

Columbia Amateur Radio Club

March 2, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Welcome

The meeting was convened at 7:00 PM by President Dan Cunningham K9DBC, at the ETV Building, Columbia, SC.

Announcements

We had no new hams and no upgrades this past month.

We did have a visitor who is going to attend the next class which will be held on 3/16 through 3/20 from 6 to 9 PM with the test being given on Saturday March 21, 2020 in the ETV building. The cost is \$10 for the test and all levels are being offered. Please bring a copy of your present license if you are going for an upgrade.

Jay Leiper picked up shirts that we ordered from Gary and has them at the meeting this evening. Also there were not enough hand-outs at the last meeting on Ferrites & Chocks so Jay made more and brought them to the meeting tonight.

Steve Nixon announced that there will be an ARES exercise on March 12th. You can sign up online to participate. For further information or questions you can contact Steve at radio.KC4UAL@gmail.com.

Fred Hambrick, W4JLE took over the March 1st net, bridging other operators from all over the world to our net. With a VR-7500 headless radio, controlled by a smartphone, the application allowed him to communicate with other operators and have them check in to our net.

Gary Anderson K4HGA, had an injury to his newly replaced knee. He spent another long weekend in the hospital and is now recovering at home. On the front table there were cards that everyone was asked to sign for him. Bill and Jean Covey will be going to see him this week and will take the cards to him to cheer him up.

Another of our members, Tom Francis W1TEF, is on chemotherapy and not doing well. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

The SCQSO party was held on February 29th, and there were some impressive numbers compiled by our members. Mike Wieber N4BQQ, logged 320 contacts and Earl and Dwayne Livingston logged 104 contacts. Please send your file to Pete Emmel if you have not already done so.

The club presently has 139 members.

Our Sunday night 2 Meter Repeater Net report for the month showed that there were 4 nets with 134 check-ins, and 20 announcements.

Treasurer Doug White, N4NYK, reported that the club has a balance of \$5,391.75.

Our meeting room at ETV has new upgraded video capabilities, but it is very sensitive. We want to thank our President, Dan Cunningham for spending his afternoon at the new facility working with the people from ETV who were very helpful getting things up and running for our presentation tonight.

The Tour De Cure will be held on October 3, 2020 this year at Doko Meadows Park. More information will be forthcoming.

Program

Tonight we had a Skype Presentation with Dr. Bob Heil. He talked about his journey into audio engineering and amateur radio over the past 50 years. He began with the history of understanding human speech articulation and how he had to “learn to listen”. Dr. Heil created the ***Parametric Receive Audio SYSTEM (PRAS)***. It contains two headphone amplifiers: left and right speakers with separate controls as well as an equalizer that couples a Parametric equalizer-variable level with selective frequency control. This allows the user to improve the audio for their specific needs, particularly when the user’s hearing is imbalanced. PRAS products are in now ham radio equipment, televisions and computers. He is the owner of *Heil Sound* who produces some of best microphones in the business. Thanks to Dr. Heil for sharing his knowledge and time.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Jean Covey W1GTJ, Secretary