

# Socorro Amateur Radio Association

www.socorroara.org

## Minutes of the SARA Meeting August 10, 2011

### Call to order:

7:35PM

Bear Albrecht W5VZB presiding.

17 members present.

### Announcements:

Dave Johnson KB5YIW announced that Doug West AB5WT gives his greeting from Taos, NM.

### Guest Speaker:

Jim Lommen KC7QY gave a slide presentation about the Rocky Mountain ARRL Division Convention.

The premise of the convention was "Rediscovering the thrill of ham radio."

### Minutes:

**Motion by David Johnson KB5YIW to approve the minutes of the July meeting.**

**Motion was seconded and passed.**

### Treasurer:

Treasury: by Jim Lommen KC7QY

	<u>SARA Account</u>	<u>TARA Account</u>	<u>checkbook balance</u>
7/1/2011 balance:	\$7,804.90	\$320.08	\$8,124.98
Debits:	\$280.00	-	-\$280.00
Deposits:	\$124.00	-	\$124.00
8/1/2011 balance:	\$7,666.90	\$320.08	<b>\$7,986.98</b>

### Membership renewals due:

Boswell, Jim - KA5SIW

Bowman, Anneliese - AD6UY

Calkins, Ray - N0RBT

Price, Seth - N3MRA

Rader, Al - WA5POL

Past due:

David Hunter - KF5AVI - Dropped, went to Chile.

Paul Lilie - KE5UCI

ARES:

Vern Leavitt KD5UHB reports that Ares Members are still having their 8:00PM Wednesday night nets on the SARA repeater. HF nets are still being held on the second and fourth Sunday evenings at 7:30pm.

During the HF net last Sunday, Bill Kauffman - W5YEJ requested a two hour slot at our hamfest for ARES. He also requested time on behalf of KJ5KU who would like one hour to explain NVIS systems.

LEPC:

Doug May KF5AVG reports that the LEPC meets on Thursday the 18th. They will be having a speaker Joseph Keith, a member of the LEPC on Torrance County and a retired Chief of Police in Miami. Fred Hollis will be speaking about the Mitigation program that has been approved by the County Commission. Election of officers is coming up.

Doug says that good things are happening with the organization of the Presbyterian Hospital and Presbyterian Clinic staff. During the storm in February, the hospital was short staffed. The clinic across the street had no idea and sent two nurses home. Since then the hospital and clinic staff have made an effort to cross train and improve their communication so that problems like this can be avoided in the future. Doug says that there are a lot of organizations that are not aware of what similar organizations are doing and there is more improvement to be done.

Charter School:

Jon Spargo KC5NTW reports that the charter school has given us a room to use after school hours. There is lockable office within the room to use as the ham shack. Jon set up a table at the Tuesday parent meeting where he distributed a handout that he made for the students. The handout describes the ham radio hobby and explains the formation of a ham radio club at the school and what it would entail.

The class will be taught by licensed operators of SARA and will be conducted like any other academic class. All normal classroom rules will be followed. Students will be learning basic principals of physics and electronics as well as the rules and regulations governing on-air operations, therefore the class will require a degree of commitment. Students will be expected to regularly attend the class as well as study at home if they are to keep up with the course content. If conflicts with other after school activities are unavoidable then the student should probably not take this class.

Jon had a sign up sheet at his table and was able to recruit six students, a parent, a teacher Kim Berlat who will be the sponsor, and Vannetta Perry the Assistant Superintendent will attend. Logistics on the room is still being worked out but Jon expects that in a week to ten days the room will be available for set up. Now that a lockable room is available, Don Woods says that he would be willing to donate an HF rig.

He also says that in two to three weeks time that he will be ordering books from the ARRL that will remain within the club. He will be asking for reimbursement from the club for the books. Jon wants to form a work party for interested members to come and help set up the club shack.

Glenn Mauger WB5OAF asked about the possibility of teaching penmanship that was oriented towards transcribing morse code efficiently.

**A motion was made to approve the purchase of license manuals by Jon Spargo for use at the charter school. The motion was seconded and approved.**

TARA:

Kalman Oravec AJ5B reports that there has been no TARA activity. Class will be starting in a few weeks and Seth Price should be returning to get activities started. Kalman and a few others discussed some things that could be done to give club interest a boost.

Old Business:

Bear Albrecht W5VZB and Glen Mauger WB5OAF discussed the possibility of setting up the repurposed ambulance instead of the trailer at the County Fair.

Bill Brundage NM5WB reports that this past Friday and Saturday was the Socorro Chile Harvest Triathlon, SARA had enough people show up that we managed to cover the events. Friday was the Youth Triathlon and Saturday was the Adult Triathlon. Bill provided photographic evidence of the success of Friday's event.

The Socorro Striders and Riders prepared some certificates of appreciation for Jim Oty WB5QWH,

Doug May KF5AVG , Prescott Grey W1PCG, Tom Frawley KA0YYP, Howard Peavey K9PV, and Vern Leavitt KD5UHB

New Business:

Bear says that the Hamfest venue is confirmed. Vern says that flyers were printed.

Glenn Mauger brought up a concern that not all ZIP codes in the target area were being reached. Dave Johnson said that he would look into the situation.

Dave also says that the Chief Engineer of the MRO is confirmed as a speaker.

The caterer is scheduled for Friday, October 28 with brisket, beans, and green chile.

Schedules and logistics for the Hamfest were discussed and decided upon by consensus.

On the topic of food for Saturday, Dave Johnson suggested two possible caterers. Another suggested option is Prescott running a brisket wagon.

Jim Lommen discussed some options for Hamfest Prizes.

Dave Johnson made a motion to make \$1200 available for prizes and to let Jim go to work.

**Motion by Dave Johnson: Make \$1200 available to Jim Lommen to choose Hamfest Prizes.**

**Motion was seconded and passed.**

Jim Boswell suggested running a separate drawing pool for each prize as was done in Taos.

After some discussion, Vern Leavitt made a motion to keep the drawings the same. After some more discussion, no action was made on the item.

Newsletter:

Dave Johnson retired as the newsletter editor and was congratulated for his service. He says that he has had trouble finding enough information for each issue and he often resorted to recycling information from the ARRL newsletter. He suggested some alternative options, including going to a quarterly format instead of monthly, or publishing via a Lyris email list.

Bear agreed that using a Lyris list to post information would be an interesting experiment.  
Dave said he would give it a try.

Adjournment: 9:07PM

Brad Smith KD5JNI  
Secretary