



MINUTES OF BCARS CLUB MEETING

Thursday, 1 September 2016

A meeting of the Bedford County Amateur Radio Society came to order at 1930 hours within Room 303 "EOC" on the third floor of the Bedford County Courthouse Building.

- In attendance were: WA3UXP, K3QNT, KC3AFO, W3DRW, KE3ZT, WB3JEK, KB3VZC, KC3HKZ, KB3DFZ, KC3CMF, KC3CMI, KC3DNB, KC3FPA, KC3HQV, KC3HQW.

Meeting was called to order by President Kenny Burtnett – WB3JEK. Kenny declared a quorum and requested that K3QNT read the August 2016 minutes. Motion to approve was made by KC3CMF and seconded by WA3UXP – Approved all in favor.

Treasurer's Report presented by KC3DNB.

Steve discussed various checks received and checks issued, including (NGV) Van Repair, Fuel, QSL and miscellaneous reimbursements.

Ending balances:

Petty Cash	50.00
Checking Account:	2,873.17
Savings Account:	1,769.01

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Total: **\$4,692.35**

Motion to approve: KC3CMF - Seconded: K3QNT
Approved all in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

WB3JEK thanked and congratulated the VE Team for another 100% successful Ham in a Day. Present were new licensees, Paul Fisher – KC3HQW, Technician Class and Hunter Price -KC3HQV, Technician Class.

Kenny also congratulated the members who put together the **N3B Special Event station**. The well publicized event resulted in CW and SSB contacts from all over the country. The event commemorated the first transatlantic telegraph message sent in between two heads of state; President James Buchanan and Queen Victoria of England. A special message drafted and transmitted by K3QNT from the Bedford County Commissioners to GB3RS at Bletchley Park Communications Station in Bedfordshire, UK. Operators on the UK side included the General Manager of the Great Britain Radio Society, Steve Thomas, M1ACB.

Public Image

WB3JEK also recognized those who participated in the Bedford County Bike Ride event at Shawnee Park. President Burtnett reported that during the Shawnee Bike Event, the representation by BCARS was tainted by some unfortunate and pejorative remarks that were made over the air by a BCARS member regarding the unprofessional management of the event. Suggestions were also made by the same member, again over the repeater, that the event was poorly organized and that the sponsor, the Bedford Chamber of Commerce, should have had some licensed ham operators among their membership. Kenny reminded us that remarks such as these are unacceptable and reflect poorly on the membership and our mission as a whole. It also impairs our ability to provide service to community organizations. President Burtnett urged members in the future, to refrain from making such remarks over the repeater. We should never air our laundry over such public device so easily heard by anyone with a VHF scanner.

Editor's Note: According to FCC Regulations Part 97 and Part 73, The following regulation prohibits re-broadcast of any or all municipal or emergency communications heard on a scanner or other device and applies to Amateur Radio and Commercial Broadcast Facilities

“Section 705 of the Communications Act provides that: No person not being authorized by the sender shall intercept any radio communication and divulge, broadcast or publish the existence, contents, substance, purport, effect, or meaning of such intercepted communication to any person. 47 U.S.C. § 605(a). The penalties for violating this section are severe: a fine of not more than \$2000, imprisonment, or both or, where such violation is “willful and for purposes of direct or indirect commercial advantage or private financial gain,” a fine of up to \$50,000 and imprisonment of not more than two years for the first such conviction and up to \$100,000 and five years for subsequent convictions. In addition, the statute provides for a private civil remedy to any person aggrieved by a violation of this section.”

BCARS Van

President Burtnett directed that in the future, that van use will be approved at a regular BCARS meeting 30 days in advance of any event where the van will be in use. Furthermore, van users will be required to re-fuel and clean the vehicle as well as make sure the battery switch is off, doors locked, radios off and in the same condition as when the van was picked up. These common sense procedures will ensure the van is ready for the next user. Several members present suggested a short training session may be appropriate for all who plan to field the van.

KC3HKZ suggested a “Pre-Flight” type check list for those who plan to use the (NGV) Van.

KB3DFZ – reported on the heavy paper glossy QSL certificates for **N3B** Special Event Station.

KC3CMF- advised that half of the (NGV) van's HVAC is now operational. He and **WB3JEK** will continue on the repair project. Mark added that this job done in a commercial garage would cost several thousand dollars. He added that the new “Walmart” bound General and Extra Class study guides are now complete.

WB3JEK Approved the new promotional QSL cards purchased by the club. He suggested that members take several and use them to promote the work of BCARS. Kenny recommended that all of the reimbursement invoices that were submitted during the meeting be approved. A motion was made by **WA3UXP** and Seconded by **KC3CMF**. All in favor.

K3QNT reviewed the publicity on print and radio as a result of the **N3B Special Event Station**. News articles appeared in the Bedford Gazette, QST News Letter and all four of the Cessna Stations. Lloyd thanked **KC3AFO** and **WA3UXP**, in particular for the excellent support and coverage. **K3QNT** also read a thank you letter sent to the Schellsburg VFW post for their donation of \$100.00.

NEW BUSINESS

Activities Director

KC3CMF urged that the club begin using the Activities Director per our by-laws. **KE3ZT** was elected to perform this function. In the future all requests for outside public service events will be routed through Steve **KE3ZT** for coordination and approval. **K3QNT** submitted paperwork to Steve for a future BCARS Drill exercise with UPMC.

WB3JEK advised that a new antenna and hardline for 146.7900 is required at the Martin Hill Site. He requested that **K3QNT** contact Comm-PROS in Altoona to obtain a preliminary estimate for installation and parts costs. He added that this must be done ASAP prior to the onset of winter. **K3QNT** stated he will do this immediately after the holiday. Lloyd will coordinate with Dave Cubbison about this request.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2021 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lloyd -

Lloyd Bankson Roach – **K3QNT**
BCARS -Secretary