

ORO VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
an Arizona Non-Profit Corporation

Minutes of Members Meeting
July 17, 2015

A Regular meeting of the Membership of the Oro Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc., was held on July 17, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. at the Ascension Lutheran Church 1220 W. Magee Road, Tucson, Arizona.

In attendance at said meeting were the following Board Officers and Directors:

Bob Molczan, KA7VPR -- President
Ron Herring, W7HD -- Vice President
Scott Boone, K7ADX -- Treasurer
Howard Chorost, KC7AC -- Secretary
Dave Coccio, N7AKC
Carl Foster, KB7AZ
Gary Schmitz, KT7AZ
Steve Wood, W1SR -- Program Manager

58 Members present with 4 Visitors, for a total of 62 persons present.

The Meeting was called to Order by President Bob Molczan KA7VPR

Visitors were introduced.

New Members were introduced.

The Board and Officers were introduced.

Scott, K7ADX, talked about prizes and the raffle drawing. The Special Raffle is an Icom IC-718. The Special Raffle will be drawn when all tickets for that raffle are sold.

Gary, KT7AZ and Ron, W7HD set up a demo of a stealth "Bird House" HF antenna and an Elecraft KX3, which complemented this evenings presentation. George, NG7A also brought a magnetic loop antenna which was on display.

Presentation:

Stealth Antennas

Presented by Carl Foster, KB7AZ.

Getting on the air with HOA restrictions can be difficult, but using some innovative techniques you can be working DX from your home. Carl's presentation covered several different approaches to constructing and using antennas that are difficult for neighbors and HOAs to find. Using very thin wire, camouflage paint, balloons, and fast-up/down antennas are all ways of getting on the air. In addition to the more usual methods of making stealth antennas, Carl will cover how to transform every-day objects such as fences and rain gutters into effective antennas. George, NG7A, will add to the discussion by describing how stealthy end fed dipoles can be used on the desert floor, using balloons to make vertical antennas for low band operating all night and small magnetic loops for operating close to the ground. The presentation also includes some commercially available low-profile antennas for the non-DIY hams. This presentation has inspired people who were limited to VHF and UHF operation to branch out into operating on the HF bands. If you long to get on HF but haven't because of HOA restrictions.

About the presenters:

Carl, KB7AZ, was first licensed in 1970 and has worked as an RF design engineer from 1973 until he retired from Raytheon in 2011. He currently holds an Extra Class license. Carl's amateur radio interests include HF, VHF, DX, RTTY, SSTV, public service, and antenna design. Carl was one of the designers of the first digitally synthesized amateur transceiver, the Astro 200, which was sold from 1977 - 1980. Since then he has worked in aerospace data links including message protocols, telemetry, range tracking, and range safety. He is the current ARRL Arizona Section Technical Coordinator and OVARC board member.

George, NG7A was first licensed in 1981. As an RF design engineer and test pilot for the Army Research Labs, Global Wulfsberg Systems, UPS and Garmin, George has developed numerous radar, communication, navigation and data radios. Serving on many industry advisory committees for the FAA, he chaired the GPS antenna working group. A life member of the ARRL, George is still practicing for retirement near the local airport and enjoys the new found challenge of hiding antennas.

- Following the Presentation, we were treated to a video presentation of 2015 Field Day by Steve, N7AZT.

** 10 Minute Break **

Business section of Meeting:

The First Order of Business was approval of the following Minutes: June 19, 2015.

Upon Motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the Reading of said Minutes were waived and the Minutes were approved, without objection. The Minutes were signed and the President directed that the Minutes be posted to the Club Website. The Club Secretary will transmit the approved minutes to Webmaster Bob Stephens, AF9W.

- Field Day Results: As communicated to the President by Field Day Chairman Tom Kravec, W8TK.

2015 Results vs 2014 Results

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
CW QSOs	986	904
CW Points	1,972 (80% of total)	1,808 (68% of total)
Digital QSOs	98	227
Digital Points	196 (8% of total)	454 (17% of total)
Phone QSOs	323	408
Phone Points	323 (12% of total)	408 (15% of total)
Claimed Score	4982	5340
Bonus Points	1160	1170
Total Score	6142	6510

- Officer Reports:

President (KA7VPR):

ANNOUNCEMENT — The Club's trip to Heilograph scheduled for Saturday July 18, 2015 has been cancelled due to anticipated inclement weather.

- Hamfest date of November 7 at the Marana Middle School. We have learned that the Cochise County group has a "swap meet" on this same date. We didn't have their event in mind and the date chosen was sanctioned by ARCA and the Section

Manager. We chose November 7 as that was a day the Marana Middle School is available, is a day vendors are available, and is a day that resolved calendar conflicts with our participating Membership and Board. The date chosen was the only date available in the month of November, and the alternative was not to have a Hamfest this year. The President announced we will not move the date. We believe that the Hamfest will be successful this year as in previous years. Additionally, we have already submitted the 2016 date and application to ARCA.

- We will be having a few seminars on programming radios. Dates and times to be announced.
- Bob commented that repeater use is down and suggested that we have "Repeater Ambassadors" to open up activity and cone back to all calls.
- W7HD sent another Newsletter to the Membership. Thanks to Ron for putting that together.
- W8TK is our Club Elmer. If anyone needs help Tom will be happy to assist.
- A "For Sale table" will be in the back of the room starting next month. Dave Hamilton, AF0H will man the table. One item per person. No money transactions will be allowed in the meeting room.

Vice President (W7HD): Nothing to report.

Secretary (KC7AC):

The Secretary reminded the Membership that copies of the Minutes of the Board Meetings and Member Meetings are on the web site at tucsonhamradio.org; that Board Meetings are held on the First Saturday of every month at 9:00 A.M. the Oro Valley EOC, 1920 E. Tangerine Road; and that the Membership meets on the Third Friday of every month at 7:00 P.M. at the Ascension Lutheran Church, 1220 W. Magee Road. The Secretary also reported that we did not have a Board Meeting in the Month of July.

Treasurer (K7ADX): We have \$4700 in the bank.

- Board Member Reports:

Gary, KT7AZ, reported that he has a replacement CL100 and IP Switch ready for installation at Keystone. The Golder Ranch repeater is working out well with two antennas on 147.320. There's updated firmware for Keystone. We have a new

server for DStar. David, AK2L, is trying to get us into Marana for a new repeater site.

Dave, N7AKC. Nothing to report

Carl, KB7AZ. Nothing to report

Steve, W1SR. Nothing to report

- Comments from the Floor:

David, AK2L, talked about the next Technician Class. Information will be available on the Club web site.

Chuck, KB7OGE, has a dual band antenna he's giving away in the back of the room.

Ken, K7EAZ, reminded the Membership to write Congress about the Antenna Bill.

* Raffle Drawing *

There being no further business for the Membership, upon by Motion duly made by N7AKC and seconded by KT7AZ, and carried-- and without objections, the Meeting was adjourned.

Approved:

Bob Molczan, KA7VPR
President

Attest:

Howard A. Chorost, KC7AC
Secretary