

General Meeting Minutes of Lake Amateur Radio Association May 18, 2019

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 and Carl K8BBT for his assist in keeping our tractor running.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS: 1st reading 2nd reading: KN4MDJ Kenneth, KN4SQC Gary, KB3ZLO Lorrie, K6STS Douglas. All were voted in as members of LARA.

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. SunTrust checking \$4153.40, SunTrust Savings \$1001.55, SKFund \$1000.00; Investment Account \$17,379.11, Petty Cash \$50.00 PayPal \$120.90.

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.

KN4MDJ Kenneth made a presentation on the Boy Scout radio program

ENGINEERS REPORT: All systems we control are up and working.

ARES: W4ALR- The net operates every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday on N4FLA, 147.255 at 7:00 PM. Frank KK4MBX is the ARES net manager. If you would like to train to be a net NCS and a net NCS backup contact Frank. Because of illnesses, vacations etc, a different schedule of operators will call the net the next couple of months. KK4MBX advises that during the month of July he especially needs some net control operators due to vacations. If during you do not hear the net NCS on 147.255 at the 7:00 PM start time, remember the net backup frequency is 147.390 + 103.5.

QCWA: No meeting today

ECHOLINK - Is currently on the air. The LARA Board of Directors at its last meeting agreed to take over responsibility of the Echolink station (K4FC-R). t. Thanks to Steve KA6NZU and Larry N2HBX our Engineer are working on getting Echolink back here to our repeater shed and hard wired to the 147.000 Quantar repeater.

IRLP - The local IRLP node on 442.900 normally sits on IRLP reflector 9050 which is also known as the East Coast Reflector. Yes, you may use the repeater locally but remember when you use 442.900 you are talking to approximately 40 to 50 other repeaters from the State of New York to Florida and all points in between. They have a tech net every Tuesday at 8:00PM. There is another local UHF repeater available on 442.800 + 103.5that can be used also.

SARnet - The SARnet is locally available from Clermont on 444.975 + 103.5 or Orlando on 444.075 + 103.5 and now Brooksville on 444.825 + 146.2 It is an all an UHF system. The

SARnet covers most of Florida with 35 repeaters connected and 8 more under construction. It was designed for emergency use throughout the State and was used extensively during hurricane IRMA and Michael. You may use it but try and limit QSO's to a few minutes. It is not intended for lengthy conversations or rag chewing. The system uses the Florida Department of Transportation microwave system to link all the repeaters. Go to www.sarnetfl.com for more information.

DSTAR - The KJ4TJD DSTAR repeater is up and running on low power. For those of you who use Paul K3NON's KK4KYK DSTAR repeater, it is out of service, apparently from a lightning strike. The LARA Board of Directors has offered to take responsibility of the KJ4TJD repeater from Paul K2NON. That agreement has not been finalized as of yet. There is a DSTAR net every Monday at 8:00PM. It's on the KJ4TJD DSTAR repeater and reflector 37B and the net control is usually from the Royal Harbor Amateur Radio Club.

P-25/simplex 147.420 - Currently when you talk on 147.420 simplex, your transmission is also heard on the local P-25 system. It works both ways, - P-25 transmissions are heard on the simplex frequency.

DMR - There are two DMR repeaters in Lake County. One in the North part of Lake County and the other in the South of the County. If you know how to program your DMR radio, use 444.550 + 103.5 (North) and 444.050 + 103.5 (South).

SK COMMITTEE: - We have stickers for you to place on your equipment so your spouse knows who to call when you become an SK. WB4HV John advised that he had some equipment from a new sk and that some of it was almost new, he has posted a list on the bulletin board

BUILDING MANAGER - Frank KK4MBX is our building manager. He, along with Lenny KD4MBN and N4KXO have been working on getting the consoles operational again. The Amertron 811 amplifier has been upgraded and in working condition. The Kenwood TS-940 has been cleaned and is ready to go. This is a work in progress. The new meeting sound system was used today. Everyone in the room was able to hear Jay today.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Our membership chairman was able to make the meeting today. He is still recuperating and welcomes phone calls and visits to his home. John WB4HV is filling in for him keeping track of the "vetted" hours report. The current totals are 244 hours in April for a total in 2019 of 694 hours reported. WA2ENT Steve was also at the meeting today. Steve has been under the weather for a bit lately but is doing a lot better.

MONTHLY LUNCHEON -The LARA Monthly Luncheon is the 2nd Wednesday of each month. beginning with the May monthly luncheon we began lunching at The Haystax Restaurant in Eustis on 441. 12 people attended the luncheon which is double what were getting at the former spot. Everyone who was there enjoyed the luncheon.

CLUB APPAREL - Any questions please see Frank KK4MBX - we now have a T-shirt vendor separate from Striking Effects. That company is called Charles T's. Frank will take orders for new T-shirts. Frank will look into T-shirts for Field Day

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. There's been major openings on 6 Meters all month. 20 Meters has also been open afternoons and early evenings.

MOD - Was Saturday May 4th. As in past years it was held at the National Training Center in Clermont. Everyone from LARA did a great job. LARA received a letter from MOD thanking us for our participation and assistance.

MDBF - We will be welcomed back to the Mt. Dora Bikefest. Strait (KT4YA) and Ed (N4ZIV) attended the meeting with the MDBF folks Friday May 17th. LARA had been a part of the MDBF for more than 20 years except for the last few years. We are planning some different innovative ideas to present to the MDBF folks. This is a three day event, October 4, 5 & 6, KT4YA will be looking to sign up volunteers well in advance of the event. This is a very large event operator wise and we'll need lots of volunteers.

LARA Board - Please make your Amazon purchases via Amazon Smile. LARA gets a piece of the action when you make your purchases through the program. Tell all your friends about Amazon Smile and they can help us also. We continue to receive checks from Amazon. Your participation is helping our treasury.

Field Day -. Planning has begun for LARA Field Day 2019.. So far we have an expert chef Paul WN4AMO, and Al W4ALR our EC and government liaison who will handle getting the County assets we may need chairing those committees. Frank KK4MBX and myself will tend to the administrative details. Our current theme is "back to basics" and we intend to operate as a 3A or 4A station this year. For all the new people in the club this is a good way to get to operate HF equipment and see what LARA can do. Over the past several years LARA has always placed in the top 5, if not better in its category. Field Day is way we exercise a lot of equipment. We plan on operating CW, SSB, Digital, and satellite.

WEBSITE -. Please look at the K4FC.org website from time to time. If you see errors, please contact me or Ed N4ZIV our webmaster to have the errors corrected.

SUNSHINE REPORT: Don K3DRS is accepting phone calls and visitors. Lou KK4MGE is currently out of service as one of our NCS's with severe back issues.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER - The document review committee has had several meetings this month. They are making good progress in the document review process.

N2HBX Larry, Club Engineer presented a check to the club from Hamcation for \$332.06 for our members volunteer hours that were worked at Hamcation in February.

A Skywarn class will be held at the Lake County EOC on July 13. Basic starts at 8:30 am and the advanced class at 12:30 PM. Go to www.weather.gov/media/mlb/skywarnclasses.pdf for more information and how to register.

35 members and visitors present.

50/50 drawing won by NU4V and donated back to the club (\$21.00)

Meeting adjourned at 10:52 AM:

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Submitted by

WN4AMO Secretary.