

Minutes of the General Meeting of the BNJARS held Sunday, December 12, 2004 aboard the Battleship New Jersey

The meeting was opened at 1300 hours by President Harry Bryant followed by a salute to the flag. In the absence of Secretary, John Goheen, Gene Holben was appointed Acting Secretary. The minutes of the previous meeting have been on the Internet for some time.

Presidents Report:

The President thanked the members in attendance for the good turnout despite the change in times and dates of the meeting. The club has had a number of good activities. The work parties have slowed down primarily because of Dave's work schedule but we continue to get good feedback from HPA. About three weeks ago, Harry delivered to Bob Walters and Scott Kodger about three boxes of photographs and other material from the period of 1946 to 1956. A gentleman whom we contacted several years ago during a commissioning celebration donated these. He had been a HAM for several years but had never made any contacts on the air. He was basically an SWL. He saw an article on the Internet about the ship being activated. His uncle had been a crewmember on BB62 for about 10 years during WWII and Korea. He borrowed a rig and made contact with the ship. It was his first ever contact. Since then he has about 250 countries. The uncle has since died and he gave all his momentos to his nephew who in turn has given them to BB62. Scott Kodger said they were the single largest donation of artifacts to the ship and they contained much material and pictures for that period that the ship doesn't have.

Directors Reports:

No reports

Treasurers Report:

The Treasurer reported that the club now has a checking account at Commerce Bank The balance in the Treasury is \$ 645.01.

Vice Presidents Report:

Pete reported that he had visited the Battleship Missouri and their radio shack. It is a good shack with significant differences from our set up.

Chief Engineers Report:

Dave reported that it has been a good year. We are in the process of expanding CEC. Ship Yard raids have been a little disappointing and have been picked clean by other clubs.

For the future, the biggest event will be the installation of the OE82 satellite antenna from the yard. This will be a major undertaking with many of our crew involved. Much of the antenna installation and moving of the 6 meter antenna depend upon a crane being available so we will have to wait for that.

We have received the rest of the test equipment for FACCON 1. Installation will probably start this coming Saturday in the Message Center.

For the next 3 months, most of the work will be in the transmitter room. The temperature in the room should be OK.

There is a push to complete the Passive Antenna in Broadway prior to putting Broadway on the tour. This is probably a year or so away but HPA would like to get the antenna up and running. It will only be done by tying it together without impedance matching. Any more sophisticated system will have to be paid for by HPA.

Public Affairs Report:

Joe Cramer reported on trips to the Gloucester County Club and DVARS. He will be going to Holiday City in April. He will be going to Ft. Myers shortly and will be visiting the club down there.

HPA Representative Report:

There was no recent meeting but from previous meetings, both the volunteer and the guest using a Complimentary Ticket must sign a waiver form if going off the tour route. You must also check with Security.

There is a new form for badges that Margaret has.

The ship is closed to the public Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from January through February. If you need to come to the ship and use the garage, the tab is on you. With an advance call letting them know you are coming, you can use the Clinton Street parking.

Complimentary Tickets used by Volunteers have no termination date and can be used anytime.

Trustees Report:

Joe Duffin gave a general report. From QRZ the station has one of the highest "look up rate" of any club.

Committee Reports:

Preservation:

John Saracen reported that there are 3 more receivers in the shop to be worked on. They need a 2 section linear pot., 1 meg, 1/2watt to complete a repair.

Scouting:

Doug reported a doubling of attendance at JOTA. He was very pleased.

Public Events:

Harry reported a request from Gary, K2GW, for operators to be available on the 2 meter Sarnoff repeater on Jan. 8, 2005. They are having a Radio Merit Badge class and contacts would be appreciated. Coming events are the ship commissioning anniversary on May 23 and Museum Ships about July 21.

QSL:

Margaret reported that Sept, Oct., and Nov were slow with only 199 contacts. This brings the total to 14931. It is hoped we can get 15000 by the end of the year.

Station Operations:

Not many clubs participating

Old Business:

Margaret reported difficulties with members on AOL receiving mailings. She has to send individual e-mails. Try to get other e-mail addresses.

Bill Bacon commented about the confusion with 2 BNJARS web pages. Gene Holben suggested that this matter be referred to the Executive Committee in the near future for resolution.

Election of Officers

Ruben passed out the ballots with the names of the nominees recommended by the committee. Ed Clark requested that his name be removed as a candidate for Director. Bill Bacon was nominated for the position of Director and he accepted the nomination. It was MOVED and SECONDED that nominations for Director be closed. The motion passed.

There was a question of whether nominations from the floor could be made in light of the fact that the slate of the Nominating Committee was not submitted to the members 2 weeks before the election as stated in the Constitution. It was MOVED and SECONDED that names of candidates could be accepted from the floor. The motion was passed with 1 dissenting vote. The dissenting vote claimed that the motion violated the Constitution.

Ed Clark was nominated for Vice President from the floor and he accepted the nomination.

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the nominations for all positions be closed. The motion passed.

There was a discussion about the legality of the acceptance of these nominations from the floor as violating the Constitution. It was pointed out that the first election also violated the Constitution. Two wrongs don't make a right and the Constitution must be amended to accept nominations from the floor at the time of the election. There are other portions of the Constitution, which should be reviewed, and it was recommended that this be done during the next year.

The ballots were distributed and the vote taken. 13 members present who were eligible to vote cast ballots. The results are as follows:

President – Harry Bryant

Vice President – Ed Clark

Secretary – Gene Holben

Treasurer – Lou Priestly

Chief Engineer – Dave Burgess

Public Affairs – Joe Cramer

Directors:

Sam Bennett

Margaret Burgess

Bill Bacon

Joe Cramer suggested investigating the possibilities of advertising for the club through QST and/or other venues.

Since this is the first year that Pete Greene has not been an officer of the club, Gene Holben expressed thanks on behalf of the club to Pete for his past service

Pete Greene agreed to continue as our representative on the Volunteer Committee of HPA.

We received a letter from The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc. that provides scholarships for young new amateurs. Anyone interested in contributing can get the form from Harry.

It was reported that the ATV guys had a meeting with the Baltimore group and they hope to get ATV on some ships in their area which would mean that our ATV would be seen down there.

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the President appoint a committee to review the Constitution and By-Laws and make recommendations for any revisions. The motion was approved.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Eugene F. Holben N2WFN
Acting Secretary