



## W5AC Texas A&M University Amateur Radio Club



Thursday, October 08, 2015

Draft Minutes from the TAMU ARC Monthly Business Meeting

President/KG5GDV called the meeting to order at 1930. Vice-President & Treasurer/KF5TYT and Secretary/W5MHN were also present. There were 11 voting members, 2 non-voting members and 3 visitors present. The quorum requirement was certified by W5MHN.

**President's Report:** First item was Officer Elections - with some nominations from the previous meeting in September. KG5GDV opened floor for any additional nominations - resulting in the following candidates:

President: Yucheng Guo/KG5GDV  
Vice-President: Mark Racciato/KF5TYT  
                  Kevin Saygi/(awaiting call)  
Treasurer: Mark Racciato/KF5TYT  
Secretary: Martin Nau/W5MHN

After a quick run off for the position of Vice-President, which resulted in Kevin being chosen and as there were only one individual for each position, W5XTT motioned and N5TLT seconded that we accept the current slate of officers by acclamation which passed on a voice vote. The club officers for academic year 2015-2016 are as follows:

President: Yucheng Guo/KG5GDV  
Vice-President: Kevin Saygi/(awaiting call)  
Treasurer: Mark Racciato/KF5TYT  
Secretary: Martin Nau/W5MHN

KG5GDV next presented the revised constitution. W5MHN reviewed the revisions discussed at last month's meeting. N5TLT and W5QZ motioned/seconded that we accept the modification to the election cycle and W5QZ/KZ3G motioned/seconded that we accept the additional membership category. Both motions passed on a voice vote.



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KG5GDV then reviewed open positions within the club. He explained that anyone wishing to fill a directorship, manager, or trustee position should contact any member of the Executive Committee for consideration.

**Station Trustee:** Currently filled by K5ZM

Shall hold a General Class Amateur Radio License or higher class license and shall accept full responsibility for operation of the club station with regard to the FCC.

**Director of Operations:** Vacant

Shall be responsible for all group activities involving radio communications including contests and public service efforts

**QSL Manager:** Currently fill by W5MHN

Shall be responsible for sending, receiving, distributing, and organizing all contact cards generated through the use of the club station, along with maintaining adequate supplies to perform these tasks efficiently.

**Director of Public Relations:** Vacant

Shall be responsible for all flyers, meeting notices, press releases, school newspaper notices (including "What's Up?" submissions to The Battalion), and other tasks associated with strong media relations.

**Director of Repeater Operations:** K5ZM

Shall be responsible for coordinating maintenance on all club repeaters, including the resolution of any frequency coordination conflicts that may arise from time to time, and maintaining the frequency coordination status on all club repeaters.

**Newsletter Editor:** Currently filled by W5XTT

Shall be responsible for the gathering of information to publish regularly in a club newsletter, and distributing the newsletter in a timely fashion. The newsletter editor is responsible for keeping subscription records.



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While not included in the overview the following position is open until such time as the station is capable of and personnel are trained in the handling of traffic.

### **Director of Traffic Handling:**

Shall be responsible for ensuring that a representative of the club regularly checks into traffic nets and for maintaining the integrity of traffic passed during emergency events. The director of traffic handling must also ensure that monthly reports of traffic handling are sent to the ARRL Section Traffic Manager

**Treasurer's Report:** KF5TYT presented an overview of the state of the club's finances since last month and reported that a copy of the treasure's report will be posted on the W5AC Shack bulletin board for review.

**Secretary's Report:** W5MHN reviewed the minutes from the September 2015 Monthly Business Meeting. Motion from W5XTT, seconded by N5TLT to accept the minutes as read - the motion passed on a voice vote.

**QSL Manager's Report:** W5MHN reported that the clubs DXCC status is currently 287 Mixed Entities confirmed (up from 285 last month) and 36 new slots have been filled in the band/mode matrix. He further reported that while we missed Cocos/Keeling during its activation, and based on original projections of working 290 ATNOs by the end of the year, we are currently ahead of schedule with 293 ATNOs worked in the log.

A quick discussion was then held regarding QSL confirmations for ATNOs and any special entities. W5XTT/KZ3G motioned/seconded that the general membership encourage and support obtaining QSLs as part of station operations within the club budget. Motion passed by voice vote.

**Newsletter Editor:** W5XTT reported since last month, in addition to the webpage and listserve, W5AC now has a Facebook page, a Facebook group and are pursuing a Google Services account through the school. He then presented Volume One, Number One of The Wireless, W5AC's newsletter. It will be distributed electronically to keep costs down and be posted to the listserve and website. He emphasized that he is the editor and not the



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reporter and asked for input from the membership. When out playing radio, take a picture; add the who, what, where, when, how, and a descriptive paragraph or two and send it to [clubofficers@w5ac.tamu.edu](mailto:clubofficers@w5ac.tamu.edu), the soon to be acquired [w5ac@tamu.edu](mailto:w5ac@tamu.edu), or post to Facebook.

