

# Amateur Radio Council of Arizona

Prescott Hamfest

Minutes of the ARCA Annual Meeting

June 2, 2018

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Bob Howard, W8RH at 11:05 AM. W8RH thanked everyone for attending. A sign-in list was circulated and attached, copies of agenda, past meeting minutes and treasurer's reports were available on the front table. Introductions of attendees was held – a total of 28 individuals were in attendance.

**Secretary's Report, Lee Ilse, KD7OED:**

Draft Minutes of March 17, 2018 meeting were reviewed.

Motion of Walt, NJ8G, seconded by Gary, KE7DX to approve the minutes as distributed.

All approved: none opposed.

**Treasurer's Report, Chris Kesauer, N7PVL:** Reported a total asset balance (including bank accounts, paypal, and equipment) of \$14,482 with no debts. Major expenditures since the last meeting at \$2000 for scholarships, \$2800 disbursements to member clubs (\$100 each), and \$834 for equipment and liability insurance, and \$297 for trailer repair and maintenance. Motion by Clark/KI7TU, seconded by Charlie/K0TAN to accept the report. All approved: none opposed.

**Chair's Report, Bob Howard, W8RH:** Bob began by reviewing the purpose of ARCA, which is to help member clubs and promote the welfare of amateur radio across Arizona. He stated that we are no longer in the business of running hamfests, and we don't run equipment for member clubs. It has been suggested that we expand our schedule from four to six meetings per year given that our funding has increased due to license plate revenue and we need input from all member clubs on how this should be spent.

**First Vice-Chair's Report, Steve Miller, W6SDM:** Requested that the member clubs focus on expanding the number of hams through classes and VE sessions and other activities and suggest ideas for ways ARCA can help in this endeavor

**Second Vice-Chair's Report, Mark Kesauer, N7KKQ:** Reported that we have a new draft equipment rental agreement that will be discussed in new business.

**Past Chair's report, Jeff Hanna, WB7RFY:** WB7RFY reported that one of the duties of the past chair is to collect applications for ham of the year and scholarships. Motion by Chris/N7PVL seconded by Walt/NJ8G to dispense with former policy of presenting awards at the hamfest dinner and instead present them at the annual meeting. All approved, none opposed. WB7RFY announced the first scholarship went to Aaron Wallace/KF7VVJ from Cochise club. Aaron was unable to attend, so the award was accepted for him by Lee/KD7OED who will present it to him later this summer at a local club meeting. The second \$1000 scholarship went to Faith Willman/KG7OCK of the Maricopa club. She was also unable to attend, so the award was accepted for her by Bob/W8RH who will present it at a local club meeting later this summer. Jeff then handed over the mic to the 2017 ARCA Ham of the Year, Joe Hobart/W7LUX. Joe announced the winner of the 2018 Ham of the Year Joe Statkevics/K3TYE from Radio Society of Tucson. Since K3TYE was unable to attend, Gary/KE7DX accepted the award for him and will make the presentation at the next RST club meeting.

**Frequency Coordination Report, Lance, KW7LH:** Lance reported that we have roughly 700 coordinated repeaters across the state, and that he was re-elected as the coordinators chair at the annual repeater owners meeting that occurred earlier today. Joe/W7LUX presented a letter of appreciation from the Coconino County Emergency Manager to Lance for his help in providing communications during the recent Tinder Fire. Since the fire had knocked out telephone service over a wide area, the only way the incident commander was able to issue the evacuation order for the Blue Ridge community was via the Arizona Repeater Association link on Mount Elden, which Lance and crew had repaired only two days before the fire. There was additional discussion about the fact that RFFinder is still not responding to calls from coordinators. Rick/W7RAP noted that he has raised the issue to the ARRL board during the Dayton Hamvention and the league is working it, but there is no resolution at this time. Mark/N7KKQ subsequently reported that the repeater directory files are in the process of being converted from Access to Excel at this time, and although updates are currently a bit behind they should be up to date by the end of this month.

**ARRL Section Managers Report, Rick, W7RAP:** W7RAP reported on the Dayton Hamvention and his interaction with the ARRL Board. The proposed sanctions against SW Division Director N6AA have been tabled for the time being. The topic of whether Division Directors will be authorized to discuss board proceedings with the general membership will be discussed at the July ARRL board meeting. The Amateur Radio Parity Act has been placed in the Defense Authorization Act language, but the current language is not favorable. There is also a 2016 FAA bill now in effect that requires antenna structures over 50' to be lighted unless the tower is either in a municipality or has an attached structure. Finally, W7RAP noted that the type of support to public service that the Amateur Radio Service provided during the Tinder Fire goes a long way to keeping our support from our elected officials, and pointed out that Governor Ducey has signed a proclamation declaring June as Amateur Radio month in Arizona.

