

Minutes
Pentagon Amateur Radio Club
www.k4af.org

February 2, 2011

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

The 16 club members in attendance were: Ken Heitner – WB4AKK, John Miller – KE4JEM, Terry Hines – N4ZH, Van Evans – KB3XC, Ben Baddley – W4FQT, Bob Lipp – W4LIP, Hugh Katz – K3HU, Claude Hennessey – KG4TVN, Eugene Kaiser – KI4BUI, Gary Sessums – KC5QCN, Phil Kania – KJ4GYJ, Larry Caramia – WA2NBT, Darrel Adams – KA5DWZ, Doug Donnell – KD4MD, Uldis Adamsons – N4TE, and Harry Rensel – KF4CFZ.

A motion was made by Mr. Ben Baddley to approve the January 2011 meeting minutes as distributed to club members via e-mail. Mr. Terry Hines seconded the motion. The motion was approved by majority vote.

It was noted that the Frostfest hamfest is scheduled for Saturday February 5th at the Richmond Raceway Complex http://rats.net/jml/images/ff2011/2011_mailorder-flyer.pdf and that the Winterfest hamfest is scheduled for Sunday February 27th at the Annandale campus of Northern Virginia Community College. <http://www.viennawireless.org/flyer/2011.01.pdf>

Dr. Gene Kaiser reported on the National Guard Bureau's annual Domestic Operations (DOMOPS) Conference that was held January 18-20 at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center located on the Potomac River at National Harbor, Maryland. Several members from the club staffed a booth at the conference, demonstrated live HF radio communications, handed out literature, and answered questions from conferees on how MARS could provide contingency radio communications support to the National Guard Bureau in their role of providing Defense Support to Civil Authority (DSCA).

Mr. Gary Sessums gave a briefing on contingency radio communications support provided by the Pentagon MARS Station during State of the Union operations conducted on January 25th for the Presidential address to Congress.

Mr. Van Evans gave an update on digital communications operations. Van and Mr. Ken Heitner continue to work on expanding the station's voice and data contingency radio communications capabilities using MIL-STD protocols in order to support DoD mission requirements.

Following up on a discussion reported in the December 2010 PARC meeting minutes, Mr. Bob Lipp made a motion to have the Ten-Tec Titan 425 linear amplifier returned to the factory for repair. Mr. Uldis Adamsons seconded the motion. The motion was approved by majority vote. Repair costs will be paid out of the club treasury and by individual donations from club members.

It was noted that Charles William Hennessey – W4AT, father of club member Claude Hennessey, became a Silent Key in late December at age 85. He had been an active amateur radio operator for over seventy years and was featured in the 1946 ARRL Handbook. Amateur radio runs deep in the Hennessey family. Charles's love of amateur radio was passed onto the next generation, with five of his six children becoming amateur radio operators themselves.

The next PARC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday March 2, 2011 at 12:00 PM in the Pentagon MARS Station, room 5D1061A.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 PM.