

January 14th, 2013

Meeting called to order by President Joel Black. W4JBB

Joel invited members present to introduce themselves and give their call sign.

Roll Call of Officers:

√**President: Joel Black, W4JBB**, in attendance

√**Vice President: Todd Kirby, KK4CHT** in attendance

√**Secretary / Treasurer, Michael Krueger, KI40XX** in attendance

√**Repeater Trustee: David Drummond, W4MD** in attendance

Membership: Signed in on sign-in sheet.

2 Guest joined us tonight.

Old Business: Reviewed Christmas Party attendance, Fox Hunt antenna build class and Nicholas Wilson Race at Lake Lurleen.

New Business:.

Tommy Howell reported that the Domain Name needs to be renewed; he will take care of it and report back on the cost.

Fox Hunt is scheduled for Saturday January 19th; at 8:00am those interested will meet at Northport Chic-Fil-A for a biscuit. David Maze will hide the Fox and get everyone started.

VE Testing is scheduled for Friday January 18th at Northport DCH in the Faucet Room at 7:00pm.

Treasures Report: by Michael Krueger, KI40XX

Mike reported the current account balances and all accounts are reconciled.

Also he reminded members that dues are now being collected.

Repeater Trustee / Net Manager: by David Drummond, W4MD

David reported on some interference at the repeater site. Many hours spent trouble shooting components and rechecking equipment, cables and antennas. Also he commented that call ins for the Sunday night West Alabama Emergency Net have been low.

Guest Speaker / Program for the Evening:

Todd Kirby gave a presentation on Fox Hunting; he described the equipment, a portable transceiver, "The Fox" and the antenna "The Hound".

The Fox, broadcasting a signal on 146.565 every 10 minutes is hidden and pursued by The Hound, an amateur Radio Operator with a directional antenna. He demonstrated many techniques on using the directional antenna to locate the The Fox. The winner of this competition has the honor of hiding The Fox on the next event.

Februay 2013 Minutes

February 11th, 2013

Meeting called to order by President Joel Black. W4JBB

Joel invited members present to introduce themselves and give their call sign.

Roll Call of Officers:

√**President: Joel Black, W4JBB**, in attendance

Vice President: Todd Kirby, KK4CHT, absent

√**Secretary / Treasurer, Michael Krueger, KI40XX**, in attendance

√**Repeater Trustee: David Drummond, W4MD**, in attendance

Membership: Signed in on sign-in sheet.

Old Business: none

New Business:

Reviewed topics of discussion at the February Board Meeting, minutes of the meeting are attached.

- 1.) Membership, How to keep what we have, recruiting new members and bringing back old members.
- 2.) Social Media, Facebook and Twitter.
- 3.) PIO, Public Information Officer, David Mize was appointed and he will also manage the TARC social Media Accounts.
- 4.) Field Day Chairman, June 22nd & 23rd. Justin Perry volunteered to be Chairman this year.
- 5.) 2013 Programs, Todd Kirby has listed some potential activities and Guest Speakers for the future Club Meetings.

It was also suggested that a mystery Amateur Radio Themed Prize be given away at future club meetings to entice member attendance. Prize Drawings will start in February; member must be in attendance to receive the Prize.

Secretary / Treasurer Report: by Michael Krueger, KI40XX

Mike announced that 2013 TARC membership dues are being collected, 23 renewals have been received (19 regular and 4 family memberships) to date. Dues reminder e-mail will be sent out in February, sometime between the 15th to 28th as per TARC By-Laws.

TARC Bank account Balance's are reconciled with one check out standing.

Repeater Trustee / Net Manager: by David Drummond, W4MD

David reported much has been done to identify the source of noise around the antenna location. Repeater is operating without the power amplifier and output power is around 30 watts. He also outlined a few options to remedy this problem, relocate antenna and or receiver location. At this time they are not feasible because of financial consideration.

He also mentioned the purchased Radio Equipment that was to be distributed to local hospitals has been held in storage for some time and the equipment has deteriorated and is in need of repair. This project needs to be completed.

