

## April 17, 2017 Membership Meeting

Meeting opened by Ron K4TCP at 1930 local time.

Happy Birthday to TARC. Number 44. Club started by Tom Lufkin W4DAX in April 1973. Birthday cake was available to anyone who wanted a piece. Cake was cut by Tom.

Ron introduced a special guest:

Andrea Slack K2EZ/R from Sparta, New Jersey. She was in our area participating in a VHF contest and stopped by to tell us a little bit about VHF contests. She has been a ham for 35 years and travels the states in VHF contests, making contacts along the way. She passed around some QSL cards that showed some of her travels. Please check out her QRZ page- K2EZ. For contesting, she adds the '/R' to her call sign and that means 'Roving'. Her QRZ page has lots of information and photos of her equipment. Her vehicle is a wonderland of antennas! She told us that there are three major contests in each year- January, June, and September. Also, that there are several smaller sprints during the year. She has reached some amazing distances on just VHF.

You can find more information on the ARRL website under VHF Contests.

Introductions were made.

Ken W4KBN had no report. He did offer the belt buckle information if anyone was interested.

Dave K4DLE was absent. Linda stated that the club had \$2079.10 available.

Linda named birthdays: Alan Fitzsimmons W4ANT and Rick Valentine N8BKN. A third was brought up, but the Secretary dropped the ball and did not catch her name. Does not want to put potentially wrong information here.

Tom W4DAX told us of our newest member: Phil Brown NI7R. He was approved as a member.

Bryce K4LXF reported that the Yorktown had had the power turned off and the batteries ran down in the repeater. The 79 repeater was down for an unknown time, but is back up now. Further investigation needed.

David AE4ZR reported that he has three people pre-registered for this Wednesday's, April 19, test session. There may be two more that have not registered yet.

Brian W4BFZ said he had received one card from the Hunley.

Presentation status for May is ? Joe Chapman KJ4BNC was absent.

Old Business:

Museum Ships- Robert Wilhite AJ5E will be sending out a volunteer schedule to select members for testing before sending it to the full mailing list. This event actually starts on Friday, June 2, at 8pm local time and ending Sunday evening, June 4, at 8pm local time. Operating times will be: Friday 8pm until midnight. Saturday from 8am to midnight. Sunday from 8am until 8pm. If there are enough operators, a

second radio will be used. This event will be held at the same site as last year- The NOAA office. When you sign up to operate and/or log, Robert will send you a form that needs to be faxed in for admittance to site. There will be a background check. Bring ID and proof of insurance to gate.

It was suggested that this would be a very good opportunity for new hams to get experience on the air. Myself included!!

Tailgate still on track for May 20, 2017 at the Masonic Lodge in Goose Creek. Fish fry still on. You will have the opportunity to get a seller's table and there will be drawings for door prizes at a cost of \$1.

Field Day June 24-25 will be in Goose Creek. Proclamations with the City of Goose Creek June 12. Proclamations with Berkeley County June 14. There will be photo ops at each event. Steve KE4THX said that satellite and ISS contacts would earn extra points.

Ladies Operating Day- May 6 from noon to 5pm hosted by Tom W4DAX at Reforge. Ladies bring your equipment. K4PSA was invited as is anyone wishing to join us that day.

The April Dinner Meeting will this Thursday, April 20, at the Mellow Mushroom in N. Charleston- Tanger Outlets at 6pm. RSVP to Brian W4BFZ.

New Business:

Lapel Pins- Kevin J. N1KTJ has ordered them and they are expected in around April 24. The cost will be \$5 each.

Steve KE4THX is collecting money for Field Day t-shirts. Color choice of red or white.

David told of a change in getting VE test results back. The FCC will no longer be sending anything back to the VE'S. Those who passed will be given the information on how to get their call sign and to wait two hours before trying. Calls will come directly from the FCC from now on.

Radio raffle was won by Ron K4TCP.

Meeting adjourned at 2021.

Secretary Linda Wilson

KM4WBN

Meeting was followed with a Balun presentation and build.