

Minutes of February 17, 2024
Regular Membership Meeting
of the Verde Valley Amateur Radio Association

Location: El Toreo Restaurant Meeting Room, Clarkdale, AZ

Meeting Time: 1:00 PM A pre-meeting informal luncheon was available commencing at 11:00 AM

Present: About 25 members and guests of VVARA attended the regular membership meeting.

At the request of several members who participated in the informal luncheon, Association President Bill Jean, KK7LGE, convened the regular meeting at 12:50 PM. He then led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. Bill then introduced the guest speaker, Rick Paquette, W7RAP, Arizona Section Manager of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). Rick then began his extensive and interesting hour-long presentation using a slide deck which has been posted on the Association's website. Rick's informative presentation prompted several questions from members of the Association. Rick received an enthusiastic round of applause upon completion.

The meeting then returned to regular business with President Bill Jean, KK7LGE, asking in turn for the Secretary's, Treasurer's, Membership and Technical Committee Reports.

Secretary's Report: Tim Sullivan, AC7TB, explained that the minutes of the January 27, 2024 regular membership meetings were posted on the Association's website in advance of this February 17, 2024 meeting. He offered a hard copy of the January 27 meeting minutes to anyone who wanted one. A motion to approve the minutes for the January 27 regular meeting was made by Steve Pearson, KC7TIL, and seconded by Toby Payne, K7ABP. A voice vote of the membership was held and the minutes of the January 27, 2024 regular meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Association Treasurer, Don Sears, N7PLL, then gave an oral report while discussing a PowerPoint slide depicting the current position of the Associations finances. Don also noted that the Mingus Mountain Club repeater site weather station is up and running and encouraged members to check out the weather information. He also noted that the 2024 annual Association \$20 per family membership fee is due by April 1. Don noted that the number of members who still owed their \$20 membership fee for 2024 had dropped from 47 members on January 27 down to 25 members on February 17. Don explained that on April 1, 2024 members who had not renewed their membership would be dropped from the membership rolls. A Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Toby Payne, K7ABP. Several members seconded the motion. A voice vote was held and the Treasurer's Report was accepted.

Membership Report: Inasmuch as Starla Thompson, KE7DTS, Membership Chair, was unable to attend the meeting and that Treasurer Don Sears, N7PLL, had already updated everyone about the status of membership renewals, the need for any further membership report was dispensed with. We currently have 158 paid, life and family members in VVARA.

Technical Committee Report: Toby Payne, K7ABP, gave the Technical Report as Matt Dutton, N7YIO, Committee Chair, was unable to attend. Toby reported that there are plans to update the Porcupine Repeater site with a new 70 CM repeater and new antennas when the weather improves. President Bill Jean, KK7LGE, asked several questions about equipment at the Mingus Mountain repeater site.

New Business: Treasurer Don Sears, N7PLL, said the Whiskey Basin Trail Runs on April 13th is the first public service event of the year for ham radio operators. He asked for volunteers to sign up to assist with radio communications to support the event. Also, VVARA is the official ham radio sponsor of the Prescott Rally in September. Registration is not yet open for that event.

President Bill Jean, KK7LGE, noted that Field Day is scheduled for June 29 at the Mingus Mountain recreation area parking lot at the top of the mountain. He indicated that the Club needed a Technical Chair and a Food Chair for this event and asked for volunteers.

There being no other business, President Bill Jean, KK7LGE, called for a motion to adjourn. Several members moved to adjourn, Phil Gardner, W9KKR, and others seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 2:10 PM.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted on February 23, 2024 by Tim Sullivan, AC7TB, Secretary