

**GMARC MEETING MINUTES -16-Feb-2021**  
**V1.0**

- I. Call to Order** by President Bill Chesney before 7:20 PM over Zoom Virtual meeting. Secretary KB8JIU joined the meeting late due to misunderstanding of proposed meeting time from earlier meeting.
- II. Introductions, Upgrades, and Visitors**  
Late arrival of secretary prevented an attendance tally from being made.
- III. Minutes** – Marty KB8JIU  
Minutes for the January 19th, 2021 virtual meeting were posted to the GMARC web site prior to the meeting.
- IV. Treasurers Report** –Bill N8SA  
Bill N8SA mentioned there is \$8273.74 in the club treasury. He made this report for the club treasurer who is still not able to fully access the club accounts due to a delay in transfer of key information.
- V. Membership Report** – Frank W8FKZ  
Frank presented a document that highlighted the current GMARC membership information. The details revealed that the club has 149 members and this count is up two from last month. Also, the number of Heritage club members was shown to be 55.  
  
Frank noted that the membership has a significant number who have not paid their dues for the current year. He also stated that is considering prorating the membership dues for any member who pay later than expected.  
  
Marsha N8FE mentioned that it is detrimental to prorate the dues. It encourages people to hesitate on paying their dues on time. This would require a bylaw change to make it effective. Frank mentioned that this delayed prorating comes for new members who can join at any time.  
  
Don K7SDF asked if we are tracking how many members are ARRL members so that we can still be a Special Service club. Bill N8SA indicated that we are still tracking this information. Don also inquired if this information should be included in the membership report. Frank mentioned that this can be added as it was in the past.  
  
Frank W8FKZ asked for members to look at the renewal form on the web site and give suggestions. Jay asked WB8SBI that the information be collected for internal usage and made publicly available. He stated that he aware of another club whose information was accessed by spammers who used it for phishing scams and other unwanted operations.  
  
Frank indicated that only the member's name and callsign only be distributed and nothing else. Scott W1BIC mentioned that this limited information sharing has been the policy for many years (20+). Checking the GMARC web site to see how the information is shared.  
  
Carl KQ8G mentioned that we could add a members only button to the web site for limiting access to the information. The password for the information could be common and changed every year as members drop out.

Carl also stated that there were two renewal forms on the web site. Frank W8FKZ mentioned that there is only one renewal however, there are two forms (one for new members and one for renewals).

#### **VI. Technical Report – Ron WD8MNX**

Ron stated that the DC power supply was changed that is used to power the 70cm amplifier. Ron mentioned that the GMARC 2 meter is setup for System Fusion digital communication only. The repeater has grown in popularity and has 8 to 16 systems linked to it most of the time.

He indicated that many people with HTs who live just north of 8 mile should be able to get into the 2 meter Fusion system. In addition, Ron promoted the fact that the old Spirit of 76 2 meter machine (i.e., 176.76 MHz) operates in Fusion digital mode except for one hour of the day when a analog net occurs (every day).

Lastly, Ron stated that the club's repeater coordination is complete at the MARC site now.

Roy WD8MRW asked about the UHF Monday night net. Ron WD8MNX mentioned that the 70 cm machine was turned off due to interference by some amateurs during the meeting.

#### **VII. New Business**

Bill N8SA asked for someone to make a motion to move the meeting back to 7:30 PM.

JayWB8SBI made the motion and Marsha N8FE seconded it. There was no discussion on the matter. A vote was held and motion passed unanimously.

Bill inquired if the club still had an information pamphlet to hand out. Scott W1BIC mentioned that Bobby N8CY has a tri-fold handout but, his computer is down which is preventing new versions from being made. And this computer issue is also limiting the generation of new raffle tickets.

It was mentioned that a copy of the tri-fold pamphlet should exist on the club web site but, Scott is not sure if it is still up there. Marsha N8FE mentioned that she can convert a PDF to a Word document to make more tri-fold pamphlets.

Scott stated that a PDF converter would be needed to create a new raffle ticket from a PDF file. Marsha N8FE mentioned that she will volunteer to adapt whatever file format we have for the raffle tickets into a Word document. And from the generated Word document new raffle tickets could be generated.

Scott mentioned that the Treasurers report is off by at least a \$1000. There is money in the PayPal account that hasn't been moved over to the club's bank account.

Bill N8SA mentioned that USECA has pamphlets to handout at their VE testing sessions and they are well received. On the second Sunday of the month these VE sessions take place at the Packard Proving Grounds.

Don K7SDF mentioned that he can move the money from PayPal over to the club bank account. Don stated that he will initiate the transfer and Linda will work towards accepting the transfer.

Bill N8SA asked if anyone is interested in Elmering new Hams who may want help in the

hobby. W1BIC mentioned that he is elmering Mark. He also stated that Bobby N8CY has written up a page on our web site for helping new hams get started. Scott W1BIC asked to be on the list of Elmering task group. Scott requested that Frank W8FKZ should make this an attribute on the membership spreadsheet.

Frank KB8EQG asked for help with his Anytone 878 DMR HT to get it to work. Dennis thinks that there should be specialty list of hams with skills that can be approached for support. Marsha N8FE said that she would help Frank out with his radio.

Bill mentioned that some hams with physical hindrances typically need more help with Elmering than most new hams.

Frank W8FKZ asked if the pamphlet can be added to the web site. He indicated that he might have a copy that can be uploaded to the web site.

Don K7SDF mentioned that he has a shared site which includes some financial and club information that he needs to share with everyone in the club.

Don asked if we have a program for next months meeting. Bill N8SA said that we do not. Don asked if we need a program director. Jay WB8SBI stated that he as a fifteen minute presentation on Oscar 5 satellite. Bill N8SA stated that we should present this at next months meeting.

Marty KB8JIU volunteered to help Don K7SDF with program scheduling for future meetings to make sure that there are plenty of programs in the pipeline. Don accepted the idea for help.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dennis N8MKG and Jay WB8SBI seconded. A unanimous vote to end the meeting occurred at 8:50 PM.