**The April Meeting of the Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc. held at Armstrong’s Restaurant.**

The Membership meeting of the Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc. was called to order at 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 2, 2024, by Norman D’Allura, KN4YFI, president.  Nineteen members and five guests attended.  The usual round of introductions was completed.

**Treasurer’s Report**

The Treasurer’s March report was read by John Chevalaz, KB2LOZ, and was approved.

**Secretary's Report**

The Secretary's report was previously submitted to the membership via email.  The secretary received no corrections to the draft minutes.  The minutes, as presented, were accepted. The Secretary reminded the membership that the deadline for filing nominations for the David Fordham Service Award is April 30. He has received 3 nominations so far.

**ARES Report**

David Tanks, AD4TJ, ARES coordinator, delivered the ARES report.  He reminded the membership that Daylight Savings Time was scheduled to begin the weekend of the 10th.  The ARES Net will be held on Thursday, April 11 at 8 p.m.  The frequency will be 146.850.  He suggested that those who were going to participate in the net should employ something other than their usual antenna, to be prepared for emergency operations. He stated that in May, instead of a net, there would be a fox hunt. He demonstrated a method of hunting for the fox if one did not have a directional antenna. The Coordinator also stated that there would be an FM net on 29.3 MHz on June 13.

**Contests and Special Events**

There will be a Spanish RTTY contest on April 6th, the ARRL Rookie Roundup will be on April 21, there is a Polish RTTY contest on April 27, and the 10/10 International Spring Digital Contest will be on April 27.

No special events were noted.

**Old Business**

The President announced that the VARA Picnic would be held on August 10 at Shelter 4, Grand Caverns Park in Grottoes. There was a discussion of using the Massanutten repeater as a walk-in frequency.

**New Business**

There was no new business.

The 50/50 drawing was held, and one prize was awarded to Bob Beebe, K4UEK.

After the business portion of the meeting was completed, a presentation on Digital Mobile Radio was made by Riley Chandler, KF4EMZ.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick J. Morgan

Secretary