

**Minutes of the March 17th, 2009 Meeting of the
Verde Valley Amateur Radio Association**

..Meeting was held at Cottonwood Public Safety Building Conference Room.

Some 30 members and family had dinner at Murphy's Grill prior to the meeting.

Meeting called to order at 7:25 p.m.

Welcome

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by Bob Thompson KC8BOB.

Acknowledge guests, new members, recent upgrades, new hams and visitors.

Janet Turner from Yavapai County Community Health Services was in attendance. She works with the Public Health Preparedness and Response. She had an interest in Amateur Radio classes if they could be provided here in the Verde Valley. There are several people who can't get the classes over at Embury Riddle.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Jason Shultz, KE7WWQ, was absent due to family illness. Minutes from February 18th meeting were read by David Drown, WN7L.

Motion to approve by: Ernie De Leon, K7IOG, Second by: Walter Schumann, KF6SPS, Passed.

Treasurer's Report

Norman Vandiver, N7VF, gave the Treasurer's report. Current bank balance according to statement ending February 28th, 2009 is \$6,653.18 and our current bank balance is \$6,364.87.

Club Books and Audit Committee

Mel Boreham, N6BDC, read the Audit Committee letter. The Audit Committee, Don Rader, W7HYH, and Al Witte, KD7LZE, have completed their review of the club books and have approved the club's financial books for 2008. A consolidated spreadsheet will later be provided to the Arizona Corp. Commission along with an annual fee of \$10.00 by the May deadline.

Presentation:

Norman Vandiver, N7VF showed a power point presentation sent to him by Wilse Morgan, WX7P, on a "4-Square Array" antenna system that Wilse recently installed at his house in Rice, WA. Norm provided additional commentary on the rather unusual design.

Mel reported that a book on "Stealth Antennas" has been donated to the club by Dan Nichols and is available for short-term loan.

BREAK at 8:15pm.

Peggy Funk, N7DDR, provided Coffee/Cookies.

Norman Vandiver, N7VF, collected dues and membership forms from any new members and for those wishing to pay their dues for 2009. Members who have not renewed for 2009 by March 31st will be dropped from the club's active member roster.

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50/50 raffle tickets were purchased from Jeanette Vandiver.

Meeting reconvene at 8:35 pm.

50/50 Raffle Drawing

Winner was: David Drown, WN7L, - \$10.00.

Old Business

(2009 Prescott Ham Fest)

The 3rd annual joint VVARA/YARC Prescott Ham Fest will be held on Saturday May 30th at the Granite Mountain Middle School ball courts, the same location as the past two events. David Drown, chairman of the Ham Fest coordinating committee, presented the status of the upcoming event. 4 Tail Gate spaces will be available, but must be reserved in advance.

(Field Day 2009)

This year's VVARA Field Day, will return to the top of Mingus Mountain at the summit parking lot on June 27th. Steve Pearson, KC7TIL, has agreed to head up the planning committee. We will also be hosting a Field Day pot-luck picnic as we have done in the past. The club will provide the meat for BBQ and refreshments and members should bring a side dishes, salads and desserts. Carol Hills, KC7LKW, has volunteered the use of her Solor Trailer for solar power. We will need a team to put up antennas and setup the stations. Bob Thompson, KC8BOB, has sent in for the Forest Service Permit

New Business

(Amateur Radio License Classes)

Jack Crabtree, W7JLC, reported on the recent Amateur Radio License classes. There are currently 9 people signed up for the Extra Classes coming up March 21st and 28th.

(VE Testing)

Mary Vince, AB7NK, gave a brief status on the current VE testing secessions and the upcoming tests on April 4th. Testing for all classes of license at the ERAU campus, room 103, will begin at 9am sharp.

(New Ham Radio Antenna Bill)

Reported by Craig Dible: Nancy McLain AZ District 3 has submitted House Bill 2514. This bill is the Arizona PRB-1 with wording that would make the HOA's reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio Antenna Support Structures for Emergency Communications. This is essentially the same bill we submitted last year. The bill is scheduled for a hearing with the Military Affair and public Safety committee on March 11th. The Arizona Legislature website is : <http://www.azleg.gov>. You can search for the bill by entering 2514 in the upper right hand corner. The Community Association Institute (CAI) Legislative Action Committee has called for an email campaign to defeat this bill because of our wording. CAI stated that "Proponents of this legislation will argue that modern amateur radio equipment towers can be constructed to be as small as 4 ft.". That may work for a 2 meter antenna but it will not work with HF. We have a team that is working this and I will keep you informed.

(Verde Valley Ham Radio License Classes)

There has been interest in having a Technician Class on this side of the mountain. There was discussion on what would be needed. Jack Crabtree, W7JLC, stated that the slides for the course are available. What is needed are instructors for the various sections and a location to hold the class.

The next general meeting is planned for the Prescott side meeting on April 15th. The location may be at the

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Embry Riddle Campus. Dinner location may be there or Casa Boneta. Dave Drown, WN7L will be giving a presentation on Safe Soldering and other allied technical topics.

Motion to Close Meeting

Motion by: Carol Hills, KC7LKW, Second by: Bob Thompson, KC8BOB, Passed.

Meeting closed at 8:47pm.

**Jason Shultz, KE7WWQ, Secretary VVARA
Notes taken by: Robert G Thompson, K7RGT.**