



MINUTES OF MEETING: OCTOBER 12, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 11:40 by Scott, W7SLM in The Oar House at Friday Harbor Brewing Company.

Introductions: Before introductions Scott congratulated Paul, N7TZW for advancing to Extra Class.

ATTENDEES:

Peter WA7FUS	Dave K9MRQ	Hoop K9QJS	Paul N7TZW
ED KD7TUN	Dan N6AU	Bryan K7UDR	Clare KE7WQY
Bob K7NHE	Scott W7SLM	Basil N7NIX	John KC7WJJ
Carol N7LHY	Larry NM7A	Mike N7TLL	Kent KE7VDD
Alan KJ7BFC	Michael KJ7BFE	Corky AF4PM	

MINUTES:

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

Announcements: Basil announced that on November 3 there will be a VE session on Lopez Island.

Officer's reports:

• President's report:

Scott alerted us to a film called "Sergio and Sergei" which was shown recently at the Orcas Island Film Festival. It is about a Cuban ham who made contact with a Russian cosmonaut who was abandoned on the Mir space station when the Soviet Union collapsed and there was no one to come and get him. Through ham connections NASA was contacted and a rescue mission was put together. *(I have found no sources of streaming or DVD for this film yet)* ARRL is in the process of changing the OO (Official Observer) program to the Volunteer Monitor Program. Scott commented that both the active dipole article and mention of a spray-on antenna product perked his interest. He will be seeking more information on those. Peggy Sue Gerron, ex K5PSG (recently SK), was the inspiration for Buddy Holly's 1957 hit "Peggy Sue".

- **Treasurer:** Bryan reported that treasury balance is \$5861.47 and he accepted a dues check from one new member. We have a bill for \$1058.94 for battery power system replacement for the N7JN packet nodes on Orcas Island.

Committee Reports:

- **EMCOM:**

Hoop had no report this month. He and Brendon Cowen will provide an update at the November 10 meeting.

- **VE Sessions**

Dave reported that 5 applicants took a total of 6 exams at the October 25 VE session. All 3 of the Technician applicants had perfect scores.. Over all 6 exams there were only a total of 6 incorrect answers. He said that it was the most impressive session that he has been involved with.

Basil and Brian K7BLS from Lopez came to observe the session in preparation for conducting the first Lopez Island VE session on November 3. Brian will be the team leader for the Lopez VE team.

- **Repeaters:**

Wayne and Scott replaced the battery backup and power supply system for the N7JN digipeaters on Vusario on Orcas Island. They also changed the frequency of the 2 meter radio to Net 16. Bryan moved that the club pay the \$1058.94 bill for the batteries, low voltage cut-off unit, and the charger. Bryan's motion was seconded and approved.

- **Calendar**

November 9 and December 14 meetings will be held at Mullis Street Fire Station. The December meeting will be our Christmas Potluck feast and annual officer elections.

- **Old Business:**

US Islands On the Air QSO Party: Bob reported that two stations were set up at his Stuart Island QTH. Bob hosted Dan operating CW and Scott and Peg on SSB. Hoop participated from his home station.

8.8K Run Bryan reported that he coordinated a small group of volunteers providing communications for it. He said that the organizers appreciate our continuing support for this event.

Light House and Lightship Weekend: Ed reported that though propagation was not great they managed to work 15 states of provinces on 20 and 40 meters.

ARRL Elections presentations:

Since the ARRL Division elections were coming up soon Bob, K7NHE arranged for two of the Northwest Division candidates to visit our meeting via Skype.

Bob said that, in his opinion, this year's ARRL elections are amongst the most important elections ever held by ARRL. He said that currently the majority of the ARRL directors are appointed to their positions for various reasons. This election will change that back to the majority of the directors being elected by the members. There are 5 Divisions with elections for director this year.

Jim Pace, current NW Division Director is not running for re-election. There are three candidates running to fill the NW director position. Two of them responded to Bob's invitation to join us via Skype. The two who did participate in the informal forum for us were Bonnie Altus, AB7ZQ, currently NW Division Vice Director and Mike Ritz, W7VO.

Both candidates were given 5 minutes to tell us about themselves and why they were running followed by 5 minutes to respond to questions from meeting attendees. Skype worked well and we had the opportunity to learn about the platforms and positions of the two candidates.

Following the conversations with the two director candidates we had some more discussions concerning what we heard from them and their positions on some of the current issues with ARRL.

SJCARS Nominations Committee Report:

Dave reported that our nominating committee, he and Clare, had contacted our current officers and determined that they would be the slate of candidates which the committee would present to the club for voting at the December meeting. Nominations will, of course, be opened prior to voting too.

Here is the committee's slate of officers:

President – Scott Miller W7SLM

Vice President – Ed Kelm KD7TUN

Secretary – Peter Dahl WA7FUS

Treasurer – Dani Hoyer KE7TLE

Presentations:

HamWan: Connectivity in San Juan County?

Bryan gave an overview the history and development of HamWan. HamWan is multi-megabit, IP-based, digital network for amateur radio use.

He showed their heat map which shows where HamWan has been deployed on towers, hills, and mountains. From the west side of San Juan Island there is a line of site view of Triangle Mountain, near Victoria, BC, the northern most HamWan node.

To demonstrate that there could be 5.9 Gigahertz communication between San Juan Island and Vancouver Island Bryan purchased the required router and high gain dish antenna for about \$240. He and Ed took them to San Juan County Park, set them up on a tripod, connected it to his MacBook, aimed toward Victoria and obtained an IP address through the HamWan DHCP server.

The next steps toward connecting HamWan to San Juan County is finding a site for a permanent location which has a clear path to an established HamWan site. That is being worked on. A virtual LAN to enable 44Net IP connectivity even when the internet connection to the mainland fails is being implemented too. This will allow communication with IP phones and email within SJC even without commercial internet. Some exciting things are possible!

Stories from our shacks:

Mike N7TLL - Had been wanting a tube checker. He located one in new condition which was surplus by Los Alamos Lab.

• **Next Meeting – November 9th at Mullis Fire Station in Friday Harbor**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:33

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