



The Villages Amateur Radio Club Minutes for January 2018

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.

January 4, 2018 Board Meeting

Earle Hancock (President) called this Board Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. EST. 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), Cal Fuhrman (WA3CTZ), Tom Grosvenor (NV1U) & George Rutkoskie (W4GOR). Guests present: None.

President's Report. Per the club's Constitution/Bylaws, Earle instructed Tony to put the Nominating Committee's report and a request for nominations "from the floor" for next year's Board on the agenda for the January club meeting.

Vice-President's/Program Coordinator's Report. Rich confirmed that Yaesu's John Kruk (N9UPC) will give a presentation on the "Yaesu System Fusion & DR-2 Repeater" at the January 18th club meeting. Since some attendees implied that other Yaesu representatives might also speak, Earle correctly pointed out that nobody else from Yaesu can speak/present other than John Kruk because he's the only one vetted via the "alien speaker" form that The Villages requires for non-resident speakers. Despite the convoluted discussion, the bottom-line is clear: John Kruk is the only Yaesu representative approved to speak/present.

Treasurer's Report. Pete reviewed the December [financial report](#), which the Board unanimously approved. Tony reminded Pete that the renewal for the club's rented

storage unit is due in Feb. Pete noted the club roster for January showed 231 members; however, forty-five (45) of them are in danger of being dropped from the rolls because they are in arrears regarding their dues payment (pursuant to Section 3 of TVARC's By-Laws). Pete will send a notice to these dues delinquent members (who have NOT paid since 2016) to immediately pay their dues to be reinstated; otherwise he will drop them from the rolls (& they will forfeit all their membership perks). [Secretary's addendum: On Jan. 8, Pete e-mailed notices to 42 of these 45 dues delinquents (1 SK; 2 no e-mail addresses). He moved them to his "dropped" worksheet (spreadsheet) pending their payment of retroactively owed dues. So, as of Jan. 8, TVARC has 186 members not in arrears (114 of them paid through 2017; only 70 paid through 2018; & 2 honorary members).]

Secretary's Report. Tony stated that "it's all on the club's website" (approved Board & Club meeting minutes, etc.). He reported no official or informal correspondence. He updated the running tally of Board authorized expenditures/property transactions.

Repeaters. On Len Klein's (K4LFK) behalf, Don reported that Len is still trying to schedule Russell Merritt (KJ4CBM) to do maintenance work on our repeater's tower at the Wildwood Police Station.

Radio on the Square (RoS). Tom (Event Chair) gave a "wrap-up" report about this club event held on Nov. 25. Everyone agreed RoS was a great success thanks to Tom's leadership and his volunteer helpers. Bob Schwer's (K3ZGA) "taste of Morse code" was a dynamite hit!

Christmas/Holiday Party. Earle (Event Chair) provided a "wrap-up" report on the club's Christmas/Holiday Party held on Dec. 21. Feedback from attendees was very positive, in particular, they liked the entertainment provided by the "Sounds of Time" duo. In response to Ron's question, Earle said this duo should be booked at least 3 months in advance. Despite the nearly 70 attendees, we still had a bit too much meat leftover; so, Earle recommended that next year's meat order be cut to 12# turkey & 12# ham. Earle submitted a receipt to Pete, who immediately paid Earle \$98.37 for the paper products & miscellaneous sundries bill. Future chairs for this event should insure that the local HoneyBaked Ham Co. store provides the correct, meat configuration. Lots of leftover paperware was stored back in the club's storage unit. [Treasurer's addendum: John Ellis (NP2B) will soon submit the bill (\$427.07) for the meat order.]

Nominating Committee. On John Ellis' (NP2B; Chair) behalf, George reported that a complete slate of 4 candidates will be presented at the Jan. 18th club meeting. Tony reminded us that the candidates can briefly speak at this meeting.

TVARC's Emergency Communications Team (ECT). George (Activity Lead) stated that the prior Memorandum of Understanding (MOA), dated June 2, 2011, between The Villages Safety Department (TVSD), TVARC & ARES, is probably in limbo (or dying/dead) because of FEMA requirements that apparently also apply to TVSD. Since these requirements require training that most of our membership/ECT prefers to avoid,

George contends it's difficult to see how that MOA & ECT verbiage on our website can still apply. However, nobody in authority at TVSD told George this. Instead, he relied on third-party information sources (ARES, RACES & Sumter County's Emergency Management). George agreed to contact TVSD and get the scoop directly from the horse's mouth. Tony reminded us that our club's "special privileges" are predicated on our special relationship with TVSD; so, we must be very careful in how we proceed in this matter. Some of these special privileges include having non-resident club members & not getting "carded" when we attend our club meetings at Eisenhower Rec. Ctr.

