

Trident Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Board Meeting Minutes

10/6/2025



Call to order: 1801

Adjourn: 2012 Chris motioned to adjourn, Steve 2nd

Location: Hanahan Library

Members Present:

President - Chris Benoit, KC4NW

Vice President - David Merritts, AE4ZR

Treasurer/Fund Raising - Steve Anderjack, KO4AFL

Secretary - Brent Tatum, KO4KCR

Board Member at Large - Jim Wasson, KO4MNB

Board Member at Large - Glenn Stephens, WA4NMW

Membership – Ron Davis, K4TCP

Testing – Steve Anderjack, KO4AFL

Programs – Reid Robinson, KR4CPL

QSL manager – Chris Benoit, KC4NW

Fund Raising – Jim Self, KW4PW

Education and Scholarship- Stephen Behr K4OPZ

Field Day- Ron K4TCP, John Satterfield KK4JS, Steve KO4AFL

POTA- David Merritts AE4ZR

Bryce Myers, K4LXF

Bob Kovach - K4UGE

Helen Kovach - KJ4UGF

Chip Mack - WB4ZVR

Members Absent:

Properties –TW Kirkpatrick, KF4CQH

Jim Wasson - KO4MNB

TREASURER: Steve does not have access to bank acct online. Stopping by the bank tomorrow to find out.

Membership: Current membership: 142 members. Ron highlights names Oct-Dec in member meetings advising them they have not renewed

Testing: Next one scheduled Oct 15th

Programs: Feedback from email sent out. Emergency preparations, fox hunting, grounding and bonding, lipo batteries, how to set up a station for new members, HAM radio volunteers during WWII.

QSL: nothing received

Repeaters: had nothing to add, did not understand why he's needed at meeting

Fundraising: Chris asked if we want to keep on itinerary for board meeting, was agreed to keep in treasurers report moving forward instead of separate item

Education Committee: Have not heard from Justin/Dorchester County Emergency Director for need for technician class

Field Day: Have kick off meeting next month for winter field day. Ron will verify with Renata we can still use her church on Johns Island.

POTA: Next event this Saturday. We had feedback saying it was crowded and people could not get on during last field day. Ron said he had 20 meter and was trying to get people on, but people hesitated. 10 and 40 are always set up, sometime 30 only for CW. Chip proposed having seasoned partner with new HAMs.

Old Business:

- Contact info for Steve Behr and Mike Edwards were given to Brent to contact. The Secretary has draft of 2023 constitution but not signed copy.
- Chris wants to engage more members into club activities, same members at each event. One idea is to due white board at next club meeting. Could then narrow down ideas and sending out as survey or Google Form to all members since approx. only 40 show up to in person meetings.
- TW, the current property manager has been out for a while. The club needs to find a replacement and does not need to be board member. Terrence Hamilton has been coming to meetings, lives in Smville, Ron thinks he would be a good fit. Chris is going to contact and see if interested. Discussion held on what to do with what TW is storing for club, some of it needs to be climate controlled. Glenn stressed importance to not get into fixed monthly storage cost. Glenn contacting TW to see when can get inventory of everything he has.
- Three members needed for the Treasurer and Secretary audit. Mike Edwards, Peggy Reese, and Jane Kauser were presented as candidates.
- New president, vice president, and treasurer need to be on file with bank to be signers on acct. Indv debit cards are issued to them as well.
- Chip does not like how nominations of elections took place. Rumored ballots were thrown away, no way to do a recount. Also did not like the nominating committee also had person running, Jim. Has spoken to another 501c3 and they use electronic ballots. Glenn said different ways have been used in years past such as raising hand, if no one contested everyone agreeing, or if paper votes were casted they were not kept. Glenn is positive only people that voted were members, knows visitors did not get ballots. David Merrits said the number of votes for each person has never been kept or passed along, just who won the election for respective positions. As way to make voting easier, in July meeting whos running for each position is finalized. People get ballots in meeting and can mail them in. No one else agreed with mail in procedure. Ron printed roster of current members so ballots could be handed out as members were checked off. Regina doesn't want to make process overly complicated, we're a small club and nothing was done in ill will. Jim KO4MNB did not nominate himself but was nominated by Mike K3ZMD. After being asked to join the nominating committee, Jim turned over the slate of nominees to the Board upon Chip

nominating himself. Jim also notified the President that someone other than himself would need to collect and tally the ballots, which was accomplished.

