

Minutes for VVARA Meeting January 16, 2008

Meeting was held at Cottonwood Public Safety Building Conference Room beginning at 7 p.m.

Welcome - Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Frank Funk

Acknowledge guests, Mr. Bob Wertz, NF7E and Dave Brown, W7FIW, new members, recent upgrades (none) new hams and visitors (none).

Our speaker, Mr. Bob Wertz, NF7E and Dave Brown, W7FIW from the Flagstaff area.

Sad news, Viola Chambers, KA7NVK, one of our elderly Honorary Members became a Silent Key in 2005 but the club was not notified until we called recently to update our membership directory.

Introduction and Installation of our new 2008 VVARA Officers:

Chris Hancock, KC6UUG, Vice President

Tom Schrum, K7NII, Secretary

Bill Martens, K7YKN, Treasurer

Mel Boreham, N6BDC, President

Bob Thompson, KC8BOB, Director at Large

Many thanks to our past Vice President, Steve Pearson, KC7TIL and to Treasurer, Dick Courtney, KE7DTX for their services to the club over the past year.

Secretary's Report - Tom Schrum read the minutes of Nov. 20th meeting.

Motion to approve minutes by Marsha Rosenbarger, N6SNW and Seconded by Mike Wingate, WA6LSE.

Treasurer's Report - Dick Courtney, KE7DTX 2007 Treasurer to report: Current Checkbook balance \$4,319.47.

Introduction of Speaker - Mr. Bob Wertz, NF7E, has driven down from Flagstaff to speak to us about a DXpedition he and three of his fellow hams planned and carried out on the small island of Ushagat, off the coast of Alaska. Bob is a member of the Northern Arizona DX Association and is an avid DXer and contester and has been involved in starting up the annual "Route 66 on the Air" special event. He was also on the cover of CQ magazine back in 2004.

Bob filled us in on the "Route 66 on the Air" activities and future plans. Our many thanks to Bob Wertz for his excellent presentation.

10 minute BREAK for Refreshments/Coffee/Cookies. Purchase of 5 0/50 raffle tickets (Dick & Rosella Courtney sold raffle tickets.)

Meeting reconvened at 8:10 p.m.

Old Business:

Christmas Luncheon: We had an excellent Christmas party at the Ranch House Restaurant (Beaver Creek Golf & Country Club) in Lake Montezuma on December 8th. Forty six members and spouses attended and all seemed to enjoy the food and conversation. Bob and Starla Thompson brought along a basket of raffle prizes and made the drawings of the winners names. Lots of fun!

Honorary Members: In December, a \$40 gift certificate was sent to our new Honorary Members, Wilse Morgan, WX7P and Gemmie Morgan, AL7LB, for dinner at local Kettle Falls, WA restaurant, as has been our past policy. We later received a thank you note and photos of Wilse's "shack" and new antenna system from there, which was passed around.

VYARA Repeater report: Mike wingate, WA6LSE, Repeater Trustee reported status of repeater firmware updates, etc. He has installed upgraded firmware - loaded into repeater #1.

VVARA Webmaster, Bob Erdemann was not available to report on the club's web page. Members can check site for meetings and dates.

Fort Tuthill Hamfest: ARCA delegate Ted Hartson, WA8ULG, voted our ballot at the ARCA Board meeting at the Superstition Hamfest in Mesa on December 1st in favor of returning to Fort Tuthill for this years hamfest. However, the majority of clubs decided to return the Hamfest to Williams, AZ again in 2008. We had hoped that ARCA might return to Fort Tuthill to see if more commercial interests could be generated and we might see an increase in number of attendees.

New Business:

Ted Hartson, WA8ULG, asked that our club might consider getting together at Fort Tuthill at one of the armadas for an informal picnic and tail-gate swap session around noon on Sunday, July 20th following the conclusion of the Williams Hamfest July 18-19th. This would be a joint get-together for both the VVARA and the YARC members and might include some hams from Flagstaff and other Arizona clubs.

Ham License Classes & Testing: Report from Jack Crabtree, W7GLC and Mary Vince, AB7NK. Jack will be conducting "free" General Class license classes at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University on Saturday, Feb. 9th and Saturday Feb. 16, 2008. Classes begin at 8:00 a.m. each day and will last about 6 hours each day (including a half-hour lunch break.) Location: Room KECT-132 in the King Engineering building on Embry-Riddle campus in Prescott. See Jack for further information on these classes. lskra@cableone.net. Extra class in March. The next Prescott area VE Test session to follow on April 5th.

The next Rimrock VE Testing sessions for 2008 will take place on Friday, March 14th and Friday May 9th.
Second Joint Prescott Hamfest:

We need to set up a coordinating committee for the 2nd Joint Prescott Hamfest for planning our joint swap meet with YARC. Date to be determined. It will be held on a Saturday morning in late May or early June at Granite Mountain Middle School under Teny Pemberton's direction.

Bob Thompson, KC8BOB and Steve Pearson, KC7TI - Field Day 2008:

YARC has asked us to join them at Watson Lake June 28th and 29th (11 a.m. Saturday through noon Sunday) this year for a change from our regular Field Day site on Mingus Mountain. Terry Pemberton said that all the details have been worked out and the city has waived entry fees and will allow some overnight camping related to the Field Day activities. The big Ramada overlooking Watson Lake has been reserved and authorization has

been received to put up temporary antennas at the site. Further information at a later date.

New Business: Jim, N5RO is worried about the future of Ham radio. He currently has 26 students at Bradshaw Mountain Middle School Ham Radio Clu - hope to end with 5 or 6. Meetings Thursday p.m. of young hams of Yavapai County to encourage more operators and more Echolink activities.

5 0/50 Raffle Drawing: Rosalee Courtne, @16.50.

Our next meeting will be at the Public Safety Building conference room at 6th Street and Aspen in Cottonwood, AZ at 7 p.m. on Wednesday February 20,2008. Ernie Cummings, K6XF, will be making a Powerpoint presentation with details on the use of ham radio in gliding and sailplanes and will be discussing high altitude record breaking sailplane flights. This promises to be lots of fun.

Motion to close Meeting. Motion by Rod Rosenbarger, KI6FH and Second by Mike Wingate, WA6LSE

Meeting closed at 8:47 p.m.

Signed: _____ Tom Schnim, K7NII Secretary, VVARA