

KALAMAZOO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
MINUTES THE CLUB MEETING
Thursday, October 18, 2018

A meeting of the Kalamazoo Amateur Radio Club was held on Thursday, October 18, 2018 at the American Red Cross Kalamazoo Chapter House.

Present: 25 members and 3 guests

- 1. Call to Order:** Charles (WD8AXA) called the meeting to order at 7 pm (Eastern Daylight Time) and Mark (KE8HAA) recorded the minutes. Members and guests introduce themselves, by call sign or otherwise.
 - a. Printed Treasurer's Report and 2019 Membership Applications were distributed.

- 2. Officers Reports:**
 - a. **Secretary:** Mark Kerstetter (KE8HAA)
 - i. Club members can purchase shirts, jackets, and hats with the W8VY embroidered logo from HamThreads.com. Members who order with our logo receive a 20% discount when they check out with items in their electronic cart.
 - ii. Membership renewal is annual and takes place during October. Our membership year runs from October 1 through September 30.
 - b. **Treasurer:** Alex Stuart (KE8ICM)
 - i. Report was distributed at this meeting.
 - c. **Vice President:** Charles Agosti (WD8AXA)
 - i. Members could view the Silent Key Plaque of deceased Club members.
 1. Those who have SKs to add to the plaque should contact the VP via email.
 - ii. Kalamazoo Hamfest 2018 will present a fox hunt in the parking lot during the hamfest.
 - iii. D-STAR Repeater Update
 1. Phase 1 is complete. The repeater is on the air.
 2. Phase 2. Split X & R with individual antennas for each.
 3. Phase 3. Boost power to 80 watts.
 - d. **Hamfest:** Randy Mead (KE8R)
 - i. Kalamazoo Hamfest 2018 will be held Sunday, October 21
 - ii. Two Forums – D-STAR and FT-8
 - iii. Table sales exceed last year's sales.
 - iv. Volunteers are needed to help vendors unload and set up on Saturday afternoon, during the hamfest, and to help the vendors load after the hamfest.

- 3. Other Announcements**
 - a. Phil Schmitt (K8WMU) reminded us of two 6-meter nets.
 - i. 50.140 SB Net
 - ii. 50.400 AM Net
 - b. Don Batts (WE8UPJ) thanked Gary Wightman (WA8MCD) and John Tucker (WB8ZVV) for their help in raising a new antenna at his QTH.
 - i. Don reminded the audience that hams are friendly and helpful. They are ready to elmer others and help them solve their radio problems.

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- 4. Educational Presentation:** Jim Gorka (N8JG) "Traveling Radio Station"
 - a. Jim showed us how he works portable while he is away from his shack. His equipment, except for a telescoping antenna mast, fits into several small cases.
 - b. Jim uses an Elecraft KX3, a antenna mast that rises 31', and an end-fed antenna
 - c. Power is provided using LIFE 5Ah battery
 - d. Locating transmitting stations, especially for QRP, is helped by using a panadapter
 - e. Jim uses an amplifier for QRO work.
- 5. New Business:**
 - a. Barry Bowman (KE8JCD) Suggested that propagation resources be a topic for a future meeting.
 - b. Randy Mead (KE8R) contacted DXEngineering who can provide a Skype presentation at a future meeting.
 - c. All were encouraged to make suggestions about meeting presentation topics.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 8 pm (Eastern Daylight Time). Some of those at the meeting drove to visit the new Field Day site.

Respectfully submitted, _____ Mark Kerstetter (KE8HAA), Secretary