#### **Old Business:**

- **ARCA Equipment Status:** Mark/N7KKQ reported that there is now a draft ARCA equipment rental agreement that we plan to use in the future. The primary purpose of this agreement is to document what equipment is signed out and returned to maintain accountability. The second purpose is to ensure that if the member club will be towing the ARCA trailer that the tow vehicle and driver are properly insured and safe to tow the trailer. ARCA personnel will still be available to tow the trailer for those clubs who don't have an appropriate tow vehicle, but there will be a mileage charge for this service.
- **Graphics for ARCA Trailer:** The board has decided that the quotes (between \$1900 and \$3300) are too expensive to pursue at this time. The board feels it is a good idea to put graphics on the trailer to improve general ham awareness of the organization, but is now considering other options including stick on letters and single-color stencil.
- **Insurance:** The board added liability insurance for the golf cart for this year, and recommends adding officers and directors liability insurance to the coverage. The board will investigate options for D&O insurance and report at the next meeting. It was noted that individuals may be able to obtain individual liability coverage as part of their homeowners' policy, but the general consensus from ARCA clubs was that this is something that should be provided by the organization.
- **LBARC Grant Report:** Charlie/KOTAN reported that the \$500 ARCA grant received last year was used to put up a mesh node on Crossman Peak and this now connects to the ARDEN node at the Lake

Havasut EOC, and also provides coverage out in to Southern California and up the Colorado River towards Bullhead City. The Superstition Club is a great resource for learning more about ARDEN and has a number of nodes in the Phoenix area. He also provided a map showing the location of all the ARDEN nodes in Arizona, as well as some in Southern California and reported that the Cactus group is considering putting up a node on Guadalupe Peak that could connect the LBARC ARDEN system to the Phoenix area.

### **New Business:**

- **Kachina Hamfest Sponsorship:** Approved by board
- **Thunderbird Hamfest:** Board has approved sponsorship, but location is going to change because the previous location will be unavailable next year. The intent is to remain in early January.
- **Hamfest Calendar Review:** W8RH He asked all clubs to look far in advance before scheduling a hamfest so we can avoid the problem that we have this year with Kingman and Kachina having events on the same date. He also advised that the board is considering moving to a six meeting per year schedule in order to provide more opportunity for clubs to attend ARCA meetings. This was followed by a 25-minute discussion about whether and how virtual meetings should or could be conducted, with no consensus on a path forward. The board will continue to evaluate options.
- **Hopi Point Repeater:** Joe/W7LUX reported that John/NJ7E of the old Northlink Association is looking for someone to take over the VHF and UHF repeaters at Hopi Point in the Grand Canyon. This repeater represents all of Arizona to our many ham visitors from out of state and around the world. The Coconino Amateur Radio Club (CARC) has done a site survey and has determined that two new antennas and controllers are required. There is also a significant intermod problem at the site. CARC has now identified a partner in Steve/K6UFX of the Western Intertie system who says he will help by replacing the antennas and a four-port controller and upgrade the UHF repeater to link it with the Western Intertie system. This would provide coverage in the canyon area that has been lacking since the Northlink association disbanded. Brian/W7BNW says that he will be able to isolate the Hopi Point repeater from the rest of the Western Intertie system and link it directly to the Coconino County EOC when it is needed for emergency operations. CARC voted to provide management of the 2M repeater provided they get support from ARCA. Janice/KI6WCK stated that although CARC can do the legwork, the club doesn't have the funds to take care of the repeater, and asked that ARCA be responsible for long-term financial support of the repeater. The ARCA member clubs supported the CARC initiative, but requested that CARC bring forward a specific grant request rather than asking ARCA to make an undefined/open-ended financial commitment at this time. Several individual member clubs noted that they are willing to make donations to this cause, and suggested that perhaps a Go-Fund-Me account might be created to start generating revenue to support the Hopi Point repeater. This topic will be further addressed during the next ARCA meeting at the White Mountain Hamfest.
- **Election of 2018-2019 Officers/Board of Directors:** Jeff/WB7RFY observed that all current board members are eligible to serve for another year and have expressed willingness to serve for another term. He asked the members for nominations from the floor for other candidates, but none were

offered. Motion by Jack/NT7MM seconded by Clark/KI7TU to re-elect the current board. All in favor, none opposed.

**Date and Time of Next Meeting:** White Mountain Hamfest, July 28th, 2018, 11:00 AM, Mountain Meadow Park I at 1101 Woodland Road in Pintetop/Lakeside.

Motion to adjourn by Clark/KI7TU seconded by Gary/KE7DX. All approved.

**13: 05 PM Meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully Submitted by KD7OED  
ARCA Secretary

## Meeting Attendees June 2, 2018

Name	Callsign	Club	Pres.	Del.	Alt.	Visitor
Rick Paquette	W7RAP	ARRL				X
Gary Keck	KE7DX	RST		X		
Brian McCarthy	AK7F	ARA			X	
Walt Reinert	NJ8G	TBARC		X		
Douglas Mitchell	W7ADD	Superstition		X		
Thomas Boza	NE7X	CADXA		X		
Gary Hamman	K7GH	AARC	X	X		
Lori Cripps	WA7EDI	MMRG		X		
Clark Jones	KI7TU	ARA		X		
Bill Kouchis	N9EIV	SARC				X
Jack Lunsford	NT7MM	NADXA	X			
Charlie Kotan	K0TAN	LBARA		X		X
James Fortney	K6IYK	YARC				X
Art Jackson	KA5DWI	YARC	X	X		
James Wasson	N7ELL	SARC	X			
Keith Bruecker	AE7RZ	WARC	X			
Joe Hobart	W7LUX	CARC				X
Janice Enloe	KI6WCK	CARC	X			
Rod Fritz	WB9KMO	ATN		X		
John Lanza	W7JL	CARBA		X		
Bruce Harmsen	KA9EYX	SARC				X
Bob Howard	W8RH	ARCA Chair				
Steve Miller	W6SDM	ARCA First Vice-Chair				
Mark Kesauer	N7KKQ	ARCA Second Vice-Chair				
Lee Ilse	KD7OED	ARCA Secretary				
Chris Kesauer	N7PVL	ARCA Treasurer				

Jeff Hanna	WB7RFY	ARCA Past Chair
Lance Halle	KW7LH	ARCA Frequency Coordinators