

HIGH DESERT MEMBERSHIP MEETING – OCT 18, 2025

Called to Order at 10:05 with the Pledge of Allegiance

Secretary's Report: August meeting minutes presented for discussion & acceptance. Motion made to accept as written by Gary Surad (K5BIQ) & 2nd by John Sanchez (K15JBG). Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

There's a total of \$10,463.94 in the account split between checking & a CD. Recent expenditures included \$700 for website renewal.

There are 120 current members

Old Business:

1. Overview of the prizes for the Christmas Party
2. Overview of Club Survey
3. Report on the admission tickets for DCHF – 25 members attended
4. Report on the Tailgate & Ice Cream Social
5. Overview of Sunspot visit
6. Report on Adult Nite at Nuke Museum
7. Got a standing invite for HDARC to visit the VLA, possibly as a Hamming Around NM
8. Report on the Spaceport Open House
9. Future engagement with the Civil Air Patrol, details TBD
10. Next month, Nov 15th, Dr Fong's antenna workshop assembly with a draw at the end of the meeting for 10 antennas
11. A brief report on the activities of the Youth Outreach Committee. Read a draft mission statement. Discussion on why the ages in the statement were selected. Comment made that the starting age of 11 yrs coincides with the starting age for Scouts. Another comment that this weekend is the Scouts "On the Air Jamboree." Motion to adopt mission statement by Ken Ham (AG5UY), 2nd by Chris (KJ5KSE) Motion passed. Statement to be put in the Dispatch.
12. UNM Small Satellite Mixer – Elizabeth Whitney is president of UNM Small Satellite club. An overview of the upcoming event with HDARC was given which includes a 'mini field day' and presentations. Location is the Centennial Engineering Bldg at 210 University NE, STAM Room on UNM Campus across from the Baptist Church.
13. Cynthia has been doing refreshments for 2 yrs now. We need a new refreshment person to relieve her. If no one steps up to help, the donuts & coffee will stop. John Dodd suggested having Door Dash deliver donuts & coffee. The general membership argued against it due to cost. Elaine (KJ5ATL) offered to bring the donuts if someone else did the coffee part. No decisions were reached at this time.
14. The new HDARC repeater on 443.750 is still the property of Mr David Clifford, pending completion of paperwork. It is housed in the old FAA building on top of Sandia Mountain. Finishing the paperwork is the next step. Bob Henry (KD5MHQ) gave a brief presentation of the install.

BREAK

International Outreach

Marc is in Denmark and has made contact with the Dutch Ham Radio Association - VERON. VERON may become a 'sister' club.

New Business:

- An email was received from an amateur radio club museum, Sarah Bright (KJ5CQS), asking to please mention that the museum will be giving a free online course for those aiming to get a general license. The only request is that those, who are interested, need to purchase the current manual from ARRL. The person giving the course will be teaching electronics theory. He helps develop the question pool.
- Yul Bratcher (WA5YUL) provided information on the FCC, which is in shutdown mode, that the FCC is not processing licenses, FRNs, etc. There is a history of this issue as far back as 2019 when VEs sent in licensing packets, which went into a queue along with packets submitted by the rest of the country. This issue repeated in 2021, when the FCC was down for 13 days. In 2021, it took almost 2 wks before people got their licenses. It's better now, however, the queue is once again backing up. Because of these issues, today's post-meeting testing is being postponed until the December meeting, provided the government is opened up. In addition, going forward, testing will be only for people who are upgrading their license.
- Don Shoemaker (N9DCS) is the new lead for recruitment & retention. Don presented his plan to hold new member orientation sessions prior to monthly meetings; a welcome packet: one for new hams & one for existing hams; and a brand new trifold handout. At the SpacePort Open House, HDARC had nothing to give to interested people visiting us other than some business cards. Don wants to put together a focus group of new members only to focus on building a retention plan.
- Holiday party is usually held the 1st week of December. The last 2 years it's been on Saturday night at Rudy's. Motion to go hold the party at the Rudy's on Coors made by Ken Ham. Don Shoemaker 2nd, Motion passed.
- At the Jan 17th meeting the club will be hosting a Homebrew Expo. Plan on bringing your show & tell.
- Winter Field Day to be hosted by the East Mtn Group. Details TBD. Winter Field Day is Jan 24/25

Announcements:

Paul (KB0WMA) related that HDARC member, Keith St Pierre (KI5WZA) was recently diagnosed with Stage 3 stomach cancer. Our thoughts & prayers are with Keith.

Yul gave away free 12V batteries obtained from patient monitoring equipment. The batteries are good, but are being replaced by law.

MaryAnn (NS7X) is preparing to set up a CW net on the repeater

Raffles:

50/50: \$22 to Harvey Dove

Hat:

Swag: John (new member)

Ed Fong Antennas: Don Shoemaker, Keith St Pierre, Gabriel, Cynthia, Mike Chirin, Dave (KE5DKJ), Paul (KB0WMA), Ken Ham, and Fred (MaryAnn's brother).

Meeting adjourned at 12:02