

KB2STX, President, called the meeting of the ARAST General Membership to order on April 19, 2018, at 7:04pm. The meeting took place at the Horseheads Town and Country Fire Department, 130 Gardner Road, Horseheads, New York.

**Roll Call**

Present - KD2BRD, KD2DGF, W3QBZ, KC3DOV, KC3DOW, N2OJM, N2YJY, N2EUS, KA3EQU, KB2STX, N2PEZ, KD2OHG, KD2DGR

**President’s Report –** Welcome everyone and thanks for attending.

**Secretary’s Report –** The secretary read the minutes of the meeting of March 15. A motion was made, seconded and carried that the minutes be approved as read.

**Treasurer’s Report** – Not present – No report given

**Website Report –** KC3DOW reported that the “.info” site rejects the use of a decimal in the email forwarding addresses. This means that addresses such as ARAST.Hamfest@ARAST.com will not work. It was decided that these address types should be changed by replacing the decimal with a dash. He will work with N2OJM to update the forms.

**Repeater Report** – N2EUS reported that the 70/10 machine and echolink are working well. The 36/96 machine has sporadic noise during the net. This may require switching out the repeater or removing the amplifier and keeping it at 20 watts.

**Membership Committee** – N2PEZ reported we have 47 active members, 37 inactive hams and five silent keys in the database. The website has been updated with this information. There have been a few inquires via the website as well. One of them asked about whether we are holding a technician’s class and exams in the future. Also, N2PEZ sent out five new photo Id cards.

**Education Report** – None at this time

**Hamfest Report**- KD2DGF reported that Hamfest tickets have been ordered and should be here before the next meeting. There are trifold flyers with the fest info on the front table for people to hand out. We received information that N2AMW will not be able to run the kitchen this year. We need to find a few people to take over this job including the purchasing of food. KD2OHG volunteered to help if he is not working. KA3EQU mentioned that we may need to partner with an outside organization (Scouts, Lodge) and split the profit. A discussion was held regarding the purchase of a 12/12 or 14/14 pop-up, carport type shelter for cooking. Everyone was asked to research them and bring information back to the group at the next meeting.

**CCARES** – N2OJM reported that we have been lucky with the weather. He reminded everyone to remain prepared. He also spoke about the EMO Director, Mark Cicora’s visit to the CCARES Meeting this month. The next event for CCARES will be Field Days. It will be held at the house on Harris Hill and Cabin 5. The House will have the food, bathroom, and an HF rig set up with a vertical antenna. There aren’t any plans for a Wheels for Meals Bike ride this spring. CCARES is also participating in the August 18 Strong Kids, Safe Kids Festival.

**Unfinished Business** (aka “Old Business”)

 N2PEZ reported on Makers Faire -- It was well attended with many local hams present. There were great contacts with our fellow hams from Switzerland – Matt and Ernie. KA3EQU set up an HF station, N2EUS worked on the portable repeater and served as net control for the Echolink conversation with Switzerland, KA2BED set up a digital system with APRS and there was also a cw set up.

Special thanks was given to Reiner N2PEZ for encouraging us to participate and handling the planning phase.

KD2BRD suggested we find the banner for next year’s event.

**New Business**:

 KD2DGR asked about the possibility of setting up an exhibit at the county fair to raise our public exposure. It was pointed out that this is a great idea and has been done in the past. The problem is we need to man the exhibit all week and all hours that the exhibit hall is open. This creates a problem with obtaining volunteers.

 N2YJY reported that he would be interested in becoming the next treasurer of the club when N2AMW steps down.

**Calendar of events:**

1. Monthly CCARES meeting - May 1
2. Monthly ARAST meeting – May 17
3. June 2 – RARA Hamfest – Hilton NY
4. June 23-24 Field Days Cabin Five = KD2DGF will provide food.

These minutes were read and approved at the end of the meeting.

Motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

KD2DGF

Albert Comfort