

**South Baldwin Amateur Radio Club (KI4ELU)**

PO Box 491  
Robertsdale, AL 36567

July 20, 2017

Minutes of the Regular Monthly Club Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 19:01 hours by President Rich Lee. There were 18 members and two visitors present. The pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said.

Members were also reminded that the current year dues are now due, and that dues must be current so that a member can vote on club business.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as read.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer Charles Vasut reported the following:

As of 7/20/2017, the checking account showed a balance of \$3739.52; and the savings account showed a balance of \$684.09. This balance reflected a deposit of \$26 from the 50/50 raffle, and a bank interest payment of \$0.16.

**VE Report:**

Rich gave the VE report and noted that one candidate was tested, Mr. Joe Daniels, W4EXE. Joe passed his Extra class license test.

**Old Business:**

None discussed.

**New Business:**

Ron Thomas spoke regarding a current program offered by Amazon.com. This program allows users of their website, Smile.Amazon.com, who make purchases from this website, to donate a small percentage of the purchase price to a non-profit organization of the purchaser's choice. Ron suggested that the club look into availing itself of this program by registering with Smile.Amazon.com so that our club members and friends could make such donations.

**Good of the Club:**

Rich asked for a volunteer who would work as an assistant to our treasurer, Charles Vasut. Charles would like to pass the responsibility of Treasurer on to someone else after his serving for many years in this role. It's hoped that this volunteer assistant, would take on the role of treasurer in 2018.

Rich mentioned the upcoming Huntsville Ham fest to be held on August 19th and 20th. Rich noted that this event is much more than a ham fest as many educational sessions will be held on Saturday and national equipment representative will be in attendance.

Rich also mentioned that the ARRL will be changing its amateur radio operator test application form to ask whether the test taker has ever been convicted of a felony. Apparently this is being done for "national security" reasons. Much discussion followed this announcement.

A nationwide solar eclipse QSO party is planned for August 21st.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Joe Hearon. His winnings were donated to the repeater fund.

**Program:**

Ron Thomas spoke on AREDN network nodes in Baldwin County. These nodes are being added to every few months and will soon represent a viable network backbone on 2.3 GHz.

Joe McIntosh rose to give a report on the club's field day effort, in June. It was hot, but the event was well attended and considered a success.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted  
Joe McIntosh, K4JOM  
Secretary