

Minutes

Of the September 17,2011 Monthly Meeting of

The Longview/East Texas Amateur Radio Club

President Jim Quinn called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 am on September 17 with 17 members and 4 guests present. An introduction and welcome of members and guests was then conducted.

The minutes of the August 2011 meeting were read and approved.

The treasurer's report was read and approved. The amount of \$4,916.30 was brought forward from the last reporting period. Four new memberships were received and a total of \$80.00 was deposited resulting in an ending balance of \$4,996.30 as of September 17.

Rod Bartlett, N8QVR, presented a check from BP in the amount of \$1000.00 to Gary Lewis, WG5L for Gary's EMCOMM program. Rod also announced he has received from BP 20 Wouxoun dual band HT's for presentation to high school students or younger who pass their amateur radio license examination at the local VE testing session.

Gary Newman, N5XPD, then presented an extremely interesting program on Software Defined Radio, which is basically a computer generated transceiver. Gary set up and demonstrated the Flex Radio which he had purchased at Belton. The Flex Radio consists of the Flex box and a PC. It is a 100 watt unit and Gary recommends that a high end dual core processor be used to operate the Flex radio with the PowerSDR software package. Various configurations of the Flex virtual radio can operate on 160 meters through 6 meters and or VHF/UHF. The PowerSDR software displays the radio's control panel on the PC monitor, handles all Digital Signal Processing functions, including modulation, demodulation, metering both digital and analog signals, and filtering. All radio functions are controlled with the click of a mouse. No buttons to push, no knobs to turn, just click the mouse. A question and answer period followed.

Business Meeting:

The subject of honorariums for program presenters was discussed. A motion was made and seconded to offer reimbursements for fuel costs on a distance prorated basis and was approved by a show of hands.

Todd Hoover, N5TJH, then discussed the club policy on newsletter articles. If there is a question as to content of an article, the board will decide its validity based on what the Constitution and Bylaws allow.

The feasibility of holding a tailgate sale on October 29 was discussed. No decision was made as to location which will be determined and announced at a later date.

A mailout to prospective members describing LETARC and membership benefits was discussed and approved.

Gary Lewis, WG5L, gave an update on the ARES program. Gary gave a brief review of the ARES program draft and needs yet to be met, such as a band plan if multi served agencies are involved. Gary will be involved later this month with a webinar for the Section EC and local EMCOMM managers to discuss emergency management. A SET (Simulated Emergency Test) exercise is planned for November 5. John Newman, the Smith County EC, will conduct a mini-SET in October for Tyler and Longview.

The Tyler ARC will conduct 2 events in October which will need extra ham operators. The Tyler Rose Marathon will be held on October 9, and the Cystic Fibrosis Bicycle Race will be held on October 15 and additional operators are needed.

Jim Rogers gave an update on the repeater. The 147.34 machine will soon be moved to a tower owned by Van Bullock, K5VAB on Crystal Street. The DStar hotspot is up and running at Jim's home. Gary Newman advised that the DPlus program will soon be up and running and will allow the Hotspot to link with the Tyler DStar repeater.

Sam's on McCann Street was decided upon as the site of the October Sunday evening dinner on October 1 at 6:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:40 am.

ATTENDEES

Billy R. Johnson	N5AUT	Jim Rogers	N5VGR
Dean Patterson	KB5AVH	Paul Piccola	W5BPP
Terry Johnson	KG5WO	Gary V. Newman	N5XPD
Todd Hoover	N5TJH	Tom Wilbeck	N5KGN
Rod Bartlett	N8QVR	Richard Brown	K5RRB
Glen Nobles	N5XGS	Cliff Scott	AE5ZA
Jim Quinn	AA5CX	Tom Nance	KB5ZFS
Gary Lewis	WG5L	Robert Flori	KE5PMG
Carolyn Morton	KF5GLT	Robert Wallace	Visitor
Richard Stansbery	Visitor	Gordon C. Martin	WA5GM
John Zenter	AE5OY		