

July KARC Meeting 7-19-18

1. Call to order: Ed (KD8WAV) called the meeting to order at 7pm followed by Introductions of members.
2. Presentation by Chuck (WD8AXA) on Solar Panels
 1. Presented a variety of Solar panels and discussed manufacturing processes and principals.
 2. Showed Solar panels on a variety of sizes and backing materials, stationary panels designed for house or RV usage or small foldable arrays that are designed for camping
 3. Most solar panels will provide 12~15 Volts
 4. Battery chargers can be noisy on HF, so be careful when shopping, make sure you have a return policy in case it causes too much noise with your radio. (Look for wording that says "Low RFI")
 5. Discussions about uses around the house, hot water, garden/greenhouse usage, selling back power to the grid (not as profitable now as one might hope).
3. Break at 7:25 for food and socialization.
4. Announcements
 1. Field Day Report from David Moss (KE8DI), presented by Ed (KD8WAV)
 - i. Total Contacts: 1055
 - ii. Total QSO Points: 1459
 - iii. Bonus Points: 1280
 - iv. Total points: 2,739 (verification needed)
 - v. Membership feedback/request: move back further into the park for visibility and access to facilities.
 2. Update from Chuck on repeater repair
 - i. New amplifier is in and on site, working on power supplies, cabling, and radio interconnections. ETA on final repairs, next month.
 - ii. Currently still running on 20 Watts, with new amplifier should be back to
 - iii. 80 Watts
 3. Thanks to Barry (KE8JCD) for cooking brats and providing pictured postcards after field day.
 4. Treasure report and Secretaries reports from (KE8ICM)
 - i. Approved, Lynn (WB8RWV) and Piran (AB8HU)
 5. Ron (N8CML) mentioned that July county commissioner said in a recent report that emergency radio and drills are important to the county. Could be an opening for the community to work with the county more.
 6. Randy Mead (KE8R)Hamfest work group updates, 2 new vendors, 1 of which will be trying something new with Skype presence. D-Star Forum scheduled again. October 21st at the Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds
 7. VE testing July 21st at the Sheriff's office, contact John Tucker (WB8ZVV)
 8. 10 Week tech class being run by John Tucker, contact by phone or email for more information or to sign up (WB8ZVV)
 9. Fox Hunt - September 22nd at Oshtemo Township Park.
5. Adjourned at 8:03pm Alex Stuart (KE8ICM)