MS Walk 2018. Earle (Acting Chair) still hopes another club member will volunteer to chair TVARC's participation in this annual event at the Polo Grounds. Earle asked George to contact members of TVARC's ECT to ask them to volunteer (Earle needs at least 8 volunteers). They can use the web-based, volunteer sign-up form that Rich recently implemented.

H-T Programming Session. Bruce (WA1UTQ; Activity Lead) will conduct the 2nd H-T programming session (for any brand of HTs) during the Social/Elmer hour at the January 18th club meeting. Bruce will prepare an announcement for the website & reflector.

Club Station Committee. On John Ellis' (NP2B; Chair) behalf, Earle reported that it's been about a month since the committee met with John Rohan (The Villages' District Recreation Director) about possible sites for a club station. Mr. Rohan has not yet responded.

Educational Coordinator (EC)/Technician Licensing Class. Ron (KK4YCW) reported on the upcoming, club-sponsored, Technician Licensing Class (on Feb. 10, 17 & 24 with corresponding licensing exam on Mar. 3). Ron noted that only a few students have enrolled in this class, he needs 1 more instructor, and currently he needs no additional ARRL student Technician licensing manuals.

Educational Coordinator (EC)/General Licensing Class. Cal Fuhrman (WA3CTZ) reported on the upcoming, club-sponsored, General Licensing Class (on Mar. 12, 19, 26 & Apr. 2, 9 & 16 with corresponding licensing exam on Apr. 23). Earle needs to transfer the five (5) leftover ARRL student General licensing manuals (books that Cal gave him at last month's Board meeting) into the club's inventory in the storage unit. [President's addendum: These manuals are still at Earle's home.] Since Cal needs to relinquish his role as EC for General Classes (while still retaining this role for Extra Classes), the Board is looking for another volunteer for this leadership opportunity. [Secretary's addendum: Shortly, after this meeting, Tony put a "volunteer needed" blurb on the club's homepage for this EC position.]

Educational Coordinator (EC)/Extra Licensing Class. Cal also reported that the upcoming, club-sponsored, Extra Licensing Class (Jan. 15 through Feb. 5 with corresponding licensing exam on Feb. 7) is in good shape. He still needs to assign 3 nights to specific instructors. [EC's addendum: On Jan. 5, two of these three nights got

assigned to instructors]. Cal also needs the club's laptop; so, Earle will transfer it to him. [EC's addendum: On Jan. 7, Earle transferred the laptop to Cal.] Cal noted that 18 students are enrolled. [EC's addendum: Shortly after this meeting, Cal reported 20 enrollees.] Since he's only got 1 student manual left, he proposed that the Board purchase 3 more to be sold to students (proceeds going back into the club treasury). [Secretary's addendum: Shortly after this meeting, Cal got more enrollees (20 now); so, he increased his request (via an e-mail) to 5 books.]

Then Rich amended Cal's original motion to request that the Board purchase 3 additional ARRL student manuals (1 for each class level) to allow Rich (as VEC) to better synchronize the test materials. The ensuing discussion got all tangled-up because Rich's reason was a bit vague & Tony further amended the motion to say these 3 additional books would remain in the club inventory & only be loaned as needed. Others asked about the longevity of these books; so, Rich looked-up their expirations (Technician expires on June 30, 2018; General on June 30, 2019; & Extra on June 30, 2020). The Board forgot about this motion because it got so tangled-up. So, by our adjournment, NO AUTHORIZATION to expend club funds was on record.

[Secretary's addendum: On Jan. 6, Cal inquired (via an e-mail) about his request for 3 (now 5) books. In response, on Jan. 7, Earle conducted an on-line Board meeting (via e-mails) & the Board unanimously approved Earle's "3-1-1-1" motion authorizing the expenditure of club funds for these books: 3 ARRL Extra manuals (for Cal's students to purchase with proceeds back to club's treasury); 1 ARRL Extra manual (to loan to Rich); 1 ARRL General manual (to loan to Rich); & 1 ARRL Technician manual (to loan to Rich). Then, shortly after this online meeting, some research into past minutes uncovered that the Board had previously authorized up to 10 Extra Class manuals on July 6, 2017; but only 5 were ever procured; so, the remaining 5 (still authorized) plus the 3 newly authorized ones in the approved "3-1-1-1" motion make a total of 9 authorized Extra Class manuals (with 8 of these 9 for sale to students & 1 to go into the club's inventory to be loaned out as needed).]