- David said we have 2 members at large per by laws, that was when club was 30 people. Asked for consideration due to size of club being over 100 to have 3 at large members, gave an example of one member at large for every 50.
- The board decided, based on previous experiences, to no longer offer or pursue scholarships.
- Steve has not talked with the outgoing Treasurer yet. Last balance he saw recently was \$6400
- Reid will be sending out an email, asking about topics. Please contact Reid to discuss your interest in presenting a program or suggestion for programming.

Sept - Repeaters by Glenn

Oct - ?

The following ideas to be considered for future club programming for members:

- Radio activities: satellite
- Programming for Extras
- Computer Aided Transceiver (CAT) via YouTube
- DIY Headset adaptors: electronics.halibut.com; <https://ohis.org/> POC: Steve KO4AFL
- QSL cards: POC Van N4VGE
- How to run a teletype radio
- Set up for digital modes: FT8, Olivia, PSK 31, JS 8
- Different types of antennas
- How to tune an antenna
- Ron is working on a checklist for field days such as trailer set up and tear down steps. This would be left inside trailer so anyone doing would have a reference.
- Chris congratulated David on his efforts for POTA. Next event is Oct 11, location not picked. Said Givhans tends to be far for people in West Ashley. They have had success with Charlestown Landing before. Chris would like to see as an opportunity to have people try out new gear with help from veterans, become comfortable with using, besides solely focusing on amount of contacts.
- David reminds members, when using the club call sign during POTA contacts, please let him know. N4EE@tridenthams.org

New Business:

- Ron wants to do part 2 of Winlink at member meeting, date TBD. Brent gave idea to have Winlink demo at next winter field day
- Bob & Helen Kovach presented info on Pages Okra Grill in Summerville. Buffet is the way groups dine. You choose 1 side, 3 entrees, 2 sides, and 1 dessert in advance. 25% deposit is required to reserve, refundable up to 5 days prior. Two rooms are available, 40 per room. \$600 charge for 2nd room. Glenn made motion to accept Bahama Breeze decided due to availability to expand up to 80 without making a reservation, each person pays without the club being on the financial hook, everyone can order what they want without being subject to set items on the buffet. Chris seconded motion.

- Whether to have General license class was discussed. Approx. 25hrs of class, 5 days of 5hrs, test on week 6. Would need at least 5 students to make it worth it. Ron emailed Justin at Dorchester County EOC on whether tech or general class has a demand for another one.
- Terrence Hamilton, KR4FLR accepted position as new properties custodian. It was decided properties position is not needed at board meetings.
- Chris sent out request for feedback on how to improve club attendance. Chris is going to send out to members feedback received and answers to the feedback.

Takeaways:

- Fox hunt
- help with gear set up and what gear needed for generals and techs. Ron said to bring attention to our Elmers and mentors at next meeting. Chris said to mention at meeting anyone wanting help with gear to get with board member to get directed to help.
- Zoom was requested - it was debated on with time and gear commitment to have run effectively so not saying no but not agreeing to.
- Trouble hearing at meeting - Set up podium in corner window of room. If that doesn't work, possibly setting up a karaoke microphone and speaker.
- Emergency communications
- Not being familiar with logging at field days. Discussed doing one month and 2 wk out gear check and inviting others to get oriented with trailer and using equipment without pressure of field day.
- Request for more central field day location vs Johns Island. Was discussed sending out why location is chosen such as no cost, running water bathrooms, full kitchen, indoor meeting area, ample parking.

General Information:

- N4EE: Maintain N4EE for Special Events and Field Day. David Merritts AE4ZR is the custodian and uploads into QRZ.
- N4HLH: Use for Hunley Events. Ron K4TCP is the custodian and uploads into QRZ.
- W4ANK: Repeater Call Sign for club events. Rick N8BKN is custodian.
- Lending Library: POC Owen KF5BLK.
 - The Lending Library is live on the website. Here is the link - > <https://www.tridenthams.org/library/>
 - Check out is from one Membership meeting to the next, or Owen can be reached by email at owen.trott.landman@gmail.com to arrange a meeting to pick up a book, but it would still be due at the following membership meeting.
- Testing: POC: Testing is scheduled at 6:30pm the 3rd Wed of every month at the Hanahan Public Library, 1216 Old Murry Ct., Hanahan, SC 29410. Pre-register for the exam session at <https://hamstudy.org/sessions/glaarg>

73

Brent Tatum K04KCR
Secretary