

Minutes Pentagon Amateur Radio Club

www.k4af.org

June 1, 2011

In the absence of club president Dr. Gene Kaiser, the meeting was chaired by Mr. Gary Sessums and called to order at 12:00 PM. Introductions of members present were made.

The 21 club members in attendance were: Hugh Katz – K3HU, John Miller – KE4JEM, Jerry Stueve – K4INT, Dennis Wilson – KD4WGN, Larry Caramia – WA2NBT, Gary Sessums – KC5QCN, Ken Heitner – WB4AKK, Rae Ohlert – N5VFR, Peter Kean – K2AXI, Sean Anderson – KR4YO, Phil Kania – KJ4GYJ, Terry Hines – N4ZH, Keith Weisz – W3ISZ, Hans Blondeel Timmerman – NB2T, Doug Donnell – KD4MD, Uldis Adamsons – N4TE, John Lagozzino – KK4AHY, Don Lewis – KI4D, Harry Rensel – KF4CFZ, Van Evans – KB3XC, and via telephone conference bridge, Gene Kaiser – KI4BUI.

A motion was made by Mr. Ken Heitner to approve the May 2011 meeting minutes as distributed to club members via e-mail. Mr. Phil Kania seconded the motion. The motion was approved by majority vote.

As mentioned in the May meeting minutes, the club's UHF amateur radio repeater, K4AF, is still off of the air due to construction and building renovations underway at the DoD transmitter site location. Service is expected to be restored when the contractor finishes electrical system upgrades.

Mr. Larry Caramia gave a report on the annual Armed Forces Day Cross Band Military/Amateur Radio Communications Test that was conducted on Saturday May 14, 2011 from the Pentagon Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) Station.

Mr. Hugh Katz gave a report on his recent trip to the annual Dayton Hamvention held on May 20-22, 2011 in Dayton, Ohio. Several other PARC members attended this year's event as well.

The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) annual Field Day event is scheduled this year for Saturday June 25th. The Pentagon Amateur Radio Club (PARC) and the Arlington Amateur Radio Club (AARC) will again 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.

Mr. Don Lewis reported on the status of the repair of the club's Ten-Tec Titan 425 linear amplifier. The amp has been delivered to the Ten-Tec factory in Sevierville, Tennessee and is awaiting repair.

The Manassas Hamfest is scheduled for Sunday June 12, 2011 at the Prince William County Fairgrounds. A PDF flyer can be downloaded from <http://www.w4ovh.net/hamfest.htm>.

Hans Blondeel Timmerman PB2T/NB2T, Region 1 President of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) which represents national associations of radio amateurs from Europe, Africa, Middle East and Northern Asia, gave a brief overview of the IARU.

It was noted that the ARRL June VHF QSO Party runs from 1800 UTC Saturday, June 11 through 0300 UTC Monday, June 13. This amateur radio contest occurs at the beginning of the summer sporadic-E season which facilitates the bouncing of radio signals off highly ionized atmospheric gas in the Earth's ionosphere, allowing for long-distance communication at VHF frequencies on the 6 meter and 2 meter amateur radio bands with stations hundreds, or even thousands of miles away during a band opening. The objective of the event is to work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees by 1 degree grid squares as possible during the contest window. For complete contest details, visit <http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf-qso-party>. The station is available to those wishing to participate.

The next PARC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday July 6, 2011 at 12:00 PM in the Pentagon MARS Station, room 5D1061A where our guest speaker, Major Sean Anderson, USAF, will give a presentation on the Global Positioning System (GPS).

The meeting was adjourned at 12:43 PM.