



Mountain Top Amateur Radio Meeting - Minutes

December 1, 2020, 7:00 pm

Online Zoom session

I. Welcome

Tracy, WM6T, opened the Zoom session shortly before 7:00 p.m., we had 50+ members attending. Jodi and Tracy built the attendee list as folks checked in.

The meeting began officially by President Vic, KK6WKL, at 7:12 pm.

II. Introductions

President's Comments

Vic, KK6WKL welcomed the MTARA group to our monthly meeting. The main presentation tonight was by Chip Margelli, K7JA on minimal moon bounces antennas. Chip has been a ham since 1963, with very impressive credentials. Please read the December 2020 MTARA Newsletter for his complete biography.

Don't forget the Santa Net on 80 meters, check it out, again details in the December newsletter.

President Vic is learning some new dance moves via Arthur Murray Zoom sessions, to improve his rain dancing skills.

May we all have a healthy Christmas and Happy New Year.

Don't forget, our very own KN6BYH Santa is online today during our Zoom session!

Vice President Report

Gary, AA6GJ, kept the report short, he too is interested in minimal moon bounce equipment. It sounds exciting!

III. Secretary Report

Dave, K6WDE highlighted the December Newsletter. If you didn't receive it, drop Tracy a line, but you can always download the latest version from the MTARA website. Highlights are tips to connect with Santa online during this Christmas season, Christmas wishes from 'good' club members, a Quarts-Pause update, a Field Report of the new ICOM IC-705 and a new 'Ponder the Pool' question with explanation and answer from the General class pool. Have fun and enjoy!

IV. Treasurer's Report

Patty, KK6LWH provided the bank balances. We had an opening balance as of September 30 for the amount of \$9,316.92. We had deposits on October 16 of \$20.00 (dues) with no new expenses. Our balance as of October 31 is now \$9,336.92

V. Weekly Nets - summary!

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, WB6LVC, Debbie is the net controller
- Wednesday Nights: 1930 (7:30 PM) HF 'family hamster' net starting on 7.223MHz. This net follows the Skywarn and Mountain CERT nets at 6:30 and 7:00 pm, respectively on the MTARA-2 repeater.
- Friday Night YL Happy Hour: 1700 (5:00 pm) MTARA5, K6DDZ at net operator

Don't be shy, Denise continues to look for new volunteer net control operators. Let her know!

VI. Club Items - if you are looking for a new jacket as the cold weather descends ...

- **Club jacket** details are in the November newsletter. Available now, order! MTARA logo patches will also be available soon.
- **Name tags** – Harlan Technologies, Name Tags by Gene, (715) 340-1299, www.hampubs.com, Shawn Harlan – KA9BXA, harlantech@gmail.com
- **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 reported that the Echolink components are the 220MHz repeater is almost online, just a few more fixes to work out. It should be online soon.

Question and Answer Session - there were none

Elmering Session - Chip, K7JA

Chip gave a detailed explanation and discussion of equipment required to do earth-moon-earth contacts on VHF and UHF. The charts of his presentation will hopefully be available and will not be repeated here.

Questions from the floor after the presentation:

1. Vic asked - Do you have to lead the moon when doing the tracking?. No, you need to keep the moon in your beam at all time, centered as much as possible when using the minimalist approach
2. Vic asked if a Yaesu FT847 would work for EME? Chip said NO because you need SSB mode for 2 meters. However, the FT847 DOES DO SSB 2 meters, so
3. New members Jim and Rhonda asked about Arrow Antennas, would they work for EME? The answer was No, the low power limitations would make that type of antenna unusable.arrow antenna?

(Is this still true in that we had Chip for this month) For our next monthly meeting, Gail, KM6GBN, will give us an overview of the San Bernardino National Forest Fire Lookout hosts volunteer program.

VIII. Wrap-up and Close

Next meeting – January 5, 2021 at 7:00 pm

The meeting was closed by Vic at 8:20 pm

Minutes submitted, respectfully by Dave, K6WDE