



MINUTES OF MEETING: JUNE 12, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 11:45 by Scott, W7SLM in the training room at Mullis Fire Station

Introductions:

Scott recognized there were some new folks present so we did introductions.

ATTENDEES:

Peter WA7FUS	Dave K9MRQ	Hoop K9QJS	Paul N7TZW
ED KD7TUN	Bob K7NHE	Peter K2SPR	Budd WB7FHC
Monte N7TAU	Scott W7SLM	Patty KJ7HBK	Craig AE7NA
Bryan K7UDR	Clare KE7WQY	Robin KJ7BFD	Mike N7TLL
Karen KJ7HBI	Dan N6AU	Larry NM7A	Jim KJ7BJT
CW Churchward	Basil N7NIX	Corky AF4PM	Susie Allen
Peg KI7PJS	Don K7HH		

MINUTES:

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

Special Report: Prior to the regular orders of business Bryan, K7UDR, gave reports on a couple of items which he had been asked to let us know about.

Yaesu DR-1x repeater: When Yaesu was offering these repeaters for the promotional price of \$500 our club purchased one of them to possibly use as a backup unit in case of failure of one of our Cady Mt repeaters. Since it has not been necessary to use it for this

purpose Scott was asked to help find out what we could or should use it for. Bryan described the capabilities of the DR-1x, telling us that it was a dual band repeater capable of operating either as an analog FM voice repeater or as a Fusion C4FM digital voice repeater as it comes from the factory. He also told us that by adding the correct hardware it could be made to operate as a repeater for other digital modes such as DSTAR or DMR. Discussion followed and it was suggested that we order a UHF duplexer for around \$100 so that we could set the repeater up as a portable system assigning it one of the WWARA UHF SNP frequency pairs. A motion was made, seconded, and approved for this purchase. As of today's discussion, the repeater may be activated and deployed on Lopez Island since there were volunteers from there to do so.

SJCARS Roster: A month or so ago Bryan had volunteered to develop a way of making our complete club roster file sharable via our web site but only to our members. He reported that he has now done so by password protecting it. He explained how members can now get access to this secure file. Members not present at the meeting can ask officers or members who attended this meeting for the credentials required.

Officer's reports:

- **President's report:** Washington State Governor Inslee proclaimed the week of June 17-23 as Amateur Radio Week. Scott printed and passed around a copy of the [2019 Amateur Radio Week](#) proclamation certificate.

Scott reported that Greg AE7EL (Orcas) has been very proactive with the Be Ready Orcas group which has been hosting a series of meetings on emergency preparedness. Greg presented on emergency communications at one of their recent meetings. He created and shared a document he calls Emergency Communications Crib Notes. Scott had some copies of it to hand out and it will be available on our SJCARS groups.io site. Scott expressed kudos to Greg for the work he has put into the emergency preparedness program on Orcas Island.

VP report: Ed cancelled our reservation for the Mullis meeting room for September since we are having the meeting on Lopez Island at the picnic on Saturday September 14.

•Treasurer's report: Dani was not able to attend so we had no exact report but the balance is a little bit over \$5000. We have 71 paid members as of this meeting.

• Committee Reports

EMCOM: Hoop K9QJS

- CEMNET – It is a Washington State communications network with radios located at many EOC's throughout the state and co-located where EMCOM hams drill and operate in times of emergencies. Parts of this network have not been functioning for a number of months making communications from parts of NW Washington to CampMurray via CEMNET difficult if not impossible. Recently technicians from Washington DEM visited San Juan County and then the site Galbraith Mountain which is supposed to relay signals from SanJuan County to the State EOC at Camp Murray. The failed components at the relay site were located and repaired so SJ County should now have reliable communication via this system.

-SJCACS email reflector has been migrated from Google Groups to groups.io. Hoop reports that the migration went smoothly. See Hoop if you want to be added to this group.

-Volunteer opportunities:

-San Juan Island Marathon, June 16 – seeking operators. Several volunteered

- Island Rec 8K Fun Run – Saturday August 17. Contact Hoop for more info and to volunteer.

-Update on conversation with Brendon (SJ DEM)- Surplus Windows 10 computers and ink jet printers may be available for white boxes.

- **VE activity-**

Dave reported that the new question pool for General License will be used starting June 30.

- **Repeaters** – See beginning of meeting report from Bryan,

- Dave reported that our DSTAR repeater has been very reliable since Larry (NM7A) did some network improvements for it. Use of this repeater system is increasing.

