

Minutes of the January 2014 Monthly Meeting
Of
The Longview/East Texas Amateur Radio Club

*Meeting called to order by President John Zenter AE5OY at 9:10 am Saturday, January 18, 2014 with 18 members and 1 guest present.

*A review of the meeting agenda was presented.

*The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved by majority vote after a motion to accept was made by Cliff Scott AE5ZA and seconded by Jim Rogers N5VGQ.

*The treasurer's report for the previous reporting period was read and approved by majority vote after a motion to accept was made by Jim Quinn AA5CX and seconded by Dennis Smith WB5SRM.

*Introductions of those present was conducted.

*Gary Lewis WG5L then presented the program which was an introduction and overview of High Speed Multi-Media Mesh, or Broadband Hamnet. High Speed Multi-Media Mesh is a wireless data network on the 2.4 gigahertz or 13 centimeter band using an older generation Wi-Fi router, the Linksys WRT54G/GL/or GS to operate on the 802.11g Wireless Band where part 97 overlaps the ISM band. The system is self-discovering, self-configuring, fault tolerant, and operates on channels 1, 6, and 11 with most of the activity on channel 1. With high gain antennas, distances of 10 miles or better can be achieved. With a power level of 79 milliwatts, data throughput is around 54 Mbps. This far exceeds the DSL throughput of 0.25 Mbps up and 1.5 Mbps down. Antennas range from high gain directional parabolic antennas to omnidirectional verticals. The router is connected to the computer via an ethernet cable connected to the LAN port on the router. The firmware can be downloaded from the Broadband Hamnet website and then uploaded to the router. The operator's callsign must also be uploaded to the router. Broadband Hamnet was developed by a group of hams in Austin, Texas and has spread throughout the amateur radio community. Jim Rogers also had some Ubiquiti equipment for display which also has been adapted for Broadband Hamnet. A question and answer period followed. Gary's presentation will be posted on the LETARC website.

*After a break for refreshments, the business portion of the meeting continued. Dave Luchak, KL7BX has offered to donate a used MF2000 UHF repeater to the club. After discussion of the offer, Jim Quinn AA5CX made a motion for the club to accept this offer and the motion was seconded by Gary Lewis WG5L. The motion was passed by majority vote. Phillip Mullins AE5KE made a motion that the repeater be located at Jim Rogers' location to improve coverage in the southern part of the county. The motion was seconded by Jim Quinn AA5CX and passed by majority vote.

*The following announcements were then made:

*VE testing will be provided at 2:00 pm this afternoon at LeTourneau University and all available VE's are requested to assist.

*The annual East Texas Regional Tailgate Sale will take place at LeTourneau University on Saturday, April 12.

*An ARRL Encomm Class will begin Thursday evening, February 6 at 7:00 pm here at the Red Cross.

*A Skywarn Class will be held on Saturday, February 22 beginning at 9:00 am at the LFD Training Facility.

*Possible Technician and General licensing classes were discussed but no definite dates were set.

*Painting of the upstairs Red Cross restrooms and meeting rooms was discussed but no definite dates were set.

*After discussion about the location for the upcoming February LETARC Eatin' Meetin', it was decided that La Carretta at the Loop and Gilmer Road would be the site of the evening meal at 6:00 pm on Sunday, February, 1.

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

ATTENDEES

Charles Fricks	AF5FB	Dean Patterson	KE5AVH
Phillip Mullins	AE5KE	John Zenter	AE5OY
Cliff Scotts	AE5ZA	Jim Quinn	AJ1MQ
Priscilla Quinn	AA5PQ	Horace Richardson	N5ZQD
Jim Rogers	N5VGQ	Dennis Smith	WB5SRM
Rich Fleming	N3DNU	Jerry Ritchie	WA5OKO
Jim Perry	KA5BCM	Mitch Fortner	AA5D
Jeremy Davis	KC5MWE	Gary Lewis	WG5L
Dave Luchak	KL7BX	Jim Quinn	AA5CX
Terry Johnson	KG5WO		

Treasurer's Report

Brought forward from the last reporting period was a total account balance of \$2,609.18 which consisted of \$1,515.01 club funds and \$1,094.17 DSTAR funds. Income for the current period includes membership dues from the following: individual membership dues of \$25.00 each from Jim Perry KA5BCM, Cliff Scott AE5ZA, Phillip Mullins AE5KE, Dennis Smith WB5SRM, Richard Fleming N3DNU, Jerry Ritchie WA5OKO, Jim Rogers N5VGQ, Gary Lewis WG5L and family membership dues of \$35.00 each from Dave Luchak KL7BX and Eric Smith KF5YAF for a total dues collection of \$270.00. We also received donations for the East Texas Regional Tailgate Sale from the following: Tyler ARC \$200.00, Minden ARC 50.00, and Pat Porter WD5FDO for the Panola County ARC \$25.00. Total tailgate sale donations were \$275.00. Expenses for the period consisted of \$16.50 to the Donut Palace for donuts for the monthly meeting. This yields a current account balance of \$3,137.68 which breaks down into \$1,768.51 club funds, \$1,094.17 DSTAR funds, and \$275.00 tailgate sale funds.