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Meeting Minutes

Majors Field ARC Meeting Minutes 10/11/2018

- Meeting was called to order @ 1145

Officer Reports

- Meeting minutes for May meeting are in the latest edition of "Airwaves".
- Treasurer Report delivered by John Nelson. No expenses, \$10 deposit.

Subcommittee Reports

- Repeater Update – Work day on October 20th @ 0900. Any volunteers can show up at the MSTF gate.
- November meeting to be held earlier in the month – Nov 8th.

Upcoming Events

- "Ham Radio Day" at the MTC in Commerce, TX. Victor offered to carpool with anyone interested in attending.

Old Business

- Cotton Patch bike challenge was well-supported.
- Social media sites needs content.

New Business

- Must hold another test session this year in order to meet required quota.

Presentations

- N/A.

Attendees

- John Nelson Jr - N0DFW
- Larry Smith - K5XB
- Chris Rutz - K5RTZ
- Scott Joseph - AG5QQ
- Wesley Sparks - WB5GPA
- Hommy Figueroa Salas – KG5SKP
- Jonathan Brown - WB5KSD
- John Pizzicaroli – N7CDL
- David Rogers – KG5KPU
- Scott Davis – K5PS
- Victor Paul – WB0TEV (via phone)
- Michael Ketchum - K5MDK



- Mark Arvidson – AG5GL

Meeting adjourned @ 1210.

Written by Secretary Scott Davis – K5PS

President's Letter

Winter is coming!

Not just a GoT thing. It really is coming. Time to be thinking about your “low band” plans and performance, as noise on 160 through 40 meters abates and the bands lengthen earlier in the evening.

Meetings

We made it through last month's meeting OK. We did not have a program, per se, but we had plenty to discuss with preparation for N5C (it will start the next day after this month's meeting). Winter Field Day is January 26-27, 2019. The folks at Rains County EOC are still expecting us for Winter FD. Those are the coming events we will be discussing at the meeting.

As always, feel free to bring your ideas for club activities to the meetings. Also, we'd love to hear what's going on at your shack. Remember you get an extra ticket for the end of year drawing when you present a program.

Nominations will be opened for next year's slate of officers. Please consider volunteering to run for office.

Club Projects

There has been some action at our trailer at the MSTF since the last meeting. Some moving and some setting up of the new equipment has been accomplished, I hear. I haven't heard a report yet so I guess we'll all find out about it at the meeting. Looking forward to full internet connection for the 70 cm multi-mode digital repeater, and a tech refresh of the 2 m repeater, including linking to the 440 machine north of town for full Hunt County coverage.

As mentioned above, we will be operating call sign N5C as a Special Event Station on November 10th and 11th with set-up on the 9th. We need operators to sign up. David Rogers is our chairman for this event.

There has been a suggestion we launch an elmering/mentoring effort through the club. This is a very worthy effort we should undertake. We didn't get that launched last month but we still need to do it. We will be holding one more Technician licensing class and test session middle of next month, before the break. Therefore, January is probably a good time to start it. Please make yourself available and sign up to help with this important project.

What else would like to see your club do? HF station? Contesting? Kit building? PCS fundraiser? Bring your ideas to the meeting and let's get something started.

ARRL

AIRWAVES



Continuous Reminder: As an ARRL Affiliated club, the club gets to keep a whopping \$15 of your initial membership fee to ARRL or \$2 of your ARRL annual membership renewal. See a club officer for a form to join or renew with ARRL.

See you at the meeting Thursday. Bring a friend, and feel free to bring your lunch.

73,
Larry
K5XB
MFARC President

Written by President Larry Smith – K5XB

The Luxembourg Effect

Have You Heard of the Luxembourg Effect?

I would be surprised if you had, as it's a rare phenomenon.

While testing the radio frequency distribution system in one of the System Integration Labs (SIL), I noticed a strong signal on the spectrum analyzer at 222.325 MHz, that is in the 1.25 meter band and there is not much activity on that band in this area so I pulled up the audio and received a surprise. I heard a commercial radio station with the Majors Field automated weather observation station (AWOS) audio mixed in. Neither signal should not be in the amateur portion of the RF spectrum.

After a few moments, the commercial radio station announced its call sign as KETR, which is in Commerce, TX. The AWOS is located on the airfield and the audio was more discernable 20 kHz either side of the center frequency.

KETR transmits at a frequency of 88.9 MHz FM and the AWOS transmits at 133.425 MHz AM, when the frequencies are added you get the sum of 222.325 MHz. The two frequencies were being heterodyned in the atmosphere! The stronger of the signals, the AWOS, transmits for 22 seconds with a 7 second pause and the audio from KETR is only audible when the AWOS is transmitting.

