

# CARS BOD Meeting Agenda for 3 / 26 / 2019

Start Time: 1939

Attendees:

- *Mike T—Pres- Present*
- *Dennis W—VP --Present*
- *Bill R –Treasure-- Present*
- *Van R –Secretary-Present*
- *Bill M – Communications Officer-- not present, SIQ*
- *Steve G—IT and Network -- Present*
- *Van R —Secretary/CARES- Present*
- *Harry Musser KC4MUS- CARS member and guest-- Present*

Previous minutes:

- Read by Van

Treasurer's Report:

- Club is in good standing but spending above the budget. We need to push membership to 2018 level. Currently we have approximately 50% renewal rate. We will send reminder via email with link to PayPal site, so members can renew membership from home on internet. Additional we are hoping the Tailgate Fest pulls in additional revenue but have not planned for that revenue in the budget. The new repeater amplifier that died this year was an unforeseen expense. However the new amp should last for many years.

Committee Reports

1. ARES, Club website updated and will be shown at gen meeting
  - a.
2. Communication: Bill was not present but provided an input via email.

1) Yaesu DR-2X upgrade from our DR1X

Bill attached a copy of the application for the upgrade which includes pricing. Below is a link for DR-2X operation manual which will provide an idea of the added features it has to offer:

<http://yaesu.com/indexVS.cfm?cmd=DisplayProducts&ProdCatID=249&encProdID=057D2799368BFF1769E1F15BF30E7DB0&DivisionID=65&isArchived=0>

We still plan to incorporate the SCOMM 7330 controller. The DR-2X has two receivers that can be operated independently with the same antenna or use separate antennas. It is offered with a LAN and new Voice Guard module options. I believe we need to look into this more before we decide to go with the upgrade or not. We have time, the promotion goes to June 30th. This is a good

time to bring Steven into the fold to begin working with us on the repeater systems. I spoke with him the other night and he is all in. Thanks Steven!

2) Repeater Site Access- We were able get the city to allow us into the sites escorted after normal working hours. We need to submit a list of people who we would like to go to these sites, so they can start the background checks. So far, we have myself, Bill WF4R and Steven KC4CAW. I haven't had a chance to talk with Wil to see if he is interested. We will need to go to the EOC and pick up the keys but that isn't a big deal to me. This open access will allow us to do some cross training with the new guys...if anyone has other people that are technical that would be willing to join the repeater group please let us know. Mike, Dennis and Van are also interested in access and learning how to maintain the club's repeater systems.

The 444 Mhz repeater is still running barefoot with 20 watts out.

3) Tailgate Fest update - I asked Duane KJ4YKJ if he would give me a hand getting the work out to the clubs in the area. He contacted most if not all of the club's in about 100-mile radius with our tailgate flyer for their website where applicable. Thanks Duane! He and I will follow up again as we get closer to May 25th. I have the blank tickets to print when I get a chance. I spoke with Ron Liston to follow up and we are still a go with the church.

IT Networks.

- a. Got an adruino and a DTMF decoder board and was able to get it working as a DTMF relay. This would be a good system for the repeaters to turn them on and off remotely. The link below is a test video of the system working. Just watch the multimeter.
- b. <https://youtu.be/E5i6q7j3HiA>

Old Business:

1. News on TourDeCure (4/27/2019)—on track. We will need to push for more volunteer at Gen Member meeting.
2. Tailgate Fest Planning (ongoing) and on track.
  - a. SATCOM demo; who, where, how, power
  - b. Want to set up a Fox Hunt transmitter and have a couple of receivers to demonstrate the system. Bill (WF4R) has a Fox Hunt transmitter we can use. We have 3 antennas right now.
  - c. Need to think about CARS staffing, how many support personnel? What tasks? One shift or two? Should be a fun day. We will get the church to pray for good weather.
  - d. Radio directions day of the event on repeater, who will take this on?
  - e. Set up of parking lot. Will develop a game plan.
  - f. Coordination with church, food stuffs and rest rooms, this is ongoing and Church is onboard.

