



W5AC Texas A&M University Amateur Radio Club



Thursday, September 8, 2016

Draft Minutes from the TAMU ARC Monthly Business Meeting

President/KG5GDV called the meeting to order at 1905. Vice-President/KG5JYY, Treasurer/KG5JYZ, and Secretary/KG5LYQ were also present. There were 11 voting members, 0 non-voting members, and 7 visitors present. The quorum requirement was certified by KG5LYQ.

President's Report: KG5GDV reported on the following,

- **Water/Sewage:** The connections have been made to the shack over the summer. The faucet in the soda mess room now has running water as do the two bathrooms and the toilets within them.
- **Webmaster:** The Executive Committee appointed Valerie Castellano/KA5VLC webmaster. She will be taking care of the W5AC website (<http://w5ac.tamu.edu>).
- **Foxhunt:** Will begin again weekly on Fridays. The tentative meeting times are from 1500 to 1800, however the exact times will be sent out on the listserv the week of. The location is on campus next to the Sully statue.

Vice-President's Report: KG5JYY reported on the following,

- **T-Shirts:** A new batch of t-shirts will be coming in by the time of the next meeting. Pricing and other information will be discussed during the next meeting.
- **Fridge:** The fridge in the soda mess room has stopped working. N5TLT replaced it with a new fridge but it has also stopped working.

Treasurer's Report: KG5JYZ presented an overview of the state of the club's finances since the last meeting and reported that a copy of the Treasurer's report will be posted to the W5AC Shack bulletin board for review.

Secretary Report: KG5LYQ reviewed the minutes from the May 2016 Monthly Business Meeting. A motion was made to accept the minutes as read and was seconded – the motion passed on a voice vote.

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



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- **ARRL DXCC:** mixed entities worked, 303 confirmed and 39 new slots filled in the band/mode matrix (309/302 last 309 May). The new confirmed entity was Guinea.
- **Triple Play:** Phone is complete, 10 states remaining in digital and 46 in CW.
- **5-Band WAS:** 80 meters: 32 remaining, 40 meters: 4 remaining, 20 meters: complete, 15 meters: 5 remaining and 10 meters: 15 remaining.

NPOTA Standing Committee: W5MHN reported 157 NPS entities confirmed on the Leader Board and 33 National Parks toward the Honor Roll (76/15 last month). He emphasized that we will need at least 46 parks to make the Honor Roll cut at the end of the year.

W5QZ activated Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historic Park (NHP) and Fort Davis Heritage NHP while WB5WBW activated Chickasaw National Recreation Area over the summer bringing the club's activation total to four. Additionally, WB5WBW's activation qualifies the club for a Five-Star Activator Award.

Club Business:

Old Business:

- **2016 Fall MSC Open House:** Open House occurred last Saturday, September 4th. W5AC had a table located on the Kyle Field Plaza. Thanks to W5QZ, AC5NB, KG5JYZ, KG5GDV, KG5LYQ, and KA5VLC who worked the booth.
- **Club Donations:** Not discussed this meeting.

New Business:

- **Camp Hope Event:** Camp Hope, a facility that supports veterans with PTSD, is hosting an annual fundraiser barbeque on Saturday, October 15th. As part of this event they have invited W5AC to compete with N5XU on 20 and 40 meter SSB. W5AC has agreed to participate and will send a few members to the location in Houston to operate, as well as to have someone operating at the shack. The portable station in Houston will operate as K0D/AM. KG5GDV will send out an email asking for interested members via the listserv email.
- **School Club Round-Up:** A contest sponsored by the ARRL with the purpose of exchanging contacts with club stations that are part of an elementary, middle, high school or college. This event will take place the week of Monday, October 17th through Friday,



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October 21st. W5AC will be participating in this event. We placed first in the college division last spring semester. This is a great opportunity for new members or potential members new to radio to get interested and participate. No callsign is required as long you are with somebody that has one with the appropriate privileges. KG5GDV will send out an email to sign up for the event via the listserv email.

- **W5AC Reunion:** A possible reunion of former members may return on the weekend of an off game. More information will be presented at the next meeting if the event will happen.

Good of the Order:

- **Shack Projects:** W5MHN gave a broad overview of some of the summer projects:
 - W5DZ replaced the barrel connectors in the HF studio patch panel along with crafting new pig tails some coax runs and fixing the TS-930S radio.
 - W5DZ, W5XTT, AC5NB made initial preparations to put in a halo arrangement grounding system for the shack and to tie it into the tower ground. They flagged locations around the perimeter of the shack to sink rods however facilities never responded to our requests to mark utility runs for power and water. The project is on hold pending the work request.
 - AC5NB tested and continues to test the many random lengths of coax in the shack to determine what is still good and what can be discarded.
 - N5TLT upgraded the shack wireless to 802.11n from 802.11g, replaced thermostats, oversaw one of the AC units repair, as well as generally cleaned up and organized the room and cabling runs and mounted gear in racks. Additionally, he swapped out the hardware for the running W5AC-2 digipeter which should enable rigging functions directly.
 - W5MHN put up a folded dipole for club use. It is his antenna but on loan to club until his departure or club wants to replace with something else.
 - W5QZ reported that trouble shooting and local diagnostics of winch have not found the issue causing the ground fault nor have consultation with manufacturer. He also hung a customized building sign over the entrance walkway. Overall, the major impediments to shack projects this summer were the winch failure and lack of site survey by facilities. He did not go into any depth beyond thumbnail sketches as this was a combined initial meeting of this academic year and semi open house for potential new members from the Open House.
- **License Upgrades:** Congratulations to KA5VLC on acquiring the Technician license and KG5LYQ on upgrading to Extra.



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- **VE Session:** Bryan ARC will be hosting a VE session the third Saturday of this month, September 17, 2016. It will begin at 08:00 at the USDA on F&B Road.

Next Meeting: The October Monthly Business meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 2016 at 1930.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 2002.

Program: No program this month.

Respectively submitted,

Lucas Hastings/KG5LYQ

TAMU ARC Secretary

Callsign Index:

AC5NB John Kliewer

KA5VLC Valerie Castellano

KG5GDV Yucheng Guo

KG5JYY Kevin Saygi

KG5JYZ Spencer Capps

KG5LYQ Lucas Hastings

N5TLT Kevin Glueuk

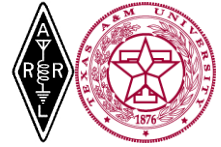
N5XU tu Amateur Radio Club

W5AC Texas A&M Amateur Radio Club

W5BCS Bryan Amateur Radio Club



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W5DZ Dick Zimmer

W5MHN Marty Nam

W5QZ Dave Gent

W5XTT Tom Talley

WB5WBW Wes Hinton