

Minutes
Pentagon Amateur Radio Club
www.k4af.org

April 2, 2014

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

The 16 club members in attendance were: Hugh Katz – K3HU, Eugene Kaiser – KI4BUI, Terry Hines – N4ZH, Gary Duff – KC5NWQ, Rick Bunn – N4ASX, Doug Donnell – KD4MD, John Croft – K3NJ, Dennis Wilson – KD4WGN, Daryl Noel – W4EC, Jonathan Heinlein – N4ERD, Steve Karty – N5SK, John Lagozzino – KK4AHY, Ron Startzel – KB5LNC, and via telephone conference bridge Gary Sessums – KC5QCN, Phil Kania – KJ4GYJ, and Patrick Schwarz – KB8RTZ.

A motion was made by Mr. Doug Donnell to approve the March 2014 meeting minutes as distributed to club members via e-mail. Mr. Daryl Noel seconded the motion. The motion was approved by majority vote.

Mr. Ron Startzel gave a briefing on the dedication ceremony of Code Talkers Hall at Marine Corps Base Quantico scheduled for Friday April 4, 2014 at 1:00 PM. Ninety-three year old Chester Nez, the last living member of the first platoon of United States Marine Corps Navajo Code Talkers, will be the guest of honor for the dedication of Platoon 382 Hall. As part of the dedication ceremony, radio contact will be attempted between Quantico and the Pentagon using a General Electric TBX-6 portable HF transmitter/receiver used by Navajo Indian Code Talkers on the battlefields of World War II to transmit secret communications. Upon conclusion of the dedication ceremony, a special event station, N4C "Navajo 4 Codetalker", will be on the air on at 14.265 MHz USB (+- 5 kHz) from 1730 - 2100 Zulu.

The annual Armed Forces Day Cross Band Military/Amateur Radio Communications Test will be held on Saturday May 10, 2014. The Pentagon Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) station will conduct operations from 10 MAY 1200Z - 2400Z using the DoD call sign WAR. 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 is scheduled for Sunday April 20 from 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. The station is available for those wishing to participate.

The Greater Baltimore Hamboree is scheduled for Saturday April 5th at the Maryland State Fairgrounds in Timonium, Maryland. Visit <http://www.gbhc.org/> for complete hamfest details.

The annual Dayton Hamvention is scheduled for May 16-18, 2014 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/>

In lieu of a guest speaker presentation, the DVD "ARRL at 100: A Century of Ham Radio" was shown to the club which highlighted the advances in communications technology attributable to amateur radio operators and the challenges to the amateur radio hobby caused by those advances.

The next PARC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday May 7, 2014 at 12:00 PM in the Pentagon MARS Station, room 5D1061A.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:03 PM.