

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 21, 2018 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary

President Howard Suffill, W2HTS called the meeting to order at 7:36 pm. There were 13 members and 3 guests present. The guests were former member Jimmy Arthofer, KD2BUG from Freehold, George Wilner, K2ONP from Wall, and Sal Bernardo, KD2OXR from Freehold. After the pledge to the flag, all present introduced themselves.

Health and Welfare

Bob, W2OD reported that he just learned of the death three years ago of Rusty Schmid, K2LL. He died on February 15, 2015 at the age of 105. He was a past member (as W2TAZ) of GSARA and also a member of the Marconi Chapter 138 of the QCWA. First licensed in 1931 in Minnesota, he was offered a job at Fort Monmouth to work on RADAR prior to World War II and came out with his family. He held the Extra First Class license in the late 1930s and was a 40 wpm CW operator. A moment of silence was observed in his memory.

New Member Application

An application for membership along with payment of \$15 was received from Sal Bernardo, KD2OXR from Freehold. Licensed since 2017, Sal is active as a Technician on the VHF and UHF frequencies. He is a Physician who is interested in antennas, beekeeping and woodworking. An ARRL member, Sal requests Active membership. A motion was made by Art, W2NAZ and seconded by Ralph, KC2YNL to accept Sal as an active member of GSARA. The motion passed unanimously.

Secretary's Report

Since the minutes of the February 7 meeting were not on the GSARA website, Secretary Bob, W2OD read the minutes of the meeting. A motion was made by Diana, KD2NAD and seconded by Ralph, KC2YNL to accept the minutes as read. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer John, KC2YWL reported that our starting balance is \$8831.89. Income from dues was \$260.00. There were no expenses so that leaves a closing balance of \$9091.89. Petty Cash had \$12.00 added to it making a total of \$140.50. A motion was made by Ralph, KC2YNL and seconded by Art, W2NAZ to accept the treasurer's report. The motion passed unanimously.

John also reported that 30 of our 109 members have not yet paid their dues. If not paid by the next meeting on March 7, they will be dropped from our membership Roster.

Old Business

President Howard, W2HTS asked if anyone was interested in serving on the Field Day Committee and got no response.

Howard then asked if anyone would serve on a Hamfest Committee and also got no response. With no committee, there will be no Hamfest in the spring. It was pointed out that the OMARC spring Hamfest will be on Saturday, June 2.

It was suggested that Howard, W2HTS send an e-mail to all members requesting Hamfest and Field Day Committee members.

Denis, K2NPT showed samples of the GSARA brochure to be handed out at VE sessions. He had 20 copies printed to cover the next couple of VE sessions. Denis also had business cards printed for GSARA and passed them around the room. Both cards and brochure were very well done and will help publicize the GSARA.

Denis, K2NPT asked why the new FT-400 Fusion radio was not yet operational in the shack. He offered to set up the program for the radio but wanted help in applying power and attaching an antenna. Hopefully,

this will be completed in the next week or two. Denis also offered to present a second talk about Fusion and make recommendations as to what we should buy and what would be the cost to convert our repeater to a Fusion repeater. He would like to give this talk in April so we could order the repeater if we decide to do so before June 30 when it is no longer on sale.

The subject of keys for the radio room came up again. The Red Cross wants to restrict the number of keys so they can track them for security purposes. The list of members with keys should be reviewed frequently to be sure that the limited number of keys are in the most effective hands.

The question was raised as to the inactivity of the Constitution and Bylaws committee. Bob, W2OD reported that he was waiting for the availability of Rem, K2REM but Howard, W2HTS advised to proceed without Rem if necessary to get thing moving.

New Business

It was reported that Cy, K2CYS is proposing another club building project – probably the micro BitX which is an all band improved version of the BitX-40 built last summer. Stay tuned.

There will be a one-day Ham-Cram course given in Bayville on Saturday, February 24. It would be nice if a GSARA member could go and observe how it was conducted with the hope of GSARA running such a class in the future.

Paul, AD7I proposed that a calendar of events be posted on the GSARA web-site for all upcoming GSARA activities.

Blair, KD2EPA is attending the Ham-Sci symposium being held at NJIT in Newark. He proposed making a presentation about it at a future meeting. It might be an excellent means of getting more people interested in amateur radio.

A motion was made by John, KC2YWL and seconded by Art, W2NAZ to authorize up to \$200 to cover the costs for refreshments for the rest of the year. The motion passed unanimously.

Announcement

Mike, W2MJP has donated a 900-watt generator to the club. It is now in the storage area with volatile fluids removed. Thank you, Mike!

Close

The door prize of \$16 was won by Mike, W2MJP. There being no further business, a motion was made by Art, W2NAZ to adjourn the meeting which was closed at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary