

Minutes
Pentagon Amateur Radio Club
www.k4af.org

November 2, 2011

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 23 club members in attendance were: John Croft – K3NJ, Dennis Wilson – KD4WGN, Phil Kania – KJ4GYJ, Hugh Katz – K3HU, Hans Blondeel Timmerman – NB2T, Van Evans – KB3XC, Walter Jones – KC7HEX, Peter Kean – K2AXI, Eugene Kaiser – KI4BUI, Richard Bunn – N4ASX, Gary Sessums – KC5QCN, John Miller – KE4JEM, Harry Rensel – KF4CFZ, Terry Hines – N4ZH, Doug Lindsey – KZ3H, Steven Karty – N5SK, Jerry Stueve – K4INT, John Lagozzino – KK4AHY, Uldis Adamsons – N4TE, Don Lewis – KI4D, Doug Donnell – KD4MD, Mike Carey – KK4EXV, and via telephone conference bridge, Larry Caramia – WA2NBT.

A motion was made by Lieutenant Colonel Walter Jones, ARNG, to approve the October 2011 meeting minutes as distributed to club members via e-mail. Mr. Jerry Stueve seconded the motion. The motion was approved by majority vote.

Mr. Uldis Anderson retrieved a large volume of mail from the club's post office box containing QSL card requests from the special event station operated from September 11-September 12 1100Z-0100Z during the 10th anniversary commemoration of the 9/11 attacks on the United States. Major Robert Anderson, USAF, is working on the printing and distribution of QSL cards for the event.

Mr. Phil Kania reported on the 54th annual Boy Scouts of America Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA) event that was held on October 15th at the station. PARC hosted a visit from a local Arlington, Virginia Cub Scout Pack. The Cub Scouts made numerous amateur radio contacts with other scouts at JOTA stations located around the United States.

The PARC Volunteer Examiner (VE) team reported on their recent exam session. Major General Michael Carey, USAF, earned his amateur radio license during the exam session and attended today's PARC meeting. Additional exam sessions will be made available to the Pentagon community on a regular basis.

It was noted that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will conduct the first ever nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS). This nationwide test will occur on Wednesday, November 9, 2011 at 2 PM eastern standard time and may last up to three and a half minutes. The EAS is a national alert and warning system established to enable the President of the United States to address the American public during times of national emergencies. During this test period, regularly scheduled television, radio, cable, and satellite programming will be interrupted as the system is being tested.

The 36th annual Marine Corps Marathon (MCM) was held this past Sunday, October 30th. The Marine Corps has sent a letter of appreciation for the station's annual digital radio communications support of the MCM medical net during the marathon.

Dr. Gene Kaiser gave a briefing on a High Frequency (HF) radio communications network that he worked on early in his career that provided links between the former Sonderstrom Air Force Base located in Greenland sixty miles north of the Arctic Circle and two Distant Early Warning (DEW) Line radar stations located below the North Pole. The DEW Line consisted of a string of continental defense radar installations that stretched from Alaska to Greenland which provided early warning of any invasion from Soviet nuclear bombers during the Cold War.

The next PARC meeting will be the annual Christmas party with refreshments scheduled for Wednesday December 7, 2011 at 12:00 PM in the Pentagon MARS Station, room 5D1061A.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:54 PM.