

# VVARA MEMBERSHIP MEETING April 18, 2012

The meeting at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University was called to order by Vice President, Steve Pearson, KC7TIL, at 7:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Visitors and recent upgrades:**

Dave Hanson, N7GLE, attended his first meeting. Mike Mladejovsky, WA7ARK, a recent transplant from Utah, just joined the club. Ray Tyrrell, N6MY, a former VVARA member is now back. There were no new upgrades.

## **Secretary's Report:**

Secretary Mike Covey, KF7KXL, read the minutes from the March, 2012 membership meeting. Bob Thompson, KC8BOB, made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected, Bob Smith, WB6ODR, seconded, the motion passed.

## **Treasurer's Report:**

The treasurer's report was given by Mel Boreham, N6BDC; the current balance is \$6,818.12. Bryan Whipp, W7BNW, made a motion to accept the report as read, Mike Covey seconded, the motion passed. Mel announced that we now have about 160 members in the club.

## **Repeater Trustee's Report:**

Bob Thompson gave the report for Mike Wingate, WA6LSE, who was unable to attend the meeting. The various planned repeater repairs and upgrades were reviewed. Mike will start the projects when weather conditions on the mountain improve.

## **Old Business:**

Steve reviewed field day planning and organization. Bob Thompson reported everything is OK with the site permit. Steve recommended Norm Vandiver, N7VF, as field day chairman and reminded the group that they can overnight camp at the field day site. Steve announced that field day weekend, he will be on vacation in Colorado.

Bryan Whipp and Bob Thompson reported that the MS 150 "Ride the Vortex", bicycle ride had 700 participants and raised \$500,000 in donations. VVARA members and other amateur radio operators provided communications for the 2 day event.

Bob Smith said that the VE testing session went well. Cheryl and Tim Henriksen, KF7GCN and KF7GCO, were thanked for conducting the testing.

The Arizona Centennial special event station operated by Art Swiggers, AE7KQ, logged 224 contacts and so far has received 60 QSL cards back. Bob Thompson will scan the cards so they can be put on the club web site. Art was thanked for a job well done.

## **New Business:**

Jack Crabtree announced the District 7 QSO Party that is coming up in about 2 weeks. If we are going to participate, we will need an organizer/coordinator. The recommended approach is to set up a trailer or motor home at the Drake location straddling the county line allowing for 2 counties received per contact.

It was announced that the road rally is scheduled for the last week end in September. Bob Thompson, Bob Smith, Bob Rosevear, WB7RRQ, and Bill Burkett, KE7IXS, will be signing up people to work that event.

The meeting paused at 7:43 PM for a break, the 50/50 drawing and an auction for a headset.

The meeting resumed at 7:59 PM with Jack Crabtree presenting a program on his recent high altitude balloon projects. An excellent student prepared video on the high altitude balloon projects was also presented.

Mike Covey made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Walter Schumann, KF6SPF, seconded, the meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Submitted by Mike Covey, Secretary