



Boca Raton Amateur Radio Association

2 M Repeater: 145.29(-)
70 cm Repeater 442.875(+) PL 110.9
Meeting: First Tuesday of every Month 7:00 pm

Secretary's Address: PO Box 907 Boca Raton FL 33429
Email: President@brara.org

The July meeting of the Boca Raton Amateur Radio Association took place on 1 July 2008 at the T-6 building on the FAU campus. The meeting was called to order by Association president Nelson NE4LS at 7:10PM. The meeting started with a round of introductions.

We are still recovering from Field Day.

VP Report

August is next month, traditionally we've met at the Boca Bar and Grill, the next meeting will be there. The repeaters are OK. The repeater message(s) have been updated, indicating that the CTCSS (PL) tone will be turned on in August. The tone is 110.9 Hz. Letters concerning the change were sent to the BRARA reflector, Ron W2DO, Mark KS4VT and forwarded to the South FL reflector. The repeater hasn't acted up since Lew cleaned all connections on the duplexers. Lew would like to open and clean the duplexers and is arranging for the appropriate test equipment to be on hand when that is done.

Treasurer's report

Open \$1159.78

Close \$1159.78

Rudy KF4OM donated \$10 for QSL expenses to the club. Thank you to Rudy.

Secretary's Report

The secretary's report was posted to the Yahoo group and sent by e-mail to those members requesting personal copies. There are copies available at the meeting.

I have contacted the library about a meeting room and hopefully we'll have one for the September meeting. Motion to accept the minutes was made by Hank N3HV, seconded by Rudy KF4OM. Passed without further discussion.

New business

Thanks to John KE4IDW for a contribution of \$60 to the Field Day funds.

The W4BUG repeater on 146.82 is being replaced, hopefully in August.

Lew stopped by Mike's Electronics and found that it was still closed. Mike is doing well after surgery.

Still looking for a spot for a free flea. Not successful so far.

A motion to close the meeting was made by John N8JUC seconded by David K4DLF and passed without discussion.

Field Day review.

Field Day took place on the FAU campus in the #2 parking structure. We've been a pretty unruly mob this time. We need to make lists of WHO as well as WHAT and WHEN and then stick to them. We need responsibility lists for next time, too. Need clear understanding of who is in charge of what. This year we did not have "station captains", and that was a mistake. The six meter station did especially well with the beam on top of the parking structure. The CW station got good coverage of North America. The feed point being elevated may have contributed to the success of the CW station. The noise from one of the ballast transformers in the lighting was quickly corrected when Hank called one of the University electricians. It was a cooler than Pompano Turnpike Service Plaza. The parking structure provided shade and the fourth floor had a breeze and few insects. There was a serious generator problem. The leaky



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generator was bad news, we need to get that thing serviced. GOTA station suffered from serious interference from the adjacent stations. Should we try to do "Field Day in December?" and experiment with "what might work"? A December special event or contest participation may be worth thinking about. Next year we need to consider an improvement on the ground system. The parking structure has no real lightning control system. The lights on top are grounded, but there are no other exposed grounds. Can we connect to the ground system in the structure somehow? Throwing a wire over the railing may provide a counterpoise, but isn't a ground.

Map to the Boca Bar and Grill

Boca Bar & Grill 6299 N. Federal Highway Boca Raton, FL 33487 Tuesday August 5 2008

