

ORANGE PARK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES
JANUARY, 2016

The OPARC January 2016 meeting was called to order by Greg Fitcher, and guests were welcomed and introductions were made.

DEC. MINUTES:

The December 2015 meeting was the annual Christmas party which was held at the Golden Corral in Orange Park, FL. The party was a success!

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer's Report was given by Mark Fields, and the club's financial status is as follows:

Checking - \$1,244.91

Savings - \$4,237.94

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

56 members paid early! Thank you! Don't forget to pay your dues! Only \$7.50 per year.

Congratulations to Mark Fields, 2015 HAM of the Year!

Congratulations to Don Alhskog, new Board Member.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Repeaters – The 146.670 is down. The 440 is down and after Mark Fields and Jim Winfrey made numerous attempts to repair it. There are options to either replace or repair it and these will be reviewed by the technology committee immediately following the First of the Month Breakfast in February.

ARES:

ARES meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Pinewood Christian Academy on Knightboxx Road in Orange Park, at 7:00 PM. There will be upcoming events that need volunteers!

VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS: To be announced.

ORP CLUB:

Meets the second and last Saturday of each month, 1:00 PM, Ted Jahn's classroom at Orange Park High School. The first meeting in February will be cancelled due to HAMCATION.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

HAMCATION – February 12, 13, and 14th, in Orlando, FL

Next Board Meeting – March 10, 2016, 6:00 PM, Burger King on Kingsley (across from Orange Park High School).

NEW BUSINESS:

Bob Meadows made a motion for dues to be increased to \$10.00 per year and was seconded. A motion to table this motion indefinitely was made by Jim Keeley and was seconded. It was voted on and the motion was passed.

PROGRAM:

Jim Winfrey presented a program on QSL cards. Several participants brought their favorite QSL cards to share, including Jake Jacobs, Gaylord Mangold and Jerry Tabor, and instructions on how to obtain QSL cards were given.

ORANGE PARK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES
FEBRUARY 2016

The OPARC February 2016 meeting was called to order by Greg Fitcher, and guests were welcomed and introductions were made.

JAN. MINUTES:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the January meeting minutes, and it was approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made and seconded to suspend the usual business meeting and hold the semi-annual auction in its place.

The annual St. Johns River Cleanup is to be held March 19, 2016. Volunteers for Whitey's Fish Camp are needed. Please contact either Grey Fitcher or Jim Winfrey if interested.

AUCTION:

The auction brought in \$79.00 for the club, and there were a lot of great deals!

ORANGE PARK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES
MARCH 2016

The OPARC March 2016 meeting was called to order by Greg Fitcher, and guests were welcomed and introductions were made. Members who celebrate birthdays in March were recognized.

MEMBERSHIP: We now have 84 members!

MINUTES:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the February meeting minutes, and it was approved. The Treasurer's report was also read and approved. The Treasurer needs approval for insurance and post office box fees. A motion was made, seconded, and approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bob Meadows is to check into what it would entail to see if club membership in ARRL is possible and to report at the next meeting.

BOARD MEETING :

New technology was discussed as well as the forums sponsored by the ARRL that were held at Orlando Hamcation. Clubs were urged to embrace new technology that might attract younger members.

FIELD DAY PREPARATION:

Mike Hendershot informed the club that we were on track in getting ready for Field Day, June 25-26, 2016. It will again be held at the Orange Park High School.

On June 4, 2016, there will be the OPARC breakfast at Golden Corral, then all who are interested will head out to Greg Fitcher's home to work on antennas.

Scott Roberts will be sending out press releases soon so hopefully coverage of Field Day will be great!

REPEATERS:

The technical committee gave their report with Ted Jahn giving their recommendation. The club decided they did not want a DMR repeater that they didn't own. Different options were discussed and it was decided that a repeater that does both analog and digital would be preferable. The current cost is \$600. A motion was made by Bob Meadows for the club to purchase the Yaesu repeater, it was seconded and approved.

The technical committee is to handle the purchase, and a motion was made to allow a contingency plan. However, the club president, vice president and treasurer are allowed to spend up to \$100 without prior approval. The motion was withdrawn.

