

## **AARC Meeting Minutes 2/9/2021**

Meeting called to order by Ed Berkowitz, President at 7 PM.  
Meeting held via Zoom.

### **January Treasurer's Report – Don Eason:**

Beginning Balance: \$24,898.05

Checks: \$147.00 (Library QST Subscriptions)  
Credits: \$288.66 (Donations and Due and .21 interest)

Ending Balance: \$25,039.71

Next expense will be state insurance.

Don requested club start looking for a replacement treasurer so he can train that person.

Jim Owen said that he is Trustee for club repeaters and if something happens to him, there is no one to take over repeater trustee licenses. The repeaters would have to shutdown until someone else can be appointed and licensed as trustee. Club should designate someone as backup trustee with an Extra class license. Duties would be to make sure repeater licenses are renewed. Gordon, tech committee chair monitors repeater for proper operation. If anyone is interested, please contact Jim. Application forms are sent to ARRL who submits the application to the FCC for issuance of license.

Ed and Jim are planning to do a bulk order of LMR240 and LMR400 coax cable for the club, 1000 ft. each type. Club puts up money for order and then cable is sold to interested members, minimum orders of 100 ft. So far about 600 ft of each type were committed to by members. Jim said he would arrange pickup of cable to avoid expensive shipping costs.

Bob Romanko talked about a possible special event held around UVA anniversary. Wondered if we could do another special event in June around Jack Jewett ride anniversary. Bob will also look into ARRL Field Day for this year

Ed asked club to vote in new members. Motion approved by club.

Randy Ralston None

Emmett Mercer KO4KUN

Russell Davis None

Dave Krovetz - K4KXA

Ken Walker - KO4OM

Mike Basile - None

Jesse Erwin - KO4KWH

Jason Tetterton - KO4LKI

Those not licensed become Associate members and those with call signs become Regular members

Tech committee report – repeaters OK. Reminder that Greene County Club has a new repeater for 220 mhz and encourages AARC members to use it.

Ed proposed Stan Hazen, K2SSB, for Life Membership in the AARC. Dave Damon spoke about Stan's contribution to club and made the motion which was approved by club members present.

Presentation by Alfred Wunderlingh from Batteries Plus

Compared Sealed Lead Acid (SLA) batteries to Lithium Iron Phosphate (LiFePo4) batteries (Power Sonic). There are 4 types of SLA batteries: deep cycle, Gel, General purpose and Cycling. Deep Cycle are better for ham operation. Each type best suited for certain applications. DC are 14.4-14.7 v and have exceptional performance.

Lithium advantages include safety, temperature operating range (-4 deg F to 167 deg) and cycle life (2000+ cycles). Weight is 40% of SLA's and have same footprint with more power.

Disadvantage is that Lithium batteries are expensive, \$1000.

LiFePo4 batteries charge 60% faster than SLA's. They are eco-friendly, warranty is 2 years from Power Sonic. Lithium batteries can't leak and are protected by monitoring system. They are dry-cell construction and can be mounted in any direction. They have 8-10 years useful life. Need to compare cost of ownership to useful life. SLA last 2 years, Lithium last 8 years or more. Lithium batteries recover quickly after an event and don't need a float charge.

For storage, apply 40-50% charge; don't use trickle charging. Every 6-12 months charge 30-70% SOC. Most current charging systems work with LiFePo4 batteries. Li batteries delivers same amount of power through entire discharge cycle. Most notable difference is Li battery capacity is independent of discharge rate.

The Power Sonic batteries have a Battery Management System (BMS) which allows user to monitor battery status remotely. Can view state of charge, voltage capacity and battery health and monitor events (over temp, over charge, etc.).

Question period followed with questions asked about RFI, fire hazards and charging.

John P. thanked Alfred and reminded club of 10% discount at Batteries Plus for club members.

Miscellaneous items:

Ed said at Board meeting the Board voted to donate \$100 to Ivy Creek Methodist Church as thank you for letting us hold classes and VE sessions there.

Education – Bob Pattison said there will be an announcement of General Class training this Spring and another Technician class this Fall. He is arranging instructors for class.

Mike McPherson said ARES group is active with training field exercises on Saturday mornings and classes on Tuesday evenings via Zoom. Group always looking for ARES volunteers.

Public Service – Dave Damon said no public events scheduled now.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm by Ed.

John encouraged members to stick around for informal breakout sessions on Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Kramer KN4CJI, Secretary

## AARC Meeting Attendee List February 9, 2021

35 members present

Ed Berkowitz	N3US
Dave Damon	K4DND
Steve Kramer	KN4CJI
Don Eason	N4UVA
John Porter	KK4JP
Joe Giovanelli	W2PVY
Ron Richey	K4RKA
David Beebe	KN4UEK
Joe DiVecentis	K08V
Fred Felgenhauer	KO4AXU
Larry Eicher	K4JZQ
Warren Yursik	KN4LYF
Michael Ellington	KN4BFB
James Owen	K4CGY
Mike McPherson	KQ9P
Benjamin Kidd	KG4EIF
Wynn Solomon	AAI4MV
Steve Hull	KN4TKR
Dennis Terrible	WR4I
Rich Freeman	KI4QKV
Barbara Freeman	KN4LAH
Bob Romanko	AK4BR
Bob Pattison	K4DU
A.J. Miller	KE4AJM
Bill Oleksy	KF4IE
Bill Chapman	K4ERZ
Fred Rollins	K4GVE
Jim Wilson	K4BAV
Larry Caudill	KO4JMH
Jesse Erwin	KO4KWH
Roy Chilson	W1REC
Tim Freeze	KO4ELL
James Lawrence	KK4EDT

Chris	K7CGS
Ken Kellerman	K2AOE
Chuck Gross	KS4NW

Alfred Wunderlingh, Manager of Batteries plus, guest speaker