

East Pasco Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

May General meeting Minutes

Date 2023-05-06

1. Call to order:

Duane Archibald called to order the May general meeting of EPARS Inc. at 8:00 AM on 2023-05-06 at the IHOP at 13100 US-301, Dade City, Florida.

2. Roll call:

A roll call was conducted, and the following persons were present:

15 Members

15 Total

President: **N4WDH** Duane Archibald

Vice President: **AA4CB** Chris Bloxsom

Treasurer: **W4LJA** Lloyd Allgaier

Secretary: **KB4WGA** John LeMay

Attendees:

1_ N3LBY = Jim McNichol = Member

2_ KF0CWU = Brad Nau = Member

3_ WA2MMY = Bonnie Roux = Member

4_ W9RUS = Russ Thackery = Member

5_ KG4GTN = Jack Olson = Member

6_ NI4J = Steve Stark = Member

7_ W4SLG = Jim "Mac" McAlister = Member

8_ N7KP = Steve Kometz = Member

9_ K7BAK = Barbara Kometz = Member

10_ KE4FEX = Sonny Lefstead = Member

11_ KQ4HCB = John Robertson = Member

3. Minutes from the last meeting reading was waved and minutes were approved. A copy is available on the club website.

4. Presidents Announcements: **N4WDH** Duane Archibald

- EPARS has License Study books available. If you are looking to upgrade your license and need a study guide, just ask! License Test are given at the San Antonio Railroad Depot Museum. The address is 32700 Railroad Ave in San Antonio Florida 33576. Our next VE session will be Tuesday May 9th at 3PM. We have one candidate for Extra registered. To Register please email testing@eparsonline.org. At our last exam session in April, we licensed one new Technician and two Technicians upgraded to General Class operators.
- A big Thank you to Lloyd, Steve, Mac, Chris, and John for getting the new Repeater and remote base stations on the air! We have very talented members with great skill, and we are lucky to have them.
- Remember our Thursday night 8PM C4FM RagChew on the 443.600 and now also on the 443.575 repeater. It's a fun time and is much more casual than the Tuesday night net. If you have C4FM Digital, we invite you to join us. We have a good regular crowd of 7 to 10 stations. If don't have access to the repeater but have a C4FM node you can connect to Wires-X Room #81609.

5. Treasurer report:

- In April we had expenditures for the New Wesley Chapel 443.575 Repeater Project. We purchased Hardware to mount the antenna on the tower. We also purchased hardware for the upcoming update at St. Leo. We spent \$1351.40 for parts. We also had expenses for EPAR Tailgate around \$200 but we took in about \$800 in donations. We now have 42 current Dues paying EPARS members for 2023. We continue to accept donations and dues on PayPal from the website. We encouraged members to join the ARRL through the club, if this is done, the club is given a portion of the funds. Dues can be paid 3 ways: In Person with cash or check, on the website via PayPal, or you can mail a check to POB 2199, St. Leo, FL 33574. Dues are \$20 for an individual or \$25 for a family of two or more. Dues paid via PayPal are charged a dollar by PayPal for a total of \$21 for an individual or \$26 for a family of two or more.

SACU Savings	\$2,527.11
SACU Checking	\$2,692.64
PayPal Account	\$495.10
VE Funds	\$40.00
Club Funds in March	\$6267.43
Total Current Club Funds	\$5754.85

6. Repeater Report:

The 443.600 C4FM Repeater and the 146.880 FM repeater are up and running at 100%. We will be improving the antennas at the St. Leo repeater site. Our goal is to improve signal to and from the repeaters for our members in East Pasco. The new 443.5750 is on the air. We are extremely happy with the coverage. The 147.570 remote base in Wesley Chapel to 146,880 is on the air. The 147.555 remote base in Ridge Manor to 146,880 is also on the air. This improves our coverage of the 146.880 repeater.

7. Net Control Operators: We need volunteers for net control on Tuesday nights. Currently, we only have 3. If we can get 2 more members to volunteer that would really help. It's very easy to read from the script and is good training for emergencies. It also lets you get to know the names, calls, and voices of the group!

8. Vice Presidents Announcements and Upcoming Social events:

- CQ-Field-Day-K4EX-2-Alpha-West-Central-Florida, June 24 and 25 Will be held at the San Antonio Fl, Train Depot "Orange Belt" Museum. This event will be 24 hours on Saturday and Sunday, Radio operation starts at 2pm on Saturday. We will have breakfast that morning then go to the station and get things ready to go. We will also go there on Friday afternoon to do some "pre-Work" setting up antennas. For more information go to the EPARS Webpage at www.eparsonline.org. If you are wanting to be a Radio operator, drop-ins are welcome but if you can let us AA4CB know face to face or send an email to FD@eparsonline.org . Remember that when you operate the club Station, K4EX on field day you will have full access to all the bands regardless of your license class! We will have food and fun.

- We Are having a pre-Field-Day-Fieldtrip to Ham Radio Outlet Store in Winter Springs near Orlando. Saturday May 27th. We will meet at IHOP at our normal time, then leave at 10AM to go to HRO! We hope to Carpool as much as we can. We will stop for lunch on the way back to Dade City. For more information and to confirm you are going contact AA4CB.
- If you want a 2023 EPARS Field-Day T-Shirt contact AA4CB before May 26th. Email Shirts@eparsonline.org Include your Name, Call sign and size. Cash On Delivery (COD) \$22
- We hope to restart our quarterly social gatherings next quarter at locations, such as Florida Ave Brewing Co.
- If you have not purchased your “Official” EPARS Name and call sign badge, go to our Facebook page or the Webpage for information on how to order yours. You can also order EPARS Stuff at <https://eparsonline.org/shop>
- The EPARS GMRS repeater is on the air in Trilby. **462.650 cress 118.8**. More information is on our Facebook page, or just ask. There are 4 or 5 club members that are licensed GMRS.
- **Radio Merit Badge Class for Scouts (BSA)** Charlie K2CMC and Josh KO4VVX has asked for the assistance of EPARS to help the scouts to get their Radio Merit Badge. We will need 7 to 10 Hams on the 146.880 repeater **from your home QTH** to assist with the “on Air” requirement for a short QSO with a Ham. These are young kids so Simple questions such as what is your first name, what town do you live in, do you play sports, do you have a pet, do you have a hobby? So far they have 10 kids confirmed, so 10 short over the air “QSO’s”. They will also have two HF Stations outside setup for them to try 20m or 10m contacts. This will be **May 20th from 2:00PM to 3:30PM (This time could vary)**

- From Charlie K2CMC

- Some of the things my scouts will ask or record in a log are: Properly log the real (or simulated) ham radio contact, including the signal report.
- Date: _____ Frequency: _____ Mode: _____
Power: _____ Station Worked: _____ Report Sent: _____
_____ Report Received: _____ Time On: _____
_____ Time Off: _____ Report Sent: _____
_____ QTH: _____ Name: _____
_____ Notes: _____
- Explain at least five Q signals or amateur radio terms you hear while listening.
- Signal or Term: _____ Meaning: _____

- Signal or Term: _____ Meaning: _____

• **9. Adjournment:**

President: Duane Archibald adjourned the meeting at 8:30 AM

- **10. Program:**

John LeMay (KB4WGA) provided our program. The program **“A Beginners Guide to DMR, The Basic stuff”**. It was followed with a show and tell and demonstration of DMR Radio. John Also reminded everyone that we have two loaner DMR radios for club members to try out!

Minutes submitted by EPARS Secretary: KB4WGA John LeMay

Minutes approved by: President: N4WDH Duane Archibald
