



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



May 2nd, 2016

President KX6X called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Secretary KD7OED and Member-at-Large KE4ZZS were also present. Treasurer NJ7C, Vice-President KG7IHO and Past President WB6OTS were absent.

Program: Our presentation this month was by Roy Callison/W7YRV. Roy constructed multiple towers from galvanized thin-wall tubing (the same stuff used for chain link fence posts) and erected them to hold a variety of rhombic, beam and Sturba curtain antennas on his 40-acre property near Maricopa, Arizona over a span of many years. These were not commercially manufactured products, but rather towers that Roy built himself (one at nearly 200 feet high) by welding together sections of thin-wall galvanized tubing (the same stuff used for chain link fence posts) with cross-bracing. After welding the towers together, Roy raised them essentially by himself using a combination of winches, steel cable and a series of Volkswagen pickup trucks. The presentation was very detailed and included MANY photographs (including some of Roy climbing the towers when he was at an age when most folks have significantly restricted mobility. In short – an unbelievable effort on Roy's part, and a fine example of what can be accomplished if one dedicates 4 hours of work per day over several years. Although Roy no longer has that tower collection, he does live in Bisbee and has erected a serious vertical antenna on that property. For more information (and to view the photos) just do a Google search for "Roy's Antenna Farm."

President's report: KX6X advised that we are on track for our upcoming hamfest – prizes and tickets are in or will be delivered before Saturday. We still need a few folks available on Friday, May 6th to help with cleaning up the property and latrines. The board has decided that we will not charge admission this year. Coffee, water, soft drinks and donuts will be available for purchase in Larson Hall. VE testing will begin at 0900.

Vice-President's Report: KG7IHO was absent, but reported through President KX6X that due to deteriorating health of his mother, he will not be able to be an active participant in club activities for the foreseeable future. If anyone else is willing to take over Vice-President's position he will gladly step aside.

Secretary's Report: KD7OED reported that the minutes from the May meeting are posted on the web with a copy on the bulletin board in back of the hall. Motion by AF7HZ seconded by KE7DLH to accept the minutes as published – motion carried on a voice vote. KD7OED reminded members that dues are due by the end of June – he will be available during the hamfest to collect dues and distribute badges.

Treasurer's Report: NJ7C was absent, so no report was given.

Member at Large Report: KE7ZZS reported that the Civil Air Patrol recently conducted Constant Watch 16 and used repeaters similar to amateur repeaters to relay traffic across the state of Arizona.

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

Past President's Report: WB6OTS was absent, so no report was given.

Public Service Report: N7INK reported on activity since March:

- a. Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM): The STEM event was cancelled due to a school scheduling conflict.
- b. San Pedro Surge – ARES assisted the Habitat for Humanity bike race on April 17th. This was the inaugural year of this 46 mile bicycle loop from Sierra Vista to Tombstone and back. We provided 15 amateur radio operators in both fixed and mobile configurations. We also provided the Command Post communications for the Law Enforcement support provided by Sierra Vista Police Department, Tombstone Marshal's Office and the Cochise County Sheriff's Office as they provided traffic control for the event.

Emergency Responses: N7INK reported on activity since March:

- a. Parker Canyon Lake Search – The ARES/RACES Unit was requested to support a search for an hiker complaining of fatigue and dehydration in the

Parker Canyon area of Cochise County on April 5th We deployed the County Mobile Communications unit to the Marina area to support the Search operation. AZ DPS located the hiker and was able to land within a reasonable distance and walk to him. He was airlifted back to the CP, treated by Fry Fire EMS and released.

- b. Turkey Creek Search/Rescue - The ARES/RACES Unit was requested to support a search for an overdue hiker in the West Turkey Creek area of the Chiricahua Mountains on April 18th. Three hikers were hiking and one got separated from the group. He had decided to make camp for the night and was located near the trail around 11:00 PM. He was safely escorted down the mountain and rejoined his companions.

ARCA Report: KC7GTY was absent so no report was given.

CARA NET Report: The club still needs a net coordinator and volunteers to cover the Thursday night net. KD7OED will assist when he's not TDY, and AF7HZ will cover on 19 MAY. This is a great way for new hams to get more comfortable and hone their operating procedures.

Field Day: KG7DJY provided a Field Day update. The club has reserved a ramada in Veteran's Memorial Park and will run a minimum of three stations plus a GOTA station. There are a number of new hams (and prospective new hams) in the club and he is counting on them to participate and provide some of the energy and muscle to help with setup and operation. We still need digital and CW operators to help with the overnight shift. If you would like to help in any fashion please contact KG7DJY – Field Day is June 25th and 26th.

Old Business: None raised for discussion.

New Business: None raised for discussion.

50/50 Raffle: KE7DLH won \$10.00; the other \$10.00 goes to the club.

Next Club Meeting: The next meeting will be June 6th at 7:00 PM.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ilse/KD7OED
CARA Secretary