

GMARC MEETING MINUTES 19-Jan-2021
V1.1

I. Call to Order by President Bill Chesney N8SA at 7:02 PM over Zoom Virtual meeting

II. Introductions, Upgrade, and Visitors

There 28 participants in the January virtual club meeting:

Bill N8SA	Jerry N8UUF	Mark KD4FLY	Jay WB8SBI
Don K7SDF	Guy Cercone	Carl KQ8G	Scott W1BIC
Ron WD8MNX	Roy W8MRW	Kurt WU8V	Jyl Apers
Linda KD8SAI	Ed k8DSS	Rick W0PC	Rodney WG8W
Rich KC8HMJ	Frank W8FKZ	Ben WD8OVL	
Marsha N8FE	Mike K8AGY	Hugh KE8BED	
Marty KB8JIU	Ben WB9FJO	Ted KE8KTD	
Ken KD8UXW	Keith N8IDK	Jim KF6GRI	

III. Minutes – Marty KB8JIU

Minutes for the December 15th, 2020 virtual meeting were posted to the GMARC web site prior to the meeting.

Rich KC8HMJ mentioned that the past meeting minutes were read and approved. Ron WD8MNX made the motion and Roy W8MRW seconded it. No one objected to the minutes and they were approved.

IV. Treasurers Report – Bill N8SA

Bill N8SA mentioned there is \$8213.74 in the Treasury. He made the report since, the transfer of the treasurer responsibilities to Linda KD8SAI was not yet complete.

VI. Old / New Business

President Bill N8SA encouraged everyone to read the email that he sent out earlier regarding the idea of creating a GMARC newsletter. Future discussions about the plan to create a club newsletter are being considered.

An idea was presented by Bill N8SA to move meeting time from 7 PM to 7:30 pm. There is no real discussion about moving the time. Don K7SDF made the official motion to move the meeting to the proposed time of 7:30 PM and Marsha N8FE seconded the motion. A vote was held, and the proposal was passed unanimously.

Bill N8SA also mentioned that the USECA radio club has testing on second Sunday of the month at the Packard Proving grounds.

Another proposal by Bill N8SA was made to expand the GMARC Trunk swaps to occur more frequently since, they are outdoor and less likely to be affected by COVID-19 restrictions. He suggested that the summer outdoor swap and shops occur in every month from May thru October.

W1BIC made the official motion to expand the GMARC Trunk Swap schedule to change from two swap and shop events to six events for the summer. Rich KC8HMJ seconded the motion. Bill N8SA mentioned that one of the main reasons for expanding the Trunk swaps was to make up for the loss of the main GMARC swap in April that will likely be canceled due to the Covid-19 restrictions. A vote was held for the motion to expand the trunk swaps and it passed unanimously.

Bill N8SA also mentioned that the club does benefit from its' participation in the Kroger Community Rewards program and that anyone in the club who has not already signed up to support the club through their regular shopping at Kroger should do so. The income generated from all the club members participating in the Kroger Community Rewards program for the GMARC club would likely offset any need for collecting regular annual dues.

Carl KQ8G asked about his member renewal processing that he made in December. It has not been completed. Bill N8SA mentioned that he would look into it.

Frank W8FKZ mentioned that there are now two membership forms. He is putting together a club store on the web site that would allow for 1) membership renewal for individuals and families, 2) application for a new membership, and 3) purchase raffle tickets. He is hopeful to have it ready in a couple of weeks. He will beta test it with the board members and then release it to the club for use after acceptance by the board.

Jay WB8SBI mentioned that he likes Bills proposals for club activities in the new year. Jay mentioned that we should approach the APRSC for use of our repeater for emergency communications usage. Technical options can be worked out later regarding Fusion or FM or 2M or 70CM.

Bill N8SA mentioned that he would contact the County EOCs. Jay WB8SBI also mentioned that we should focus on District 2 (State Police area) for providing support of emergency communications.

Don K7SDF asked if we have all the presentations slots filled up for the upcoming meetings. Jay mentioned that he has a 15minute presentations from AMSAT 2018 annual meeting. The presentations focus on the three guys from Australia who designed and build OSCAR 5 in the 1960s. This is a professional video that Jay would like to share.

Don K7SDF also mentioned that he has a presentation (targeted for April meeting) about solar radiation and propagation. Jay WB8SBI mentioned he knows someone name Nathan who has other related presentation about solar eclipse.

Roy W8MRW presented an issue with GMARC Monday information net. He stated that when multiple connections on the Echolink and Ham Conference(s) links seem to be causing repeated audio. Roy thinks that the HAM conference may be causing it.

Roy W8MRW asked if anything can be done to eliminate the choppiness of the audio. He is asking for help diagnosing the problem.

Bill N8SA mentioned that the Board meetings will occur at 7:30 PM one week before the regular meeting over Zoom.

V. Meeting Adjourned

A motion made by Ken KD8UXW to close the January club meeting and seconded by Frank W8FKZ.

The meeting ended at 8:15 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Marty Temple KB8JIU, Secretary
GM Amateur Radio Club