

GREEN VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Monthly Club Meeting

August 17, 2022

The August 2022 meeting of the Green Valley Amateur Radio Club was held at the Green Valley Fire District Headquarters which is located at 1285 W. Camino Encanto, Green Valley, AZ and was called to order by President Rick Rogers, K7RCR at 7:00pm MST. There were 17 members present plus 12 members via Zoom for a total of 29 attendees.

We are pleased to welcome Bill Halsne, AE7FC, as a new member! **Welcome Bill!**

OFFICER REPORTS

Tom Smith – K7AFA – Vice President: Tom reported that VE Testing will be conducted in the near term.

Tom visited the Longhorn Grill in Arivaca, where we have reservations for December 15th for our club Christmas party. We will receive further information about the menus and they have advised us that the pricing will be about 5% more than last year.

Larry Bailey – K7LRB – Secretary: Larry reported that the minutes from the Board meeting on August 9th should be posted on the website by this weekend, as well as the minutes from tonight's general membership meeting.

Bob Junke – K7DC – Treasurer: Bob gave a brief summary of the Club's financial status, including the general fund, repeater fund, income and expenses, etc. Please note that all financial data for our club is available to Club members on the "Members" section of our website.

Bob also mentioned the availability of name tags and referred members to our website for further information on how to request a name tag.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Technical Committee – Ron Phillips – AA7RP: Ron reported that "everything" is working normally" with the exception Winlink, at which time he deferred to Mike Bass, WA9TKK, for an update on the repairs to the Winlink system at Elephant Head. Mike and Larry plan to make a trip to the Winlink site, hopefully, by next week to effect repairs.

Webmaster – Jon Otto – AD7GS: Jon reported that he has made some pending changes to the website to add a “big blue button” which will be elaborated upon later in the meeting. The addition(s) to the website should be available later tonight.

Road Cleanup – Sharon Smith – KF7YJW: A “road cleanup” will be scheduled for early September, not to conflict with the Special Event scheduled for September 17th.

Reflector and Projects – Ed Toal – N9MW: There was no activity to report with “Projects”. Ed mentioned a few “typical” issues with the reflector, specifically, entries that are “too large” and have the wrong email addresses. “Other than that, all is working just fine.”

VE Coordinator – Dave Bowen – N7DMB: Dave is our new VE Testing Coordinator and will be providing reports on VE Testing during future meetings. **Thank you Dave!**

Net Coordinator – Dave Bowen – N7DMB: An email was recently sent out this evening requesting volunteers to serve as net control operators for the September nets. Dave also reported that attendance at the various nets has been picking up and reports of participation in nets were provided by a few of the recent net control operators. Dave noted that, even if you are 'away' you can still participate in a net via Echolink.

President Rick solicited “presenters” for programs for the September, October and November meetings and asked the membership about preferences for the presentations, vis a vis, amateur radio related or, for example, “historical” presentations. Responses were mixed!

Rick announced that Jon Otto has stepped up to serve as our **Contest Coordinator**. Jon gave a short “briefing” about several upcoming contests and his efforts to promote them and encourages everyone, especially those who do not normally have the means to “get on the air”, to participate in contests and special events. **Thank you Jon!**

ACTION ITEMS

A vote was taken on changes to the **By-Laws**, specifically Article 4 which will formalize the addition of the Audit Committee and making the Audit Committee a “standing” committee. Rick read the entire text of the proposed addition. He also mentioned a minor change to 4.1.2 (Nominating Committee) referencing “redundant” language in 3.4.1 to remove the redundant language. A **MOTION** was made to accept the paragraphs as written: **PASSED**

OLD BUSINESS

Nominations: President Rick noted that it is getting time to elect new officers for the club for the year 2023. The Nominating Committee consists of Rick, Tom Smith and Larry Bailey. He then described the method for indicating which members are interested, or not, in serving as an officer of the club or a position on the Board. Jon Otto then elaborated on the “big blue button” he mentioned in his “Webmaster” report above. Jon advised that there will be a “big blue button” on the 'homepage' of our website. When you click on the button, it will take you to a 'password protected' form where you can then submit your preferences. You may also add any comments if so desired. Elections will be held at the November meeting.

Special Event: Our club will operate a Special Event Station at the Titan Missile Museum on September 17th in recognition of the 75th anniversary of the U.S. Air Force. We plan to operate the station between the hours of 0800 through 1700, MST. Bob, K7DC, has graciously agreed to design a “Special Event” QSL card. **Thank you Bob!** Rick discussed the cost(s) associated with sending “paper” QSL cards and that it will be prudent to offer ONLY an electronic QSL. Further details about our participation in the event included; availability of RVs, antennas (including the use of the “discone” antenna) and operating times/slots. He also noted that, surprisingly, our club is the ONLY club listed in QST magazine as taking part in this event. Webmaster Jon will post a “sign up” sheet on our website for those interested in participating in this event and all are encouraged to do so. Jon noted that you may choose to operate or log. Rick also asked if anyone has experience writing news releases, as this could be a great opportunity to get the club some publicity.

Donations and Disposal of Property: John Perlick has offered to attend upcoming ham fests for the purpose of selling any, and/or **all**, club inventory which the club does not wish to retain. Our goal is to reduce the size of our storage locker which will reduce our storage fee by about \$70 per month.

Arizona QSO Party: The AZ QSO Party is scheduled for Saturday, October 8th and runs from 0800 through 2000 MST. It was decided that our club will participate in this activity AND combine it with our club picnic. Rick emphasized his desire that we “really participate” in the activity and that it not be “just a social event”.

Christmas Party: Sharon and Tom Smith visited the Longhorn Grill in Arivaca, where we have reservations for November 15th for our club's Christmas party on December 15th. Rick noted that this will be “revenue neutral” for the club this year; the Club will not be putting out any money for the Christmas party. Please see Tom's comments about our Christmas Party under the “Vice President's” report above.

PROGRAM

Our program was presented by Ed Toal, N9MW, and the topic was "Station Grounding". Ed presented a thorough and "timely" (monsoon season!) presentation of effective, and practical, grounding techniques without getting "overly technical". He included excellent graphics and answered several questions from members. He also "cleared up" some misconceptions about station grounding. More information about station grounding can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 pm, MST.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Bailey K7LRB
Secretary