

Cascade Amateur Radio Enthusiasts (CARE), KG7JPA March 2017 Meeting:

Date: Tuesday March 14, 2017

Time: 18:30 hours

Venue: New Far East Restaurant, 236 N Front St, Medford, OR

President Joe, AF7GN, presided.

Visitors: We had several visitors tonight. Apologies for not catching the names.

New Members: Please welcome Charlie Albrecht, a General. Charlie is currently taking our licensing classes. Charlie's wife, Marie, came tonight also. Welcome also Robert Bense, KI7EQV, a Tech. Robert's wife, Holly, was also at the meeting. Bruce Cook KG7TUO, also joined. Greetings Charlie, Robert and Bruce. We look forward to sharing good times.

Secretary's Report: The report of February's meeting was accepted as filed.

Treasurer's Report: Debbie, KI7ENG, reported that the club's account was redone as a non-profit on 2/10/2017. There are three separate funds: current club fund @ \$1495.81; field day fund @ \$119.39; and class fund @ \$207.99. The total usable club fund amount is \$1168.42.

There was no further old business.

Joe called for nominations to fill the vacant Member at Large position. Joseph Clark, W3JVC, Randy Johnson, KG7RMS, and Johnny Jones, WA6RHK, were presented. The election will be held at the April meeting.

Tonight's radio raffle was won by Bill, W7QMU. Judy, KA7OFM, Bill's wife, was chosen by Johnny, WA6RHK, to do the drawing. Judy didn't peek, honest. Bill's car can now host a new 75W radio. Congratulations, Bill.

Tonight's raffle participation paid for the radio Bill won and created an excess amount of \$255. Debbie, KI7ENG, will deposit this money in the Field Day Fund account. It was decided by the club that next month's raffle excess will also go to the Field Day Fund.

Nikki, KI7LUD, was chosen by the C.A.R.E. Board as the Ham of the Quarter. It was noted that Nikki's enthusiasm and participation in the club has led directly to the club's growth. President Joe, AF7GN, made the presentation to Nikki. Congratulations Nikki. Let's all keep the bar set high.

Joe, AF7GN, announced a Homebrew contest. He chose three members to be this month's participants to come up with the winning homebrew shack LED nightlight. Joe issued each a sheet of rules and a bag containing necessary parts. The club will vote next meeting on which homebrew wins. Good luck, and good brewing.

It was announced that Sara Rubrecht, Emergency Manager for Jackson County Sheriff's Department, will attend the May meeting. Sara, KG7RMG, has the responsibility of maintaining JCARES, the Jackson County ARES organization. She will be seeking participation from our members to support JCARES.

Additional instructors are urgently needed to assist with the CARE Class and training sessions for other requesting organizations. If you have the desire to assist, contact President Joe.

The club approved the \$200 expenditure for this year's liability insurance coverage.

The valley's grandpa club, RVARC, has entertained possibility of sharing Field Day exercises with CARE. Joe asked that we give the idea more thought and come back in April with recommendations. RVARC conducts Field Day at the Ashland Science Works' grounds. They have ranked very high state and nationally in contesting during the weekend.

Bob Earl, KD6UIH, brought news of the contribution of an antenna mast used by a recent Silent Key. The family is giving the mast to a ham who can make serious use of it. Contact Bob if interested.

Johnny, WA6RHK, reminded members of the CARE Net radio hour which is held every Monday evening at 1900hrs. Tune to 147.100, +dup, 136.5 tone.

President Joe, AF7GN, called for a break before tonight's program.

Program: Joseph, W3JVC, spoke this evening on QRP operations. Joseph is an active low wattage CW operator. QRP use calls for transmissions using 10W or less. QRPP is an approach which calls for < 1W of power. JP654 and Wisper transmissions can communicate with 200mW or less.

QRP operations calls for efficiency in antenna design, direction, feedline, and understanding propagation. QRP equipment is small, portable and light weight. Hoist your antenna with a Shakespeare fishing pole and you are on the air. Kits for under \$10 can get you a 0.7W transceiver. Check out youkits.com and electraft.com. There are a few contest groups for QRP: SOTA, Summits on the Air; and Fauna and Flora, World Wide Parks on the Air.

Joseph recommends learning CW. This opens up quality QRP operation using less bandwidth and much, much less power.

An excellent program, Joseph, thank you.

Bruce, KG7TUO shared a design for a foldable PVC/welding wire 2m antenna.

The meeting was adjourned at 2010hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Duncan, N7RFD
Secretary