- g. Money collection. We will use some yellow tape to mark boundaries and lead people to the entrance and collect their money.
  - h. Prize give away plan, we have a few prizes, so this should be fun and easy.
  - i. Clean up...very important to leave the parking lot in better shape after we leave.
3. News on Field Day (6/22-23/2019)
    - o Our permit has been approved by the City to us Deep Creek Locks Park
    - o The Field Day event rules have been released. Mike is studying. Seems similar to last year.
    - o Need to have sign-up sheet for volunteers and tasks starting Apr Gen meeting
  4. Shack day update:
    - o Great shack day! Lots of activity. Jim made multiple tower climbs to improve antennas, thanks Jim! Added a tuner to one antenna.
    - o Build two Fox Hunt tape-measure antennas. Love the spell of solder in the shack!
    - o Participated in Virginia QSO party, total of 18 contacts made. Much better than last year.
    - o Club bought pizza for lunch and Mike brought a few dozen doughnuts for breakfast--- not a low-calorie shack day 😊.

**New business:**

1. There is some talk about a group buy of Yaesu system Fusion radios.
2. Fox hunt planning is getting started. Need to look for a day time for an event. Club is busy right now with Tour de cure, field day and tailgate fest so this might be a July-August event.
3. SKYPE- event at club house. We think the Skype system will work at the club
4. Upcoming training? This will be a combined Technician and General Exam prep. Starts on Sat Apr 6<sup>th</sup> from 1-4 pm, Then Tue and Thur 7-9 PM on Apr 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25, 30, May 2<sup>nd</sup> and finally the exam on May 4<sup>th</sup> at 12:30? Bill Runyon (WF4R) will be lead instructor.

CARS Technician and General License Training Schedule						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Mar 30	Apr 1-- CARS Gen Mting	2	3	4	5	6--Training 1-4 pm
7	8	9--Training 7-9 pm	10	11--Training 7-9 pm	12	13
14	15	16--Training 7-9 pm	17	18--Training 7-9 pm	19	20 Shack Day
21	22	23--Training 7-9 pm	24	25--Training 7-9 pm	26	27—Tour De Cure

28	29--CARS BOD mtng	30--Training 7-9 pm	May1	2--Training 7-9 pm	3	4—Exam!! 12:30
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5. Upcoming schedule:

- BOD meetings: **Apr 29<sup>th</sup>** (Note BOD meeting moved to Monday 29<sup>th</sup> due to Gen/Tech License training on Tuesday 30 Apr.)
  - Gen Member Mtg: Apr 1st
  - Shack Day: Apr 20
  - Tour De Cure: Apr 27
  - Armature license exam: May 4<sup>th</sup> 12:30
  - Ham Tailgate Fest: May 25
  - Field Day: June 22-23
1. New membership application:
- a. John LaClair (KN4STV)
  - b. Philip Henline (KB0OPR) / Paid \$20 dues on 3/4/19
  - c. F. Sean Gorman (W5CDR) / Paid \$20 dues on 3/4/19
  - d. John C. Roberts (WB4AXY) / Paid \$20 dues on 3/4/19
  - e. Duane Ettwein (KJ4YKG).
  - f. Dudley Richardson (KN4LNG)
  - g. Jerry Scheimberg (KN4SM)

Adjourn Time: 2115

# 2019 Virginia QSO Party

Updated 21 February 2019

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## Summary

The Virginia QSO Party is held during the 3rd full weekend in March.

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The 2019 Virginia QSO Party will be held during the weekend of **16-17 March 2019**.

