



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



## CARA Meeting Minutes August 7th, 2017

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

**Program:** There was no program this month.

**President's Report:** KX6X announced that the board had some lengthy discussion about how the Yaesu repeater should be configured, and was still soliciting members input. He also advised that the September club meeting will not be held until Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> because of the Labor Day holiday on September 4<sup>th</sup>.

**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!). At this point only three overnight groups have signed up, and if we cannot find someone to drive the MCU we will have to make a decision on whether to proceed without it. He reminded folks that K7YSV will give a presentation on GPS during the September meeting, and asked for volunteers to give a presentation at the October meeting.

**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, but that she is still in negotiations with Mr. John Wayne for a replacement. She also advised that there is a way to support the club financially when purchasing from Amazon. Simply log in to smile.amazon.com and select CARA as your designated charitable organization. When you purchase from smile.amazon.com the purchase price will be the same as if you purchased from regular Amazon, but a small amount of each purchase will go to CARA.

**Secretary's Report:** KD7OED thanked KX6X and N7INK for taking notes during the July meeting. The draft minutes were posted for review, and two minor admin corrections were made. Motion by AA7HZ seconded by W7OL to approve the revised minutes passed on a voice vote. KD7OED also reported that the MOA with EPG for use of the EPG tower was finally approved, and reminded members that membership renewal was due by the end of July. A copy of the current roster (highlighting in yellow those who are delinquent in dues) is posted on the club website. HE also noted two new club members KC7LIN (present at the meeting) and KI7NMW.

**Member at Large Report:** KE4ZZS was absent.

**Past President's Report:** WB6OTS was absent.

**Technical report:** AA7JB reported that he is evaluating the digital performance of the Yaesu repeater when using the C4FM mode. There was a long discussion with members about the advantages and disadvantages of setting up the repeater in various modes, with the general consensus that it should default to analog mode. AF7HZ advised that there is a new offer from Yaesu to trade in the current DR-1 repeater for credit towards the DR-2 repeater that is more capable, but initial impressions are that there would still be a significant cost to upgrade. AA7JB also advised that in addition to Icom, Kenwood and FlexRadio have now opted to implement the non-proprietary D-Star mode developed by the Japan Amateur Radio league. The club budget will allow for purchase of another repeater – AA7JB will continue to study options and make a recommendation to the club next month.

**Public Service Report:** N7INK reported on activity during July.

7/1 - Coaster Race Practice Run: Several members deployed to Bisbee to support the practice run.

7/4 - Coaster Race: 27 members of RACES/ARES team supported the annual Independence Day coaster race in Bisbee by assisting with race control and safe operations on the race course.

7/9 – Search And Rescue (SAR) Mission in Huachuca Mountains. The RACES team provided communications support to the SAR team while they assisted in rescue of an injured individual with a broken femur.

7/28 – Search And Rescue (SAR) Mission in Carr Canyon: The RACES team provided communications support to the SAR team while they assisted in recovery of deceased hiker who fell over the edge at the Carr Canyon waterfall.

7/30 – Search And Rescue (SAR) Mission in Ramsey Canyon: The RACES team provided communications support to the SAR team while they assisted in the rescue of injured older gentleman

Upcoming events include:

08/19-20/2017                      Search and Rescue Academy, 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 reported that ARCA assisted the Kachina Amateur Radio Club in sponsoring the White Mountain Hamfest near Pinetop on July 21st in lieu of previous summer events held in Williams. The next ARCA meeting will be at the ARRL State Convention in Maricopa on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

**CARA NET Report:** AF7HZ reported that the Thursday night net on the 146.76 repeater is going well, but guest net control stations are always welcome as this is not only fun but also great training.

**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 been signed. Action complete.
- CARA T-shirts: No update this month.
- South Tower Guy repair: AA7JB will work the issue with W7WRJ.

**New Business:** None raised by members.

**50/50 Raffle:** KG7ITC won the 50/50 drawing and collected \$26, with \$26 going to the club.

**Next Club Meeting:** The next meeting will be September 11th at 7:00 PM.

**Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ilse/KD7OED  
CARA Secretary