



## W5AC Texas A&M University Amateur Radio Club



Thursday, February 11, 2016

Draft Minutes from the TAMU ARC Monthly Business Meeting

Vice-President/KG5JYY called the meeting to order at 1930 as the acting President. Treasurer/KF5TYT and Secretary/W5MHN were also present. There were 6 voting members, 1 non-voting member and 4 visitors present. The quorum requirement was certified by W5MHN.

**President's Report:** KG5JYY as acting president reported the following:

- In the AggieMap Online Campus Map ([www.aggiemap.tamu.edu](http://www.aggiemap.tamu.edu)) our Shack was previously designated "HAM Radio Modular Building // 8900." It is now designated "W5AC Amateur Radio Club Building // 8900." This allows anyone searching AggieMap for "W5AC" or "Amateur Radio" or "Radio Club" to locate our Shack without having to know the Building Number "8900."

- In support of ARRLs National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) event and as the Director of Operations billet is unfilled, solicited a volunteer to chair an NPOTA special committee. KG5JYZ volunteered to head the committee with W5QZ and W5MHN to assist. The committee will coordinate club outings to activate National Park Service entities and will disband at the conclusion of the event, which runs through the end of the calendar year. All members are encouraged to chase NPOTA stations from W5AC. There are three separate ARRL Awards available - NPOTA Activator, NPOTA Chaser, and NPOTA Honor Roll. Further information can be found at [www.arrl.org/NPOTA](http://www.arrl.org/NPOTA).

- Provided a heads up that nominations for elections will occur at the April meeting with elections to be held at the May meeting.

Additionally, N5TLT resigned as club Treasurer and a special ballot was held to replace him. As KG5JYZ was the sole nomination for Treasurer, W5XTT motioned and KG5JYY seconded that KG5JYZ be accepted by acclamation. Motion passed 6-0. Welcome aboard to Spencer Capps/KG5JYZ the clubs new Treasurer!



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**Vice-Presidents Report:** KG5JYY reported on the following:

**Soda Mess:** The club now has an operational soda mess with prices posted in the kitchen area. Drinks are in the refrigerator, snacks are on the counter. It is on the honor system with a change cup provided in case one does not have the correct amount to feed the kitty.

**T-Shirts:** T-Shirts are in. Cost is \$10/shirt. Sizes S-XL.

**Treasurer's Report:** KF5TYT presented an overview of the state of the club's finances since last month and reported that a copy of the Treasurer's report will be posted to the W5AC Shack bulletin board for review.

He also announced his resignation from the position of Treasurer. He will continue to support the club as Net Control on Monday's and to provide basic radio operations tutoring of shack gear after the net each week. The club members expressed their thanks to him for his service to W5AC.

**Secretary's Report:** W5MHN reviewed the minutes from the January 2016 Monthly Business Meeting. Motion from W5XTT, seconded by N5TLT to accept the minutes as read - the motion passed on a voice vote.

**QSL Manager's Report:** W5MHN reported that the DXCC card package that was in the queue at the ARRL has made it to the top of the pile and is being processed.

**ARRL DXCC:** 307 mixed entities worked, 295 confirmed and 14 new slots filled in the band/mode matrix (302/293 last month). Two of the ATNO's were: VP8STI South Sandwich Island worked by W5QZ on CW and CW and W5MHN on SSB and VP8SGI South Georgia Island worked by W5QZ on CW and W5MHN on SSB.

**ARRL NPOTA:** 44 NPS entities confirmed on the Leader Board, 8 National Parks toward the Honor Roll (23/6 last month).



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**Newsletter Editor:** W5XTT reported that the Newsletter will be out after results are posted for this week's School Club Roundup. He asked that members take pictures of radio-active events and forwarded to him for possible inclusion in the newsletter and post to the Facebook page. In addition, a quick tagline of who, what, where, when, and how would be appreciated. He is also looking for anyone who would like to help with the newsletter production and join the roster of assistant editors.

### Club Business:

#### Old Business:

- a. **Google Services Account:** W5ACs account has been established. N5TLT and W5MHN working out the bugs. Club will now have on-line storage for its files.
- b. **5XB:** N5TLT reported that we will have a digital lock in the short term to be followed by card swipe access with audit trail in the future. Additionally, the lock reported on last month is no longer available as it was used to replace the previous front door lock which failed the morning of the MSC Open House.
- c. **MSC Open House:** W5MHN reported that open house was slower than the fall event. We had 5 or so interested people and held a Shack Open House the following week to introduce them to ham radio and W5AC. Thanks to AC5NB, KF5TYT, KG5GDV, W5MHN, and W5QZ who setup and staffed the booth.
- d. **Winch/Rotator/TiltPlate:** W5MHN reported for W5QZ:
  - Heights Tower received the old winch for diagnosis, but has reached no conclusions.
  - The new rotor is on hand and ready to replace as discussed last month.
  - TiltPlate has arrived and is ready to install.

Club will schedule a work party either next weekend or the week after and will promulgate date and time via the listserve.



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- e. **School Club Roundup:** KG5JYY presented the current status of W5ACs status in the SCR and stated there was one more day left in the competition. Thanks to W5QZ for conducting a training session for all operators and outfitting 5XB with contest quality radio equipment during the event. W5QZ also offered three separate \$1,000 donations to W5AC based upon our final results in the SCR.

### **New Business:**

- a. **NASA Tower/Log-Periodic:** There is a tower that was donated to TAMU/W5AC that did not pass muster with campus facilities. W5XTT proposed that he take custody of both items, refurbish them and erect on some land he owns south of town. He would then put in a remotely operated radio via the internet. He will draft a MOU to present to the club at next month's meeting.
- b. **Water/Sewage/Restrooms:** N5TLT reported KG5GDV working with facilities and student affairs to inquire into the cost of sewer and water to the Shack. This would include refurbishing the restrooms and hot water heater. Once costs are known, then fundraising options can be pursued.

### **Good of the Order:**

- a. N5TLT announced that he will be available at the shack on Monday mornings from 08:00 - 11:00.
- b. AggieSat Lab: KM4OPI reported that their satellite was released into orbit from the ISS on January 29. They are currently working to establish communications with the bird through their ground station at Riverside campus.
- c. Houston Hamfest: The club received flyers to the Houston Hamfest that when presented at the entrance provide one extra free raffle ticket to the drawing. Copies are available in the shack.



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**Next Meeting:** The March Monthly Business meeting will be at the shack on Thursday, March 10, 2015 at 19:30.

**Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 20:02.

**Program:** KG5JYY informed everyone that the program for this evening would be making contacts with the W5AC station as part of the School Club Roundup.

Respectively submitted,

Martin Nau/W5MHN  
TAMU ARC Secretary

### Callsign Index:

KM4OPI Daniel Ghan  
AC5NB John Kliewer  
KF5TYT Mark Racciato  
KG5GDV Yucheng Guo  
KG5JYY Kevin Saygi  
KG5JYZ Spencer Capps  
N5TLT Kevin Glueck  
W5AC Texas A&M Amateur Radio Club  
W5QZ Dave Gent  
W5MHN Martin Nau  
W5XTT Tom Talley