

General Meeting Minutes of Lake Amateur Radio Association August 15, 2020

Meeting was called to order as a NET on our club repeater, 147.255, by President KK4MBX at 10:00 AM.

Check in for members and guests:

Monthly Service Honor Roll:

Dean, KM4QMB, and Tom Wolford, KO4ETV, for keeping the grass at the clubhouse under control.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS:

1st reading

2nd reading:

Thomas (Tom) Woolford, KO4ETV

Tom is a Technician Class from Clermont and is interested in Science, Technology, Astronomy, Mechanical and Civil Engineering.

Tom was approved as a member

TREASURER'S REPORT - Dave, NP2MR

The following balances were reported for July 2020.

SunTrust checking	3,087.58
SunTrust Savings	1,001.70
Investment Account	13,218.53
Petty Cash	50.00
PayPal	82.02
SK Account	1,000.00

In July we spent \$431.31 more than we took in. We have had 33 people using Amazon Smile.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - Jay, N4KXO

July Minutes were emailed to all members by Jay, N4KXO

Motion submitted for acceptance of the report, seconded and accepted.

Every month we ask for hours and get very few replies – we would like to be able to include your time spent in the stats.

VEC report - Dave, N4NG

In August we held testing at the LARA Clubhouse for 4 candidates

ENGINEERS REPORT - Larry, N2HBX

Repeater at South Lake Hospital and IRLP Node

No change

New DMR Site

The repeater will be located at Advent Health Waterman to serve the central portion of the county.

Apparel – Frank, KK4MBX

The information for ordering LARA apparel is in the K4FC web site. If you have questions please contact FRANK, KK4MBX at twfrank111@aol.com

ARES – AI, W4ALR (EC)

Emergency DRILL and Training Exercise, Jason, K4AUS

This event is expected to be a large-scale training/demonstration event similar to ARRL Field Day but instead of a contest we would have an emphasis on training, emergency communications and community possibly with a campout simulating an actual emergency. It depends on our ability to use the Institute for Public Safety.

We hope that we will be able to get the involvement of our neighboring counties. Orange County expressed interest in participating. And there is an opportunity to include the Scouts as well.

We expect plans to firm up in early September and we will have more information for you in the coming weeks.

Volunteer Certification and Hours Jay, N4KXO

In July **239** LARA Volunteer hours were reported.

The total of **1444** Volunteer were hours reported for 2020.

We need your input by the middle of the month

We encourage everyone to become part of the ARES team and secure a county badge. See, AI, W4ALR, to sign up.

Skywarn Training

The National Weather Service is offering Skywarn Spotter Basic On-Line Training on August 22, and October 15 and 28. An advanced class is offered September 23. To register for these classes, go to

[HTTPS://go.usa.gov/xvH9a](https://go.usa.gov/xvH9a).

LARA Information Net - Frank KK4MBX (Net Manager)

The net operates every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday on the N4FLA repeater, 147.255 at 7:00 PM.

In July we averaged 20 participants on each net. We hope that this trend continues throughout hurricane season.

Also, in July we held no SKYWARN nets, but I want to remind everyone

that these nets are part of the services we provide to the county and our communities. When we call a SKYWARN net response to a severe weather warning, I encourage all of you to check into the net so we can be sure that the weather information is reaching our membership and we can relay significant information to the NWS.

Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) - Mike, K9SSL

QCWA meets Tuesdays at 7:30 PM on 147.000 and Echolink K4FC-4, and on Friday mornings at 10:00 AM on 443.150.

Monthly meetings on the third Saturday are suspended.

SK COMMITTEE - John, WB4HV

We recently added some nice equipment to the inventory.

- Kenwood TS430S Transceiver circa 1983 \$200
- Kenwood TS 440S Transceiver circa 1988 \$250
- Kenwood SP430 Speaker \$25
- Kenwood PS430 Power Supply \$70 35 amp
- Astron RS35A Power Supply \$70
- National NC-98 Receiver antique \$100
- Realistic CB \$5
- Brand new G5RV Multi Band Antenna \$60

John, K4CYA, tested the power supplies and the Kenwood Transceivers and they appear to work well. If you are looking to add gear to your shack, shop our SK Trailer first.

