



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



CARA Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2017

President KX6X called the meeting to order at 6:58 PM. Vice President KI7EKT, Treasurer KI7FRU, Secretary KD7OED, Member-at-Large KE4ZZS and Past President WB6OTS were also present.

Programs: Due to the focus on preparation for the upcoming hamfest, there was no program this month.

President's report: KX6X reported that KG7TPJ/Rick continues to recover from his recent head injury.

Vice-President's Report: KI7EKT reported that Jerry KB5IM will give a presentation on PSK31 at the June club meeting. Both of the new deep-cycle backup batteries for Mule Mountain and the charger are on display in the front of Larson Hall – installation will be prior to the June meeting.

Treasurer's Report: KI7FRU reported on club finance activity since the April meeting. Aside from regular expenses, the club received \$610 from equipment sales and \$180 in membership dues. A copy of the treasurer's report is posted in the back of Larson Hall.

Secretary's Report: KD7OED reported that the minutes from the April meeting were posted on the club website, and there were other no corrections or additions noted by members. Motion by KB5IM seconded by AF7HZ to accept the minutes as published; the motion passed on a voice vote. The updated memorandum of agreement with the Army Electronic Proving Ground (EPG) regarding use of the EPG tower has passed administrative review is still awaiting signature by the EPG commander. The annual report to the Arizona Corporation Commission is due by June 14th and will be filed prior to the next meeting. Membership

renewal for 2017 is due NLT the end of July – KD7OED will be accepting renewals during the hamfest or at any of the upcoming meetings.

Member at Large Report: KE4ZZS had no significant info to report.

Past President's Report: Past president WB6OTS reported that Field Day activities will be conducted at Green Acres as a Category 3F station with an additional GOTA station. To date only 15 folks have volunteered to help – the club needs a total of 24 in order to be competitive against the OVARC and Coconino clubs. Training will occur after the hamfest on Saturday during the 7th region QSO party.

Technical Report: AA7JB was absent so no report was given.

Hamfest Report: NH6BF reported that all prizes have been received, the raffle tickets are on hand so if anyone wants to purchase tickets please see him. He also reviewed the list of hamfest volunteers we have so far – the list is posted on the white board in Larson Hall so if you haven't yet volunteered to assist please see him. Gates will open at 0700 – but all helpers are asked to show up not later than 0600 to get organized.

Public Service Report: N7INK reported on activity during April.

4/13 Wilcox Hospital Display – The ARES/RACES team took the County Mobile Communications Unit to Willcox to support and participate in the Community Health Fair. Over 350 children and adults came through as the members provided tours of the vehicle and demonstrated its capabilities and discussed the public safety and amateur radio capabilities of the unit and the amateur volunteers who staff the unit. As part of the trip, they also tested the amateur radio equipment at the Northern Cochise County Community Hospital in Wilcox, and conducted over the air tests with Benson Community Hospital. The tests included a successful simplex test and also tests with repeaters that we may need to use such as the Pima County Office of Emergency Management repeater on Mt. Lemmon (146.88), the Cochise ARES/RACES Repeater on Mule Mtn (147.02) and Heliograph EAARS repeater (146.86).

4/27-28 Sawmill Fire – The Cochise Office of Emergency Services opened the County EOC and requested ARES/RACES operators to staff the radio positions in the EOC. We provided coverage from 0600-1800 on both days until the danger to our area was considered under control. We remained on standby for one additional day. During this time we tested our voice & digital equipment and updated some computer software during lulls in traffic.

Upcoming events include:

05/27/2017	Sky Island Summit Challenge
06/05/2017	NWS Skywarn Training in Safford
06/24/2017	Field Day, CARA Site
07/04/2017	Bisbee Coaster Race
7/10-12/2017	MAG300 Incident Command Class, Sierra Vista
07/27-28/2017	MAG400 Incident Command Class, Sierra Vista
09/02-04/2017	Paradise Special Event
09/30/2017	NAMI Sky Island Bicycle Event, Sierra Vista
10/07/2017	Cochise County Cycling Classic, Douglas

N7INK also noted that the Sky Island Summit Challenge is on Memorial Day Weekend. Although the SAR squadron plans to stage a team in support of the event, RACES coverage is not planned (although some members may be asked to provide home-unit coverage).

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

CARA NET Report: AF7HZ reported that the Thursday night net on the 146.76 repeater is going well – and asked for additional volunteers to assist with NCS duties. This is great experience for new hams and also good training for contesting.

Old Business:

- Repeater Linking: No update due to priority of pending Mule Mountain tower upgrades.

- KG7ITC was absent, so there was no update on T-shirts.
- KD7OED has received a copy of the club amateur license from AA7JB and will get it posted in Larson Hall.

New Business:

- A member stated that he thought the guy anchor for the south tower had been upgraded. Upon further inspection, it was determined that this was not the case. W7WRJ stated that he knows an individual who can assist with this work.

50/50 Raffle: N9JYV won the 50/50 raffle for \$14, with the remaining \$14 going to the club.

Next Club Meeting: The next meeting will be June 5th at 7:00 PM.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ilse/KD7OED
CARA Secretary