

VVARA MEMBERSHIP MEETING – May 18, 2011

The meeting at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University was called to order by President, Jeff Swiggers, N7ZZN, at 7:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance using a flag donated by Will Taylor, AD7WW.

Visitors and recent upgrades:

Don Colozze, KI7AI, was a first time attendee who moved into the area about 5 years ago. Leo Zuercher, KF7KXH, who recently upgraded to general, brought his XYL Marny and his granddaughter Amanda to the meeting

Secretary's Report:

Secretary, Mike Covey, KF7KXL, read the minutes from the April 20, 2011 membership meeting. Mel Boreham, N6BDC, made a motion to accept the minutes as read, seconded by Carol Hills, KA7LKW, the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer's report was given by Mel Boreham: the current balance is \$6,316.93. He also reported that the donations to ARCA and Arizona Near Space Research have been made.

Repeater Trustee's Report:

Mike Wingate, WA6LSE, was unable to attend the meeting. Jeff advised members to set transceiver time-outs at 3-5 minutes to avoid tying up the repeater in case of a transmitter malfunction.

Old Business:

Mike Covey reported that A/R van received much needed maintenance and repairs and is now in the PSB secured parking. Some additional van upgrades are in the planning stage.

New Business:

Bob Kiekenapp, K0CKE, passed around his field day binder so the membership could sign up to work various projects.

Mike Covey reviewed the need for a backup if our repeater is non-functional. Bob Shipton, K8EQC, reported that in the past we had used the 147.000 machine and agreed to contact Bob Sitterley, K7POF, that repeater leader and discuss contingencies.

Mel announced that ARRL has changed to a different insurance company; we are continuing with the old company until it is renewal time and then will select the company that gives us the best deal.

Mike Covey mentioned that offering new hams a free full club membership on the website is somewhat confusing. A discussion ensued and Mike Covey made a motion to table the matter until another meeting, Bob Kiekenapp seconded, the motioned passed.

Bob Shipton and Jack Crabtree, W7JLC, reported on a very interesting detective story; their "fox hunt" to locate the transmitter that was interfering with our repeater on May 7 and 8. They were able to locate and fix the problem, a transmitter that was unintentionally left on with the microphone switch jammed on transmit and the owner out of town.

The meeting paused at 7:57 for drawings and resumed at 8:12 with Bob Kiekenapp introducing our speaker Jack Crabtree giving an update on ANSR and ERAU balloon projects. The presentation was followed by an

auction of Dan Nichols', W6SAK, estate items with the proceeds going to his daughter, and an auction of earphones donated by Al Barber, AA7OV, with proceeds going to the club.

Bob Shipton made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mike Covey seconded, the meeting adjourned at 9:11 pm.

Submitted by Mike Covey, Secretary