

General Meeting Minutes of Lake Amateur Radio Association April 17, 2021

Meeting was called to order at the LARA Clubhouse and by a Conference Call by KK4MBX at 10:00 AM.

Check in for members and guests:

Monthly Service Honor Roll:

Dean, KM4QMB, for keeping the grass at the clubhouse under control.
Glenn, AA4UC, for getting our sign replaced.
Roger, KV4I, and Larry, KC2ARX for their work replacing the sewer drain.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS:

1st reading

Aaron Cusimano MD KO4INM

Aaron is an Extra from Orlando and his interests include Science, Medicine, Astronomy, and weapons.

2nd reading:

Johnathan and Susan Cooksey

Johnathan 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.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Dave, NP2MR

The following balances were reported for March 2021

SunTrust checking	5062.72
SunTrust Savings	1001.79
Investment Account	17231.15
Petty Cash	50.00
PayPal	188.46
SK Fund	1370.00

In March 1326 more than spent

YTD over 3000 more than we spent much from SK sales.

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

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Jay, N4KXO

March Minutes were emailed to all members by Jay, N4KXO

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

VEC report – Dave, N4NG

In April we held testing at the LARA Clubhouse for 6 candidates. 5 Passed 3 techs and 2 extras.

This was the first time the test session was 100% paperless. It worked well but we had a few issues with the current router. We plan on upgrading the router.

ENGINEERS REPORT – Larry, N2HBX, Jay N4KXO

All installed LARA repeaters are up and running without issue.

Problem with QCWA trying to connect – probably Echolink.
Issue. Users trying to connect before the delay.

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 March 152 LARA Volunteer hours were reported. A total of 454 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,

Annual Document Review – Frank

Our Policy manual required an annual review of the By-Laws and Policy Manual by the incoming board. As an outcome of that review, we have a few changes to the LARA By-Laws for your approval

Article II section 1 Part D sub-part I

Correct Typo changing

This class shall be opened to persons who hold a valid FCC Amateur Radio License and **are have** been Full Member in good standing for at least five (5) years.

To

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Radio License and have been a Full Member in good standing for at least five (5) years.

Article II Section 3

Redirected new applications from the treasurer to the membership chairman and eliminated the second reading for new members.

Application for membership will be made to the Membership Chairman. Applicants must furnish positive identification. Applications will be reviewed and evaluated by the Membership chairman. They will be read at the next regular meeting after their receipt and voted on. Applicant approval will be by a three quarters majority vote of the eligible members present.

Article II Section 4

Change text from

A simple majority of the LARA Board of Directors reserves the right to refuse membership or renewal of membership to anyone who discredits or defames LARA or its members. The secretary will send notice of this action via registered letter.

To

The secretary will send notice of this action via certified letter.

Article VIII section 4

Add Membership Chairman to the list of appointed positions.

Article IX

Add section 9 to define the duties of the Membership Chairman.

The new text is:

The Membership Chairman receives all applications to LARA, assesses their intentions in LARA membership, and presents the candidates to the LARA membership during the next General Membership meeting. The membership Chairman also provides a point of contact for LARA Members needing assistance and follows up on any member issues.

The Changes to the By-Laws were approved by the Membership present at the meeting.

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

Over \$4,500 in additional equipment have been added to the inventory. Some very nice items. This lot is 70% to family 30% to LARA we will get the updated list to all on the reflector.

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, for replacing our sign.

The issues with the pipe between the clubhouse and the septic tank have been corrected. On March 26, Roger, KV4I, Larry, KC3HBX, and his Wife replaced the pipe with a new PVC one. The toilet has been returned to full service.

Thanks to Dave, NP2MR for replacing the clubhouse printer HP Printer. The new HP Envy pro 6455 is in place at the clubhouse.

Our Yard Crew could use one or two folks to help with keeping grass under control. Contact Dean, KM4QMB, at dean_delong@yahoo.com if you can help.

A mower from KE7BMG is available and will be transported to the LARA facility.

MONTHLY LUNCHEON – Frank, KK4MBX

The LARA Monthly Luncheon April 14, at the Oakwood Smokehouse in Leesburg had 12 people attending. We look forward to seeing you at our next luncheon in May.

LARA Events

New Ham Training

We are planning a New Ham Training event on May 22 and 23, a Saturday and Sunday. Testing will follow the class on Sunday. We will be sending information out on the Reflector as details firm up. If you know someone who is interested in becoming a Ham, let them know.

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.

GEORGEFEST – we will explore a special event station for next year's festival in Eustis.

Member Accomplishments, Events and Updates:

Florida QSO party is April 24.

Jean KN4VF is recovering from a broken hip.

Steve W4SDC is recovering from a stroke.

Huntsville Hamfest is still on.

Loan or donate a tech study guide to support our ham class.

Wrap Up

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

The 50/50 drawing for \$20.00 was win by Chris KN4RNR, who returned the winnings to the club. Thank you, Chris.

Meeting adjourned at 11:17 AM

Submitted by Jay, N4KXO, Secretary