

Northeast Iowa Radio Amateur Association
WØMG MEETING MINUTES; 14 December 2013

The December meeting of the Northeast Iowa Radio Amateur Association (NIRAA) was held at 7:00 pm at the Red Cross Center, 2530 University Avenue in Waterloo on December 14, 2013.

ATTENDANCE:

President Dave Knittel (KØCQH) called the business meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Those in attendance were: Chris Conklin (NØCF), Stan Johnson (WØSJ), Lois Johnson (KAØDBC), Scott Lowe (WAØTPN), Eric Henely (KBØQND), Mark Colby, Taryn Colby (Ham-in-Training), Curtis Wilson (NKØT), Dave Knittel (KØCQH), Judi Nelson (NØHHF), Dick Nelson (WØHHF), Craig Hundley (N7PSA), Joe Leto (WØIW). Lawrence Tisor (NØLAT), Tom Bicket (AEØTB), David Kelly (KDØDK), Nathan Fisher (NØZYC), Richard Jones (KBØQAV), and Wendel Wagner (NØRXB).

REPEATER CONDUCT POLICY:

Dave Knittel mentioned that, prior to this evening's meeting, the club officers, directors, and WØMG repeater trustee met to update our repeater policy. There are several changes in the update and every member (and non-member) should review these changes. The new document is posted on our club website, www.WØMG.net.

TREASURY:

Treasurer, Scott Lowe, presented the Treasurer's Report: As of December 12, 2013, we had \$556.31 in the bank. We are anticipating an expenditure in the May 2014 timeframe of approximately \$225.00 for liability insurance. Expenses for the site of the 2014 Field Day activities (Lookout Park) have been paid, but we will have expenses for the food normally provided at that annual event. We currently have about 40 members and 29 of them had their 2014 dues paid up at the start of the meeting. Dues are due by January 1, 2014 and members not paid up by then will be removed from the active member list. Contact Scott with questions.

A motion was made and seconded to have the Treasurer reimburse Chris Conklin for the cost of batteries to repair the repeater controllers at Covenant Hospital. The motion was approved. Approximate cost is \$50.00. These batteries have a life of about ten years, yet, are going on about thirteen years.

REPEATER REPORT:

Chris Conklin updated the group on the area repeaters. The WØMG 146.94 repeater is experiencing noise problems seemingly related to the cold weather; it is believed that an electric heater in the radio room may be the culprit. An investigation is upcoming. The 444.975 repeater is on line and working well. This repeater has an IRLP interface also which is functional.

CLUB SPONSORED HAM FEST:

Mark Colby asked if the club had ever held a hamfest. After discussion of previous hamfests, it was suggested, by Stan Johnson, that we form a committee to make a recommendation on a future event. Volunteer members of the committee are Stan, Mark, and Dick Nelson.

2014 THUNDER IN THE VALLEY AIRSHOW

Dave Knittel mentioned that an airshow is going to be held again in August 2014 and we likely will be asked to provide personnel to provide radio communications as was done at the last airshow. This provided great exposure for our club and will require several volunteers. More will be known as we approach this date.

FUTURE PROGRAMS:

Discussion of future programs came up with President, Dave Knittel, mentioning that the calendar for 2014 is mostly filled, though he didn't have the list with him. Next month, Curtis Wilson will be doing a session on Service Monitors. Other suggestions were: Digital modes (Digital Voice, PSK31, RTTY, SSTV et al), and a session on Propagation.

The next meeting will be February 11, 2014 at the same time and place.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn; meeting adjourned.

PRESENTATIONS:

Dick Nelson did a presentation on The Origin of "Elmer" and presented Stan Johnson with an ARRL Elmer Award.

Joe Leto did an outstanding presentation on Contesting.

These two Power Point presentations are attached to the same email as these meeting minutes and should also be available on the club website. If you don't have Power Point on your computer, a free Power Point Viewer can be downloaded at:

<http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=6>

Wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

73

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. Nelson". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

Richard Nelson, WØMG Secretary

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