



Mountain Top Amateur Radio Meeting - Minutes

September 1, 2020, 7:00 pm

Online Zoom session

I. Welcome

Tracy, WM6T, opened the Zoom session shortly before 7:00 pm, we had 34 members attending. Jodi and Tracy built the attendee list as folks checked in.

The meeting began officially by President Vic, KK6WKL, at 7:06 pm.

II. Introductions

A local ham radio operator recently became a silent key. Randy Fear, KC6JTN. Tracy, WM6T gave us a quick biography starting with his introduction to Randy in 2006 as the Big Bear ECS captain. He was big in building repeaters and was responsible for most of those surrounding the Big Bear Valley. Randy also managed the Solar Observatory on the north shore and was employed by the University of Delaware to maintain it. In recent years, Randy was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. He was a great friend and mentor and will be greatly missed. We observed a moment of silence in honor of his passing.

Vic, KK6WKL, welcomed the group, we had 40 and 42 attendees at the last 2 virtual monthly club sessions. Training continues with our virtual Zoom sessions covering a variety of topics and virtual ham shack visits. Our sessions are now only on Thursdays.

Tracy, discussed the upcoming Saturday "Radio Expo" from 9 am to 1 pm at the Masonic Lodge in Twin Peaks, next to the Sheriff station. Details will be included in an email going out shortly with a preliminary list of items for sale. We may have another expo in December.

Tracy also encourage members to participate in the upcoming CBARC Route 66 Special Event. If you are interested in getting on the operator schedule as W6C, email Tracy for the particulars and the scheduling invite.

Vic discussed the October 4-10 Fire Prevention Week special event. He will be an activator under the N6F station again this year. Listen for our fantastic firefighting teams! Last year, N6F had 1479 contacts, 2nd highest station. You can earn a certificate for working 10 or more of the 12 stations.

For this evening's elmer session, Dave, K6WDE will talk about the upcoming Thursday, September 3 WWFF/POTA WA6MTN activation of the San Bernardino National Forest.

Vic reminded us about the Wednesday night HF family hamster gathering (with Zoom capability) each Wednesday starting on 7.223 MHz. If you do not have HF capability, Dave can send you a Zoom invite.

Gary, AA6GJ, the VP gave his report from a remote birthday party location in Fontana. 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! Session #5 of the Technical class is tomorrow with a September 16 testing session scheduled. The General class just wrapped up and an interest list is now forming for a new class.

For this Thursday's Zoom session, Gary will be demonstrating the SDRPlay software and the new RSPDX receiver he just bought. See what cool tech can do. The Zoom session will begin at 2:00 pm

III. Secretary Report

Dave, K6WDE, mentioned the September monthly newsletter, it will be sent out after this meeting to the general membership.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Patty, KK6LWH provided the bank balances. We had an opening balance as of August 4 for the amount of \$9,055.92. We had deposits on September 1 of \$140.00 with no new expenses. Our balance as of September 1 is now \$9,195.92

V. Weekly Nets - no new news!

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 - if you are looking for a shirt ...

- **Name tags** – Harlan Technologies, Name Tags by Gene, (715) 340-1299, www.hampubs.com, Shawn Harlan – KA9BXA, 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 has been scouting out a "3-fer" location for WWFF and POTA activations. He discovered a prime location in the Lake Silverwood area tagging the SBNF, Lake Silverwood and the Pacific Crest Trail, all with a 270° view.

Slightly off topic, Tracy may be putting together a 2 Zoom class delving into mapping, navigation and their links with GPS. Let him know if you are interested.

Club jacket details will be coming out soon in an email to all. Approximate price is \$45 - \$49.

Elmering Session - Dave, K6WDE

Summarizing from the September Newsletter:

(Page 5) Kristine Brock, KG6RFY wrote up the club "I am Lost" adventure that took place on August 12th. It was great fun and we learned a lot. Read the story!

(Page 2) Our second WA6MTN World Wide Flora and Fauna (WWFF-KFF) and Parks-on-the-Air (POTA) activation will take place on Thursday, September 3. We will be right below Heap's Peak on the down-bound turnout.

(Page 6) Dave spoke to the various spotting networks, tools and websites that are available for activators and chasers, see the page for all the live links! You can use the various tools he discussed because the club will be self-spotting as KFF-4490 or K-4463. DX Summit, DX Heat and DXWatch are all excellent tools to search for us.

Finally, Dave asked that people continue to send in articles, tips, tricks, product reviews for the newsletter, everyone is an expert in something!

VIII. Wrap-up and Close

P.O. Box 2441
Lake Arrowhead, CA 92352

info@mtara.club
www.mtara.club

Next meeting – October 6, 2020 at 7:00 pm
The meeting was closed by Vic at 8:18 pm

Minutes submitted, respectfully by Dave, K6WDE



Mountain Top Amateur Radio Association

Treasurer's Report

September 1, 2020

Opening balance August 4, 2020	\$9,055.92
Deposits:	
September 1, 2020	\$140.00
Expenses:	
	\$0.00
	=====
TOTAL Expenses	\$0.00
Balance as of September 1, 2020	\$9,195.92

Respectfully submitted
Patricia Szychowski, Treasurer

From: Tracy tracy@lenocker.com
Subject: MTARA Club Attendance
Date: September 1, 2020 at 8:52 PM
To: dave.esquer@gmail.com



We just created a list with just those who were checked in.

Zoom Name	Call
Gary Johnson	AA6GJ
Greg Berenato	AJ6FN
Dede Hermon	K6DDZ
Ron Pearne	K6GVL
Tom Hermon	K6KTH
Dave Esquer	K6WDE
Debbie Johnson	KB6VLC
Alvie Grant	KG4SXQ
Jaye Tarango	KJ6AHK
Assunta Vickers	KJ6FQP
Lorna Polley	KJ6GFS
Bruce Herrick	KJ6IJM
Bill Clark	KJ6LJF
Tom Kelley	KJ6ZNY
Steve Robinson	KK6APF
Marlin Snyder	KK6EDE
Patty Szychowski	KK6LWH
Ted Silon	KK6LWK
Bill Fields	KK6TVB
Victor Marquez	KK6WKI
Maria Laverty	KM6DTQ
Gail Brarmann	KM6GBN
Denise Loxton	N6DEE
Jo Stringfield	N6NTJ
Dale Johnstone	N6TVF
Dave Bremer	W6DVE
John Emig	W6GC
Tina Bremer	W6TNA
Marilynn Jordan	W7MCJ
Jodi Lenocker	WA6JL
John Philp	WA6PJ
Carol Higginbotham	WA6UVQ
Dennis Lumley	WB6RCK
Tracy Lenocker	WM6T