

MINUTES OF THE LONGVIEW/EAST TEXAS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
MEETING  
FOR APRIL 20, 2013

Vice-President John Zenter AE5OY called the monthly meeting to order at 9:00 am Saturday, April 20 with 15 members and 2 guests present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved after a motion to accept was made by Jim Quinn AA5CX and seconded by Harold Carl KE5PTU. The treasurer's report for the current period was read and accepted after a motion by Jim Quinn AA5CX and a second by Phillip Mullins AE5KE.

Jerry Ritchie WA5OKO then presented the monthly program. Jerry discussed the theory and operation of duplexers and how strict and critical control of the duplexers has allowed for the co-location of LETARC's 147.34 repeater with the 146.640 repeater at East Mountain without addition of any new antennas. Jerry displayed a duplexer cavity and explained the various parts of the cavity. Using a spectrum analyzer, Jerry showed how it is possible to tune the cavity and move the pass frequency. The capacitor is used to change the notch, which is very narrow while the band pass is very wide. Jerry pointed out that the impedance should always be 50 ohms and using a 25 ohm termination, he used the spectrum analyzer to show how the notch changed when the impedance changed. All components, the transmitter, the antenna, and the receiver should be 50 ohms and the loss through duplexers should be monitored. Jerry explained how important it is to maintain the factory settings of a new duplexer in order to get the promised performance from a new unit. Using very critical measurements of the repeater system's noise floor, return loss, VSWR, and impedance, Jerry has managed to co-locate the 147.34 repeater with the 146.64 repeater antenna system with only minor problems and has been able to greatly improve the footprint of LETARC's 147.34 repeater. A question and answer period then followed.

After a short break for refreshments, the business portion of the meeting proceeded. Vice-President John Zenter gave a brief review of the recently held East Texas Tailgate sale. Attendance was recorded at 128 attendees, which was a 58% increase over attendance last year. Over \$1,450.00 in door prizes, including 5 new in the box radios, was given away. Eleven radio clubs co-sponsored the sale and 19 individuals volunteered during the event to make the East Texas Tailgate sale a tremendous success.

John then presented information on the Walmart grant that President Gary Lewis WG5L has applied for in the amount of \$1000.00 to be used for digital equipment and training. This is now possible because of LETARC's 501c3 status. Anyone having knowledge of any companies or foundations that might be a source of funding for non-profit entities is requested to present that information to the Board of Directors. Community service and emergency communications are key talking points when discussing LETARC with potential donors.

Information was relayed on the upcoming license classes at LeTourneau University being taught by Gary Lewis WG5L and Tommy Gober N5DUX. The classes are:

Technician Class- Saturday April 27; General Class- Saturday May 25; Extra Class- Saturday June 29

Anyone interested in helping with the classes or taking the classes should contact Gary Lewis WG5L.

VE Testing will be held this afternoon at LeTourneau University at 2:00 pm and all available VE's are requested to help.

Upcoming hamfests include:

Belton – April 20

4States in Texarkana – May 11

ARCOS May 11

HamCom – June 7 & 8

After a very inclusive discussion, it was unanimously decided that Sam's Southern Eatery on McCann Street would be the site of the next LETARC Eatin' Meetin' on Sunday, May 4 at 6:00 pm.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

## ATTENDEES

John Zenter	AE5OY	Dean Patterson	KE5AVH
Harold Carl	KE5PTU	Phillip Mullins	AE5KE
Weldon Pittman Jr.	KC5GQM	Priscilla Quinn	AA5PQ
Jim Quinn	AJ1MQ	Charles Fricks	AF5FB
Jay Rowe	KF5UBO	Terry Johnson	KG5WO
Jim Quinn	AA5CX	Jerry Ritchie	WA5OKO
George W. Lee	K5JF	Richard Fleming	N5DNU
Eric Karling	KF5UBL	Ed Barrett	Guest
Tom Nance	KB5ZFS		

## TREASURER'S REPORT APRIL 19 TO MAY 17, 2013

Brought forward from the last reporting period was \$1,781.18. Income for this period included membership dues from Jay Rowe KF5UBO \$25.00, Rich Fleming N3DNU \$25.00, Dawn Shen \$35.00 for a Family Membership, and Karl Falkin N2LIF \$25.00 for a total of \$110.00. Expenses for the period included \$16.50 to the Donut Palace for donuts for the monthly meeting, \$60.00 to the U.S. Postal Service for the post office box rental fee, and \$300.00 to the Hays Companies for the ARRL Club Liability Insurance for total expenses of \$376.50 leaving an account balance of \$1,514.68.