

Minutes Pentagon Amateur Radio Club

www.k4af.org

April 3, 2013

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 26 club members in attendance were: Rae Ohlert – N5VFR, Dave Maples – WB4FUR, Douglas Lindsey – KZ3H, Terry Hines – N4ZH, Hugh Katz – K3HU, John Lagozzino – KK4AHY, Jonathan Branker – KJ4GYR, John Croft – K3NJ, John Miller – KE4JEM, Phil Kania – KJ4GYJ, Douglas Ellmore – NA1DX, Ron Startzel – KB5LNC, Daryl Noel – W4EC, Paul Estavillo – KB1GOB, Darrel Adams – KA5DWZ, Morris Hornik – WB9JHW, Mike Stough – N5IE, Steven Karty – N5SK, Jonathan Heinlein – N4ERD, Cynthia Kellams – KJ4CLK, Gary Sessums – KC5QCN, , and via telephone conference bridge Bob Carroll – N3KDC, Larry Caramia – WA2NBT, Gene Kaiser – KI4BUI, Van Evans – KB3XC , Uldis Adamsons – N4TE.

A motion was made by Ms. Rae Ohlert to approve the March 2013 meeting minutes as distributed to club members via e-mail. Major General Mike Stough - USAF, seconded the motion. The motion was approved by majority vote.

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

The annual Armed Forces Day Cross Band Military/Amateur Radio Communications Test will be held on Saturday May 11, 2013. 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 21 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. Details are available on the ARRL website and the station is available to those wishing to participate.

Mr. Dave Maples gave an update on the status of the twin Harris RF-3200E 1 Kilowatt HF ALE transceiver racks on which he and Mr. Ken Heitner have been working. An update on the K4AF UHF amateur radio repeater was also given.

The annual Rolling Thunder Ride for Freedom event will be held during Memorial Day weekend. The American Legion Riders from Fairfax, Virginia Post 177 have requested amateur radio support on Sunday May 26, 2013 for their participation in the massive motorcycle ride to the Pentagon. Several club members who own/ride motorcycles volunteered to assist with providing communications support along the route from Fairfax to the Pentagon and on the Pentagon reservation during the event.

The annual Dayton Hamvention is scheduled for May 17-19, 2013 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/>

The office of DoD-CIO has requested MARS support in relaying long haul radio communications from Asia during a United States Pacific Command (USPACOM) Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Response (HADR) exercise entitled "Pacific Endeavor" scheduled for August. The Pentagon MARS station will coordinate message traffic into and out of the NMCC.

The next PARC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday May 1, 2013 at 12:00 PM in the Pentagon MARS Station, room 5D1061A.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:57 PM.