



W5AC Texas A&M University Amateur Radio Club



Thursday, May 07, 2015

DRAFT Minutes from the TAMU ARC Monthly Business Meeting

President KG5GDV called the meeting to order at 1900. Vice-President/Treasurer/KF5TYT and Secretary/W5MHN were in attendance. There were 7 voting members, 1 non-voting member and 3 visitors present.

President's Report: KG5GDV provided an overview of the Executive Committee meeting:

- a. Club Recognition: W5AC is officially a Recognized Student Organization at TAMU. There are several requirements which must be completed annually to maintain this recognition. Our new club officers are currently pursuing these requirements, including TAMU directed on-line training modules and various system data updates.
- b. Summer projects: W5QZ, KF5TYT, and W5MHN will be in the local area this summer and will continue to work on getting the shack sorted, presentable, and operational.
- c. Recruitment: As part of an on-going effort in membership recruitment, KG5GDV will put together a presentation on W5AC and Amateur Radio and pilot it during an EE class; W5MHN will prepare a flyer for review and W5QZ volunteered to assist with any projects. The club is currently looking for ways to bring in new members so if you have any that you would like to submit, please email them to clubofficers@w5ac.tamu.edu.
- d. Constitution: The Executive Committee is reviewing and updating the W5AC Constitution with an eye to having the document finalized by September so that it can be voted on in October. The W5AC Club Station Rules will also be updated.
- e. MSC Fall Open House: This is the campus-wide Student Organization Showcase and Recruiting Fair organized by the MSC at the beginning of each semester. The event will occur the first Sunday after school resumes in the fall on September 6 from 1300 - 1700. W5AC will put an HF and



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VHF/UHF station on the air as well has have Fox Hunt demonstrations. We will begin looking for volunteers to staff the table for one hour shifts sometime in mid-August.

Treasurer's Report: KF5TYT reported that a copy of the current treasurer's report will be posted on the W5AC Shack bulletin board for review.

Secretary's Report: W5MHN reviewed the minutes from the April 2015 Monthly Business Meeting that were posted to the listserve and on the W5AC Shack bulletin board. Motion from N5TLT, seconded by W5QZ to accept the minutes as published - the motion passed on a voice vote.

Club Business:

Old Business:

- a. Ground Rod: Driven; W5MHN will run copper over the summer.
- b. Rotor: KZ5M reported during the Monday night W5AC net that the brake circuitry is installed and that the rotor tests fine. He will return it to the shack.
- c. Force 12: W5QZ provided an update to the Force 12 build:
 - All elements, less 40 meters have been assembled
 - 2 of the 4 loading coils for 40 meters were missing; Force 12 has been contacted and are shipping the missing items
 - Due to the end of the academic year and the Dayton convention, assembly will continue the last week in May or first week of June; plan is to 1) install the rotor, mast, thrust bearing, 2) finish assembling the 40 meter elements, 3) attach elements to boom, boom to mast, and tune the tips
 - Estimated completion in June

New Business:



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- a. N5TLT stated work orders are in to repair the skirting/flushing around the perimeter of the building and to attend to a minor leak in the roof.
- b. KF5AZU informed the club that the Mizzou Amateur Radio Club/W0ZOU at the University of Missouri, part of the SEC network, is back on the air after a 10 year hiatus
- c. KF5AZU announced he received his QSL card from K1N Navassa - the second most wanted DXCC entity in the world! Whoop!

Next Meeting: The September Monthly Business meeting will be at the shack and is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, September 10, 2015 at 1900.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 1919.

Program: DXCC Status: W5QZ presented a W5AC DXCC Countries Confirmed Board for display in the shack. Our current DXCC Status:

| | |
|------------|-----|
| Mixed: | 285 |
| CW: | 171 |
| Phone: | 226 |
| Digital: | 10 |
| Challenge: | 236 |
| 160M: | 6 |
| 80M: | 9 |
| 40M: | 28 |
| 20M: | 65 |
| 17M: | 0 |



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| 15M: | 70 |
| 12M: | 0 |
| 10M: | 61 |

Foxhunting/ARDF: W5QZ has been invited by Joe Moell/K0GV to the USA Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) Championships held August 27-30, 2015 in Colorado. Dave plans to attend and gather information for improving our ARDF capabilities on campus.

AMSAT: W5QZ shared information that the AMSAT Fox-1A satellite passed the final testing step (5 days of environmental tests) and was passed to Cal Poly SLO for integration into the spacecraft. Launch is currently scheduled for late August from Vandenberg AFB. Three other Fox satellites are also nearing completion. It is possible we might have four new satellites launched within the next 18 months.

These AMSAT birds are carrying experimental devices developed by college student teams at Virginia Tech, Iowa, Penn State and Vanderbilt. Perhaps someday a team from TAMU will participate.

Respectively submitted,

Martin Nau/W5MHN

TAMU ARC Secretary