

**AMATEUR RADIO COUNCIL OF ARIZONA
(ARCA)
MEETING MINUTES
June 6, 2009**

Location: White Mountain Hamfest, Show Low, AZ

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM by chairperson Rick Aldom, W7STS. All board members were present with the exception of Secretary Randy Malick (KF0X), Past Chair Cliff Hauser (KD6XH) and Treasurer Chris Kesauer (N7PVL). An attendance sheet was circulated and signed by the delegates and visitors who were present.

Reading of the Minutes:

Several corrections/clarifications to the draft minutes from the May 2, 2009 meeting were suggested. Motion made by Grant, WB6OTS and seconded by Lee, KD7OED to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Chris, N7PVL was not present, so no report was given.

Chair's Report:

Rick, W7STS reported that he had received the draft slate of ARCA officers for the 2009-2010 term from KD6XH. The slate is the same as the 2008-2009 board, with W7STS as chair, KD7OED as 1st Vice-Chair, WB6OTS as 2nd Vice-Chair, and KF0X as Secretary. Nominations will also be solicited from the floor when elections are held during the ARCA general meeting in July. Rick also reported that Governor Brewer has signed the proclamation declaring June 22nd through 28th as Amateur Radio Week in the state of Arizona. We may read the proclamation in public forums, but are prohibited from publishing it without written permission from the state. Finally, Rick reported that the amateur radio antenna bill (HB2514) remains stalled in the Arizona Senate and is unlikely to pass this year. Ted Downing, W7KEY continues to track the status of the bill.

Past Chair's Report:

Past Chairperson Cliff, KD6XH was not present, so no report was given.

1st Vice Chair's Report:

Lee, KD7OED reported that ICOM will be at the Williams Hamfest once again this year. Raffle tickets have been received and are available if clubs want to solicit donations in advance of the event. The Arizona ScQRPions will attend, but are not renting the large hall in the Grand Canyon Railway hotel this year as they have a separate event scheduled later during the month in Flagstaff. Lee is checking with the Holiday Inn in Williams for a conference room to provide additional space for presentations if we run out of room in the main hall.

2nd Vice Chair's Report:

Grant, WB6OTS reported that Bob Allison, WB1GCM will be the ARRL speaker at the convention this year. Bob is the ARRL Laboratory Test Engineer for Product Reviews in QST Magazine. He will be accompanied by his wife, Kathy, KA1RWY, who is the Logbook of The World (LoTW) expert at ARRL Headquarters. Additional presentations will be from Keith Schlottman, KR7RK (10-10 International), Pat Stoddard, WD9EWK (Amateur Satellites), the Central Arizona DX Association, and many others.

Section Manager's Report:

Tom (K7DF) was not present, so no report was given.

Frequency Coordination Report:

Repeater Coordinator Chair Lance, KW7LH was not present, so no report was given.

Old Business:

1. During the May meeting it was suggested that past Ham of the Year winners be posted on the ARCA web site. A search of ARCA records indicates that we only have winners dating back to about 1995. W7STS directed that we post a list of those winners that we do have records for. Action closed.
2. During the May meeting it was also suggested that the ARCA website needs a new look. W7STS suggested that since the web page is essentially the public "face" of ARCA that it needs to be interactive and update on a recurring basis. Member clubs should be able to use the page as a current source of information, and submit articles and announcements for publication. N7PVL has made a number of upgrades during the past couple of weeks, and will continue to do so over the coming months. Action closed.
3. During the May meeting it was suggested that voting for ham of the year could be conducted on-line. A review of the bylaws indicates that the past chair is responsible for the selection process for ham of the year, so responsibility for how this is conducted will be left to the past chair. Action closed.
4. During the May meeting it was suggested that we could use more vendors during the Williams hamfest. KF0X contacted several major vendors during the Dayton Hamvention, but none were willing to attend Williams without major financial underwriting, which ARCA cannot currently afford. Action closed.
5. During the May meeting it was suggested that ARCA should have an award for the Most Improved Club and Most Growth in a club. The members discussed methods to stimulate club membership, but deferred decision on whether to adopt such an award program pending further discussion with the ARRL Section Manager. Action open.

New Business:

1. Ham of the Year Ballots: W7STS reported that only one nomination for Ham of the Year had been received, and as a result that ballots had not been mailed out yet. The

membership agreed that even though there was only one candidate, the ballots should be mailed out to maintain the integrity of the selection process.

2. Annual State Convention: Lee KD7OED noted that the ScQRPions are hosting a small event at Fort Tuthill two weeks after the ARCA hamfest, and stated that many hams still want to have a summer event there. Some ARCA members feel that the state convention should be moved to a winter forum in the Phoenix area and have only a smaller summer hamfest in Northern Arizona. The ARCA board will consider this topic during a separate board meeting in June, and provide feedback to the general membership in July.

3. ARCA Mission Statement: WB6OTS observed that the convention and hamfest discussion is part of a larger issue where the influence of ARCA as a state-wide coordinating activity has diminished over the past few years, and recommended that ARCA consider ways that it can re-invigorate itself over the coming year. Discussion included recognition of the fact that there is a significant difference in goals and needs of rural versus urban hams and clubs, and a belief that ARCA can be of more assistance to member clubs in the areas of membership, education, and training. W7STS stated a desire to increase the role of technology in the overall ARCA mission; this could include being more proactive in helping member clubs by offering programs and classes that appeal to a wide variety of amateur radio interests, and making them available to member clubs on the web or in person. The board will conduct a review of the overall ARCA mission statement, focus and bylaws during the June board meeting and report the results during the general membership meeting in July.

Next ARCA Meeting: The next ARCA meeting will be the general membership meeting on July 18th at 4:00 PM during the ARRL State Convention.

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn was made by Grant, WB6OTS and seconded by Rick, KE7EDP and passed unanimously. The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 12:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Ilse, KD7OED
1st Vice-Chair

In Attendance:

Rick Aldom, W7STS
Lee Ilse, KD7OED
Grant Hays, WB6OTS
Dreux Jacques, KB8YYA
Rick Gurk, KE7EDP
Robert "Mack" Mackenzie, KE7EDN