

# SARA Minutes for 21 April 2010 (Pending Approval)

**Call to Order:** 7:30 PM

Location: Marvel Museum, Georgetown, DE

## **Pledge to Flag**

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

**President's Welcome, Comments and Upcoming Events:** Bill, KB3KYH, welcomed all Members and particularly new Member Jerry, KB3TXP. Bill also reminded all that 2010 **Dues** are now being accepted by Paul, W3FIS. The **Hamfest** was a great event this year and financial goals were met. Bill thanked the Hamfest Committee and all Members that participated to make this a huge success. Bill requested that anyone with suggestions for making next year's event even better please contact him or Herb. Thank you letters will be sent out to all that supported this effort, particularly Joe Hudson. There will be a **special event station** set up at Ft Miles on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. Willie, W3IOU, is Chairman for the event reported that three stations will be set up and will be on-air between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. W3D special event call sign will be used and special QSL certificates will be made available to stations contacting W3D. This event will be in concert with the Nanticoke and LARS and SARA clubs. There will be a **Boy Scout** event held at Cape Henlopen State Park on May 15-16. Interested Members are encouraged to participate. **Summer Field Day** will be at the Marvel site on the last full weekend in June. A Chairman is needed to coordinate this event. **Grass cutting** season at our meeting place is here. By agreement with Jim Bowden and SARA, the big (south) field will no longer be the responsibility of SARA and the perimeters of the various buildings will be treated with Roundup so that there will be less weed trimming required. We have agreed to cut the remaining areas on a weekly basis and a sign-up sheet was circulated to the Members present to initiate this process. We need all Members that are capable to participate to help out. A Chairman is needed to coordinate this obligation.

A discussion regarding **replacing the 2M repeater system** was engaged. A recommendation to allow two weeks to define our needs and to budget \$3500 for the project was suggested. Further comment mentioned the need to include a sufficient battery backup for the system. A motion from the floor by Joe, W3TL that up to \$4000 be allotted for the overall 2M replacement was seconded by Chuck, W3DEL and passed by the Members.

**Vice President's Report:** Nothing additional to report.

**Secretary's Report:** The March Minutes are now posted on the SARA web site. A motion to approve by W3TL was seconded by KC2OCC and affirmed by the Members. K3LRH reminded all about the new **"Equipment for Sale"** section at the end of each monthly Minutes. Listings should be sent to [K3LRH@ARRL.NET](mailto:K3LRH@ARRL.NET) by the end of each month for inclusion in that month's minutes.

**Treasurer's Report:** Paul, W3FIS, read the report and reiterated that he is now accepting 2010 SARA dues. Motion to accept the report by Bill, N3IOD, was seconded by Chuck, W3DEL was affirmed by the Members.

**Committee Reports:**

**Repeater Committee Report:** John, K3JL, reported that the 2M power supply issue has been repaired and also that we need a new battery backup. Additional comments above. Herb, KF3BT, motioned that a resolution to thank the Repeater Committee for keeping the repeater running during the difficulties of the snowstorms of last winter be initiated was seconded by Jay, K3BH.

**Membership:** W3TL, nothing to report. KB3KYH suggested setting aside \$150 for W3TL to offset postage, duplicating and etc. expenses related to DARTT FCC license testing that Joe has/will incur(ed). A motion to approve by KC2OCC was seconded by KB3TCH and passed by the Members.

**Mentoring:** N3IOD is helping another ham getting his antenna system operational.

**PIO:** Walt, W4ALT, mentioned that we had excellent media coverage of the Hamfest.

**External entity reports:**

**ARRL:** Frank, AD3M, reported that the new ARRL web site is up and running. You will need a password to access the new web site. Also, the ARRL is in the process of writing a M.O. A. with the Red Cross. The ARRL is supporting S.B. 1755 regarding unreasonable HOA restrictions on Amateur radio antennas used for emergency communications.

**ARES:** KB3KYH mentioned that ARES will be participating in a water rescue exercise to be held at Cape Henlopen State Park on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

**RACES Report:** No report.

**DARTT Report:** FCC License testing at the Hamfest tested 13 applicants with five passing.

**Sussex Tech Report:** Dennis, KB3DTS, reported that thirty students participated in the Hamfest helping wherever needed. Thanks to all of those who participated. Pat, KW3Z, reported that there are now four masts on the water tower at Sussex Tech. The masts will be used for future antenna installations.

**Past Presidents' Reports:** None

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Jack, K3JP, read a list of the Hamfest prize winners. **The Delmarva Amateur Radio & Electronics Expo** for next year is tentatively scheduled for April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011. AD3M urged setting the date with the ARRL as early as possible.

Motion to adjourn by W3AUS was seconded by W3DEL and affirmed by the Members.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Len Hecker, K3LRH  
Secretary

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**Guest Speaker:** Pat, KW3Z gave an interesting and informative slide presentation of the various sites and history of Fort Miles located in Cape Henlopen State Park. Fort Miles was the main guard point for the mouth of the Delaware Bay during WWII, protecting our shores from enemy ships and submarines. Also included in Pat's presentation were some slides from last year's special event activities by ham radio operators.

Thanks to Pat for his timely presentation.

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

(This section is open to all SARA Members. If you have items for sale and would like them published at the end of the May Minutes, please send your list to [K3LRH@ARRL.NET](mailto:K3LRH@ARRL.NET) by the end of May.)

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