



South Canadian Amateur Radio
Society
Norman, Oklahoma
P.O. Box 720993
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9 February 2002

The February meeting was called to order by VP Ed, N3US in the absence of Pres. Tom, KD5ENL. There were 24 members and guests in attendance. Several more came in later.

Louis, KC5ABI welcomed us all on behalf of the Moose Lodge and spoke about the direction and focus of the organization. Although a private group, they devote a lot of time, effort and money into some worthy causes and civic pursuits. We thank them very much for allowing us to meet here.

Jeff, KT5OK gave the treasurers report of \$1500 and urged all to pay up if they have not already done so. He mentioned that he had not received the member cards from CORA so we were still paying for every member to receive the C&E. I had spoken to Linda via telephone and had authorized that she continue to use our 2001 list for one more month or through February. It was recognized and agreed that we needed a long discussion about CORA and the C&E. At this point I will continue with our minutes and include those comments and discussions for the end of this article.

Ed asked for discussion about Field Day as that will be on us before long. The Moose Lodge has graciously offered the use of the pavilion and this is really appreciated. However, the key concern was timely demonstrated as a freight train passed by just as some of us were arriving. The noise would obviously interfere a great deal with our activities and there are over 20 trains a day passing through. It was approved that we go back to Reaves Park and Louis, KC5ABI agreed to contact the city for reserving the small pavilion. Gayland, KC5MMU again has offered the City of Moore emergency vehicle with the big generator. Thanks Gayland.

Bill, KD5DOB informed the club that he has been asked to be the area ARES Emergency Coordinator and has accepted the position. He will be recruiting members of the club before long. Gayland, KC5MMU announced the upcoming Storm Spotter Training Class that will start March 2nd at the Postal Training Center Marriott. If interested you can pre-register at the Severe Storm Lab website <http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/> You can access this site from the SCARS page as well which, by the way, if you have lost track is at <http://www.w5nor.org> now. He also is seeking input on interest in an area HAZMAT training session. If you think you would be interested in such, let SCARS know and we'll pass it on. Thirdly, the Moore Public Works Dept is having some sort of interference on their simplex frequency of 153.995. This is not malicious but rather some sort of QRN. They would welcome any help in trying to find out the source of this.

Our annual Technicians Class is coming up Monday the 11th and continuing for 8 weeks. It is also at the Moose Lodge from 7 to 9 PM each Monday. It's not too late to participate.

The meeting was basically adjourned and time devoted to a project/demonstration by Joe, W5PNO on connecting a PL259 to coax. Some may find this rather easy but there are a number of us that would rather be whipped with that coax, rather than solder a connector on the end of it and hope that some good RF made it through. I thought for a while he was doing a Gallagher impression, pulling assorted things out of a box, but made it all come together and it was quite educational. Thanks Joe.

Now for the CORA and C&E discussion. This is a dilemma. The discussion that followed took on a number of moods ranging from calm to quite vocal. Everyone had a chance to voice their feelings and opinions and I think, pretty much did. Pointing out who said what, I don't think would serve any purpose here. Here are the main points:

- Our dues are \$25/yr Raising them would not be good.
- Based on \$1/issue for the C&E we would be left with \$13 per member to operate SCARS on.
- Approximately 1/2 of our members do NOT wish to receive the C&E.

- We want to support CORA. We want to support Ham Holiday.
- Members who want the C&E should be able to receive it.
- Is CORA made up of Ham Holiday, Scholarships and the like or is it just the C&E?
- Why should a club draft its bylaws to reflect the fact that receiving the C&E is mandatory to be a supporting member of CORA. How did that ever get approved?
- If we run 100 members and send \$1200 a year to CORA how much is spent on the C&E and how much on Ham Holiday?
- Over the years the increases from .35 to .50 to .75 and now \$1 have supposedly been to keep the C&E solvent. Has this been helping keep Ham Holiday solvent as well?
- A publication like the C&E is nice. However, in today's ham radio environment there are a number of sources to a mind-boggling amount of information. Is it cost-effective to see this same information in the C&E?

These were the main areas of discussion and concern. The end result appears to be this:

SCARS wishes to support CORA and Ham Holiday. We would like for any member that wants the C&E to be able to subscribe to it on their own. However we do not see how we can pay for it out of our current dues structure. This appears to be in opposition to the constitution and bylaws of CORA but we have no choice. Therefore this response will be presented at the next CORA meeting.