

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KINGS COUNTY RADIO CLUB

KCRC



June 2019

“NULLUM BENEFICIUM IMPUNITUM”

Volume 6, Issue 6^A

Minutes of the June 2019 KCRC Meeting, June 5th, 2019

Our June “Pre-Meeting Question and Answer Session” was particularly lively, covering all manner of topics.

The monthly meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM, by our President, Joseph AC2AE. Also present at tonight’s meeting were Vice President Simon K2FH, Treasurer Richard KA2KDQ, General Secretary Roy AC2GS, Mitch N2RGA, Howard N2GOT, Frank KD2QDU, Jason WF2N, Jason KD2LRX, David KD2BNT, Gene KY2MY, Gus W2ZAV, Ray W2DEA, Bob W2ZF, Lloyd K2JVX, Bob KD2NVB, Joe KD2QBQ, our newest member Mark, and two new visitors to our club meeting, Bryon and Sophie KB1GBG!

The vote to accept the minutes of the May meeting was passed unanimously.

Treasurer Report—Richard KA2KDQ, reported that our Treasury currently has \$1,792.87 in assets in our most recent bank account statement, as well as \$28.83 pending deposit in our PayPal account, for a total of \$1,821.70.

Repeater status was discussed by Mitch N2RGA - As planned previously, Joe AC2AE and Mitch N2RGA installed a final amplifier, updated the controller’s firmware and installed new audio files into the controller. Stuart WA2JNF came to the repeater site days later and tuned everything up and found that the amplifier was poorly shielded and was de-sensing our receiver. He tuned up the duplexer for a few more dB of output and advised us to keep this duplexer, most of its transmission lines and our present antenna. The amplifier was removed and we will be looking for a better shielded final amplifier designed for repeaters. Work continues on options regarding linking our repeater to Internet based networks. Ryan W4EAE has successfully built a YSF Network connection to our repeater. There was a discussion regarding the use of two AMBE vocoder chip dongles, a Raspberry Pi, and some additional programming to enable us to link to D-Star, DMR and YSF. Reportedly each protocol would require a separate installation. This was thought to cost approximately \$250 for each protocol and the general membership voted for a \$250 expenditure. Unfortunately, later that night further investigation found that a HT like the Yaesu FT-2DR, and additional items would be needed for this interface, so the plan was put on hold, pending a thorough investigation of cost/benefit for the club. In addition there was a suggestion put forth to purchase a separate UHF radio and antenna and configure it as a dedicated analog input/output permanently linked to our original FT-DR2X Repeater in Fusion Digital mode. In addition to additional hardware, we would also need to obtain a UHF frequency from the local regional frequency allocation committee to operate a dedicated repeater on. It was suggested that all parties research the subject more over the next month.

2 Meter Report—Richard KA2KDQ reported that he has some new mobile equipment and hopes that his signal will improve in future weeks. We can still use some alternative Net Control Operators for the Net.

10 Meter Report—Roy AC2GS reported that the 10 Meter Net is going well. Propagation conditions were excellent a few weeks ago and he ran out of paper to write down all the check-ins, coming in all the way from Massachusetts, to Florida! The following weeks were not as productive, as the ionosphere returned to its

sunspot minima self. We still need more Net Control Operators to rotate in this position, each Sunday. Perfect reception or a very strong signal is not necessarily needed. The participants of the Net are available to relay messages back and forth, as needed. Please consider volunteering for this position. The Club executive committee will try to cover the Net Control Operator post until a more permanent replacement is found.

KCRC TechNet –Our Net Control Operator and Host, Roy AC2GS, reported that the TechNet is alive but suffering from non-participation—the previous TechNet only involved the Host, Roy AC2GS and the co-host WF2N, so that episode was cancelled. If we have no participation, we don't have much of a Technical Net! Everyone was again urged to participate (as an aside the TechNet, following this meeting, a week later was very successful and was extended to more than two hours in duration—as always an audio archive is available on our website).

KC2RC FusionNet—The FusionNet continues to go strong, both locally and through its Wires-X room. The contest to rename the contact email address for the FusionNet: TheFusionExperience@KingsCountyRadioClub.com, is continuing . The most popular three ideas will be posted on the club's Facebook page to be voted on.

Old Business: Our last VE Exam was May 19, 2019. Two people earned their Technical License, one upgraded from Tech to General, and a club member upgraded to Extra class license! Our next VE exam will be Sunday, July 21st, at 1 PM at Room 6B of The Wesley House 501 Sixth Street, between 7th and 8th Avenue. For ANY individuals interested in joining our VE Team, please contact any Executive Member of the Club or the return email address for 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!

Our Club presently has 69 members, all paid up for 2019. We have two new members in the past month—Nelson KD2FLK and Mark.

We are still selling Club patches at \$5 a piece and \$1 shipping and handling. You can save the shipping and handling fee by buying them at our monthly meetings. Joe AC2AE suggested that we investigate the idea of club stickers in addition to our patches, and members will investigate the details, costs and possible imagery for a club sticker.

Lloyd K2JVX made his progress report, on our Special Event Station K2M, at the Brooklyn Naval Yard on June 8-9, 2019 commemorating the commissioning of the U.S.S. Missouri. (the Special event was an unmitigated success and, hopefully, we will be offering similar special event stations in the future).

Plans for Field Day 2019 are going well, we have purchased ARRL sponsored insurance for club activities for \$200/yr.

Joseph AC2AE reported on the very successful “Saturday Night Out” on June 1st, and will schedule similar club get-togethers in the coming months.

New Business: There was no new business tonight.

At 9:50 PM the meeting was concluded.

[See you July 3rd for our next meeting!](#)

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policies or positions of the Kings County Radio Club, its Executive Board, nor its General Membership.

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

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