



## Mountain Top Amateur Radio Meeting - Minutes

August 4, 2020, 7:00 pm

Online Zoom session

### I. Welcome

Tracy, WM6T, opened the Zoom session shortly before 7:00 pm, we had 40 members attending. Jodi and Tracy built the attendee list as folks checked in.

The meeting began officially by President Vic, KK6WKL, at 7:05 pm.

### II. Introductions

Gary, AA6GJ, gave a quick Vice President's report. He gave a quick rundown on his weekend's results chasing the ISS. We were able to hear a quick packet transmission from the ISS as he and Debbie tracked it with their portable 2 meter yagi antenna.

He is still running tutoring sessions for the Technician licensing exam and after that class is over, for the General license. He encourages folks looking for license upgrades to check out his QRZ and **personal home page**. He has Zoom classes covering both the Tech and General license exams and plenty of PDF tutorial materials available. Exam sessions, depending on number of folks testing, may be in his back yard!

### III. Secretary Report

Dave, K6WDE, discussed the monthly newsletter encouraging the membership to submit articles for the September issue. We had one article from N6NTJ, Jo, on her chasing the 13 Colonies Special Event in the August issue. Dave is looking for others to contribute their chasing adventures for that special and fun event. Gene, KJ6LMP is working on his end fed half wave antenna build article and it will be included in the September issue. We hope to have short new member bio's in the newsletter as well. Your newsletter is looking for your stories, email them to Dave at [dave.esquer@gmail.com](mailto:dave.esquer@gmail.com)

Scouting for the late summer, early fall WWFF/POTA/SOTA (parks and summits on-the-air) San Bernardino National Forest WA6MTN activation will begin this Thursday. This club event will be an opportunity for club members to practice HF and VHF/UHF contacts locally and throughout the U.S. Stay tuned as details develop.

### IV. Treasurer's Report

Patty, KK6LWH provided the bank balances. We had an opening balance as of June 30 of \$9,237.09 in our account. We added \$40 on July 23. New expenses include \$200 for the ARRL club insurance and \$21.17 for the ARES website hosting, a total of \$221.17. Our balance as of July 24 is now \$9,055.92

### V. Weekly Nets

Denise, N6DEE, our net control manager shared the ongoing nets available to club members

- Monday Nights: 1900 (7:00 PM) MTARA2
- Tuesday Nights: 1900 (7:00 PM) MTARA5
- Wednesday Nights: 1930 (7:30 PM) HF 'family hamster' net starting on 7.223MHz
- Friday Night YL Happy Hour: 1700 (5:00 pm) MTARA5

She continues to look for new volunteer net control operators.

### VI. Club Items

- **Name tags** – Harlan Technologies, Name Tags by Gene, (715) 340-1299, [www.hampubs.com](http://www.hampubs.com), Shawn Harlan – KA9BXA, [harlantech@gmail.com](mailto:harlantech@gmail.com)
- **Mouse Pads**

- **Shirts** – Port Authority K420P – Dark Green, L420 – Dark Green, K100LS – Dark Green: Embroidery, Classic Images, 23723 Rocky Dell Dr. Crestline (909) 338-2281

## **VII. Club Events, General Discussion, and Information**

Tracy opened up with a forum and questions/answers.

Tracy mentioned the upcoming “I am lost” event. We will have club members lost in their vehicles in the forest and other members being home-base, guiding them back to safety. This Thursday, August 6 will be a Gaia tutorial for those ‘lost’ members. Our adventure occurs August 12th.

A special guest, WB6NOA, crashed the meeting with some upcoming details about the QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo. It should be lots of fun and begins this Friday evening, August 7. Sign up, it's free!

The **Zoom afternoon presentations** will be continuing but **once per week, Thursdays only**.

The “Swap Shop” planning is still ongoing. We have the venue, at the Masonic Lodge, we just need to pick a Saturday, more information to follow.

Upcoming Events

- **Virtual QSO Today Hamfest**, August 7-8-9, about 70 speakers presentations for FREE!
- If you are looking to obtain or upgrade a ham license, send email to Gary

### **Elmering Session - WM6T**

The session focused on ham radio's use and definition of grid squares. Most of the folks on the mountain live in grid square DM14, these are further subdivided into 6 character squares. Dave, K6WDE, lives in grid square DM14kf. The presentation charts were emailed to all members after the meeting. Please notify Tracy if you did not receive them.

## **VIII. Wrap-up and Close**

Next meeting – September 1, 2020 at 7:00 pm

The meeting was closed by Vic at 8:05 pm

Minutes submitted, respectfully by Dave, K6WDE