

AJARC

Meeting Agenda July 2, 2024

Location: Old Oak Tap Room, 665 Erwin Hwy, Tusculum, Tn 37745

Present: 22 Members, 2 Guest, Meeting led by Bryan Smith (AA4BS).

Next meeting: Tuesday, August 6, 2024 19:00 pm

Meeting

1. **Meeting called to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and a prayer.**
2. **Roll call of attendees/call signs**
3. **Secretary/Treasurer report** by Allie Peet, AA4IM

Checking balance: July 2, 2024 \$7,647.41.

Membership: 53 members currently. Please check on your membership on the AJARC.org web site. Donations or renewal of memberships can be done through PayPal or by check.

4. **Old business:**

Field Day 2024:

- Round-up – low expenses, and good food and good turn out of 50-60 people (not all signed in)
- Thank you to all of the volunteers
- Larry KN4NKW bought pins on behalf of the club, and distributed to following members:

N4DWH Dennis for help with antennas, cables rolled, and much more

KN4ABC, Bob there for duration and helping out, 10M, CW, helped up the tower trailer up

KN4MVH Larry, worked 75/80M all night, bought the pins

Dave Houser, WA9OTP for covering Winlink messages

Elijah W4ECW worked hard helping day before and set up, stayed all night/duration

N4FV Bob for 15M overnight, 6M as well, helped with filtering system this year, and more

Joe N4JAB for help with the tower trailer, got fuel, and more

Ian KE4EAC for providing the log software and server

Steve N7HPR for running the GOTA station, and helped with things

KQ4OBR Bryan for set up and tear down assistance

Matt Drummunds K4MBD stayed up all night for being there all night and the kids on the air

Mike KI4UVE for 20M hammered out contacts

Rual, though not a member, ran ~100 CW contacts overnight for us

Eddie KO4EVE for setup, fix, and testing

AA4BS Bryan for all of his efforts

- Knoxville RAT visited and took pictures and on social media; a lot of chatter about AJARC Field Day
- Take aways and comments -

email POTA QSO card from Canada to Larry KN4NVK

log/Larry KN4MVH to submit with over 500 points; Bryan to get him everything – have totals at next meeting

Bryan needs more help next year

Next year, good to coordinate time slots/bands – Bryan recommends a table/ban with spreadsheet of 30 min increments for sign up

Larry White AE4OBR spoke to it being good to use a rig that's not yours occasionally

Joe N4JAB had a trip and was unable to be backup for Bryan as Chair this year; so, Bryan may be chair again next year. TBD

Bryan brought up that it would be good to have more plain food for the kids
Bob N4FV discussed that the rings not needed. For next year, will build chokes with them. He said the need to buy ABS white boxes ~\$9/ea and wire; total with parts ~\$30/pc. Larry AE4OBR moved and Elijah W4ECW 2nd for \$300 parts budget to get this done for next year. Approved.

Tower /Repeater update:

- National Forest Service 6/12/2024 meeting report – seeking joint funding for preservation project. They sent email draft this morning for site plan, with idea to restore the original cab design. Early stage planning. Bryan said that they're not wanting to kick the club out. Bryan sent them some original photos this morning as well. Bryan taking plan to work. Bob N4FV spoke to electrical work to be done to meet compliance standards; some minimal lightening arrestors for next work trip. It was mentioned that Mike KF4UBE is an electrician. Bob to bring budget for this electrical work to next meeting. Repeaters generally okay.

Education Committee Update: Steve Bible, N7HPR

- Summer Camp progress report: total of 5 Hamtastic Camps; helped 35 kids through these. Through this, Walter State requesting an Adult Winter class. Steve suggested radio station at Morristown location, Walter States main HQ. For Newport class, Steve also used Bill Brown's Amateur Balloons Skytracker with Mylar Party balloon (\$169 tracker; \$40 tested balloon; purchased helium \$63+tx). This was the APRS version, and to be launched July 9th W2IQ-4. Proposal for AJARC club to sponsor on for the Greeneville class \$199 + shipping. Can stay in flight for weeks with multiple circumnavigations. APRS recommended [WISPR other option]. Carries Lat/Long. Geofencing switches to Europe in the sky. Larry KN4MVH motioned to support proposal and Matt Drummunds K4MBD 2nd. All in favor \$200 for balloon, and press release for that. Steve to get receipt to Allie. Steve to coordinate press with Walter State PR. The set up is under the weight/size restrictions and no notice to airman required.
- Wednesday night's, 6-8:30 pm, Maker's Space – tutoring, office, etc.

5. New Business:

Knoxville HamFest June15/ ARRL Delta Division Convention items – Focus on funding for STEM, Books, and Teachers. ARRL Foundation grant proposal discussion – suggestion for stacked request of Tower Preservation with STEM, and AJARC club discussion about official AJARC support of Education Committee STEM class, and teacher volunteers for STEM program expansion.

Larry KN4MVH asked about National Forest Service possibly providing open letter of support for when submit ARRL Foundation proposal. Bryan indicated so early in discussions, getting a time frame an issue as well. Larry spoke to ARRL proposal deadline coming up soon.

Matt Drummunds K4MBD brought up historical sites topic, and Larry AE4OBR asked how many still exist. Bryan mentioned a state owned tower, though we're US Forest Service, and there aren't any others like ours; others have been turned into Observation platforms. Matt recently saw documentary on fire towers. Discussion, Bryan said food for thought. Think of something, send an email.

Matt suggested a tower open house; he knows a historian who might be interested.

Larry KN4MVH has drafted another proposal to Walmart for more books for training. Like to do a letter asking for \$500 from them. Asked for AJARC to support a matching \$500 grant for Library, the education program at the Maker's Space, depending on how much given. Larry spoke with Mary Lynn Stinson; she said "yes" just send it in with W-9, and she'd put in pipeline. Bryan AA4BS discouraged matching – he suggests \$250 perhaps; club discussions. Bryan concerned about possible fee for tower location, per site plan verbiage. Motion by Bob KM4EBZ to support Larry sending in letter to Walmart without any match; 2nd by Scott KM4FYJ – passed.

6. Roundtable

Matt Drummund K4MBD spoke about Meshtastic site at Camp Creek Bald now, and linked to Knoxville; Larry said it was brought up and Skywarn interested in this.

Visitor asked about Hurricane net. Asked where to go to listen. Steve N7HPR suggested Hurricane net; said you can listen even if don't have license. Discussion about web SDR on-line, and NTS to deliver a message. They're encouraging people to pass traffic on 2M now. Bryan talked about Mtears linked statewide in TN for similar types of emergencies: Greene Co. local site 443.825, linked to about 40 repeaters across the state. Recommends when first get on net, key and wait a few for all repeaters to link; Mon 9 p net statewide.

Larry KN4MVH reported that he's the new Skywarn Coordinator for Greene Co. now.

Meeting adjourned: Larry AE4OBR motioned, and meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.