

**General Meeting Minutes of Lake Amateur Radio Association May 15, 2021**

**Meeting was called to order at the LARA Clubhouse and on Conference Call, by President KK4MBX at 10:00 AM.**

**Check in for members and guests:**

**Monthly Service Honor Roll:**

Dean, KM4QMB AND Tim, K9BAW for keeping the grass at the clubhouse under control.

Glenn, AA4UC and Jay, N4KXO, for replacing the internet access point in the clubhouse with a faster one and restoring the IRLP on 442.900.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS:**

Aaron Cusimano MD KO4INM

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

Robert (Bob) Inscoe K3KKA

Bob is a former member who missed the yearly cutoff and was taken off the roles in March. His is an Extra Class and his interests include restoring ancient modulation (AM) equipment. Welcome back Bob.

The members present voted to accept both as LARA members.

**TREASURER'S REPORT - Dave, NP2MR**

The following balances were reported for April 2021

SunTrust checking	4484.31
SunTrust Savings	1001.79
Investment Account	17231.15
Petty Cash	50.00
PayPal	513.06
SK Fund	1247.00

For the year we have taken in \$2862 more that we spent.

For April, we spent \$322 more than we took in.

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

We made one change to the March Minutes to correct the call sign for Rick. KN4GJV.

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

### **VEC report – Dave, N4NG**

In May we held testing at the LARA Clubhouse for 2 candidates. Both passed. We have 2 new generals.

We continue to work through some issues with the tablets used for testing losing connection to the internet. The loss is temporary and the test recovers and continues without incident. It does however, make for a less than excellent for the candidates.

### **ENGINEERS REPORT – Larry, N2HBX**

All installed LARA repeaters are up and running without issue.

A member reported that someone had crossbanded a NOAA weather channel on .146.520, the 2-meter national simplex calling frequency. LARA has no control over that frequency.

We installed a station for WinLink at the LARA repeater building. We continue to work on applying for a WinLink Node and completing the setup. Larry is provisioning a computer to work with the WinLink station and is awaiting input from Dean KM4QMB, on the final configuration for the computer. Once completed we will need to apply for a WinLink Node for the station and the team needs to work with John, WB4HV, on that as he is the trustee for the K4FC call sign.

### **April PRESENTATION**

Dave Templeton – Gave a demonstration of a home brew CW trainer he built. It works via a Bluetooth connection to a circuit board. If you want more information on this project, contact Dave N4NG at [n4ng@icloud.com](mailto:n4ng@icloud.com)

### **Apparel – Frank, KK4MBX**

The information for ordering LARA apparel is in the K4FC web site. If you have questions please contact FRANK, KK4MBX, at [kk4mbx@outlook.com](mailto:kk4mbx@outlook.com)

We circulated an order form for 2021 Field Day shirts. The shirts will be \$15. You can pay for the shirts using the DONATION PAY PAL link on our website. That will make things easier for all of us. If the shirts are paid for, I will try to have them made and available for the June Meeting.

We will be sending a notice on the reflector for all members to have a chance to order a shirt.

## **ARES – AI, W4ALR (EC)**

### **Volunteer Certification and Hours Jay, N4KXO**

In April 166 LARA Volunteer hours were reported. A total of 620 Volunteer hours have been reported for 2021.

For those waiting for a county badge, there is good news on the horizon. Jay, N4KXO, worked to unstick the process and your badges should be arriving soon.

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.

### **NEW - Skywarn weather spotter On-Line Training**

The NWS is conducting SKYWARN virtual (live, online) classes. They've scheduled the following classes:

Advanced class	<b>June 9</b>	<b>10AM-Noon</b>
Basic class	<b>July 21</b>	<b>1-3PM</b>
Basic Class	<b>August 16</b>	<b>10AM-Noon</b>

For more information or to sign up for the classes go to <https://go.usa.gov/xvH9a>

*Note: approximately one week prior to the class, those that have registered will receive an email with specific instructions on how to participate in the virtual class via a home PC/laptop and telephone/cellphone.*

*After participating in an online class, we will email attendees a SKYWARN spotter ID that can be printed. Attending a virtual/online class will count the same as attending one of our in-person classes, i.e., new spotters will receive a card by email, and current spotters will have their certifications extended for an additional three years and they will also receive a new card/ID number by email following the class.*

### **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 April we averaged 20 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. Today's luncheon will be that last one until November.

## **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**

Tim Chapman, K9BAW, volunteered to join our Yard Crew. Thanks for your help Tim.

If you would like to help with yard work, contact Dean, KM4QMB, at [dean\\_delong@yahoo.com](mailto:dean_delong@yahoo.com).

## **MONTHLY LUNCHEON – Frank, KK4MBX**

The LARA Monthly Luncheon April 14, at the Oakwood Smokehouse in Leesburg had 15 people attending. We look forward to seeing you at our next luncheon in June.

## **LARA Events**

### **New Ham Training**

Our New Ham Training event on May 22 and 23 is coming together. So far, we have 6 signed up.

We could use some folks to monitor the door in the mornings (7:15-8:00) and at lunch (11:30-13:00) to allow the students and LARA Staff into the building without bothering the county staff. If you can help, contact Frank, KK4MBX, at [KK4MBX@outlook.com](mailto:KK4MBX@outlook.com).

### **Field Day**

Field Day 2021 is the last full weekend in June. That is June 26 and 27. We be able to return to the Institute for Public Safety this year. If you can help with Setup, Tear Down, or operation, contact Frank, KK4MBX, at [KK4MBX@outlook.com](mailto:KK4MBX@outlook.com). We need your involvement to make the event a success. Your involvement in the event are the key to 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.

Ken KN4MDJ reported over 400 scouts learned some morse code last weekend. A large JOTA program with approximately 8000 Scouts to be involved over every weekend in October. Ken is asking members to assist him. Contact Ken at [kn4mdj@gmail.com](mailto:kn4mdj@gmail.com) if you can lend a hand. Ken is also requesting local ARES groups to assist with their AUXCOM/ENCOM trailers.

### **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:**

A member asked if there were any local DSTAR nets. To our knowledge the one local DSTAR net is inactive, but there are several other regional and nationwide nets on the air.

### **MENTORs for new members**

It was suggested that we have a list of members that could be Elmer's for new members or members who are learning new Ham skills. If you would like to be available for this effort, please contact Dave, KE7BMG at [davidjlabier@yahoo.com](mailto:davidjlabier@yahoo.com)

### **Wrap Up**

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

The 50/50 drawing for \$16.00 was win by AA4UC, who returned the winnings to the club. Thank you, Glenn

Meeting adjourned at 11:28 AM

**Submitted by Jay, N4KXO, Secretary**