

MEMORANDUM

To: Chuck Littlewood, K4HF, President
From: Sue Meyer Parks, W2GHK, Secretary/Treasurer
Re: Minutes of QCWA Chapter 126 meeting of March 16, 2024 (Q1 2024)
Date: March 18, 2024

Chapter 126 of the QCWA held its quarterly meeting on March 16, 2024, at Best Food Cafeteria, Siler City, NC. There were 20 attendees.

The Board was called to order at 11:13 am by President Chuck Littlewood, K4HF. Board members present: Secretary/Treasurer Sue Meyer Parks, W2GHK; Director Gary Schwartz, K3OS; and Director Tom Evans, NA4U. Absent were Vice President Charlie Strickland, WA4OSS; and Director Tom Lewis, N4TL.

The next meeting will be June 8, 2024, at the Best Food Cafeteria in Siler City, NC.

We discussed possible future speakers. Tom, NA4U has some previous presentations he has done in the past He is a potential future speaker and will alert the board when he is ready.

Sue, W2GHK gave the treasurer's report. We currently have \$1760.89 in the club bank account. During Q1, we received dues from six members (many repeating for 2-3 years) and \$ 31.00 from the 50/50 drawing from the Jan. 2024 meeting. We reviewed the chart showing the monthly bank balance. There were six members who did not pay for 2023. They have been removed from the roster. Sue will send them an email letting them know they have been dropped. A reminder email will be sent after the June meeting for members who owe for 2024.

Not reported at the meeting, but worth noting in the minutes, W2GHK completed the annual report to QCWA Nationals on Feb 10, 2024.

Sue shared the Q1 2024 Net Report. It will be sent to members along with the minutes. We averaged 12 check-ins for the quarter. This quarter was a little shorter than usual since we decided to move the Q4 2023 meeting to Jan. 2024. For Q1, we had 3 members who participated in all 10 nets, Ernie, NC4EW; John, NC4JP; and Charlie, WA4OSS. Four members missed only one net and four members missed two nets. The graph shows a positive trend for attendance.

Chuck mentioned that he would have RARSfest tickets available at the meeting.

There being no further board business, the board meeting was adjourned at 11:38 am.

The general membership meeting was called to order at 11:49 am. President Chuck Littlewood, K4HF welcomed everyone. He recognized a new chapter member present Bob Pantazes, W2ARP who recently moved from Florida to Greensboro. He reminded all to sign in and get tickets for door prizes and the 50/50 drawing.

Chuck asked if there were any new health or welfare issues, of which we should be aware. It was mentioned that Bernard Blackmon, W4BRB from Cary was ill.

Chuck, K4RGN gave the blessing. He mentioned the following: The passing of Brent Parks (husband of Sue, W2GHK); and Danny Hampton K4ITL. He also mentioned the continuing recovery of Sheila Dupree, KE4CDS a chapter friend.

We all introduced ourselves and were asked to respond to the question “Did you participate in the NC QSO Party last month?” The response was mixed.

After lunch, door prizes were drawn.

There were four gift cards won by:

- Ernie Wall, NC4EW
- Dennis Mason, WZ0Q
- Gary Schwartz, K3OS
- Trina Hutchins, N4XYQ
- The 50/50 drawing (\$36.00) was won by Lou Demko, W3LPR

Regarding our net, Chuck thanked the NCS's for Q1: Chuck, K4RGN (4), Gary, K3OS (3); Tom, N4TL (3). We continue to look for volunteers for Net Control. Please sign up by using the link on the Chapter website. **The Q1 2024 net report will be included in the minutes.**

Sue, W2GHK gave the treasurers report. There is currently \$1760 in the bank account. She said that the account remains steady. She will let members know in June if they have not paid their 2024 dues. She did not think anyone present owes for 2024. We rely on new members such as Trina N4XYQ, and John WB4NNY signing up today as well as current members who are not life members to renew.

Gary, K3OS, introduced our program. The presenter was going to give a remote presentation from NY; however, it was decided to record the presentation since we do not have internet available at this meeting location and the questionable reliability of hot spots.

Kris Merschrod, KM2KM gave the presentation on Reverse Beacon Network as a method to compare the performance of two antennas. This system of networked receivers listens to CW portions of the ham radio bands and can be useful to get objective feedback on your signal performance. He showed how to import the data into a spreadsheet and perform a statistical evaluation. Kris told the group he would be happy to answer questions via email [KM2KM@twc.com]. After the presentation, Gary, K3OS led a further discussion.

Some certificates were presented at today's meeting:

- Bob Pantazes, W2ARP: new chapter member certificate
- Trina Hutchins, N4XYQ: 30 year anniversary certificate
- John Hutchins, WB4NNY: 55 year anniversary certificate

Chuck reminded the group to stay current on their QCWA national membership that can be renewed on the National website.

Upcoming Hamfests:

- RARSfest Raleigh, April 6 (Chuck has tickets)
- Winston Salem, April 13
- AB4OZ/Raleigh, May 18
- Dayton/Xenia, May 17-19

K4HF mentioned the next Chapter 26 meeting will be June 8, 2024, at the Best Food Cafeteria in Siler City, NC. The program is TBD.

K4HF asked if there was any other business. There was none.

K4HF reminded the group of the Saturday morning net at 8:45 am on approx. 3.853 MHz. Sign up for NCS on the chapter website.

K4HF thanked Mary Jo, K4MJL and Sue, W2GHK for their administrative chores during the meeting today and thanked all for attending. The board wishes everyone a healthy and safe Spring Season. **Don't forget, it's not too late to get your shots.**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm. The following members were present: Chuck Littlewood, K4HF; Mary Jo Littlewood, K4MJL; Sue Meyer Parks, W2GHK; Dennis Mason, WZ0Q; Alan Pitegoff, AB4OZ; Tom Evans, NA4U, Charles Swindell, WB4DCM; Wilbur Goss, WD4RDT; Chuck Till, K4RGN; Dave Wood, W4EJ; Lou Demko, W3LPR; Gary Schwartz, K3OS, Bob Pantazes, W2ARP; Susan Jones, WA4AKB; Steve Silsby WA4BRL; Bob Saunders, W2IKN; Ernie Wall, NC4EW and new members Trina Hutchins, N4XYQ and John Hutchins, WB4NNY,

The following guest was present: Ralph Tullo, N0LO