

General Meeting Minutes of Lake Amateur Radio Association February 17, 2018

Meeting was called to order by President N4KXO at 10:00 AM

Club recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Introduction of members and guests: Michael Fredericks

Monthly Service Honor Roll: As always Dean KM4QMB for being our yard bird. Special thanks to John WB4HV, Don K3DRS and Jay N4KXO for all their work involved with our SK sales at Hamcation. Also helping during the SK equipment pickup was Mike K9SSL. Also Ed N4ZIV for all his support and construction of the K4FC.ORG web site

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS: 1st reading: Dennis Nu4V, Danny KN4IFJ and Michael (No call yet). 2nd reading: (none).

TREASURER'S REPORT: Was posted on the wall. Motion submitted for acceptance of the report, seconded and accepted. The following balances were reported for January 2018. Sun Trust checking, \$1,423.66; Sun Trust Savings, \$1,001.40; SKFund, \$1,823.44; Investment Account, \$19,330.72; Petty Cash, \$50.00; PayPal, \$442.02.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Was posted on the wall as well as emailed to all members; Motion submitted for acceptance of the report, seconded and accepted.

ENGINEERS REPORT: See attached.

ARES: W4ALR- The net operates every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday on N4FLA, 147.255 at 7:00 PM, and Packet on 145.01. All are welcome to join us. Frank KK4MBX is the ARES net manager.

QCWA: Uses 147.000 for their Tuesday night net. A lot of their members use Echolink to check into the QCWA net Tuesday at 7:30 PM with an average of about a dozen check-ins. The QCWA luncheon is now the third Saturday 11:30 AM at the Olive Garden. There is also a net on 14.347 MHz 4 PM Sunday and Saturday on 3.940 MHz 9:00am EST.

SK COMMITTEE: - SK sales sold equipment at Hamcation. We may in the near future offer to members, "container sales days" giving you the opportunity purchase quality ham equipment that we have on hand. And as always stickers are available to put on your equipment so your spouse or significant other knows what to do with your ham gear when you become a SK.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Don K3DRS. Don reports that 200 service hours were recorded for January 2018. 200 hours have been recorded for the year 2018. Only those members that have taken the required Incident Command System courses and have been vetted by Lake County, and receives a badge have their volunteer service hours recorded. See John WB4HV for an application.

Lake County Awards - Tuesday Feb 27th will be the annual Lake County Commissioners award presentation. 12 of our members who accumulated 150 or more volunteer hours will be honored. All are welcome to attend.

DX and CONTESTING:

You can find the current contests by looking at the ARRL website/contests
This club's facility can be made available for members to participate in contests.

Does anyone have any recent DX contacts of interest? Steve KT4Q worked Qatar, United Emirates and Fiji

OLD BUSINESS:

Grid Square Contest - The ARRL grid square contest began January 1, 2018. All grid square totals will be kept by LOTW. **(Yes you would have to use LOTW)** If you as a club member participate, the club winner will win a lifetime membership to LARA. 2nd place will get paid dues for a year. If you would like to use the Clubhouse HF equipment, see Frank KK4MBX. Frank will make arrangements for you to use our HF equipment. So far there are 23,618 participants. "Total Grid Score" will be the determining factor for the club winner. So far in the lead from LARA is Steve KT4Q ranked 137 with 1165 grid squares recorded. In comparison I'm ranked 6,696 with a score of 109. (As of Friday afternoon) How many of you are participating?

The LARA Monthly Lunch - There were 19 people at this week's luncheon. We are looking for a new location. We are no longer welcome at the Golden Corral.

CLUB APPAREL - Any questions please see Frank KK4MBX - we now also have a T-shirt vendor separate from Striking Effects. Frank will take orders for new T-shirts.

Steve, KK4VFO made a motion and seconded by Strait, KT4YA that the club have a presence at the Lake County Fair with our trailer this year and so moved. Details to be worked out.

