



December 14, 2021 HOP and WAARC Meeting held via Zoom

The topic for the Hour of Power (HOP) was Whole House Solar Power. Jack KY4EA gave a very detailed and informative presentation of his experience in having solar power installed in his homes in New Town and Falls Church Va. Cost analysis reveals it would take more than 20 years to recoup the costs. However Jack's primary goal was to reduce his carbon emissions and to help the environment and his solar panels are definitely satisfying that goal.

46 people were in attendance for the HOP.

-The regular meeting was chaired by club president Toby KLOSS who began the meeting by remembering several recent Silent Keys, two of whom were long time WAARC members. The WAARC SK's are Otis Childress KJ4WUX and Warren Stritter WB4AHD. The other SK was the Virginia Section Manager, Joe Palsa K3WRY.

-Toby informed everyone that several of our members are facing health challenges and she asked that we keep them and their families in our thoughts and prayers.

-CLUB OFFICER REPORTS

No comments from VP Randy W4YSN

-Treasurer, Greg K3RM said people are starting to pay their 2022 club dues. He showed how easily it can be done on the club's website using PayPal. People should contact him if they have questions about their dues being current.

Funds from the equipment donations/sales of SK's Otis KJ4WUX and Warren WB4AHD are in the process of being added to the club's balance sheet.

-Director at Large, Dino KLOS reminded everyone that Ham Radio University is coming up January 8. The theme for this online seminar-like activity is "Spreading Ham Radio Knowledge and Know How". There will be a whole slate of presentations. If interested go to <https://hamradiouniversity.org> or simply Google Ham Radio University.

Dino still has a Carolina Windom 80M antenna available from the estate of Otis KJ4WUX. Contact him if interested.

Door prizes for this evening's meeting were the ARRL Antenna Handbook, ARRL Understanding Basic Electronics, ARRL Fourth Edition of the Ham Radio License Manual (Technician Class), a Sawdust Regen Receiver (courtesy of Hutch NK0S), and a Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) Handie Talkie (courtesy of Jack KY4EA).

Dino advised everyone that there will be a slew of door prizes that will be offered at the January meeting which will be held at the Stryker Building. You must be present to win.

-Welcoming Committee (of one!), Rick AK4MV welcomed two new members who were "in the audience" this evening, "AJ" Cox W4LUD, ex. KO4UJO and Heiko Pinero KO4UJS. Both individuals took tests administered by the WAARC VE team in October. AJ W4LUD passed her Technician and General exam during the same session! She's also a graduate of the October 2021 WAARC Technician class.

-Community Support Coordinator, Robert KN4UUT mentioned that the latest event we supported was the Christmas Town Dash at Busch Gardens on December 5th in which 13 members braved the frigid air to lend their support. The next scheduled event is the Colonial Half Marathon on February 19th. Requests for volunteers will be posted on the Groups.io.

-VE Program Coordinator - in Kerry's absence, the report was given by Greg K3RM who emphasized how easy it is for anyone to schedule an exam for a first-time license or an upgrade. The VE team has even scheduled test sessions when there was only one examinee. He provided the WAARC 2021 VE Exam Results Wrap Up. There are 31 VE's, 27 of whom participated in at least one session this year. The VE team provided 17 test sessions in 2021; 13 exams were taken by women; 13 of the 17 sessions were "mini-sessions" with only 1 or 2 examinees. The stats: 17 Sessions, 41 Examinees, 16 New Licenses, 26 Upgrades. The next Technician / General classes and VE session is tentatively scheduled for April 2022. Firm dates will be posted on Groups.io.

- Toby KLOSS gave an update on future in-person club meetings. Following COVID, the library has changed their hours and we will no longer be able to use the library the second Tuesday of the month from 6 – 9pm. We must now hold our monthly meetings from 5:30 – 8:00pm. It follows that we will have to devise a plan to accommodate the Hour of Power (HOP) which heretofore occurred the hour before the monthly meeting. One thought is to use Zoom for out-of-the-area presenters. For local presenters, the James City Bruton Fire Station in Toano is being considered for the HOP.

The January 11th monthly meeting will be held in the Stryker building near the Williamsburg Library. Due to COVID, this will be the first in-person meeting in over two years. 5:30 – 6:00 pm will be used as a "meet and greet", allowing club members to meet those they will be electing

as our new Board of Directors. This will be followed by a short business meeting at 6:00 pm in which the current Board of Directors will give updates on their programs. That will be followed by the January elections for the new Board. Following the elections, the KB4ZIN Award will be presented to the recipient. Last but not least will be the distribution of the door prizes, of which there are quite a few.

