

# Lower Columbia Amateur Radio Association Business Meeting Minutes for January 17<sup>th</sup> 2018

(Revised Feb 10, 2018 – K7WF call sign correction, page 3)

**Call to Order:** 1900 Hours  
**Pledge of Allegiance:** President Mike – N7DQ Led the flag salute.  
**Visitors:** None noted on sign in sheet.  
**Members:** 19 Attending

**Special Award Presentation:** Past President Stan – KF7CVR on behalf of the LCARA club presented to Steve Andrews – K7KO the award for Ham of the Year for 2017. Steve has participated in a number of club events, as well as helping other ham's gain knowledge, and fellowship in the community. Steve over the past two years has devoted several personal hours of his time doing research for presentation night. Steve, along with guest speakers has shared his wealth of knowledge with many club members on Presentation Night. Steve has also for the past two years been a major part of Field Day providing his time, and personal equipment for the event. The LCARA Club wanted to thank Steve - K7KO for his dedication, and commitment by awarding Steve this honor of Ham of the Year for 2017.

**Reading of Minutes:** President Mike – N7DQ called for approval of the minutes from the November 15<sup>th</sup> 2017 meeting. Jeff – KB7PMO made a motion to approve the minutes, Stan – KF7CVR second the motion, all in attendance approved and the motion was carried.

**Correspondence:** JJ – W7BO stated that the mail had not been picked up, therefore there was nothing new to report.

## Officer's Reports

**Vice President:** Jeff – KJ6ERT stated nothing new to report.

**Treasurer:** JJ – W7BO stated that at this time all accounts are in good standing, the total of \$385.00 dollars was collected tonight in dues.

**Trustee:** Butch – AE7KJ stated that he had been monitoring the radio and everything was in order, hams are following proper radio procedures.

**Secretary:** Lloyd – KI7KMJ stated nothing new to report.

### **Officer's Reports: Continued**

**ACS:** Randy – NU7D stated on Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup> 2018, ACS was called upon by Kelso Police to use their UAS (Unmanned Aircraft System) to search for a thirteen year old girl that had been missing. However by the time ACS gained clearance from the Airport to launch the UAS the girl had been found unharmed. Even though ACS was unable to aid in the search, it is now known by local authorities that ACS can be called upon to use their UAS at any time.

Randy stated that ACS had been invited to a UAS event in Chehalis WA. No date was given, however the scope of the event is to give information in regards to what is needed before, and after the purchase of a UAS. ACS was also invited to return in the summer of 2018 to demonstrate just what their UAS can accomplish during an emergency.

Randy stated that Cowlitz County will be going to a P25 radio, this doesn't mean that they are going digital however ACS may need to look into new radios. The current radios that ACS has are about ten years old, therefore it may be time to upgrade to the P25. The P25 would also be able to monitor the State Police Bands.

Randy stated that a grant may be drafted to help with supplies need for the Communications Van, LCARA club house, and ACS. The actual amount of the grant is yet to determined. However anyone who has an item needed, or a recommendation to purchase supplies can contact Randy by email at [nu7d.randy@gmail.com](mailto:nu7d.randy@gmail.com)

### **Old Business**

2018 Field Day, a volunteer is still needed for a director to lead and oversee the event. However, the event which is held on June 22<sup>nd</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of 2018 may be canceled . There is a conflict with the date of June 23<sup>rd</sup> because of ACS members being needed for the Tour De Blast event. Further discussion will be needed to see how to proceed with 2018 Field Day event.

Totes for equipment, Ed – KC6WCT and Jeff – KB7PMO. Four totes were purchased by JJ – W7BO with the help of a donation of \$40.00 dollars by ED. The project can now move forward to load the totes needed for Field Day and/or an Emergency Response with supplies.

### **Old Business Continued**

LCARA Club 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Carl – K7ECW, Ed – KC6WCT, and Stu – K7WF. Update, there are several ideas on the table right now on how to proceed. The LCARA Club was founded after the May 30<sup>th</sup> 1948 Vanport flood. Ed has proposed getting recognition from the Governor of state of Washington for the years of service the LCARA Club has provided to the community. Carl has proposed that a small celebration be planned for the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, while a much bigger celebration be planned for the Clubs 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Carl stated that in a meeting with Stu, it was agreed upon that not too much information and or attention wanted to given about the Clubs location for security reasons. Therefor further discussions will be needed in regard to what, when, and where the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will be.

Walk-N-Knock food drive Connie – KB7AYY stated that there were not as many volunteers this year at the CAP headquarters. However all the drop off stations were maned, and in general everything went well. The food collected was given to the local food banks where it could be given out to people in need.

