

KALAMAZOO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
MINUTES THE CLUB MEETING
Thursday, April 18, 2019

A meeting of the Kalamazoo Amateur Radio Club was held on Thursday, April 18, 2019 at the American Red Cross Kalamazoo Chapter House.

Present: 26 members and 1 guest

- 1. Call to Order:** Charles (WD8AXA) called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm (Eastern Daylight Time) and Mark (KE8HAA) recorded the minutes. Members and guests introduce themselves, by call sign or otherwise.
 - a. Copies of the Board minutes from the April 8, 2019 made available for the members to read. Board minutes are available on W8VY.ORG..
 - b. Sign up sheets for the MI QSO Party on April 20, 2019. Sheets for operating in the ham shack were available.
- 2. Member Introductions:**
 - a. **Members Present:** 26
 - b. **Guests:** 1 John Carlin (N8PSE)
 - c. **New Members:** 3 Ruth Bates-Hill (WB8VEV), Jim Hill (NB8SAW) and Kevin Pounders (KC8AFW)
 - d. **April Birthdays** – Jim (NB8SAW) and Andie (KE8KOY)
 - e. **Recent License Upgrades** – Technician to General - Randall (N8RAB)
 - f. **Member Recognition** – Dustin Thomas (N8RMA) – created, promoted, distributed and collected survey and results about ham radio in the **2019 State of the Hobby Survey**
- 3. Announcements – Vice President:** Charles Agosti (WD8AXA):
 - a. Membership: 51 members including 3 honorary members.
 - b. LoST Upcoming Events for May
 - i. Wednesday, April 24 – 7-8 pm at Eliason Preserve Trailhead, Osterhout Road, Portage, MI
 - ii. Wednesday, May 15 – 7-8 pm at Merrill Park, Comstock Ave., Comstock, MI
 - c. Cadillac Amateur Radio & Computer Swap - \$15
 - i. May 4 – from 8 pm Wexaukee Amateur Radio Club
 - d. Bus Trip to Hamvention – reminder – info in March 2019 Club minutes
 - e. K.A.R.C. at Hamvention & 4 Days in May
 - i. Purchase Hamvention tickets online for \$22 (\$27 at the gate). Ticket valid for all days.
 - ii. KARC Simplex Frequency at Hamvention – 444.6125 PL – 186.2
 - iii. Flea Market Treasures
 1. Charles Agosti [7808-7809] – contact/meetup point for Kalamazoo folks
 2. Ohio Valley Experimenter’s Club [9530] – personal ham id card with pocket FCC license
 3. Arrow Communications [7249] – Ann Arbor ARC – if you used their bus to Hamvention
 - f. W8VY will participate in the MI QSO Party on April 20, 2019 noon-midnight. Signup sheet for working at the Club ham shack circulated at the meeting. Top two operators making the most contacts will win SDR Receivers thanks to Randy (KE8R)
 - i. Hints & Tips for Contacts – Gary (WA8MCD)
 1. Keep in the seat and working
 2. Balance between *search-and-pounce* 30% and *run (calling CQ)* 70%
 3. Printout, read, get to know rules, exchange, and official county abbreviations
 4. Logging software – N1MM & N3FJP; electronic logging is fast, efficient, & reduces errors

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5. Check station BEFORE operating; don't wait until just before the contest starts
 6. Always listen before transmitting
 7. MI QSO seems to allow spotting; use logging program feature for spotting
 8. More General Class Operators – try to stick to the General Band Plan
 - a. Keep a band plan in front of operators
 9. DO NOT – pick a fight, operate on certain frequencies, be afraid of the mic
 - g.** W8VY Embroidered Patch Logo
 - i. Board voted to purchase 2.5" patches for club members and future members
 - ii. Club members may purchase additional patches for \$3 each, while supplies last
 - iii. Members present voted to proceed with a round iron-on patch, rather than a square patch
 - h.** RFI Info – Ron (N8CML)
 - i. USB-3 devices notorious for RFI
 - i.** Next Club Meeting will be on Thursday, May 16th. Educational Topic TDA. Spread the word and bring a friend!
- 4. Break Time**
- 5. Educational Presentation: *Ham Radio Podcasts – Mark Kerstetter (KE8HAA)* (8:00-9:00 pm)**
- a.** Distributed ***10 Ham Radio Podcast Summary Sheet*** to those present
 - b.** What is a Podcast?
 - c.** What do you get from ham radio podcasts?
 - d.** How do podcasts work?
 - e.** Podcast players for Android & Mac
 - f.** Where to find an get podcasts?
 - g.** Smart phone podcast player and Bluetooth earbuds – example use
 - h.** Ten popular ham radio podcasts – summary, website, and audio samples
 - i. Amateur Radio Newsline
 - ii. ARRL Radio News
 - iii. ARRL – The Doctor is In
 - iv. ARRL – So Now What?
 - v. Ham Talk Live!
 - vi. 100 Watts & a Wire
 - vii. ICQ Amateur Ham Radio Podcast
 - viii. Ham Radio Workbench
 - ix. QSO Today
 - x. Ted Randall QSO Radio Show

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm (Eastern Daylight Time).

Respectfully submitted, _____ Mark Kerstetter (KE8HAA), Secretary