



## W5AC Texas A&M University Amateur Radio Club



Thursday, February 8, 2017

### Draft Minutes from the February TAMU ARC Monthly Business Meeting

President/KG5LYQ called the meeting to order at 1932. Vice-President/AG5JH, Treasurer/KG5SDD, and Secretary/KF5TZN were also present. There were 10 voting members, 0 non-voting members, and 1 visitors present. The quorum requirement was certified by KF5TZN.

#### President's Report:

- **NACC:** KE0MXN, KG5LYQ, and KM4OPI worked the collegiate competition and placed 5<sup>th</sup>.
- **MSC Open House:** KG5LYQ, KG5SDD, KF5TZN and AG5JH, all represented the club at the Spring Open House. They were able to speak with a few interested students. An informational session was held at the shack on Jan. 29<sup>th</sup>.
- **Communications Apps:** KG5LYQ mentioned possible options for club member communication. The members present decided on using Slack, to complement the existing listserv channel. To join go to [tamu.slack.com](http://tamu.slack.com) and send kglueck a message.
- **Net Control:** KG5LYQ passed around a sign-up sheet to assist with hosting the weekly net. If you wish to help, you may contact him to get on the list.
- **New Ham Checklist:** KG5LYQ has created a resource for new Hams, containing great information on getting started in the hobby. He also ask for any input from the members. This checklist is attached below.

#### Vice-President's Report:

AG5JH reported on the following,

- **Mess Hall:** The snacks in the shack have been refilled. If you have any additional requests, please fill out a form located in the mess hall area.
- **Keurig:** A coffee maker has been placed in the mess hall area. At the moment there are no coffee pods available in the shack, please bring you own.

**Treasurer's Report:** KG5SDD presented an overview of the state of the club's finances since the last meeting.

**Secretary Report:** KF5TZN reviewed the minutes from the April 2017 Monthly Business Meeting. The minutes were accepted as written.

- **Big Event:** W5AC will have a group at the Big Event! If you are interested in participating, please register before Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> using the access code below. The Big Event takes place in March 24<sup>th</sup>.  
Access Code: [FFDEF-00548](#)

**QSL Manager's Report:** W5MHN provided the following updates:



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- **ARRL DXCC:** 310 mixed entities worked, 306 confirmed and 7 slot filled in the band/mode matrix (310/305 last month).

**Webmaster's Report:** KA5VLC mentioned that as this year comes to an end, the position of Webmaster will be opening. To help out, a knowledge of PHP is needed.

### Historian's Report:

- **QSL Card Guess:** W5QZ displayed a few call signs and challenged members to guess the country.
- **Vocab:**
  - a. **Slim** – A person pretending to be a DX
  - b. **Slop Jar** – An early design of a battery

### Club Business:

#### Old Business:

- **Tower Work:** W5MHN mentioned that 2m antenna is still broken. Tower work is needed to fix and is pending scheduling.

#### New Business:

- **Tower Rotor:** Rotor will not point North West, will still rotate in a limited range. Those who use the rotor are ask to be cautious until a work session is conducted.
- **ARRL School Club Roundup:** In preparation of the School Club Round Up, KG5LYQ simulated a pile up in the shack. For more information, watch the list serve.
- **Shack Plumbing:** In short, the water at the shack is back on.
- **Shack Maintenance:** N5TLT mentioned that as a matter of safety all egress routes must be open at all times.

#### Good of the Order:

- **Bouvet DXpedition:** W5QZ brought up that the Bouvet DXpedition was called off due to equipment failure and inclement weather.
- **Kosovo:** Kosovo is now on the air. This country is rare due to age, but operators are on the air often.
- **License Exam:** Bryan ARC (W5BCS) will be hosting an amateur radio license exam on February 17<sup>th</sup> at 8:00AM.

**Next Meeting:** The March Monthly Business meeting will be at the shack on Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 1930.

**Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 2007.



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### **Program:**

**Historian:** W5QZ gave a display of his Tube radio and demonstrated the functionality of his demo spark gap transmitter. Additionally, he spoke about the small triangles on the tuning dial. These triangle are called Civil Defense Triangle and used to denote what frequency the civil defense radio station are on.

### **Satellite Contact Demo:**

AC5NB gave a great demonstration on using an RTL-SDR to listen to the downlink of Ham satellites overhead.

Respectively submitted,

Kyle Flaherty /KF5TZN

TAMU ARC Secretary



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### Callsign Index:

Joshua Shaffer	AG5JH
Valerie Castellano	KA5VLC
Kyle Flaherty	KF5TZN
Lucas Hastings	KG5LYQ
Jacob Morgan	KG5SDD
Marty Nau	W5MHN
Dave Gent	W5QZ
Kevin Glueck	N5TLT
Bill Preston	KZ3G
Connor Farrell	WG1GEM
Jace Nelson	KE0MXN
John Kliewer	AC5NB
Matthew Conn	KG5VGM
John Walker	W1JCW
Davis Hutto	KF5ZPP
Daniel Ghan	KM4OPI