



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



CARA Meeting Minutes
July 10th, 2017

President KX6X called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Vice President N7FMJ, Treasurer KI7FRU, Member-at-Large KE4ZZS and Past President WB6OTS were also present. Secretary KD7OED was absent due to work travel.

Program: WB6OTS gave a detailed presentation on CARA's Field Day results which included an estimated 3,186 points for contacts with an additional 1130 bonus points for a total of 5,316 points. There were 480 CW contacts, 225 Phone contacts, and 189 digital contacts. He also identified some issues to consider for next year's event, along with the recommendation that a committee be formed by the CARA board to develop and implement an HF improvement plan. KX6X thanked Grant for his outstanding work as field day chairman.

President's Report: KX6X announced that N7FMJ has volunteered to honcho this year's DXpedition to Paradise over the Labor Day weekend, and AA7JB will coordinate work on the south tower guy problem. Additionally, KE4ZZS (with assist from N7FMJ and AA7JB) will work to assemble a portable using the camo poles that are on the front steps of Morgan Manor. Finally, KX6X announced a board decision to allow K4AFN to use the CARA repeaters to hold a net for his church's disaster preparedness group. This net will tentatively be held on the 146.76 repeater on the third Wednesday of each month at 1800 hours.

Vice-President's Report: N7FMJ encouraged the membership to participate in the Paradise exercise – if you are planning to attend please contact him so he can coordinate a parking plan that is conducive to all (this is especially true if you plan to go out before the main body!). N7INK has already submitted the Special Event notice for publication in QST. The main body will depart Green Acres the morning of Saturday, September 2nd and return Monday September 4th. There will be a traditional champagne

celebration once everything is set up about noon on Saturday, and that consideration is being given to having a movie night on Saturday and potentially a Chile cook-off in lieu of the traditional bean feed Sunday night. As usual, Eggs Paradise will be served Monday morning before we break down, clean up, and depart the site.

Treasurer's Report: KI7FRU updated the club on CARA's financial accounts as well as reported that the supplier of the leaking backup battery for Mule Mountain has been contacted. Unfortunately, the supplier misunderstood the shipping problem, so further contact will be made.

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

Past President's Report: WB6OTS had nothing additional to report.

Technical report: AA7JB reported that the coax to the 440 MHz repeater antenna on the CARA grounds was disconnected, and that is the reason the repeater was off-line. Although the antenna feedline has been repaired, the repeater remains off-line, as the 147.34 Yaesu repeater has been installed on this dual-band antenna for testing. He also asked the membership for recommendations on how to configure the Yaesu repeater (e.g.; should it be always analog, always digital, or a hybrid configuration that will receive in one mode and transmit in another?). He also reported that KD7OED had filled in the hole for the guy on the center tower, but the guy wire for the south tower still is in need of repair.

Public Service Report: N7INK reported on activity during June.

6/1 Hereford Search – On the afternoon of June 1, the sheriff's office received a request to locate a missing 3 year old girl. Fortunately she was located quickly. The teams were not fully deployed when she was found in good health.

6/24-25 Field Day –The ARES/RACES unit operated class 3F (Alternate Emergency Operations Center) for annual Field Day activities. We used tactical antennas (wire and 1 portable yagi) vice our normal fixed station antennas.

Upcoming events include:

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.
The course will remain the same as last year, but late starts will not be allowed this year. This is still a ride (NOT a race)!

10/07/2017 Cochise County Cycling Classic, Douglas
This course will also remain the same as last year, but was moved up one week on the calendar due to a schedule conflict at the County Fairgrounds.

ARCA Report: KC7GTY was absent, so no report was given this month.

CARA NET Report: AF7HZ reported that the Thursday night net on the 146.76 repeater is going well, but participation has been down quite a bit lately. He may be on temporary travel for work during the month of August so might need someone else to serve as NCS if he is out of town.

Old Business:

- Repeater Linking: No update pending Mule Mountain tower upgrades.
- Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Army Electronic Proving Ground (EPG) regarding use of the EPG tower: The updated draft MOA has passed admin was reportedly signed by the EPG commander, but a copy has not yet been received.
- CARA T-shirts: No update this month.
- South Tower Guy repair: AA7JB will work the issue.

New Business:

- KX6X announced license testing would be held at CARA on July 21 at 6 pm. KX6X also nominated WB6OTS to return as the FD chairman for 2018. WB6OTS accepted.
- K7YSV volunteered to give a GPS presentation for the September meeting, and was given permission to take home the GPS antennas that had been donated to CARA to see if he could get them working.

50/50 Raffle: KG7DJY won the 50/50 drawing and collected \$20, with \$23 going to the club.

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

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Note: These minutes were created based on input from KX6X, N7INK, and KI7FRU and N7FMJ – many thanks to them for their assistance!

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ilse/KD7OED
CARA Secretary