

# Owensboro Amateur Radio Club

## Minutes of the January 16, 2007 Meeting

President Steve Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:58 p.m. following dinner at Ryan's Family Steakhouse, 4500 Frederica Street, Owensboro, Kentucky.

President Morgan introduces his wife, Mia, and recognized the following guests: Paul Vaughn, KF4ACQ, and his wife, Ricki. Paul is the emergency coordinator for Hancock County. Also recognized were visitor Joyce Tate, N4NXH, and new member, Gayle Young, who will be taking the Technician exam at the OARC VE test session on Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>.

Todd Carpenter introduced his wife, Dorothy, and two children, Allison and T.J. Mark Osborne's guests were his wife, Bianca, and children, Serena and Wren. Jim Mason's guest was his wife, Janie. Other guests included Jeremy Payne, KI4SAR; Donna Johnson; and Roger Rhoades.

President Morgan gave recognition and thanks to all of the 2006 officers for their service and efforts during the past year: Schley Cox, President; Kevin Simmons, Vice-President; and Mark Osborne, Treasurer.

The president's remarks included his goals and direction for the club in 2007 which include visitation to and cooperation with other clubs in the area. He reported that a delegation from the OARC visited the monthly meeting of the Hancock Amateur Radio Association on January 11 at Hawesville. President Morgan talked about reaching out to other Amateur Radio licensees in the area and getting them more active in the hobby. . He stated that the club is a multi-tasking group with no singular purpose; e.g., emergency communications, and that the club needs to address all of the membership's interests. He mentioned that the February issue of QST magazine contains a couple of articles regarding the FCC's recent decision to drop the Morse code requirement for all classes of Amateur Radio licenses, and that the decision has drawn much debate, both pro and con, from the ham community.

President Morgan distributed a survey that he asked to be returned either by mail or at the next meeting. The survey queries members about what aspects of Amateur Radio they are interested in, as well as which topics they would like to see on the program for future meetings. He also asked members to indicate on the survey if they would be willing to present a program at a meeting this year. He stated that he would present the program at the February meeting on the National Weather Service's terminal forecasts and how to interpret the data.

President Morgan asked incoming officers if they had any comments or goals for the year. Secretary Jim Mason said that he would like to concentrate on membership by contacting all the licensees in and near Daviess County and inviting to join the OARC.

Vice-President Harvey Bowlds asked the members to let him know if they have suggestions for how the OARC repeater can be improved.

Hancock County Emergency Coordinator and member of the Hancock Amateur Radio Association, Paul Vaughn, suggested that the two clubs consider some sort of dual membership between the two organizations. The secondary membership could be offered at a discount to those interested in joining both groups. No motion was made regarding the proposal.

The minutes of the December 19, 2006 as submitted by Mark Osborne were read by Secretary Jim Mason. A motion to accept the minutes as read was made by Bob Spears and approved without opposition.

Treasurer Max Douglas stated the balance of the club's checking account on January 10, 2007 was \$2,414.80. A list of receipts and disbursements for the month was given which noted that receipts in the form of membership dues totaled \$130 and disbursements approved at the December meeting and paid during the month were \$120, which was a net gain of \$10 over December's balance of \$2,404.80.

Under old business, President Morgan mentioned that at the December meeting the club authorized a donation of \$50 to the ARRL's Broadband Over Power Line (BPL) legal fund which has not yet been paid. For the benefit of guest and newer hams, he explained what BPL is and how it can cause interference to Amateur Radio as well as public service frequencies.

President Morgan announced the following committee appointments:

OARC ARES Group - Jim Mason, chairman  
Jake Jennings  
Steve Morgan

Repeater Committee - Harvey Bowlds, chairman  
Jim Hunt  
Walter Smola  
Max Douglas, repeater trustee

For new business, President Morgan, indicated that he was considering other meeting locations to possibly replace the Owensboro-Daviess County Regional Airport board room as the club's regular meeting place and that an announcement would be made before the February meeting date.

President Morgan asked what the club's wishes were as to participating in Field Day 2007. Jim Mason moved that the club participate in Field Day this year, and the motion was seconded by Bob Spears. The motion passed. Following the passage of the motion, a discussion was held on the merits of conducting a 1A versus 2A entry, and that decision

will be determined at a later date. Max Douglas volunteered to act as chairman of the Field Day Committee again this year.

Jim Mason announced that Jack Wilson, K4SAC, has been diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease and that a complicated surgery is expected soon to remove three malignant masses that have been located in his chest. Membership will be kept informed of Jack's progress as he progresses through the surgery and ensuing chemotherapy and radiation treatments.

Walt Shipman noted that the Tullahoma, TN Hamfest will be held on March 17th. President Morgan said that the annual Cave City Hamfest will be on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Kevin Simmons, District 3 Emergency Coordinator, said that anyone interested in participating in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) should be trained and that completion of National Incident Management System (NIMS) courses IS-100 and IS-700 will be required of all Amateurs who will be working with anything dealing with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). EMA offices that use non-certified volunteers will be in jeopardy of losing Federal funding.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jim Mason at 8:00 p.m.

Members in attendance included:

Jim Mason, W4RCX  
Walt Shipman, KI4OYH  
Gayle Young  
Kevin Simmons, KI4JXN  
Mark Osborne, K4LB  
David Addington, KA4NIP  
Steve Morgan, W4NHO  
Todd Carpenter, N9YSQ  
Bob Spears, AA4RL  
Harvey Bowllds, WA4IJQ  
Max Douglas, W4VJV  
James Hunt, KA4FWI  
David Heath, N9GYB

Respectfully submitted by  
Jim Mason, Secretary