

CARS BOD MEETING 7 / 30 / 18

Start Time: 1930

Attendees:

1. Mike T--Pres
2. Dennis Watson--VP
3. Jeff --Treasure
4. Bill M – Communications Officer
5. Van—Secretary
6. Steven—IT Officer
7. John Walker—BOD Guest and Club Member
8. Tom Kerr—BOD Guest and Club Member
9. Paul Buckwalter – Club Member

Previous minutes:

- Read by Dennis.

Treasurer's Report:

- Club is good standing and on budget.

Committee Reports

- a. ARES,
 - i. Steve is asking for updated information to make sure we have recall info and formal training qualifications.
 - ii. Steve is on City board as an ARES representative.
 - iii. Trying to determine training and status of the membership. To ensure CARS can support EOC and shelters in an emergency.
 - iv. Mike asked what our relationship with the city is. The MOU was found and will be looked over to make sure we understand our responsibilities with the City. Generally the MOU states that City allows CARS use the building as a club house and we are standing by to help the City with communication in an emergency.
 - v. Tom Kerr (CARS member) discussed with board the possibility of club members participation in Virginia Defense Force as communicators. The VDF supports Virginia Nation Guard with communication support and they are always in need of experienced radio operators.
- b. Communication:
 - i. 82 repeater: working well.
 - ii. 61 repeater: working well.
 - iii. UHF repeater:440 is working well.

- iv. Bill discussed an unused controller that could be used if someone could figure out how to program the system. Steven said he would look at it.
 - v. Kenwood repair was discussed. Seems like it may be too expensive to repair. Estimates are over 200.00 and perhaps that investment should be considered for a newer radio. We decided to postpone the repair.
 - vi. Bill will update the EOC radios and will take the radios in the club house back to the shelter storage facility.
- c. IT
- i. Steve gave a presentation on wires X that has been recently installed in the club house. Wires X is system that allows operators to talk to other “chat” rooms. It is a digital voice link via a repeater to the internet. The digital voice signal travels via the internet to a voice chat room. Other operators from any location with Wires X can access the chat room and communicate just as if they were in the same geographical area. CARS Wires X is currently connected to the 444 UHF repeater. With a Yaesu radio with Wires X capability a member can access all the different chat rooms. We agreed to buy a new radio of the wires X repeater. Currently the system is using a club members personnel radio to test the system.
 - ii. We discussed internet access for club members. We need to make sure we have any security concerns answered before opening the system to all members. Currently the server is connected to the internet via a GSM connection. Members can use the Raspberry Pie enabled displays via the club server to access the internet. It was proposed that members that want to access internet via personal laptops would be given a unique user name (probably their call sign) and unique password to access the internet from the club. We many need a code of conduct here but for now we should use good judgment to ensure proper use of the system.

Old Business:

- General License Training: July 28-Aug 18
 - CARS is holding a **General** license class that started on Saturday July 28 and continuing for the next three Tuesday and Thursday evenings. There will be an exam Saturday afternoon, August 18. We meet the minimum of five students for the class. Schedule below.

- Next Shack day digital training – TBD, perhaps wires X.
- Report on Shack day held on July 21
 - Good turnout.
 - Bill M and John Fitzgerald KX4GI reprogrammed the shelter radios with new freq for VB repeater. Jeff's laptop was pressed into service because the radio programming software was on CD disk. Is it time for new desktop on desk?
 - Bill R and Dewey tried to setup digital mode across Icom7300 and wanted to use the server. They could not get into the server due to password protections. Believe they were trying to access the manual or get a timing tone to sync the radio.
 - Mike and Steven did some good work moving workbench to back wall to enable real work on the workbench. We are discussing if the other workbench in the storage room could be move so the two were lined up for more work space. This would allow the installation of storage racks to hold all the equipment. Moving the server chase into the storage room was also discussed.
- Field Day lessons learned:
 - Items for discussion:
 - a. Final points scored. Over 2000 points
 - i. Things we did that scored well. ---Had fun.
 - ii. Things we can easily do to improve score.
 - b. Follow-up with City for repairs on shelter.
 - c. Investments: What new items should be purchased?
 - i. We need a RF filter plan. How many and what bands. We have a few but need a think about what we need next year. The filtes we had worked well and are needed when the antennas are so close together.
 - ii. Need to build 28 ft radiator to repair the 160 ft Windom.
 - iii. We all had a lot of fun...how can we do that next year?
- Fire inspection: Thanks to Bill M for taking care of this, well done. Any lessons learned or actions that still need to be completed? Fire inspection every year but seems like the City only does this every other year. The fire extinguishers bottles pressure check is good for six years, but the extinguisher will have to be checked yearly.

New Business:

- Focus of Aug 21 Shack Day? Cleaning out the two storage rooms. A lot of old computer equipment that will be offered to membership at shack day and what is left over will be taken to a computer equipment recycling location.
- Next DX competition? –none in the planning stage.

- General meeting in September will be postponed a day due to the Labor Day Holiday. Sept meeting will be on Tuesday Sept 4th .
- Discussed raising dues to \$20.00. It has been a while since dues were raised. We don't have Spring fest to generate revenue. Last year the club sold off excess equipment to generate revenue but has depleted the supply of excess equipment that could be sold. It was decided to discuss with the membership at the next general meeting.
- New membership application:
 - Approved in July BOD for August GM:
 - Robert Eure
 - Ken Gallimore

Adjourn Time: 2145

GENERAL LICENSE CLASS AUGUST 2018

Text: The Dan Romanchick KB6NU "No Nonsense" Study guide (available from KB6NU.com for \$7.99 via paypal). Link to the guide should – but may not - be included in the paypal receipt for payment. Contact him immediately if it isn't included. Also, it will be available in class on CDs for a \$7.99 check payable to Dan Romanchick KB6NU. "G" numbers refer to the General Question pool sections.

Sat. 7/28	Introduction					2 pm.
Tue. 7/31	Electrical Principles	G5	6 pg.	3 gp.		42 ques.
	Circuit Components	G6	6 pg.	3 gp.		46 ques.
Thur. 8/3	Practical Circuits	G7	6 pg.	3 gp.		38 ques.
	Signals & Emissions	G8	4 pg.	2 gp.		24 ques.
Tue. 8/7	Antennas & Feedlines	G9	7 pg.	4 gp.		56 ques.
	RF Propagation	G3	5 pg.	3 gp.		41 ques.
Thur. 8/9	Amateur Practices	G4	9 pg.	5 gp.		65 ques.
Tue. 8/14	Operating Procedures	G2	8 pg.	5 gp.		65 ques.
	Safety	G0	4 pg.	2 gp.		29 ques.
Thur. 8/16	Commission's Rules	G1	8 pg.	5 gp.		58 ques.
Sat. 8/18	Exam 1:00 pm (following Shack Day)					
Sat. 9/8	Virginia Beach Hamfest					

Classes are held at 116 Reservation Rd., Chesapeake VA. from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm except 2-4 pm on Saturday. We are located adjacent to the Great Bridge bridge (West side) on the southern bank of the canal.

Questions? Call Paul Buckwalter at 238-2320 (home) or 630-4026 (cell).