

NEWPORT COUNTY RADIO CLUB



Meeting Minutes September 8, 2014

The meeting was called to order by President MacLean at 7:10 PM. By count, 16 members and 1 guest were in attendance. Minutes of the prior meeting in July were approved as posted on the website.

With Dave Brown's photos of Julian Plowright, N1UHP, showing in the background, Willy mentioned his passing, and presented a table full of radio gear (FT8800, MC60, TM-281, Elk Antenna, etc), the sale of which would benefit Clair, Julian's wife. Interested parties should contact Willy.

Two new members, Stephen Cote, KA1MHA (one of our KVH hosts), and Ed Whelan, W1WJE, were voted in by the membership, bringing the total to 65 members.

Jim Sammons gave a review of this summer's Narragansett Bay Island events, which was quite successful. Nearly 2000 total QSOs were made using a battery powered 100 watt rig and a ¼ wave vertical grounded in seawater using several lengths of baseboard-heat pipe. Two of the islands, Hope, and Dutch, were activated for the first time, gaining official island designations of RI018S, and RI017S respectively. Beavertail was activated twice. Gould, Prudence, Hope and Dutch were activated once. Dutch Island was wildly successful, with 566 QSOs in the log.

Jack Garforth mentioned that the next exam session is Sept 13, at the Middletown Baptist Church, beginning at 9:00 AM. Bob Beatty mentioned that the next Technician Class will be held from 7:00 PM until 9:30 PM on six consecutive Tuesdays beginning October 7th at the Portsmouth Fire Station, with an exam on Nov. 18th.

Bob Beatty reviewed the upcoming Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) event, October 17 to 19 at Glen Park. About 20 Boy Scouts and a half-dozen Cub Scouts will be attending, working on their Radio Merit Badge, and making as many HF and VHF contacts as possible. Rob White will be reaching out for volunteers to staff the radios during the weekend, and those not able to attend are reminded that by just monitoring the repeater during the day, they can help the scouts make contacts.

John Mills gave the financial report for the club, and both the income and balance sheets were posted on the website.

Bob Beatty gave a presentation on CubeSat technology, detailing how this small satellite technology has brought the Amateur Satellite Service back from the brink of death, and how simple it is to receive telemetry from AO-73. The presentation has been posted on the website.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM

Respectfully submitted, Bob Beatty, WB4SON, Secretary