

## MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 2017 SMARC MEETING

The Smoky Mountain Amateur Radio Club met at 7:00 PM, 01/23/17 at the USW Union Hall with Kurt, KC4NX presiding.

There were 27 members and 2 visitors present.

The visitors were: Jim Melton, KD4XG and David McCammon, KN4AER

Kurt asked those present to introduce themselves, taking turns going around the room.

Kurt mentioned that the annual SMARC membership dues are due and payable to the club treasurer. Several members renewed for 2017.

Carroll, W4PCA gave the treasurer's report. The club account at Capital Bank stands at \$2944.23 Approx \$1000.00 of that amount is in the repeater fund.

Kurt announced the next SMARC VE session will be held on March 13, 7:00 pm at the St. Andrew's Church parish hall. Kurt also reminded everyone about participating in the weekly SMARC net on the club repeater frequency of 146.655 with an alternate frequency of 146.625. Kurt encouraged participation in the net and said that volunteers are needed to serve as NCS operators. Anyone interested in being a NCS station to contact the net manager Melvin Turner, WB5KSM.

Kurt reminded everyone that the next club meeting will be February 27 and that ideas for programs for the meetings would be appreciated.

Kurt told about several members have been meeting for breakfast at the Cracker Barrel on Friday mornings around 9:00 AM. All are invited to attend.

Kurt told about the club now back to having a club monthly newsletter. Steve Carpenter, K4DXV is responsible for providing the newsletter and the first issue for this year was generated for January. Steve brought some copies available for members to take home and read. Steve sent the newsletter in color to the SMARC Google Groups via email. Kurt thanked Steve for the excellent job on the newsletter and reminded the members to send any items that could be included in future newsletter issues.

The program for the evening was provided by Carroll, W4PCA who brought his laptop PC and set it up with the club projector and screen. He showed three short video clips about grounding. One was about how to install a ground rod using water pressure in a metal tube. Another video was about installing a ground bus for station grounding and a third clip was about how the power and ground wiring comes into the main panel.

A break was taken for some coffee, soft drinks and cookies at this time. After some "eyeball" QSO's among the members, the door prize drawing was held and Jim Prather was the lucky winner of a 2107 ARRL calendar donated by Don Backys, K9UQN.

The meeting closed at 8:25 PM.