

Barrow Amateur Radio Club

Members Present: 14

Visitors Present: 05

January 25, 2011

Barrow County Regional Medical

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm with President Steve Donellan, N5SMD, welcoming everyone to the first meeting of the new year. Everyone took their turn and introduced themselves.

Steve announced that we are streaming the meeting live on the internet. Anyone can access the live stream by clicking on the link that is on the club's website.

PROGRAM:

No program tonight.

MINUTES:

Marty, KD4HLV, made the motion to accept the minutes November as posted on the website. Mike, W4WYI, second'ed the motion and it was approved by vote of the members. There was no meeting in December, so no minutes were posted.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Our new treasurer, Jim Jackson, KJ4IDJ, had a family emergency and was unable to make it to the meeting. Steve, told everyone that he, Jim and Laura Campbell, K4TGR met at the bank to finish signing the papers that officially change the name on the bank account. At that time we had approximately \$200.00 in the bank.

We ordered checks, but there was an issue, and they charged us too much for them. We had them reorder them with a cheaper price.

Laura stated that she had still not gotten the statements from June to December.

VE REPORT:

Steve announced that at the last testing session that one person passed the tech. test and another person passed all three parts.

The next testing session will be Feb. 19th at the court room in Auburn.

Cal Neff, K4JSR, is planning Ham classes and hopes to start a General class in January, with a Tech. class midyear, and an Extra class late 2011.

OLD BUSINESS:

Our "Christmas in Bethlehem" event drew a lot of interest from around the country. We had the live video streaming, made lots of contacts, and had a good time. Photos have been posted to the website. People are looking forward to doing it again next year, and we hope to make it even better.

Jere Couch, N4DQ, said that there was a good representation from the club at the Winder Christmas Parade. Several members came from the Christmas in Bethlehem event to help at the parade then returned to Bethlehem event again. We will offer to participate with the parade in December.

We had a good turnout for our BARC-feast at Golden Corral. Everyone there had a good time and we missed all those unable to attend.

NEW BUSINESS:

Steve and Bill Wilson, KJ4EX, will be having a yearly planning session. Among the items they will be planning for the club's activity calendar are:

A) GA QSO Party & Spring Picnic- we are thinking of using Statham Park. Steve will talk to Luther about making arrangements.

- B) ARRL Field Day- place to be announced, a possible site is the Bethlehem Park.
- C) Jug Tavern Festival-September in Winder
- D) We will not participate in the Statham Sunflower Festival
- E) Auburn Festival- demo station with club materials
- F) JOTA event- October- Scouts-Marty will have details
- G) Lawrenceville/Stone Mtn. Hamfest- November
- H) Bethlehem Christmas QSO event and Winder Christmas Parade
- I) we will be planning some youth activities
- J) Public Safety Day
- K) Kennehoochee Hamfest in March...there is a lot of interest in having a table at this event.

Steve pointed out that our club has held events in all the towns in Barrow County!!!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

BARC dues are due-\$20 individual and \$30 Family membership. Steve added that this year every member that joins or renews between Nov. 23rd and Feb. 22nd will be entered into a drawing for a new soft-cover 2011 ARRL Handbook. The drawing will be held at our next meeting on Feb. 22.

Rodney Couch, WW4RAC, is making BARC name badges. They are \$8 plus \$3 shipping (if needed) You can place an order through the BARC website. Rodney is also selling fiberglass masts. They are 48 feet and sell for \$80.

We have BARC magnetic calendars available. They are \$2 each and come in portrait or landscape layouts. The proceeds will go to the treasury to help pay for club expenses.

Steve has added a list of members on our club website.

We will work hard to bring more youth into ham radio and the club. We will look into getting the word out in schools, incentive programs, youth nets, and letting the kids work some club events.

Bill will be planning programs for the coming year. He wants anyone to suggest to Steve or himself a program for a meeting at least a month in advance. Our Feb. meeting we will have Dave Johnson, K4SSU, who was on the Saba Island DXpedition. The months of April and May are open. June will be planning for our Field Day event.

EVENT SCHEDULE:

The tentative event schedule is discussed in the new business section. Don't forget to check with our website often for updates on all events planned by the club.

