

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KINGS COUNTY RADIO CLUB

KCRC



October 2016

The Ridiculously Abridged Edition

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Minutes of the October 2016 KCRC Meeting, October 5th, 2016

The monthly meeting was preceded by a “Pre-Meeting Questions and Answer Session”. This month’s session was not so much a discussion of technical issues, as the Amateur Radio life-style, culture, and history. Still, it was an engaging conversation and was an enjoyable diversion from antenna discussions. (As always if anyone has any ideas for expanding similar technical sessions into different, approachable venues, we would be interested in hearing your ideas! The idea is to find a venue for the greatest number of curious, interested participants—we will handle the people with the answers, hopefully.)

The monthly meeting was called to order at 8 PM, by our Vice President, Gary N2WGR. Also present at tonight’s meeting were President Howard N2GOT, Treasurer Richard KA2KDQ, General Secretary Roy AC2GS, Executive Board Member at Large Mitch N2RGA, Milen N2NYU, Andy WA2GDS, and Simon KD2LQE. Joining us, as our guests were Jo-Ann, Salome and Lucy.

A motion was presented to accept the Minutes of the September Meeting, and was passed unanimously.

Treasurer Report—Richard KA2KDQ, reported that our Treasury currently has \$1,059.88 in assets in our bank account. Mitch N2RGA reports a surplus of \$75.08 in our Club PayPal account. We have one new member this past month—Peter KC2ZQM, and our first 2017 dues payment by Robert AB2LO!

10 Meter Report—Our Net Control operator, Milen N2NYU reported generally poor propagation conditions limiting distant communications, but we have a healthy number of local check-ins and our Net entertains a healthy amount of technical discussions.

2 Meter Report—Richard KA2KDQ reported that the 2 Meter Net was doing well, his technical issues have abated while he is limiting his radio output to 5 watts nominal. He received offers to replace his damaged base antenna and will be considering a possible replacement in the future. Richard will not be able to be the Net Control Operator during the October 11th Net, due to the Jewish Holidays. Milen N2NYU graciously offered to be Net Control Operator for October 11th. The question of establishing an Alternate Net Control Operator was again discussed, to be ready to continue the Net in case the Net Control Operator is off the air, due to any future technical issues. If anyone is interested in this position please contact any Executive Board Member. Club members with 2 Meter FM capability are urged to join us on the 2 Meter Net, if only to say their ‘hellos’ and support the Club and its Nets.

Old News: Our next VE Session will be October 23rd at 1 PM. Please keep up to date with VE information by following posts on the club website: www.kingscountyradioclub.com/ve-team . Milen N2NYU has just earned his VE credentials and offered to assist in our next VE session. The Club is always looking for new VE’s to join our VE Sessions, as well as assistant and/or co-Liaison VE Officers. For ANY interested individuals please contact any Executive Member of the Club, or the return email address that includes these emails of our Club Meeting’s minutes. People took time out of their busy lives to help get you licensed - pass on the favor!

Repeater work progresses. Mitch N2RGA reported that the controller is out for an upgrade and to investigate a bug in controlling when toggling between Fusion and analog signals one after the other. During the controller removal Mitch noticed that the RF power amplifier’s fuse had blown and when he gets the upgraded controller he will swap the fuse and leave a few spares taped to the chassis “just in case”.

The topic of a new Club QSL Card was again discussed. The final design was agreed upon unanimously and Mitch was given the task of finalizing the order. Roy AC2GS, who finalized the design will email it to our chosen QSL printer and supply him with any modifications that may be required.

The meeting then turned to the Club’s situation with Mr. Juan Velazquez KC2QNK, once again (Part Deux?). It was hoped that this unfortunate situation had been dealt with during our September meeting. Unfortunately

the Executive Board was advised that Mr. Velazquez had decided to include an entry on his QRZ page regarding the KCRC. It is rather difficult to “decode” this inarticulate unpunctuated, ALL CAPITALIZED, ungrammatical run-on sentence into something approaching standard American English (your Editor would think that he has far more issues with the New York City Board of Education, on his lack of language skills, than our Club). Suffice to say, his claims are baseless, but are consistent with his long term position as a helpless innocent victim dropped onto an evil world. It is our understanding that QRZ takes libelous posts rather seriously, and we would not wish to be the cause of Mr. Velazquez being blocked from QRZ permanently, due to his poor behavior. We will endeavor to suggest that libel is a serious offence and that he should take the “high road” rather than spend his future rolling in the mud.

It has also come to our attention that Mr. Velazquez still is in possession of KCRC property. Gary N2WGR will try to contact Mr. Velazquez and retrieve the property of the Kings County Radio Club.

As before, we wish Mr. Velazquez well in all his future, non-Club, endeavors.

Field Day was touched upon briefly. If any member has any viable alternative to Floyd Bennett Field, please contact our President Howard N2GOT. If we decide upon another location, the earlier we do this, the easier it will be to get it done right!

The Club’s Annual Picnic was discussed—Mitch N2RGA put a lot of effort into this successful picnic and he also wanted to thank Milen N2NYU and Simon KD2LQE for their help.

Our 2016 Holiday Party was discussed. It will be held December 7th at 8 PM. Mitch suggested that we make the Holiday Party free to all dues paying members and \$10 for each additional guest, which was passed unanimously. A list of supplies needed will be placed on the Club website www.KingsCountyRadioClub.com. Please keep an eye on that site and advise Mitch of what you plan to bring, so that we do not have any duplications.

Our Fall 2016 new membership drive mailings were sent out by Mitch N2RGA. A few were returned with recipient unknown (these are the addresses that exam takers listed as their mailing addresses to the FCC). Now, we wait to see if we have created any interest about the Club.

Simon KD2LQE brought up the subject of JOTA (Jamboree On The Air), being held October 14th, 15th, and 16th. One million scouts will be participating across 150+ countries (see: jotajoti.info/). Simon will be helping on the KC2GOW Repeater (147.315+ PL 118.8Hz). He does not know the exact times but plans to be operating on October 15th at 7 PM—9 PM. James KB2FMH will also be involved during JOTA, so just keep an ear on the bands and make some Boy Scout’s day!

James KB2FMH will be operating with the Club’s callsign KC2RC during JOTA!

Our guest, Lucy, asked our membership for some technical information. She intends to take pictures in Iceland and wants to send them to Brooklyn by way of Amateur Radio. The concept of Slow Scan TV (SSTV) was discussed and she was offered an email address of a club member if she had any further questions. She hopes to return next month with an associate, who is interested in obtaining an Amateur Radio ticket, himself and to further discuss the subject!

2016 is drawing to a close (where does the time go?), and it is time to think about your dues for 2017. We all would appreciate it if members could send in their dues BEFORE New Years. The easiest way is through PayPal, using our website, but those who like the old ways can just send a check off to our Treasurer Richard KA2KDQ!

At 9:40 PM the meeting was adjourned.

See ya all back here November 7th for our next monthly meeting!

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Kings County Radio Club, its Executive Board, nor its General Membership. What can I say? I don't suffer fools gladly!

These minutes were respectfully recorded and submitted by Roy AC2GS on this day, October 5th, in the two thousandth and sixteenth year of our Lord of Propagation...

(AC2GS would like to thank all the people that maintain the program and the keyboard used to type these minutes, as well as those that supply his food and shelter.)

The Kings County Radio Club is at www.KC2RC.com or
www.KingsCountyRadioClub.com
KCRC is an ARRL affiliated club (see: www.ARRL.org)