

## North Okaloosa Amateur Radio Club

February 9, 2017

### Minutes

This meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Ron KI5FR followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation by Rob KM4SPJ.

**Attendance:** There were 21 members present.

**Secretary Report:**

January minutes were posted on the W4AAZ.ORG website.

**Treasurer Report:**

Ron KI5FR, provided the treasury report. NOARC received a \$500.00 donation.

**ARES:**

Steve N4GXX, provided a briefing on ARES. Steve said the weather service and Okaloosa Emergency Operations Center, (EOC) was very pleased with a turnout of 41 people at the January weather spotter course. Most of the attendees were hams. Steve gave a quick overview of ARES for new people. Steve said anyone with a criminal record could not enter the EOC or a designated shelter during activation. Steve also stressed that ARES is an amateur radio activity and not associated with any particular club, such as NOARC. There is interest in hosting an advanced weather spotting class. However a minimum of 20 people are needed. If you would like more information about ARES contact Steve at [N4GXX@COX.NET](mailto:N4GXX@COX.NET).

**Repeaters:**

Steve N4GXX, briefed the status on area repeaters. It was reported that some hams were having audio drop out while using the repeater. Although the drop out could not be duplicated. Steve did make some adjustments the repeater. Others reported hearing static over the repeater. This may be caused when the repeater is used in digital mode. Steve suggested adjusting your squelch setting.

**Training:**

Mike W4BZM, provided a detailed hardcopy of the training report (also available on web site). The General class has added new general class folks to the area. There are 8 people signed up

for a future Extra class. Mike asked for instructors with at least two years experience as an Extra class. The course would most likely go over 12 weeks due to the volume of material to cover for the 50 question test. Mike also needs a location (in Crestview) and a projector. This course is open to any General Class amateur, (you do not need to be a NOARC member). Contact Mike at behrcave@gmail.com.

### **Activities:**

Ron KI5FR, said the Davidson Dash (5K run) will be held at Davidson Middle School on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of February. Rich N4DPM, is the POC. Please be at the school at 07:45. Rob KM4SPJ, Scott KF6LEC, and Cathy KM4YOH will host a hospitality tent on site. Please use the 147.360 repeater for race communications.

Mike KK4LLS and Scott KF6LEC, will be at the club's lot for clean-up on Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> of February from 9:00 to 17:00. Please bring gloves, wear long pants, and have good shoes.

The NOARC picnic will be held on February 25<sup>th</sup> at the club's lot. More details to follow.

There will be a station work day on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> of February at Live Oak Baptist Church. More details to follow.

Planning is continuing for Field Day. County Commissioner Graham Fountain plans to attend along with TV coverage. We hope to have the Okaloosa EOC van for our use and possibly another van with air conditioning.

### **Website Report:**

Phil, N6COP, Webmaster, was not in attendance but Ron KI5FR said we need to update our website and make it better. Many suggestions were offered. If you have any comments or suggests about the website you can contact Phil through the website at W4AAZ.ORG.

### **SYSOP Report:**

None given

### **Old Business:**

Alex KC7MEX, provided an example of a NOARC golf shirt. The shirts are yellow with NOARC logo, name, and call sign. NOARC is charging \$30.00 each with extra amount going to the building fund. Yellow was chosen to more easily identify NOARC members at events we support. You can contact Alex with your name, call sign and size at [spoon4@earthlink.net](mailto:spoon4@earthlink.net) if you would like a shirt.

**New Business:**

Mike KK4LLS, offered to match 1 dollar for any member in attendance who donates a 1 dollar to the building fund. 20 dollars was donated so \$40.00 was collected for the building fund.

The group offered many suggestions to improve NOARC support of local events. Ron suggested they send their suggestions to him so they can be complied.

**President's comments:**

After the Davidson Dash all NOARC supported events will have a check list/plan. We need to compile these lists and have them available for all. Items like frequencies, number of operators, locations, time, POCs, lessons learned etc. should be included. We need club members to communicate with one another to get things done. Don't wait for a club meeting or the next activity. 99.9% of the time I will say go for it. The club is growing by leaps and bounds and we need to keep growing to support our community, have fun, and become better amateurs.

The meeting adjourned at 08:30.

Members recorded 25 Ham Radio volunteer hours and 128 community volunteer hours.

Submitted by Mike Martell, KK4KRZ  
Acting Secretary