With no further business to discuss, made the motion to close the meeting, and second'ed and approval was made by show of hands.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura J. Campbell, K4TGR
Secretary

B.A.R.C.
February 22, 2011

Barrow County Regional Medical
Members & Visitors Present: 18

The meeting began at 7:00 P.M., with a welcome from the President, Steve (N5SMD) and introductions of those present.

At this time, our guest speaker, Dave Johnson (K4SSU), gave his presentation on his Dxpedition to Saba Island. He included a sideshow and video and gave a wonderful account of the adventures of his teammates and himself. After, Mr. Johnson fielded questions from the audience. Steve thanked him for visiting with us.

The motion was made by Bill (KJ4EX) for forgo the reading of the minutes in favor of accepting the same as posted on the website. Scott (KD4YDD) second'ed the motion and it was approved by show of hands.

The Treasurer, Jim (KJ4IDJ) is not at the meeting as he is sick tonight. Steve told the members that we did successfully open the account at the new bank. The opening balance was \$223.10. There were several deposits made and we have a balance on hand of \$276.32.

Steve announced that they had two new tech.'s, one upgrade to General (Congratulations Sylvia!!!) and two extra upgrades at the last testing session. Cal (K4JSR), said the General class will end April. 14th.

Bill gave an update on Skywarn classes and handouts for the various frequencies and reporting criteria. He said he will email other information to the members.

Steve announced that BARC dues are now due. \$20 for individual and \$30 for family. This year every member that joins between Nov. 23rd and Feb. 23rd will be entered in a drawing to win a new soft cover 2011 ARRL Handbook.

We now have BARC magnetic calenders for sale. They come in vertical and horizontal styles. The price is \$2 each, and the money collected will go to the general fund of the club.

Planning is about to begin for the Kennehoochie Hamfest, GA QSO Party and Field Day. There are still orders being placed for shirts. Contact Bill for details.

We will have a table at the Kennehoochie Hamfest on March 19th at Jim Miller Park. Details will be made available. Bill told the membership that we are talking to Luther Davis about acquiring Statham City Park for the QSO Party and Field Day.

With no further business to be discussed, Dave (KJ4DDZ) made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jere (N4DQ) made a second, and the motion was approved by show of hands.

The drawing was held for the ARRL Handboool, and congratulations go to Steve Marion (KK4USN).

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura Campbell, K4TGR
Secretary

B.A.R.C.
March 22, 2011

Barrow County Regional Medical
Members & Visitors Present: 20

The meeting began with a welcome from our President Steve, (N5SMD), and introductions of all those in attendance. This is the 4th Birthday of our Club. Everyone enjoyed ice-cream and homemade birthday cake.

Cal (K4JSR) made a motion to forgo the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting in favor of accepting the same as posted on the website. Jim (KJ4IDJ) second'ed the motion and the motion was accepted by show of hands.

Jim said that there was a balance on hand of \$390.32 in the Treasury.

Steve reported that at the last testing session we had one new tech. And one person came in and took the tech., passed it then took the general upgrade test and passed. Cal said the General class was going as scheduled and that there would be no classes during the summer.

Upcoming programs are as follows:
April- Ed (Mack) McCormick (WB4MAK) will be here to talk about Software Defined Radios
May- Clint Bradford (K6CLS) will give his presentation via video conference from California on working satellites with your HT.

We had a great turn out at the Kennehoochie Hamfest. Several members stopped by to sit a while at our table. Thanks to all, and we are looking forward to next year.

Final plans are being put in place for the GA QSO Party & Picnic. It will be the 2nd weekend in April in Statham City Park. We will be using the Special Event Callsign of K4R. We will be having beams for 10, 15, and 20 meters. A wire antenna for 40m and the G5RV for 70 & 80m.

The Atlanta Hamfest will be June 4th. If there is enough interest in the membership we will have a table there.

ARRL Field Day is June 25th and 26th. Plans will be made throughout the next several meetings.

Cal reported on Public Service Day. He said he had heard of no plans yet and will report as he gets information.

Calenders are still for sale at \$2 each. If anyone wants a BARC shirt, please contact Bill (KJ4EX), for order information. There has been interest in having a club patch for jackets. Bill said they are looking into having one designed and made. They hope to be available before Field Day.