Outreach to Class Enrollees & Hospitality Greeter for "New" Members. Don offered, and the Board accepted, his proposal to start the practice of inviting everyone who enrolls in our club-sponsored, licensing classes to attend our club meetings. So, the ECs will need to periodically convey their list of enrollees to Don. Don also offered, and the Board again accepted, his proposal to formalize his role as a "hospitality greeter" to "first time attendees" at our monthly club meetings. Don had already been doing this in an informal way. So, the agenda for upcoming club meetings needs to add an item about Don's role. These two initiatives by Don are partly in response to a complaint the Board received several months ago that our meetings are not "new member friendly."

Volunteer Exam Coordinator (VEC). Rich (ND4G; ARRL VEC Liaison) published all 3 of the upcoming, club-sponsored, VEC-administered, licensing exams (on Feb. 7, Mar. 3 & Apr. 23) in the ARRL's database (web accessible via <http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>).

Website. Rich (ND4G; Webmaster) also reported that TVARC's website is in fine shape.

Transfer of Donated Rig to Drawing Winner. Robbie Spatz (KM4PIQ) was the lucky winner of the drawing for the donated Yaesu FT-920 at the Christmas/Holiday Party. However, Robbie was not present at the party. Earle's repeated attempts to transfer this rig to Robbie have been thwarted by Robbie's failure to contact Earle. Since Rich knows Robbie (and lives near to him), Rich agreed to contact Robbie to setup the transfer. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed that Robbie has two weeks from the time Rich contacts him to setup/accomplish the transfer. If not, then the rig will go to the remaining eligible candidate. [President's addendum: On Jan. 7, the rig was transferred to KM4PIQ.]

"State of the Club." Tony noted that every Board member (& others) will have to help him prepare the "State of the Club" report (to be given during the business segment of the club meeting on Feb. 15). Since this report needs input that Tony does not have, the other Board members possessing this input (facts, data/statistics & anecdotal references regarding TVARC's "health" during our 2 terms of office) need to help prepare the slide deck for this presentation. The attendees' heads all nodded in agreement.

Transition of Net Control Station (NCS) for TVARC's Ragchew Net. Hal Lloyd (W4OE; primary NCS) e-mailed the Board (& some others) proposing that the net's date, time, or NCS be changed to better accommodate Hal's lifestyle. If no accommodation could be made, then Hal would cease being the primary NCS after January. In response, Karen Erickson (K4ZDM) volunteered to be the primary NCS with her fiancé (George/K2DM) backing her up as an assistant NCS. After some discussion, the Board decided not to change the net's date or time; rather, it unanimously approved Karen as the new primary NCS effective Jan. 4, 2018. Earle tasked Tony to contact the principals to inform them of this decision & to offer whatever assistance needed to help with this transition. [Secretary's addendum: On Jan. 5, Tony informed the principals & added a blurb to the club's homepage about this transition.]

Authorized/Paid Expenditures. No new authorizations occurred during the face-to-face Board meeting. One (1) payment did occur: \$98.37 to Earle for the Christmas/Holiday Party's paper products & sundries. [Secretary's addendum: At an online Board meeting (via e-mails on Jan. 7), the Board approved an expenditure not-to-exceed (NTE) \$180 to purchase 6 ARRL manuals (see "3-1-1-1" motion above).]

Authorized Property Transactions. The Board authorized one (1) property transaction to loan 1 club laptop to Cal (to use at the upcoming licensing class sessions). [EC's addendum: On Jan. 7, Earle transferred the laptop to Cal.] [Secretary's addendum: Pursuant to Don Blough's (KD8RBW) request, the authorized/pending transfer of 2 pieces of club property (Kenwood TS-520 & Fiberglass telescopic pole) to him was cancelled in late December.]

Adjournment

Earle Hancock (President) adjourned this productive Board Meeting at 8:05 p.m. EST. The attendees then bravely bundled-up like Eskimos to face the frigid temperatures outside.

Tony Hackenberg (K4QR), Secretary