotting nets antenna configurations and lightning protection. Also discussed were tropo and other propagation topics. Included in his presentation were stories of many personal ham radio experiences that Dick has had over the years. Dick has a long and active career in the area of radio communications and technology. He has received many awards in the area of ham radio and has authored several publications on ham radio. He is currently President of the Lewes Amateur Radio Association and Vice President of the Quarter Century Wireless Association, Chapter 150. The Members thanked Dick for an interesting and informative presentation.

President's Report and Vice President's Report: Herb, KF3BT, filled in for Bill, KB3KYH, this month while Bill was enjoying a visit to warmer climes.

Grass Cutting, etc.: A final grass cutting was done by Bill, KB3KYH, on November 3rd. The annual **SARA Christmas/Holiday party** is scheduled for December 18th at the Marvel Museum. Willie, W3IOU, and Ruth have volunteered to chair the event. Please coordinate with Willie and Ruth with your help. Many Members have had some fun recently making contact with Col. Doug Wheelock in the **International Space Station** on 2M, both simplex and split frequency.

Nominating Committee and elections: N3IOD reported the Nominating committee has no additional nominees for officer positions. A motion to close nominations by Tony, N3ME, was seconded by Jay, K3BH, and affirmed by the Members. The following nominations for 2011 officers: President, KF3BT; Vice President, W3DEL; Treasurer, W3FIS; and secretary, K3LRH. A motion to accept the nominees by acclamation was made by W3TL and seconded by W3IOU. Members show of hands affirmed the acclamation. Two positions for Director were also voted on by paper ballot. Of the nominees, Terry, W3TRY was elected on the first round and a tie run-off between Bill, W3DR, and Jerry, KB3NZJ, was won by W3DR. Congratulations to all!

Secretary's Report: K3LRH reported that the October Minutes are on the SARA web site and available for inspection. Request for a motion to approve was made by W3DEL, seconded by W3AUS was passed by the Members vote. Special thanks to Herb, KF3BT for adding photos to the October Minutes.

Treasurer's Report: W3FIS read the report and a motion to approve by K3BH was seconded by N3IOD and passed by the Members vote. Paul also reminded Members that the **2011 Dues are now due** and he requests payment in the form of a check if possible.

Reports from Committees:

Hamfest: KB3TXP, chair, and K3AXR, co-chair reported that they are working now towards the big event in April. Many hands are needed to help. There have been several letters sent out to potential vendor/exhibitors and initial reports are that HRO will be there again next April. The committee has already had their first meeting in preparation for this event.

QSL: N3ME reported that all QSL's are up-to-date.

Repeater: W3DR reported that the repeater is working good with a new power supply and he thanked John, K3JL, and Denny, KB3MJ, for their expertise in resolving some issues with the new system.

Mentoring: N3IOD mentioned that several hams are having fun contacting the ISS.

Membership: W3TL reported that a mass mailing to approximately 500 area hams is currently under way. This mailing will hopefully attract more members to SARA.

PIO: W4ALT mentioned an opportunity for Members to participate in a one-half hour ham radio interview with Bill Colley on WGMD. The high interest in contacting the ISS has prompted a news release and article about this topic. Reports as far away as Germany have already started coming in to this area. Good job Walt!

Reports from External Entities:

ARRL: AD3M mentioned the efforts in the area of Delaware Winlink 2000 2M/440 Network. He provided Members with a sheet outlining the setup procedure.

ARES: W3TRY reported that the recent drill with Beebe Hospital was a success and thanked all who participated.

RACES: no report.

DARTT: Joe, W3TL, reported six FCC license tests were administered tonight and that three examinees passed.

Sussex Tech H.S.: No Report.

Past Presidents Reports: None

Old Business: nothing

New Business: KF3BT thanked Tony, N3ME, for his donation of a computer-carrying bag to be auctioned at a future meeting. N3ME also mentioned that he needs help with setting up a digital station with an Icom rig in Bethany Beach.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn by K3AXR was seconded by K3LRH and approved by the Members. Meeting adjourned at 9:10p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Len Hecker, K3LRH
Secretary

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****** Equipment for Sale: ******

(This section is open to all SARA Members. If you have items for sale and would like them published at the end of the next month's Minutes, please send your list to K3LRH@ARRL.NET by the end of the current month.)

Yaesu MD-100 desk mic. New condition, lightly used. For sale by K3LRH, \$100.