

HIGH DESERT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES

January 21, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by President Larry Elkin NY5L. President Elkin thanked all for coming. A slide with accounting material was projected for the information of those attending. President Elkin advised the attendees that we would get right into our presentations, and introduced Member Marty Soffran (NM5MS), who in turn introduced his wife Linda Rodriguez Soffran (KC0LOS) and her presentation on New Mexico and its 100th anniversary as a state. Mrs. Soffran explained that New Mexico is a land of three cultures having been settled over 25,000 years ago, then bringing us up to the New Mexico of the present. It was a riveting, interesting and inspirational presentation and the membership in attendance was most appreciative.

Following the presentation, President Elkin thanked Mrs. Soffran again, noted that we had forty-three (43) members in attendance, and announced a brief intermission.

Break:

The meeting was reconvened at 11:20 AM by President Elkin and member introductions followed. New members and or guests present were Tom Cox, David Horale, Lester Harris, W5HDE and Ron Lopez – welcome.

George Key W5YZ noted, that in honor of the 75th anniversary of the ARRL, a special Diamond DXCC award for working 100 countries who were on the country list from 1937 is being offered. Details in QST.

Member Jim Cross W5UCF talked about a “Family Day” sponsored by the Kiwanis club and he would like to see an HDARC presence, possibly a display and working station. The activity will be on May 12, 2012.

President Elkin briefly touched on the club’s activities of the past six weeks or so which included the holiday party with over 70 attendees, and 2 events at the Albuquerque “Explora” museum. Future events at Explora are being planned.

Larry also reminded the members of the Winter Tail-Gate at the Jefferson location just off Alameda on January 28, 2012 Saturday from dawn to about noon.

Another event will be the Amateur Radio booth at the “Home Show” in Albuquerque in February. The Albuquerque Radio Club will be staffing the booth, but the HDARC is scheduled for the August “Home Show.”

June 2012 will see the Albuquerque Centennial celebration for a full week. Larry anticipates the HDARC will participate in the celebration at the Explora site, possibly melding a Kids Day and the annual ARRL Field Day activities into the event – stay tuned.

Vice-President Jerry Aceto, K6LIE, advised that free tickets are available for members for Explora events. Jerry also related another activity of the past six weeks and that was the “Kids Day” event held at Phil (KF5LEF) and Sue (KF5LEG) Darling Tribes School in Corrales. The participation by HDARC members was commendable, with four stations set up and on the air, displays, demonstrations and radio related activities for the attendees, not to mention the snack and cookies. A big “Thank You” to Phil and Sue for the use of the school and their coordination of the event. Super job!

President Elkin talked about other plans, including antenna parties, and asked for members in need of antenna assistance to leave their names with the secretary. Next meeting will be on antennas with a presentation by Chuck Palmer (NM5F) and Jerry Aceto (K6LIE). The presenters will explain some antenna basics and try to help members both new and old to make some sense of the myriad of types, designs - verticals, horizontals, beams, mini-maxi-multi-mono etc. etc. that are so confusing. This should be an interesting presentation, plan to attend. A Q&A session will follow.

Bill Firth (KE5TOB) the Chairman of the Board of Directors announced three openings on the BOD. Bill explained that there are two (2) mandatory meetings per the by-laws for the BOD and generally one or two other meetings for specific topics during the year. Volunteers are solicited for the BOD; please see Bill.

New Business: President Elkin advised that the HDARC had presented to Commander Warfield of the APD Westside Station, over 70 stuffed animals at the November meeting. Larry noted that the Commander mentioned that another thing that they could use especially during the winter months was a selection of children’s coats. Larry anticipates appointing a small committee to look into the feasibility. Warren Miller (NL7UP) will chair.

Adrian Miura (W5ASM) will pass around a sign-up sheet for those wanting club logo shirts.

Charles Palmer (NM5F) announced that the club has been the beneficiary of a generous donation from a local Rio Rancho Ham who is downsizing his shack and home. This gentleman, who does not want notoriety, donated a satellite television system complete with receiver, cable and a 2M (large) dish. Chuck advised the members that if any member was

interested in this item to make it known, otherwise it was going to the swap meet on Saturday to be sold for what it would bring as a donation to the club. Chuck also announced that this same donor had donated an Icom PW-1 HF amplifier to be sold and the proceeds go to the club. Chuck stated that this was of course a very high-end/dollar amplifier and if anyone wanted to start a bid of at least \$1,000.00, we would get an auction going. Hearing nothing, Chuck offered to pay the club \$1,500.00 for the PW-1. There was no formal motion; however, the consensus of the membership present approved the sale of the PW-1 to Chuck. Enjoy! The proceeds from this donation will more than double the club treasury.

Marty Soffran (NM5MS) announced a “Technician” class and test to be held on March 24/25 at the Task Force One Search and Rescue Building in Rio Rancho.

Marty also suggested that the club, under the Technical Committee, establish a “Fly-away” kit consisting of required antennas, connectors, cables, mounts etc. for use at club events. A motion was made and seconded to this effect. However, during discussion the motion and second were rescinded in favor of the Tech Committee bringing a concrete equipment recommendation and budget to the membership for consideration.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 PM

Respectfully submitted:
Charles A. Palmer (NM5F)
Secretary

Antenna Assistance Requests:

Warren Miller, installation 890-4558
Nathan Gordon, needs a 40' ladder 750-1779
Kathy Meland, repair
Antenna crew volunteers:
Dave Neal,
Mikel McCreary 720-5122
Patrick Lopez 263-3553