

TARC Membership Meeting Minutes

10/21/2019



Called to order at 1930

President – John KK4JS – Welcome to the members and guests

A Moment of silence was observed for the Hams killed in an aircraft accident. They were in route to the Bahamas for a Ham event. They were Peter Radding W2GJ, the pilot, with passengers Ed Steeble K3IXD, Randy Hargenrader K4QO, and Dallas Carter W3PP Radding, Steeble, and Hargenrader local Ham operators. Several members present knew these Hams personally.

Vice President – Jan KX4MI – A reminder that RSVPs for the Annual Christmas Party are due by the November membership meeting so Gilligan's can be told how many to expect. Gilligan's said they would work with members with special dietary needs but need to know them ahead of time.

The Little David Special Event went well. It was noted that the location provided by the Park staff supported a variety of ham operations. It was suggested that the Little David site be considered as a regular location for the Museum Ships event in addition to the CSS Hunley location.

Treasurer - Jim KW4PW – Treasurer's report. No report was given. Jim was unable to attend this meeting.

Secretary – Mike KJ4TAC – The last Board meeting minutes have been posted to the web site. Birthday wishes were given for the members with birthdays in September and October.

Membership committee report – Ron K4TCP said there are 104 members and 2 new members joined today. A reminder that payment for the annual dues are now being excepted. The TARC web site can be used to make electronic payments (credit cards) in lieu of checks or cash.

Repeater committee report – Bryce K4LXF reported that there was still some interference coming into the system. He is still investigating possible sources. The Trident hospital repeater was also the source of some intermittent interference recently. This was also being looked at.

VE Testing report - David AE4ZR reported that two tested and passed during the last session. One of them attended this meeting and was recognized. David also stated that W4VEC is starting a new filing system and change in personnel. We will continue to file electronically. TARC VEC's are prepared to submit, if needed, non-electronically which could cause a notification delay of one week.

QSL committee report – Larry K4LHG was not present and no report was given. John KK4JS said TARC had not receive any new requests by mail. Jan KX4MI said that a certificate of appreciation was made and given to the staff of Santee Canal Park for their support of the Little David Event.

Program committee report – Van N4VGE / Ken KC4ETW – Tonight's program will be a Q&A of items of interest of the members. The November meeting presentation will be on satellites. No presentation is scheduled for December due to the Christmas party. Van asked for subjects and presenters for next year. February's presentation will be about DStar. Radios will be on hand for demonstrations.

WEB Master committee report – Ron K4TCP said he was cleaning up old and unneeded files prior to switching over to a new web hosting provider. This switch will modernize the TARC web site.

Unfinished Business

SCPOTA Update – David AE4ZR – No SCPOTA event was scheduled for this month. Instead, TARC supported the Scouts on the Air (SOTA) Jamboree. 2 contacts were made before being rained out. John KK4JS operated at the Colleton State Park and made several SOTA contacts before the rain came. He then stopped at the Ghivans State Park where he met Jan KX4MI. They were able to make several more contacts. John said one of his contacts was from Slovenia.

Christmas party in December – Friday 12/6 @ Gilligans in Moncks Corner – 7:00PM social time seating and 7:30PM start service. RSVP to Jan KX4MI by November membership meeting.

Financial Audit – Completed with no issues noted. Thanks to Tom WW1TA, Tom W4ID, Peggy W4ZBR and Dave AE4ZR as an alternate. Jim KW4PW provided the financial records and Ron K4TCP provided the audit report.

Bank account signatories – Jim, Jan, and John are now on the bank records of signatories and the old names were deleted. Still need to check on a safe deposit box availability and cost. This can be done over the phone.

Constitution and Bylaws committee members appointed are John KK4JS, Jim KM4PW, Ron K4TCP, Mike KJ4TAC. Recommendations for changes are being accepted.

Secretary and Treasurer – purge old files - Mike KJ4TAC provided the membership the guidelines used for records retention. The source of this information was from the web site of a Mt Pleasant CPA firm and their recommendations for small businesses. This list was modified to meet the conditions of TARC. The removal of the records is on-going, with multiple checks to make sure no mistakes are made. Mike said that the Secretary records consisted of several thousand pages of documents to be reviewed.

Ron Davis K4TCP – Ham of the Year and Johnny on the Spot(s) awards have been decided, awards obtained, and they will be presented during the Christmas Party.

Mentorship program – John KK4JS passed around a mentor sign up list for those who would like to be one and their preferred subject. A discussion took place about the purpose and methods of this program. It was decided that the mentor program should work alongside the Training Program being developed by Ron K4TCP.

Contact absent hams – This subject still under discussion.

Training Program – Ron K4TCP – Still looking for instructors for Technician with classes possibly by Jan 2020. Several members have already volunteered. The lesson plans are being currently reviewed to make sure the subject matter and questions are up-to-date with the current testing banks. Also discussed was a What's Next training session to be given after the class members have tested, passed and received their licenses. This class session will work alongside the Mentoring Program to guide the novice hams.

New Business

Property Committee, locate club equipment (tuner) – John KK4JS explained the purpose and responsibilities of the Property Committee. He then asked for volunteers to be members. He also asked for members to attempt to locate the missing tuner.

Club computer software – Ron K4TCP discussed the need for new, up-to-date software for the club's laptop computers. One option was the purchase of new Microsoft Office software for a cost of an approximate cost of \$280 total. Another option discussed was the installation of Libra software. Libra is a no cost freeware and is said to be compatible with Office documents. It was voted on to obtain and install the Libra software to see if it fulfilled the needs of TARC's use of the laptops and compare it to Office. The purchase of the Windows Office software was postponed to a future date.

New club member Welcome Packets – Ron K4TCP made up the new packets and presented one to the new member at the meeting. The packets contained information about TARC and other clubs in the area, resources available, and the member's TARC name tag.

Rob W4VRD brought up a large Ham event coming in February 2020. It is the Hamcation in Orlando Florida and will be 7-9 Feb 2020. It is said to be one of the largest ham events in the US and has been held for 70+ years. Information can be found at their website – www.hamcation.com

Carl WD4CXW announced that the US Army will be conducting an exercise involving hams, MARS, US Army and other DOD resources coming up 3-12 November. This Joint exercise will involve DOD, ARES, DEHEC, MARS, and associated ham operators. Primary operations will be on the 60-meter band and use its protocols. Some use of local repeater networks is also expected. Contact Carl for more information.

Steve J4OCP announced that the school round up started today 10/21/2019 and will run till Friday 10/25. They will be working after school hours (1500 till ?) on 40 and 20 meter bands (somewhere near the middle frequencies). Larger schools and colleges will be working all day for those contacts.

Tradd won the QYT KT-8900D mobile radio raffle.

Meeting adjourned at 2040.