OFFICER ELECTION SLATE

President – Jack Espinal KY4EA

Vice President – Donna Ross KO4GLO

Fred Sanborn KN4ZME

Director at Large – Chuck White AI4WU

Dave Shantz AJ4XV

Gil Frey K4JST

Secretary – Dan Ewart WG4F

Treasurer – Greg Pula K3RM

Starting in February the monthly meetings will resume at our usual location at the James City Library on Croaker Road. The new meeting hours will be 6:00-8:00 pm

-Williamsburg ARES Coordinator, Chuck AI4WU reminded everyone that the city of Williamsburg has begun dismantling the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) communications setup which has been used for a number of years in preparation for building their new EOC. If an emergency should occur during this time a temporary setup will have to be identified and equipped. The Stryker Building is one location that is under consideration. In any event, club members should be on the alert and make themselves available to assist Chuck in setting up a temporary EOC when a location is identified.

-James City County ARES Coordinator, Chris KC4CMR informed us that if an emergency should arise, the first shelter area will probably be at the James River School (Abram Frank Recreation Center) in Grove, which is in the lower end of the county. The building is less than ideal for hand held radios. Consequently Chris is working on getting an outdoor antenna installed on the roof sooner rather than later during an emergency situation. Warhill HS is another facility chosen to be used as a shelter. An outdoor antenna for that location is also under consideration.

Chris is offering 12V 7AH batteries for anyone who would like a couple. Send him an email if you're interested (ccour79992@aol.com).

-Battery Build-a-thon, Chuck AI4WU gave an interesting talk about the recent gathering of 11 club members to build a 12V 100AH Lithium Iron Phosphate (LiFePO4) battery. The battery is similar to the one used by the club at all of its special events and Field Day. The excellent discharge rate of the LiFePO4 batteries makes them excellent for providing long term emergency power to your ham shack. Weighing in at only 28 pounds, they're tremendously lighter than Lead Acid batteries and they will provide their rated voltage much longer. The entire system, including the Battery Management System (BMS) and a Bluetooth module for remotely monitoring the condition of the battery was built for \$704.00.

-Annual Banquet, Toby KLOSS announced the Food Committee has booked Sal's by Victor restaurant for the annual banquet to be held January 22nd from 5:30 – 9:30 pm. RSVP NLT January 14th (rsvp@k4rc.net). Meal selection will be done at the restaurant. Additional info will be posted to the Groups.io by Anita KH2FX .

-KB4ZIN Award , as Chairman of the KB4ZIN Award Committee, Dave AJ4XV thanked all of the Committee members for their work and all those who submitted nominations. He said selecting a winner was more difficult than in previous years due to the number of qualified candidates nominated. The award will be presented at the January meeting at the Stryker Building.

-Frostfest 2022 has been cancelled. A lost opportunity for the club since we always purchase a table or two there for selling items belonging to club members.

-The Elmer Program, Toby KLOSS announced a new program designed to assist hams with questions they may have or assistance they may need with their station. Dave W4DSR has volunteered to be the program coordinator. There are currently 42 topics that can be addressed through the Elmer Program. There are 19 volunteer Elmers. To see the topics, go to the club's website at www.k4rc.net. When there look under the heading entitled "About WAARC". Send requests for assistance to elmer@k4rc.net.

The topic of the program for this evening's meeting was Digital Mobile Radio (DMR), presented by Howard Waxman WZ4K. Howard provided a well balanced and thoughtful presentation whose goal was to motivate people to try DMR. He clearly discussed the pros and cons of DMR, D-STAR, and Yaesu FUSION. Howard stressed the importance of having an "Elmer" when getting started with DMR. He offered to help anyone wanting to give it a shot.

50 people were in attendance for the regular meeting.

Thanks to Wally, WA3RWP, for filling in as secretary for this meeting. Let us know if there are any corrections or additions. The attendees are listed on the next page.

AD4VR	Carl	K4MI	Will	KN4UUT	Bob	N1PAX	Robert
AH6P	Dennis	K4MRZ	Moritz	KN4ZLV	Ron	N2OP	Bob
AI4KJ	Dan	K4RVR	Tracy	KN4ZMD	Barbara	NK0S	Hutch
AI4QQ	John	K8LF	Jerome	KN4ZME	Fred	no call	Michael
AI4WU	Chuck	KC4CMR	Chris	KO4GLO	Donna	W0CSZ	Tricia
AJ4IX	Bill	KD4NIV	Rick	KO4JPR	DJ	W4DMZ	Steve
AJ4RS	Bob	KD4ZVD	John	KO4PFV	Tonya	W4DSR	David
AJ4XV	Dave	KE4WMF	Scott	KO4PQL	Steve	W4LUD	AJ
AK4MV	Rick	KE7ZRK	Ken	KO4UJS	Heiko	W4ONH	Owen
AK4XH	Martin	KL0S	Dino	KT4JB	John	W4YSN	Randy
K3RM	Greg	KL0SS	Toby	KY4DZ	Dennis	W4YVA	Joe
K4CEF	Cynthia	KN4AVP	Chuck	KY4EA	Jack	WA3RWP	Wally
				N1LO	Mark	WZ4K	Howard

Respectfully submitted, Dan, WG4F.