



MINUTES OF MEETING: DECEMBER 8, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 12:31 by K9QJS in the training room at the Friday Harbor Mullis Street Fire Station.

Introductions: Members and visitors introduced themselves. Including guests and family members our attendance at this annual Christmas party potluck and abbreviated meeting was 39.

ATTENDEES:

Dot WA7DOT	Laura KF7KNA	Dan K9WRP	Kenny KU7M
Dave K9MRQ	Mike N7TLL	Bryan K7UDR	Dani KE7TLE
John KC7WJJ	Bob AD7K	Clare KE7WQY	Ed KD7TUN
Jeff W1TX	Eilene Drath	Hoop K9QJS	Carol Hooper
Bill KI7QBI	Dan N6AU	Peter K2SPR	Peg KI7PJS
Paul N7TZW	Phill KI7RND	Corky AF4PM	Bob K7NHE
Jim KE7OI	Craig AE7NA	Paul WB6CXC	Steve N4RVE
Tom KI7RNE	Monte N7TAU	Jeff Heater	Jim K2SON
Jeff N7OSS	Budd WB7FHC	Peter WA7FUS	Carol N7LHY
Bill KF7KND	Sandy Pauly	Peggy Melvin	

MINUTES:

The minutes of the November meeting were approved as posted on the web site.

TREASURER'S REPORT: A formal report was not given though Dani reported that the treasury balance is in excess if \$5000. She has received 3 membership dues which have not been deposited and we have a bill for the EchoLink node. A formal report will be presented at our regular meeting in January 2018.

Announcements:

- Hoop began by thanking Bryan for preparing a spatchcocked turkey and Craig and Peggy for their spiral-cut ham in addition to all of the other delicious food which was brought to share. As usual, we had a great feast.

- As previously announced, annual SJCARS dues may be paid with PayPal through our web site with an option beginning this year which allows subscribing for automatically paid annual dues for up to five years at a time.

Old Business:

- **ARISS update:** Hoop recapped the work that he and Bob Tauscher have done on behalf of the club to try to facilitate an on the air conversation between students and the ISS. Though Friday Harbor Elementary School has declined to participate in the program this year, Bob and Hoop are in discussions with representatives of the STEM program who may be interested in pursuing this opportunity.
- Bob, K7NHE again announced that he has received a request from Spring Street School for a presentation and demonstration of amateur radio. Bob and Hoop will arrange for this to happen.

Elections

With no additional nominations from the floor. It was moved by Dan, seconded by Bob, and voted unanimously by members present that a white ballot be cast for the nominees submitted by the nominating committee. The 2018 officers are:

President – Scott Miller W7SLM

Vice President – Ed Kelm KD7TUN

Secretary – Peter Dahl WA7FUS

Treasurer – Dani Hoyer KE7TLE

Applause and thanks to Hoop for his terms as SJCARS president followed.

Presentations:

- Hoop played a video produced by Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, “A Ham’s Night Before Christmas”. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aiFghtEKsc>).
- Bryan brought us an update on his ongoing “APRS of Things” projects. Reminding us that APRS stands for Automatic Packet Reporting System and NOT Automatic Position Reporting System Bryan said that it’s far more than just GPS’s which can be used to collect the data sent by APRS nodes/stations. As illustrations of the possible applications other than just position reporting he used examples which he was personally working on. He and Bob, K7NHE told us about Bob’s need to know the status of the generator at his Stuart Island cabin. Bryan also told us about his need to monitor his neighborhood community water tank and pump. Both of these real life systems lend themselves to connecting analog and/or digital devices

to a small computer like a Raspberry Pi which could generate the appropriate AX25 packets to send via a radio to be received and interpreted by a specific remote station via the APRS network. The possible uses and applications for this stuff are only limited by your imagination. *(Neat stuff Bryan! Thanks for sharing.)*

Stories from our shacks

Paul WB7CXC - Expressed his appreciation for FT8 being briefly introduced at the November meeting. He said that when he got back his shack he installed it and that night he made more contacts than he had in the last 20 years. He also purchased and read the "Victorian Internet" which also had been referred to by Doug Halsey in his presentation last month.

Steve N4RVE – Reported that he has acquired a new high current lithium battery 12 battery pack.

Ed – Reported that he and Jeff King had done a side by side comparison between a Wen and Challenger (from Harbor Freight) generator finding them nearly identical in all ways. Both units are under \$500.

Budd – Budd reported that a group in Whatcom County is experimenting with the fldigi mode FSQ on both HF and VHF. Using the command allcall* "wakes up" FSQ stations on the frequency and forces them to key their transmitters and send acknowledgments.

Mike – Looking for a tube tester that someone is ready to part with.

Jeff – While updating his technical library accidently ordered two copies of the ARRL Antenna Book so he offered to donate one copy to the club as an auction item. The club treasury earned \$45 from the auction of this book.

Dan N6AU – Suggested that SJCARS donate copies of the ARRL Handbook for each of the SJ County Libraries.

Bryan suggested that we table this pending research.

Action item for January Meeting... Corky, Jim, and Steve will check with their island's libraries regarding such a donation and Peter (WA7FUS) will check with ARRL to see if there is a special library/school price for ARRL publications and also check to see if QST is available with out membership for libraries.

Craig- Mentioned that the Pilots Association had met once at the new brewery and we might want to do something there sometime.

- **Future meeting programs:** Suggestions programs or special topics for meetings can be submitted to club officers. Ideas, suggestions, volunteer presenters and other such resources are always welcomed.

The meeting was adjourned at about 1:20 PM

Respectfully submitted by: Peter Dahl, Recording Secretary (additions, corrections or comments to Peter Dahl WA7FUS@arrl.net)

**The next club meeting – Friday January12, 2018
at Mullis Street Fire Station, Friday Harbor**