



Meeting Date: 10/7/2025
7:32pm –8:22pm
Zoom Meeting Call

Palmetto Amateur Radio Club

General Meeting Minutes

1) Call to Order by President

- *Pledge allegiance to Flag* **Done!**
- *Board Members Present:* *
- *Board Members Absent:* *
- *Attendance:* *
- General Meeting Minutes approved for [Last Month] **APPROVED**

2) Repeater Status Report (Michael Samokieszyn)

A week ago. So, we found that, we had some, electrical damage, at the repeater site, for those that didn't know. Power to the cabinet, for some reason blew two separate 20amp breakers and obviously it must have been some major electrical storm that took that out. Sometime around that event, we lost the UHF repeater. I did open it up, after I brought it home, and found a very large, burnt spot, so it, it took Either a lightning, damage, strike or electrical surge that came from somewhere Obviously big enough to blow 220amp breakers. So, we made a decision, to repair that repeater, we would have to, send it out. The board casted a vote on a repair and at this time we decided to wait until a better time, since the UHF repeater is not being used, but we are definitely are going to repair it. The VHF repeater is working beautifully. We now have a battery backup solution at the, at the cabinet, or in the cabinet, thanks, to, Ricky for that donation. And we now have polyphasers installed up on a roof, unfortunately, a month too late. It may have prevented the damage, but we do have the roof grounding system tied to a very large ground bus bar and two polyphasers. One for each of the, antennas, so we are in a much better place, now at the repeater site. We installed a GP6 antenna. So, I refurbished it, cleaned it up, it really wasn't used that much, so it's literally a brand-new antenna. It's a much better antenna than the two monopoles that are up there, which are commercial-based antennas. We installed the GP6 it in place of the VHF monopole one, so the VHF repeater is now on a GP6 now. It is better than being in the northeast corner, with some of the building blocking the signal. The second thing we did up there, because we were noticing we were getting a lot of interference on the UHF frequency is we changed the PL tone. The repeater site is picking up, a number of repeaters, some as far as Jupiter. At least one had the same PL tone as ours, so the board made the decided to change the PL tone. The VHF repeater was also experiencing repeater chunking a little more often than it's supposed to so, that is a new PL tone as well.

3) Treasurer's Report (Jim Schwantes)

The club has made \$694.29 as of October 7th on renewals, and testing fees. Anticipated expenses coming up is we'll be renewing our ARRL insurance for the club for \$200 this month. We get a monthly hit on MailChimp for \$13, and we are considering purchasing an equipment policy for the repeater site, which we'll have more information on that by next meeting. Treasurers report posted to Board of Directors Groups.io page.

4) ARRL Testing Report (David Pomerantz)

ARRL testing continues to be available. I have acquired a key for the church to use one of the rooms for our test sessions. Our Vice President has expressed an interest in furthering our testing to the online environment. Our VECs need to get together and work out the kinks before we offer it to new testers.



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5) PARChoppers Report

Vice President Nemury: Next PARChoppers event is at Quite Waters Park in Deerfield. We couldn't do it at Quiet Waters last time because it got rained out, so, we are doing it October 18, 8 a.m. in the morning. It's \$3 to get in. I hope to see everybody over there, and more people. The more people, the best, that way we could get better operations out there, and we'll have fun, in the hobby. Tony (kd4uwu), will prepare something for satellite work, and teach everybody how to work satellites. There's an ISS pass, but it's at 1.46 PM, the other two are too early. AO123 passes over with a 49-degree angle at about 10 o'clock or 10 am, so now Tony is our new satellite guy for the club. Twice a month we will host a net, starting on October 15, it is going to be the first and the third week of the month, so this Wednesday at 7.30pm. Mike Sam will be the honoree first net controller.

6) Other Notes during Meeting

Our Social Media Liaison –

The club would like to congratulate Ben (N7BBE) on his new presidentship of Gold Coast Amateur Radio Association. Malenie Fernandez stepped down as president.

7) Adjournment by President

Nemury, adjourned the meeting at 8.22 pm EST