STORAGE CONTAINER - The Board authorized up to \$350.00 to purchase the materials needed to re-do the storage container roof. Dean KM4QMB made arrangements for us to purchase the needed material needed at a good price. Once we have the materials in hand we will schedule a work party.

LARA Board - is looking into several ideas as a fund raiser. Your input would be appreciated. Contact Dave NP2MR or any board member with your ideas. One thing you can do if you are an Amazon user. Sign into your Amazon account by going to Amazon.Smile to make your Amazon Prime purchases. Your orders will appear in the normal Amazon site as usual, but LARA will get a little income from your purchases.

NEW BUSINESS:

Technician class - Scheduling and instructor availability caused us to cancel the March date. However, it may happen this year.

Field Day - We will need someone to be chairman or several to be co-chairs this year. It's never too early to start the planning process. Field Day will be June 23rd and 24th this year. Al W4ALR will continue as the liaison for the county assets, Steve KT4Q will be available to help, but will not be at field day this year.

WEBSITE - The updated LARA website (K4FC.ORG) went online January 31st. There are a few changes yet to be made but the bulk of the re-vamped site is back online. Let me or any board member know if you find any corrections that need to be made.

Antenna trailer - Is now at Jim Kimball's, K5AUP, business. He will need our help with the project. Strait KT4YA will be scheduling a work party through the reflector.

1000 Feet of coax - Fred NF2F is making arraignments to have a reel fabricated to wind up the coax. Our plan is to make up 100 foot and 50 foot lengths.

Facebook page - If there is a member who has a few more hours in the week then I do, and would like to monitor and manage our Facebook page, please see me.

FT 8 - is the newest digital mode that is really taken off on the HF bands. After today's meeting, Steve KT4Q will do a demonstration and answer your questions on how to start using this digital mode. It's also a good way to accumulate your grid squares during the ARRL grid square contest this year.

SUNSHINE REPORT: Don K3DRS is recovering from back surgery and is resting. Luke N4LOS is incapacitated.

Does anyone have anything for the good of the order? The board does. We'd like to foster more member involvement within the club. Please contact any board member. We welcome any ideas you may have. If you are an Amazon Prime user please consider making your orders through Amazon Smile, and attach your account to LARA. LARA will benefit from your sales as Amazon will contribute a percentage of your purchase cost to our organization.

GOKIT Training. - Gordon, W9KC has scheduled a training session for May 12th at 10:00am at the clubhouse. Please RSVP Gordon at rfengineer123@aol.com if you will be attending.

Strait KT4YA reminded that the monthly simplex night on 147.420 MHz is Monday February 19th at 7:00pm. Check in if you can.

Strait KT4YA will be heading up the "March for Babies" walkathon on May 5th from 8:00 to 11:00am. Location will be same as last year at South Lake Hospital National Training Center in Clermont. All you need is a Handy Talky on 442.600Mhz +5 103.5pl. A plaque was presented to the club for last year's participation.

29 members and visitors present.

50/50 drawing won by Tom WB4VWZ for \$13.00
AI W4ALR won a repeater directory.

Meeting adjourned at: 9:45am

Submitted by Emil, WA2UPK Secretary.

Engineer's Report February 17, 2018

De NF2F

Royal Harbor UHF – Up and running on analog.

N4FLA/147.255 Up and running on the main repeater. We have been hearing some type of interference on the machine. It's being investigated.

K4FC/147.000 – The repeater will be taken off the air next Wednesday for a complete alignment by Motorola. A notice will go out on the reflector when that happens and when it is placed back in service.

EchoLink - I have received the EchoLink equipment from K3NON and will be working to get it back in service.

K4FC/442.900 – The repeater in service with IRLP.

Camera System –. The system is currently running with four active cameras.

Repeater Control IP Power strips have been installed in the repeater building. Both the VHF and UHF repeaters can now be controlled via the internet.

K4AUS is in the process of upgrading radios in the ARES Trailer.

We expect to be purchasing the metal roof panel for the storage container within the week. A work party will be called to install the panels.

Respectfully Submitted,
NF2F
Frederick E. Fitte