PROGRAM:

Jim Winfrey presented an interesting program on virtual aircraft radar.

ORANGE PARK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES
APRIL 2016

The OPARC April, 2016 meeting was called to order by Greg Fitcher, and guests were welcomed and introductions were made. Members who celebrate birthdays in April were recognized.

MEMBERSHIP: We now have 84 members!

MINUTES:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the March meeting minutes, and it was approved. The Treasurer's report was also read and approved.

Mark Fields gave brief description of items donated to the club.

Adrian Gray gave the Clay County ARES report. April has been a busy month, and ARES will be working to support the State Hurricane Exercise. There are a lot of events to support in the upcoming weeks.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made, seconded and passed for funds to be allotted for Field Day. The amount of \$400.00 was allocated.

FIELD DAY PREPARATION:

Mike Hendershot informed the club that we were on track in getting ready for Field Day, June 25-26, 2016. It will again be held at the Orange Park High School.

On June 4, 2016, there will be the OPARC breakfast at Golden Corral, then all who are interested will head out to Greg Fitcher's home to work on antennas.

Scott Roberts will be sending out press releases soon so hopefully coverage of Field Day will be great!

PROGRAM:

Jim Winfrey presented an interesting program on Panadapters.

ORANGE PARK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES
MAY 2016

There are no minutes for the May, 2016, Orange Park Amateur Radio Club as the secretary was out of town due to the death of her mother. No notes or minutes from any other party were received.

The next meeting will be in June 23, 2016.

ORANGE PARK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES
JUNE 2016

Greg Fitcher, the Club's President, opened the meeting. Introductions were made.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Mark Fields.

Jim Winfrey gave a brief report on Field Day setup and what to expect. The morning of Field Day everyone is invited to attend the breakfast at Golden Corral, beginning at 7:00 AM.

Everyone who has a large cooler is encouraged to bring it to the Friday afternoon setup at the Orange Park High School so that Adrian and Mike can fill them with ice on Saturday morning of Field Day.

Scott Roberts gave a public relations update on what information had been sent out regarding Field Day. Local public officials and media are expected to be at Field Day and he encouraged everyone to come and participate.

The meeting was adjourned by Greg.

ORANGE PARK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES
JULY 2016

Greg Fitcher, the Club's President, opened the meeting. Introductions were made.

Greg announced how young HAMS could be, and that young people needed to be encouraged to participate.

The minutes were approved, and the Treasurer's Report stated we have a total of \$5,103.47 in the bank.

A check was received in the memory of Bob Norman, and it was agreed that a plaque should be put on the new repeater.

Greg asked the question, what would you like to see the club do? Some suggestions are:

Presentations at every meeting

More speakers

Need to replace Field Day trailer as the bottom is falling off.

Designate an Elmer for new people.

If anyone is interested in learning Morse Code, Pete has a friend who possibly could help.

DON'T FORGET – August is auction time! Clean out the garage and your HAM shack and bring any items you don't need!

FIELD DAY FEEDBACK:

Scott Roberts gave feedback on Field Day. Contacts were made in all 50 states. Two zones on 2 states were missed. Contact was made in 5 out of 11 provinces in Canada. A total of 852 contacts were made – up from last year. There were 304 voice contacts and 548 CW.

It was noticed that more people are needed to man the radios at all hours.

SPECIAL GUEST APPEARANCES:

Wayne Bolla – Clay County Commissioner

Harold Rutledge – Candidate for Clay County Sheriff

First Coast News – They taped a story but it did not air

Clay Today – Story was published

A suggestion was made by Don that we shoot a video to submit to HAM Nation. Another suggestion was Facebook Live. Scott mentioned that social media was used this year, and instead of media packages, mini-CD's were used to submit to both TV and newspapers.

Greg gave 2 antennas to new prospective HAMS.

Jim Winfrey gave a presentation of Whisper, “WSPR”.

The meeting was dismissed after the presentation.

ORANGE PARK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES
AUGUST 2016

Greg Fitcher, the Club's President, opened the meeting, noting that the regular meeting would not be held as it was auction night. Introductions were made.

The September meeting will be September 15, 2016. Be sure to come and invite someone!