



St. Augustine Amateur Radio Society **MEETING MINUTES DRAFT**

Tuesday April 2, 2024

Online Meeting via Google Meets

John Albertson AK4N

Leo Kim KQ4HWF

Richard Hatton KK4GGL

Howard Maltz KQ4OOP

Doug Parmenter KK4FZT

Diane Rabideau Wise WA4ZDQ

Aaron Richmond KQ4FFR

Kyle Richmond KA1FKR

Bob Sileo N2PE

Frank Sileo N1PE

John Stahl WA2AAQ

Buddy Tison KK4RXC

Franco Venturi K4VZ

Richard Visman NN2T

Linda Visman KN4KJC

Richard Wallace KG6YEM

Allen Wyatt W4YO

Guest: Gary Hogsten AB4GH

Business portion of the Meeting

1) Bob Sileo called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm ET.

2) Pledge to the US flag.

3) Recognition of new members and guests.

4) Approval of the March 6, 2024, meeting minutes.

Allen Wyatt has distributed the draft minutes via email for review by club members. Franco Venturi moved to approve the minutes as written, Richard Visman seconded. Motion made, seconded, and approved by unanimous vote of the members present.

5) Treasurer's report: Bob Sileo gave the report in Kevin's absence. Franco Venturi moved to approve, and Richard Visman seconded. Motion made and approved by unanimous vote of members present.

6) Up Coming Events:

- Florida State Parks on the Air
 - i) April 6, 2024 (one day only)
 - ii) Sunday will be an ad hoc only.
 - iii) Venue: Favor Dykes State Park
 - iv) Richard and Linda will be providing donuts in the morning and Allen will do hot dogs for lunch.
- Solar Eclipse QSO Party
 - i) April 8, 2024
 - ii) On the Air
- Field Day
 - i) Last full weekend in June – June 22-23

- ii) Venue (confirmed), St Johns County Fairgrounds Schoolhouse
- 7) Other Business:
- Possible T shirt order.
 - i) There is a 12-shirt minimum.
 - ii) More info to follow.
 - Allen Wyatt asked for some discussion on the malicious interference to our Wednesday night phone net. This interference is often directed at specific individuals. Allen made a motion to formally notify the repeater owned of this interference. After some additional discussion, it was decided to table the motion for a future meeting.
- 8) Bob called to adjourn the business meeting at 6:58 pm. Allen Wyatt made the motion and John Albertson seconded.

PROGRAM: Gary Hogsten AB4GH presented the program on the Solar Eclipse QSO party that is being sponsored by HamSci.

Gary provided us with a short introduction to his background as follows:

"I am a retired Law Enforcement Officer, Traffic Homicide Investigator & Crash Reconstructionist from Tampa, and I am married to a retired USAF air traffic controller. Together, we are proud parents of five adult children. Amateur radio has been a lifelong passion of mine, sparked by fond memories of sitting beside my late uncle, who was a dedicated ham radio operator. Although my journey to obtaining an amateur radio license faced numerous delays due to life's demands and my career commitments, I finally achieved this milestone in 2020 and obtained my technician, and General license, and I further advanced by passing the Extra exam in March 2021.

Drawing from my extensive experience in law enforcement and emergency services, I learned a wealth of knowledge in various radio communication technologies. This helped to prepare me for being an amateur radio operator.

Beyond amateur radio, I actively contribute to several organizations, including HamSCI Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation (HamSCI.org). My fascination with space traces back to my upbringing in Florida, where I frequently visited the Kennedy Space Center and witnessed numerous awe-inspiring launches. Additionally, I am an avid stargazer, always eager to explore the mysteries of the cosmos.

I was a member of the Civil Air Patrol/USAF Auxiliary, where I served as a senior member/2nd Lt., fulfilling roles as a public affairs officer and safety officer for composite squadrons at MacDill AFB in Tampa and later at Charleston AFB in South Carolina. I also dedicated 17 years as a Sangaree Special Tax District Commissioner in Summerville, South Carolina, resigning as Chairman in 2017 upon relocating to Berea, Kentucky, where my wife and I now reside. Since 2018, I have been actively volunteering at my local sheriff's office, providing assistance whenever needed.

I am a member of Amateur Radio Relay League, Central Kentucky Amateur Radio Society (CKARS.org), The Radio Amateur Satellite Corp (AMSAT), OM International Sideband Society

(OMISS.net), Kentucky Contest Group (KCG), and Kentucky ARES, I hold various roles, including W5YI-VEC Volunteer "Local in Person Only" Examiner, ARRL Volunteer Examiner, ARRL Registered License Instructor, and a longtime National Weather Service (NWS) Certified SkyWarn Spotter with NWS chat privileges on Slack."

Gary presented information about the Solar Eclipse QSO party and some scientific experiments that will be conducted related to the effect on propagation. Much information can be found at www.hamsci.org.



The meeting concluded at about 8:15 pm.