

Minutes of SARA CLUB Meeting of 20 June 2013

The meeting was called to order at 1900 (7:00pm), at Bevricks in Metter by Club Vice President, Jim Hill N4MOC. There were 13 members present.

Minutes of 1 June meeting were read and approved.

The financial report was given by Treasurer, John Smoyer III. SARA Club balance is \$899.99. Ham Fest fund has a balance of \$1142.62.

Old Business: None discussed.

New Business:

- a. Jim Hill, N4MOC, stated that the club repeater (146.715) could be updated with a new controller. The update would permit additional features that cannot be provided by the current repeater controller. A new controller can be acquired for approximately \$200.00. He suggested the membership consider this upgrade and consider it at the next meeting.
- b. A suggestion was made to postpone the first Saturday meeting of 6 July. The rationale for postponing was due to the possible long 4th of July holiday weekend and the number of members that may be out of town. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to keep the regular first Saturday meeting as scheduled on 6 July.
- c. The Net Control sheet for volunteer controllers for the SARA 2 meter net July-September was passed around.

Program: Leon Curry, W4TYM, presented a program on ARES and the impact on local operations. Leon gave a description of his responsibilities as the Candler County Emergency Coordinator. Local operators are needed to assist in local emergency/disaster situations. A handout with ARES information was given to all members present. Topics discussed during the presentation were:

ARES E-Letter. Available from ARRL

ARES Field Resource Manual: Downloadable PDF format from ARRL, and in booklet format from ARRL bookstore. See ARRL Web Site under ARES.

The importance of proper message handling: Local operators need practice in message handling, formatting, etc. Leon suggested members start passing practice traffic on our local nets to gain experience in message handling techniques.

Weather (WX) observations and reporting criteria.

Phone-tree notification program.

Leon's presentation was well received and appreciated as timely and important. There are several downloadable documents available in PDF format from the ARRL web site. The ARES Manual, Field Resource Manual, and an excellent, concise guide on ARRL message format. [**NTS MPG-MESSAGE FORMAT - ARRL**](#)

The meeting adjourned at 1945 (7:45pm).

ANDY COOK
WB4AZJ Secretary