



## The Villages Amateur Radio Club Minutes for November 2017

These minutes are the board-approved record of The Villages Amateur Radio Club's (TVARC) expenditures of club funds, property transactions, contractual agreements and proceedings involving membership votes since the last General Membership meeting. The current club property inventory and financial report are on the club's website.

### November 2, 2017 Board Meeting

Earle Hancock (President) called this Board Meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. EDT. This meeting was held at the Panera Bread restaurant (Lake Sumter Landing, The Villages).

**Attendance.** Officers present: President Earle Hancock (KM4ISN), Vice-President Rich Erlichman (ND4G), Secretary Tony Hackenberg (K4QR) & Treasurer Pete Stafford (K2PS). Thus, a quorum was present. Ex-officers present: Ron Adcock (KK4YCW). Members present: Bruce Cusanelli (WA1UTQ) & Don Crosby (W1EJM). Guests present: None.

**President's Report.** Per the club's Constitution/Bylaws, Earle instructed Tony to put a request for nominations for next year's Board on the agenda for the Nov. club meeting.

**Vice President's Report.** Nothing to report by Rich.

**Program Coordinator's Report.** Rich confirmed that Karl Loeper's (WVLG) presentation ("Weather") will be in Nov. Yaesu's presentation ("System Fusion & DR-2 Repeater") by George Wagner (K5KG), is set for Jan. DX Engineering's presentation ("Corporate History & New Products"), by Bob Naumann (W5OV), via Skype, is scheduled for Feb. Rich still needs a presentation for the Mar. club meeting. After some discussion, the Board agreed that we need to test "Skyping" into our club meeting room at Eisenhower. So, Tony & Earle will conduct a test no later than the Social/Elmer hour at the Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> club meeting.

**Treasurer's Report.** Pete noted the club roster for Nov. showed 220 members. Pete presented the Oct. financial report, which the Board unanimously approved. Pete

highlighted the club's latest (Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>) property inventory reflecting corrections to the Echolink items and the Board unanimously approved it. In response to Ron's suggestion, Pete will e-mail a copy of this inventory report to Tom (NV1U; Event Chair for RoS). [Secretary's Addendum: Shortly after the meeting, Pete sent Tom's copy.] In reply to Tony's question, Earle said he possesses two keys for the club's storage unit.

**Secretary's Report.** Tony stated that "it's all on the club's website" (approved Board & Club meeting minutes, etc.). He reported only 1 official & no informal correspondences. Tony e-mailed a thank-you to the Villages Computer Club for their donation of 2 laptops.

**Radio on the Square (RoS).** Tom Grosvenor (NV1U; Event Chair) submitted his report via e-mail because a foot injury prevented him from attending tonight's meeting. He again plans to meet with his team of volunteers during the "Social/Elmer Hour" at the club meeting on Nov. 16. Because of this injury, Tom may need additional assistance for this event; so, all Board members pledged their help.

**TVARC's Emergency Communications Team (ECT).** At the Oct. club meeting, George Rutkoskie (W4GOR) volunteered to lead this team; but, he unfortunately could not attend tonight's meeting. Earle reiterated that he e-mailed some suggestions ("neighborhood-based" & non-FEMA-like) to George; while Tony also reminded us that he sent George the ECT roster & several current/historical references.

**Club Station Committee.** On John Ellis' (NP2B) behalf, Earle reported no progress.

**Educational Coordinator (EC)/Technician Licensing Class.** Ron (KK4YCW) reported that no club-sponsored, Technician class is currently scheduled. He's considering one in early 2018 (after the Extra Class). Ron will contact his volunteer instructors about their availability. Ron needs to store the leftover student (Tech-level) manuals in the club's storage & Pete should update the property inventory accordingly.

**Educational Coordinator (EC)/General Licensing Class.** Cal Fuhrman (WA3CTZ) submitted his report via e-mail as he was unable to attend tonight's meeting. So, Tony conveyed the gist of Cal's report. The ongoing General Licensing Class is "over the hump" (4 of 7 sessions completed) and Cal ordered ARRL "graduation packets" for the students. Many will test on Nov. 27. Tony transferred the proceeds (\$50) from Cal's sale of 2 student manuals to Pete.

**Drawing for Donated Rig (3 Eligibility Tests).** Pete kicked-off a clarification about the drawing for the donated HF rig (Yaesu FT-920) at the Christmas/Holiday Party on Dec. 21. After a lengthy discussion, the Board tweaked this drawing's 3<sup>rd</sup> eligibility prerequisite to otherwise eligible candidates who submit proof of passing the General element at any licensing exam session between Nov. 27 & Dec. 21, 2017. As a result, you must meet all three of these prerequisites to be eligible for this drawing:

- 1) be a club member in good standing;
- 2) attended the club-sponsored, General licensing classes in Oct. & Nov. 2017; &

- 3) passed any VEC-administered, General licensing exam between Nov. 27, 2017 and December 21, 2017; and submit FCC-acceptable proof to both Earle & Rich of such passage if not at the club-sponsored exam on Nov. 27.

