



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



Minutes of the CARA Membership Meeting
August 1st, 2016

President KX6X called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. Vice-President KG7IHO, Treasurer NJ7C, Secretary KD7OED and Member-at-Large KE4ZZS were also present. Past President WB6OTS was absent.

Program: There were two presentations this month. The first was recognition of KF7VVJ as the Amateur Radio Council of Arizona's Young Ham of the Year. KD7OED (ARCA 1st Vice-Chair) presented KF7VVJ a plaque in recognition of his many hours of service in support of RACES call-missions (where he acted as home unit coordinator), the Cochise County Cycling Classic bicycle race, the Old Pueblo 50 footrace, and many amateur radio scouting activities (merit badges, Jamboree on the Air, and Operation On-Target just to name a few). In addition – KF7VVJ is a member of the Cyber Patriot club at Buena High School – and is simply an outstanding example for other young hams to follow.

The second presentation was a short Powerpoint presentation by NH6BF regarding his experimentation with using an \$80 hand-held radio as a crossband repeater that allows him to reach in to the Mule Mountain repeater from his home in Santa Cruz county.

President's report: KX6X reported that the club will hold a cleanup of the Green Acres grounds this coming Saturday (August 6th). Major focus will be on cutting the grass and cleanout of the generator shed. The club has repaired the bad tire on the riding mower and replaced the battery, but we need folks to bring lawnmowers and string trimmers to cut areas that cannot be accessed by the riding mower. The intent is to empty out the generator shed completely – dust masks and gloves will be provided by the club. Start time is 8:00 AM so please come and help. KX6X also requested that club members volunteer to lead some of the Saturday morning activities that were suggested last month. During discussion it

was suggested that the club procure programming cables and software to allow new hams to program their low-cost hand-held radios. KG7TPI donated a programming cable, and Chirp software is available for free.

Vice-President's Report: KG7IHO had no specific comments this month.

Secretary's Report: KD7OED reported that the minutes from the June meetings were posted on the club website. Motion by AF7HZ seconded by KG7TPI to approve the June minutes, and motion by N7INK seconded by KI7EKT to approve the July minutes. Both motions passed on voice votes. The club now has 18 life members and 42 regular members in good standing. Dues were due by the end of July – if you haven't paid yet you are now a lapsed member (there are a total of 40 lapsed members). Membership badges for members who have joined since the May hamfest will be available at the September meeting. Finally, he thanked KI7EKT for agreeing to take over management of the CARA web page. That action will be completed in the next few days.

Treasurer's Report: NJ7C reported that July income was \$304.68 including membership, soda fund and 50/50 raffle donations. Expenses totaled \$341.15 including CARA logo digitization, lawnmower repair, utilities and the ARCA share of the May hamfest profits. A copy of the report is posted in back of Larson Hall.

Member at Large Report: KE7ZZS had nothing to report.

Technical Report: AA7JB is still working to replace the power transistors on the 146.76 Vertex repeater – in the meantime the older Kendecom unit remains in service. He is still working to program the Yaesu Fusion repeater – when complete it will allow either digital or analog operation. A question was asked about the possibility of linking one of the CARA repeaters to a L.A.N.T.E.R.N. club repeater in Whetstone, but discussion was deferred pending resolution of an old business item related to linking to the ARA network.

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

Public Service Report: N7INK reported on activity since June. The ARES group supported the Bisbee Coaster race on July 4th with a total of 73.5 hours of volunteer service. The coaster race personnel again thanked us for our support and stated that it was critical to having a successful event with no hiccups. Additionally, 2 RACES net training sessions were conducted for a total of 103.5 volunteer hours. Upcoming events include:

8/29-31/2016 AuxComm Class, Tucson
09/3-5/2016 Paradise
10/08/2016 Cochise County Cycling Classic, Douglas
10/15/2016 American Equestrian Endurance Ride, Sonoita
11/12/2016 Colossal Cave/Vail 50/50 Run, Vail
12/3/2016 Sierra Vista Christmas Parade

Emergency Responses: N7INK reported no RACES call-outs in July.

ARCA Report: KC7GTY was absent so N7INK reported that the ARCA elections at the Williams hamfest resulted in retention of most of the existing ARCA board, with the 1st and 2nd vice-chairs trading places and N6KZ replacing KD7RCJ as Secretary.

CARA NET Report: The club congratulates AF7HZ for taking over coordination of net controllers for our Thursday night Mule Mountain net. New controllers are always welcome as it is a great way for new hams to get more comfortable and hone their operating procedures.

Old Business: KG7DJY thanked all of those who helped with this year's Field Day activities, and reported that he has put together a checklist of things that need to be done to organize next year's event. KG7TPI volunteered to lead next year's activity.

The Arizona Repeater Association (ARA) gave \$2000 to CARA a number of years ago to procure the Kendecom 146.76 repeater, with an understanding that CARA would link this repeater to the ARA network. KD7OED reported that he discussed the potential of fulfilling this obligation with the ARA president and other board members during the Williams

hamfest. The ARA recommendation is that this not be a full-time link, but instead be implemented in an on-demand mode when required. KD7OED and AA7JB will explore technical options and present a proposal at next month's meeting.

The design for new CARA T-shirts is complete, but requires a minimum order of 25 before they can be printed. The price is \$15 without pocket or \$17 with pocket. If you are interested in buying one, contact NJ7C via email at chidesterdale@gmail.com.

New Business: KD7OED noted that we are due to resubmit coordination paperwork for all of our repeaters – the frequency coordination committee requires this to be resubmitted every two years. He will work with AA7JB to complete this action.

AB4LE has been leading amateur radio scouting activities in the local area for a number of years, but will be taking a new job in Tucson shortly and as a result will be unable to continue in this capacity. KI7EKT and others have volunteered to assist with the annual Jamboree on the Air October 15th and 16th, but an overall coordinator is still needed.

50/50 Raffle: KI7EKT won a Yaesu polo shirt and a Blackout Buddy light. N5OV won \$23 and donated his proceeds back to the club for a total of \$46 going to club funds.

Next Club Meeting: The next meeting will be September 12th at 7:00 PM.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ilse/KD7OED
CARA Secretary