

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KINGS COUNTY RADIO CLUB

KCRC



September 2019

“NULLUM BENEFICIUM IMPUNITUM”

Volume 6, Issue 9^A

Minutes of the September 4th 2019 KCRC Meeting

Our September “Pre-Meeting Question and Answer Session” was particularly lively, with a new visitor and a new Club member, that had both just earned their licenses, 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, Executive Board Member-At-Large Mitch N2RGA, Howard N2GOT, Frank KD2QDU, Jason WF2N, Bob W2ZF, our newest members Selvin KB2WON, Andre KD2SOK, and a new visitor Matt.

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

Treasurer Report—Richard KA2KDQ, reported that our Treasury currently has \$1,189.76 in our bank account as well as \$98.81 in our PayPal account for a total of \$1,288.57 in assets.

Repeater status was discussed by Joseph AC2AE - Work progresses on our options for network routes to our Repeater, Ryan W4EAE has been doing a phenomenal job down in South Carolina getting all the software and hardware to communicate between each other. We have a YSF server that can be accessed with a DMR HT using a Hotspot (like a ZumSpot, or a JumboSpot, or a NanoSpot, or an OpenSpot1 or 2), for which there are instructions on our website. Ryan is putting the finishing touches on a new XLX server that will allow access by Hotspot on either a DMR radio OR a D-Star radio. Details will be available on our Club website in the near future. Other options for linking our repeater are being discussed, and when they are further fleshed out this will be brought up at a future General Meeting. Our generous members, Joe AC2AE, Mitch N2RGA, and Ryan W4EAE have been using their own hardware for this ‘proof of concept’, and since we cannot expect a few members to be too burdened by this generosity, Joe AC2AE will write up a list of hardware owned by individual Club members, what part they play in our Repeater links, and cost and source for the club to pay for replacement parts. We will then assess the costs and consider a schedule for the purchase and replacement of member’s personal hardware. Emergency battery power was discussed, and it was decided to use deep cycle lead acid marine type batteries which are approximately 65-75 Amp-Hour capacity, or a slighter larger 90 Amp Hour one that costs about \$100—If we decide that this capacity is not enough, additional lead acid batteries can be attached parallel to increase power capacity. Joe and Mitch will look into our Repeaters built-in ability to trickle charge and switch into backup power mode. Battery purchases will be determined at some time in the future. On the next visit to the Repeater a new series of voice announcements, performed by a professional voice announcer will be uploaded into our Repeater

controller.

2 Meter Report—Richard KA2KDQ reported that the InfoNet is less attended during these summer months. 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. 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 intermittent non-participation. This past TechNet our intrepid Net Control Operator attempted a 'warm up' discussion on the basic principles of half wave dipoles, when no one was initially asking any questions. As the TechNet went on there was some great participation from TechNet listeners. It is understood that during the summer months people have other things on their minds, but please consider dropping in on the TechNet AND PARTICIPATING—either with a topic or a question, or to just lend your experience to a question being discussed. The TechNet isn't a TV show documentary. It requires participants to make it a success.

KC2RC FusionNet—The FusionNet continues to go strong, both locally and through its Wires-X room. During the summer doldrums, the FusionNet has seen a little decrease in check-ins, but now that Labor Day is behind us, we expect activity to return and increase over time! Joe AC2AE suggested that as a kind of 'cross-promotion' Roy AC2GS do a FusionNet edition of the TechNet, some time late in October. We'll have more for you on this as it develops.

Old Business: Our next VE exam will be Sunday, September 15th, 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 76 members, our new members for August are Bryon K2JAH, Will W2ZH, Andre KD2SOK, Maria, and William!

Our 2019 Fall Club Picnic was discussed (September 22, 2019 at 12 Noon, at Manhattan Beach, rain date is October 6th). All the pertinent data is available at our website: <https://www.kingscountyradioclub.com/picnic-bbq/>.

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.

Winter Field Day 2020 was discussed. Joseph AC2AE will be managing it this year.

New Business: Joe AC2AE asked Roy AC2GS to draw up a preliminary organizational chart of the many services performed by Club members, for our Club members, as a guide for directing members to the right person. He will review it and show it at our October meeting.

Joe AC2AE suggested that we make a Club presence at the upcoming 2020 HRU January 4, 2020. Mitch N2RGA suggested we get a promotional Club 'skirt' for our Club table at the HRU, and Joe AC2AE asked Roy AC2GS

whether he can arrange for Club pencils, that are often given out to VE Examinees during our Club sponsored VE Sessions, could be obtained, to give out at the HRU.

Joe AC2AE suggested that the Club schedule more informal Club member get-togethers, like our successful summer "Saturday Night Out" gathering. He also suggested that we book the Wesley Room 6B for some Sunday (other than during our regularly scheduled VE Sessions) to have small technical sessions: Crimping? Soldering? Balun, or simple antenna construction? Anyone interested or with more ideas, let Joe know!

Simon K2FH mentioned that the **T.E.A.L. Walk/Run** would be coming up this coming Saturday, September 7th, as well as **Dan's 5K Fun Run/Walk** on next Saturday September 14. For more information go to: <https://arrl.volunteerhub.com/lp/nli>.

And Howard N2GOT mentioned that the **9/11 Tribute In Lights** are being tested for their day long use this September 11th.

At 9:20 PM the meeting was concluded.

[See you October 2nd 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, September 4th, 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)