



Monthly Business Meeting March 27, 2018

Present were

Gary Anger W7GFA

Tyson Brooks KI7FXJ

Camber Bybee KB7RGX

Greg Walker KE7ZRV

Ted Ivester N7NSL

Jason Fouts W7JSN

Joel Hinshaw KD7JG

Gail Hinshaw K7KKM

Larry Wilson W7IXZ

Nancy Wilson W7IYA

Julian Pridmore-Brown KK7JX

Tyson opened the meeting at 1804.

Personnel present introduced themselves.

There was no Treasurers report.

Gary read the minutes from the February meeting. Minutes accepted with no changes other than spelling changes.

Old Business

The Gun Show

Tyson has contacted Mike Voss and informed him we are excited to participate in next year's gun show with a table set up

W7GRA Repeater

Tyson and Mike Abernathy have replaced the battery in the W7GRA repeater. Tyson has put a log book at the repeater location in which we will document any work or maintenance performed on the repeater.

Membership Drive

Larry Wilson brought in the proposed letter we will send out to licensees to generate new members. He also brought in a list of potential letter recipients. He and Joel scrubbed the list of local licensees removing those who have moved or passed away. We need to decide on which letter to send and then get the letters printed and get together to mail them out. We will need envelopes and postage. Larry handed out the proposed letter. We will need to set up a date and time for the stuffing of envelopes

Tyson was able to get a Public Service Announcement (PSA) on local 1450 AM 'Tradio' show. Cliff at the local AM station will add the club to the Community Calendar which is read daily on the air.

Tyson is also attempting to get our schedule added to the County Chamber of Commerce calendar and the Observer (local Paper) calendar.

Tyson has updated the club Facebook page from which he has received queries from possible candidates who have asked about classes.

Field Day

The ARRL annual Field Day is coming up. Ted will probably begin setting up on Wednesday or Thursday. Joel will likely set up camp on Friday before Field Day. Others present also acknowledged they may set up a day before. Dates of Field Day are 23 and 24 June 2018. Location is Bird Track Springs campsite west of La Grande Oregon USA

Tyson plans to enhance the Field Day logging network and may bring the equipment to next meeting or breakfast with the intention of testing it. He may also run a test at the campsite prior to Field Day.

The ARRL website for Field Day 2018 has been updated. Tyson has obtained a Field Day flyer that we can customize and post at various locations for publicity.

Brent Clapp is interested in producing video about the club which he can post on his site "La Grande Alive". (Brent has a local business of producing videos)

Tyson is going to get the ARRL Public Service Announcement (PSA) on the local AM station. ARRL has a prebuilt PSA as well as a video which we can put on our Facebook page
Tyson has put the 2018 Field Day event on Facebook as well.

From the Membership

Camber mentioned the recent QST article that highlighted a club that got qualified to assist Life Flight to assist in the establishment of emergency landing zones.

New Business

WB7QXU Michel Flynn contacted Tyson. Mikes daughter talked to us at the gun show and told Mike she is interested in getting licensed. One individual from Utah also contacted Tyson and inquired about becoming a W7GRA member.

Membership Drive

Tyson queried if we as an organization need to file taxes. Much discussion ensued. Gary found some old paperwork from both the state of Oregon and the IRS and will look into it

Tyson asked what we can be doing to bring our membership up, or how to be more beneficial to our members. One idea was to help in the distribution of W7 area QSL cards. That is already handled at the regional level

We discussed the possibility of obtaining volume discounts from vendors as a club, if we were to place bulk orders

Tyson passed out a list of rebates available from various sources.

ARES

There will be an ARES Training session on 4-14-2018. Participation is requested. Time 0900 to 1300. Jason has more information.

Upcoming Events

Tyson received an email about Cycle Oregon, sounds like they are looking for radio operators. No response from this entity when Tyson asked for more information.

SEAPAC swap meet will be from June 1 to June 3

We discussed the possibility of setting up a station downtown La Grande Oregon for Crazy Days. Tyson will pursue.

Comment from Jason, W7JSN

Per Jason we still have an open offer to put up a repeater on Mount Emily. There is power and internet connectivity. Access to the site in winter would be difficult, most present tonight agreed it would be good in that it would increase our range. There may be a lot involved in installing the repeater on Mt Emily. We may need a higher quality antenna. We would need to coordinate the move and sure the .980 frequency would not interfere with any other existing repeaters Jason will find out what the county would require of us, and potential costs involved.

Presentation

At 1919 Joel began a presentation on some equipment he brought in. He did an excellent presentation on a Transmatch.

He brought one in that Graham Hicks had built years ago, along with the schematics. Joel discussed antenna resonance and how a Transmatch reduces the SWR problem with rigs that do not have a built-in antenna tuner. Very informative.

Larry added additional information which really generated interest among those present.

Our meeting adjourned at 1938.

Submitted by Gary Anger, W7GFA

Original submitted via club email.

Formatted and edited for publishing, Tyson Brooks KI7FXJ