

Minutes
Pentagon Amateur Radio Club
June 2, 2010

The meeting was chaired by club president Dr. Gene Kaiser and called to order at 12:00 PM. Introductions of members present were made.

The 15 club members in attendance were: Steve Butler – W4HA, Van Evans – KB3XC, John Croft – K3NT, Hugh Katz – K3HU, Gary Sessums – KC5QCN, Terry Hines, N4ZH, David Trachtenberg – N4WWL, Ken Heitner – WB4AKK, Phil Kania – KJ4GYJ, Uldis Adamson – N4TE, Ben Baddley – W4FQT, Gene Kaiser – KI4BUI, Joe Dumas – N2LJD, Marland Thurston, and via telephone conference call, Larry Caramia – WA2NBT.

A motion was made by Mr. Joe Dumas to approve the May 2010 meeting minutes as distributed to club members via e-mail. Mr. Terry Hines seconded the motion. The motion was approved by majority vote.

A DoD communications exercise involving military airborne assets is scheduled for June 11th. The participation of the Pentagon Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) Station has been requested to provide both voice and data communications during the exercise. Several members volunteered to staff the station during the exercise.

A report was given on the annual Armed Forces Day Cross Band Test (AFDCBT) that was conducted on Saturday May 8, 2010. The Pentagon MARS Station had the highest number of military/amateur contacts of all of the military radio stations that participated in the event. Captain Rick Low, USN who has been the coordinator of the AFDCBT for many years has received Permanent Change of Station (PCS) orders and will be completing his Pentagon assignment soon. Mr. Gary Sessums will take over as AFDCBT coordinator starting with the 2011 event.

Several club members' shared their experiences attending the annual Dayton Hamvention held on May 14-16 2010 in Dayton, Ohio. Mr. Ben Baddley was able to procure a replacement high voltage cable needed to repair the Ten-Tec Titan 425 linear amplifier and place it back into service. At the MARS forum, an interim Chief of Air Force MARS was introduced. TSgt Jason Sandifer will take over from Chief Allen Eiermann upon his retirement later this month. An audio transcript of the MARS forum is available on-line.

Mr. Larry Caramia announced that we now have a new telephone conference bridge available that supports multiple concurrent callers. It is available for members to use if they are physically unable to attend the monthly meeting. Due to the limited size of the conference bridge, the telephone number and access code will closely regulated and only given to active club members.

It was noted that the Manassas Hamfest is scheduled for Sunday June 13, 2010. A PDF flyer can be downloaded from <http://www.w4ovh.net/hamfest.htm> A MARS booth will be available for members to visit and conduct eyeball QSOs.

The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) annual Field Day event is scheduled this year for Saturday June 26th. The Pentagon Amateur Radio Club (PARC) and the Arlington Amateur Radio Club (AARC) will conduct joint Field Day operations at the American Red Cross located at 4333 Arlington Boulevard Arlington, Virginia 22203. PARC members are invited to come out to visit and/or operate during the 24 hour period from 2:00 PM Saturday through 2:00 PM Sunday. Food and beverage will be provided.

The next PARC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday July 7, 2010 at 12:00 PM in the Pentagon MARS Station, room 5D1061A.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM.