# Socorro Amateur Radio Association

www.socorroara.org

# Minutes of the SARA Meeting

**February 8, 2012** 

# Call to order:

7:30PM

Ray Calkins N0RBT presiding.

17 members present.

# Introductions:

None.

#### Announcements:

Ray Calkins presented his Extra class study manual as a gift to Casper Huang.

Jim Lommen announced that the FCC has published new 60 meter rules.

The following will become effective on March 5, 2012

5368KHz is no longer available and has been replaced 5358.5KHz.

CW, RTTY, and PSK are now allowed on each channel's center.

The power limit has also been increased from 50 to 100 watts ERP.

Doug May said that tomorrow is the last day to sign up to the D-STAR meeting that will be held on February 18<sup>th</sup>.

Ray Calkins says that the Raspberrypi project computer will go on sale by the end of the month.

# Treasurer:

Treasury: by Jim Lommen	KC7QY		
	SARA Account	TARA Account	checkbook balance
1/1/2012 balance:	\$7,711.77	\$320.08	\$8,031.85
Debits:	\$1.09	-	-\$1.09
Deposits:	\$63.80	-	\$63.80
2/1/2012 balance:	\$7,774.48	\$320.08	\$8,094.56

# Membership renewals due:

None

# Past due:

None

#### TARA:

Nothing new has occurred with TARA. The club is still inactive.

# ARES:

Vern Leavitt reports that the typical VHF and HF meetings are occurring. There is ongoing discussion and design for new tables for the new radio room.

Jim Boswell asked if the question about whether or not the ARES radio room would be used by SARA had been answered yet. Vern said that it had not yet been addressed.

#### LEPC:

Doug May reports that the chairman did not show but six members held a discussion about providing help to people that are stranded in snow.

Last LEPC meeting the chairman didn't show up. 6 people showed up and the recent snows were discussed.

# Charter School:

Jon Spargo reports that he picked up another student for a total of six. He proposed a field trip for the students to the EOC in the near future. Jim Lommen say that we should try to come to a decision by the next meeting.

#### Old Business:

Jim Lommen corresponded with Paul Harden NA5N concerning a Civil War reenactment. Paul has submitted a request to the BLM for camping on the Seviletta Refuge. Camping on Seviletta has never been permitted before.

#### New Business:

Bear Albrecht presented a promotional deal for clubs from Icom where they are providing free D-STAR repeaters provided that certain conditions are met. Icom wants \$3000 up front and they will reimburse the money if the repeater is operational within a 90 day deadline. The installation, internet connection and support equipment are not provided. Jon Spargo pointed out that the bureaucratic logistics with NMT also has to be addressed if the repeater is to be installed on Socorro Peak. Other locations were discussed besides Socorro Peak. The capabilities and benefits of D-STAR were discussed.

Jon Spargo made a motion to postpone the discussion about the repeater until more information is available. The motion was seconded and passed.

Prescott says that if all of the ARES and County equipment are moved then the SARA club station may be left without a power supply. Through discussion it was concluded that the matter was not an issue.

Jim Lommen says that at the Festival of the Cranes organizing committee, there was discussion of an activity for children and adults related to how radio tracking works. Jim though that the

club may be interested in helping.

Doug May says that on February 16th in the Fidel Center there will be a Community Day where local businesses and organizations will be invited to set up a table to provide information to students. If the club is interested then Doug will reserve a table.

Doug may asked about a Hamfest committee. Prescott Grey said that now would be a good time to set up a Field Day committee. Field day will occur on the 4th full weekend of June. (23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>)

Ray said that he would reserve Clark Field for those dates.

Jim Boswell was appointed as Field Day chairman.

Bear Albrecht volunteered as Hamfest committee chairman. He asks to be reminded of his duties.

# Good of Ham Radio:

Anne notes that we need more members, and perhaps we could do outreach through the parents of the Charter School students, possibly doing some training for interested adults. Jon has tried getting some interest at the high school with not much success thus far. Jim Lommen mentioned that working with LEPC members might be productive. Jon has a standing offer for any adult to attend his classes; he notes that next year he may have to expand to two sessions so as to separate technician and general classes. Note that Jim Boswell is giving some classes 7 pm Friday evenings at the EOC.

Adjournment: 8:55PM

Brad Smith KD5JNI Secretary