

VVARA Meeting November 21, 2018 ***Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church, Cottonwood, AZ***

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Rhodes, K7LMJ at 7:00 p m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITORS, RECENT UPGRADES:

Visitor was Chad Conway. 27 members present. New licensee, Tom, KJ7BJZ. Upgrade, Pete, KI7ZWP to Extra Class.

SECRETARY REPORT:

Bob, K8EQC, Vice President read the minutes from the October 2018 meeting. Motion to accept by Marsha, N6SNW. Seconded by Michele, KD7FMJ. Motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT:

The Treasurer's report was given by Mike, K7LMJ.

Savings account beginning balance: \$3,990.64.

Withdrawals: \$1,733.33.

Ending balance: \$2,257.31.

Checking account balance: \$1,136.93.

Total of checking and savings: \$3,394.24.

Motion to accept by Carol, KA7LKW. Seconded by Greg, N6WCD. Motion passed.

REPEATER TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT:

Matt, N7YIO reported that Niles radio was going to replace the old 147.220 antenna, but were too busy, and instead one of Matt's coworkers from Verizon whom was climbing certified replaced the 147.220 and 220 MHz antenna. Matt, N7YIO, Bob, KC8BOB, and Bob, K8EQC assisted with the replacement of the two antennas. Steve, KC7TIL reported that Army Mars were there and did service on their repeater.

Steve, KC7TIL went on to give a detailed report of what has been done at the Mingus site since Mike, WA6LSE had passed away. Steve stated that Matt had taken radio #1 of the two VXR -7000's to C&M Communication in Payson, and the radio checked out to spec. The duplexers were physically taken to Niles Radio in Flagstaff, and a minor adjustment was done to the receive cavity, otherwise all okay. Two new deep cycle batteries were installed to replace batteries that were twelve years old. A team removed the old ground rods and five new ones installed. The ARA team removed the old BATF antenna. Only the MARS antenna remains on top adjacent to the 147.220 antenna. The 220mhz antenna was installed 2/3 of the distance up the tower in the same location of the old antenna.. The 147.220 amp was removed which greatly reduced receiver desense. #1 VXR- 7000 was set to 50 watts.#2 VXR had software issues to be resolved.

Steve went on to detail the Squaw Peak site progress. The site is 100% solar. ARES/RACES installed two new 400 AH batteries. The new Yaseu DRX-2 repeater will be installed on Squaw as a test bed in full AMS mode, since the 147.100 gets limited use now, that will

reduce conflict between C4FM and analog FM users. The Daniel's 2m repeater will be retuned, and it along with the Daniels 2m amp will be relocated to the 147.220 Mingus site, the Daniels amp output is 30 watts.

Matt supplied a panel rack and two batteries for back up at Steve's QTH for the W7EI e-link node. Rod mentioned how good the Daniel's radios are and Bob, K8EQC mentioned that it was Mike's, WA6LSE intention to have Daniels eventually at both sites.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

Mike, K7LMJ stated that since Bob, KC8BOB was not at the meeting we will forgo the membership report for tonight's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mike, K7LMJ stated that please get your money to Carol, KA7LKW or Cheryl, KF7GCN for the Christmas party. Mike I said they need to know the count by December 3rd.

Bob, WB7RRQ nominating committee chairman gave the report. The list of nominees are as follows: Wayne Gilbertson, WA7IGI, President; Bob Shipton, K8EQC, Vice President; Don Sears, N7PLL, Treasurer; Leo Zurcher, Secretary. Mike, K7LMJ asked if there are any other nominations from the floor. There were none. The slate was individually voted on and there were no objections.

NEW BUSINESS:

Randy, AC7AJ from AREA/RACES reported that a team consisting of himself, Tom, NL7FQ, Jack, KI7YNK, Steve, KC7TIL and Bob, KC8BOB went up to Squaw Peak, took out the old batteries and replaced them with two six volt 420AH batteries. They put up the antenna for the WinLink digipeater. The new WinLink digipeater on Squaw is NL7FQ-12, no pl or offset, 147.030 simplex, and it will access the K7YCA-9 digipeater on Bill Williams Mtn. and the NL7FQ-10 gateway in Cornville. Randy thanked Steve and Bob for their assistance on the install. Randy said it will be under remote control and Jack, W7JLC asked how? Randy said using the Kantronics TNC on the same frequency as the digipeater. Bob, K8EQC asked if there will be an internet gateway on Squaw, Randy said no plans for that. Mike, K7LMJ thanked Randy for the report. Under other new business Jack, W7JLC mentioned that the call signs need to be changed on Squaw and Mingus.

BREAK

50/50 won by Marsha, N6SNW. Drawing for the BaoFeng UV-5R, Dual Band 2m/70cm radio was won by Matt, N7YIO

Presentation was given by Wayne, WA7IGI,
"Making sense out of the FCC advisory DA-18-980"

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Robert Shipton, K8EQC - Vice President, VVARA