

## **General Meeting Minutes of Lake Amateur Radio Association September 15, 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. He's had to mow and trim twice this month to stay on top of it.

### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS:**

1st reading:

Gerald Walls

2<sup>nd</sup> reading:

William (Bill) Adams

Alan Herrin

Carl D'Alessandro

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Was posted on the wall. Motion submitted for acceptance of the report, seconded and accepted. The following balances were reported for November 2017. Sun Trust checking, \$1406.16; Sun Trust Savings, 1001.46; SKFund, \$1500; Investment Account, 18,979.51; Petty Cash, \$50; PayPal, \$102.08.

**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:** A new end fed antenna was installed. The new antenna made a big improvement. Some of the old hard line coax in the repeater building has been replaced by more flexible coax. Our Comcast router has been upgraded to a static IP address.

Our search for a qualified person identified and outstanding candidate. We are working with him and Gordon, AC4US, familiarize him with our systems.

**ARES:** W4ALR- The net operates every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday on N4FLA, 147.255 at 7:00 PM, and Packet on 145.01 (N4FLA-2). Frank KK4MBX is the ARES net manager. The Lake County frequency list has been updated. Check the K4FC.org web site for the updated list and print out your own copy. It should get uploaded over the weekend. Frank our net manager is looking for a few good operators who would like to train to be a net NCS and a net NCS backup. It's really not all that difficult. If you are at all interested contact Frank KK4MBX.

**QCWA:** The QCWA net is Tuesday evenings at 8:30 PM on Echolink using W0OLL

**SK COMMITTEE:** - SK sales will be selling in February at Hamcation. We recently received equipment from Gene AD4UB and Charlie KB1KHD. Neither are actually SK yet but the SK committee handles donated equipment.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:** Don K3DRS. Don reports that 257 service hours were recorded for August 2018. 2303 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. Sometime in the future we will have a class on the ICS100 200 and 700 tests.

### **DX and CONTESTING:**

You can find the current contests by looking at the ARRL website/contests you take a look at the current contests you will see that it's the contest season. Although propagation seems to be at an all time low on the HF frequencies, the bands seem to come alive with a contest.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

The LARA Monthly Lunch is set for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 11:00 AM time at the Ichiban Japanese/Chinese buffet Highway 441, and Radio Road, in Leesburg, 14 were present at the last lunch. I hear from time to time that some members don't care for Ichiban. If the Club members care to suggest a different location for the LARA monthly lunch please contact a Board member. Remember buffet style restaurants seems to work the best over the years that the club has held a monthly luncheon.

**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.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Grid Square Contest** - The ARRL grid square contest began January 1, 2018. All grid square totals will be kept by 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. There are 39,662 operators currently in the contest. Steve KT4Q from LARA is ranked 684 with 2571 grid squares recorded. So far in 2nd place is Bill KN4BIT ranked 2876 with 1168 grids recorded. Jay, N4KXO is ranked 9723 with 398 grids recorded. An operator whom a lot of us know but who is not a club member, Kevin Milhorn, N4KM, is ranked 328 with 3498 grids recorded. These numbers are from yesterday morning.

**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. Remember to make your Amazon purchases via Amazon Smile. LARA gets a piece of the action when you make your purchases the program.

**442.600** - 442.600 was Emil's repeater in Clermont and had an active IRLP node on it. Since Emil moved, he apparently gave the repeater to an operator in Ocoee. The station has been up and down since then.

**Christmas Dinner** - Still on for December 14th at The Lakes of Mount Dora clubhouse. During the October LARA Board meeting, the final menu and costs will be determined

**WEBSITE** - The new revised Freq plan should get posted over the weekend. Please go to K4FC.org and print your own copy. Several errors have been corrected and some other updates made.

## **SUNSHINE REPORT:**

### **Does anyone have anything for the good of the order?**

The ARRL is requesting you contact Senator Bill Nelson regarding the Amateur Radio Parity Act. Sen. Nelson is the only holdout to the passing of this legislation. You can go to [ARRL.rallycongress.net](http://ARRL.rallycongress.net), enter your zip code, fill in the blanks and a letter will be sent in your name to Sen. Nelsons office.

Bob, KC8MLB, informed us of a new Net Thursday evenings, on 443.725 with a plus offset and a tone of 123.0 operated by the Euphoria Radio Club. The repeater identification is K1EWE. This is a social net and all are welcome to join.

Strait, KT4YA, was given Federal Junior Crystal Set. This is an antique radio from somewhere around the 1920's. Strait is researching more about the unit to determine its value before placing the item on stake for LARA Benefit.

The board would like to hear any suggestions you may have. Contact any board member.

33 members and visitors present.

50/50 drawing for \$21.00 was won by Alan Herrin who donated the winnings to the Club. Thank you, Alan.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.

Submitted by Frank, KK4MBX, Acting Secretary.