At this time Bill, gave a very informative presentation on simple wire antennas, dipoles, inverted V's and radiation patterns. He also provided information on the G5RV antenna that we will be using at the QSO Party, and how it works. He gave handouts to the group about all of them.

We then listened to the audio of the webinar of Field Day preparations from last year. They gave tips, ideas and suggestions on set up for antennas, the kitchens and having FUN.

As a founding member of our Club, Cal gave a speech on our humble beginnings and hopes for another successful year. He passed out a letter dated March 1, 2007 looking for people interested in starting a club.

With no further business to be discussed, Sylvia (WD4AVA) made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark (AK4EQ) second'ed the motion. It was approved by show of hands.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura Campbell, K4TGR
Secretary

B.A.R.C.
April 26, 2011

Barrow Regional Medical Center
Members & Visitors Present: 14

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by President, Steve Donellan (N5SMD), who gave a welcome to all. Introductions of other members and visitors introduced themselves.

Sylvia and Burke made the motion to forgo the reading of the minutes.

The Treasurer's report is not available as Jim was not at the meeting.

Cal announced that Public Safety day will be in the Target Shopping Center on Aug. 2. He will confirm the date. We will set up a demo station with our table and brochures. The bomb squad and life flight are among the other organizations there. The motion was made to support the event. It was seconded by Marty and approved by vote. Cal is the chairperson.

At this time the program, Working Satellites with your HT was given by Clint Bradford via Skype video conferencing. This was an especially insightful program and there were many questions from the members. The video conference went well and will be utilized again for future programs.

Other Business:

- 1) Burk will provide public information through newspapers for our Field Day Event.
- 2) Marty will make some vinyl letters and numbers for the signs.
- 3) The June meeting will be a round-table like meeting to discuss the feedback on the Field Day Event.
- 4) We will have a table at the Atlanta Hamfest on June 4th. This will be at Kennehoochee site. Laura, Jim and Marty have committed to be there.

With no further business, the motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Bill and Dave seconded the motion. It was approved by show of hands.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura Campbell, K4TGR
Secretary

B.A.R.C.
May 24, 2011

Barrow Regional Medical Center
Members & Visitors Present: 11

The meeting opened at 7:00 with President, Steve Donellan (N5SMD) giving the welcome. The other members and guests introduced themselves.

The motion was made by Bill, (KJ4EX) to forgo the reading of the March meeting's minutes and accept those posted on the website. The motion was seconded by Jim (KJ4IDJ) and approved by show of hands.

The Treasurer's report included a balance of \$432.32. Laura (K4TGR) has another \$60-\$70 for the raffle to add to the balance.

Our program was to include a visitor who would give a program on Software Defined Radios. Regrettably the speaker did not make it to the meeting and several attempts to contact him were made before carrying on with the rest of the meeting. In the future we will be more vigilant in confirming appointments with program guests.

Announcements:

- 1) Bob and Jere (N4DX) have a new ARES office at the Fire Station #6 on Hwy. 211. They will be making a list of office equipment and supplies they will need to furnish the office and will be taking suggestions for staffing. As a side note, Jere will be announcing the upcoming barrow County ARES meeting.
- 2) The club is auctioning a radio donated by a member. The money raised will go to the club's treasury. So far the auction has been popular with the membership.
- 3) A suggestion was made to incorporate the club to attain the 701c3 status. This will need a large amount of funding, and will be discussed again at a later date.
- 4) Burk (KB4JEH) made a suggestion of putting old copies of our QST magazine in High School Libraries. The group like the idea and will bring donations.

With no further business to discuss at this time the motion was made by Cal (K4JSR) to adjourn the meeting. The was seconded by Marty (KD4HLV) and approved by show of hands.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura Campbell, K4TGR
Secretary

B.A.R.C.
June 28, 2011

Barrow Regional Medical Center
Members & Visitors: 14

The meeting was called to order by Vice President, Bill Wilson (KJ4EX) who welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made by members and guests. Steve was not able to attend the meeting as he was on vacation.

