



OPEN MIC

A NEWSLETTER OF THE
RUNESTONE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, W0ALX

SEPTEMBER 2016

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REMEMBER SEPTEMBER 17

8am BREAKFAST, BRASS LANTERN, ALEX

10am RARC CLUB MTG, GLENWOOD STATE BANK, ALEX

PRESIDENTIAL SPLATTER... From the shack of WA0EBZ

In a shocking turnaround, the Federal Communications Commission has reversed its decision to halt the printing of paper amateur radio licenses. In fact, federal administrators say they will do just the opposite and expand printing options available to ham operators. The FCC really didn't understand the outcry that would come from the ham radio community. They are getting a lot of bad press on the forums, in social media and at ham club meetings. The reason to eliminate printed licenses was an attempt to reduce overhead, lower expenses and bring the budget more in line with expected revenues. But they may have been shortsighted and are now seeing new cash flow opportunities.

Effective April 1, 2017, applicants receiving a new license or current amateurs renewing existing licenses may opt for one of several print options for a nominal charge. Those options are:

- **Plain paper**; license emailed to you; print at home: FREE .
- **Heavy card stock**; print at agency and shipped in mailing tube to your home: \$19.95 plus shipping and handling.
- **"Old World Style" parchment** with the words "Past Here Be Sea Monsters" along the margins, printed and shipped to your house in well-packed box: \$49.95 plus tip for the delivery guy.
- Richly colored **vellum paper** with license info printed in squid ink; printed and shipped to your home in a hermetically sealed box: \$129.95
- License printed on actual **1-inch thick sheet of lucite** suitable for use as an entire radio operating desk top; printed by laser etcher and shipped via common carrier truck to your residence (*no P.O. Box delivery*): \$1299
- **Tanned 3'x3' deer hide** (shown to the right), license is hand printed by Native American Navajo artisans using buffalo ink; printed and shipped to your home in a secured shipping container accompanied by armed guard: \$4250 (*Note: the FCC does not keep deer hide in stock and must dispatch a team of hunters each time an order is placed, so be patient.*)

The FCC says all hams should take advantage of this new vanity licensing printing program. However orders to be placed soon; they are managed on a first come, first served basis.

73; Wayne (wa0ebz)

RUNESTONE ARC MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 20

1. Present: Norm W7ISD, Dave W0XPC, Mike W0MKE, Mike KC0TAF, George N0RCL, John W0JAR, Bill KG0DX, Wayne WB0KUG, Roger KC0UTA, and Stan T.
2. Vice-President W7ISD called the meeting to order at 10am.
3. August minutes were cited, KC0TAF motion, W0MKE seconded, passed.
4. Treasure W0JAR reported no income or expenses, ending balance of \$3472.00. KC0TAF motion, KG0DX seconded, passed.
5. Trustee was absent so no monthly report.
6. No education report.
7. WB0KUG reported that all repeaters seem to be functioning properly.
8. No PIO report.
9. Annual picnic at noon on August 27 at Kensington Runestone Park with W0ALX operation prior and post meal.
10. No apparent progress regarding SuperLink status.
11. KG0DX reported that 80 meter dipole for Douglas County Law Enforcement has been installed at the Watershed but still needs to be tuned for resonance.
12. NN0Q volunteered to take Net Control for September, N0RCL has October, need fills for November and December.
13. KC0TAF reported on Todd County Community Partners: they are working on quarantine and isolation issues in times of crisis.
14. September program will be conducted by N0RCL.
15. HF bands have been fair to good this last month on 40 and 80. Many DX and contest activities coming this Fall.
16. PICO Net gathering at Perham on September 10.
17. The final rendition of the W0ALX QSL card was previewed and several copies were made available to N0RCL for his use as the QSL manager.
18. KG0DX motion to adjourn, N0RCL seconded, passed.
19. Program consisted of coffee and general discussion.

2016 MONDAY NITE NET CONTROLS

January	Tom KD0MOM
February	Jim KB0INZ
March	Bill KG0DX
April	Mike W0MKE
May	Roger KD0UTA
June	Bill KG0DX
July	George N0RCL
August	Jim KB0INZ
September	Jim NN0Q
October	George N0RCL
November	
December	

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept 17: 8am Coffee/Breakfast, Brass Lantern, Alexandria

Sept 17: 10am RARC Monthly Club Meeting, Glenwood State Bank, Alexandria

Sept 24: 8am Red River Radio Assoc Hamfest, West Fargo Fairgrounds

Oct 3: 8am Breakfast, Truckers Inn, Sauk Centre

Oct 15: 8am Coffee/Breakfast, Brass Lantern, Alexandria

Oct 15: 10am RARC Monthly Club Meeting, Glenwood State Bank, Alexandria

A BIG "THANK YOU" AND "THE WINNERS ARE:"

The family of Maggie N0NYV and Joe KA0PPU (SK) have determined that some of their radio "stuff" may be of interest to RARC members. Consequently, at the last club meeting a Heathkit electronics bread board and a SWR/Power meter were given away. And of course, a BIG THANK YOU goes to Maggie and her family for making these items available to us. Remember, you gotta be there to have your name drawn.

2016 OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

Wayne WA0EBZ	PRESIDENT
Norm W7ISD	VICE-PRESIDENT
John W0JAR	TREASURE
Bill KG0DX	SECRETARY
Wayne WB0KUG	TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
Andy KC0SAL	PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER
Jim KB0INZ	TRUSTEE
John W0JAR	DIRECTOR (2017)
Mike W0MKE	DIRECTOR (2018)
Norm W7ISD	DIRECTOR (2019)



Enjoying the PICO NET Gathering, Perham, Sept 10: Wayne WB0KUG, XYL Lori, George N0RCL, Mike W0MKE