**A Meeting of the Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc. held at Armstrong’s Restaurant and via Zoom.**

The August meeting of the Membership of the Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc. was called to order at 7 p.m., Tuesday, August 3, 2021, by Norman Dallura, KN4YFI, President. Twenty-four members attended in person, one member attended via Zoom. There were four visitors.

**Treasurer’s Report**

The Treasurer report was read by John Chevalaz, KB2LOZ, and was approved as presented.

**Secretary's Report**

The Secretary's report was previously submitted to the membership via email. The minutes, as presented, were accepted.

**ARES Report**

David Tanks, AD4TJ, commented that Hurricane season is upon us. Then he announced that the August ARES net would be held on August 12 at 8 p.m. on a frequency of 146.850. Kevin Numbers, KC8MTV, volunteered to be net control.

**Old Business**

The President reviewed the various public service events VARA will be supporting in the next few months. **Secretary’s Note:** A list of the events and the names of the coordinators for each event can be found on the VARA website.

**New Business**

There was a brief discussion on whether the Christmas meeting should be moved from Golden Coral this year. The consensus was to keep the meeting at Golden Coral.

It was announced that due to increased requirements for the rental of pavilions at Gypsy Hill Park, by the City of Staunton, the VARA picnic would be moved to Pavilion 1 at Natural Chimneys in Augusta County, this year. Set up for the picnic will begin at 10 a.m. and lunch will begin at noon. The date for the picnic is August 28.

The 50/50 drawing was held, and two prizes were awarded.

After the business portion of the meeting was completed, Lenny Vincent, N4LXP, made a presentation on the Practical use of GPS devices for the various public service events VARA supports. He discussed several different GPS programs that are available, some not needing data connections to be operational. He also explained that it would be easier for net control to determine the location of an amateur providing aid at an event if the amateur had one of the GPS programs downloaded to their phone or portable computers.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick J. Morgan

Secretary

**REMINDER**

The Tidewater Hamfest (formerly the Virginia Beach Hamfest) will be held in Portsmouth on Saturday, September 11, this year.