



COCHISE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 1855, Sierra Vista, AZ 85636



February 2nd, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6:58 PM by President KX6X. Vice-President AA7RH, Treasurer NJ7C, Secretary KD7OED, Member at Large KF7PDV, and Past President WB6OTS were also present.

Program: This month's program was provided by Mr. Jim Callahan of Ranger Survival Gear. His brief included tips on how you can make a wide variety of survival equipment (such as fire starters from cotton balls and Vaseline, or emergency cups or solar ovens out of tinfoil) for use in your own personal emergency kits. He displayed a wide variety of emergency preparedness equipment for sale including backpacks and small survival kits packed in to a hiking stick.

President's report: KX6X provided an overview of tonight's board of directors meeting:

- a. KD7OED has filled out the ARCA affiliation renewal – NJ7C provided a check tonight and both will go out in tomorrow's mail.
- b. KF7PDV has volunteered to be this year's hamfest chair.
- c. KD7OED presented a draft study plan for long term maintenance and/or disposition of the Green Acres tower farm, as well as a list of licensed professional engineers in the state of Arizona who would be able to certify their structural integrity. KF7PDV offered to approach an engineer he knows in Wilcox and the individual who does tower maintenance at the MARS station to inquire whether they can assist with this initiative.
- d. The future of the annual Labor Day Paradise expedition is in question as fewer folks attend every year – especially those required for the Monday morning cleanup.
- e. NJ7C reported that he has placed the order for the Yaesu DR-1X repeater, but Yaesu reports that it is backordered for at least 30 days. He also reactivated the club's Pay Pall and Ebay accounts as a potential way of selling some of our used equipment.

- f. KD7OED volunteered to renew the club's Special Service Club rating with the ARRL.

Vice-President's Report: KG7PVB reported that he has attended a couple of Saturday sessions and spoken with many of the current and past board members as a way of learning the ropes as Vice-President.

Technical Report: AA7RH was absent so no report was given.

Secretary's Report: KD7OED reviewed the minutes from the January meeting that are posted on the web. Motion from W7OL seconded by KC7GTY to accept the minutes as published – the motion passed on a voice vote. KD7OED also reported he now has the CD with the artwork for color badges and will get new badges ordered shortly. He asked that anyone who joined the club between January 2014 and the May 2014 hamfest come to see him to ensure they are on his list of new badges that are needed. The charge for other new or replacement badge is \$10. He also reported on the City/County initiative to extend Buffalo Soldier Trail out to Moson Road and potential impacts on the Green Acres lease.

Treasurer's Report: NJ7C reported that a copy of the current treasurer's report is posted on the Larson Hall bulletin board for review, and provided a brief summary of recent activity. There were no significant expenses this month, and all of the books balanced.

Member at Large Report: KF7PDV passed around a sign-up sheet for volunteers to assist with this year's hamfest. It is our major source of revenue each year so much help is needed. There will also be a hamfest planning meeting prior to the March membership meeting.

Past President's Report: WB6OTS had nothing significant to report.

Public Service Report: N7INK reported on RACES/ARES activity since the last club meeting:

- a. 1/27 Overdue Hiker: The RACES team supported a search for a lost hunter near in the area east of Douglas. Although he had parked in Arizona, the hunter was eventually located in New

- Mexico. Thankfully this was the only mission this month after a very busy month of December.
- b. On January 10th a crew went up to Mule Mountain and disabled the 162.2 PL pass-through feature on the 147.02 repeater. This action has apparently solved the intermodulation problem that was occurring on one of the Fry Fire frequencies as a result of another repeater on the site. All amateurs using the 147.02 repeater are reminded to turn off the “decode” or receive side of the PL tone on your radio, but leave it enabled on the “encode” or transmit side of your radio to access the repeater.

ARCA Report: KC7GTY reported on the many upcoming spring hamfests across the state. The next major event is the Arizona ARRL Section Convention in Yuma 20-21 February, followed by the ARCA/Scottsdale Springfest on 21 March. A list of upcoming Arizona Hamfests is maintained on the ARCA web page (www.arca-az.org) and ARCA will sponsor both the DeVry hamfest in April and the Williams Hamfest in July.

CARA NET Report: KC7GNM has resigned as net coordinator, and the club still needs a new coordinator. KG7IHO reported that volunteers are still needed as NCS stations – it is a great way for new hams to get more comfortable and hone their operating procedures.

Old Business:

- a. KG7DJY volunteered to organize the CARA 2015 Field Day event. Initial plans are to conduct the event in Veteran’s Memorial Park.
- b. Due to travel and work schedules of the two instructors, there is no current plan to offer amateur radio classes this spring. The next opportunity will be in the July/August timeframe.
- c. The club will continue to offer used equipment for sale at every monthly club meeting - members in good standing receive a 25% discount for items purchased the night of the meeting. Members are also encouraged to bring items for sale to or swap with other club members 30 minutes prior to every club meeting (from 6:30 to 7:00 PM). There is no club fee for this monthly sale/swap event.
- d. No work on Mule Mountain antennas is scheduled until spring.

New Business: None as raised by members.

50/50 Raffle: KG7NEL won \$17.00; the other \$17.00 goes to the club.

Next Club Meeting: The next meeting will be February 2nd at 7:00 PM.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ilse/KD7OED
CARA Secretary