

Minutes of the VVARA May 26th 2010 General Meeting.

The May 26th 2010 VVARA meeting was held at the Cottonwood Public Safety Bldg. conference room.

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Swiggers, N7ZZN, at 6:55 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the members present.

Guests, new members, recent upgrades, new hams and visitors:

Visitors were Linda Plotkin, wife of Les Plotkin, KB6JIY

Treasures Report

Mel Boreham, N6BDC, gave the Treasurer's report. Our bank balance on May 26th was \$6,333.34 but we still had some \$819.30 of outstanding checks, leaving our actual balance around \$5,514.14. Mel asked Craig Dible, KB6LAK, to check on whether we can obtain a waiver to the monthly finance charges by the Chase Bank. Their new policy is to charge a \$20 finance charge each month if our balance drops below \$5,000.00. Craig will check on this.

\$25 was donated to the VVARA by Dick Glover, W4AOP, in consideration of the loan of our club's LCD projector for a special program by the Experimental Aircraft Association. Thank you Dick!

Secretary's Report

Jason Shultz, KE7WWQ, Secretary, read the minutes of the March 24th VVARA general meeting. A motion to approve these minutes, as corrected, was made by Mel Boreham, N6BDC, and seconded by Art Swiggers, KF7FPB. A voice vote was taken and the minutes were approved. Bob Smith, WB6ODR and Mel Boreham, N6BDC then moved to table the April meeting minutes as Starla Thompson still had the notes for the minutes when she was acting secretary for the April 28th meeting.

Old Business

The William Hamfest will be held July 16, 17 and 18. Mike Wingate and Steve Pearson will be manning a table at the ham fest to sell several boxes of donated items and to promote the VVARA radio club. The Scorpion QRP ham club has indicated that they will have their Ft. Tuthill campout and tail gate get-together about a week after the Williams Ham Fest.

New Business

Mel Boreham updated us on how, through his efforts and phone calls, we were able to reinstate our 501 (3) (c) non-profit tax exempt status with the IRS. We had been in a "cannot contact" status since our last correspondence dated April, 1992! After Mel called on May 4th, they were able to put our club back into an active status as long as we submitted the required 990-N form within 30 days of the call and continue to do so each year. If this had not been done, we would have lost our IRS non-profit status.

Mike Wingate WA6LSE went over the new features that will be added to our club repeater on Mingus Mountain following the installation of the new repeater controller boards that we just received from Link Communications in Montana.

Club Meetings: We were notified last month that outside groups would no longer be able to use the Public Safety Building for meetings, etc. beginning in July, 2010. Mel, N6BDC, submitted a letter requesting an exception to this policy, explaining that our mission includes public service and provision of emergency communications for the Cottonwood community. After considering our request, we received approval from the Police Chief and Cottonwood City Manager to continue to meet at the Cottonwood Public Safety Building in the future. However our June meeting is still scheduled for June 23rd to go over our Field Day plans per our current schedule. Mel Boreham N6BDC moved to approve the move our VVARA meetings to the 3rd Wednesday beginning in July, 2010 and Bob Smith, WB6ODR, seconded the motion. It passed with voice vote. We will meet here on July 21st for our general meeting. No meetings will be held in August. Our VVARA meetings resume here in September on the 3rd Wednesday.

Jack Crabtree asked for volunteers to assist as an instructor for the upcoming Technician Class on June 5th. Dave Drown, WN7L, said that he would be glad to help with the class.

Mel announced that Peggy Funk told him that she had decided to resign from the refreshments committee and would no longer be able to provide cookies and coffee for our meetings. We will need a volunteer to take on this job. We thank Peggy for her many years of serving as our refreshments chairperson.

A motion was made by (?) to adjourn the business meeting which was seconded by Bob Smith WB6ODR.. Motion passed and the business meeting was closed at 7:43 p.m. Following a break for cookies and coffee, we reconvened the meeting at 7:50pm.

50/50 Raffle

The 50/50 raffle was run and Mike Wingate, WA6LSE won \$25. Jerry Lawson, KF7FPD, won an very nice

ARRL antenna book donated by Craig Dible, KB6LAK.

Presentations

Tonight's presentation was given by Jack Crabtree, W7JLC, titled "Arizona at The Edge of Space", which covered several of the high altitude balloon launches done by Jack and students from various schools in Northern Arizona. Both slides and videos taken from the balloons were shown along with Jack's photos taken during the launches and retrieval of the scientific payloads dropped from the balloons by parachute.

Meeting Adjourned

A call for a Motion to close the meeting was made by Marsha Rosenbarger, N6SNW, and seconded by Ed Tucker, KL7DU. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed.

Meeting closed at 8:45 p.m.

Jason Shultz