David made mention that we should explore the idea of a TARC Emergency Co-ordinator who would set up and co-ordinate a Net during a Weather Event.

Guest Speaker / Program for the Evening:

Joel Black and Justin Perry pinch hit for Todd Kirby tonight and gave a presentation on the "Cheap Ham". They demonstrated how cheap and easy it was to set up a mobile rig using a Hand Held Transceiver, remote speaker / microphone and a magnetic base antenna.

Also Justin shared some tips on using common around the house items to aide you while playing radio. Using post-it note arrow stickers to mark your favorite frequency on the dial while tuning up. and plastic bread wrapper tags to identify your cables.

Joel demonstrated a Radio Frequency Checker and Power Output Meter.

Mystery Prize, a Yasau Ball Cap awarded to David Drummond and Tape Measure Directional Antenna awarded to David Mize.

March 2013 Minutes

March 11, 2013

Meeting called to order by President Joel Black, W4JBB

Joel invited members present to introduce themselves and give their call sign.

Roll Call of Officers:

√**President: Joel Black, W4JBB**, in attendance

√**Vice President: Todd Kirby, KK4CHT**, in attendance

√**Secretary / Treasurer, Michael Krueger, KI40XX**, in attendance

√**Repeater Trustee: David Drummond, W4MD**, in attendance

Membership: Signed in on sign-in sheet.

Old Business:

DCH Regional, radio equipment that was purchased with a grant has been checked out and is ready to be installed at the hospital. David has been in contact with Paul Able to coordinate this installation. A work party will be formed and report to the hospital Saturday, March 16th at 10:00am. David will email participants with specific details on where to meet for this event.

New Business:

Alabama QSO Party is scheduled for May, watch the HamSay or check out our web site W4XI.ORG for details.

Treasures Report: by Michael Krueger, KI4OXX

Bank account balances were reviewed and accounts are reconciled.

Reviewed the current status of membership renewals, to date there have been 33 renewals, 28 regular and 5 family associate.

We will continue to distribute the HamSay via email to the paid membership.

Repeater Trustee / Net Manager: by David Drummond, W4MD

David reviewed the status of the 146.820 repeater; currently it is operating at 50 watts power output at the antenna. He is currently exploring options to increase the output power to 150 watts.

The TE Systems Amplifier proved to be very troublesome.

Also the new strobe light on the tower is causing some interference.

Guest Speaker / Program for the Evening:

Your local repeater, presented by David Drummond and Tommy Howell

David and Tommy started the presentation with a video history of our local towers and antennas. David narrated the video giving an informative and interesting dialog on the birth of TARC and noting the founders and supporters of Amateur Radio in Tuscaloosa.

David recounted how the first money raised for repeaters was from bake goods sales and repeater equipment was secured through the EMA.

Tonight's drawings:

Ball Cap, Jay Claybrook, ARRL Wire Antenna Book, Vince Busche and the ARRL Handbook, Tre Wilson.

May 2013 Minutes

May 13, 2013

Meeting called to order by Vice President Todd Kirby, KK4CHT

Todd invited members present to introduce themselves and give their call sign.

Roll Call of Officers:

President: Joel Black, W4JBB not in attendance

✓**Vice President: Todd Kirby, KK4CHT** in attendance

Secretary / Treasurer, Michael Krueger, KI4OXX not in attendance

Repeater Trustee: David Drummond, W4MD not in attendance

Membership: Signed in on sign-in sheet.

9 members in attendance

Old Business:

TARC radio equipment Insurance Policy has been renewed and Policy Packet is in the mail. When Policy is received a copy will be sent to David Drummond, Repeater Trustee for review and update.

New Business: No new business presented.

Treasures Report: by Michael Krueger, KI4OXX

Insurance Policy 1 year renewal for was paid, \$132.00.

Status, 37 regular and 8 Family members for a total of 45 Paid memberships.

Checking Account, (Membership, Repeater and Memorial Funds) reconciled to current Bank Statement.

Repeater Trustee / Net Manager: by David Drummond, W4MD

Equipment inventory update for Secretary / Treasurers file. Revised Inventory received and filed

Guest Speaker / Program for the Evening:

Wes Wyatt from FOX 6 is our featured speaker for tonight's meeting. He will be giving a presentation on Severe Weather Preparedness.

