

MINUTES
Red Cross Club
Wednesday July 12, 2017

Attending:

Earl Sloan
Carl Zawoy
Chris Carr
Art Grant
Cindy Grant
Gus
Rosemary
Vann Chesney
Jeff Capehart
Gordon Gibby
Tom Cox

1. Meeting called to order at 1915, everyone was connecting up equipment of all sorts!
2. Review of how to get to the Project Tracker Site – link on qsl.net/nf4rc

HERES THE LINK: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1noDDY2BtAc-i7QX5sZI5YQ4qgVRFVULk8peQ2Syv3Kc/edit#gid=0>

3. Review of projects
 - o Art has a sponsor who will help get gear for the Santa Fe College – made a \$2500 list.
 - o Their president is trying to get reconnected to Skywarn; expect a class after hurricane season
 - o Chuck Clemmons / Mike Miller from High Springs involved. Will have Fugate come talk to the students also. Five current members. Shooting for 40 people in the club by december. Students turn every 2 years.
 - o Lofton Center – emails between Gordon and Bob Lightner, Warren Croke is running that club currently. Art has talked to him.
 - o Santa Fe: They have raised their HF antenna with guys now, their 2 meter antenna needs
 - o GUS – agreed to do the Cade Center – discussed getting museum pieces
 - o Gordon will ask Bledsoe about St. Francis
4. Reviewed the site evaluation form. Aso the one-pager on our group.
5. Reviewed all the Discussion sheets made up for the EOC discussion.
6. Update from Alachua County Training Packages available –

ALERTALACHUA.com is the new system for getting alerted; the Code Red is no longer.

7. Letters of Appreciation:

- Jeff Bielling /EOC DONE
- Bianca Espirit / Red Cross
- Newberry City Commission
- Gainesville Senior Center
- Senior Center
- Mike Sherrill, Florida Forest DONE
- Motion that we send appreciation letters, seconded and carried.

8. Traffic Reports: WINLINK – 250 messages public 65 on “other” Probably 9 on the ARES net. That number is a huge increase and growing.

9 EOC Antenna Report: Great discussion with Jeff Bielling, Asst. EM, Ryan Lee, Radio Supervisor, and John Moorhouse, ASO. Gordon & Cindy attended. Agreed by all to get the antennas improved. Since then, a set of “consensus recommendations” has been forwarded to Ryan Lee and Jeff Bielling: <http://qsl.net/nf4rc/July2017EOCAntennaRecommendations.pdf> to review those.

10. Name Change: Discussion.

North Florida Radio Club
Alachua County Radio Club
North Central Florida Amateur Radio Club

Motion to be **North Florida Amateur Radio Club**. Second. Unanimous.

NOTE: This has to be a Constitutional Amendment so we vote again on it next month.

11. Practice with EasyTerm

This didn't turn out to be so easy! We had several problems –

- Some members haven't yet downloaded and installed the software, so we worked on this
- One TNC was “mic-sticking” --- review later suggested this might have been a Baofeng-problem where the mic/speaker connector wasn't inserted far enough, and this causes the mic to stick on (and jam the frequency!). It was fortuitous that we learned this in PRACTICE session! It's an important lesson!
- Once we had several people going --- our “training wheels” packet settings don't tolerage more than a couple people at once and we had signals clashing all over the place! It was bedlam. A good intro to how an overloaded packet frequency can SLOW DOWN traffic.
- We ended with Gordon encouraging people to practice more at home; and he subsequently updated the tutorial material to include some of the issues that were discovered at this meeting.

SETTING THE TRANSMIT LEVEL was not covered at this meeting but is an important skill!

IMPROVED EASY TERM TUTORIAL:
<http://www.qsl.net/nf4rc/EasyTermTutorial.pdf>