A motion was made to forgo the reading of the minutes by Marty (KD4HLV) and it was seconded by Cal (K4JSR), and approved by show of hands.

The treasury report will be delayed, as the duties were transferred to the Secretary. At the last statement there was about \$500 in the account.

VEC reports that 7 were tested with 1 extra upgrade.

Announcements:

- 1) Public Safety Day will be on July 23rd at the Target from 10 until 2. We will be there with a demo station.
- 2) Marty has announced that the BSA JOTA event will be in Oct. again in Statham. He will report with location confirmation.
- 3) ARES has been given a grant for the Ham station in the Barrow County 911 Center. Those that will operate it have to be ARES members and trained on the proper usage of the equipment. They need tables, chairs, rope, and antenna supplies.
- 4) Bill will be at the Athens Hospital testing simplex freq. On Thurs at 9am they have a grant for a a crossband repeater.
- 5) We will need to have an executive committee meeting to plan the rest of the year's activities.

FD Feedback:

- 1) We need better antenna mount ideas
- 2) There were approx. 450 contacts made that equal 600 points. There were a few classification errors corrected.
- 3) Bill is looking for suggestion on next year's FD event.
- 4) The importance of safety was discussed as there was an accident at another FD location due to wind.
- 5) We need to write a follow up for the newspaper article.

With no further business to discuss, the motion was made by Mike (W4WYI) to adjourn the meeting. It was Seconded by AJ4TX and approved by vote of the members.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura Campbell, K4TGR
Secretary

B.A.R.C.
August 23, 2011

Barrow Regional Medical Center
Members & Visitors Present: 14

President, Steve Donellan (N5SMD) was running a little late so VP, Bill Wilson (KJ4EX) began the meeting with a warm welcome to all in attendance. Everyone took a turn and introduced themselves.

Bill made the motion to forgo the reading of the July minutes and to accept those that are posted on the website. Sylvia second'ed the motion and it was approved by show of hands.

Treasurer Report: New Treasurer Tom Welty, had not gotten to the bank to get his name on the signature cards. The Secretary gave him a copy of the July minutes that contained his election information. He can use this at the bank as proof that he has taken over the duties of the Treasurer. He added that we still have around \$500 in the bank. Bill Wilson wrote a check to the city of Winder to secure our space at the Jug Tavern Festival, in the amount of \$40.

VE Report: There were no walk-in's for the last testing session. October and November's testing sessions will be rescheduled due to Festivals and there will be no testing session in December. It was announced that Cal Neff will no longer be teaching Ham classes due to his health. There are other club members that are willing to pitch in and help with classes. Bill Wilson will suggest ideas and update the club.

Events: Jug Tavern Festival will be September 9th and 10th. We plan on having a demo station there.
Auburn Fest: we will have to call for the deposit amount for the booth.
Christmas In Bethlehem: Bill is looking for QSO card suggestions. We plan to be at the same site as last year (in Bethlehem Park) and will do a live video feed for the web again.
BARCfeast: we will ask Cal to set up a date for the club at Golden Corral.

Old Business: YMCA Run recap- there were 11 participants and the event went very well. There was a question of was the course clear at the end of the race. We were not aware that we were to provide that information. Winder Police did clear the course, and we went by their information.

New Business: A Spin for Kids bike race is scheduled for October 23rd and 24th and we have been asked to provide check-in for these races. There will be 3 or more check points and food will be provided after. Route maps are available online and there will be updates to the event sent to members via email.

Announcements: Steve announced that he will not seek re-election for President. He feels that his work load and family obligations will hinder him being productive in the office. Also, Jere Couch, our EC for ARES has moved to live on an Indian Reservation. There will be an announcement of his replacement forthcoming. Bill Wilson is looking to raise the club repeater tower by 20 feet and replace coax cable in the fall. He will also be asking for approval for a coordinated repeater from SERRA.

At this time Bill Wilson took the floor to give a program on Antennas and Antenna Propagation . He gave several examples and some from his own design. This was a very useful program that created lots of questions and suggestions for antennas at home or mobile ones.

