

Socorro Amateur Radio Association

www.socorroara.org

Minutes of the SARA Meeting April 11, 2012

Call to order:

7:33PM

Ray Calkins presiding.

16 members present.

Introductions:

No introductions

Announcements:

Jim Lommen announced that Fred Maia W5YI passed away the 28th of March at the age of 76. Fred published The W5YI Report from 1978 to 2003

Luis Aguilar says that he received a certificate from the ARRL congratulating him for 40 years of membership.

Dave Finley reported on his special event station. Nick and Dave put up an antenna between roofs at the AOC. About 217 contacts were made.

Minutes:

Dave Finley moved to approve the March 14th minutes. The motion passed.

Treasurer:

Treasury: by Jim Lommen KC7QY

	<u>SARA Account</u>	<u>TARA Account</u>	<u>checkbook balance</u>
3/1/2012 balance:	\$7,618.38	\$320.08	\$7,938.46
Debits:	\$3,000.00	-	-\$3,000.00
Deposits:	\$600.00	-	\$600.00
4/1/2012 balance:	\$5,218.38	\$320.08	\$5,538.46

Membership renewals due:

Doug May – Paid

Glenn Mauger

Howard Peavy

Jon Spargo

Past due:

None

Prescott asked if we owed Paul Choc money. Jim said that we had not received an invoice yet. Bear said he would retrieve an invoice.

ARES:

Vern Leavitt reports that the Wednesday and Sunday evening nets are occurring as usual. Vern says that work on the ARES radio room is on hold while materials arrive. Jon Spargo asked if the radio room would be available for the Charter School class to visit on a field trip. Vern wasn't able to get a definite schedule for completion, but it may be ready in about two weeks.

LEPC:

Doug May reports that there is a meeting a week from tomorrow at 10AM. Max Planck will be speaking. Jerry Ford will report on the New Mexico LEPC meeting that is currently going on. The LEPC meetings occur on the third Thursday of every month.

Charter School:

Jon Spargo reports that the Class took a field trip to the VLA. School ends in late May. Jon would like a VE session on a weekend in May with the exception of the 12th. Al Braun says that he can have it set up for the 19th of May at 1:00PM. The location will be at the Charter School in Kim Berlat's classroom. A \$15 dollar testing fee will be reimbursed upon passing the test. Jon reports that the station is up and running, and he thanked Jim Boswell repairing a knob on the antenna tuner.

Field Day:

Jim Boswell says that there will be two HF stations, a GOTA station, and a 2m/6m station. He says he got his laser rangefinder working and needs to go out and do some planning as to where to things will be set up.

Jim Lommen asked if Ray had reserved the space on Clark Field. Ray said he had not yet but would get on it. It will be in the same location as last year.

Doug May pointed out that the ARRL has a form on their website for publishing the location of Field Day stations.

Brad Smith says he would like to try and set up a 160m vertical and see if any contacts can be made.

Old Business:

Jim Boswell says that Paul Harden is having complications on getting the Civil War march set up but he is working on it and will contact Ray Calkins when he has more information.

Ray brought up the discussion of a club station build. There are some issues with using the ARES room for the club. The discussion quickly faded beneath the noise floor.

Jim Lommen says that the Hamfest is scheduled for the last weekend in October. As for mailing flyers, Jim says that the Lodger's Tax has tightened their requirements. Completed requests need to be submitted by the 27th of April. This year, each requester of funds will be required to give a verbal presentation to the board. The idea of using postcards came up. Jim estimated that the cost would be around \$900 dollars. Prescott suggested starting a mailing list on the SARA webpage that anyone could join. No resolution was formed and the discussion was taken off-line. Ray asked if there was a way to bring more people to the banquet to boost the Lodger's Tax funding. Jim Boswell suggested a prize. Various things were discussed to boost attendance to the banquet. Alternative to the banquet were also discussed. Jim Boswell suggested forming a study committee. Prescott Grey suggested leaving things as they were. There was a general agreement that the discussion should be moved off-line and/or to the next meeting.

D-STAR:

Prescott reports that progress is being made. He says all of the equipment is in. Ray has the software installed on the server. Dave Johnson brought the antenna down from the mountain and it seems to check out. Prescott is setting up the system at his house and invites anyone who is interested to check in and see.

Ray says that he has some large batteries that he could donate but they will need battery boxes.

New Business:

Jim Lommen says that the National Wildlife Refuge Week event is October 14-20 and they want to know if we would be interested in setting up a station again.

Prescott offered a 10'x20' sun shelter and some radios. Ray expressed an interest in helping.

Jim says that he will get the ball rolling.

Nominating Committee.

Ray reports that everyone currently holding a official position with the club is willing to serve another term. No one volunteered or nominated anyone.

Jim Lommen announced that starting in June, QST magazine will be available online to ARRL members.

Adjournment: 8:40PM

Brad Smith KD5JNI
Secretary