

Minutes of November 16, 2024
Regular Membership Meeting
of the Verde Valley Amateur Radio Association

Location: Prescott Golf Club, Dewey, WA
Scheduled Meeting Time: 1:00 PM

An informal luncheon was available commencing at 11:30 AM. Most of the 26 VVARA members and five guests who attended the 1:00 PM regular meeting also participated in the informal luncheon.

Introduction & Welcome to Guests:

Bill Jean, KK7LGE, VVARA President, convened the meeting at 1:00 PM. All members rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bill Jean then welcomed new members and guests Max Vaughn, KF7MAX, who is spending several months in the Verde Valley area. Max is active in and a former officer of the High Desert Amateur Radio Group in Bend, Oregon. Also welcomed were Rex Mauldin, N7NGM, Terry Pilcher, KL7BJ, & Jess Pilcher, KL7JEA.

Guest Speaker: Bud Semon Presentation:

At 1:07 PM, Bill Jean introduced our guest speaker, Bud Semon, N7CW. Bud spoke about "Introduction to DX'ing: What It's All About and Why You Might Care." Bud, a ham radio operator for 58 years, used a PowerPoint Presentation to guide his discussion and welcomed questions from the audience. Bud's talk engendered so many questions that his presentation lasted more than an hour.

Topics Bud covered in his presentation included an introduction to DX; the history of DX contacts; how do you work DX; methods to confirm a DX contact; the many awards and certificates available to ham radio operators for working DX; why get involved in DX (long distance) communications; DXpeditions (journeys to remote locations where amateur radio operators and few and far between or non-existent and setting and operating a ham radio station at that remote location to enable other ham radio operators to confirm a radio contact with that location); and hints for successfully working DX stations.

Bud received an enthusiastic round of applause and thanks for his excellent presentation.

Secretary Report:

At 2:16 PM, Bill Jean, KK7LGE, called for the Secretary's Report. Tim Sullivan, AC7TB, VVARA Secretary noted that copies of the draft Minutes for the October 19, 2024 meeting were available on the table where members were now seated. In addition, the draft minutes were posted on VVARA's website by Don Sears, N7PLL, VVARA's Treasurer and webmaster. Tim indicated that a Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes for the October 19 regular meeting was needed.

Bill Jean called for a motion to approve the October 19 meeting minutes. Several members including, Toby Payne, K7ABP and Bill Burkett, KE7IXS, moved to approve the minutes. Bill Jean called for a second to the motion. Again, several members seconded the motion. Bill Jean called for a voice vote and by acclamation the October 2024 Meeting Minutes were approved.

Treasurer Report:

At 2:18 PM, President Bill Jean called for the Treasurer's Report. Don Sears, N7PLL, VVARA Treasurer and Webmaster gave an oral presentation with an accompanying slide depicting the current expenses, credits, and the current balance for the Club's bank account.

Bill Jean then called for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Several members including, Steve Pearson, KC7TIL, and Bill Burkett, KE7IXS, moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. President Jean called for a second to the motion. Several members seconded the motion. President Jean then called for a vote of the motion. By voice acclamation, the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was adopted.

Membership Committee Report:

Starla Thompson, KE7DTS, reported that VVARA has 157 paid members. Members were reminded that 2025 membership dues are payable in the first quarter of 2025.

Technical Committee Report:

At 2:19 PM, VVARA Trustee at Large, Steve Pearson, KC7TIL, gave a brief Technical Committee report noting that the pallet of used deep cycle back up power supply batteries that had been donated to the club a couple of months previously were charging up well and would be put into operation at our Mingus Mountain two-meter repeater site and that the club would donate some excess deep cycle batteries to the MMRG group for their repeater site.

New Business: Nomination Committee Report: Election of Officers

Bill Jean then brought up new business: the report of the Nomination Committee and the election of Officers for 2025.

Bob Rosevear, WB7RRQ, Chair of the Nominations Committee, indicated that three of the current Officers: President Bill Jean, KK7LGE, Secretary Tim Sullivan, AC7TB and Treasurer Don Sears, N7PLL, had all indicated that they were willing to run for reelection to serve in 2025. Vice President Ron Rosson, N6XT, had decided not to run for reelection so that the Nominations Committee approached Toby Payne, K7ABP, who agreed to run for the Vice-President officer position.

Bob Rosevear indicated that there was one contested Officer position, the Secretary position. Bob noted that Ernie de Leon, K7IOG, indicated that he wished to take a more active role in the club since he has more free time now after retiring from his former employment in 2024. Ernie is a candidate for the Secretary position. Bob indicated that Ernie was not able to attend the November Regular meeting due to a conflict with another meeting.

President Bill Jean called for an election by a show of hands separately for each of the two candidates for the Secretary position. Tim Sullivan, AC7TB, won the show of hands. President then called for an election of the full slate of Officer candidates and by acclamation Bill Jean, KK7LGE, President, Toby Payne, K7ABP, Vice President, Tim Sullivan, AC7TB, Secretary, and Don Sears, N7PLL, Treasurer were elected as Officers for 2025.

[Special Note: The Trustee at Large position on the Board is an appointed, not an elected, position, under current VVARA By-Laws. The VVARA President appoints the Trustee at Large. After the election of officers by VVARA members at the November 16 meeting, President Bill Jean reappointed Steve Pearson, KC7TIL, to the Trustee at Large position and Steve Pearson graciously agreed to serve again as Trustee at Large in 2025.]

President Bill Jean reminded everyone about the VVARA Holiday Banquet at Randall's Restaurant in Cottonwood on Saturday December 14 at 4:00 PM. Banquet tickets need to be purchased in advance.

President Jean called for a motion to adjourn. After a motion and second were obtained, the meeting was adjourned.

January 2025 VVARA Regular Meeting

Date: Saturday, January 18, 2025 at 1:00 PM

Location: Prescott Golf Club, Dewey, WA

Pre-Meeting Informal Luncheon: 11:30 AM