After the program Michael Wolcott made the motion to adjourn the meeting. It was second'ed by Sylvia and approved by show of hands.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura J. Campbell, K4TGR
Secretary

B.A.R.C.
September 27, 2011

Barrow Regional Medical Center
Members & Visitors Present: 14

The meeting was began promptly at 7:00 with Vice President Bill Wilson (KJ4EX) welcoming everyone to the meeting. Introductions of everyone in attendance were made.

Burke made the motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting as posted on the website and Davis seconding. The membership accepted with show of hands.

The Treasurer, Tom Welty, gave the balance of the club's bank account as \$373.61. No items are outstanding.

Bill Wilson has some items for the club raffle/fundraiser. With the drawing to be held at the "Bark"feast breakfast in December. They include:

- 1) Astron RS 50 Power Supply- tickets are \$1 each
- 2) Antenna built by Bill- tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5
- 3) MFJ Versatuner- tickets are \$1 each

Tom Welty also has lanyards with the club name on them for sale at \$5 each.

EVENTS:

The Auburn Fest was canceled because of the two day requirement.

VE testing has been canceled for next month.

Twin Lakes Bike Race will be October 22 & 23 at Fort Yargo and Rutlage, GA.

The AMRC Hamfest will be the first full weekend in November. We will be there with a booth and club information.

Our annual "BARC"feast breakfast will be December 10 at Golden Corral in Winder.

The Bethlehem Christmas Event and the Winder Christmas parade are scheduled for Dec. also.

Announcements:

Burk told about the Jefferson Confederate Memorial. This is to be the last Civil War memorial to be created.

ARES SET is scheduled for Oct. 1.

VE Testing: Two new Techs.

Bill announced that he will not seek reelection for the VP position as he will begin the amateur education classes with the next year.

Election Nominations will be next month.

Program:

Bill Wilson gave the program on Log Book Of The World. This is an essential program for anyone interested in contesting and chasing DX.

It can be used in ARRL contesting though you need the certificate from ARRL for logging. It is useful for every scenario is compatible with all operating software. Bill also told the group that this does not replace QSL collecting for those who collect as a hobby.

With no further business, Davis made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Mike Wilcox seconded it. It was passed by vote of the club.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura Campbell, K4TGR
Secretary

B.A.R.C.
October 25, 2011

Barrow Regional Medical
Members & Visitors Present: 13

After the welcome from Steve (N5SMD) our President and introductions, Marty (KD4HLV) made the motion to open the meeting. There was a second from Joe Baird and vote to accept by show of hands.

The minutes were tabled until the next meeting as the Secretary was out of town.

The Treasury has \$448.61 in the bank with the \$75 check for the table at the AMRC hamfest outstanding.

ACTIVITIES RECAP:

The Spin for Kids was a success and the communication provided really impressed the leader of the event. There were around 1000 riders at times for the 27, 47, 62, and 100 mile races held at the Fort Yargo and Rutlage locations.

AMRC Stone mountain Hamfest will be Nov. 5th and 6th at the Gwinnett Fairgrounds. Several members will be in attendance.

Christmas in Bethlehem will be our 24 hour event beginning Dec. 3. Bill Wilson will have live streaming video again. The Winder Christmas Parade will also take place at this time and Cal will have more details as the event draws closer.

The annual "BARC"feast breakfast will be Dec. 10 at 9AM in the Winder Golden Corral meeting room.

ARES UPDATE:

Jere Couch has decided not to move back to GA and has resigned his post as ARES EC. Cal will fill this position until a replacement is named. He gave an update on the EOC site and he said he will announce a date for a ARES meeting where the MOU will be reviewed and name tags will be discussed. Also, Bill has resigned from his job as AEC.

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICES:

The following have been nominated for these offices:

President- Mike Wolcott

VP-

Sec.- Laura Campbell

Treasurer- Tom Welty

Exec Comm.- Marty and Burk

The club will continue to take nominations until the election in November.

At this time, Don (K9CRB) gave a talk on the Civil Air Patrol that included its history and operations during events and drills with maps and pictures. He also brought along his CAP radio for show, answered many questions from the members and encouraged some to join.

With no further business, Tom made the motion to adjourn the meeting with Joe seconding. It was approved by show of hands.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura Campbell, K4TGR
Secretary