

**Minutes**  
**Pentagon Amateur Radio Club**  
[www.k4af.org](http://www.k4af.org)

**April 4, 2012**

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

The 21 club members in attendance were: Hugh Katz – K3HU, John Miller – KE4JEM, Rae Ohlert – N5VFR, Dennis Wilson – KD4WGN, Terry Hines – N4ZH, Dave Maples – WB4FUR, Gary Sessums – KC5QCN, Rick Bunn – N4ASX, Darrel Adams – KA5DWZ, Peter Kean – K2AXI, Ben Baddley – W4FQT, Eugene Kaiser – KI4BUI, Uldis Adamsons – N4TE, Don Lewis – KI4D, Phil Kania – KJ4GYJ, Robert Carroll – N3KDC, Nicholas Curcuru – KI4LFG, Joseph Tock – K4RFS, Steve Karty – N5SK, Daril Zednik, and via telephone conference bridge, Larry Caramia – WA2NBT.

A motion was made by Ms. Rae Ohlert to approve the March 2012 meeting minutes as distributed to club members via e-mail. Colonel Joe Tock, USAF, seconded the motion. The motion was approved by majority vote.

Dr. Gene Kaiser briefed that the annual Armed Forces Day Cross Band Military/Amateur Radio Communications Test will be held on Saturday May 12, 2012. Operations will be conducted from the Pentagon Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) Station using the DoD call sign WAR and we will once again be one of the stations broadcasting the Secretary of Defense digital message. Club members wishing to participate in this event should e-mail MARS Station Manager Gary Sessums or sign up in person at the May meeting.

It was noted that the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Rookie Roundup runs from Sunday April 15 1800 Zulu through 2359 Zulu. This event is held each April, August, and December for newly-licensed operators in North America to experience radio operations with as many other stations as possible on the 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 meter amateur radio bands. Complete contest details are available on the ARRL website and the station is available to those wishing to participate.

Mr. Gary Sessums gave an update on station facilities. He reported on the procurement of additional equipment for the communications center with the donation of twin 48" tall Harris RF-3230 rack mounted radio systems from the National Communications System (NCS). The Pentagon MARS station serves as an alternate operating location and backup net control station for the SHARES HF radio program master control station, KGD34. The equipment includes a RF-3230 distribution panel, RF-3230 1-Kilowatt linear power amplifier, Rockwell MDM-2001 HF modem, RF-3200E HF ALE transceiver, and a RF-2602 status monitor.

It was noted that the station's Secure Telephone Equipment (STE) was recently re-keyed and the crypto card inventory updated by the COMSEC custodian.

Mr. Hugh Katz reported that the annual Dayton Hamvention is scheduled for May 18-20 2012 in Dayton, Ohio. Several club members said that they plan to attend this year's event. The meetup/rally point for PARC members will be the Joint-Service MARS booth located in the exhibit hall. Complete hamfest details and a list of scheduled forums can be found on-line at URL <http://www.hamvention.org/>

It was noted that the DoD Washington Headquarters Service (WHS) InfoNet information kiosks located around the Pentagon and other DoD facilities in the area feature advertisements for the monthly PARC meeting. The ads run in rotation prior to club meetings held on the 1st Wednesday of each month.

Mr. Uldis Adamsons, treasurer, gave an update on the status of the club's financial accounts and also stated that he had paid the rent on the club's Post Office Box.

The next PARC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday May 2, 2012 at 12:00 PM in the Pentagon MARS Station, room 5D1061A.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:47 PM.