

Boca Raton Amateur Radio Association

Minutes of General Meeting 6-March-2018

Director Attendance

Bruce KO4XL, Patrick KE4OBV, Jerry W4BFL, George WA2VNV, Jeff K4BH, John N1QFH

MINUTES for 6-February-2018

The BRARA monthly association meeting was held at the West Boca Library. The meeting was called to order by President Bruce KO4XL at 7:12PM. There were 36 members and 3 guests present. Bruce introduced the directors and members introduce themselves. New members shared likes and objectives.

Secretary's Report

Minutes: Through the chair, asked for motion to approve and waive the reading of the minutes; moved by George W2VNV and 2nd by Michael KM4MFM. The motion was carried by a voice vote.

Membership: As of 6-March-2019, we had 114 paid members, 4 associate, 2 life-time, 106 regular. The license classes include 7 advanced, 59 extra, 26 general, and 17 technicians. Of our members, 64 belong to ARRL. We had 1 new member join our organization, 33 member logons were observed for an average of 3.3 sessions per logon, 2 new web site capabilities, 313 subscribers of which 134 are members.

Communication: Asked attendees to please subscribe to the newsletter.

Website: Fox Hunt winner is Ray Smolenski N4RU. The other top Fox hunters are Bruce Goldman K4OUJ, Eric Spero WA1SXX, Robert Eng W1ENG, Barry Porter KB1PA.

Equipment Sales: Equipment is being appraised and please watch when items go on sale.

Hamfests: Had good time and will repeat next year with reservation process.

Net Control Operators: Please contact John.C for details. NCS are needed and training will be provided.

Membership cards: will be available at April meeting.

President's Report

Training Committee: Next technician class will be the end of April or 1st of May. Bruce is seeking a Training Chair and is appealing to members to volunteer. Quarterly testing session is coming up 2nd Thursday May 10th. Email notification will be sent to subscribers.

Safety Committee: no report.

Welcoming Committee: no report

House Committee: no report.

Donation recognition: Roy K4YV made a significant contribution of antennas and towers. These included an aluminum crank up tower, a SteppIR beam, remote controlled satellite antenna configuration, and a vertical antenna. Our appreciation to Roy for his thoughtfulness which benefits our organization.

Vice President's Report (in Jeff's absence, Bruce gave report)

DMR: reminder new MD3xx code-plugin available on website.

Boca Raton Amateur Radio Association

Minutes of General Meeting 6-March-2018

Antenna Fund: no report

NETS: reminder of Sunday DMR net at 8pm, Monday Voice net at 7pm followed by So county NBEMS net at 8pm and Tuesday CERT net at 7.30pm.

Treasurer's report

As of February 28th 2018 we had \$5,930 balance. Expenses for February 2018 were \$180 for Satin Stiches, equipment shipping for repair, and winter field day food. Deposits for January were \$215 all of which were from membership dues and donations. We are waiting on 1st quarter expenses for power and should be lower due to storms.

Director at Large: Gerry.Z W4BFL

Shack access: new keys and locks are complete, directors have access to closets. What remains to be done is gate padlock and changing door combination to shack. Reason this is being done is to improve security and maintain control of key access since new shack was implemented. For those who have keys, there will be a key swap of old key for the new key. Ed N4II requested going forward would be nice to have advance notice when the locks are changed so as to avoid access issues.

Technical Committee: station 1 and 3 radios failed and are out for repair.

Social Media: no report

Repeater Trustee

Lew K4LEW reported the repeaters are working normally and reviewed QSO correspondence. VHF contest on low power single operator was awarded to George WA2VNV.

Director at Large: Jeff.S K4BH

Emergency communication: on April 21st at Coral Springs Sportsplex, the Family Safety Fest day will be held. This includes HF and UHF stations with the goal to get word out about amateur radio. All are welcome to help and participate. Setup is at 9am and starts at 10am and wraps up at 4pm. Send Jeff an email if you are interested and he will get you the details. This day includes demonstration from police and fire, informal CPR training.

Director at Large: George.S WA2VNV

Antenna party: Planned group to deconstruct the antennas Roy offered us. George reviewed pictures and video of the various donated items. A few days before taking down the item, Larry and George scoped and prepped the site. On day 1 a group of ten volunteers (Art WA8VSJ, Gerry KG4FUR, George WA2VNV, Jerry K4BFL, Patrick KE4OBV, Bruce KO4XL, Jeff W4AEQ, Larry K4KGG, Roy K4YV, John N1QFH) removed and disassembled the towers and antennas. On day 2, Bruce, George and Larry returned to stage the items for transportation to our shack. Need someone to volunteer an 18 foot trailer to move these items. Larry shared need to get these items moves ASAP to avoid theft.

Home and shack update: At his QTH, George has had very good FT8 results running ham stick on 40M with 24 watts. George cautioned tuners power rating and FT8 use based on duty cycle. At shack a CW beacon is running 6M on 50.070 facing north on vertical doing propagation studies.

Barry moved to authorize renting trailer to move Roy's donated items and seconded by Michael W2RT. Bruce added this would be contingent on not finding a donated trailer in coming days. Motion seconded. Motion

Boca Raton Amateur Radio Association

Minutes of General Meeting 6-March-2018

withdrawn since Bruce stated the rental cost is within the board's discretionary allowance. The value and what will be made available for sale will be determined. Roy stated replacement value is \$18K.

QSL Report

Ed.C N4II reported we had Texas on WAS on 80M. WFD2018 256 confirmed and need logs uploaded. Computer did not have codex and this is due to radios being swapped out. May need soundcard like SignalLink.

Old Business

Bruce.R KO4XL announced the following:

- Next BRARA meeting is Tuesday 3-April-2018
- Stuart hamfest on 17-March
- Palm west flea-market (Barry)
- RTTY context 16-March (Larry)

New Business

No new business

Adjournment

With no further association business, Bruce called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Jeff K4BH and 2nd by Barry KB1PA, and approved by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58pm local time.

Presentation – Rick K1DS presented on VHF contesting.

Respectfully submitted,
John Cole N1QFH, Secretary