

Approved Minutes

February 3, 2011

TARC Board of Directors

- I. Call to Order
  - a. President Bill Bode, N4WEB, called the Board of Directors to order at 7:00 pm.
- II. Roll Call - a quorum of 10 members were present.

Board Member	Call	Present	Absent
Bill Bode, President	N4WEB	X	
Mike Fletcher, Vice President	NI4M		X
Biff Craine, Secretary	K4LAW	X	
Cindy Feuer, Treasurer	N4CDF	X	
Bart Houser, W4DUG Trustee	AF4TK	X	
Keating Floyd, N4TP Trustee	KC4HSI	X	
Jim Gerhart (3 yr - 2012)	WA3DIT	X	
Jodi Pecoraro (3 yr - 2012)	KI4FWJ	X	
Larry Gispert (3 yr - 2013)	KR4X	X	
Dan McDonald	KA2TOC	X	
Carl Shawver	W4EIB	X	
Total		10	1

- III. Officer's Reports
  - a. Secretary's Report
    - i. The minutes of the January 6, 2011 meeting of the Board were distributed by Biff, K4LAW prior to the meeting. A change to Picot, AG4JKs call sign was noted and corrected. Upon motion by Larry, KR4X seconded by Biff, K4LAW, the minutes were approved as corrected.
  - b. Treasurer's Report
  - c. Cindy, N4CDF, reported that funds in the Training sub-account had been separated from the general account and presented Keating, KC4HSI with the checkbook for that account. The Treasurer's Report supplied at the meeting did not reflect all deposits and a general figure was given, subject to an update of the formal balance sheet which is to be distributed after the meeting. A copy of the revised Treasurer's Report will be provided and attached to these minutes. Carl, W4EIB moved to accept the oral Treasurer's Report, subject to revision following the meeting. Jim WA3DIT seconded the motion and the oral Report was accepted unanimously. Discussion ensued regarding TARCfest XXIV.V proceeds by Bill, N4WEB who reported a net of \$1026.40 was deposited from TARCfest proceeds, representing attendance of 330 hams and 50 vendors. Dentronics, the first major

dealer of new radio equipment to set up at TARCfest had a successful show and stated they would return.

d. Trustees Reports and General Business

- i. Both Trustees were present and supplemented these discussions. Keating, KC4HSI reported no new issues concerning the 147.105 or the 443.025 repeaters. Bill, N4WEB gave an update on the facilities issues and the status of the recovery from the August Event. The last remaining equipment to be repaired is the outside switch for the Microham automatic antenna switching system is out of line and in possession of Lu, W4LT who is working on repair or replacement of the switch box. Bart, AF4TK reported that all looked good in the radio room following the return of all the repaired equipment. Bill, N4WEB reported that he had fired up the geezer gear in position G and the National HR 50 and Heathkit DX 100 were both working, but the Collins receiver was not hearing properly. Keating, KC4HSI noted that the patch panel appeared to be up to date and Biff, K4LAW reported that the 80 meter sloper was now incorporated in the patch panel.
- ii. Bill, N4WEB reported that the upcoming Orlando Hamfest needs included replacement jumpers for the front tower. Biff, K4LAW added that there was a need for a straight key for the geezer gear. By unanimous consent these items were authorized for acquisition.
- iii. Bill, AG4QX was recognized for repair work performed on the soffit around the building.
- iv. Bill, N4WEB reported rejections of offers made on the spare generators the club has decided to liquidate. It was pointed out that Joe, K4TJO was out of town and had volunteered to list the generators on Smokestack.com.
- v. Following discussion of the fiscal health of the club following TARCfest, Biff, K4LAW moved to begin providing donuts on Saturday mornings. Keating seconded the motion which passed without opposition.
- vi. Bart, AF4TK inquired as to the status of the club's claim for repairs of the damages from the August event. Biff, K4LAW reported that the reimbursement for the computers and Microham band decoders had been received and that part two of the claim had been filed for repair of the IC 7700 and the IC 756 Pro IIs plus shipping and insurance totaling \$724.42 has been filed, leaving the Microham switch box the last part of the claim. A re-evaluation of the insurable property inventory has been made, property tags placed on club property and a video record of the property have been made. Following completion of the claim, the revised list of insured property will be sent to Marsh. The new property list will include property that is valued, for insurance purposes, at a little over \$57,000 which will raise our premiums to between \$800-\$900 dollars.

- vii. Discussion on sending out the 2011-2012 dues letter resulted in the acknowledgement that the dues letter would go out at the end of February to get dues money for club activities.
- viii. Bill, N4WEB reported on the recommendations for the 5 Board positions that are up for election at the March general membership meeting. Recommended nominees for 3 year terms ending in 2014 were Biff, K4LAW for seat 1 and Cindy for seat 2. Recommended nominees for 1 year terms ending in 2012 were Carl, W4EIB in seat 7; Dan, KA2TOC in seat 8 and Mike, NI4M in seat 9. There were no further recommendations from the Board and upon motion of Keating, KC4HSI and a second by Jodi, KI4FWJ the slate of recommended nominees will be advanced to the general membership meeting February 7, 2011, at which time, additional nominations may be added from the floor.
- ix. Dan, KA2TOC reported that there were 294 subscribers to the TARCList. An updated format for maintaining and archiving messages to the list provided by Google Groups is available to modernize our TARCList agility for archiving and searching. There were three options presented, 1) do nothing to the list; 2) Modernize the maintenance and archiving of the list messages with Google Groups for free which would require a change in domain name of all addresses to a G Mail format; or 3) pay \$50 for Google Groups to modernize the TARCList under our hamclub.org domain. On motion by Biff, K4LAW seconded by Bart, AF4TK Dan, KA2TOC was authorized to spend \$50 on the TARCList maintenance.

