



St. Augustine Amateur Radio Society

MEETING MINUTES

May 2, 2023

Regular Meeting at the Airport Conference Room

Attendees

John Albertson AK4N
John Brittingham KO4SMB
Jackson Driskell KB4B
Dennis Fernandez N4KPI
Rick Hatton KK4GGL
Leo Kim KQ4HWF
Bruce Monahan KQ4AQV
Ron Morgan KM4AC
Kevin Pellegrino KM4PHI
Larry Sapp WD8SEL
Bob Sileo N2PE
Frank Sileo N1PE
John Smith K3GO

Diane Rabideau-Wise WA4ZDQ
Buddy Tison KK4RXC
Franco Venturi K4VZ
Linda Visman KN4KJC
Richard Visman NN2T
Richard Wallace KG6YEM
Craig Wisman W3LCI
Allen Wyatt W4YO

Guests:

Rajesh Verma K4SK
Brandi Kiehl K4PL

- 1) Bob Sileo called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm ET and asked members to stand for the Pledge to the Flag.
- 2) Approval of the Minutes- Motion to approve as written by Linda Visman, seconded and approved unanimously.
- 3) Approval of the Treasurers Report – The report was read and some expenses highlighted. Approval was moved, seconded, and approved unanimously.
- 4) Discussion Items:
 - a) Tee Shirts will be in process for those that have ordered them and should be available before field day. (John Albertson AK4N)
- 5) This month's events.
 - a) Friday lunches (well attended) (Neds)
 - b) Last Saturday Breakfast – May 27, 2023 (The Spot)
 - c) Hamvention, Xenia, OH – May 19-21
- 6) Next Operating Events
 - a) Field Day
 - b) June 24-25, 2023
 - c) St Johns County Fairgrounds Schoolhouse (already reserved)
 - d) An Event Chairperson is needed.

- 7) International Lighthouse and Lighthouses Weekend
 - a) August 19-20, 2023
 - b) St Augustine Lighthouse
 - c) Need and event chairperson.
- 8) The business portion of the meeting was adjourned by a show of hands.
- 9) **Program: John Smith K3GO: DX and the DXCC award.**
 - a) John presented a detailed overview of how contacts are confirmed using either QSL cards mailed back from DX stations abroad or via LOTW (Logbook of the World). John mentioned that he is authorized to verify the authenticity of QSL cards so that the contact may be forwarded on to the ARRL for award processing. He can meet with you and go over your cards. He discussed VOACAP, a program that can be used to predict propagation and your likelihood of being able to contact a particular point on the globe. He also showed his new (used) portable rig that consists of an ICOM 703 controlled via a "Digirig" module that acts as the sound card as well as the PTT controller. The cost of a Digirig is in the range of \$50. They have to be configured for a particular radio or family of radios.
 - b) John opened the floor for questions such as how to reprogram the Digirig and what happens to old contacts with deleted DXCC entities.
- 10) The 50/50 won by Ron Morgan KM4AC
- 11) Our next meeting will be on June 6 at 6:30 pm at the NFRA Conference Center.

Approved at the June 6 meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Smith", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.