

Minutes of the April 15th 2009 Meeting of the Verde Valley Amateur Radio Assn.

The Meeting was held at Building 75, the AX-FAB Lab at the Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, AZ.

Some 30 members and spouses had dinner at the campus Cafeteria prior to the meeting.

Meeting called to order at 6:32 p.m.

President, Mel Boreham, N6BDC, welcomed all to the meeting

The **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag** was led by **Bob Thompson KC8BOB**.

Guests, new members, recent upgrades, new hams and visitors. New members were introduced, **Kenneth West KE4ZWZ** and **Sandie Lawson, KF7AYN**. **Mel Boreham, N6BDC**, announced that he had recently passed his **Extra Class exam** and was waiting for his license upgrade. No guests were introduced.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the **March 17th meeting** were read by Secretary, **Jason Shultz, KE7WWQ**. Thanks are extended to **Robert G Thompson, K7RGT**, for filling in for me and writing up the minutes last month while I attended to a family illness.

Motion to approve the March 17th minutes was made by: **Bob Shipton, K8EQC**,
Seconded by: Kenneth West KE4ZWZ, Passed.

Treasurer's Report: Mel Boreham, N6BDC, read the Treasurer's report for **Norman Vandiver, N7VF**, who was on a trip to a DX convention in Visalia, CA. The current bank balance according to the most recent bank statement, ending February 28th, 2009 is **\$6,751.30** and our current bank book balance is **\$6,507.77**.

Club Logo Patches. Two hundred club logo patches were ordered for the club by **Bob Budin, KJ7SJ**, but the company sent us **4 inches wide** patches rather than **3 inches wide** ones like the originals. A slide of the new patch was shown by **Dave Drown**. Additional 3 inch logo patches will be ordered in the near future from another company. These are the size needed for our club caps.

Statutory Agent. **Al Witte, KD6LZE**, has agreed to be our new Statutory Agent due to ill health of our previous agent, **Cal Turner, WI6S**. The club must have the name of the Statutory Agent listed on our financial forms sent in to the Arizona Corp. Commission that are submitted each year.

Presentation: Dave Drown WN7L gave an excellent Power Point presentation titled **Watch out for Yourself**, on safety around the ham shack. Dave's talk was very informative and entertaining.

BREAK at 8:03pm.

Carol Hills, KA7LKW, volunteered to bring an assortment of cookies for the meeting coffee break. Thank you for the cookies Carol! Coffee was provided by the club.

50/50 raffle tickets were sold by **Bob and Judy Rosevear**

Meeting reconvened at 8:25 pm.

50/50 Raffle Drawing: The winner was: **Sandie Lawson KF7AYN** - \$15.

Old Business:

2009 Prescott Ham Fest: The 3rd Annual joint VVARA/YARC Prescott Ham Fest will be held on Saturday May 30th at the Granite Mountain Middle School ball courts, the same location as the past two events. **David Drown, WN7L**, chairman of the Ham Fest coordinating committee, reported on the status of the upcoming event. Four tail gate spaces will be available, but must be reserved in advance. Mel asked that members consider donating some of their used ham equipment to the club for our sales table or to bring it to the Ham Fest to sell.

Field Day 2009: This year's **VVARA Field Day**, will return to the top of Mingus Mountain at the summit parking lot on June 27th. **Steve Pearson, KC7TIL**, will head up the planning committee. We will also be hosting a Field Day pot-luck picnic as we have done in the past. **Bob Rosevear, WB7RRQ**, will be in charge of the picnic and BBQ. The club will provide the meat for BBQ and refreshments and members should bring side dishes, salads and desserts. **Carol Hills, KC7LKW**, has volunteered the use of her Solar Trailer for solar power. We will need a team to put up antennas and setup the stations. **Bob Thompson, KC8BOB**, has sent in for the Forest Service Permit. He said that the approval is usually done at the last minute.

New Business:

Jack Crabtree, W7JLC, reported on the recent Amateur Radio **Extra Class License** classes.

Extra Class Testing: Eight persons took Jack Crabtree's Extra Class License classes. **Mary Vince, AB7NK**, said that six of them passed the Extra Class exam One person took and passed the General License exam and two passed the Tech exam.

The upcoming W7AC QSO Party: **Jack Crabtree, W7JLC**, is coordinating the **W7AC 3rd Annual 7 Area QSO Party** to be held from 6:00AM to Midnight on **Saturday, May 2nd at the Wagon Tire Flats area north of Paulen.**

Bill HB 2514: Arizona House Bill 2514 for Amateur Radio Antenna Accommodation is now going to the **Committee of the Whole** of the House and will then be taken up by the Senate. Due to the budget crisis, legislation is taking a very long time to progress through the various committees.

Michael Gray, KD7LMO, a Phoenix amateur radio operator was killed by a drunk driver on Easter Sunday while riding his bicycle to visit his parents. Michael was an invaluable part of the **Near Earth Space Project Balloon Launch team** and was only 41 years old. A Motion was made by **Bob Thompson, KC8BOB** to donate **\$100** in Michael Gray's name **to the Balloon Project** and **another \$100 donation** in his name **to Toys for Tots**, a favorite charity that Michael was involved with. The motion was seconded by **Bob Smith WB6ODR** and passed by a voice vote.

Verde Valley Ham Radio License Classes: Interest has been expressed in having a Technician License Class on the Verde Valley side of the mountain. There was discussion on what would be needed. **Jack Crabtree, W7JLC**, stated that the slides for the course are available. We will need some instructors for the course and a location to hold the class. Mel suggested that we should be able to get the Cottonwood Public Safety Building for this purpose.

Motion to Close Meeting: Motion made by: Sandie Lawson KF7AYN, Seconded by: Ken West. Passed.

Meeting closed at 8:45pm.

Jason Shultz, KE7WWQ, Secretary VVARA