

**Meeting Minutes**  
**TSARC, Inc.**  
**January 3, 2007**

The Texas Southmost Amateur Radio Club, Inc., meeting was called to order by President Rudy Monsevalles at 6:35 p.m. at the First Community Bank, 77 South Sunshine Strip, Harlingen, Texas. There were 27 members and guests present. All officers were present.

**MINUTES**

President Rudy Monsevalles introduced the new TSARC, Inc. secretary, Carolyn Ross, who read the minutes of the November 7, 2006 meeting.

Corrections were noted to the November 7 minutes – Harold and Emogene Root was corrected to read Harold and Georgian Root; Steve Lepki's call letters were corrected to read KD5GWV rather than DK5GWV. It had been recorded that Bob Raynor made cards to handout about the Swap Fest, however it was Ralph Waddup who made the cards—the minutes were corrected to reflect that fact. George Salinas moved that the minutes be approved as corrected. It was seconded, and approved by vote.

The December 6 meeting minutes were read. Ron Morton moved to approve the minutes as read. It was seconded and members approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Steve Lepki reported that a thank you note was received from the Ronald McDonald House for the gifts received from TSARC, Inc. Steve Kepki took a photo of the Ronald McDonald Christmas tree with the donated gifts placed there.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Steve Lepki read the Treasurer's report for December. Beginning balance of \$1,306.46 with income of \$40.00 from dues, \$200.00 withdrawn for Christmas Party expense, \$2.50 bank charge, to give an ending balance of \$1,143.96.

Lepki reported that the January beginning balance was \$1,143.96; \$40.00 dues collected; \$50.00 redeposited for cash not used for Christmas party expense; and there was a \$2.50 bank charge – ending balance of \$1,231.46.

Five dollars was presented to each member as a Christmas gift towards their dinner expense.

Bonnie Morton moved the Treasurer's report be accepted as read, it was seconded and carried.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

President Monsevalles reminded the membership that next Saturday was the TSARC, Inc. swap fest at the Harlingen Elks Lodge. Breakfast would be served beginning at 7 a.m., booths to open at 8:30 a.m. The dual band radio raffle tickets were to sell for \$1.00 or 6/\$5.00. There would be a 50/50 drawing also, ticket cost the same. There was discussion as to whether the winner must be present to win. It was decided that the drawing would be at 10 a.m. and that the winner must be present to win.

Russ Lamb said he will donate an operation manual as a prize for the drawing. All members were encouraged to bring radio related items to donate, which would be awarded as prizes as well. The drawing for the radio would be first, followed by additional draws for the other donated items.

Floyd Creamer pointed out that a special breakfast to benefit the Boy Scouts of America was scheduled at the same time designated for our TSARC, Inc. breakfast on the day of the Ham Fest. He would check to see if we needed to change our repeater message or other publicity to indicate a change in our event calendar for that day. Floyd will notify members on any changes that must be made.

Floyd Creamer announced that he had sent a news release to area newspapers regarding the Ham Fest.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The question of where to purchase shirts with the embroidery of the club insignia/logo was asked. The polo style shirts can be purchased at many retail stores in the area, the club insignia embroidery is being done for \$6.00 by the M & J Engraving Co on Stenger Avenue in San Benito (next to the Stonewall Jackson hotel.) Caps with the embroidery are available and can be purchased at the same location.

Bob Raynor thanked the TSARC, Inc. members who had volunteered their time to assist the Boy Scouts of America in learning about amateur radio. As a result of this special training 17 Boy Scouts completed the requirements and earned a merit badge.

The president announced that the FCC has approved changing the testing for amateur radio license by eliminating the Morse Code requirement. Because of this, the president asked the members to consider the mission of being more of a testing club, of having members become Volunteer Examiners (VEs.) Discussion followed. The president said we needed to have a resident set of VEs, not just seasonal VEs, in order to serve those who are interested in receiving their FCC Amateur Radio License. He said we need to have a testing czar, would prefer this person to be an Extra Class license holder.

The president has five VE manuals available for those who wish to study for the open book test; three were distributed – to George Salinas, Charles Brabham, and Floyd Creamer. Carolyn Ross will hold the two remaining manuals for further distribution.

Russ Lamb will call the FCC to request forms that are needed to order VE test materials. VEs can test one grade below their license grade.

The president reminded members that the two local radio clubs are autonomous, and that the goal is to increase the number of amateur radio hobbyists in this area.

Also, remember that the Morse Code requirement change is not official until it has been published in February, testing could begin as early as March of this year.

The president asked for volunteers to form a committee to look into dates for testing. Volunteers are: Bob Raynor, Ralph Waddup, Charles Brabham with Russ Lamb as an alternate. Their charge is to bring to the February meeting a report that shows time, date, and location for testing.

It was noted that in the past David Wolverine has offered space at the hospital to hold classes.

Floyd Creamer said we've been remiss in not following approved procedures whereby two signatures be required on checks issued by TSARC, Inc. Discussion followed. Ron Hoopman said the bank account card must signify the two signature requirement. President Monsevalles said he will see that the account card be updated to meet this requirement.

Ron Morton moved to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Ross  
Secretary, TSARC, Inc.