

SARA Minutes for June 15, 2011 Approved

Location: Marvel Museum, Georgetown, DE

Call to Order: 7:33 PM

Pledge to Flag

Moment of Silence for fallen protectors of our country, community and silent keys.

President's Comments and Upcoming Events:

(Chuck W3DEL, in for KF3BT)

Welcome to guests and around-the-room introductions. Pat ,KW3Z will be presenting a special hurricane awareness slide show after the meeting.

Field Day, 2011: Dell, K3AXR, field day Chairman reported that plans for Field Day are moving along well. This year's event will focus on having radio fun, fellowship and good eats. The event will be inside the Barrel Barn in air-conditioned comfort and stations will be operating on the power grid. The event is scheduled to run Saturday Noon to Sunday 5 P.M. Plans for three stations on HF and the '075 repeater will be available.

Vice President's Report: Included in the President's remarks.

Treasurer's Report: No report.

Secretary's Report: K3LRH mentioned that the April and May minutes will not be posted until approved for release by the President.

Grass cutting: If you can, please contact Herb with a date that you can participate in the very vital grass cutting program. K3LRH mentioned that he cut the grass today, but trimming still needs to be done.

Reports from Committees and Entities:

Repeater: Denny, KB3MJ, mentioned that the continuing interference from the AARC repeater has prompted an attempt for SARA to meet with AARC and T-MARC to have the issue resolved. An initial schedule for this meeting has been postponed, possibly to mid July. Denny also noted that it seems like AARC has turned off the link(s) that have been interfering with our system. Denny also reported that he sent a letter to John Williams, Representative - AARC, demanding that AARC's repeater be moved to another frequency. A long discussion followed. In other Repeater Committee items, Denny mentioned that a total of \$4200 be made available to update the SARA repeater antenna systems, which are very old. Repair and replacement items include: a new 2M antenna, including new hard line; move the existing hard line to a new 440MHz antenna and a new 220 MHz antenna; and, the required tower work. A call for a motion to spend \$4200 for the changes followed. Motion by Bill, KB3KYH was seconded by John, K3JL and passed by the Members' vote.

Membership: No report.

ARRL: Frank, AD3M, reported that the Ham Radio support in the southern states for the unusual weather events is starting to wind down as normal local communications come back on line. Frank also mentioned that the repeater interference issues are being observed.

RACES. John, K3PFW, reported a successful Red Cross exercise this past Saturday and also mentioned RACES concern about the repeater interference problem.

ARES: Bill, KB3KYH, reported that ARES also participated in an exercise this past Saturday with simulated traffic between Beebe Hospital and participating ARES stations.

Past Presidents Reports: None

New Business: The 2012 Hamfest is now tentatively scheduled for April 21, 2012.

Old Business: None.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn by KB3NZJ was seconded by KB3KYH and approved by the Members. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Len Hecker, K3LRH
Secretary

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POST MEETING PRESENTATION BY PAT, KW3Z

Pat's presentation on hurricane awareness focused on the potential effects of a hurricane or strong tropical storm as it passes through the Delmarva area was very well done and extremely interesting. Delaware has never been directly hit by a hurricane during tracking history (begun in 1851) so it seems like our chance of being hit, even with our very small coastline, increase with every new hurricane season. This year is no exception. In fact, there is a 75% increase over the 50-year average that is year will be above normal. In addition, generally the strongest effects of a hurricane are in the NE corner of the storm, which means that storms passing west of us may have the greatest potential for damage to this area. With the peak generally expected around September 10th, we have a long way to go. Pat mentioned a web site, www.preparedde.org for anyone interested in additional information.

The Members thanked Pat for a great job presenting a very vital subject.

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****** Equipment for Sale: ******

(This section is open to all SARA Members. If you have ham radio

items for sale and would like them published at the end of next month's Minutes, please send your list to K3LRH@ARRL.NET by the end of this month.