



St. Augustine Amateur Radio Society
MEETING MINUTES DRAFT
Tuesday March 5, 2024
North Florida Regional Airport Conference Center

Dave Berman WA2PAY
Larry Bolster N6PPO
John Brittingham KO4SMB
Dennis Fernandez N4KPI
Ray Inman W1RBI
Leo Kim KQ4HWF
Frank Kirbyson KN4CLP
Sue Kirbyson KN4KNC
Moke Koralewski K8VA
Cory Lapeyrouse KN4LFE
Howard Maltz KQ4OOP
Ed Manfredi W4EML
Buzz Miklos WA4GPM
Drew Miller KK4UPC
Ron Morgan KM4AC
Kevin Pellegrino KM4PHI
Diane Rabideau Wise WA4ZDQ
Mike Randazzo KO4PDI

Rick Reuther W2BFD
Aaron Richmond KQ4FFR
Kyle Richmond KA1FKR
Larry Sapp WD8SEL
Bob Sileo N2PE
Frank Sileo N1PE
Franco Venturi K4VZ
Richard Visman NN2T
Linda Visman KN4KJC
Richard Wallace KG6YEM
David Wilcox K8WPE
Allen Wyatt W4YO

Guests: Paul Jones
Mary Warren
Glenn Rose
Kieth Harrington WH6YM
Paul Martin

Business portion of the Meeting

- 1) Bob Sileo called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm ET.
- 2) Pledge to the US flag.
- 3) Recognition of new members and guests.
- 4) Approval of the February 6, 2024, meeting minutes.
Allen Wyatt has distributed the draft minutes via email for review by club members. Mike Randazzo moved to approve the minutes as written, JR Brittingham seconded. Motion made, seconded, and approved by unanimous vote of the members present.
- 5) Treasurer's report: Kevin Pellegrino gave the report. John Brittingham moved to approve, and Franco Venturi seconded. Motion made and approved by unanimous vote of members present.
- 6) Up Coming Events:
 - Next monthly meeting
 - i) April 2, 2024, 6:30 PM

- ii) Location: Google Meets or Zoom, TBD
- iii) Program: Solar Eclipse QSO Party
- Florida State Parks on the Air
 - i) April 6, 2024 (one day only)
 - ii) Venue: Favor Dykes State Park
- Field Day
 - i) Last full weekend in June – June 22-23
 - ii) Venue (confirmed), St Johns County Fairgrounds Schoolhouse
- 7) Other Business:
 - Possible Contest to redesign the club QSL card.
 - A revision to the club bylaws is being proposed to move elections from December to November to unencumber the Christmas party.
 - While we may make WFD and FLPOTA one day events, we might add some other events.
 - Reminder about the special benefit HAMFEST held in Palm Coast the weekend of March 9th at the Palm Coast Elks Lodge. This is a benefit event with the proceeds going to James Lea WX4TV to offset health expenses.
- 8) Bob adjourned the business meeting at 6:49 pm.

PROGRAM: Paul Jones and Mary Warren of the **Ancient City Astronomy Club** Paul presented an engaging program that included many high points, a few of which are as follows:

- There is a comet (Pons-Brooks) approaching that should be visible this spring.
- Members of the ACAC have many telescopes including:
 - Refractors
 - Reflectors both Newtonian and Dobsonian
 - Schmidt Cassegrain
- They also are equipped with Astro Photography equipment.
 - ZWO SeeStar for Astro Imaging (abt \$500)
- Paul mentioned the “Harvest Moon” is the full moon closest to the Autumnal Equinox. (September)
- The star Betelgeuse (found in the constellation Orion could go supernova in our lifetimes.
- Paul displayed some photos taken by club members both through their telescopes as well as by cameras on tripods using lengthy exposure times.
- The highlight of the presentation was Paul’s discussion of the upcoming solar eclipse which will occur April 8 with the band of totality beginning in Texas and stretching toward the NE of the United States. Totality will last 5 minutes and is much longer than the 2017 eclipse that passed over Charleston. The next eclipse visible from the US will be in 2045 and will pass over NE Florida.

Drawing for the 50/50. Won by Glen Rose.

The meeting concluded at about 7:50 pm.