

AARC Board meeting 27 January 2026 – Official Meeting Minutes

6:03 pm Call to order. Present: Adam KD0MMG, Dan N0POT, Jim KX0U, Matt N3PAY, Russ NE0G, and Sean AD0GQ. Adam moves to adjourn at 19:35. Jim KX0U seconded. Passes. 7:35 meeting ended.

Meeting minutes for the December 2025 AARC board meeting were approved.

Treasury report:

1. Income \$796 from dues and expenses of \$50 for storing the tower trailer.
2. The operating trailer is stored at the True residence. Bill WA9ASD is a SK.

Vice President's report:

1. Mark W5TSU will give the February presentation about using a Hermes Lite as a primary transceiver.
2. Jim is working on both local & remote speakers.
3. Jim may give the March presentation.
4. Sean suggests having a backup. Especially with zoom. And it's flu season etc.
5. Lock picking by Adam's talk is on deck too.

President's report:

1. Sean emailed John WB0CMC on 1/27/2026 about the new meeting format and asked him to send an email to the board if there's anything the board needs to know about the repeater.
2. Sean plans to write a column for the Ham Hum as a communication device with the club.
3. Sean plans to bring membership applications to VE testing sessions and encourage people who pass to take advantage of AARC's free membership for the year you pass the exam.

Events committee: No news

ARES committee: 24 Feb 2026: DC-ARES will be having an in person meeting with training during at the 80th & Center Red Cross building

SATERN committee: No news

VE Testing committee: 2/14/2026 — Sean will pass out membership applications. They get a free first year of membership.

Membership committee: On 16 Jan 2026 Matt asked Mary to learn the procedure for keeping the membership database up to date and to reach out to the new members. There was no reply. Matt plans to ask in person during a sidebar at the Feb meeting. Email is not a perfect communication medium. Update from 2/20/2026: During the February meeting Matt N3PAY had

a brief chat with Mary N0TRK where he got the impression that he was not needed or welcome on the membership committee. This is ok with N3PAY.

Education committee:

Tech Saturdays

Status: no update (Sean). Sean plans one tech Saturday a quarter. Sean will create a schedule and send it to Mary N0TRK so they can happen at the EDS. For March the focus is 2m antennas.

Matt N3PAY arranged venues for several technician classes. Initial plans are:

1. To align with the 2026 May 9 in person exam date two locations have been acquired, by Matt N3PAY, for a free class helping people prepare for the FCC Technician Class License exam. The classes will be primarily based on resources: HamBook.org and HamStudy.org which are available for free.
 - a. Every Monday evening in April 2026 5 pm to 8:30 pm at the UNO Community Engagement Center (free parking is included). The class size limit is 9 people.
 - i. This is 14 contact hours (instead of the BARC style 24). Matt N3PAY is keen to teach this section of the class.
 - b. The ConAgra room Red Cross Heartland Building 2912 S. 80th Ave:
 - i. For the experimental one day class Sean AD0GQ has been talking about: Saturday 11 April 2026: 8 am- 5 pm.
 1. NOTE: 4/11/2026 is when BARC's HamFest is taking place. Matt N3PAY will not be available to help with Technician class on that day.
 - ii. For a more traditional class (24 contact hours over three Saturdays):
 1. 8 to 5 pm on Saturdays 4/18, 4/25, and 5/2/2026.
 - a. Note we have the room from 7:30 to 5:30 because we can set up and restore the room to how it was.
2. **Questions about Technician class for discussion include:**
 - a. Does anyone want to teach the one day class on 4/11/2026? If not, let's release the room. Answer: Sean volunteers to lead it.
 - b. Who wants to team teach at the Red Cross? – Jim will lead, the team includes Matt N3PAY, Russ will assist, Sean will help too and bring the building key.
 - c. How many people does the ConAgra room hold?
3. **Reminder about Technician Exams:**
 - a. 2/14/2026 1pm at Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services Building
 - b. 5/9/2026 1pm at Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services Building
 - c. 8/8/2026 1pm at Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services Building
 - d. 11/14/2026 at Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services Building
 - e. Note that online exams are available most days and usually require two cameras (one on you, and one showing your hands on the keyboard).

Field day committee: no one is on this committee. There was a discussion about what might be done. There were no volunteers or nominees for the field day committee.

Old Business:

From Sean's Highlights the numbers match December 2025's minutes

1. Discussion between Sean (AD0GQ) and Adam about continued Red Cross facility use, and possible club equipment recovery (ie antenna). Sean agreed to engage with the Red Cross.

- Status: There was no response.

2. The Board discussed moving the operating trailer from Bill True's (SK) driveway to a paid storage facility. Adam agreed to research this.

- Status: Antenna (Dave Rice constructed) trailer has some rust but no one at the meeting knows if it's usable. Decking rust, wiring needs fixing, mast is good, rotator is good, antenna stored on it were good last summer, tires were good during last visit.

- 15, 20, 40 meter multi trap beam antenna and rotator.

- Sean plans to do maintenance on the trailer. He hopes to use it at UNO Field day.

- Operations trailer storage quotes – depend on how much space is needed.

- 8x25 – \$42/month

- 10x25 – \$44/month

- 12x25

- Cost between \$42 and \$50 per month

5. The Board discussed opening an account with VistaPrint for club branded things such as coffee mugs.

- Dan N0POT contacted vista print. 11oz mugs in quantity (20 mugs) are just under \$10.
 - \$180 for 20 mugs shipping included.
- Status: Adam found that Mary created an Aksarben mug many moons ago
 - https://www.zazzle.com/11oz_coffee_mug-168141598757490590
 - Matt N3PAY ordered one and it's great because it's customizable. For \$16.44 a nice 15 oz tuxedo mug with a call sign on it. Matt N3PAY paid for a year of free shipping from Zazzle in case other folks want to order through him:



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6. Sean agreed to secure the 2026 club picnic site.

- Status: Sean will contact them this week. 20 Feb update: Sean has announced the picnic.

7. Matt agreed to research which bylaws are currently filed with the State, to compare with Blaws currently governing the club. The Bylaws committee will work to resolve discrepancies and file current Bylaws with the State.

- Status: Done. Search for "N3PAY downloaded" in the [December 2025 minutes](#).

Other old business that needs following up:

- a. TODO(Sean AD0GQ): Equipment committee should have 3 members. Call for members!
 - i. **Status: tabled**
- b. TODO(AD0GQ): Grant proposal that Sean & Dudley want to write requires measurement data and could be to fix and spruce up both the antenna trailer and operating trailer. Need to inventory the trailer and see what needs to be fixed.
 - i. **Status: tabled**
 - ii. October is schools on the Air – Sean & Dudley want to have a local ham radio presence at schools. Using the operating trailer (and perhaps, the antenna trailer) would be nice.

New Business

Saturday 8pm 224.7 NET is nice. Participation is increasing. Important for the future of HAM radio because it's all too easy to lose frequency. Part of the band went to UPS. Is there a way the club could think about promoting that band? [AL0R](#) repeater

Sean - Let's talk about giving anniversary awards to folks. Also hall of fame or life time achievement awards. Norm and his Monday night net is also a great example. Norm is approaching 50 years as a club member.