



Mountain Top Amateur Radio Meeting - Minutes

June 1, 2021, 7:00 pm

Online Zoom session

I. Welcome

Jodi, WA6JL, opened the Zoom session shortly before 7:00 p.m., we had 38 members and 1 guest attending. Jodi built the attendee list as folks checked in.

The meeting began officially by President Vic, KK6WKL, at 7:02 pm.

II. Introductions and Reports

President's Comments

Vic welcomed the group. We are finalizing our plans for Field Day. There will be ham radio items that will be for sale and free at the field day site. Some of these items are from the decommission antenna farm exercise recently completed.

Vice President Report

Gary, AA6GJ is passing the torch to Debbie. The prize for the YL Friday net was a VHF ground plane and the lucky winner was Jim, KM6YCA. Debbie continues to encourage all YL to attend

Secretary Report

Dave, K6WDE highlighted the June Newsletter, especially the YL writeup with about Carol Higgenbotham. You can always download the latest version from the MTARA website. Dave will continue as the newsletter editor until the end of his term,, December. He continues to look for additional authors, don't be shy!

Dave also spoke to the results of the MTARA activation of the San Bernardino National Forest on Thursday, May 13 at 10:00 a.m. See the newsletter for details.

Treasury Report

Patty, KK6LWH provided the bank balances. We had an opening balance as of April 6 in the amount of \$10,611.92. We had \$280.00 in deposits and no expenses for March. Our opening balance as of April 28 was \$10,891.92. We had expenses of \$505.93 in May for a new deposits on file of \$10,385.99.

III. Weekly Nets - summary

Denise, N6DEE, our net control manager shared the ongoing nets available to club members. We now have Echolink capability on the YL Happy Hour net too!

- Monday Nights: 1900 (7:00 p.m.) MTARA2
- Tuesday Nights: 1900 (7:00 p.m. MTARA5, WB6LVC, Debbie is the net controller
- Wednesday Nights: 1930 (7:30 p.m.) HF 'hamily hamster' net starting on 7.223MHz. This net follows the Skywarn and Mountain CERT nets at 6:30 and 7:00 p.m., respectively on the MTARA-2 repeater. Ed, KM6UWI will taking the reins once per month now, look for his invite!
- Friday Night YL Happy Hour: 1700 (5:00 p.m.) MTARA5, K6DDZ at net operator

IV. Club Items - if you are looking for a logo-wear ...

- **Name tags** – Harlan Technologies, Name Tags by Gene, (715) 340-1299, www.hampubs.com, Shawn Harlan – KA9BXA, harlantech@gmail.com
- **Club jacket and shirts** – Classic Images, 23723 Rocky Dell Dr. Crestline, (909) 338-2281. They know all about the MTARA layouts, great folks to work with!

V. Club Events, General Discussion, and Information.

We look forward to the **13 Colonies special event** July 1 to July 7 and the October **Fire Prevention Week**. Put both of them on your calendar! See their websites for more information.

Field Day Discussion

The Friday before field day, June 25, there will be antenna, cables and other stuff available to MTARA club members for purchase and some items for free. The goodies will be available from 2:00 - 4:00 pm at the Masonic Lodge in Twin Peaks. The electronics are from the recent antenna decommissioning exercise.

Field Day will take place from 11:00 am - 5:00 pm at the Masonic Lodge at 120625 Highway 189 in Twin Peaks. Due to COVID-19, it will be a members (and families) only event. There will be valuable prizes, both Grand and other.

MTARA will have two HF, one VHF GOTA and one digital station (FT8) on the air. All stations will be on battery and solar power. While the stations are underway outside, inside the Lodge we will have Winlink, APRS, SARTrack, soldering, snap-circuits and CW morse code booths on-going. Visit each booth and in addition to your attendance ticket, you can pick up additional tickets for the other prizes (excluding the Grand Prizes, see below).

GRAND PRIZES:

Kenwood TM-V71 mobile VHF/UHF radion
Powerwerx GOTA battery box and 20Ah LiFePo battery
Yaesu FT-4XR dual band handi-talkie

Each attending member to Field Day will be given 1 ticket. Winners need to be present. No additional tickets may be purchased for these fabulous items!

OTHER PRIZES

Bioenno 12v, 4.5 Ah battery
Powerwerx GOTA battery box (no battery included)
Another Yaesu FT-4XR HT

Tickets for these prizes will be available for purchase at the 'Welcome' booth. Tickets will be \$2.00 each or 6 for \$10. Visit all 5 Lodge indoor booths for more tickets or purchase them for \$2 each or 6 for \$10. There will be other prizes including an inline multi-meter, Field Day shirts and hats.

The GRAND PRIZE raffle will occur at 4:00 pm, remember you must be present to win!

We need a count of attendees, because of the meals and drinks that will be ordered for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

TIMELINE

Friday from 2:00 - 4:00 pm will be equipment setup
Saturday from 8:00 -10:30 am setup continued
Saturday beginning at 5:30 pm will be equipment tear down

Breakfast will be provided for those setting up (breakfast burrito type stuff)
Lunhd will be for all attendees from 12:00 - 1:00 pm and
Dinner will be provided for the tear down and cleanup crew

W7YRC, the Yavapai radio club out of Prescott, AZ will be looking for a club-to-club Field Day call!

General Discussion

The weekly HF ham family hamster net has a new leader, Ed, KM6UWI. He has graciously accepted the torch to continue the gathering, but once per month, TOMORROW, on the first Wednesday starting at 7:30 p.m. on ± 7.223 MHz. Ed will be using Jitsi.org, look for the invite.

Put the Route 66 On-the-Air Special Event, September 11-19, 2021 on your calendar. It is sponsored by the Citrus Belt Amateur Radio Club (W6JBT.org) and the event will be looking for local ham operators to be on the air AS the W6C station. More details to follow. Vic participated last year, and as the W6C station from his QTH, he managed to make 485 contacts. The CBARC will be hoping for operator support from MTARA members, especially, if we can activate the station ON ROUTE 66 in a portable environment throughout the San Bernardino area. More details to follow.

Fire Prevention Week in October is upcoming, put that on your calendar too. Vic will be looking for operators to participate, you do not need to be an active or retired fireman.

Gene, KJ6LMP provided an update on the Sea Cadet training exercise and training from July 11 - 17th. The venue has been changed to St. Anne's Retreat Center in Running Springs. There will be a ham radio HF radio station on throughout the week. These Cadets range from 15 - 18 years of age.

Come and join the CBARC net every Monday through Friday. 7:00 a.m. Channel 32 on your MTARA mask. See cbarctech.net for more information.

VI. Wrap-up and Close

Next meeting – July 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was closed by Vic at 7:56 p.m.

Minutes submitted, respectfully by Dave, K6WDE