

General Meeting Minutes of Lake Amateur Radio Association October 17, 2020

Meeting was called to order at the Lake County EOC and on Conference Call, by President KK4MBX at 10:00 AM.

Check in for members and guests:

Monthly Service Honor Roll:

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

Jason, K4AUS, for securing this facility to allow in-person meetings.

Bill, AC2ARX, for his help in getting our clubhouse toilet repaired

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS:

1st reading

Cheryl Estevez

Cheryl is new to Ham Radio and looking to learn about our hobby.

Raymond Nightingale

Ray is new to Ham Radio and looking to learn about our hobby.

Patrick Grudzinsky, KB3YBT

Patrick is a Technician from Leesburg, and his areas of interest include Emergency Communications. He is a former LARA member returning after a short absence.

2nd reading:

Natalie Jodie Wells, WB4LKQ

Natalie is a Technician from Clermont.

Frederick Scott West, KG4VWD

Frederick is a Technician from Leesburg, and his interests include ARES.

Robert D, Wright, KF4DYN

Robert is an Extra from Mount Dora, and his areas of interest include Fishing and Guitars.

Chris Israel, KN4JKF

Chris is a Technician from Minneola, and his areas of interest include ARES, Summits on The Air (SOTA), and Parks on The Air (POTA)

Scott Grossenbacher

Scott is a Technician from Eustis.

Randy Robinson

Randy is a Technician from Astatula He is new to Ham Radio and interested in learning more about its possibilities.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Dave, NP2MR

The following balances were reported for August 2020.

SunTrust checking	2640.46
SunTrust Savings	1,001.73
Investment Account	13,802.21
Petty Cash	50.00
PayPal	82.08
SK Fund	1,000.00

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

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Jay, N4KXO

August Minutes were emailed to all members by Jay, N4KXO

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

VEC report – Dave, N4NG

In October we held testing at the LARA Clubhouse for 5 candidates and 7 tests passing 5 techs and 2 generals.

ENGINEERS REPORT – Larry, N2HBX

All LARA repeaters are up and running without issue

The SEDAN station at the clubhouse is shut down and decommissioned. Barry Isbelle, the equipment owner, picked up the equipment today.

Dean, KM4QMB is heading up a team looking into replacing it with Winlink.

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)

ARES Meeting and Training,

ARES activities have been postponed until the first quarter of 2021 due to the pandemic. Expect regular meetings in 2021. We are in the process of implementing a discussion group for ARES related business. Look for an announcement on this soon.

Volunteer Certification and Hours Jay, N4KXO

In September **147** LARA Volunteer hours were reported.

The total of **1732** Volunteer were hours reported for 2020.

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 in October, November and December. For information on these classes go to www.weather.gov/mlb/skywarn.

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 September we averaged 22 participants on each net. We hope that this trend continues. In September 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-R, and on Friday mornings at 10:00 AM on 443.150.

The QCWA Lunch/Meeting, today is cancelled due to the pandemic. The next scheduled QCWA lunch will be November 21st.

SK COMMITTEE – John, WB4HV

If you are looking to add gear to your shack, shop our SK Trailer first. Contact John WB4HV at WB4HV@ARRL.NET

Web Site Update – Frank, KK4MBX

Our project to update our Web Site is nearly complete and we will be bringing up the new site very soon. Along with that we are reviewing and updating the Reflector. Often some of the emails from the reflector fail due to incorrect email addresses. If your email has changed, please notify Dave, NP2MR so that we can make sure our mail lists are up to date, and you can receive LARA information in a timely manner.

BUILDING MANAGER – Frank, KK4MBX

With the help of Bill, AC2ARX, our clubhouse toilet has been repaired, and we confirmed the location and of the septic tank. The issue was a clog near the entry to the tank.

Jason, K4AUS is following up on a contact to pump the tank. We hope to complete this project by the end of November.

Our sign out by 473 needs to be replaced or updated. It is in poor shape especially when you approach from the south. The sign was purchased from Graphics Direct in Clairmont. We will work with them to determine the best approach.

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 October, 8 people joined the net.

As events in our community continued to be cancelled, will continue the Rag

Chew Nets in place of the monthly luncheon for the remainder of the year.

LARA Events

LARA Holiday Party – Dave, NP2MR

We were notified by the Lakes of Mount Dora that their meeting room will not be available for our Holiday Party on December 11. The Holiday Party for this year is cancelled.

HAMCATION 2021

OARC has decided to officially cancel the 2021 Hamfest, and concentrate efforts on the 2022 event, which will now be the 75th annual.

The loss of this event will have a negative effect on the LARA budget for 2021. We get a significant boost from your volunteer hours, and from our SK sales.

Scout Merit Badge Even

Just a reminder, JOTA is today. If anyone is available after the meeting, they are welcome to assist either in person at camp, or via the repeaters. You can find them at 146.520 Simplex, or 14.290 HF/SSB.

LARA Officers and Board Elections

Nominations for LARA Officers and Board Members are open and will close with the November Meeting. The election will be by those in attendance at the December meeting. We are working on expanded in-person availability for December.

If you would like to run or nominate someone for any of these positions you need to notify the Secretary, N4KXO at **N4KXO@ARRL.NET**.

The current officers and Board of Directors are running for re-election. No other nominations were received.

We will reserve time in the November meeting for you to address the membership in support of any candidate.

Member Accomplishments, Events and Updates:

In 2021, we would like to bring more content to the club meetings. If you have a topic you would like to learn more about, or present to the membership, please contact a Board member with your suggestions.

Wrap Up

We expect that the November meeting will be at the EOC in a similar format. We are working on expanded in-person availability for December.

23 Members and guests attended in person or via the conference bridge.
Meeting adjourned at 11:10 AM.

Submitted by Jay, N4KXO, Secretary