

General Meeting Minutes of Lake Amateur Radio Association March 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.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS:

1st reading

Johnathan and Susan Cooksey

Jonathan and Susan are technicians from the villages and their interests are contesting, emergency response and marine use.

Susan passed her Technician license today.

Richard B Persh, KN4GJU

Richard is a General from Winter Garden and his interests include ARES, Community Support, HF, VHF, and UHF.

Robert R Scott, W4ZY

Robert is an Extra from Groveland and his interests include HF and DMR.

2nd reading:

Tim Chapman, K9BAW

Tim is an Advanced Class from Grand Island and his interests include all aspects of Ham Radio Operation.

Jeffrey Taffuri, KO4NCC

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

Michael Visconti, KO4LBN

Ray is a Technician from Clermont

TREASURER'S REPORT - Dave, NP2MR

The following balances were reported for February 2021

SunTrust checking	4109.36
SunTrust Savings	1001.76
Investment Account	16314.27
Petty Cash	50.00
PayPal	122.08
SK Fund	1000.00

For the year at the end of February we took in \$1840 more than we spent. However, in February we spent \$101 more than we took in. We received 43.32 from Amazon in February.

Currently we have 16 people that have not paid their dues for 2021. If they are not paid by April 1, they will be removed from the roster. Our current membership is 108, the highest number of members in recent history.

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

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Jay, N4KXO

February Minutes were emailed to all members by Jay, N4KXO

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

VEC report – Dave, N4NG

In March we held testing at the LARA Clubhouse for 6 candidates, all passed. 4 techs and 2 extras.

In our testing today, we did 2 exams using the on-line method and the remainder in the hybrid mode with cam grading. We were able to accomplish this since we had a several devices donated to the club. We are looking for additional donation and prefer Amazon Fire, but Android tablets work as well. Currently we have four and our goal is ten.

Testing is going very quick – once totally paperless we will go even quicker.

ENGINEERS REPORT – Larry, N2HBX

All installed LARA repeaters are up and running without issue.

March PRESENTATION

Dave Pennell – 2004 Field Day in the Virgin Islands

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)

Volunteer Certification and Hours Jay, N4KXO

In February 149 LARA Volunteer hours were reported. A total of 302 Volunteer hours have been reported for 2021.

We encourage everyone to become part of the ARES team and secure a county badge. See, AI, 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 February we averaged 21 participants 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 on the third Saturday of the month 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.

We are working on preparing for an SK SALE for LARA members. We have accumulated an amount of equipment that has been donated to the club and will be able to make some excellent deals. Look for more information in upcoming meetings.

BUILDING MANAGER – Frank, KK4MBX

Thanks to Glenn, AA4UC, and Dave, KE7BMG, our sign out by 473 has been replaced.

Our toilet in the clubhouse had another issue in February. There is another clog in the pipe between the clubhouse and the tank due to root infiltration into the pipe. We will be replacing the pipe March 26 with the help of Bill, KC2ARX and we will need a couple of LARA members to help with the work. Also, we will need a SAWSALL to cut the pipe. Bill will have the appropriate blade, but we need the tool. Please let Frank know if you can help with this.

MONTHLY LUNCHEON – Frank, KK4MBX

The LARA Monthly Luncheon resumed on March 10 at the Oakwood Smokehouse in Leesburg. Eight people attended. We look forward to seeing you at our next luncheon in April.

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.

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.

The Rules for this year's event have been published and the ARRL continued to allow stations to work from their homes and still contribute to the club score. We encourage LARA members to take advantage of this opportunity and boost the LARA club score.

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.

Member Accomplishments, Events and Updates:

Wrap Up

We look forward to returning to our clubhouse in April and expect to continue with the limited seating format.

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

The 50/50 drawing for \$42.00 was won by Roger, KV4I, who returned the winnings to the club. Thank you, Roger.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 AM

Submitted by Jay, N4KXO, Secretary