

3900 Club

Membership minutes

Meeting on 10/5/19

In Lemars' IA @ Family Table Restaurant

Meeting called to order: **10:45**

Present were: WA0YSL, WD0BFO, KA0O, W0FS, KB0MPL, KC0PMF, N0OYK, AD0HZ, AE0JR, WB0YXH, KA0EZA, N0APC, N5SEZ, KB0HVB.

The primary topics were the Hamboree funding and Web page layout.

Funding issue:

As everybody is aware the Hamboree is our only source of income.

Membership dues are 1 time only and are just enough to cover the certificate and mailing back to the new member. The last few years the Hamboree has made money but not enough to cover the grand prizes. If they were not being donated, we would be losing money every year. To this point if we keep losing the funds to put on the show, something will have to go, and our options are limited. First to go will be the Hamboree, then, if we lose the Hamboree we won't need the insurance. Then, if we don't have any income we will be forced to drop the web site, and, if we drop the web site the trader net might as well go too because why take listings if there is no place to list them for everyone to see. So, that would leave the 3900 club with a CW net, an early roll call, the bulletin, business meeting and regular roll call. I don't think that is what anyone wants to end up with.

Now all this is not new or unusual to the 3900 club as all clubs are struggling with the issue. The idea is, what do we do about it. It was brought up we should raise rates or the admission fee. What would that accomplish? There is a good chance it would just expedite the above scenario because we are at the national average now and people don't want to pay more so attendance would go down and we are now in worse shape.

So, to help things along we are asking for donations, mind you not requiring them, but asking for them. Many people tell us "I would like to come but because of other obligations we are not able." Well, if you are in this position, would you consider donating the \$7 admission fee? It is not that much and for the club, and Hamboree, to survive we need to do something. Now that does not mean you couldn't make a general donation to the club in some other amount, but since this is aimed at the Hamboree you could donate what you would pay if you attended anyway in support of Hamboree and ultimately of the club.

There will be a statement placed on the Welcome page about this. There is also the idea of publicity for the Hamboree, so if you are going to ANY convention or flea market (with exception of something like Dayton), get the flier for our Hamboree and take a few copies along to help us advertise. The last couple years we have used ARRL club mailing lists to get the word out and have emailed our club members, yet we still get people saying they did not know about our Hamboree. We can't afford the postage to mail every ham in the region a flier, so help in spreading the word would be greatly appreciated. Along with that, if you are going to an event take a letter of interest about the 3900 club (I will make it available on the web site to download) to pass out so newcomers to our hobby can learn about us.

It was brought up to have some more demo's and forums, but we need people to do these and we are having problems getting commitments to make these possible.

Don OYK is the nominating committee chair for this year's election, and they are working on a new slate of nominees, but no one is stepping forward. The board members were not elected for life, and if you think about it, the club could still go under with money in the bank, as none of us want to die to get out of office but that is usually what happens You won't just be given the

job to sink or swim, the rest of the board and former board members are there to help you, so give it a try. Last election it was moved to close nominations and vote in the sitting board since there were no challengers, but since we did it then we must have the complete election cycle this year.

Web page layout:

A couple of the members brought up issues with site navigation. It was pointed out they needed to contact me on these issues in order for them to be corrected. But regardless of the issues, finding things seemed to be the underlying issue and even though they were on the page, they were hard to notice due to their size. We don't want to make the page so big you need to scroll down for 5 minutes to find things (the trader net is exception that is expected to be that way. So, I will be taking the graphs, charts, and other items currently on the Welcome page and move them to their own page. It will probably be called something like Org Charts & Graphs or something along those lines. Then the welcome page will contain things like announcements and other items of interest that are time sensitive, moved to the center and enlarged (not over done I hope) and maybe some graphics added to draw attention to what it is. The request for donations will be there too. I will do everything I can (short of shrinking it small again) to keep it to an uncluttered, easily viewable page.

It was then brought up that things are different from phone/tablet/desktop and I am aware of that. That falls into the category of a "responsive" web site which changes its appearance depending on the device you are using and talks to the server to display the proper view. So, if you are on phone, it will create the web page and it display it in an appropriate way on your phone and if on a desktop computer will change it appropriately as well. Now in saying that, remember things like the photo gallery will be different on the phone as opposed to a desktop in the fact they may have a totally different format to make it fit the small screen. So (for example) don't think something is wrong if you get 5 across in gallery on desktop and 1 or 2 on the phone. This job is in progress and may be awhile before it goes live as I am pretty booked with things to do.

The long and short of this is please be patient, and if there is something you think is wrong let me or someone on the board know and they will pass the word along. I am glad to help IF I know it is required.

Meeting adjourned: 11:45

**Tom WD0BFO #906
3900 Club Secretry/Treasurer**