

Columbia Amateur Radio Club

March 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Jim Lathan.

Earl Dean's mother has entered hospice – please pray for the family.

Prayers for Ukraine

Past-president, Dan Cunningham passed the “Grand Mallot” to our new President, Jim Lathan, for safe keeping.

Business

We had 4 guests this evening. David Wilson, KD8BYZ, has moved to our area from Ohio.

Margaret and Mick Stratton are visiting with us this evening. Charles Stoker, KO4RUQ, has had his license for 6 months but is not online yet, but the club is offering help to get him up and running.

We also had a new member, Jim Hall KN4HGA, join us this evening.

We had 11 sign-ins tonight on Zoom and 24 attended the in-person meeting at ETV for a total of 35.

Membership has had 12 renewals and 2 new members. There are 288 subscribers to our mailing list.

Treasurer, Pete Emmel, reported that the club has a balance of \$5996.50.

Secretary Jean Covey, W1GTJ reminded everyone that the meeting minutes are on the web site and hope everyone will read them before the next meeting.

Past Events

The **SCQSO Party** was held on February 26, 2022. Ronnie & Tammy Livingston coordinated the event.

We has 33,400 + points. Tedd Clayton covered Lancaster County, Dion, Gary and Jim were in a spot where they could cover 4 counties at one time.

Upcoming Events

We are presently looking for sites for **Summer Field Day** in June. Some suggestions are Sesquicentennial Park and Lake Wateree.

Jimmy Doolittle Day is April 18th, but we will be celebrating the previous Saturday, April 16th at the War Museum in Columbia. We can use their facilities, carte blanche, from 10 AM to 4 PM that day. Earl has also arranged for the 228th Ceremonial Band from Ft. Jackson to play at the event. We are looking for operators with Go-Boxes to come and operate using our W4CAE call sign. event. We are hoping for a good showing of our members to really support this event.

Gary Anderson is coordinating the **MS Walk** which will be on Saturday, April 23rd from 9AM – 1PM. There will be a DJ and a lot of fun things to do to raise awareness of MS. We hope some new HAMS Will join us and work with experiences operators for a great learning experience. More information is available on our website.

Testing will be held from 6 to 9 PM starting on Monday March 21st through Friday March 25th on Zoom. The test will be administered at Saturday morning at the ETV building. Information and registration is available on our website or at SCHeart.US. According to Mike Weiber, 99% of his students pass!

Radio Active is a program run by Gary Anderson to get new hams on the air. It will be held on April 9th at ETV from 9 to 12PM. Well-seasoned HAMS will be there to help.

Jim Lathan has kits to make **Hot Spots** for \$90. If enough people purchase the kits, he will hold a class to assemble them.

March 19th is a **State Emergency Communication Exercise**.

April 2nd is the **Leesburg-Batesville Ham Fest** in the parking lot next to Shealey's BBQ.

CARC will hold a **Swap Meet** will be held on Saturday of April which is the 23rd at Potter Community Park in Elgin.

Member Spotlight

Jim Lathan is going to highlight one of our members each month. This month Bill Minikiewicz W4FSV, was highlighted. Bill got his license in 1968 and his specialty is building kits. His web site where the kits can be purchased is Breadboardradio.com. He is also a Master CW and Morse code operator.

Presentation

This evening's presentation was given by Robert Gessman, K4WZV from FL who started the TGIF Network in 2018. In the past 4 years it has grown from 4 to 5 users to 7,000. The TGIF.Network lets talk groups make their own rules and encourages people to experiment.

Bob also builds and sells hot spots on the side. Take a look at his web site at TGIFSpot.com.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM

Respectfully submitted, Jean Covey W1GTJ, Secretary