

Minutes for VVARA Meeting, Sept. 17, 2008

Meeting was held at the Cottonwood Public Safety Building Conference Room.

Due to laryngitis, Bob Shipton, K8EQC, past President of the VVARA ,was asked to conduct the meeting for Mel Boreham, N6BDC, President . Mel was present during the meeting and provided guidance regarding the printed agenda Mel had provided Bob.

Meeting was opened at 7:00 p.m.

Welcome

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by: Frank Funk, N7EBT.

Acknowledge guests, new members, recent upgrades, new hams and visitors

Jack Foote, KE7FDZ, and his wife Michelle from Cornville, were guests this evening.

Bob Shipton, K8EQC, gave an update on Fred Schelter's, K8IVC, medical condition. Fred was a past web master for VVARA.

Silent Keys:

Jim Thomas, KI7P

Warren Messenger, N7AJH, Life Member of the VVARA

Dave Rutledge, W9KRQ, previous club member

Secretary's Report

Tom Schrum, K7NII, is recuperating from a severe stroke at a rehabilitation center in Tempe, AZ. We send all of our best wishes to Tom for a speedy recovery and his return home to Camp Verde as soon as possible.

Minutes of the May 14th 2008 meeting were read by Robert G. Thompson, K7RGT.

Motion to approve by: Bob Thompson - KC8BOB, Second by: Carol Hills - KA7LKW, Passed.

Treasurer's Report

In that Bill Martens, K7YKN, resigned as Treasurer in May, Mel, N6BDC, has been carrying on with the Treasurer's duties. The most recent bank statement as of August 29th, 2008 was \$6,991.51. Our current checkbook balance is approximately \$6,594.11 after recent checks were written for our Liability Insurance, flowers, donations, and repeater expenses. Some bank charges must be reconciled from previous bank statements. We were being charged for photo copies of our checks and for not keeping our bank balance above \$4,000. I have made changes to no longer have copies made, and made a change to a lower cost checking account to save the club money. We were not charged these fees in the August 29th statement, but will have to pay a lesser fee (\$4.00/month) should our balance drop below \$4,000. Mel Boreham, N6BDC, President and Acting Treasurer.

Motion to approve by: Mike Wingate - WA6LSE, Second by: Chris Hancock - KC5UUG, Passed.

Presentation:

Bob Thompson, KC8BOB, gave a Power Point presentation on his research on "HOW NOT TO MEASURE

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TEMPERATURE", a Survey of Weather Stations in the National Weather Service (NWS) Cooperative Observer Program (COOP). Bob was thanked for providing a great talk and slide show.

10 minute BREAK at 8:00 p.m.

Coffee/Cookies provided by Peggy Funk, N7DDR. Norman Vandiver, N7VF, collected dues and membership forms from new members. 50/50 raffle tickets were purchased from Al Barber, AA7OV. Many thanks to Peggy, Norm and Al for their help and to Robert G. Thompson for filling in for Tom Schrum as our Secretary while Tom is recuperating.

Meeting reconvened at 8:10 p.m.

50/50 Raffle Drawing

Winner was: John Gross - W5VJH = \$ 21.00

Old Business

(2nd Annual Prescott Ham Fest)

The 2nd Annual Prescott Ham Fest was held at the Granite Mountain Middle School outside ball courts on Sat. May 31st and was an unqualified success!

(VVARA Repeater report)

Mike Wingate, WA6LSE, Repeater Trustee, thanked all who sent cards and best wishes while he was in the hospital. Mike reported that the repeaters were now interchangeable and the high pass filter was installed. APS has also been adding new power to the area.

(Ft. Tuthill (after Williams Hamfest) picnic and tailgate get-together)

The suggested Ft. Tuthill (after Williams Hamfest) picnic and tailgate get-together was cancelled by Ted, WA8ULG, due to lack of participants .

