



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



April 4, 2016

President KX6X called the meeting to order at 6:59 PM. Treasurer NJ7C, Secretary KD7OED and Member at Large KE4ZZS were present. Vice-President KG7IHO and Past President WB6OTS were absent.

Program: N7INK gave a short presentation on the storage and quick-disconnect setup for the new dual-band RACES vertical antennas.

President's report: KX6X reported on the board of director's meeting:

a. Planning for the hamfest continues on schedule. The prizes have been ordered and some are already here. KD7OED has coordinated for ARRL and ARCA sponsorship and will order tickets. The board has decided that we will not charge admission this year. Because no club member volunteered to cook, and because we were unable to find a local food vendor, we will only have coffee and donuts this year. Volunteers for assistance with parking, Junque sales, and other support functions are still needed – if you can help please contact any board member. The club will also conduct spring cleanup on Saturday April 29th in preparation for the hamfest. KG7LC was able to repair the Henry amplifier and it will be listed for sale at the hamfest.

b. Planning for Field Day activities in Veteran's Memorial Park are also on schedule – KG7DJY is leading coordination.

Vice President's Report: KG7IHO was absent so no report was given.

Treasurer's Report: NJ7C reported that there was a decrease in Emcom funds due to the purchase of two ham-band antennae from DX Engineering. The septic tank inspection was also completed at a cost of \$85. The biggest decrease in operating funds is from \$658.38 payment to Universal Radio for the hamfest prizes. Universal gave us a real break (list price total for the prizes was \$1007.40, actual charges including shipping

was \$658.38, and they deeply discounted several items and outright donated the Alinco HT and Eton flashlights). A copy of the current treasurer's report will be posted on the Larson Hall bulletin board.

Secretary's Report: KD7OED reported on the minutes from the March meeting. Motion by AF7HZ seconded by AA7RH to accept the minutes as published; the motion passed on a voice vote. Badges are available for those who have ordered them, and membership renewal will be due by the end of June (KD7OED will collect during the May hamfest).

Member At Large: KE4ZZS had nothing significant to report.

Technical Report: AA7RH reported that there is a very interesting gentleman in Bisbee (Roy/W7YRV) who has built a number of very interesting HF antennas including a set of four fourteen-element Sturba curtains. Do a google search for "Roy's Bisbee Antenna Farm" to see more information.

Public Service Activity: N7INK reported on activity since February:

3/5 - Old Pueblo 50: The ARES group used amateur radio to assist in maintaining runner accountability and report the status of runners as they made their way along the course using Old Pueblo 50 Endurance Race. This 50 mile course on forest service roads and trails loops through the southeastern part of the Santa Rita Mountains (part of the Arizona Trail). We deployed 29 radio operators to support the event, and although scheduled to be done by 19:30, we did not close until 22:15 when the last runner was accounted for.

3/19 – Sunsites Preparedness Display: The LDS Church in Sunsites requested that we set up a display of amateur radio equipment as part of their emergency preparedness expo. Two members journeyed to the church and set up three "go-kits" that could be used during an emergency. We also handed out ARRL literature relating to amateur radio and discussed Technician classes being offered in Wilcox.

Emergency Response N7INK reported on activity since February.

3/1 – Parker Canyon Lake Search: The RACES Unit supported a search for an overdue hiker in the Parker Canyon area of Cochise County. This was the second search in less than 4 days for a similar situation. We deployed the County Mobile Communications unit to the marina area to support the Search operation. We had support from Cochise County Helo and the AZ DPS Ranger, and the lady was located south of the lake.

3/12-13 Pat Scott Peak Rescue: The Sheriff's Office received a request for a rescue near Sawmill Springs/Pat Scott Peak area in the Huachuca Mountains south and west of Sierra Vista. The hiker provided grid coordinates from his Personal Locator Beacon. He was suffering from dehydration and hypothermia. An AZ DPS Ranger helicopter was able to insert a ground team within about a mile from the reported location, and the team was able to hike to his location and escort him back to the Forest Service helo landing zone near Scott Peak. There was essentially no moon light making the trek quite treacherous in the mountains. A second team had started up by foot through Fort Huachuca. One ARES member was able to provide radio relay between the mountain top location and the CP at the base of the mountain. We have one ARES member who was embedded in the SAR ground team and one operated from his home location to provide the relay.

3/20/16 – Montezuma Pass Rescue: The Sheriff's Office received a request to assist the Border Patrol. Four agents were stranded in the Huachuca Mountains with six undocumented aliens near Montezuma Pass. One agent was injured and their K9 was in heat distress. The RACES team helped establish and staff a portable communication station at the landing zone for the duration of the mission. Additional agencies/air assets involved included Border Patrol, AZ DPS, and 305th Combat Rescue Squadron. All personnel and the K9 were air lifted out.

3/24/16 – Parker Canyon Lake Search: The RACES Unit supported a search for another overdue hiker in the Parker Canyon area of Cochise County (the Parker Canyon Lake area is now unofficially known as "The Bermuda Triangle of Cochise County"). We again deployed the County Mobile Communications unit to the Marina area to support the Search operation. A gentleman called into 911 stating his brother was supposed to meet him at a Trailhead on Tuesday afternoon, but requested assistance

after being unable to locate him. While searching near the Last Known Point (LKP) our team came across the reporting party. While talking to him and getting additional information about clothing description, the missing brother texted stating he was OK and in Patagonia. Again we had support from Cochise County Sheriff's Office Helicopter and the AZ DPS Ranger.

Schedule of Upcoming Public Service Events:

04/17/2016 SV Thunder Mountain Games - Bicycle Race
04/29/2016 S.T.E.M. Cochise College
06/03/2016 AUXCOM Class (through 06/05/2016)
07/04/2016 Bisbee Coaster Race
09/3-5/2016 Paradise
09/24/2016 NAMI Bicycle Tour (62 miles)
10/08/2016 Cochise County Cycling Classic

ARCA Report: KC7GTY was absent; KD7OED reported that nominations for scholarships, ham of the year, and young ham of the year are due by May 1st. CARA will have at least one nomination submitted this year. Applications and further information as well as a schedule of other upcoming hamfests is available at www.arca-az.org.

CARA NET Report: KG7IHO was absent so no report was given.

Old Business: There has been no new action on radio tower upgrades or Morgan Manor cleanout.

New Business: None raised by members.

50/50 Raffle: KG7DJY won the raffle and donated his winnings to the club for a total of \$31 going to the HF antenna improvement fund.

Next Club Meeting: The next club meeting will be held Monday, May 2nd at 7:00 P.M.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ilse/KD7OED
CARA Secretary