

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

**March 5, 2014**

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 19 club members in attendance were: Hugh Katz – K3HU, Cynthia Kellams – KJ4CLK, Dennis Wilson – KD4WGN, Terry Hines – N4ZH, Jonathan Branker – KJ4GYR, Chuck Norton – KI4DHW, Randy Kelly – WB4MJF, Steven Karty – N5SK, Gary Duff – KC5NWQ, Ross Sorci – W2OK, Gary Sessums – KC5QCN, Rick Bunn – N4ASX, Doug Donnell – KD4MD, Bob Hughes – K4YWV, John Miller – KE4JEM, and via telephone conference bridge Gene Kaiser – KI4BUI, Phil Kania – KJ4GYJ, Chris Allen – W9CCA, and Patrick Schwarz – KB8RTZ.

A motion was made by Ms. Cynthia Kellams to approve the February 2014 meeting minutes as distributed to club members via e-mail. Mr. Chuck Norton seconded the motion. The motion was approved by majority vote.

The annual Armed Forces Day Cross Band Military/Amateur Radio Communications Test will be held on Saturday May 10, 2014. 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 2014 Virginia QSO Party that will be held the weekend of March 15-16, 2014. The operating hours of this annual amateur radio contest are Saturday 15 March 1400 UTC–Sunday 16 March 0200 UTC (Saturday 10 AM – 10 PM local) and Sunday 16 March 1200 UTC–Sunday 2400 UTC (Sunday 8 AM–8 PM local) The objective of the Virginia QSO party is to promote amateur radio activity in the 95 Virginia counties and 38 independent cities. Categories include multi-band or single band, fixed or mobile station, high and low power operation, phone, CW, digital, and mixed-mode categories. Visit [http://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA\\_QSO\\_Party/2014\\_VQP/2014\\_VQP\\_Main.html](http://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2014_VQP/2014_VQP_Main.html) for complete contest details.

As an update to the briefing given at the August 2013 meeting, the dedication of Code Talkers Hall at Marine Corps Base Quantico is scheduled for Friday April 4, 2014. As part of the dedication ceremony, contact via radio between Quantico and the Pentagon will be attempted 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.

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/>

Our guest speaker, Mr. Ross Sorci from the J-3 division of the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) Joint Spectrum Center (JSC), gave a very informative presentation on the spectrum related services and electromagnetic battlespace support provided to the military departments and combatant commands. The presentation included inter-agency frequency coordination between the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), frequency listings contained in the Government Master File (GMF) database, and the NTIA Manual of Regulations and Procedures for Federal Radio Frequency Management -- aka, the Redbook.

The next PARC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday April 2, 2014 at 12:00 PM in the Pentagon MARS Station, room 5D1061A.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 PM.