

# ***Martin County Amateur Radio Association***

## ***Meeting Minutes***

**May 27, 2010**

### **I. Call to order**

Doug W4DAS Shields, President, called to order the regular meeting of the Martin County Amateur Radio Association at 7:05PM in the meeting room at 777 SE Salerno Road.

### **II. Roll call**

Ray KI4RHL Secretary passed out a sign up sheet and counted 23 attendees. Introductions around the room included a few new welcomed visitors, and recently licensed operators were congratulated for passing the General License (Judy Sandel N4TFV and Charles Koch N4VKW) to name a few.

### **III. Approval of minutes from last meeting**

Minutes from the last meeting were not available.

### **IV. Open issues**

- a) Results of the recent Florida QSO Party held at Paul's K1PT radio shack in Palm City were discussed and QSL cards were still being received. The club's call sign K4ZK was used and the popular ARRL Logbook of the World (LOTW) was used to keep track of the 49 States worked on various modes. 47 States were already confirmed. The only 3 States that were missing are: Alaska, Utah and one other.
- b) Monday Night's Net Control. (NCS POSITION Week #1 still OPEN)

### **V. New business**

- a) Everyone was invited and reminded of the June 3<sup>rd</sup> Skywarn Wingdings social at 5:00PM at Perkins, US1 in Stuart. Purpose is to have some fun and to discuss weather related topics. Event is help monthly and all are welcome.
- b) A reminder was sent out to all about the ARRL AREC-101 training scheduled for June 5<sup>th</sup> and June 12 at the EOC Safety Complex in Stuart starting at 9AM to 3PM. Course books should be ordered in advance with John KE4JB for \$19.
- c) A Special Event Station to be held on Peanut Island near the Palm Beach County Inlet was discussed and promoted although the short distance may limit 20 and 40M contacts for us. The event which will be held near the JFK Bunkers and accessible only by boat, was planned, sponsored and heavily advertised by the Jupiter Radio Club and should be a fun event for all.
- d) On June 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00AM everyone is invited to join in the reading of the Proclamation that June is Amateur Radio Month in Martin County. A reading of the document will be televised on community TV and presented at the

- Martin Co. Board of County Commissioners meeting on Monterey Road. The Commissioners will recognize the value of Amateur Radio and what we do in times of emergency. The commissioners will be invited to Field Day.
- e) The Martin County ARES/RACES holds its monthly meeting on the second Thursday of the each month at the EOC Safety Complex in Stuart at 7 PM. Next meeting is June 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM
  - f) Our Club is sponsoring a Special Event Station from the actual site of Camp Murphy (which is now the Jonathan Dickinson State Park in Hobe Sound). The heavily advertised event will honor and celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the U.S. Army Signal Corps School quickly put into place way back in 1941/1942 for enemy aircraft warning. The event will be held on June 19<sup>th</sup> and June 20<sup>th</sup> using the club call sign of K4ZK CAMP MURPHY SES from the old radar tower area, which is the highest natural point in S. Florida at 86 feet ASL. Bill N4BKT will chair the event and needs lots of help and radio gear and a golf cart. Lee K4LJP will bring his really neat tower on the trailer. The MCARA club website will have more information and a sign up sheet for set up, operators, and teardown. (Note our own Bill N4JFP Sandel was a radar operator but looks too young). You can expect warm weather, bugs, and some exercise in the warm humid temperatures. Help setting up EARLY Saturday morning is really needed to make this a success. Weekend camping is also available at the park for a small fee. BE PREPARED!
  - g) ARRL Annual Field Day is scheduled for the weekend of June 26 & 27<sup>th</sup> at Sandsprit Park, at the Manatee Pocket, Stuart, Shelter #6. The event is co-hosted by the MCARA and ARES/RACES clubs in town. This is advertised as a public event and will allow everyone to get on the air and test out any new or old equipment, or learn a new skill during a very popular practice event. Logging of contacts and points earned will be calculated. Bring a friend. In the past, MCARA helped offset the cost of food and a motion was made by Lee and seconded by Jan (and Bill S.) to spend up to \$250 for food. Judy N4TFV and Jan KJ4FHT will investigate Sonny's BBQ catering instead of grilling hot dogs etc. Some folks planned to camp overnight and Mike KJ4TQA volunteered to cook Saturday afternoon if necessary although catering the Saturday meal seemed to be a popular idea. Bring a chair. BE PREPARED!

## VI. Agenda/Presentations

- a) Bill N4BKT gave a very professional presentation on the background of Camp Murphy and his ideas on how the Special Event Station could go if everyone participates. On June 19 and 20<sup>th</sup> all club members, guests operators and anyone interested are invited to join in the fun and everyone should tune in around 7260KHz and 14260KHz from 1400UTC to 2030UTC (1000EDT-1630EDT). All bands will be active for CW, SSB, and some digital modes.
- b) There was a show of hands indicating that a possible CW class would be of interest to the club. Date TBD.

- c) Dayton Hamfest was attended by a few of our members and they thought attendance was higher than last year. Great deals were seen on the last day and the ARRL EXPO Forums were awesome.
- d) South Florida ARRL Section Leader Candidate David K4DLF Fowler gave a brief summary on his qualifications and skill set and why he is requesting your vote in the July election. (ARRL Members only).
- e) The membership was reminded and encouraged to get on the air, use the repeater more often, and to use the new online tool to sign up for MCARA events.

**VII. Adjournment**

Doug W4DAS adjourned the meeting at 8:49PM.

Next meeting is scheduled for June24th at 7:00PM. (4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month)

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Ray KI4RHL Jaworski, Secretary

Minutes approved on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_