### Club Business:

### New Business:

- a. **School Club Roundup:** KG5GDV and W5QZ briefed the upcoming School Club Roundup contest. The contest will occur the third full week of October, the 19<sup>th</sup> through the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Club officers and mentors will be available as control operators so that any club member, licensed or not, can participate against the other schools. A further schedule and training opportunities will be provided separately.
- b. **November Sweepstakes:** KG5GDV and W5QZ briefed the upcoming Sweepstakes contests. The CW portion will occur the first full weekend in November and the Phone portion will occur the third full weekend. There are still several records to be claimed in the School category as well as several records that have stood unchallenged for quite some time now that the club could consider challenging.
- c. **Google Services Account:** KG5GDV directed W5XTT to collaborate with N5TLT to establish a google services account through the university. The email address associated with the account will be [w5ac@tamu.edu](mailto:w5ac@tamu.edu).
- d. **Fundraising:** KG5GDV talked about fundraising. It takes money to run a club. The clubhouse needs work; the equipment needs work; activities have associated costs. The club is looking for ideas and ways to make money. One idea posited was to have advertising in the newsletter. Another was to assist with stadium clean up on Sundays or placing placards before football games. The issue is on-going and is an open item. Any suggestions are welcome and will be considered.
- e. **V/UFH Studio:** As a temporary solution to the state of the clubs coffers and the condition and capability of the clubs



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current gear, KG5GDV led a discussion about postponing the completion of the V/UHF studio and setting the room aside for a special project. The club would work with people willing to loan more modern and capable gear to the station. As this would be equipment on loan to the club, the room would be locked separately from members' access to the shack and anyone wishing access would undergo training on the operation of the equipment. The idea was well received by the membership. N5TLT/W5XTT motioned/seconded that a committee be formed to pursue a method to secure the door that would fall within the club's budget and meet with the requirements of the owners of the equipment. N5TLT will chair the committee while W5QZ, KF5TLT, and KG5GDV volunteered to be members. The committee will report their findings and recommendations at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

- f. **Networking:** N5TLT and KE5ISM working in their roles as advisors to the club have done the leg work to have internet access provided to the clubhouse. A request has been prepared for the club to submit to TAMU Networking. Internal LAN/WiFi will be a self-help project by the club.
- g. **FlexRadio Systems:** K3ZG attended the Southern California HamCom in Torrence, CA. While there he met Steve Hicks, the VP of Engineering at FlexRadio. There is an opportunity for the club to establish a relationship with FlexRadio that could be mutually beneficial. After some discussion, the club decided that W5XTT and KZ3G will draft a letter to be sent from club leadership opening a dialog with FlexRadio Systems. W5QZ is also involved in any discussion regarding club station equipment and capabilities.

### Good of the Order:

- a. W5QZ talked about two W5AC scholarships that he established at TAMU. One is with the ECE department and another one with Student Services. Provided applicants are otherwise eligible, active members of W5AC have preference for the ECE (one) and Student Services (several) scholarships. Scholarships for this school year have been awarded - but



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applications are currently being accepted for the scholarships to be awarded next school year.

- b. KZ3G presented a Techtronics 50MHz analog oscilloscope to the club that one of his friends, Walter Clark, donated to the club. A plaque for the 'scope and letter of appreciation will be drafted and sent.
- c. KG5GDV reminded everyone that the club holds Foxhunts on main campus every Friday from 4:00 - 6:00pm. We meet at Sully for our base of operations.
- d. KG5GDV informed everyone that W5BCS has invited our club to join them in a social at C&J BBQ on Friday from 6:00-8:00pm and then on Saturday at a Radio in the Park at Tanglewood Park on Carter Creek Drive from 11:00am to 3:00pm.
- e. W5MHN stated that both he and KF5TYT call the weekly net from the shack on Mondays and that if anyone wished to stop by and operate, they were willing to spend a few hours helping out.

**Next Meeting:** The November Monthly Business meeting will be at the shack on Thursday, November 12, 2015 at 1930.

**Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 2033.

**Program:** Ron Hambric/N5SBN, Emergency Coordinator for Brazos County ARES, presented a program on the local Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) organization.

Respectively submitted,

Martin Nau/W5MHN  
TAMU ARC Secretary



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### Callsign Index:

KZ3G Bill Preston

KE5ISM Eric Laird

KF5TYT Mark Racciato

KG5GDV Yucheng Guo

KZ5M Mike Mertes

N5SBN Ron Hambric

N5TLT Kevin Glueck

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W5MHN Martin Nau

W5QZ Dave Gent

W5XTT Tom Talley