

March meeting Minutess
Called to order 7:03 PM 8-March-2011

Welcome:

President Daniel, KC0UTW, had introductions around with a total of 27 including visitors.

Minutes from February meeting approved as distributed via CMRA listserv.

Treasurer report:

Don, KM0R, report is on the kitchen table (walnut).

We are still taking dues for the club, \$20 for 2011.

Old business:

Club station cleanup is going great Dale, AE0S reports. Work by John and Pam and Mike greatly appreciated.

Earthquake exercise: Pam reports showed some problems and hopefully will be corrected in May. Others suggest that Pam is politely reported some failure in the process.

Frozen Toes bike race went very well (KM0R reported). Had many ham volunteers on short notice to run the communication process. Made it very well without much APRS, with about 300 bikers this year. Thanks to all those that came out and helped with the communications for the Frozen Toes bike race.

General Class going well at the club station, Wes, AB0SE reported. Had three classes and about 6 individuals at the tech level. Going great according to Pam. General class material is being brought down to tech level, and is going good.

Still need a second person to help with the **Club Auction**. Contact Pam.

John, KC0HSB, asked about the **Club web site** and how is the **email listserv** going. Listserv going well and minutes were distributed thereby last month. Don reported that there had not been problems with the email process reported. Web site not yet ready Jake, KD0IRU, reported. He was on vacation for the last two weeks.

New business:

Dave, KV0S, reported on the **Weather balloon** project. The idea is to put together a near space flight. This discussion started at BCARES meeting, but will need to be bigger than them. A Sub-group will be set on listserv for this project. **Subscribe with the word Balloon.**

The project will consist of a weather balloon with attached APRS station, and possibly other gear, such as a simplex repeater, may turn into a fox hunt when it lands. It will need a parachute for controlled descent. Dave has looked at the FAA rules, which at a minimum will need to report that the event is taking place. If FAA calls need to report

position so need contact position that is monitoring. Need 5 mile visibility at all altitude. Need pilots to be able to see balloon. Dave has contacted MU atmospheric science dept, which could be a partner in the project. They have flown many balloons. The balloon may achieve 80k to 100k ft altitude. Maybe some schools would like to be involved too. More details of the vehicle include: Styrofoam box casing; 3lb limit payload; costs might go to \$1,000 for this smaller type balloon and payload. This will take some time. Those interested please contact Dave and subscribe to the listserv for this project.

John, N0OFJ, on **fox hunting**: Will be starting, if there is interest, next month. 2-April might be the first hunt. This year use two smaller hunting seasons to keep up the interest of hunters. Two seasons, spring and fall this year. John describe the fox hunt as a hidden transmitter search. It will be transmitting once every 3 minutes or so, for about 30 seconds at a time. The hunters then try to use radios and antennae and teams of people trying to find the hidden transmitter (FOX). We usually are kind of loose announcing on the air how they are doing in finding the fox. We do a driving hunt of about 10 mile radius. Don't have to be a ham to do the fox hunt.

Bob, K0YBN, has stainless steel cable to give away.

Next meeting for April will **not be here at COOP**. Venue yet to be determined.

Weather spotting class at Fulton and here were full. There were many Boone county people at the Fulton event. Instructor had id cards for weather spotter with help, but due to budget cuts Jim didn't know if there would be any more classes and hand out materials were scarce.

If any one is interested in the **T-shirts** that Corey, KC0YNS, advertised please see the secretary tonight or Corey by email.

Moved to adjourn at 7:55.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill, N0AXZ, recording secretary

Program followed meeting by Dewey, WM0H, on **MARS**. He got a kit and tuned in to MARS.