

January Membership Meeting

January 25, 2024 Loutit Library

Presentation

Our speaker was Rob Rafson from Chart House Energy. He spoke about solar power and wind power. The emphasis was on solar energy. He gave an example of a 5 KW array on a house would cost \$21,250, but with a tax credit, end up costing \$14,875. It would save the homeowner \$1,295 a year to give a payback of 11.5 years

Energy costs are around \$.20/KW and will continue to increase. A homeowner that sells the excess energy back to the grid, receives \$0.10/KW.

He emphasized that the future energy needs will be alternative sources, as fossil fuels are slowly decreased. Right now only 2% of energy produced is solar, but it is growing at an increasing rate.

Business Meeting

Upcoming Programs

February 22- Wires-X with Mike Cameron- N8UKF (<http://n8ukf.com>).

Mike has linked 9 repeaters throughout West Michigan with Wires-X. The meeting will be held at the Grand Haven Public Safety Room at 5:30pm.

March 28- Our speaker will talk about the use of Smart 911. The meeting is tentatively scheduled to be at the Spring Lake Public Library.

April 25 – TBD for topic and place

May 23 – TBD

June 20 -Field Day preplanning meeting at FD site. It will include supper.

June 22-23 – Field Day

July 25 – Outdoor Operating Event (POTA, QRP, Fox Hunt, or portable).

August 22- Outdoor Operating Event (POTA, QRP, Fox Hunt, or portable).

Business

We have \$7,482.43 in our checking account.

We have \$13,446.00 in our Community Fund account. We had a 19% growth rate to this fund last year.

Tom Nuyens went over the changes the board made to our Constitution and By-Laws.

1. Estates

To assist a SK's estate, the board has made the following additions.

- a. It is preferred that the estate donate the items to the club without compensation.
 - b. The committee will make a decision of an estate's value, and will compensate the estate \$500, \$1,000 or \$2,000.
 - c. The club will not be involved in towers or antennas. We will give the estate a contact of someone that would do this.
2. Club call sign. We will add that the trustee of our call sign (W8CSO) be an extra class licensee.
 3. There were questions as to the different approval percentages for various member votes to pass a motion.

Respectfully submitted.

Ross- N8GMY