It is called the Luxembourg Effect as it was first documented in 1933 by Bernard Tellegen (the inventor of the Tetrode Vacuum Tube) while he was listening to a Swiss radio station but also heard Radio Luxembourg audio mixed in with the Swiss station. The effect only occurs when the broadcasting and receiving stations are in line with one another. Normally when the effect occurs when the stations are hundreds of miles apart, so for the effect to be so apparent when the stations are in close proximity is even rarer.

If you find yourself in one of the SIL's, seize a receiver, tune to 222.325 MHz FM and experience a radio rarity for yourself.

Written by Scott Joseph – AG5QQ



MFARC Holiday Party

All Majors Field Amateur Radio Club members are invited to the QTH of K5MDK for a Holiday Party. Finger foods will be provided, for those hungry fingers. Mark the date, **Friday, December 14th at 6pm.** Find K5MDK's QTH at QRZ.com or the FCC Database. Albeit to say, it is located behind the Audie Murphy / American Cotton Museum in Greenville. More details to be released, such as whether the annual raffle will take place at that time or not.

Written by Vice-President Michael Ketchum – K5MDK

Calendar

- Nov 8 MFARC Meeting at 11:45am at B136-A Kitty Hawk Conference Room.
- Nov 9-11 N5C Special Event Station Cooper Lake State Park South Sulphur Unit.**
- Nov 10 Rains County ARC Meeting at 9:00am at Rains EOC, 200 Industrial Blvd, Emory.
- Nov 15 SVARA Meeting at 7:00pm at Hunt Regional Hospital.
- Nov 17-19 ARRL November Sweepstakes – Phone
- Nov 20 Rockwall ARC Meeting at 7:00pm at Soulman's BBQ in Rockwall.
- Nov 24-25 EME – 50 to 1296 MHz
- Nov 30 - Dec 2 160 Meter
- Dec 8-9 ARRL 10 Meter <http://www.arrl.org/10-meter>
- Dec 13 MFARC Annual Meeting at 11:45am at B136-A Kitty Hawk Conference Room.
- Dec 14 MFARC Holiday Party at QTH of K5MDK at 1800.**
- Dec 16 ARRL Rookie Roundup – CW <http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>
- Dec 18 Rockwall ARC Meeting at 7:00pm at Soulman's BBQ in Rockwall.
- Dec 20 SVARA Meeting at 7:00pm at Hunt Regional Hospital.
- Dec 22 Van Zandt County ARES meets at 9am at the Canton Library.
- Dec 26 SKCC Sprint – CW www.skccgroup.com
- Jan 1 Straight Key Night <http://www.arrl.org/straight-key-night>

AIRWAVES



REGULAR ACTIVITIES

- Daily DFW Early Traffic Net (NTS) at 6:30pm 146.88 – PL 110.9Hz
- Daily DFW Late Traffic Net (NTS) at 8:30pm 146.72 – PL 110.9Hz
- Daily DFW CW Traffic Net (NTS) at 7:00pm and at 10pm on 3541 KHz <http://www.k6jt.com>
- Tues. Rockwall ARC Net at 7:00pm 441.525 + PL141.3
- Thurs SVARA Net Every Thursday night at 7:00pm on the K5GVL/R 146.780 MHz (+) PL 114.8Hz
Meets every Thursday night except on SVARA meetings 3rd Thursday of each month.

Officers

- President:** Larry Smith – K5XB
president@w5nni.net
(254) 644-6465 cell
- Vice President:** Michael Ketchum – K5MDK
vice-president@w5nni.net
(972) 408-6573 cell
- Secretary:** Scott Davis – KK7JS
secretary@w5nni.net
- Treasurer:** John Nelson Jr. – N0DFW
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(903) 454-0911 cell
- VE/Class Team Leader:** Joseph Scott – AG5QQ
classes@w5nni.net
- Club Trustee:** Jonathan Brown – WB5KSD
trustee@w5nni.net
- Contest/Activities:** David Rogers – KG5KPU
contest@w5nni.net

Club Repeaters

- Club Station:** TBD
- VHF Repeater:** W5NNI/R
147.160 MHz (+) PL 100.0 Hz
- UHF Repeater:** W5NNI/R DMR
444.625 MHz (+) Rx-SQ PL 151.4 Hz

AirWaves is a production of the Majors Field Amateur Radio Club

We're on the Web! Find us at: <http://w5nni.net>

Your article submissions are welcomed. Please submit to editor@w5nni.net.