

## **VVARA Meeting September 20th, 2017, Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church, Cottonwood, AZ.**

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Mike Rhodes, KG7LMJ at 7:00p.m, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **VISITORS AND RECENT UPGRADES:**

Twenty two members present.  
No new upgrades.

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

Bob Shipton, K8EQC read the minutes of the June 21, 2017 Motion to accept by Carol, KA7LKW seconded by Dan, N7RUF. Motion passed.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The Treasurer's report was given by Tim, KF7GCO.

Savings \$3,990.01  
Withdrawals \$0  
Deposits 10  
Ending balance \$3,990.11  
Checking beginning balance \$3,396.60  
Withdrawals \$460.06  
Deposits \$ 214.00 Ending balance \$3,150.54  
Total checking and savings, \$7,140.65  
Motion to accept by Norm, N7VF. Seconded by Dan, N7RUF. Motion passed.

### **TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Bob, KC8BOB stated that the 147.220 repeater was working normally. Bob said a survey was done in June for the ARES/ RACES Winlink system at our Squaw Peak site with Yavapai County radio officer Bud, N7CW, and there is plenty of room. Two large capacity 6 volt batteries will be supplied and put in parallel with our existing batteries. Mike, WA7ARK asked what the purpose of the system was and questioned RF compatibility. Dan, K7RUF said it was low power. Bob, K8EQC explained the purpose being a low power emergency 2 meter digipeater using the Winlink system to move data into and out of the Verde Valley in an emergency. He also stated it will be an open digipeater. Bob also stated that tests were being run to see if there is compatibility with the VVARA 147.100 repeater in our Squaw Peak building. Terry, KI7FXA with ARES/RACES said it would replace the temporary node in Cornville, and provide a direct link to the ARES/RACES node on Bill Williams Mtn. and the Prescott EOC.

### **MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN REPORT:**

Bob, KC8BOB reported that since June we have added three new members. Tom Hawkins, K5PIC, Paula Hawkins, K5PLZ and Terry Gillespie, KI7FXA. Bob said he would get with Tim, KF7GCO to get an updated paid membership count.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Mike, KG7LMJ asked about the status of relocating the Echo link node. He asked if John's, KJ7ON place of work was still available. Bob, KC8BOB said they couldn't get an opening through their firewall at his company. Mike mentioned that there was a discussion of possibly relocating the link to Steve, KC7TIL's QTH. Bob, K8EQC said that Steve, KC7TIL perhaps would host the Echolink node at his QTH, and would work with Jack, W7JLC to make that change. Bob, K8EQC said we don't have a final confirmation on that yet.

Mike, KG7LMJ asked if anyone has a field day report. WA7ARK said the field day site had issues with line noise from nearby power lines. He said a 12KV nearby transmission line caused an S8 line noise on HF. Carol said her ranch was available for field day. Bob, K8EQC said that in lieu of the noise level, the club has made many contacts on field day in past years from the Mingus location, with upwards of a thousand contacts some years. KC8BOB said one year after putting up the G5RV antenna, Steve KC7TIL's first contact was Munich, Germany. Tony said band conditions were poor operating from the YARC field day at the Jeep Posse building, and he had in the past done much better at the Mingus site. Mike, WA7ARK stated we're nearing the bottom of the current sunspot cycle.

For the use of Carol's, KA7LKW solar trailer over the last several years at field day, Bob K8EQC made a motion that the club purchase four new batteries for the trailer. Seconded by Dan, K7RUF. Motion passed.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

BOB, KC8BOB said that he would be at the site inspection on Mingus tomorrow. Dan, K7RUF asked if the license for 147.100 on Squaw Peak, and the 70 cm repeater on Mingus were transferred from Mike, WA6LSE to the club license W7EI. Bob, KC8BOB said he would look into that issue. Tony, K6PSR asked if the 70 cm repeater on Mingus might be used for ARES/RACES.

## **50/50 Drawing winner, Dan, K7RUF**

Mike, WA7ARK gave a presentation on the G5RV antenna and a newer redesigned version of the antenna.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Robert Shipton, K8EQC

VVARA Secretary