



**MINUTES OF MEETING: JANUARY 12, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 11:35 by newly elected president, Scott Miller W7SLM in the training room at the Friday Harbor Mullis Street Fire Station.

**Introductions:** Before asking members and visitors to introduce themselves Scott thanked Hoop and standing officers for their outstanding service to the club.

**ATTENDEES:**

Bryan K7UDR	Bill KI7QBI	Ed KD7TUN	Clare KE7WQY
Scott W7SLM	Mike N7TLL	John KF7ARI	Kenny KU7M
Dave KN7S	Glen KI7RAF	Basil N7NIX	Brian K7BLS
Paul N7TZW	Jim KE7OI	Tom KI7RNE	Dan N6AU
Carol N7LHY	Peter WA7FUS	Dave K9MRQ	

**MINUTES:**

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

**Officer's reports**

- President:** Scott said that now that he is president he has signed up for more of the ARRL correspondence on line. He has become aware of some contention amongst the League leadership. We'll watch for details. He said that he will bring us his review of the Constitution and Bylaws at a later date. Kenny noted for Scott the this web site: <https://www.myarrlvoice.org/> lays out a lot of the issues which are concerning the ARRL membership.
- Treasurer:** In absence of Dani, Bryan reported that the treasury balance is \$5632.84. This includes a \$25 donation, \$253.13 for dues, and payment of \$147.50 for parts for the Echolink node.
- Membership report:** Beginning this year dues is available as a 5 year subscription via PayPal as 5 annual payments. Last year we had 70 members and as of this meeting we already have 25 for this year. As Dave V was

readying is cash to pay dues Bryan reminded him that in thanks and appreciation for providing a home for our DSTAR repeaters that he, along with Ted Leche, KE7KRR who had initially hosted the DSTAR repeaters and Frank, KD7IRE who provides the site on Cady Mountain, have been awarded life memberships. Bryan will update the posted membership list monthly.

While waiting for Bryan to present the treasurer's report Scott passed around a 1945 Radio Operator's Information report which may have belonged to his dad. He also announced that Dan had brought do donate, for auction, a coax connector tool kit.

### **Calendar**

Scott displayed our SJCARS and external ham radio calendar for 2018. Many dates have been confirmed while others are pending. Many dates have been added to the SJCARS web page calendar which we maintain through Google. We will continue to review and add to the calendar and provide reminders. Our February meeting has been scheduled at the Friday Harbor Brewery – Oar House and possibly the March meeting. Announcements will be made as dates are confirmed. Scott pointed out that several new items have been added to our external event calendar items including Sasquach Stomp and ARRL Rookie Roundup. URL's connected with many of these events can be found on our calendar pages.

Special Olympics will be in Seattle June 29 – July 7. Volunteers are needed (see URL on calendar).

**Old Business:** Scott reviewed the election results.

Following up on last months suggestion by Dan that we donate ARRL Handbooks to each of the 3 SJ County Libraries. Peter reported that ARRL offers discount on book packages. Discussion of the value of having these reference books in libraries was discussed. Since several who volunteered last month to check with their island libraries regarding interest in having these books donated to them were not present today we will revisit this subject again next month. If the intent of the ham radio book donation were to be for recruitment of new hams Bryan responded with willingness to conduct classes as groups request them. Dan clarified that his intent in suggesting the donation of Handbooks to the libraries was not for recruitment but rather to provide this reference resource for current hams.

**New Business:** Attendees confirmed interest in again having our May picnic/meeting in Moran State Park on Orcas Island and he will ask Jim McCorison to make the picnic shelter reservation for us as he has in previous years. Interest in holding

our September meeting/picnic again on Lopez Island in Odlin County Park was confirmed. Details will be posted when confirmed.

**Presentations: Bryan Hoyer:** "Transcoding for Digital Voice in Amateur Radio."

Bryan's talk gave us an overview of various digital voice modes and their similarities and differences. Modes covered included DSTAR, P25, Fusion, and DMR. He said that these modes are 95 percent similar because they use a sound codec called AMBE but they are 100 percent different. With a NW Digital Radio ThumbDV™ (AMBE on USB) plugged into his Macintosh laptop computer running Buster he demonstrated DSTAR without using a radio over the internet. He also suggested that this could be done on a Windows computer running BlueDV which is also a free digital radio access app. This demonstration led the discussion into some explanations of DSTAR and linking. With all of the discussion today over conversions from analog to digital communication, here's a fun fact - "No one has made an analog phone call in over 40 years".

### **Stories from our shacks**

Mike: Transferred the custodianship of the N7JN FT840 to Scott.

Peter: Purchased the coax connector installation kit for \$10

Basil: Showed his Raspberry Pi appliance consisting of Pi, battery, screen.

Ed: Said that he and Hoop are working on a portable 20 meter beam, potentially for field day. Will show when done.

Mike: Heading to New Zealand for winter

N7OI: Cases similar to Pelican available for \$5 from Electronic Supply in Mount Vernon.

**Future meeting programs:** Hoop will give program on FT-8 at February meeting.

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 1:15

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

**The next club meeting – Friday February 9, 2018  
at Friday Harbor Marine Brewery – Oar House**