(HB-2721 Amateur Radio, Structures, Accommodations)

The Bill passed House and was sent to the AZ Senate, however the bill was again held up for hearing by the Senate by Sen. Harper, Chairman of the Govt. Committee. Rep. Nancy McLain, the sponsor of the bill did all she could to assist in getting this bill passed and we thank her for her efforts.

(Field Day 2008)

The Joint YARC Field Day and YARC club picnic took place as planned at Watson Lake on June 28-29. YARC had invited the VVARA to join with them for this annual ham radio event. The event was very well attended and lots of fun was had by all. YARC President, Terry Pemberton later reported that the YARC club has decided to have their Field Day and YARC club picnic next year at Watson Lake.

New Business

(2009 Field Day)

Regarding the 2009 Field Day, after consulting with several of our VVARA members, it is Mel's, N6BDC, recommendation that our club return to the top of Mingus Mountain for our 2009 Field Day and Field Day picnic as we have done in the past.

Motion to approve by: Al Barber - AA7OV, Second by: Carol Hills - KA7LKW, Passed.

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(Bank Signatures)

We need a motion to remove both Bill Martens, K7YKN, and Richard Courtney, AD7TF, our 2007 Treasurer, from our Chase Bank documents as being approved to sign checks and to carry out other duties as VVARA Treasurer. We must bring this to a vote per the instructions from the Chase Bank. A letter will then be written and signed by our Secretary in order to make this change legal. A copy of the letter and a copy of the official minutes will then be provided to Chase Bank. This is strictly an administrative requirement and does not reflect on either of the persons to be removed from the signature card at the Chase Bank. Bill Martens has moved out of state and Richard Courtney has specifically requested that his name be removed from the bank documents.

Motion to approve by: Mike Wingate - WA6LSE, Second by: Dick Munson - W2GAS, Passed.

(Club Webpage)

Our Web Master, Paul Compton, WA7US, has been making some nice improvements to the webpage including a Club Calendar, which shows upcoming club events, meetings, speakers, joint events with YARC, and other important information. Any club member can add events to the calendar, just contact any club officer with your suggestions and Paul will add this to the club calendar. He has done a complete revamping of the webpage structure which makes navigating the page much easier and much more comprehensive. Paul is looking for links to your webpage if you have one. Just let him know the information on your personal website. If you have a special interest, such as contesting, QRP operation, CW nets, Radio controlled models, etc., let our Paul know. Be sure to check out changes made to our club webpage at www.vvara.org.

(2008 Christmas Party)

Mel, N6BDC, reported that the 2008 Christmas party will be at the Ranch House restaurant at the Beaver Creek Golf & Country Club in Lake Montezuma on Saturday, Dec. 13th the same place as last year. Party starts at 11:30 a.m. with lunch served at 12:30 a.m.

(Technician License class)

Jack Crabtree, W7JLC, reported that a Technician License class will be held Saturday Sept. 27th. They have 15 people signed up but can handle more. Please contact Jack soon if you want to attend. Testing will be given 2 weeks later on Sat. Oct 4th.

(Road Rally)

Bob, KC8BOB, asked that anyone wanting to work the Rally needs to register for insurance purposes.

(Next meeting)

Our next meeting will be on the Prescott side at the Embry Riddle Aeronautical University at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday October 15th, 2008. Those wishing to have a meal at the school's cafeteria may arrive about 5:30 p.m. Lunch will be in building #45 - \$7.61 all you can eat. The meeting will be in building #75. Jack Crabtree, W7JLC, will be giving us a tour of his laboratory and other facilities at the University and will then give his hands-on presentation on the Ham Radio Deluxe program and some of its many nifty features.

Bob Shipton, K8EQC, called for a motion to close meeting.

Motion by: Chris Hancock - KC5UUG, Second by Marsha Rosenbarger, N6SNW, Passed.

Meeting closed at 8:35 p.m.

Tom Schrum, K7NII, Secretary VVARA

Robert G Thompson, K7RGT, acting Secretary VVARA Signed: _____