

TLARC Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2025

Corrections: Corrections are noted in *italics font* and omissions are via a ~~strike through~~ as of 03/31/2025. My thanks to those members that brought these corrections to my attention.

President Juan Lopez, AC6ZM, called the meeting to order promptly at 19:00 EST. The meeting was held at the Tellico Village Volunteer Fire Department's training room.

There were ~~15~~ 16 TLARC members present, and 3 guests. The guests filled out their applications for membership.

New members:

Seth Selvidge, KQ4KJR, Technician

Geoffry Mark, KM6TVJ, Extra

Paul Norder, AE4PN

Congratulations to Paul White, KC2MZC, for upgrading his FFC License to General Class.

The typical order of business was changed. The Program was presented after the Business Session.

***** BUSINESS SESSION *****

- MINUTES OF LAST MONTH'S MEETING—
The Minutes of the February 19, 2025 meeting were accepted as written. 1st Motion to accept was made by John Kiley, KB4TV. 2nd by Sam Howard, KW4TN.
- SUNSHINE REPORT—
Brad Berger, KM4OJK, is still recovering from Chemo treatments.
- OFFICER REPORTS —
- President, Juan Lopez, AC6ZM:
 - The President talked about the QSO Contests that he had participated in and the Awards received.
 - World Amateur Radio Day is April 18th.
 - Field Day will be the weekend of June 28th and 29th.

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- Vice President, Chuck Ferguson, N4CSF:
 - Required Annual Reporting
 - ~~IRS Form 990-N e-Postcard – Pending IRS system maintenance~~
 - TN Charitable Organization Renewal – Due 30 Jun 25
- Treasurer, Bill Schultz KQ4CDC:
 - Financial Report
 - Last Month: \$4,615.80 (End of February 2025)
 - Repeater Fund: \$2,500.00
 - General Fund: \$2,155.80
 - Dues: \$20.00
 - Donations: \$20.00
 - Ending Balance: \$4,655.80 (as of March 15, 2025)
- Secretary, Richard Meyer, W8CNY:
 - As a reminder, the computer access code at the Fire Station is:
 - User ID: TLARC
 - Password: KN4DUA\$4 (Note the added \$ in the Club's Repeater call sign, the Password is all capital letters **)
 - The April 16th TLARC Meeting will be moved out of the Fire Station Training Room to the Engine Bay. This was due to a cancelled Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) class that changed their schedule. The EMR class will be using the Training Room for their Final Exam on April 16th. Their class starts at 1800 and goes through 2200 hours. TLARC has held their meeting in the Engine Bay once before. A large screen TV will be available for use versus a video projector.
- STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS -
 - NET COORDINATOR: George Heron, N2APB

George Heron, N2APB, has resigned from the position of Net Coordinator. If you are interested in taking over this important role in the Club, please notify the President.

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Downward trending attendance Y-o-Y, top NCS honors in 2024 to ND4P, looking for new involvement as NC and Logger stations, looking for feedback on weekly net operation to increase club participation.

- REPEATER: David Weikert, KF4DKW

David talked about the recurring noise issues with the Club's Repeater. AT&T is in the process of installing underground fiberoptic cables throughout the Tellico Village area. Their installation crews have repeatedly damaged the insulation of the underground cable TV wiring causing additional noise. Installation is currently in the Toqua area. David discussed the Transmitter Hunting techniques that were used to eventually find the source of the noise. The Club's Repeater is fully operational.

- SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS –

- None

- OLD BUSINESS:

- None

- NEW BUSINESS:

- TLARC's 10th ANNIVERSARY

Joyce Tarbell, K1JAT, confirmed *via email* that the TLARC Constitution and By-Laws were signed on December 16, 2015. New Officers were elected on that date.

Juan Lopez, AC6ZM, suggested that the Club sponsor a 10th Anniversary event with a special Call Sign. April 18th is World Amateur Radio Day. Juan suggested that we get together at the Melton Hill Dam Overlook, in observance of TLARC's 10th Anniversary.

- FIELD DAY COORDINATOR:

Field Day is coming up on the weekend of June 28th and 29th.

Richard Meyer, W8CNY, contacted the Fire Chief, Jerry Dougherty, to request permission to have our Field Day exercise located at the Fire Station this year. The

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Fire Chief approved of the event. The Fire Station offers the following amenities: Internet Access, Electrical power, Backup power generator, a commercial sized Propane Grill, Refrigerator/Freezer, Restrooms, Tables and Chairs, Air Conditioning for the lighthearted, and plenty of room for external antennas. There are no sleeping quarters available, but there is a shower. There would be no facility charge.

- The use of the Fire Department for this year's Field Day was put to a vote by the members present. A majority voted *and* approved of it.
- Juan Lopez, AC6ZM, asked for volunteers with the planning of this event. The following people volunteered.

Project Manager – Sam Howard, KW4TN

Safety Officer – Richard Meyer, W8CNY

Radio Coordinator – Juan Lopez, AC6ZM

Food and Beverage – Open

WinLink – Open

Satellite Communications – Open

Please contact Sam Howard if you wish to fill one of the available positions.

- ANNOUNCEMENTS (Hamfests, contests, items for sale, etc)

- HamFests

- *12 April 25 – Cleveland Amateur Radio Club Swapfest*
- *19 ~~26~~ April 25 – Greenville, TN Hamfest*
- *26 Apr 25 – Calhoun, GA, Hamfest (CCARS)*
- *16-18 May 25 – Dayton, OH, Ham Convention Hamfest*
- *21 Jun 25 – Knoxville Hamfest (RACK) / State Convention*
- *16-17 Aug 25 – Huntsville Hamfest, AL / Section Convention*
- *3-4 Oct 25 – Hamfest Chattanooga (CARC)*

- ~~• Skywarn Training~~

- ~~• *13 Mar 25/1900 EDT – Rockwood, Community Center*~~
- ~~• *More info at <https://www.weather.gov/mrx/skywarn-classes>*~~

- Contests

- *18 April – World Amateur Ham Radio Day*

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- MEETING ADJOURNMENT @ 1943
(Motion: Sam Howard, KW4TN; 2nd: George Sifnotis, WB9TFR)

******* PROGRAM SESSION *******

It was requested that members bring in their radio equipment and computers to this meeting. Electrical power strips were placed at all of the desks. Jan Lopez, AC6ZM, presented various software programs to assist the operator with QSO's, logging, and computer interconnections. Various members had their equipment and computers operating, many under battery power.

DRAFT