

Minutes 03/2022

President Gary K8JOK started introductions right after 7PM, about a dozen of us in person and half that via Zoom (set up by Derek TYG). This is the group:

Gary	K8JOK	Norm	WAOJYD
Keith	KE0AEP	George	KDONME
& Barb	KE0EGG	& JoD	KDORNC
Don	WOAF	Rick	KAORLR
Bruce	NOBHB	Derek	W0TYG
Chris	KF0FBL	Suzan.	KE0WYL
Bill	KD0FJR	Craig	KD0YTI
Greg	NOGR	Rich	WAOZQG
Paul	WB0GXD	(17)	

March Hamfest

This was a major success. Perhaps a lot of guys were tired of staying home and wanted to get out. A hundred and twenty of them at least. (Normal attendance figures are 95 to 100.)

Having Les KFK of D&L Antenna is a big draw, but the choice of a five hundred dollar Yaesu FT5 H/T as a door prize may have been a factor too. Leonard KDOQFE of Omaha took that home. Profit, rarely over 500, came in at \$803 this year.

Emergency Service

Rick RLR is still working out Pres Gary JOK's challenge to get ARES started again with 5 or more volunteers working 2 or more events this calendar year. Rick says you can play a part even without leaving home, but also wants guys who will be mobile. To be serious you have to take 2 courses on Emergency Communications.

Possible events where we might assist are major power outages, or things like the annual parade down Main and Pearl Streets in Council Bluffs.

Rick heard of a service called 'Tango Tango' using cell phones interfaced with radio. It's a pricey setup, but an outfit in Florida offers grants. Gary JOK, drawing on his experience in the military, repeated "The Mission drives the gear." Radios in simplex mode can cover the one mile area of the downtown parade.

Old Business

After thinking about it for a month, we decided to pay the \$156 yearly rent on our P. O. Box. Greg NOGR said if we ever change, the Trustee's address would be the one to use.

Field Day

Keith AEP said #1 item to decide is location. Rich ZQG again offered his place, but we also discussed Fairmont Park, Manawa at the Boy Scout (not the island) camp ground, McClelland city park and more.

ZQG said he wants to run 220 FM simplex and 6M SSB on F/Day. Norm JYD asked "Who's on 220?" More than half those present raised hands. Keith AEP and Rick RLR are tasked with site reviews.

Norm JYD, noting Lakin Foundation said they don't need donations for our meeting site, has canceled his motion to offer a token.

New Business

Rea NOREA has asked to be relieved of his position as **Station Trustee** for health reasons. New member Chris FBL was nominated and voted in by acclamation. Rea was also the ARL liason for VE testing. Greg NOGR will accept title of Interim Liason to ARL.

Club liability insurance is available through ARL but you have to assure them at least 51% of your members are ARL members. We passed a motion to pay it nonetheless. Note: We're 52%.

Rick RLR has a source for club shirts and hats. Keith AEP said we've had this done before and didn't find a whole lot of guys interested.

Don WOAF has a list of railroad stations in the area suitable for activation in the July/August time frame when Iowa Railroads On The Air event is active.

Meeting closed at 8:28 PM, hour and a half.

Minutes by Club Sec'y, Rich WAOZQG

Note: Program was on Power Poles by K8JOK.

Power Pole pgm

Club President Gary K8JOK brought in a variety of Anderson Power Pole examples including the forty five (\$45) dollar crimping tool, and three bags of (\$25 ea.) connectors in 15, 30, and 45 Amp sizes. They make 'em in sizes up to and over 275 Amps (for a golf cart battery), but the sizes Gary brought all have the same size plastic with different size contacts inside (primarily for different size wires).



The connectors are rated for 10,000 cycles in and out, but if you unplug them 'hot' the rating drops to 250 cycles. Turn your stuff off before pulling the plug apart.

Shown in the picture above are a couple of uses you might not think of right away, 1 becomes 2, or a 3 way all hooked together. Also a 12V plug for an automotive USB charger.

An important benefit is that whether you use the 15, 30, or 45 Amp connectors, they will all plug into each other because the plastic housing is the same size.

End Fed Antenna

Don WOAF brought in a little Show And Tell for our March meeting. He has one of those Chinese HF radios that runs 5W with a BNC output.



For quick setup Don made a 49:1 ratio balun to feed an End Fed wire that works 40 thru 10M. It's wound on a T47 core no larger than a dime so it won't take much more than the 5W output of the radio, but does make a pocket size package that will do wonders.

You may see it at one of those Saturday morning things at Lake Manawa (just South of Casey's).