



PATOKA VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2025 – 6:00pm EST
Jasper Public Library – Jasper, IN

- The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by President Mike Vogler.
- Ron Hickman offered a prayer, and the pledge of allegiance was recited.
- Attendance – 14 licensed members and 5 guests (sign-in sheet attached)
- President Mike Vogler welcomed all of our guests and re-iterated our mission - “To recruit, foster, educate, and mentor amateur radio”

MEETING PRESENTATION

- Like last month there was no “technical presentation” because President Vogler wanted to review and once again discuss how we can grow our ham radio club. To refresh everyone’s memory, Mike Goodpaster read a portion of the minutes from last month’s meeting where it reviewed the ideas discussed to grow the club. The following items were all new topics that were discussed:
 - Foxhunt – Mike, K9MLG, volunteered to head up putting together a fox hunt. The first hunt will be for club members only to get our feet wet and then we will host another hunt with invitations going to other area clubs and possibly local high school electronics/robotics clubs.
 - It was mentioned that the club put on a class where anyone wanting to obtain their ham radio technician license could participate. The club could host a technician class that would last approximately six weeks with a test day at the end. Current licensed hams would also be invited to attend if they would like a refresher. President Vogler said that he contacted Fred Rouston, who is a Jasper High School science/electronics/robotics teacher, about getting younger people involved in ham radio. Mr. Rouston stated that the students look at it as “What’s in it for me” and stated that most of them would probably be interested in the digital side of ham radio.
 - President Vogler stresses that older people need to keep active in their elder years and that includes exercising their brains. Ham radio is a way to keep mentally active. Don’t just sit around when you get older. We have a great hobby and it is a way to keep active.

OFFICER REPORTS

- President
 - Mike mentioned that the club had lost three net control operators and gained two more. Both Steve Hemmer & Mike Goodpaster will help call the weekly nets. President Vogler stated that if anyone else would like to help call the nets it would be much appreciated. He also mentioned that the club would like to see more people get their VE testing certifications.
 - Mike recognized members that helped the club finish 7th in the club category and 1st in Indiana for the WinterHeat contest. Bud Mann, Steve Hemmer, Lee Ferrell, Mike Maffenbeier, Mike Vogler, Mick Kamman, and Calvin Mitcham all received a hearty round of applause.
 - The ARRL Education Technology Program is already in several Indiana High Schools. If we are trying to get our foot in the door at local high schools this is something we could look into for more information.
 - While Mike was discussing ways to get the club name out into the public new PVARC member Jeff Harting suggested that if the club does any advertising that we do it through Facebook as it is some of the cheapest advertising available and is can be targeted to a specific audience.
 - Gary Fritz could not be at the meeting but did leave a list of several items with President Vogler in reference to expanding the club. Mike mentioned that our club could do a lot of these items in an effort to expand the club, however, just a few people cannot do everything. It takes more people stepping up to help with these items and to make the club grow.
 - Mike also mentioned that if club members build anything at home, such as Calvin's radio project from the last meeting, it would be a good idea to have that member bring it to a meeting and talk some about the project.
 - Steve Hemmer volunteered at the last meeting to put together a list of who the FCC has listed as licensed hams in the surrounding counties. Mike ask everyone to go through the list before the next meeting to see if they know anyone in the last that we could send a postcard to them inviting them to our club meetings.
 - Hams Helping Hams – Mike talked about Phil Smith & Stephen Goins both have tower projects coming up this spring/summer. Mike called on other members to help both of these members out with their projects. Hams Helping Hams
 - Mike will be proposing and amendment to change our constitution where it states that membership dues are due by the end of January with a grace period to the end of February. Mike would like to change that to the dues are to be paid at the December meeting with a grace period to January 31st. Calvin Mitcham also suggested that dues be raised by five dollars to \$25 per year.
- Vice-President
 - Ron let the club know that both the Cave City & Brazil hamfests is Saturday. April 5th is the Columbus hamfest at the local high school.

- Secretary/Treasurer
 - The February 2025 meetings minutes were read and no corrections were needed.
 - The Treasurer reported that the February 2025 bank balance was \$1,498.65 and fifty-dollars is still safe in the petty cash box. Bud Mann made a motion to accept the minutes as read as well as the treasurer's report and it was seconded by Jon Potts. The motion passed without opposition.

GUESTS

- There was a total of five guests at our meeting: Adam Mann, Owen Wagner, John Kaltenbacher, Derek Libbert, and Jeff Harting. The last four filled out membership applications and all four were voted in as new members to the PVARC. The motion to accept John was made by Bud Mann and seconded by Jody Denning. The motion to accept Derek was made by Phil Smith and Seconded by Lee Ferrell. The motion to accept Jeff was made by Jody Denning and was seconded by Ron Hickman. The motion to accept Owen was made by John Kaltenbacher and seconded by Ron Hickman. All the motions were passed without opposition and a round of applause was given to the new members.

DONATIONS

\$48 was collected for the 50/50 prize. Calvin Mitcham was the winner and donated the winnings to the club treasury.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 7:34 PM by Ron Hickman , seconded by Wally Hollander. The motion passed without opposition.