BUILDING MANAGER - Frank, KK4MBX

Toilet Repair – Al, W4ALR

Al investigated the issues with our toilet at the clubhouse and determined that the wax ring needs to be replaced and the drain from the toilet needs to be cleaned. Water from the sinks appears to drain with no problem

MONTHLY LUNCHEON - Frank, KK4MBX

The LARA Monthly Luncheon normally on the 2nd Wednesday of each month has been suspended. In place of the net LARA held an information chat net on 147.255 starting at 11AM. In August, **11** people joined the net.

We will reassess the situation for September.

LARA Events

Mount Dora Bicycle Festival - Glenn, AA4UC

The Mount Dora Bicycle Festival is scheduled for October 8, 9, 10, and 11.

The last meeting was last Thursday and there is very little time to complete fall that is needed the event, yet the MD Chamber is confident they can pull it off. The city is limiting participants to 500, but the expectation is much

lower than that.

Once the rest stops are defined, we will test the coverage with DMR radios available from the county to hopefully solve some of the connectivity issues we had last year.

Glenn will be reaching out to the members for volunteers to staff the event. We will need at least 15-20 people. If you can help you can contact Glenn at AA4UC@arrl.net.

LARA Holiday Party - Dave, NP2MR

Our Holiday Party for 2020 is scheduled for December 11.

Scout Merit Badge Event

The scouts want to offer online merit badge classes in September and Ken Lyons, KN4MDJ needs some help to support it. They are looking at providing a number of classes using an on-line tool such as ZOOM; Volunteers would help grade the exams.

The annual JOTA event will be 5 Saturdays in October.

If you are interested and can help, please contact Ken Lyons, KN4MDJ at kn4mdj@gmail.com or by mobile phone at 407-496-6694

If you are not able to assist with the merit badge class, every weekend in October at Camp La-No-Chee in Paisley is another chance to help the Scouts with a field day like setup.

Monthly Meetings

For the past few months, we have held our meetings on the air. In our last Board of Directors Meeting it was proposed that we may be able to conduct an in-person meeting in September if we could gain the use of the Institute of Public Safety, where we have held field day the last few years. They have a large classroom that will allow us sufficient room to spread out and maintain social distancing.

I would like to get your input as regard to any interest in pursuing this option,

We polled the members on the net and 13 of the 22 members checked in were in favor of the proposal, 7 were not and 2 did not reply. It was also suggested that might consider a hybrid event where we could include those not attending in person via conference call, ZOOM or another suitable platform.

We will follow up with the school to determine its availability for our meeting.

Member Accomplishments, Events and Updates:

With great sadness I report that Michael Erwin, AA8VX, passed away July 22. Michael and his wife Alecia Alexander, KO4CHC, joined LARA earlier this year. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Alecia.

Nick, WA3GTU, my wife took tech exam this morning and we were pleased with the professionalism of the operation. When we were checking in, there was a considerable amount of conversation in the room, but once it was time for the test you could hear a pin drop. Well done and thanks to the team.

Nick, WA3GTU, a Lara member was giving away magazines and I misplaced the contact information in the email.

The Lara member was KT4YA, who was on the net and will follow up with Nick...

Strait, KT4YA, some folks may not be aware that several months ago one of our members, Lenny, KD4MBN, has a bout with gall stones and needed hospitalization and surgery. He is now fully recovered and doing well but I wanted to pass along the information.

Strait, KT4YA, recently on my 80th Birthday I was able to continue a tradition that started when I was 14 by Slalom Water Skiing.

A nice accomplishment and Happy Birthday Strait.

Wrap Up

22 Members and guests checked into the net

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM

Submitted by Jay, N4KXO, Secretary