

Trident Amateur Radio Club

Monthly Meeting Minutes

February 16th, 2009

Meeting called to order @ 7:30 by Dave KJ4F

Welcome to all guest and members introduction

Skip Teller (KH6TY) Demonstrates 2 Meter FM Digital Station

Skip brought in a complete VHF FM digital station set-up. The entire station was composed of a 2-meter mobile rig, power supply, laptop, interface, and a very compact antenna. It could be carried by one person and was completely portable. The station is inexpensive because the interface can be built for less than 20 dollars, the antenna also can be built for under 20 dollars, and the software is free. If you have a 2meter FM rig and a PC you are in business. He currently has an article about this technology in the March issue of QST on page 95 and several more will be published in the next couple of months. The demonstrated station had a 30 mile range even at a 10 foot antenna height. With the substitution of another home made 4 element quad antenna, mounted at about 23 feet (still portable and about 20 bucks) the range can be extended to about 100 miles. This technology is important to us because it provides a new communication capability using rigs we already own, and it increases our station's range in the event of repeater unavailability. It also has the additional benefit of providing text communications that can be forwarded as needed. He is currently the net control operator of 2 meter FM digital net that is using Domino EX 8. For further net information please see the bottom of this newsletter. This technology won't replace repeater systems but is a powerful means to communicate when the chips are down, or when we need a different method.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

President had no report at this time

Vice President had no report at this time

Secretary had no report, but did let everyone know that he is new to his position and hope that he will do a good job.

Treasurer has the following report of a balance of \$3,384.43 as of 01-19-09

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

The following committees gave their report:

Awards – Dave KJ4F gave awards to the following Bryce K4LXF and Paul NN4F

Field Day – Gary W1DCN will be handling field day and will be getting info out to all of us soon.

NET – Bobby W4KSD, net is on Tuesday at 2000 hrs.

QSL Manager – Ed W4NSC will be taking over as QSL Manager.

Phone – 37 calls made.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

\$13.00 was given to club off of sale of shirts and jackets.

NEW BUSINESS

Sell of two radios that the club owns and put money towards buying new radio to replace the one at the Boy Scout camp. Motion was made and second. ALL MEMBERS VOTE TO DO THIS

Duboes Middle School has been told to stop having the radio club per the principal at the school. Members that live in Dorchester County are going to write to school board and the school.

Tailgate – No date this time, but it will be sometime in August 2009, Vince will get things going but needs help to do it.

Need someone to take over doing the flower fund. This would mean sending out flowers.

Elections of officers, Dave talked about the elections of officer will be in September and that we need to look at who will be President of the club.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VE – This Wednesday in Goose Creek @ 7pm.

PROGRAM

Vince talked about the western hut that DHEC has within the tri-county area. He had pic of the hut being put up in Berkeley County. There are a total of 8 huts. He let everyone know that if they get change to see one being put up, it would be worth it.

ADJOURN

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm

Respectfully Submitted

James KJ4IOO