



## The Villages Amateur Radio Club Minutes for June 2021

These minutes are the board-approved record of The Villages Amateur Radio Club's 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 can be found on the club's website.

### June 3, 2021, Board Meeting

Due to the continued restrictions imposed because of the Corona Virus Pandemic our board continues to meet via Zoom to conduct club business.

Officers present were President Mike Regan, KM4ZTE, Vice-President Paul Nittel, KM4PIH, Secretary Bob Schwer, K3ZGA, Treasurer Bruce Cusanelli, WA1UTQ and Board Member-At-Large, John Ellis, NP2B.

Guests in attendance included: Webmaster and Lead VE, Rich Erlichman, ND4G, Past President and Field Day Chair, George Briggs, K2DM

### Updates on Jeanette and Karen

John reported that Jeanette is currently in The Villages Rehab Facility. She is making progress but will probably be there for another week.

George reported that Karen is doing well after the loss of her father and was a comfort to her family during this time.

### Special Thanks

Our President wanted to give a special thanks to Paul Nittel, KM4PIH for securing an outstanding presentation from Bob Heil last month.

## Field Day

Field Day Chairman, George Briggs, K2DM reported that people have started to sign up on the Punchbowl app on the website but that more volunteers are needed. There will be Villages Release Forms required by all participants. George will try and get people to print them out and bring the forms with them when they come to Field Day, but extra copies will be made available.

The HF Station will consist of an Icom IC-7300 with Band Pass Filters. A Tri-band Yagi will be installed on the tower attached to the Sheriff's Communication Trailer.

The FT8 station is being tested out by John Ellis, NP2B. The antenna will either be an Alpha-Delta dipole or an Ultra-Lite Jr. all-band antenna offered by Bob Schwer, K3ZGA. It will be supported by a heavy-duty MFJ push-up mast offered by K3ZGA.

## Camp Villages

George reported that the FM Radio Kits for the campers to assemble on in-hand. We will need at least 12 volunteers to supervise the assembly. Bob Schwer, K3ZGA volunteered to again provide a CW demonstration table and teach the campers to encode their names and then send them with a telegraph key. Certificates of Achievement will be given to those who complete the task.

## Resolution of Tom, NV1U Silent Auction Donations

George Briggs, K2DM reported that a quantity of items were left over from the silent auction that did not generate any bids. George proposes to offer the items up for sale to club members for whatever amount they would like to bid.

Among those items was a Vibroplex Triangular Magnetic Paddle. Tom's family contacted TVARC and requested to have a key back as a remembrance for one of Tom's nephews. George asked Dennis McKinney, N0SMX to give them the Vibroplex key.

## Upcoming Programs

Paul Nittel, KM4PIH reported that for June, Bob Leichner, WO6W of Menlo Park, CA will be providing a presentation entitled:

[Win4K3Suite: A novice/new user's view with a slant toward the KX3/KXPA100.](#)

Bob has recently created this presentation for the Long Island CW Club.

In July Bruce Cusanelli, WA1UTQ and his Repeater Team will provide an in-depth presentation on the repeaters available in The Villages.

September Program: Tim Duffy, K3LR will present a program that is currently being finalized between Paul and Tim.

## Licensing Classes

Our Education Committee Coordinator, Brad Castelli, KN9B has scheduled Technician and General licensing classes to be held in July and August. A testing session has been coordinated with our Lead VE, Rich Erlichman, ND4G to be held immediately following the classes.

Due to lack of sufficient interest no Extra Class is planned at the present time.

### **VE Team Request**

Lead VE, Rich Erlichman, ND4G and Ken Kaplan, WB2ART recently volunteered their time to assist the Lake County club, LARA, with a VE Test Session. They were quite taken with a software program from [WWW.ExamTools.Org](http://WWW.ExamTools.Org) that allowed for candidates to pre-register and take their exams on tablets which immediately graded the results and reported them to the VE Team.

Rich asked that TVARC approve his exploring this technology and employ the software in a hybrid paper exam and software registration mode. If successful, the club will want to purchase a quantity of tablets for use by the VE Team.

A motion was made and seconded and approval was given to Rich to proceed with the trial.

### **Broadcasting TVARC meetings on Zoom**

John Ellis, NP2B and Bruce Cusanelli, WA1UTQ are making progress setting up a system to share our upcoming in-person club meetings via Zoom with those unable to attend in person. They will be testing their system in the near future.

### **Financial Report Update**

Bruce reported that the ending balance as of June 3<sup>rd</sup> to be \$10,746.44. We had seven new members in May and three so far in June.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Schwer, K3ZGA  
Secretary, TVARC

## **June 17, 2021, General Membership Meeting**

Our June membership meeting was held via Zoom again as the pandemic continues. Zoom provided a lively social period prior to the start of the regular meeting.

Visitors Present: Bob Leichner, WO6W

President, Mike Regan, KM4ZTE gave introductory remarks.

George Briggs, K2DM provided an update on our plans for Field Day to be held at Eisenhower Recreation Center. More volunteers are needed. He also updated us with the status of Camp Villages. We will need 1 or 2 additional volunteers to run this event. George reported the success of our efforts to find new homes for the remaining items not sold during the silent auction of Tom, NV1U's estate.

Bruce, WA1UTQ presented the Treasurer's Report for May. He reported 7 new members in May and indicated we have had 5 new members so far in June. Our total funds on-hand as of the end of May are \$10,818.39.

Peter Stafford, K2PS gave an update on the club members' progress in achieving WAS, DXCC, FT8/FT4 progress and upcoming contests and Dxpeditions.

Our program for the evening was presented by Bob Leichner, WO6W from the Long Island CW Club. Bob presented an overview and demonstration of the Win4K3Suite with a focus on the KX3, but other radios can utilize a similar software interface from the developer.

Posted by Bob Schwer, K3ZGA, Secretary