

Solivita Radio Club

Meeting of Thursday, November 19, 2020

President: Reg Thomas, KD8THB

Vice President: Jerry Sheldon, W9MET

Secretary: Mike Urban, KD4PTT

Club License Trustee: Jeff Saly, WA4LLL

In addition to the SRC Officers, the following Club Members were present:

Doug Bennett, WB8ZNL
Paul Bresnowitz, N2TTR
CJ Chiappone, KO4CCB
Wayne Schoeffle, KJ4FXB
Marty Strakhovsky, WA1GVH
Kenny Zail, KZ4MTV
Norm Zubick, KD2ICH

The SRC general meeting was held on Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020 at 7pm, located in the Art Gallery.

Pres. Reg Thomas, meeting called to order at 7:01pm.

With the minutes of the previous meeting having been forwarded to the Membership via email, a motion to accept the minutes as written was called for.

Motion to accept the minutes by CJ Chiappone. Seconded by Paul Bresnowitz. Call for vote by all present, was accepted.

Business/Activity/Comments, concerns:

Jerry, W9MET referenced the fact that we (Solivita Radio Club) need to obtain a copy of the death certificate (Lauren Mathews), to be able to proceed with the transition (w/FCC) of the License and frequency assignment/transfer for the current Repeater(s) for the Clubs legal assigned use. Jeff, WA4LLL (designated Club License Trustee) will obtain the certificate.

Wayne, KJ4FXB stated that Mrs. Mathews has provided CERT with a copy of Lauren Mathews death certificate.

An announcement was made to inform all members of the availability to the "The Library" that has been collected containing numerous technical/informative Amateur Radio books/magazine. All of which are available for "check-out" by the membership. Check with Jerry for further info/availability.

Doug, WB8ZNL and Marty, WA1GVH contributed to the "Hat Fund".

Reg brought up the Club event of the 1st Fox Hunt by the Club held in October. And then proceeded to announce the winner of this event, Mike Urban, KD4PTT as being the first to locate/find Jerry, W9MET and his "Fox" transmitter.

Mike was presented with a Certificate of Recognition for his successful efforts. A photo was taken, which may become part of a future Club article in the Solivita Reflections. And then... the crowd cheered! Yaa!!

Marty, WA1GVH suggested the idea of rotating the position of NET Control held each evening (Mon-Fri @ 5pm, freq: 146.580 simplex).

Discussion: Jerry, W9MET historically has been the Net Control for the SRC NET each evening. However there have been occasions where Jerry was not available and/or late to sign-in (due to unforeseen circumstances). Generally, someone would take up the torch, or not and the NET would stumble along with whom ever signed in.

Recommendations were to rotate the Net Control among volunteers, each taking one day of the week. This would lessen the burden on any one person.

The idea was accepted, and volunteer Net Controllers were identified as: Jerry, Mon; Marty, Tue; Paul, Wed; Norm, Thu; and Jeff, Fri. If the designated control op doesn't show – just throw your call out and say "Listening" and go from there.

There was further discussion regarding the access key for the Tower.

Wayne, KJ4FXB who is also the Lead of the Solivita CERT group was asked by Reg for key(s) be provided to the SRC for the purpose of accessing the Tower (locations of the Repeaters and associated antenna(s) and equipment) for the operational maintenance/repair/upkeep/tuning, of the Repeater systems.

Jeff, WA4LLL (Club License Trustee) provided comments and justification for the Club Trustee and other Club members who would require access to the Repeater(s) for maintenance purposes.

At-this-time, it was requested to set a date and time for the principles to meet at the Tower for access to the Repeater systems. Conduct further inspections on the condition and functionality of the GMRS Repeater, which are used for CERT operations.

A Board meeting of all Club Officers was held on Nov. 10, 2020. At which time it was discussed that the Club and CERT would benefit in our cooperative organizations with a Liaison to facilitate communications between CERT and SRC. The Board designated Mike, KD4PTT as the Liaison.

Reg suggested the Club should attempt to have a greater presence within Solivita. Reg would like to identify any persons with Web Design experience/talent to set up web pages for the SOL-HOA web page and also for QRZ web page.

Wayne, KJ4FXB agreed to take on the SOL-HOA (private, Solivita) web page. This web page may contain Club Call-Sign; Members; Activities, etc.

Paul, N2TTR will look into doing a web page to be included with QRZ.com. This web page would be directed more to the identity of the Solivita Radio Club; it's call-sign and Club purpose.

The Board is establishing a Club Calendar of Events. The current version of the Calendar of Events was provided to the membership via email from the post Board Meeting report.

A brief discussion of monthly events included:

Sign-up sheet for a tour to members clandestinely installed antenna arrays and/or configurations.

All those interested in participating (8 members at the meeting signed up), will meet/gather at the Freedom Park parking lot near the Ball Field on Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 11:00am. There will be an attempt to map out our route, depending on address locations.

A suggestion for the Club to have a Christmas/Holiday gathering, members and significant other, to be held in lieu of the December monthly meeting on Dec 17th. Maybe small finger food/ cookies and any other appropriate treats... non-alcoholic beverages. Location: The Art Gallery (as it being the Clubs reserved meeting facility).

Most present disagreed to having such a "close proximity" gathering due to the COVID19 situation we are presently in. Therefore, it's a NO ON THE HOLIDAY GATHERING. Maybe, next year! We can only hope.

January: Jeff, WA4LLL who is a Flight Instructor at a near-by public airport in Bartow, is suggesting and offering the opportunity for those interested in an Aeronautical DX flight.

The flights (limited to max 3 flights) would be able to take 2-3 ppl (Load weight dependent), flight time approx.: 30-40 minutes. Would provide the opportunity for those wanting to make QSO's from the air with their HT's.

Please be mindful of the fact... It will NOT be possible to maintain the recommended "Social Distance" within the aircraft; Masks will be required by ALL (Pilot: Jeff excepted – has to maintain comms during flight). The Cost would be approximately \$35-\$45/pp.

ATT, there are 3-4 ppl that have stated their interest to Jeff for the Flights. Anyone interested as well should make their interest know to Jeff at their earliest convenience.

Winter Field Day: To be held January 30/31, 2021. Plans are to reserve one of the Pavilions at Freedom Park for setting up and operation/participation in the event. Organizational detail to follow at a later date.

February 2021: Event – HamCation – Orlando. Look for details on ARRL.com.

Reg: Identified to the Club about a place called: Hontoon State Park, where there is a portion of the park where there is an island, for an interesting camp/ham radio location. It's like POTA/IOTA all in one. Pontoon boat access, cabins (about \$35.00/pp).

FOR SALE: Marty, WA1GVH is offering for sale a 2m Base Station; YEASU FT-3000R, includes program software and cables. Contact personally for further info.

New Business:

CJ, KO4CCB suggested the idea for the Club to maintain a "Petty Cash" fund for incidental expenses. With discussion, it was not resolved as to whether to have or not have such funds and/or at what dollar amount to maintain in the fund. Further evaluations pending.

Jerry, W9MET suggested the Club should consider entering into the various Solivita Community Parade Event(s), i.e., Mardi Gras, Spring, & other holiday events. Decorating a Golf cart with a Ham Radio theme. Interest and further actions TBD at a later date.

With no further business, Reg motioned for adjournment, seconded by CJ, approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm

73's Mike, KD4PTT Secretary