

KALAMAZOO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
MINUTES THE CLUB MEETING
Thursday, March 15, 2018

A meeting of the Kalamazoo Amateur Radio Club was held on Thursday, March 15, 2018 at the American Red Cross Kalamazoo Chapter House.

Present: 26 members and guests

1. **Call to Order:** Ed (KD8WAV) called the meeting to order at 7 pm (Eastern Standard Time) and Mark (KE8HAA) recorded the minutes. Members and guests introduce themselves, by call sign or otherwise.
 - a. Printed agenda, updated calendar, past Club meeting minutes, and attendee question cards were distributed.
 - b. **Proposal:** *To accept the Minutes of the Club Meeting of February 15 as distributed at this meeting.* **Moved:** Gary (KB5BGC); **Supported:** Don (WE8UPJ). **Vote:** Passed by voice vote without objection.

2. **Announcements**
 - a. Crossroads Hamfest (hosted by SMARS) will be held on Saturday, March 17 at the Wings Event Center.
 - b. KARC Kit Build(s) to support a Club Fox Hunt in September
 - i. Saturday, March 31 from 10 am until noon at the Red Cross Chapter House in Kalamazoo.
Rooms: L3 & L4
 - c. MI QSO Party will be held on April 21-22 (Need a leader. Please volunteer.)
 - d. Field Day will be held on June 23-24 (Need a leader. Please volunteer.)
 - e. KARC Fox Hunt date in September to be determined (Need a leader. Please volunteer.)

3. **Educational Presentation:** Vice-president Charles (WD8AXA) introduced Randy Mead (KE8R) of the Kalamazoo Amateur Radio Club who spoke about the designing and building his hinged tower. The presentation lasted from about 7:12 pm until 7:43 pm. A signup sheet for those willing to help mentor or help with projects such as shark or antenna improvements was distributed by the speaker. Following the presentation, there was a short 10 minute break for refreshments.

4. **Officers Reports:**

President: Ed (KD8WAV)

 - a. Held an impromptu drawing for two tickets to the Crossroads Hamfest on March 17. The winners were John (N8HQI) and Joe (KE8IIW).

Vice-president: Charles (WD8AXA)

 - a. ARRL Audio News is now broadcast on the 147.000 Repeater at 7 pm on Wednesdays.
 - b. Made a brief description of the Club Fox Hunt. Several builds, including an attenuator and directional antenna are planned throughout the summer, prior to the Fox Hunt in September. Attenuator kits are available from the vice-president at a minimal cost (tentatively \$8). 3D printed enclosures may also be available at a minimal cost (tentatively \$2). A list was circulated at the meeting to determine interest; eight people expressed an interest.
 - c. A list of local repeaters will be created and distributed soon.

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Treasurer: Alex (KE8ICM)

- a. Flescher Field has been reserved for Field Day at a cost of \$100. Reserving the pavilion will cost \$180. Action on reserving the pavilion will be taken up by the Board.

Secretary: Mark (KE8HAA)

- a. Membership
 - i. 57 members (not including 3 silent keys from 2017)
 - ii. 27 of those listed have paid dues for 2018
 - iii. 3 members are exempt from dues (KARC Board approval)
 - iv. 8 members appear to be family memberships (2 families paid; 2 families unpaid)
 - v. Anyone on the original list (of 57) who has not paid current dues will be contacted by existing phone or email within the week. Anyone whose dues remains unpaid beyond March 30 will be dropped from KARC membership.
 - vi. Reminder: Membership runs from October 1 through September 30 of the following year.
- b. At the request of members present, membership lists will be distributed in paper copy, at least through the next several Club meetings.
- c. The KARC Facebook page is up to date. The KARC website will be revised as soon as possible. The website requires more work to change and become more efficient to update.

5. Old Business:

- a. Members of the Kalamazoo Hamfest Committee met before the Club meeting and will continue to meet at a similar time before future Club meetings. Randy (KE8R) volunteered to chair the committee. Others present
- b. Election of Member At Large to the KARC Board. Ron (N8CML) volunteered to return to the KARC Board as a Member At Large representative. There were no other volunteers. Ron (N8CML) was elected by acclamation.
- c. Lack of Repeater Use. Attendees were encouraged to listen, call, and respond to calls on the Club Repeater 147.000. Other suggestions included creating a Get To Work Net that would be available between 7 pm and 8:30 pm. Emulate the Battle Creek Lunch Time Net. Use the Repeater to broadcast or discuss road conditions, especially in winter. Report band openings to help alert other hams.

6. New Business

- a. Ed (KD8WAV) thanked members for helping at the Red Cross and RACES during the recent Kalamazoo County Flood. Others were invited to join these organizations.
- b. Gary (KB5BGC) encouraged members to participate in Skywarn reporting on the 147.000 repeater on Wednesdays at 7:30 pm. Ron (N8CML) reminded the group that the net was a Public Service Net.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm (Eastern Standard Time).

Respectfully submitted, _____ Mark Kerstetter (KE8HAA), Secretary