- **Calendar** -[SJCARS](#)

July, and August meetings will be at Mullis Fire Station

- Saturday September 14 – Lopez Picnic

- October and November meetings will be at Mullis Fire Station

- Our Christmas Holiday Feast and election meeting will be on Saturday December 14 at Mullis Fire Station.

External Calendar

Both our internal and external calendar in the files section of SJCARS groups.io

Upcoming ham radio activities include ILLW, APRS Summer Gathering, Salmon Run WA QSO Party, and more.

- **Membership** -

Scott clarified for new hams that they are entitled to their first year of SJCARS membership.

Paul, N7TZW said that members can order club badges directly from Mister T's Awards and Embroidery in Mount Vernon. We need to have Paul tell us a few more details about ordering them.

• **New Business**

International Light House and Light Ship Weekend – Larry NM7A made arrangements with Patos Island caretakers to allow Larry, Greg, and Scott to set up stations and operate from there for the ILLW event. Scott said that he thought that might be neat for SJ hams to activate all 4 of the county's light houses that weekend if possible. We will discuss this more in July.

- Field Day

Larry, NM7A will host FD on Orcas for SJCARS and Wetnet

Greg, AE7EL will be operating from the South Beach Park on Shaw Island

Bob, K7NHE would like to host FD for SJCARS on Stuart Island for 2020 FD

Basil, N7NIX will be hosting FD on Lopez and invites all SJCARS hams to join in.

Basil said that there is room for a number of stations on his property. Tents can be erected for camping. Food is potluck with the club providing hamburgers. Main installed antennas will be for 80 and 20 meters. There will be one digital station. Hoop will operate FT8 with his K3.

SJCARS will reimburse FD hosts for expenses. SJCARS insurance policy will be in effect for FD.

Presentations:

Hoop- "5 Days in Dayton"-

Hoop told us about his trip to the Dayton Hamvention and activities surrounding it including a day at the National Air Force Museum.

He began his story by telling that his brother called him some time before the event suddenly expressing an interest in ham radio and also wanted to go to Hamvention with him. Excited by this revelation Hoop suggested some study materials to him for license exam prepping. The next thing he heard was that his younger brother had a general class license. They went to Hamvention together and Hoop helped his brother spend money.

Hoop documented his trip for us with lots of pictures and great stories about well known hams who he got to meet and have extended conversations with.

Ed- Ryobi Propane Powered Generator-

In recent conversations with SJ DEM the subject of long term powering of crucial equipment when there has been an emergency which cuts off electricity. Hoop discovered an affordable and idea product which could power radio equipment including our repeaters in such a situation. It's a 700 watt propane powered generator made by Ryobi with a price tag of only \$300. Ed had pondered various solutions for long term powering and could list numerous reasons why a gasoline generator would not be suitable for a many hour outage. For reasons including fuel storage, light weight, clean running and others a small (25 pound) generator like this appears be a great solution which we should have own and have available. Ed purchased one of these units and will run a two week constant operation test and will collect data on it Mike, N7TLL made a motion which was seconded and approved by a vote of those attending the meeting that the club reimburse Ed for the cost of the propane for this test. Ed will report back with his results and review of this generator.

Stories from the Shack

Ed – Has been testing the MFJ end fed antenna which he recently purchased for only \$79. It is resonant on all HF bands with the tuner in his radio. He is doing further coax line isolation testing. He feels that this antenna would be a good general purpose starter antenna that's useable on all HF bands.

Bob K7NHE introduced a NOAA scholar who was in the San Juans mapping kelp beds and to discover why some of it is disappearing. Bob and Mike are going to be working with her while she is in the area. Volunteers interested in assisting can contact her through Bob K7NHE rather than posting her email address in our minutes.

Basil – Ed is working with a group of hams on Lopez to develop inexpensive yet functional 2 meter & 70 cm for new hams to use to help make their starter hand held radio mere effective.

Hoop – June 22 is TedX San Juan Island. David Giuliani, WA6PXX, a club member and inventor of the Sonicare Toothbrush will be one of the speakers.

Larry NM7A – thanked Peter for spotting a DSTAR radio on Ebay which he purchased.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30

Respectfully submitted by: Peter Dahl, Recording Secretary (additions, corrections or comments to Peter Dahl

WA7FUS@arrl.net

The next club meeting will be Friday July 12 in Mullis Fire Station