LCARA 2017 Christmas Dinner was enjoyed by several club members. There was plenty of food, fun, and gifts for everyone. The Grand Prize was won by Connie – KB7AYY which was a Yeasu handheld radio. Rick – WA7NWN has posted pictures of the Christmas Dinner at the LCARA club house.

Digital Thermostat Keith – W7DKQ. Keith has taken upon himself to purchase and install the digital thermostat at the LCARA Club House. With a little trial and error the thermostat is working great, and in time we will be able to compare the savings to last years electric bill. The club wishes to thank Keith for his time and the donation of the digital thermostat.

Power Supply Jeff – KB7PMO and JJ – W7BO. The power supply was repaired by Jeff, and JJ reimbursed Jeff for the cost of the parts.

Fred Meyer Rewards JJ – W7BO. The program is for the club to obtain a small portion of the rewards when club members purchase items at Fred Meyers. JJ stated that he had not been able to investigate the program yet, further discussion will be needed on this project.

Signature bank cards for new officers, Secretary Lloyd – K17KMJ and VP Jeff – KJ6ERT. Treasurer JJ – W7BO will have the applications filled out today.

## **New Business**

Steve – K7KO along with Kevin – KC6FLG have proposed putting up an Ebiquity Network. At the last presentation night held on January 10<sup>th</sup> 2018 Steve and Kevin demonstrated what the Ebiquity Microwave Radio System could do. Several of the club members attending were very interested in the concept, and wanted to know more about the Ebiquity Microwave Radio System. Steve and Kevin agreed that they wanted to propose what they wanted to do at the next club meeting to obtain permission before moving forward.

The scope of the project is to connect the LCARA Club House with other repeaters and residents in the area. This would in fact create a private wireless network for regular and emergency communications purposes that local hams could then use. Kevin, who is a retired technician from NBC in Los Angeles California is willing to donate his time and several pieces of equipment to the project. The first phase of the project would be to set up a one hop link from the LCARA club house to Steve's resident. This would be a proof of concept, and would be at no cost to the LCARA club. Once in place Kevin and Steve could decide what the next phase of the project would be.

Jeff – KB7PMO made a recommendation, or motion that the LCARA club allow Kevin and Steve to move forward with the first phase of the project. Furthermore, that a “no budget” agreement to the project be given to Kevin and Steve as well as regular updates on the project be given to the LCARA club. President Mike – N7DQ agreed that the project should move forward along with further discussion and put the motion to a vote. Stan – KF7CVR second the motion, all present were in favor and the motion was carried.

Randy – NU7D wanted to make a motion to move the ACS meeting day from the fourth week of the month to the first week of the month. HF night would then move to the fourth week of the month. President Mike – N7DQ called for a vote, all present agreed, the motion was carried. The ACS meeting is canceled for the month of February 2018. Starting in March of 2018, and there after ACS meeting will be held on the first week of the month, HF night will now be on the fourth week of the month.

Ed – KC6WCT volunteered to provide classes on Technician Ham License to those people interested. The question pool is due to change in June of 2018 so time is limited It was unclear as to how many would sign up, however Ed wanted to help.

## **New Business Continued**

Carl – K7ECW wanted to clarify with those in attendance, that the by-laws clearly state that LCARA club dues are due before the business meeting starts in February of 2018. If a member has paid their dues by that time, they are considered in good standing which allows them to make a motion and vote. If however a club member's dues are not paid, they are not allowed the privilege of making said motions and voting.

Carl – K7ECW stated that due to the fact that Tour De Blast interfered with Field Day, there was still Planters Day available for the third weekend of June. Carl proposed that club members volunteer to man the “Potato Bar” as a way to help raise funds for the Club. JJ – W7BO who is involved with the event stated the the “Potato Bar” was available. Carl agreed to take the lead, and work with JJ on food card requirements, scheduling different shifts, and how many volunteers were needed. Again this will be discussed further at the next business meeting.

## **Good of the Order**

Jeff – KB7PMO stated that he had been monitoring the 20 meter and 40 meter HF bands. Sometimes the bands seem to be dead, while at other times he was able to make contact. Jeff also stated that at times he would hear a “wood pecker” noise. Steve – K7KO replied by stating the interference was due to “over the horizon” radar. Apparently the “wood pecker” noise has been an ongoing problem for quit some time.

**Adjournment:** President Mike – N7DQ made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Carl – K7ECW second the motion, all present were in agreement the motion was carried and we adjourned at 20:08 hours.

**50/50 Drawing:** Total received was \$55.00 dollars, the winner Lloyd – KI7KMJ received \$27.50 dollars.

Minutes report was submitted by Secretary:  
Lloyd Plourd – KI7KMJ