

East Pasco Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

June General meeting Minutes

Date 2023-06-10

1. Call to order:

Duane Archibald called to order the June general meeting of EPARS Inc. at 8:00 AM on 2023-06-10 at the IHOP at 13100 US-301, Dade City, Florida.

2. Roll call:

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

12 Members Total

President: **N4WDH** Duane Archibald

Treasurer: **W4LJA** Lloyd Allgaier

Secretary: **KB4WGA** John LeMay

Attendees:

1_ N3LBY = Jim McNichol = Member

2_ W9RUS = Russ Thackery = Member

3_ KG4GTN = Jack Olson = Member

4_ W4SLG = Mac McAlister = Member

5_ KY4XV = Jorg Mattern = Member

6_ N7KP = Steve Kometz = Member

7_ K7BAK = Barbara Kometz = Member

8_ No CALL = Arthur Bober = Member

9_ KN4UTR = Garnet Musser = 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 June 13th at 3PM. We have four candidates for Tech and one for General registered. To Register please email testing@eparsonline.org and let us know what test you would like to take.
- We can use some more Volunteer Examiners (VE's). It is a simple process to become an Examiner. It's a simple open book online exam to familiarize you with the forms and procedure. General up can qualify.
- 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.
- **Radio Merit Badge Class for Scouts (BSA)** Charlie K2CMC and Josh KO4VVX had asked for the assistance of EPARS to help the scouts to get their Radio Merit Badge. We had several EPARS Members on the 146.880 repeater assist with the "on Air" requirement for a short QSO with a Ham. These were 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 were exchanged. It was a lot of fun for everyone involved.

5. Treasurer report:

- In May had no expenditures! We now have 44 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	\$2,527.32
SACU Checking	\$2,707.69
PayPal Account	\$329.30
VE Funds	\$40.00
Total Current Club Funds	\$5604.31

6. Repeater Report:

The 443.600 analog FM and C4FM Repeater and the 146.880 FM repeater are up and running at 100%. This week we installed an improved antenna and Hardline at the St. Leo repeater site for the 443.600 and we are very encouraged by the initial reports. Our goal is to improve signal to and from all the repeaters for our members in East Pasco and have HT coverage throughout East Pasco. The new 443.5750 in Wesley Chapel continues to give us great reports to the south and west. We are extremely happy with the coverage.

The 147.570 remote base in Wesley Chapel connected to 146,880 is on the air. The 147.555 remote base in Ridge Manor connected to 146,880 is off the air.

- The EPARS GMRS repeater is on the air in Trilby. **462.650 cless 118.8**. More information is on our Facebook page, or just ask. There are club members that are also licensed GMRS.

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:

Vice President: **AA4CB** Chris Bloxsom is recovering in the hospital from an illness. Secretary: **KB4WGA** John LeMay is filling in for him during this time.

- 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 or for the most up to date info go to the EPARS Facebook page. If you are wanting to be a Radio operator, drop-ins are welcome

but if you can let us know face to face or send an email to KB4WGA@yahoo.com.

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. Extra class control operators will be standing by.

- The pre-Field-Day-Fieldtrip to Ham Radio Outlet Store in Winter Springs near Orlando. Saturday May 27th Was cancelled.
- If you want a 2023 EPARS Field-Day T-Shirt contact us 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 Wednesday evening 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>

- **9. Adjournment:**

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

- **10. Program:**

John LeMay (KB4WGA) provided additional updates and work assignments for Field Day 2023. Afterwards we had breakfast.

Minutes submitted by EPARS Secretary: KB4WGA John LeMay

Minutes approved by: President: N4WDH Duane Archibald
