

## **VVARA Meeting 15 June 2016, Nate's Cowboy Cafe, Cottonwood, Arizona.**

The meeting was called to order by President Wayne Gilbertson, WA7IGI at 7:02 p.m. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Visitors and recent upgrades:** No visitors or recent upgrades. 18 members present.

**Secretary Report:** Robert Shipton, K8EQC read the minutes from 18, May 2016 meeting. Motion to accept Mike, KF7KXL. Seconded by Mike, WA6LSE. Motion carried.

**Treasurer Report:** Tim, KF7GCO gave the report as follows. The Chino Grinder sent a thank you letter to the club and a check for \$ 175.00 for member participation in the bike race. Savings \$3,989.59, withdrawals \$ 0, ending balance \$3,989.59. Checking \$ 4245.61, withdrawals \$756.97, deposits \$ 223.00. Ending balance \$3,711.64. Total checking and savings, \$7,701.23. Motion to accept, Bob, KC8BOB. Seconded by Mike, KF7KXL. Motion carried.

**Technical Committee Report:** Mike, WA6LSE reported that the FCC contacted him to state that no citations, from the recordings taken, will be issued by the commission. He said a gentle reminder regarding call sign procedures can be made. Sexual innuendo is not citable. Profanity is citable. The FCC said the repeater owners can enforce any issue if it's deemed not to be fit, and/or is socially unacceptable to the community. Operators can be asked not to use the club's repeaters. This has been adjudicated and upheld in court. Mike said that his spouse does not want to listen to the 147.220 repeater. Mike said how can we bring in youth when you hear this stuff. Rod, KI6FH said to nip it in the bud with a warning letter to those responsible. Mike, KF7KXL said the club had requested an individual not to use the repeater a few years ago due to profanity.

Jan, a visitor and listener, noticed off color comments, sexual innuendo and profanity, not just occasionally on the KKN net but at other times during the day. She stated she doesn't like it. It's not the Ham Radio she remembers. She stated the vast majority of ham operators are not a problem, and is thankful for that. She said it's not pretty and shows a lack of respect not just for women but for all. She stated it's not a private cell phone but a very public hobby, which includes public events, etc. It includes non-hams like her. She said this problem is a slap in the face to all members who have worked hard over the years to make the club what it is. Finally, Jan wants to extend a public thank you to all ham operators who have held the bar high over the years, that they are the vast majority and the backbone of ham radio, and they are the ones who stand tall.

Club repeater Trustee, Bob Thompson, KC8BOB requested that all members e-mail him if anything is heard that fits this profile, along with the time and call sign, and he would keep this information anonymous. Wayne, WA7IGI said to document anything you hear and send it to the Trustee.

**Membership Chairman Report:** Bob, KC8BOB reported no new members and the club currently has 160 to 165 members, with a 58-59% ARRL affiliation.

**Amateur Radio Parity Act:** Wayne, WA7IGI said he has no new news.

**NPOTA Report:** Wayne, WA7IGI reported that Norm, N7VF has made 3000 contacts from Montezuma Castle National Monument. Jack, W7JLC has worked over 250 National sites.

**Other business:** Wayne reported that the Prescott Hamfest was a success and thanked those who helped at the club booth. Carol, KA7LKW donated a solar panel to the VVARA booth for raffle. Bob, K8EQC mentioned to Bill Noe, W7PVA, that to help the hamfest grow in the future you might want to have a representative from all the area radio clubs, ARES/RACES, and DX groups sit on a committee as part of the hamfest. This is what made the Yuma Hamfest grow in a short time.

Wayne, WA7IGI showed a short video from Dave Casler, KE0OG, titled, "How to a Set up an Amateur Radio Station" Then Wayne gave a talk and video presentation on the Linux operating system, its advantages and features. He also detailed some of the larger corporate and military users of Linux.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Robert Shipton, K8EQC  
Secretary VVARA