

TARA Meeting August 13th, 2002

Vice President Curtis Sherwin called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Secretary Jim read the minutes from last month. Vince Koser motioned to accept the minutes as read with John Welsh seconding. The motion passed

Treasurer Dave Dull gave us his report. Total income: \$0.17; Disbursements: \$624.01; Beginning Assets: \$8648.46; Ending Assets: \$8024.62. The CD matured and was put into the saving account pending the completion of antenna and station work.

Two thirds of the antenna committee gave us a preliminary report. They are assembling facts and figures for a final report. Vince presented a handout featuring Six-meter beams from Cushcraft, Diamond and M Squared, a 6-2-440 tri-band beam from Cushcraft and two tri-band verticals from Comet and Diamond. He mentions however, that recent experience may suggest avoiding the vertical antennas.

Steve Parker told us that recently QST magazine has been running articles on grounding and lightning protection. He presented a handout outlining what he has learned.

The four basic rules:

1. A common ground system
2. All lines entering the building must be protected.
3. Coax grounding kits on all feed lines.
4. The tower must be grounded properly to dissipate the energy from a lightning strike.

He went into a little more detail as to how to lessen the effects and lessen the probability of another lightning strike. He says the Red Cross will need to protect their property too. All the phone lines and AC lines will need to be checked. There is some good technical data on the Polyphaser web site, polyphaser.com. Steve says he will present us with prices for all this next month.

New Business

Curtis read a letter we received from the Red Cross. They are concerned with our attention toward the lightening events. The Red Cross spent \$3000 repairing the damage they suffered this spring. We were asked if we had any insurance to cover said damage.

Another unsuspecting soul was drawn to us for membership this month. Keith Hood, KC9CDQ provided proof that he could meet the financial obligation. Dave Dull motioned to accept Keith for membership. Steve VanFrank seconded and the motion passed. Bruce Stewart added that for only \$3000 more we could make Keith the new president. The offer was wisely declined.

Secretary Jim Haynes announced that due to a change in employment (the bum finally found a job) he would be working second shift by the next meeting. We will need someone to take the minutes for the next few months. It can't be too tough a job. If Jim could handle it anyone else should find it easy.

Old Business

The Hamfest is this (or, last) weekend August 18th. Setup will begin on Saturday from noon to 6pm. Dave Dull reports that preparations are proceeding positively. We will need tables. It seems this year we are worthy of only half the usual number of the handy horizontal helpers. We will be sharing the fairgrounds with the AGI computer show and of course our good friend Bob Rorhman and his circus. Major Sherwin et al. will be handling food for us again this year. Jeff Stewart has V.E. testing arranged at the Red Cross building providing it hasn't been obliterated in a blinding flash.

Jeff Stewart reminded us that the Wabash Valley Cycle Club Ride is coming up on August 24th. The ride will start at Southwestern Junior High School. Help with communication is needed. Jeff tells us that TEMA has been helping park cars at Purdue home football games. The brave folks are getting paid \$7.50 an hour. Jeff says this could be a good fundraiser for TARA. He suggests that we shouldn't use our radios in order to not raise a question of impropriety. The first home game is August 31st. Contact Jeff Stewart, or George Bittles, KB9YZT, for information.

Jeff also reminded us that the Feast of the Hunter's Moon is coming in October. This year the Historical Society hired someone to organize the event. As a result the usual notices were sent out late.

Tim Gardner reminded us about the hovercraft trip coming our way on September 15th. They will be staying at Fort Ouiatenon over night. The fifteenth is on Sunday this year. Tim and Dana have found seven or eight good spots, and several bad ones, along the river where various repeaters can be hit. They also found that it would be important to get an antenna up high at these spots. Tim figure we will need eight to ten people to cover our end of the river. Please let him know what equipment, time, and other capabilities you have if you would like to participate. We need to plan ahead a bit. Dana has GPS information, maps and directions to the lookout points.

The office of President is still open. Again, since there have been no volunteers we can have no vote. The year is eight months old now so four months as president shouldn't be too painful. If you want to try it, come to the next business meeting and we will vote you in.

The drawing this month was worth \$18. Unfortunately for Dan McDaniel, you must be present to win. Next month the jackpot grows to \$24.

The motion to adjourn was made by Bruce Stewart, seconded by Steve Parker. All agreed and the meeting was adjourned. I missed what time it was.

August 13th, 2002

TARA Meeting Attendance

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| 1. | Jim Haynes | KB9RLT |
| 2. | Major Sherwin | N9ZFG |
| 3. | John Welsh | KC9AFE |
| 4. | Keith Hood | KC9CDQ * |
| 5. | Cheryl Runkle | K9HER |
| 6. | Stephen Parker | WR9A |
| 7. | Vincent Koser | KC9BHH |
| 8. | R.Bruce Stewart | N9GKE |
| 9. | Tom Kuespert | K9KF |
| 10. | Jack Freeman | KF9CT |
| 11. | Tim Gardner | N9L F |
| 12. | Steve VanFrank | W9TN |
| 13. | Jeff Stewart | KF9UP |
| 14. | Curtis Sherwin | WB9SWD |
| 15. | Tak Ryuzoji | KC9AMT |
| 16. | Dana Hoggatt | KB9SSS |
| 17. | Dave Dull | WB9BRX |

* new member