

W7DP Meeting Minutes

02-08-16

Attendance:

KF7UNF Fred
W7UB Don
KC7CCL Heidi
N7ACW Keith
AL1Q Jeff
WA7LKF Mike/Robert
KC7FUZ Maynard
KG7PJD Harold
Kemp (not licensed yet)
KC7JIX Dave
KC7ZMT Robert
KC7PNE Mary
WB5AVH Mable
WA7CBX Bernie
K7MAT Todd
KE5RGR Joe
AE5ZI Joe

(17 in attendance)

Secretary's report:

Minutes of Jan. meeting read, 2nd and approved

Treasure's Report:

After income and paying bills, balance is \$1338.13 including petty cash. 2nd and approved

Building and Grounds:

Someone (kids? Neighbor?) has dug a hole in the yard near the fence, and an antenna is tipped towards the fence.

FCC rule of the month:

No report

Repeater Report:

- Jeff AL1Q reports repeaters are working well, but the link side of backbone section had keyed up on it's own several times on Sat. Feb. 6, locking up the system until it would time-out. (no cause mentioned?)

ARES Report:

- The new monthly joint ARES net with Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla counties was held Tues. Feb. 9, with 9 check-ins from the 3 counties. The net is held on the 146.96 repeater, with stations from outside the area able to check in on the linked system.

-Feb. 24th will be a "rehearsal" radiological exercise, in preparation of the main radiological exercise that will be held on March 9. Walla Walla county is included as an "ingestion zone" for both the Feb. 24 and March 9 exercises. Yakima county will also be included as an ingestion zone, and their main exercise will be March 10? (Benton and Franklin counties are heavily involved due to close proximity to Hanford)

-On Jan. 30, the quarterly EOC to EOC exercise moved from 75m to 40m due to bad band conditions on 75, and 40m worked MUCH better!

-Keith and others briefly discussed the potential option of a compact 40m antenna at the Walla Walla Co. EOC. HF, like other radio frequencies/bands, is and will be very challenging from that location due to location, buildings, and misc. sources of RFI. But, with the "right" setup, 40m MIGHT work from that location!

VE:

- The Jan. 17 VE session netted 5 new Technician licensed hams.

Announcements:

none

Old Business:

New Business:

1. There was a brief discussion re: the idea of participating in the **National Parks On The Air** activities that are on-going throughout the year. There was at least SOME interest in setting up a station at the Whitman Mission, sometime during reasonably good weather. Heidi KC7CCL described and offered to provide her complete portable HF/VHF/UHF station, IF there was adequate help for setup, take-down and on-air operations. It was suggested we find or develop a list of major events (ham radio and otherwise) to reduce the number of conflicts for club members, and outside-area hams that would hopefully "work" our station.
2. The NEXT club meeting will include hands-on training on operating the club's HF station. Copies of the operational "cheat sheets" will be available as well.

Show and Tell:

Jeff Al1Q showed a computer display showing APRS on a Linux system using free software, and a "raspberry pi" device.

Education:

Topic was scheduled to be "intro to breadboard construction" with some hands-on, but was not offered due to lack of time etc. Members were invited to take a closer look at Jeff's APRS monitoring system after close of meeting.

meeting adjourned at 1950

Respectfully submitted, Heidi KC7CCL, Secretary