

General Meeting Minutes of Lake Amateur Radio Association February 20, 2021

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.

Carlos, KC4FER, John, WB4HV, and John, K4CYA, for working to get selected SK equipment posted to the website and sold.

Roger, KV4I, for taking care of our toilet issues at the clubhouse this morning.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS:

1st reading

Jeffrey Taffuri

Jeffery is in the Villages and is new and looking for an Elmer to learn.

Michael Visconti, KO4LBN

Ray is a Technician from Clermont. No interests shown.

Tim Chapman K9BAW – No details available

2nd reading:

Ray Nichols, KA4RAY

Ray is a Technician from Eustis and his interests include ARES, Skywarn, and Field Day.

John (Mike) Ward, WA9VIQ

Mike is a General from Tavares and his interests include Equipment for HF, UHF, VHF, and D-Star. He enjoys companionship is a previous member of the Royal Harbor club, WX4RH.

Rob Patton, KE4GLA

Rob is a Technician from Longwood. He is a prior member from the 1990's and getting active on DMR and other things.

Daniel Unsworth, KJ4VOD

Daniel is a Technician from Umatilla. He did not list any interests.

Fred David Lazerson, KO4KMV

Fred is a Technician from Tavares and he is new to Ham Radio and is interested in finding an Elmer and getting involved in our ARES group.

Joseph Halegua, KO4BAX

Joe is a Technician from Paisley and his interests include ARES/Races, volunteer work, and net repeater set up.

Tim Chapman, K9BAW

I DON'T HAVE THE DETAILS FOR HIM FROM THE APPLICATION,

All of the second readings were approved. However, some are pending. Awaiting their dues being paid.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Dave, NP2MR

The following balances were reported for January 2021.

SunTrust checking	3666.13
SunTrust Savings	1001.76
Investment Account	16314.27
Petty Cash	50.00
PayPal	237.08
SK Fund	1485.00

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

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Jay, N4KXO

January Minutes were emailed to all members by Jay, N4KXO

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

VEC report – Dave, N4NG

In February we held testing at the LARA Clubhouse for 6 candidates, We administered 8 Tests and 7 passed. We have 3 new Technicians and 2 Generals.

Demand for our testing sessions remains high and we are scheduling though Hamstudy and collecting the test fees through PayPal greatly simplifying the process.

Today's testing was in hybrid mode where the candidates took paper tests and entered their results on paper. The VE team graded the exams electronically and electronically signed the forms. The process went very smoothly and quickly.

ENGINEERS REPORT – Larry, N2HBX

All LARA repeaters are up and running without issue.

FEBRURY PRESENTATION

Frank Anders – Programming your DMR Radio.

The Handout for the presentation was sent via the reflector before the meeting.

Apparel – Frank, KK4MBX

The 2020 Field Day shirts are in and available. If you cannot pick it up today, please contact Frank, KK4MBX, so we can arrange to get the shirts to you.

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,

The ARES meeting was held on February 18 with 18 in attendance.

The team discussed the changing landscape for communications and how LARA can adapt and continue to provide service to the county Emergency Management teams. The plan going forward to meet every other month and continue work on equipping our members with the necessary skills and experience to fill the new requirements and roles.

Volunteer Certification and Hours Jay, N4KXO

In January 153 LARA Volunteer hours were reported. A total of 153 Volunteer hours have been reported for 2021.

We encourage everyone to become part of the ARES team and secure a county badge. See, Al, W4ALR, to sign up. We continue to follow up with the county on the badges for those who have completed the training.

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 January we averaged 22 participants on each net and had no SKYWARN nets,

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 monthly Luncheons resumed in February, they will meet following the LARA meeting at the Olive Garden in Leesburg. All are welcome to attend.

SK COMMITTEE – John, WB4HV

If you are looking to add gear to your shack, shop our SK Trailer first.

The SK Team recently received some very nice equipment and is get the equipment posted to the web site. Check the web site often so you do not miss out on a great deal.

Also, we have a good selection of ANTENNA books available in the SK Inventory. If you are interested in creating an outstanding antenna, please contact John, WB4HV, so you can get one or more of these books.

We will be sending the current SK Inventory to all members via the reflector with a message that they should contact John, WB4HV, to purchase any items.

BUILDING MANAGER – Frank, KK4MBX

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. So far there has been no progress on this project. Glenn volunteered to follow up and get the sign repaired or replaced.

We had another issue with the Toilet at the clubhouse this morning. Thanks to Roger, KV4I, for cleaning up the mess.

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 holds an informal rag chew net on 147.255 starting at 11 AM. In February, 7 people joined the net.

There is an interest in resuming our regular Monthly Luncheons. Frank, KK4MBX, will follow up with the Oakwood Smokehouse in Leesburg to arrange the event.

LARA Events

We are looking forward to a number of events this year. As in 2020, some of the schedules are quite fluid and there may be continued restrictions and cancellations.

Dayton HAMVENTION 2021

The 2020 Hamvention has been cancelled.

March of Dimes

The March of Dimes event typically happens in early May. Last year it turned into a virtual event and the event this year will be virtual once again. LARA will not be participating in the event again this year.

Field Day

Field Day 2021 is the last full weekend in June. That is June 26 and 27. We are starting the advanced planning and hope to be able to return to the Institute for Public Safety this year. If you are interested in helping plan the event please contact Frank, KK4MBX, at twfrank111@aol.com. We need your involvement to make the event a success.

Mount Dora Bike Festival

So far there is no activity in planning for the 2021 event. Glenn, AA4UC, continues to stay close to the organizers and will provide updates as they emerge.

Jamboree On The Air (JOTA)

JOTA is a scouting event that promotes Ham Radio. In the past we have had a small group supporting this activity. This year we would like to expand our presence and support for the activity. Expect updates from Dean, KM4QMB, as they year goes on.

Hearts for Our Hospital

The bike event in The Villages occurs in early November. Ed, N4ZIV, will provide updates in late summer.

Holiday Party

We are planning the party for December 10 and are hoping to return to the Lakes of Mount Dora clubhouse this year. Expect updates from Dave, NP2MR later in the year.

New Membership Chairman Appointed

Dave KE7BMG is contacting all new applicants and the response to his calls have been interesting and positive.

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 March meeting will be at the EOC in a similar format.

22 Members and guests attended in person or via the conference bridge.

The 59/50 drawing for \$13.50 was won by Dave, NP2MR, who returned the winnings to the club. Thank you, Dave.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM

Submitted by Jay, N4KXO, Secretary