



TCDXA MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 17, 2011

Sunshine Factory Restaurant

New Hope, MN

CALL TO ORDER: and introduction of members at 6:20pm by President Pat Cain, KØPC

ATTENDANCE: 35 members.

OLD BUSINESS:

- No old business was discussed

NEW BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- T32C leaves on the 26th of October. Several members have all modes and all bands.
- Glen WØGJ, Ralph, KØIR, Pat, WØBM, and Vivian KL7YL are headed to Bhutan next Wednesday.
- Glen WØGJ joins the Malpelo expedition in January.
- Four TCDXA / MWA members are going to VP2M, Montserrat: Ron Dohmen, NØAT (VP2MTA); Bill Dean, WØOR (VP2MOR); Vlad Michtchenko, NØSTL (VP2MTL); and Tom Menas, K3WT (VP2MWT). The group was issued the contest callsign of VP2MWG to be used in both the CQWW CW and ARRL 160 contests as VP2MWA was unavailable. Tom Lutz, WØZR offered 100ft of coaxial cable and Mike Warren, WØWG offered a Heil headset to leave at Montserrat for future DXpeditions. The group would still appreciate if someone would loan them an ICE bandpass filter for the DXpedition.
- The DX Hog award was actively discussed to determine if changes were necessary that would include awards for those that run QRP and members that don't have the large beams, high power amplifiers, etc. The goal was to somewhat level the playing field for our members. The difficulty of managing different award categories was discussed. It was decided by a unanimous vote to make no changes to the DX Hog award.

HEALTH & WELFARE:

- Rod WØBCA has had a stroke and is now back at home. He is paralyzed on his left side and needs the aid of a wheelchair. Gary Grivna KØGX is going to meet him for lunch this week and invited other members to join him. Contact Gary for details.

TREASURERS REPORT: YTD Income: \$6075.69 Expenses: \$2729.71 Balance: \$3345.98

DOOR PRIZE WINNERS: Two \$20 and two \$10 awards were given. Club Treasury: \$80

PROGRAM:

Al, KØAD, tells the story in a presentation: "A Beam and Tower, the Dream Came True!". Al shared how he worked with the neighborhood association to allow him to put up a beam in spite of HOA restrictions. He went through his process of buying the tower and antenna and putting it all together, along with a healthy dose of 5+ yards of concrete. He ended up with a great installation and his challenges throughout were a great learning for anyone contemplating this in the future.

He also spoke about using the Reverse Beacon website that allows you to hear your signal and obtain signal to noise reports from across the globe to understand how well your installation is working. Due to the very high interest from our members, Al has sent a subsequent email to all members describing the process (www.reversebeacon.net)

The TCDXA election of officers will soon be upon us. Please let either president Pat Cain KØPC or secretary / treasurer Gary Strong KOØQ know if you have any interest in one of the positions or if you have a recommendation of someone to fill one of the roles.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:50 pm and presentation ended 7:25 pm.

Gary Strong, KOØQ
Secretary-Treasurer