



Piscataquis Amateur Radio Club

Secretary's Report for the October 22nd, 2019 Meeting

In attendance were: WA1JMM-George, Karen, K1DAE-Debbie E., W1KMC-Kevin, WA1PBR-Ben, KB1WRZ-Dave, Rob
GUESTS: None

Piscataquis Amateur Radio Club president George Dean (WA1JMM) convened the meeting at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The secretary's accepted as posted on k1pq.club/meeting_minutes and treasurer's report was read and accepted. Treasury had \$ 1,571.39 and Emera bill of \$31.03 paid

Ben-WA1PBR did a presentation on AM radio station history "border blasters" which were AM radio stations just over the border in Mexico used to broadcast any subject not acceptable to the FRC (Federal Radio Commission), the predecessor to the FCC (Federal Communications Commission)

Station XERA was the most popular border blaster licensed to broadcast at 150,000 Watts which was then increased 500,00 and finally 1Million Watts (1 Megawatt!, Yikes)

Clear Channel stations like WBZ 1030AM in Boston, MA is one that no other stations are near their frequency. {Kevin's note here: WBZ last I knew was 10,000 watts during the day and 50,000 at night. I could be wrong here though.}

Station XERA was set up by Dr. John Brinkley. Dr. Binkley was described as a "Quack" whose specialty was male reproductive tissue transplants. Brinkley also ran for the governor of Kansas.

His practice extended over 8 states. His medical license was pulled by the AMA (American Medical Association) and his FRC license was also pulled. He then moved to Mexico and founded Station XERA. Dr Brinkley eventually died broke

KB1WEA not present so no reports on the N1BUG or K1PQ repeaters. W1KMC- Kevin said that the computer running Echolink needed to be reset. He can tell when something is awry because the CW ID of the repeater sounds like a spark gap CW transmission.

OLD BUSINESS

Breakfast meeting was attended by 9 persons (including Ben, who left early) – The consensus of having these meetings was once a quarter.

NEW BUSINESS

Christmas Party at Elaine's will be either the 1st or 2nd Monday in December. George will check with Elaine.

Elves on the air will be on Saturday December 7th between 4-7 pm

Field Day 2020- David Flaherty had offered his house but George says it was not suitable. George is still looking at the PD parking lot

Hiram Percy Maxim contest George did not make any, but Dave-KB1WRZ had made 4 contacts

JOTA (Jamboree on the Air) was last weekend (10/13 & 14) – disappointed reaction when mentioned.

Ben did the VHF contest and made 11 contacts. 8 on 2meters and 3 using other modes.

The half Marathon/Full Marathon in Millinocket – will we be doing this? No information so far.

Greenville Dog Sled Race – No Information on this yet either

Net Control: 10/23: Dave-KB1WRZ – 10/30: George-WA1JMM – 11/06: George-WA1JMM – 11/13: George-WA1JMM – 11/20: TBD (Bill-KB1WEA)

Kevin brought in some Raspberry Pi's he uses for hotspots and did a small presentation on them – to which these devices can also be configured for AllStarLink and Echolink nodes, which is the new project he is working on now.

Acknowledgements:

Next Meeting will be November 26th at 19:00 (7:00pm) at the Milo Town Office.

ADDENDUM:

Respectfully submitted by K1DAE Debbie Ellis – Secretary.