

Minutes of the November 2013 Monthly Meeting of the
Longview/East Texas Amateur Radio Club

- * Meeting was called to order at 9 am, November 16, 2013 by President Gary Lewis, WG5L.
- * Minutes of the October 2013 Monthly meeting were read, a motion to accept as read was made by Tom Wilbeck, N5KGN and seconded by Phillip Mullins, AE5KE, and the minutes were approved by a show of hands.
- * The treasurer's report for the previous period was read, a motion to accept was made by Dean Patterson, KE5AVH and seconded by Charles Fricks, AF5FB, and the treasurer's report was approved by a show of hands.
- * An introduction of members and guests was conducted.
- * Certificates of Appreciation for participation in the March Red Cross Disaster Assessment Drill were presented to John Zentor, AE5OY, Gary Lewis, WG5L, and Terry Johnson KG5WO.
- * Tom Wilbeck, N5KGN, then presented a very informative program on the Effect of Different End Terminations on Resonant Frequency and Bandwidth on Wire Dipole Antennas. Tom measured the Resonant Frequency and 3:1 SWR Range of a Dipole Antenna using various means to terminate the ends. These included using 2+ feet of line length beyond the insulator turned back and loosely twisted at 3 turns per foot, 1 ½ feet of turnback twisted at 3 turns per foot, 1 ½ feet of turnback twisted at 5 turns per foot, 6 inches of turnback tied parallel to the element, 6 inches of turnback twisted tightly and still insulated and 6 inches of turnback, bare and twisted tightly. While all methods tested offered acceptable operating conditions, the method using 1 ½ feet of turnback twisted at 5 turns per foot offered the widest Resonant Frequency Range and the second widest 3:1 SWR Range. A question and answer period followed.
- * A break for refreshments was then taken.
- * The meeting resumed with a discussion of how best to utilize the donation of computer equipment made to LETARC by Martin Resources of Kilgore through the efforts of Eric Smith KF5YAF. After discussion, it was decided that the best course of action would be to sell the equipment and use the funds for other projects and to upgrade the existing HF equipment in the radio room. A motion was made by Tom Wilbeck N5KGN and seconded by Phillip Mullins AE5KE to accept the Board recommendation to sell the Martin Resources donation and use the funds for other projects and to upgrade existing systems. The motion was passed by majority vote.
- * Gary Lewis WG5L then discussed the new Dell computer system and accessories he is personally donating for the DSTAR program to power the gateway and give access to the internet and discussed the possible additional equipment such as cables that may be needed to complete the system. If needed, these would be funded from the DSTAR fund. A motion was made by Dean Patterson KE5AVH and seconded by Horace Richardson N5ZQD to spend up to \$500.00 of DSTAR funds for any add-ons needed to complete the system and was approved by majority vote.
- * Gary then discussed the preparatory work needed for the DSTAR system. It will be necessary to move the antenna and cabinet from Van Bullock's home to Dean Patterson's home, the new site for the DSTAR repeater. The computer will need to be set up and tested for internet

connectivity. It will be necessary to schedule work parties to accomplish these tasks and Gary will post more on this on the internet.

* A discussion then followed on more possible operating and service activities for the club to participate in. Providing communications for bike races, doing mall patrols, and further remodeling at the Red Cross were listed as possibilities.

* VE tests will be conducted this afternoon at LeTourneau University at 2:00 pm and all available VE's are urged to participate.

* Skywarn Appreciation Day will take place on Dec. 6 and 7 at the National Weather Service in Shreveport. Anyone interested in participating should contact Tom Noe, W5TDN, Gregg County Skywarn Coordinator, for further details.

* The Minden Amateur Radio Hamfest will take place in Minden, Louisiana on Saturday, December 21.

* After a brief discussion, Jalapeno Tree was selected as the site of the next LETARC Eatin' Meetin' on December 8 at 6:00 pm.

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

ATTENDEES

John Zenter	AE5OY	Terry Johnson	KG5WO
Horace Richardson	N5ZQD	Jerry Ritchie	WA5OKO
Terry Griffith	K5PDQ	Dean Patterson	KE5AVH
Phillip Mullins	AE5KE	Andrew Steele	
Michel Lacipierre		Charles Fricks	AF5FB
George Lee	K5JF	Jim Quinn	AJ1MQ
Priscilla Quinn	AA5PQ	Richard Fleming, Jr.	N3DNU
Jay Rowe	KF5UBO	Tom Wilbeck	N5KGN
Cliff Scott	AE5ZA	Jim Perry	KA5BCM
Arlie Long	N5RDD	Eric Smith	KF5YAF

Treasurer's Report

Brought forward from last reporting period was a balance of \$3,145.78 of which \$1,445.78 was straight club funds and \$1,700.00 was DSTAR funds. Funds received for the current period include \$25.00 for 2014 membership dues from John Mark Robertson K5JMR and 365.00 in DSTAR funds as follows: Gene Coldwell WB5CTQ \$100.00, Rich Fleming N3DNU \$40.00, Terry Johnson KG5WO \$50.00, Roy Sherow WJ5Z, \$100, and Richard Lenoir, Main Trading Co. \$75.00. Expenditures for the period included \$16.50 to the Donut Palace for donuts for the monthly meeting, \$26.60 to Office Depot for envelopes to mail the election ballots, \$46.00 to the U.S. Postal Service for stamps to mail ballots for total expenditures of \$89.10 cents. This results in a current account balance of \$3,446.68 of which \$1,381.68 is straight club funds and \$2,065.00 is allocated to the DSTAR fund.