



Baldwin County Amateur Radio Club (N4MZ)
PO Box 491
Robertsdale, AL 36567

Minutes of the Regular Monthly Club Meeting held October 19, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 18:30 hours CDT by President Joe McIntosh, K4JOM. There were 20 members and 5 guests present. There was a quorum.

Open Meeting, recite pledge of allegiance

Visitors:

Joe welcomed: Lee Fry, AA4LF; Doug Hatten, KQ4CLT; Robert Keen; Gordan M.; and Frank McCloskey, KO4UPU.

Secretary's report- Christine Ryan

Minutes from previous meetings are posted to the website. The Club received several QSL requests from participants in the Alabama QSO Party. To see a N4MZ QSL card go to QRZ.com and enter n4mz in the search box.

Treasurer's Report- Tom Wallace

Tom reported club treasury activity and balances as of 09/30/2023. Remember that you do not have a vote if your dues are not paid up. If you are new, dues are free but you will need to complete an application to receive club emails.

WinLink Activity- John Acton, K7ACT:

Remember that the software for Winlink is free. John posts a new question for Winlink Net members every Tuesday. It is posted to the club website: N4MZ.com.



VE Report:

The next VE exam is scheduled for 11/04/2023. Contact Joel Emmett, W2BJN, directly for more information.

The last VE session took place on 10/07/23. There were 4 candidates; resulting in 1 Technician, 1 upgrade from Tech to General, and 2 who passed both Tech and General exams.

OLD Business:

Bike MS was a huge success and BCARC volunteers were appreciated.

Joe McIntosh, K4JOM, and Greg Powers, WG0MEZ, installed the OCF 80/40 dipole antenna at the EOC. It is installed as an inverted vee.

Congratulations to the N4MZ Contesters: Joel Emmett, W2BJN; Ron Thomas, N4RT; and Ken Bell, K4EES. They accomplished several 1ST places in the Alabama QSO Party: 1ST place of ALL AQP competitors! 1ST place AQP State of Alabama! 1ST place all AQP CW Operators! The new record set by N4MZ/Covington County stands at 49,000 pts. (previous record 2,200 pts.).

New Business:

A new District Coordinator for Alabama ARES has been appointed: Roy Davis, K5RMD.

The Club has a new repeater at the EOC. It can be found at: 443.375/448.375MHz with a 82.5Hz tone. The identifier is N4MZ.

BCARC now possesses 4 Baofeng HT “loaners” to be made available to newly licensed hams – with some stipulations.

A slate of club officers was proposed for 2024. Voting will take place at the November meeting. If you would like to propose some other candidate it can be done at the November meeting. The proposed slate is as follows: President – Greg Powers, WG0MEZ; Vice-President – Joe McIntosh, K4JOM; Secretary – Christine



Ryan, KE4WKH; Treasurer – Tom Wallace, KN4DND; Board Members at Large – Ken Bell, K4EES; Joel Emmett, W2BJN; Emery Wooten, KC5LIO.

Good of the Club:

There is to be a POTA activation in early November. Stay tuned.

Program – Greg Powers

VNA Review: Vector Network Analyzer

Youtube @IMSAIGUY provided a “how to” with the VNA. (#480) VNAs run between \$50-\$100. Buy only from a reputable source. You can find discussions about analyzers on the web at groups io.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm CDT
Submitted, Christine Ryan, Secretary.