



St. Augustine Amateur Radio Society

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday February 3, 2026

FOP Lodge #113

Alan Alsobrook KD4QOF
Mark Balenger
Dave Berman WA2PAY
Dennis Fernandez N4KPI
Rick Hatton KK4GGL
Ted Hill W4POK
Todd Johnstone KD4KJW
Leo Kim KQ4HWF
Frank Kirbyson KN4CLP
Bill Kisse W3MSH
Mike Koralewski K8VA
Joseph Logan III KO4VOY
Charles Menzel KR4GHJ
Buzz Miklos WA4GPM
Diane Rabideau-Wise WA4ZDQ
Andrew Reed KM4BKB EMCOMM
Ron Richey K4RKA
Larry Sapp WD8SEL

Curt Schwarz KK4FFQ
Bob Sileo N2PE
Frank Sileo N1PE
John Smith K3GO
Buddy Tison KK4RXC
Steve Urmano WB2AKH
Richard Wallace KG6YEM
David Wilcox K8WPE

GUESTS

Al Dunn KC2OPP
Carlton (Carl) Lee W2PTZ
Gavin Butler, FPEM St. John's EMC

ZOOM Call In

Frank Cantelmo WB1FWS
Marilee Cantelmo KA1BCV
Charles Henley KJ4TKA
Doug Parmenter KK4ZFT
Michael Jordan WE4MJ

Business portion of the Meeting

1. Call to order – 6:33PM
2. Pledge to the flag
3. Recognition of new members, guests, and new and upgraded licenses: Al Dunn KC2OPP, Carl Lee W2PTZ. Ted Hill W4POK now General class - congratulations.
4. January 2026 Meeting Minutes – approved, Present at meeting= 29 and 5 On-Line
5. Treasurer's report Nov 4th meeting – approval (Alan motioned and Ted 2nd)

Bank Balance on November 4, 2025	\$6,180.24
Income (dues and dinner)	\$425.00
Expenses (website, Briskey's, P.O. box, insurance)	-\$0.00
Bank Balance on November 4, 2025	\$6,615.24

2026 YTD paid members (as of 2/03/2026) = 60

6. Upcoming Events - see club calendar on website

- a. Parks on the Air Activation – the Fort looks open per Bob
 - i. March 7, 2026
 - ii. Castillo de San Marcos, downtown St Augustine – we will have one to two radios with Buddipole system, nothing can be attached to fort. Plan to operate from 10AM – 2PM. Last time we had good propagation on 10Mtrs. More details on next meeting.
- b. Florida State Parks on the Air – Organize by S.W. Florida for April 16-19th a four day event. We plan to operate on Saturday.
 - i. April 18, 2026 one day operation -
 - ii. Faver-Dykes State Park (to be confirmed). Great park with facilities and low useage giving club plenty room for operating and antennas.
- c. Additional events will be Field day the 4th week of June this year and Light House event in August. More to come on these events as we get close.

7. Next Monthly Meeting –

Tuesday, March 3, 2026 - 6:30PM. At FOP Lodge #113 and On-Line.

8. Volunteer Opportunities – please see signup board (Bob)

Bob has presented signup sheets for Net controllers (Wednesday night 2 Meter net 7PM, Testing and VE programs all can use volunteers. Sign up sheets are on Bob's large poster board at front table.

9. New Hams Corner - We can use topics for the mentoring sessions which will occur two weeks from today. These are Q and A sessions in casual meeting.

10. Other Business –

- I. Bob shaed a 5 minute video on safety in the ham radio community from N4BFR Jim's instruction showing the effect of putting up an antenna incorrectly. Good video. Go here: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1478951484231262>
- II. Bob mentioned that there are VE exam sessions available via email requests (2 days)
- III. Attention was made that at the Orlando Hamcation there will be W5YI test sessions 13-15th at the hamfest. If you wish you can travel there to test.
- IV. Hamcation in Orlando FL this year is Feb 13-15th. Alan points out we use 146.625 simplex on our HTs when there to talk with fellow club members (it's the output of our club repeater so we should have great local SIMPLEX coverage at the hamfest).

V. A request for the T-Shirt production and ordering/distribution was made. Ted Hill W4POK volunteered to take the T-Shirt production and run with it. Thanks Ted.

11. Adjourn business meeting **6:58 PM** for the program.(Mike and Buzz motioned and seconded)

PROGRAM:

Topic: *St Johns County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)*

Guest speakers:

- Andrew Reed, KM4BKB, Emergency Coordinator, ARES, St Johns County, FL
- Gavin Butler, FPEM, Coordinator, St. Johns County Emergency Management

Excellent presentation and an appeal for members to join the ARES and participate in disaster preparedness.

Program Completed at 7:47PM. Raffle was won by Todd Johnstone KD4KJW

Thanks
Your SAARS officers