



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



November 2, 2015

Treasurer NJ7C called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Secretary KD7OED was present, and Vice-President N5OV joined the meeting during the program. President KX6X, Member at Large KF7PDV and Past President WB6OTS were absent.

Program: NJ7C presented a program on sound card modems as a follow-up to last month's presentation by AB7AA on RMS Express. The program included an overview of internal computer sound cards, addition of external sound cards, commercial sound card modem products, and most importantly, several ways that hams can implement their own sound card interfaces at substantial savings compared to purchasing a commercial product. (Note: The presentation has been posted to the CARA web page.)

President's report: KX6X was present for the board meeting, but had to depart early to care for his wife who was recovering from cataract surgery. KD7OED provided an overview of tonight's board of director's meeting:

a. The annual CARA open house, fall swap fest, and CW communications exercise will be held this Saturday, November 7th from 7:00 AM until noon. Outside tailgating fees are \$5 and inside tables are \$10 – but there is no fee for admission. Coffee and donuts will be available, amateur license testing will begin at 9:00 AM, and a number of raffle prizes have been provided by the ARRL and the HF Connector Guy from Wisconsin. Volunteers are requested to help with setup from 8:00 AM until noon on Friday, November 6th. Old ham radio gear and test equipment that has not sold during many years of previous hamfests will be offered at significant discounts to help clean out the CARA storage units.

b. Demolition of the north tower did not take place on October 31st due to some adverse weather and technical issues. The board did use that date to do some additional analysis on the safest and most effective

way to demolish the tower, and has rescheduled demolition for Saturday November 21st at approximately 10:100 AM. Bring your cameras and video recorders to document this historic event!

c. The annual CARA holiday party and pot luck will be held at noon on December 12th at Green Acres. The club provides ham and turkey, and members are requested to provide side dishes or desserts. A sign-up roster for items was circulated during the meeting and will be posted on the CARA website to avoid having too many duplicate items. Volunteers are requested to help decorate Larson Hall the morning of December 11th.

Vice President's Report: N5OV reported that he has been tasked to plan an additional 4000 trees and install drip irrigation on an additional 200 acres at the pecan orchard that he manages. As a result, he will be unable to continue serving as Vice-President of the club. A replacement will be elected during the January meeting.

Treasurer's Report: NJ7C reported that a copy of the current treasurer's report is posted on the Larson Hall bulletin board.

Secretary's Report: KD7OED reported minutes from August, September and October meetings have been posted on the web site for some time. Motion from KC7GTY seconded by AA7BM to approve the minutes as posted. There was no discussion, and the motion carried on a voice vote. All badges are in – if you still need your badge contact him.

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

Member At Large: KF7PDV was absent so no report was given, however KD7OED noted that KF7PDV has now taken on additional responsibility as the manager of the Saguaro VHF traffic net (held nightly at 6:30 PM on the Eastern Arizona Amateur Radio Society (EAARS) network).

Public Service Report: N7INK reported on October activity which included two monthly training nets and:

10/3 Crest Trail Rescue: The RACES unit supported the rescue of a 70-year-old hiking victim who had suffered a heart attack. Additional agencies involved included Cochise County Search and Rescue (SAR)

and Sherriff's Office, US Border Patrol, Palominas Fire, Arizona Department of Public Safety (Ranger helicopter), and the 305th Rescue Squadron (US Air Force Reserve).

10/10 Cochise County Cycling Classic: This annual event included the running of three supported bicycle races across Cochise County. ARES provided logistics and communications support at a total of 11 fixed sites and an additional two mobile units.

ARCA Report: KC7GTY reported on the October 17th ARCA meeting. ARCA granted the Radio Society of Tucson a \$500 grant to help establish an amateur radio mesh network for use in emergency communications to pass digital traffic. The club intends to expand the existing ad hoc network that exists in the Tucson area and link it via RF to other ad hoc networks in southern and central Arizona. Initial reports are that the ARRL Arizona State Convention in Kingman was a successful event. The next ARCA meeting will be held at the Superstition Hamfest on December 5th.

CARA NET Report: KG7IHO reported that additional net control stations for the CARA net are always welcome – contact him for further information.

Old Business: KD7OED reported that CARA has secured a copy of the ANSI/TAA tower spec and the board is reviewing it prior to making additional recommendation on the center and south tower. KG7IHO reported that the Convoy-On-The-Air event was well supported by himself, KG7DJY, and N7INK.

New Business: The two-year terms of CARA President KX6X, Secretary KD7OED and member-at-large KF7PDV will expire in January, and we need candidates to fill all three of those positions for full two-year terms. Additionally, we need a candidate to fill the remaining year of N5OV's term as Vice-President. Position descriptions are contained in the CARA bylaws posted on the web page – if anyone is interested in filling one of these positions please feel free to ask questions and discuss with any board member. Nominations for all four positions will be accepted from the floor and elections will be conducted during the January 4, 2016 meeting.

50/50 Raffle: KE4ZZS won a Yaesu polo shirt. KJ6OTO won \$18.00 with the remaining \$18.00 going to the HF antenna improvement fund.

Next Club Meeting: There will not be a regular club meeting in December as it will be replaced with the traditional CARA holiday party and pot luck lunch on December 12th at noon. The CARA annual meeting and elections will be held January 4th, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ilse/KD7OED
CARA Secretary