At the Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> General class session, Earle will remind the students about this drawing.

[Secretary's addendum: These actions must be completed PRIOR to this drawing:

- 1) Cal (WA3CTZ) submits an attendance list for the General Licensing Class;
- 2) Rich (ND4G) submits the list of who passed the General exam on Nov. 27.
- 3) Earle (KM4ISN) compiles a list of names that meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> prerequisites; &
- 4) Pete (K2PS) cross-references Earle's list against the current membership rolls (roster) to arrive at a list of candidates meeting all 3 prerequisites. (Tonight's Board tweaking of the 3<sup>rd</sup> eligibility prerequisite, may require a partial reiteration of this sequence of actions, on or slightly before the party on Dec. 21, IFF somebody submits proof of passing the General element at another qualifying exam session between Nov. 27 & Dec. 21.)]

**Educational Coordinator (EC)/Extra Licensing Class.** Stepping into Cal's shoes, Tony conveyed the gist of Cal's e-mailed status report. Currently, 13 applicants are registered for the Extra Licensing Class (Jan. 15 through Feb. 5). Cal hopes a higher percentage of these enrollees will attend as the percentage (~50-60%) at the ongoing General class has been disappointing. Cal noted that preparations for this Extra class are taking more of his time because the ARRL does not currently provide PowerPoint slides or an Instructor's manual that matches the recently revised pool of exam questions. Per Ron's suggestion, Rich will contact the ARRL's VEC office to see if any drafts of such material may be available. Per Cal's appeal for help to get TVARC's "Extra Class Study Guide" updated sooner, Rich will contact Cal.

**Volunteer Exam Coordinator (VEC).** Rich (ND4G; ARRL VEC Liaison) will publish the club-sponsored, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> exam in the ARRL's database. This database is searchable via the ARRL's "Find an Amateur Radio License Exam in Your Area" webpage at: <http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>.

**Website.** Rich (ND4G; club's Webmaster) reminded us that the club's website can easily produce spreadsheets summarizing any of the sign-up forms on the website. Event chairs need only ask Rich, or Tony (Assistant Webmaster), to produce them.

**Cookie Monster Coordinator (CMC).** On Bob's (WA3EWK; club's CMC) behalf, Tony presented the CMC's report. Bob has Cookie Monsters (CMs) scheduled for the Nov. 2017 meeting; and for the meetings from Jan. through May and Oct. 2018.

**H-T Programming Session.** Bruce (WA1UTQ) will conduct the first H-T programming session (for ICOM & Yaesu HTs) during the Social/Elmer hour at the Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> club meeting. Bruce will prepare an announcement for the website & reflector. Bruce also agreed to be the coordinator (Activity Lead) for any future such sessions.

**Swap Tables & "Outside" Speakers.** Earle reminded us to comply with The Villages' Guidelines (rules) regarding the use of their facilities. So, swap table monetary

transactions must be done outside the building. The Villages' "Guest Speaker" form must be submitted in advance for any non-resident speakers at our meetings.

**Borrowing Club Equipment.** Don Blough's (KD8RBW) recent request to borrow 2 pieces of equipment had been approved by the Board. The Board agreed that such requests require Board approval.

**Transition Documents.** Since our term of office is soon ending, Tony encouraged the officers to prepare transition documents to help their successors get off to a flying start. Tony maintains one (a work-in-progress) covering both general & secretarial stuff.

**"Ham-Aid" Donation.** Tony proposed that the club donate to the ARRL's "Ham-Aid" Fund (<http://www.arrl.org/ham-aid>). Other ham clubs (including Orlando's) have donated according to a recent ARRL e-newsletter. After some discussion, Earle moved that we donate \$250; Tony seconded; and the Board unanimously approved this motion. Tony will tell Pete how to make this payment to ARRL. Ron suggested we try to get some recognition for this donation in the local media & ARRL's publications.

**Repeaters.** Bruce (WA1UTQ) with Don Crosby's (W1EJM) support, requested that a status report on the club's repeaters be included in the next club meeting's agenda. The Board agreed; so, Tony will insert a placeholder slide in the agenda. Don will consult with Len Klein (K4LFK; club's repeater support/Activity Lead) about this report.

**Christmas/Holiday Party.** Earle ("the Elf") reported on the status of preparations for the club's Christmas/Holiday Party on Dec. 21. The entertainment has been booked and several helpers have volunteered but Earle can still use more. Everyone who plans to attend should sign-up on the RSVP-like form on the website. Pursuant to Earle's request, Rich will send him a spreadsheet summarizing the web-based sign-ups.

**Authorized/Paid Expenditures.** The Board authorized the following expenditures/budget adjustments:

- \$250 as a donation to the ARRL's "Ham-Aid" Fund.

**Authorized Property Transactions.** None.

## Adjournment

Earle Hancock (President) adjourned this productive Board Meeting at 7:50 p.m. EDT.

Tony Hackenberg (K4QR), Secretary