

Minutes of the SBARC Meeting, July 21, 2008.  
Region IX Education Services Center, 1400 Sudderth, Ruidoso, NM.

Members in attendance by call sign (in no particular order):

KE5VJB, Jerry Jordan  
K5FBK, Joe Kenmore  
WA5MYX, Bobbie Brown  
W5ZIT, Jim Brown  
KD5SG, Fred Reed  
W5SSZ, Forrest Ogden  
K5JWE, Jim Edwards  
KA5GMO, Mack Hunter  
K5LPS, Bill Cook  
W0ZW, Wayne Greaves  
K5OI, Tim Pettibone  
K5RIC, Rick Sohl  
KE5MWK, Catherine Stone  
KE5MWM, Grey Wilfong  
KK5XZ, Bruce MacKenzie

1. Meeting was called to order by President Wayne Greaves, W0ZW, at 18:05 local time.
2. Introductions were made
3. Remembrance of Dusty Rhodes, AA5BJ, SK.
4. Wayne gave a review of last years' accomplishments. They included:
  - a. Gaining our 501(c)3 tax exempt status with the IRS.
  - b. We moved the "back-up" repeater from W5ZIT's lot to the Camelot site. It is now known as the Camelot Repeater.
  - c. We were transferred the ownership of the packet node on Buck Mtn.
  - d. We submitted an application to the Hubbard Foundation to rebuild the Alto Crest repeater and to link it with the Camelot repeater.
  - e. The county proposed regulation regarding towers was amended to exempt amateur stations.
  - f. SBARC initiated discussions with the Village of Ruidoso to have the current regulations be more tolerant of antennas.
  - g. SBARC recently completed a Ham Radio class and we now have 7 new hams. Thanks to all that participated.
  - h. An SBARC discussion list has been initiated.
  - i. Two school demonstrations were conducted.
  - j. The Club assisted communications with the Century Bike Ride and the Horse Endurance Ride. Thanks to all that participated.
  - k. Replaced the batteries at the Alto Crest repeater site.
  - l. Backup batteries and charger were installed at the Camelot repeater site.
5. The Secretary/Treasurer passed out copies of and read the minutes from our 2007 meeting and they were approved. (See attached.)
6. The Secretary/Treasurer passed out copies of the treasurer's report and the report was approved. (See attached.)
7. A proposed budget for next year was presented and approved. (See attached)
8. Grey, KE5MWM, presented the Field Day report. We had 538 total contacts and 3024 total points. Although we achieved more points last year, considering the conditions, we did well.

9. Status of the VOR antenna ordinance is looking favorable. Discussion started in January and there have been several meetings and follow up. After 6 months it's looking like we may have some favorable changes coming.

10. Charitable donations and grant activity has increased this year. We hope to continue this activity and increase such donations and grants this coming year. We have a \$6,700 grant application pending with the Hubbard Foundation.

11. Eighteen local hams participated in the Horse Endurance Ride. Jim, K5JWE, gave a report and thanked all that helped. It was pointed out that we have been providing communications assistance for this event since 2000.

#### NEW BUSINESS

12. We spent time discussing issues related to the repeaters (upgrade cost issues, education on correct operation, phantom repeater listings, and the comparison of different linking methods.) Motions relating to improvements to the Alto Crest repeater and to linking Alto Crest and the Camelot repeaters were tabled until we hear about our Hubbard Foundation grant application.

13. Specific items placed on the agenda by Doug, WGOB, who could not attend the meeting, were put on hold until he is present.

14. It was moved, seconded and passed that we open up the internet side of our EchoLink node to all North American (US, Mexico, and Canada) hams. We will evaluate the situation after 90 days to see if it should continue in this unrestricted manner. Jim, W5ZIT, pointed out that if outside users were connecting and only carrying on conversations with other outside users, you can disconnect them from our node by sending the pound (#) tone after the courtesy beep. It was also pointed out that the Camelot has a single courtesy beep while the Alto Crest repeater has two beeps. It is an easy way to determine which repeater is active.

15. It was moved, seconded and passed that we link our EchoLink node through Camelot rather than the Alto Crest repeater. Since Camelot is on commercial power, it was thought that it would be better to reduce the load on the Alto Crest solar-powered repeater, especially if we anticipate more EchoLink activity.

16. Wayne W0ZW suggested that the club consider operating a special event station sometime during the year. Possible themes mentioned included Billy the Kid, Cowboy Symposium, Cowboy Days. He asked that anyone interested contact him.

17. Tim, K5OI, moved that the dues be increased \$2.00 for Regular and Family memberships. It was pointed out that dues increases would require a change in our constitution. He will bring such a recommended change at a later time.

18. Nominations for the offices of President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer were called for. It was moved, seconded, and passed that the current slate of officers (Wayne Greaves, W0ZW President; Jim Edwards, K5JWE Vice President; and Tim Pettibone, K5OI Secretary/Treasurer) be nominated by acclimation and reappointed. Both Wayne and Tim indicated that this would be their last year of service as officers.

19. The meeting adjourned at 19:45 local time.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Pettibone, Secretary/Treasurer.