**Spotting Network:** John, KX4O is providing the VQP spotting network once again this year. <http://www.qsoparty.com/>

**Call History file:** Mike, N4CF, generated a call history file from the largest logs submitted last year. Here is the URL of the website that has a link to it, and instructions for using it: [<http://n4cf.mdodd.com/vaqp-ch.html>](http://n4cf.mdodd.com/vaqp-ch.html)

**Announced Operations:** This is a list of [announced operations](#) in Virginia. We hope to get coverage of all the counties and independent cities identified early. If you are planning on operating a station in Virginia, please send an email with the details and a picture to [vqp@verizon.net](mailto:vqp@verizon.net).

We received fixed station logs from 70 of the 133 counties and independent cities in Virginia last year. We try to improve this by contacting hams in QTHs that had no logs submitted and low QSO counts. If you are interested in helping us improve coverage, please send us an email ([vqp@verizon.net](mailto:vqp@verizon.net)) and we will send you a list of counties to focus on.

**Certificate:** The [certificate for the 2019 Virginia QSO Party](#) was designed by the Vienna Wireless Society (VWS). This club is one of the active supporters of the VQP and is very active in the local area.

**Plaques and Sponsors:** We anticipate having [26 plaques](#) this year, one less than last year. Updated 14 February 2019 ~~2 February 2019 30 January 2019 28 Dec 18 20 Dec~~

~~18-16 Dec 18-15 Dec 18-6 Dec 18-27 Nov 18~~ with full list of sponsors.

We have decided to drop the plaque for young adult. There was no entry last year and entries have been few in previous years.

For more information on the **number of competitors for each plaque**, see page 21 in the VQP Briefing.

The YOUTH plaque is a relatively recent plaque for those hams age 18 and below. [Here is more information.](#)

**VQP Briefing:** ([PDF format ~10 MB](#)) A presentation suitable for club meetings on the Virginia QSO Party. Includes rules, Party statistics, descriptions of certificates. This will be updated aperiodically to reflect new or changed information. Last updated on 29 January 2019 ~~1 January 2019 14 November 2018~~.

**VQP Contest Rules.** ([html format](#), [MSWord format](#), [PDF format](#)) There are no rule changes for the 2019 Virginia QSO Party. The rules remain unchanged from last year.

The VQP rules identify the information that must be exchanged to be considered a valid contact (QSO). This includes call sign, serial number and QTH (3 character abbreviation for Virginia counties and independent cities, state and province / territory abbreviations, or DX for others. This information must also be exchanged by operators using FT8 to make contacts.

**Contest Logging Programs.** Logging programs designed for the Virginia QSO Party always help. We accept any logs, but logs submitted electronically and compliant with any Cabrillo format are preferred. The following logging programs have been used in the past and they have been modified to support the Virginia QSO Party. We re-score all logs submitted, so it is important to ensure your log contains all the required information.

\* N1MM Logger <http://www.n1mm.com>.

\* Scott & Kimberly, N3FJP & KA3SEQ Amateur Contact

Log <http://www.n3fjp.com/>.

\* WriteLog <http://www.writelog.com/>.

\* WA7BNM Web2Cabrillo <http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/> A manual entry Cabrillo file generator. Easy to use for those with QSOs not already in a Cabrillo file. Go to the web site. Select Virginia QSO Party. Fill in the forms. In the last step, the program e-mails a Cabrillo file to [vqp@verizon.net](mailto:vqp@verizon.net), with a copy to the

submitter's e-mail address.

**Virginia Counties and Independent Cities:** 95 counties and 38 independent cities ([html format](#) or [MS Document](#) or [PDF format](#)).

**Paper Log Summary Sheets:** ([.pdf](#) or [.doc](#)) Remains unchanged from last year. Used to record header information for paper logs. This form is not required for cabrillo formatted electronic logs.

[Worked All Virginia Award:](#) The "Worked All Virginia" award is offered by the [Rappahannock Valley Amateur Radio Club](#).

[Presentation Offer and Schedule:](#) SPARC will give a presentation on the Virginia QSO Party to any group in Virginia.

[Planning Calendar:](#) The calendar is available for review.

Comments, questions, and recommendations should be emailed to [vqp@verizon.net](mailto:vqp@verizon.net).