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Meeting Minutes

Majors Field ARC Meeting Minutes 2/13/2020

- Meeting was called to order @ 1155.

Officer Reports

- Meeting minutes for January are in Airwaves.
- President's Report
 - Status of E-Club
 - Remove HF rig at MSTF
 - MFARC shirts, hats from Greenville Trophy.

Subcommittee Reports

- Form committee to pursue remote HF station.

Upcoming Events

- Next MFARC meeting on March 12th – “Bring a friend”.
- SKYWARN training to be held on Feb 13th.

Old Business

- Loss of payroll deductions for E-Club. They're looking into possibly having PayPal payments.

New Business

- Updated rules for year-end prizes (approved by member vote).

Presentations

- N/A

Attendees

- Meeting adjourned @ 1245
- No attendance this last month

Written by Secretary Scott Davis – K5PS



MFARC Bank Statement for February

Beginning balance:		\$2,088.49
Income:		
Club Dues from Jae Stutzman – K5JAE	\$10.00	
Club Dues from Shawn Crossland – N6REP	\$10.00	
Club Dues from Jose Santiago – KG5SKR	\$10.00	
Club Dues from Craig Nichols – NT5CN	\$10.00	
E-Club Dues from Craig Nichols – NT5CN	\$25.00	
Expenses:		
Check #1054 to E-Club for Scott Joseph Dues	(\$25.00)	
Check #1055 to E-Club for Craig Nichols' Dues	(\$25.00)	
New balance:		\$2,113.49

Provided by Treasurer John Nelson Jr – W7JOY

Presidential Greetings and Salutations...

Pesky RF in the Shack: Here recently, I have been plagued with RFI/EMI issues in the shack. Whenever I would fire up the 811H amp, my computer would start making that sound it makes when you plug in a USB device. Occasionally, it would just lock up like a brick, requiring a hard reboot. I have had the amp for almost 2 years, without any issues. It wasn't until I started running FT8 and had to use a multi-port USB extender to make up for the lack of USB ports on my old, out-of-date

laptop that the issue popped up. Crossing my fingers and hoping for an easy (and cheap) solution), I ordered some snap-on ferrite beads from HRO (MFJ-700C4). I was able to get at least three, and in some cases five, wraps of wire through the ferrite chokes. After installing them on every cable coming in and out of the laptop (see figure 1), I am happy to report that the RFI/EMI issues have disappeared.



HF Remote Station Postponed: The HF remote station at the MSTF has been postponed. Taking into account the uncertainty surrounding eClub funding moving forward, the club voted unanimously at the last meeting to play it safe and abstain from spending the \$1,500 that was

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up for approval. This doesn't mean that the project won't happen. But, it will be an item that the club can revisit at the beginning of 2021, after we have a better idea of the viability of the eClub, and how disbursements will be handled. To that end, I encourage people to spend the \$25, and join the eClub. Without our support, the eClub will go the way of the Dodo Bird.

2M AllStar Link: It may be a weeee bit more difficult to install an AllStar link on our 2m repeater than we originally anticipated. Don't fret, though –we are still looking at options and work-arounds, and plan to “adapt and overcome.” Once we establish an AllStar link, our sphere of influence will expand dramatically. Soon, we will take over the World.

2m/70cm local link: If you have participated in the weekly 2m NET (Tuesday @ 11:45; 147.160 + PL100), you may have noticed there is a mysterious tone that can be heard from time to time. That is the link to our 70cm repeater (443.900 + PL100) timing out. We are currently working to resolve this issue. Of course, this, too, is proving to be a little more difficult than expected. It seems that we can't just set the egg timer to a longer duration and call it a day. Nope. We are having to disassemble the link, and send some equipment to Jim (W5ZIT) in Tucson for a bit of reprogramming. Aside from not having two locally linked repeaters for a month or so, there shouldn't be any noticeable interruption in service. Both repeaters will function as they normally would, just minus the link.

TxPOTA: Next month is the annual Texas State Parks on the Air. As is our tradition, MFARC has rented shelter #17 (with amenities –microwave, 'fridge, HVAC) at Cooper Lake South Sulphur Unit. The event is the 18th and 19th of April. I will be heading out on Friday the 17th to set up. All comers are welcome.