IV. TARCfest

- a. The upcoming TARCfest, TARCfest XXV, will be April 16, 2011.

V. Field Day

- a. Biff, K4LAW presented the concept plan for Field Day 2011. The focus of FD 2011 will be to improve our point total to better our 4<sup>th</sup> place national finish from FD 2010 and to provide a greater opportunity for training and experience by running a second complete field day operation under the W4DUG callsign from the club house on emergency power in the E category. It was moved by Larry, KR4X to support and implement the FD 2011 Concept Plan, seconded by Jim, WA3DIT and the motion was adopted without opposition. Details of the FD 2011 Concept Plan will be discussed with at the general membership meeting February 7, and are attached hereto.

VI. Old Business

- a. There were no further items of old business.

VII. New Business

- a. There were no items of new business.

VIII. Adjournment

- a. There being no further items of business, on motion of Larry, KR4X seconded by Bart, AF4TK the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm.

**TARC FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR FEBRUARY 03, 2011**

	General			
	Facilities	Reserves**	Field Day Food***	
<b>Actual Bank Account Balance at Start</b> (as of 01/06/11)	\$ 1,485.38	\$ 787.51	\$ 697.87	
<b>Deposits</b>				
TARCFest Snowbird Edition	\$ 821.12	\$ 821.12		
TARCFest Reserves	\$ 205.28		\$ 205.28	
Regular Dues Deposit 02/0211	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00		
Soda and Water	\$ 18.50	\$ 18.50		
Soda and Water	\$ 21.20	\$ 21.20		
<b>Expenses Paid</b>				
Becky Boswell (Coffee)	\$ 14.16	\$ 14.16		
<b>Actual Bank Account Balance at End</b> (current checkbook balance 02/03/11)	<b>\$ 2,567.32</b>	<b>\$ 1,664.17</b>	<b>\$ 903.15</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Cash/Checks <u>not yet deposited</u></b>				\$ -
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Accounts Payable</b>				
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Balances after Cash/Checks on hand and Accounts Payable</b>	<b>\$ 2,567.32</b>	<b>\$ 1,664.17</b>	<b>\$ 903.15</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

\*\* Reserves are for future expenses (new roof, etc). 20% of Tarcfest net is allocated to Reserves.

\*\*\* Field Day Food donations are retained as cash by TARC Treasurer and are not included in the Bank Account Balance.

**Note:** The Alfred S. & Mary A. Burke estate fund is currently invested as follows: \$55,735.65 in a Mercantile Bank CD at 1.95% interest and maturing on 4/11/2 and \$3,809.51 (as of 02/03/2011) is now in our Mercantile money market savings account at 0.25% interest.

# Proposed Field Day 2011

## The Concept

### *Field Day Over the Years*

We have approached Field Day over the years at TARC from a variety of angles. In the old days before the merger of TARC and TBARS, Field Day was an exercise in deploying field antennas and stations powered by a small generator that labored under a heavy load while operators ate special Field Day beans prepared by Delbert, WD4HHA, that served not only to keep the operators going, but shortly after consumption served as an effective mosquito repellent.

One year, we tried to approach Field Day as if it were a true emergency situation by starting the operating period and set up at the same time, beginning operations from mobiles, then moving to mobiles with fixed antennas and ultimately, fully deployed stations on generator power.

One year we simulated a rapid deployment, holding the Field Day location secret until set up began at 2:00 pm on Friday. That's right, only one person knew where we were going to deploy and it was announced on the repeater at 2:00 pm when the set up period began.

One year we took all aspects of the exercise as a true competition, focusing on getting the most experienced operators the most air time. That year we finished second in the 2A category out of nearly 500 entries in 2A.

Last year, we brought a team of contesters together for the CW operation and set a club record of 1624 CW contacts during the 24 hour period. The SSB operation was off the air part of the 24 hour period and fell short of the number of CW contacts once again.

This year, it is being proposed that we aim for first place in 2A and expand our participation and training.

### *More Contacts, More Operating Time, More Fun*

The plan for CW will be essentially the same as last year, however, we will need to put up an antenna for the 80 meter band. This should enhance the overnight experience, increasing the score and providing another band to go to when 40 meters dries up in the middle of the night. The operators are lined up to cover the full 24 hour period and it is reasonable to expect similar results.

As for SSB, my thought was to do the phone thing a little different this year. First, a serious run station effort under N4TP with seasoned operators at scheduled times to try and maximize the number of SSB Qs for N4TP and minimize the time that the station is off the air.

Second, a training station would be run under the W4DUG call where the more experienced ops could work with the less experienced ops to get them experience behind the mike in a less competitive environment. This training operation could "graduate" the operators to the N4TP GOTA operation for those who qualify to run GOTA and VHF for those who do not qualify for GOTA. The W4DUG training operation could operate 1D from the clubhouse from mains and our antennas to insure the best signal

possible to give meaning to the training operation. Operators could experience running frequencies, search and pounce techniques, the ins and outs of the N1MM logging program coached by more seasoned contesters. The station could run in the E class, so long as the transmitter and receiver are on generator power for all cointacts.

The GOTA operation would be the third station that we would man to get the maximum points allowed by that station; the VHF station would be the fourth station and as the VHF bands open, we could get some CW Qs there as well. We only got a couple dozen because of the station not being in operation until deep in the afternoon.

This could provide a more meaningful experience for all who want to participate. Plus we could focus the N4TP SSB effort on getting the Q count up. Plus it might actually be fun.

There are issues I am aware of regarding having all that RF floating about in a small space, but we should be able to accommodate that through additional separation from the clubhouse, yet staying within our 1000 feet circle.

It should not require us to put up any more antennas than we already put up, except 80 meter and 75 meter antennas for the overnight.

What do you think? Are you up for a run at the top of the 2A category?