

MANATEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
MINUTES Membership Business Meeting
October 6, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Ed Skalecki, NI4MX, President, at 7:00 PM. We all participated the a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Personal introductions were conducted. Twenty two were in attendance so and a quorum was established.

The minutes from the previous meetings were not published on the web site www.manatee-arc.org. Approval was delayed until next meeting. The treasurer was on vacation so a reduced description of expenses was presented by the president.

VE testing will be held third Saturday in December, the 19th at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Cross building.

Education chairman was approached by the Sarasota Power Squadron to have a class in February for Technician License. Schedule is being slated for Tuesday and Thursday evenings for a couple weeks.

There were three folks at the monthly (first Saturday of the month) breakfast at Theona's in Oneco. Some admitted they forgot to attend.

Reminder about participation at the Thursday night net on the club repeater.

The PAO officer, Geoff Haines, resigned for personal reasons, anyone interested let Ed know.

Hamfest tickets were available for \$7. the Tampa bay Hamfest folks will be looking for us to help with security and the like. The organizing group needs our club help. Please let us know you can participate. We'll also have a table for the members. If you place something for sale there make sure it is tagged name and price and try to man the table for a half hour or more during the day. Share the load. There will be some cutbacks this year in hopes of not losing money as in the past. No meal will be provided for the vendors on Friday night as we did in the past. It was suggested the traffic pattern be adjusted to require ticket entrance through the building before entrance to the tailgate. The group does not want to be the first to charge for entrance to the tailgate. There was some discussion about placing the ARES trailer among others inside along the wall to help fill the space.

Christmas dinner will be at the Firkin & Fox at 2505 Manatee Ave. East just west of the Braden River. Food is good and beer served in Firkins (English term for gallon.)

The MARCI Board of Directors meeting was not established but it is anticipated it will convene on 20 October.

New Business:

Tom Stockbrand mentioned his church group was interested in introducing some 13-15 year olds to amateur radio. We provided Tom some suggested approaches on how to present what information. Computer applications addressing amateur radio methods was suggested - Echolink, IRLP, CQ-100, digital methods, and hand held repeater communications with some remote club member on the other end. He will work to put together an approach and solicit assistance when the time comes. Anyone with suggestions can send info to his email which is on the membership list at our revamped Web page. His church is in the downtown Bradenton area.

Greg Blanchard, newsletter editor, pointed out the contest for naming the newsletter.

Roger Byron gave an impromptu talk on at sea mine warfare wherein an ocean going mine sweeper managed to render the waters safe by defeating the deployed mines of many types.

The subject was decided on as a substitute for a planned work shop on building J-pole antennas from 300 TV antenna wire. The perception was that few if any would be interested in the work shop and the chosen subject might be more appealing and of interest to the group as a whole. Anyone still desiring a work shop on building the J-pole type antenna please let Ed or Roger know.

Jim Woodson, KE4INM, reviewed the revamped Web page, showing all the features currently available and asked for inputs of other desired features. Nice job Jim!

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectful Submitted

Roger Byron, KR4WS