

AARC Meeting Minutes August 10, 2021

Meeting started at 7 pm by Ed Berkowitz, presiding. Meeting held on Zoom.

Treasurer's Report – Don Eason:

Here is our report for the month of July:

Beginning Balance: \$24,676.91

Checks: \$25.00 (Annual SCC registration fee)

Deposits: \$1,127.22 (Donations and .21 cents interest)

Ending Balance: \$25,779.13

New member voted in: William Pemberton, KX4KZ, Amateur Extra class.

Minutes approved from July meeting.

Ed reminded everyone to look at club calendar.

Public Service – Dave Damon:

Ordered batteries for Stan K2SSB for his HT

Welcomed Jon, K6OJ.

Decided club should not participate in public service event this weekend at Walnut Creek. Dave wasn't comfortable with activity.

Miscellaneous topics:

VE session this Saturday at Ivy Creek United Methodist Church. Please register with Hank if you want to take test.

On Saturday, 8/21 from 9 AM there will be a mini-swapfest at Darden Towe Park. We'll meet in parking lot south of picnic shelter. Tailgate, ARES group setup Winlink. If not vaccinated, please wear masks.

Michael Rein reported on his efforts to reactivate club **Facebook page**. It's been inactive for a long time. He asked for patience so he can learn how to use page and try to make it accurate. Members may consider posting photos of shack and a few brief comments about ham radio. Jon volunteered to help Michael with this effort.

Kevin Cwalina spoke about Fall activity which is setting up Special Event station in Shenandoah National Park using W4DO call. Plan is to activate multiple overlooks, picnic areas and mountain tops. This is scheduled for October 16 – 24 with both weekends and mid-week

activation. Intent is to do some SOTA activity. At club meeting in September, Kevin will provide more details including overview of sites and provide sign-up info. He would like to keep group sizes small. He showed map of park with sites indicated. Contact Kevin K4SHR to help plan and schedule. Kevin will coordinate with park officials. Jim Owen mentioned that as trustee, he needs to know about use of call sign W4DO.

Equipment sales report – James Owen:

He has HF transceiver, Yaesu FT920 for sale.

Presentation by Ben Kidd, KG4EIF on Printed Circuit Boards for fun in ham radio.

Introduced by John Porter who reminded all that presentation is recorded.

PCBs used to connect electronic components in logical manner. Do it yourself not for everyone, but some find it fun and useful.

Different types are used, like breadboard, which is good for prototyping but are fragile and not good for HF.

Perfboards good for one of a kind projects and soldering. Can't use SMT (surface mount) components on perfboard. Kit-bashing is stringing together multiple boards.

PCBs are mechanically robust, easy to manufacture and easier to assemble and to debug. Allows use of SMT and can document design. Necessary for VHF+ circuits.

Does take time and skill to layout and 1-2 week lead time to get board made. PCB Way has videos on manufacturing process.

Steps consist of drilling holes, plating, etching, solder mask and silk screen.

Layout software is CAD EDA (electronic design automation). KiCAD is open-source software that is commonly used. Creates Gerber files. Can order PCBs from manufacturer usually \$185 - \$200 for 5 boards.

Ben showed his project, CW over FM oscillator for Morse Code Practice Oscillator. He went through slides on CAD design layouts and answered several questions.

Ed thanked Ben for presentation. Reminded everyone to look at club calendar.

Meeting adjourned by Ed at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Kramer, KN4CJI, Secretary

AARC Meeting Attendee List

8/10/2021

26 Attendees on Zoom

Ed Berkowitz	N3US
Dave Damon	K4DND
Steve Kramer	KN4CJI
Don Eason	N4UVA
John Porter	KK4JP
Joe DiVencentis	KO8V
Larry Eicher	K4JZQ
James Owen	K4CGY
Ian Callahan	KN4TBG
Wynn Solomon	AAI4MV
Benjamin Kidd	KG4EIF
Deborah Kidd	guest
Michael Ellington	KN4BFB
A.J. Miller	KE4AJM
Warren Yursik	KN4LYF
Kevin Cwalina	K4SHR
Frank Haynes	W4NUA
Tim Freeze	KO4ELL
Jon Gefaell	K6OJ
Bill Phillips	AD6JV
Allen Graves	AG4VA
Michael Rein	KA4JJD
Ron Richey	K4RKA
Kevin Cwalina	K4SHR
Bob Koepke	AA6TB/4
Steve Hull	KN4TKR