

CARA Meeting Minutes - June, 2017

The June, 2017 CARA General Meeting was called to order by our our President, Dave / KB3RAN at approximately 7:30 pm.

MAY MEETING ATTENDEES			
Dave / KB3RAN - President	Dick / W3RBR - Treasurer	Ron / WA4PRR - Secretary	Steve / N3IPN - Director
Shawn / N3AE	Don / KR3A	KC3JGR / Andy	KF3AA / Bob
Tom / KB2BCG	Monica / KC3DAS	Ed / KC3EN	

Our president led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to begin the meeting.

New Member: Andrew Byzet / KC3JGR applied for membership and was voted in by the members present. Andy was licensed as a Technician following the CARA ham class.

Board Meeting: The Board discussed the following at our meeting:

- A.) Field Day Plans were discussed. The location will be at the Broomes Island Community Center. The Field Day Committee needs volunteers to coordinate food, antennas, stations, and safety.
- B.) Museum Ships Weekend will be supported with the St. Mary's club. (June 2 - 4)
- C.) A refresh for the club Facebook, QRZ, and web pages was discussed.

Museum Ships Weekend: Although the present Maryland Dove is not a Historic Ship, but a Replica ship of the original Dove, our club will join with the St. Mary's club to operate from the area near the Dove during the weekend of June 3rd and 4th. This event will be a publicity and social event for both clubs as well as a chance for us to prepare for Field Day.

Field Day: (June 24 & 25) The site will be the Broomes Island Community Center, which has been reserved. We plan to run at lest a 4A effort this year with a GOTA station.

Volunteers on the Field Day Committee are are working to make this year's Field Day a success. Food, drink, and a grill for meals were discussed. Andy / KC3GJR will provide a charcoal grill, if needed. The FD software for our PCs will be available to update all of the computers being used to the latest version.

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More details will be posted on the reflector and website as they become available. Monica is keeping an updated list on who is bringing equipment, food, etc. Come out and have a fun time operating and socializing!

--- BREAK ---

50/50 Drawing: The 50/50 Drawing was won by Dick / W3RBR. Dick donated all of his share of his winnings (\$19.00) to the club for a total of \$38.00.

The Mt. Hope Community Center is closed through July 10th for the installation of a new county tower. There will be no access to the Mt. Hope facility during the work dates.

Repeater Committee: The Prince Frederick programing has been updated. The K3CAL-10 packet repeater control needs some work to correct a functional problem. The packet system remains operational. The Mt. Hope repeater program was updated prior to the closure of the community center.

A proposal was made that the repeater committee look into selling the old DR-1 repeater and replacing it with another DR-1X repeater so that the spare controller can test operational software before it is deployed. This possibility will be investigated and a report to the membership made.

Tom / KB2BCG volunteered to assist the repeater committee in refining the ARCOM programming.

Shawn / N3AE reported that some new interference is occurring from an unknown source. It will be investigated.

K3CAL-1 Packet : As Shawn / N3AE requested, the K3CAL-1 packet equipment was moved into the Mt. Hope repeater shelter and put on the tower dual-band antenna also used by the link system.

CARA Library Display: Monica / KC3DAS reported that the CARA display in the Prince Frederick Library was removed. It is being worked on for future displays at other locations.

Up-coming Events: Several up-coming events were discussed by Dave / KB3RAN including race events.

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Maryland QSO Party: Since the Mt. Hope Station will not be open to support the upcoming Maryland QSO Party, a new location must be selected if we want to operate this event.

Meeting Place Change: Due to the problem of picking up and returning the key to the County Services Building, it was suggested that we move our meetings to the Harriet Brown Community Center. A trial move will be scheduled to see if the move is practical.

July Meeting: Our July meeting will be held at the Harriet Brown Community Center (old SMECO Building) on July 6th at the usual meeting time of 7:30 PM. Our guest speaker will be K3RFI speaking on tracing and eliminating interference to our communications. **Please come and support our speaker.** It will be entertaining and educational!

The Cookie Monster for our July meeting will be Monica / KC3DAS.

Ham Class: Steve / N3IPN reported on the Technician Class. One student has received his Technical license exam after attending the class. He is Andrew Byzet / KC3JGR. Andy can be heard on the air on several of the area repeaters and elsewhere.

Additional ham classes were discussed, including General or Extra class license. A new schedule for classes will be worked.

Future Club Projects: Additional ham projects, such as antennas, TNC kits, SDR, or other projects we can build, was discussed. Project ideas are being sought. Contact Dave / KB3RAN or one of the board with suggestions.

CARA Breakfasts: Several locations were proposed by Shawn / N3AE and others for upcoming breakfast meetings. Several locations will be investigated.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:08 pm.