Shirts, Hats, and Mugs: This Thursday is the deadline to place an order for Polo shirts, Hats, and coffee mugs. Money must be collected NO LATER THAN Friday the 13th. I will send out a final email later this week to remind everyone.

Well, ladies and germs, I have perused all of the yellow sticky notes that clutter my desk, and I do believe that about wraps it up for this month. 73 and Good Hamming to everyone.

David Rogers
KG5KPU

Written by President David Rogers – KG5KPU

Skywarn Training

If you missed out on any of the area SKYWARN TRAINING sessions, this Saturday in Rockwall will be your chance to get trained for the next two years. It will be held at the Rockwall County Library in Rockwall from 9 to 11am. Located next to the large court house building, the Rockwall Library will have a training class on the left or right as you go in. Look for the sign.

Written by Editor Michael Ketchum – K5MDK



COVID-19 Precautions – Visitors to plant no longer allowed

With a cross-functional leadership team adjusting to information regarding COVID-19 virus, further restrictions have been put in place. The latest is the cancellation of attendance to trade shows, conferences or external events, such as School Recruiting. These restrictions will be in place through April 10th. Additionally, visitors to the L3Harris plant will no longer be allowed until further notice. Restrictions do not apply to badged contractors and service providers. However, visitor approval can be done through a Functional Vice President, along with a health self-assessment form prior to visit. Instead, job candidates and other visitors are encouraged to use Skype or other forms of video conferencing.

The move released today compounds other travel restrictions recently imposed to only include Business Critical Travel, which includes required customer visits to perform business, bids or other meetings that cannot be handled by electronics means.

We will continue to watch our personal hygiene and take steps to practice good habits now, in the event that COVID-19 makes a visit close to home.

Written by Editor Michael Ketchum – K5MDK

Calendar

- Mar 12 Majors Field Amateur Radio Club Meeting – Lawson CR at 11:45am.
- Mar 14 Skywarn Training, Rockwall County Library, Rockwall 9-11am
- Mar 14 Rains ARA Meeting at 9:00am at Rains EOC, 200 Industrial Blvd, Emory.
- Mar 14 HamEXPO Spring 2020 Belton, TX <https://www.tarc.org>
- Mar 17 Rockwall ARC Meeting at 7:00pm at Soulman’s BBQ in Rockwall.
- Mar 19 Sabine Valley Amateur Radio Association Meeting – Hunt Regional Hospital 7:00pm
- Mar 21 WCARC Swapfest Round Rock, TX <https://wcarc.com>
- Apr 9 Majors Field Amateur Radio Club Meeting – Lawson CR at 11:45am.
- Apr 17 Rockwall ARC Meeting at 7:00pm at Soulman’s BBQ in Rockwall.
- Apr 18 Emory Tailgate Hamfest, Emory TX <http://w5ent.org>
- Apr 19 Sabine Valley Amateur Radio Association Meeting – Hunt Regional Hospital 7:00pm

[March 2020 Contest Corral – CLICK HERE](#)

[April 2020 Contest Corral – CLICK HERE](#)

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>
Mon Hopkins Co NET at 7:00pm 146.680 – PL 151.4Hz
Mon Rains Co NET at 7:30pm 146.920 – PL 88.5Hz
Tues. Majors Field Lunch time Net at 11:45am 147.16 + PL100Hz
Tues Rockwall ARC Net at 7:00pm 441.525 + PL141.3Hz
Tues K5VOM Net at 8:00pm. News Bulletin at 7:30pm, Allstar 49668 - 441.800 (+) – PL 100Hz
Thurs SVARA Net Every Thursday night at 7:00pm on 146.780 MHz (+) PL 114.8Hz
Thurs QRP Fox Hunt http://www.qrpxhunt.org/summer_rules.htm
2nd Wed of each month – ARRL NTX ARES Net 8:30pm local on 3860

Officers

- President:** David Rogers – KG5KPU
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- Vice President:** Jonathan Brown – WB5KSD
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- VE/Class Team Leader:** Scott Joseph – AG5QQ
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- Club Trustee:** Jonathan Brown – WB5KSD
trustee@w5nni.net
- Contest/Activities:** David Rogers – KG5KPU
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Club Repeaters

- Club Station:** TBD
- VHF Repeater:** W5NNI/R
147.160 MHz (+) PL 100.0 Hz
- UHF Repeater:** W5NNI/R DMR D-Star Fusion
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.