July 2013 Minutes

Meeting called to order by President Joel Black. W4JBB – July 18, 2012

Joel invited members present to introduce themselves and give their call sign.

Roll Call of Officers:

√**President: Joel Black, W4JBB** in attendance

√**Vice President: Todd Kirby, KK4CHT** in attendance

√**Secretary / Treasurer, Michael Krueger, KI40XX** in attendance

√**Repeater Trustee: David Drummond, W4MD** in attendance

Membership: Signed in on sign-in sheet.

4 Guest were in attendance of tonight's meeting, Melanie Lankford, Janiece & Austin Dixon and Jeff Maxwell. These persons were looking for information on obtaining an Amateur Radio Operators License.

David Drummond briefly described the needs and resources for getting an Amateur Radio License. He also remarked that he had Technician Class Study Guides that he would loan out.

Old Business:

none

New Business:

P I O Table update, David Mize suggested that we personalize the ARRL brochure's with specific information on Tuscaloosa Amateur Radio Club such as history, activities and meeting times with dates.

Treasures Report: by Michael Krueger, KI4OXX

All accounts reconciled.

Repeater Trustee / Net Manager: by David Drummond, W4MD

146.820 repeater is working well and radiating at a power level of 50 watts.

The recently purchased amp was not a good fit for our system; it will be retained for future use.

443.825 repeater working well.

David reported receiving QSL Cards from contacts made at this year's Field Day.

A report of a Tuscaloosa Station operating out of band during the field day proved not to be TARC. Case closed.

David spoke briefly on a book he is currently reading, he remarked that it gave some great insight on Amateur Radio and Ham Operators.

He also mentioned the Coleman Hamfest, will be held on August 27th, 2013

Guest Speaker / Program for the Evening:

Presentation on Alternative and Emergency Power

Todd Kirby gave a very informative slide show on various forms of Alternative and Emergency power for the Ham Shack. He ran the gamut of Solar, Wind and Organic forms of energy. After the presentation Todd opened the floor for questions and answers.

Janiece Dixon won the Surprise Drawing, a 50th Anniversary Yeasu Ball Cap.

August 12, 2013 Minutes

Meeting called to order by Vice President Todd Kirby, KK4CHT _ August12, 2013

Todd invited members present to introduce themselves and give their call sign.

Roll Call of Officers:

President: Joel Black, W4JBB not in attendance

Vice President: Todd Kirby, KK4CHT in attendance

Secretary / Treasurer, Michael Krueger, KI40XX in attendance

Repeater Trustee: David Drummond, W4MD not in attendance

Membership: Signed in on sign-in sheet.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Mike Krueger reported that he received an email from Walt White informing us the Tashka Trail Race at Lake Lurleen has been re scheduled for January 18th 2014. There being no objections from the membership the date was accepted as a club function and placed on the calendar. Mike will contact Walt and inform him that we will support the race as we have in the past. He will also act as contact person for the club and update members on the race details.

Treasures Report: by Michael Krueger, KI4OXX

Mike informed the membership that all accounts are reconciled and there are no outstanding amounts.

He also mentioned that the Club information on the ARRL Web Site has been updated.

Repeater Trustee / Net Manager: by David Drummond, W4MD

Tommy Howell, KG4MPU, reported the repeater equipment is functioning well.

Guest Speaker / Program for the Evening: by Todd Kirby & Tommy Howell

Intro to SDR. (Software Defined Radio) was changed to EZ Capture DVB-T (Digital Video Broadcasting – Terrestrial)

Todd and Tommy gave an interesting video demonstration using a E-Z Capture dongle to see and hear frequency from 53 MHz to 2200 MHz (2.2GHz).

They also passed out an information sheet with an over view of the device and with a brief description of how it works and what you need to operate it. Also a Frequency of Interest list and other notable items.

September 2013 Minutes

Meeting called to order by Vice President Todd Kirby, KK4CHT

Todd invited members present to introduce themselves and give their call sign.

