

## **General Meeting Minutes of Lake Amateur Radio Association January 20, 2018**

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

**Club recited the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Introduction of members and guests:** Dalton (No call)

**Monthly Service Honor Roll:** As always Dean KM4QMB for being our yard bird. Gordon W9KC for his continuing expert help with our communications systems. Al W4ALR and Gordon W9KC for literally cleaning up a "rats nest" at our Buckhill site.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS:** 1st reading: None. 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Steve, W4SDE 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 December 2017. Sun Trust checking, \$1,628.66; Sun Trust Savings, \$1,001.40; SKFund, \$1,823.44; Investment Account, \$19,022.25; Petty Cash, \$50.00; PayPal, \$82.02.

**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. All the new radio equipment had been benched by Jason K4AUS but then discovered he was missing some inter-connect cables. These parts are on order and so is the software needed for the upgrade. It was moved by the LARA board that the EC and all AEC's be required to check into the ARES net at least 4 times a month.

**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 will be selling in February at Hamcation. Stickers are available to put on your equipment.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:** Don K3DRS. Don reports that 579 service hours were recorded for December 2017. 4665 hours have been recorded for the year 2017. 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  
This club's facility can be made available for members to participate in contests.

Does anyone have any recent DX contacts of interest? Richard W4KBX reported working Australia, Falkland Isl., Rodrigues Isl., Swaziland and South Africa mostly on digital. Gordon W9KC worked Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea on 40 meters.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

The LARA Monthly Lunch is set for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 11:00 AM time in the meeting room of the Golden Corral Highway 441, Eustis, 20 were present at the last lunch.

**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. **(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 16,286 participants. "Total Grid Score" will be the determining factor for the club winner.

**STORAGE CONTAINER** - The Board authorized up to \$350.00 to purchase the materials needed to re-do the storage container roof. Dean KM4QMB will get some more prices for material.

**Technician class** - We have a tentative date of, March 10<sup>th</sup> 2018, to do another Technician Class and test session at the Institute Of Public Safety in Tavares. However, it may have to be moved to April.

**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.

**Christmas Dinner** - We had a great dinner last month. This year's Presidents award went to Lenny Shaner KD4MBN. This year's dinner is scheduled for Friday December 7<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> to be determined. Later on in the year we will discuss the menu and costs for the 2018 dinner. We would like to increase the attendance at the dinner

**WEBSITE** - Ed N4ZIV our webmaster and I are re-vamping and updating the K4FC website. It's very time consuming and slow process but we are making progress. We hope to have the revised site online yet this month.

**Antenna trailer** - Will be moved to Jim Kimball K5AUP's place and be refurbished. Strait is making those arrangements. Jim will need our assistance in doing the work. Strait, KT4YA is looking for man power for this project. Info will be forthcoming via the e-mail reflector.

**Buckhill repeater building** - Al W4ALR along with Gordon W9KC made repairs to the LARA repeater building at the Buckhill site. Some of the repairs included closing up openings that were allowing rats into the building.

**1000 Feet of coax** - Some time ago the club purchased 1000 feet of coax and connectors. The coax is to be used at the annual Field Day operation in June. 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.

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.

**SUNSHINE REPORT:** Lenny KD4MBN had hip surgery.

**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. The following ideas were discussed:

Pancake breakfast, lunch at the clubhouse with a swap meet, open house with a raffle, Stem clubs at local high school build night, inviting school kids and scouts to field day. College invites, Amazon fund sharing called "Smile", raffle for a substantial prize, expand the SK committee to sell club member equipment, finding a place to hold some of these events.

34 members and visitors present.

50/50 drawing won by Les KK4SED for \$14.00 and donated back to the club.

Meeting adjourned at 10:51am

Submitted by Emil, WA2UPK Secretary.

## Engineer's Report January 11, 2018 De NF2F

Royal Harbor UHF – Up and running on analog.

N4FLA/147.255 Up and running on the main repeater.

K4FC/147.000 – Up and running. Echo Link being worked on by K3NON, Analog and P25. Engineer will work with Paul to resolve technical issues. (One-way audio)

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 by the control stations.

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

Respectfully Submitted,  
NF2F  
Frederick E. Fitte

