

Western Tidewater Radio Association Minutes for meeting February 9, 2009

1. On Monday, February 09, 2009, the Western Tidewater Radio Association convened for a quarterly club meeting at Cowlings Restaurant in Smithfield, VA.
2. The club Vice-President KI4WKT (Lyle Hornbaker) called the meeting to order about 6:50 PM.
3. There was an introduction of all 18 present. **WELCOME** Tom Norris (WN4EBI) as a new member, now KJ4KUC.
4. **Announcements** were as follows:
 - a. General Licensing Classes – A combined General Test Prep Class will be held as follows: Location (C) is the Carrollton Fire Department on Rt. 17 and Location (F) is Paul D Camp CC, Room 124 at the intersection of Armory Drive and College Drive. Note the sub-elements are not in numerical sequence. There are 6 evening (6:30 - 8:30 PM) class sessions plus the Saturday test session.
 - 1) (F) 16 Feb, (C) 17 Feb - G1: Commission's Rules [5 questions]
 - 2) (F) 18 Feb, (C) 20 Feb - G2: Operating Procedures [6 questions]
 - 3) (F) 23 Feb, (C) 24 Feb - G3: Radio Wave Propagation [3 questions]
G8: Antennas and Feedlines [4 questions]
 - 4) (F) 25 Feb, (C) 27 Feb - G4: Amateur Radio Practices [5 questions]
G8: Signals and Emissions [2 questions]
 - 5) (F) 2 March, (C) 3 March - G5: Electrical Principles [3 questions]
G6: Circuit Components [3 questions]
 - 6) (F) 4 March, (C) 6 March - G7: Practical Circuits [2 questions]
G0: Electrical and RF Safety [2 questions]
 - 7) Test) (F) 7 March - PDCCC in Franklin, Room 124, 9 - Noon. [35 questions]
 - b. Next Licensing Test Scheduled for March 7 at Franklin Paul D Camp CC, Rm 124, 9 - Noon
 - c. Virginia QSO Party – 1800Z, 21Mar09 to 0100Z 23Mar09.
 - d. CARS Spring Fest 22Mar09.
 - e. Shamrock Marathon Mar 22, 09.
 - f. North Dakota QSO Contest March 21.
5. **Approval of the Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting of January 12, 2008 were distributed via email to the club membership prior to the meeting. A motion was made by W4RBH (Dick). It was seconded by N4IVP (Ken). The motion passed unanimously.
6. **Standing committee reports:**
 - a. **Treasurer / Membership** report: W4RBH (Dick) - It was reported that we have \$1595 in the bank. We have 56 members. For 2009, 11 have not paid yet. A motion was made to accept the Treasurers' Report by N4IVP (Ken). The motion was 2nd by Rob Wilson (KJ4HMZ). The motion passed unanimously.
 - b. **Repeater** report: W4RBH (Dick) – Repeater is working well. The county is working on displaying ARES/RACES on caller ID when a call is received.

- c. **Vice President:** KI4WKT (Lyle) – The Club Officers had a meeting before this meeting to discuss characteristics of the club (weaknesses, strengths, programs to plan, activities to do, etc.).
- d. **VE Team Report:** KI4WKT (Lyle) – The next two test sessions are:
 - 1. March 7 at Franklin Paul D Camp CC, Rm 124, 9 - Noon
 - 2. Bronco Club Hamfest. 14 June 09
- d. **Newsletter Report:** KI4WKT (Lyle) – It was noted that we need someone to pick up the newsletter editing job. If you would like to do this item, please let Chris (N4KIT) know at n4kit@wt4ra.org.

6. **Old Business;**

- a. **Field Day** committee/discussion: – 27-28Jun09. Lyle Hornbaker (KI4WKT) agreed to be the 2009 Field Day Coordinator. Hope Uzun, Bob Penington, Bob Lucas, Joseph Wilson, and Robert Wilson agreed to be helpers. The shelter that we desired to use at the Nike Park is not available.

7 **New Business:**

- b. It was noted that Amateur Radio played an important part in the recent ice storms out west.
- c. Dick (W4RBH) presented a good dissertation on sun spots. (Or really the lack of them.) He also discussed changes that are going to be made at the Air and Space Museum.

8. **Adjourn:** Ray Harding (W4IOW) made a motion to adjourn. Jack (KG4NUH) 2nd. All agreed.

9. **Program:** Club discussion of activities, workshops, Elmer program, etc.

a. Items discussed were:

- 1) Where the club could go and do things.
- 2) Antennas and peripherals
- 3) HASMAT
- 4) Ray Herring to discuss items the state has
- 5) Networking
- 6) Work Shops:
 - a) Digital Modes
 - b) Installing radio and antenna in vehicle
 - c) Safety
 - d) Grounding of equipment
- 7) Saturday morning workshops
- 8) Contest parties.

10. Next WTRA Club meeting - Scheduled for the second Monday of the second month in the next quarter. May 11, 2008. Place and time TBD