Roll Call of Officers:

President: Joel Black, W4JBB not in attendance

Vice President: Todd Kirby, KK4CHT in attendance

Secretary / Treasurer, Michael Krueger, KI40XX in attendance

Repeater Trustee: David Drummond, W4MD not in attendance

Membership: Signed in on sign-in sheet.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Mike Krueger reported that he received an email from Walt White informing us the Tashka Trail Race at Lake Lurleen has been re scheduled for January 18th 2014. There being no objections from the membership the date was accepted as a club function and placed on the calendar. Mike will contact Walt and inform him that we will support the race as we have in the past. He will also act as contact person for the club and update members on the race details.

Treasures Report: by Michael Krueger, KI4OXX

Mike informed the membership that all accounts are reconciled and there are no outstanding amounts. He also mentioned that the Club information on the ARRL Web Site has been up-dated.

Repeater Trustee / Net Manager: by David Drummond, W4MD

Tommy Howell, KG4MPU, reported the repeater equipment is functioning well.

Guest Speaker / Program for the Evening: by Todd Kirby & Tommy Howell

Intro to SDR. (Software Defined Radio) was changed to EZ Capture DVB-T (Digital Video Broadcasting – Terrestrial)

Todd and Tommy gave an interesting video demonstration using a E-Z Capture dongle to see and hear frequency from 53 MHz to 2200 MHz (2.2GHz).

They also passed out an information sheet with an over view of the device and with a brief description of how it works and what you need to operate it. Also a Frequency of Interest list and other notable items.

November 11, 2013 TARC Minutes

Meeting called to order by President Joel Black. W4JBB

Joel invited members present to introduce themselves and give their call sign.

Roll Call of Officers:

- ✓ **President: Joel Black, W4JBB** in attendance
- ✓ **Vice President: Todd Kirby, KK4CHT** in attendance
- ✓ **Secretary / Treasurer, Michael Krueger, KI40XX** in attendance
- ✓ **Repeater Trustee: David Drummond, W4MD** in attendance

Membership: Signed in on sign-in sheet.

Old Business:

Joel reminded members the floor was still open for nominations for TARC Officers.

Herb Champion announced he would run for President. Office of Vice President had no candidate; this will be addressed at the January meeting. David Drummond and Mike Krueger announced they would seek re-election. Joel closed the floor and presented the slate of Officer as follows; President, Herb Champion, Vice President, open, Secretary / Treasurer, Michael Krueger and Repeater Trustee David Drummond.

At this time President Joel Black, instructed the Secretary to cast one ballot for each candidate.

Mike Krueger passed around menus from Mr. Bills, Wintzell's, Billy's Sports Grill and Mug Shots for the membership to review. A vote was taken and Billy's Sports Grill was selected for this year's Christmas Party on December 9th, 2013 at 6:00 – 8:00pm.

A reminder to members the Nicholas Wilson Memorial Trail Race at Lake Lurleen will be held on January 18th 2014. TARC supports this event and supplies Communicators to man the aid station around the course. Further communications to follow as time nears.

David Drummond reviewed ARES SET November 2nd, 2013 and thanked all those that participated. He commented on lessons learned and areas for further improvement. Over all the exercise was a success.

Joel announced that anew editor for the Hamsay is needed. It's time to review this issue and decide what will be done in the future.

New Business: none

Treasures Report: by Michael Krueger, KI4OXX

Bank account is reconciled with no outstanding amounts.

Repeater Trustee / Net Manager: by David Drummond, W4MD

David reported repeater sites 146.820 and 146.605 are due for cleaning. He will make arrangements for access to the sites and then schedule a work party of volunteers.

Guest Speaker / Program for the Evening:

TARC Members and Officers Ham Shacks.

Todd Kirby presented a slide show presentation of Members and officers Ham Shacks. The member provided commentary and answered questions on the photos displayed. This gave members an insight on their fellow Hams and their equipment.

We had 6 guest attend tonight's meeting; Paul C Elmore KK4UDX, Everett Sharp N8CNP and Michael Anderson, KK4MWS. Also Chris, Julianna and Jonah Moore.