

QSY Society Meeting – Tuesday May 6, 2008

Shirley, N2SKP, Don, W2PTF, Mike, KC2HEI, JB, WA2WMJ, Fred, KC2QFR, Mike, KC2BNX, Tony, W1ZMB, Dave, KC2AFK, Paul WA2JTX, Mark, KC2RAD, Dylan, KC2RMY, Nick, N2QZ, Bob, N2YYI, Kieran N2MWE

Meeting Called to order at 7:30 pm by Mike KC2BNX

Minutes from April meeting read.

Field Day – Assignments from last minutes read

WA2WMJ – Antenna's – portable tower possible, plus wire antennas.

Nick has a working functional note book ready to go, need three additional systems. N2MWE has donated his old notebook to the cause and Mike KC2BNX also has a notebook. Mark KC2RAD will bring his UPS's. WA2WMJ has generators and extension cords.

Tents – Julian has a tent for his station, we need 2 more operating tents.

Radios to be used - Icom 746 and 706 Mark IIG, 546c TENTEC

Julian states if you are not comfortable using someone else's radio then Bring your own! And cw paddles too.

Set up Friday afternoon – Wire antenna's, generator, tents, etc. Starting time approx: 2pm start. Signup sheet circulated for Setup crew: Mike KC2HEI, Tony W1ZMB, Bob N2YYI, Paul WA2JTX, Fred KC2QFR, David KC2QFS, Michael KC2BNX, Dylan KC2RMY, JB WA2WMJ

Nick asks if we need to get permission from K2QS (Charlie Spagna) for club call use.

N2QZ: Junior net on PEARL at 7 PM Weds 5/7/08

2 weeks from tonight N2QZ to speak at Troy ARA on traffic handling

Shirley reminds all to go to QSY calendar for Ham Activities

Strange antenna contest – Memorial day weekend. <http://www.n0ew.org/k0s/> has field manual and lots of info.

Mike KC2HEI has a problem with his Kenwood TS440S – a bulletin was issued that advised changing out diodes and transistors. Mike KC2BNX will take a look at it.

SHOW & TELL:

KC2BNX - QRP usable battery packs on clearance sale at some radio shacks for less than \$6: <http://www.vexrobotics.com/vex-robotics-power-pack.shtml> also did show and tell of Rockmite. Showed his own homebrew transmatch using a scraped computer supply torrad, air capacitor and switches from hamfest.

WA2JTX – brought Antique test equipment – Leeds Northrup #5410, Murray-Varley, General Radio wavemeter type 358, circa 1946.

Treasury report – Re Tony Landry Estate donation: Received \$500 from members for sale of equipment. \$698 in treasury.

50/50 – \$43 to the club Kieran N2MWE donated to club. Books donated to club by Don W2PTF, sold to members at \$12

FISTS CLUB DISCUSSION presented by Dave KC2AFK

<http://www.fists.org/>

What FISTS has North American and chapters on each continent.

Interested in Morse Code

1. Further use of CW
2. Encourage new comers
3. Engender friendships

About 20 years old founded by G3ZQS Geo Longden (SK). "a club in which Veterans would take Novice operators under their wing..."

1990 NA chapter formed by WZ8C Nancy Kott Hadley Mich.

World headquarters in England

Club is global – just about possible to DXCC by working FISTS

Local clubs in several states

Nets contests awards and programs – twice per year "Coast to Coast" clubs get on during this time.

NA membership growing renewal rates high, most attrition via SK.

Clubs with FCC call signs may be assigned a FIST number if they have one FIST member in good standing

Who are members?

Most Hams, some SWL, All license classes represented

Operating events a number of different nets see
<http://www.fists.org/activity.html>

Contests: Sprints

Julian comments that if you are not using CW you are not using your full privileges

Club has own QSL bureau – send SASE to bureau with donation – fast and efficient

Keynote is the paper newsletter with annual member issue with photos. 10 issues per year about 24 pages on average, audio editions available. There are editions for each continent, but info is exchanged and published cross-edition. News, views, technical and human interest stories.

Code buddies – pairs newcomers with veterans for on-air practice

Offer some software and freeware related to Morse code

Awards

Century award, QRP, WAS, QRP WAS, and more.

Lots of Member Accessories – Mugs, books, pins, stickers, cards, patches.

To Join – all is needed is paying dues and interested in Morse Code

Total volunteer organization – all goods sold at cost.

Club is not: CW Speedsters, CW Elitists, Anti-SSB, Political, no relationship with Commercial interests.