

General Meeting Minutes of Lake Amateur Radio Association March 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:

Monthly Service Honor Roll: As always Dean KM4QMB for being our yard bird. Also Dean's wife Cyrena for getting us a discount on the storage container roofing materials. I'd like to thank the entire crew who helped in getting the new dipole antenna up - Lenny KD4MDN, (who climbed the tower) Frank KK4MBX, Bill KN4BIT, Walt K3RUM, Fred NF2F (who donated the antenna) and last but not least the antenna trailer rehab crew - Carl K8BBT, Richard W4KBX, Bill KN4BIT, Rich KT9TT, Phil KC4LCG and Jim K5AUP. Also John WB4HV and Don K3DRS for hosting the container sales event last Wednesday.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS: 1st reading: (None). 2nd reading: Danny KN4IFJ, Michael KN4DEF and Dennis NU4V and voted in.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Was posted on the wall. Motion submitted for acceptance of the report, seconded and accepted. The following balances were reported for February 2018. Sun Trust checking, \$2,705.64; Sun Trust Savings, \$1,001.40; SKFund, \$1,660.00; Investment Account, \$19,022.25; Petty Cash, \$50.00; PayPal, \$82.08.

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. There has been a noticeable increase in net attendance this year so far. Volunteers are still needed for shelter duty. See John WB4HV or Al W4ALR for ICS requirements. A set up at the Lake County Fair is postponed until next year.

QCWA: Uses 147.000 for their Tuesday night net. into the QCWA net Tuesday at 7:30 PM. Normally some of their members check in to the net with Echolink. The 147.000 repeater is off the air and there is a problem with the Echolink, link. Both Echolink and the repeater will be back in the near future. 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. Temporarily using KH6MT on Echolink until 147.000 is back in service.

SK COMMITTEE: - Held a container sale Wednesday March 14th after the monthly LARA luncheon. it was poorly attended. Not sure if we'll attempt it again as there was only \$158.00 in sales.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Don K3DRS. Don reports that 274 service hours were recorded for February 2018. 474 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.

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? Nothing

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. So far there are 27,643 participants. "Total Grid Score" will be the determining factor for the club winner. So far in the lead from LARA is Steve KT4Q ranked 213 with 1558 grid squares recorded. In comparison I'm ranked 7,853 with a score of 158. (As of Friday afternoon) How many of you are participating?

The LARA Monthly Lunch - There were 18 people at this week's luncheon at 11.00am now at our new location. Ichiban Chinese & Japanese Buffet, 10301 U.S. Hwy. 441, Leesburg FL.

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.

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

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:

STORAGE CONTAINER - The roofing material is now here. We need to plan a work party to get the job done. Time and date will be sent out via reflector and net.

Field Day - At this point have Al W4ALR, Strait KT4YA and Fred NF2F as the co-chairs. Field Day will be June 23rd and 24th 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. Thanks to Jim N4ZIV for updating the website.

Antenna trailer - Is now at Jim Kimball's. There have been several work parties. Now in painting stage and coming along.

1000 Feet of coax - A new reel has been constructed by our neighbor Andy for the 1000 feet of coax project. Work party to be scheduled to install coax connectors.

Facebook page - Ann Keller KM4BVH has taken over the day to day LARA Facebook page.

Dipole antenna - was replaced Wednesday with a donated by NF2F Carolina Windom.

Propane tank - A new propane tank and some valves were replaced yesterday by our propane vendor. During that changeover it was discovered the solenoid that allows the propane to run the generator has a leak. So the gas company red tagged the generator. The valve is to be replaced Thursday and hopefully the propane company will be here also to make sure everything is right and put the generator back in service.

SUNSHINE REPORT: Don K3ARS has some surgery and recuperating.

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.

There have been some problems with AOL e-mail addresses get reflector messages. Dave NP2MR is looking into the problem.

23 members and visitors present.

50/50 drawing won by Tom WB4VWZ for \$10

Meeting adjourned at 10.25am

Submitted by Emil, WA2UPK Secretary.

Engineer's Report March 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 and duplexer is at Motorola for tune up.

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.

Metal roof panels for the storage container have been received. Andy our neighbor has fabricated a stand for the 1,000-foot spool of coax for field day. We will be announcing work parties for both projects in the near future.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frederick E. Fitte NF2F