

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

**February 1, 2012**

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: Jerry Stueve – K4INT, Terry Hines – N4ZH, Rebecca Starborne – KB3WTW, John Miller – KE4JEM, Dennis Wilson – KD4WGN, John Croft – K3NJ, Ben Baddley – W4FQT, Gary Sessums – KC5QCN, Ken Heitner – WB4AKK, Van Evans – KB3XC, Richard Bunn – N4ASX, Hugh Katz – K3HU, Phil Kania – KJ4GYJ, John Lagozzino – KK4AHY, Robert Anderson – KR4YO, Don Lewis – KI4D, Uldis Adamsons – N4TE, Walter Jones – KC7HEX, Calvin Trowbridge, John Kim, and via telephone conference bridge Eugene Kaiser – KI4BUI.

A motion was made by Lieutenant Colonel Walter Jones, ARNG, to approve the January 2012 meeting minutes as distributed to club members via e-mail. Major Robert Anderson, USAF, seconded the motion. The motion was approved by majority vote.

It was noted that the Frostfest hamfest is scheduled for Saturday February 4, 2012 at the Richmond Raceway Complex [http://rats.net/jml/images/ff2012/2012\\_mailorder-flyer.pdf](http://rats.net/jml/images/ff2012/2012_mailorder-flyer.pdf) and that the Winterfest hamfest is scheduled for Sunday February 27, 2012 at the Annandale campus of Northern Virginia Community College. <http://www.viennawireless.org/flyer/2012.01.pdf>

The National Guard Bureau's annual Domestic Operations (DOMOPS) Conference will be held at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center located on the Potomac River at National Harbor, Maryland Wednesday February 22 through Friday February 24, 2012. The Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) has again been invited to attend, display, and brief at this annual conference.

Mr. Gary Sessums gave a briefing on contingency radio communications support provided during the State of the Union Presidential address to Congress on Tuesday January 24, 2012. Net operations were conducted on MARS, SHARES, and Federal government radio frequencies.

A DoD communications exercise will be held on Tuesday February 7, 2012. The exercise will involve providing contingency communications support between MARS stations, airborne assets, and Federal government HF stations. A portion of the exercise will test interoperable communications using MIL-STD 188-110A PSK and MIL-STD FSK (RTTY) data modes.

Mr. Uldis Adamsons, treasurer, gave an update on the status of the club's financial statements.

As noted in the December 2011 meeting minutes, the door to the Pentagon MARS station was recently upgraded with new access control equipment. The new card reader keypad is capable of reading both the current Pentagon building pass and also Department of Defense Common Access Cards (CAC). In compliance with Homeland Security Presidential Directive-12, swipe access to the Pentagon via CAC will be mandatory later this year which will require the issuance of new access cards to some of our members.

Attorney and author Calvin D. (Cam) Trowbridge Jr. gave a very informative presentation on Guglielmo Marconi (1874-1937), the "father of radio", based on his recent book entitled *Marconi: Father of Wireless, Grandfather of Radio, Great-Grandfather of the Cell Phone, The Story of the Race to Control Long-Distance Wireless* (ISBN-13: 978-1-4392-6390-7). Mr. Trowbridge donated a copy of his book to the station library.

The next PARC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday March 7, 2012 at 12:00 PM in the Pentagon MARS Station, room 5D1061A.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:47 PM.