

MSU ARC Meeting - July 3, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Lyons, KK4PDL, at 7:03 pm.

47 people in attendance:

W4ELR, Eric Rich	KN4JMN, Julie Wells-Bolen
KD6UNL, Larry Call	KN4JML, Adam Bolen
KJ4SYV, Charlton Young	KJ4EBQ, Gary Cooper
KM4ZTY, George James	KM4ZUH, Brent Armstrong
KJ4TKL, James Flood	W4TZK, Todd Carr
KN4IRU, Diana Mishica	KN4LZC, Carmack Johnson
K4JVJ, Julie Sacco	Blake Thomason, Guest
W1KYL, Steven Sacco	K4MKY, Don Edwards
KX4DW, David Willems	K9AVN, Art Nolan
KM4NUY, Jerry Johnson	WA6LDV, Steven Gordon
KJ4ZTC, Jimmy Sholar	EmmaLee Gordon, Guest
Sonya Sholar, Guest	AD6QJ, Larry Morris
KK4BKD, Josh Kerr	KE6CZT, Julie Morris
N3NRJ, James 'Smitty' Smith	KJ4OZU, Candy Aldrich
KY4EQN, Shea Porr	WD8OWA, Bob Aldrich
KN4MWE, Jana Hackathorn	KJ4W, Bill Call
KN4JMM, Todd Hackathorn	WA4IJU, Brenda Call
KN4KYU, Mitchell Moss	N4ZY, Dan Reimer
KN4NSQ, Logan Pawlik	KY4SR, Sue Reimer
KN4IRT, Tracy McKinney	WB7D, Dale Barrett
KN4IRN, Steven Dabbs	WB6ITI, Mike McNerthney
KN4NSR, Logan Rich	WD4GXI, Joe Wray
KN4IRQ, Scott Holt	KA4WWS, Tim Edmonson
KM4JZX, Richard Palmer	

**Secretary's Report** - Motion was made to accept June's minutes by Larry Call, KD6UNL, seconded by James Flood, KJ4TKL , and motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report** - Bill Call, KJ4W, reported that 3 payments last month were made to W5YI-VEC for exams.

- \$28 on June 5
- \$21 on June 23
- \$21 on June 30

Food Giant was paid \$169.35 for the Field Day food.

A deposit of \$209 was made on June 8th from exam fees and other.

Club's ending balance is \$2323.74.

**System Report** - Bill Call, KJ4W, report that the 440 repeater had some issues July 3rd. Eric Rich, W4ELR, reported that it was making a noise at the end of all transmission and the Morse code identifying transmission was garbled. He powered down the system and made sure all connection was solid and powered the system on.

The 146.94 repeater had some noise on it but seems to have cleared up on its own.

The 147.240 has not had any issues since last meeting.

**Advisor Report** - Eric Rich, W4ELR, had no report to give.

**QSL Manager Report** - Sue Reimer, KY4SR, reported that we had 147 confirmations for Field Day.

**VE Report** - Bill Call, KJ4W, reported that there were 3 exam sessions in June.

- June 5, 4 tested
- June 23, Field Day, 3 tested and 2 passed
- June 30, 3 tested and 3 passed

**Net Manager Report** - Mike Lyons, KK4PDL, relayed a message from Chuck Williams, K4CHW, for the June net report. We had 4 sessions with 97 stations reporting in for a total of 190 minutes and 370.16 operator hours.

**Old Business** - Josh Kerr, KK4BKD, reported on the Field Day results.

He showed us the Field Day map and the locations that we contacted. Josh reported that we got all states except Wyoming, Northern California, Eastern Washington, Alaska, Hawaii and Northern New York. We did get Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. We also got some DX stations, Guatemala, Chile and France.

Field Day score break down.

Contacts and Power Multiplier.

- 111 CW contacts by Bob Aldrich, WD8OWA.
- 58 digital contacts
- 592 phone contacts
- Power Multiplier of 2 for running on batteries, a generator and solar power

Contacts total: 1860 points

Bonus Points:

- 300 points for 100 percent emergency power (100 points for each transmitter)
- 100 points for publication, public location and information table.
- 100 points for copying the Field Day message
- 100 points for natural power
- 100 points for site visitation by an elected government official
- 100 points for CERT being there
- 100 points for Youth Participation
- 120 points for GOTA station
- 50 points for submitting our report using the web portal.
- 100 points for Education activity
- 100 points for Social Media
- 100 points for Safety Officer

Bonus total: 1570 points

Grand total: 3430 points (398 points more than last year)

Tim Edmonson, KA4WWS, led a discussion to critique and make suggestion to improve Field Day.

- Location :
  - Everyone agreed we are at a great location.

- There is no ground rod at the location.
  - Solution 1 : Using the Mains ground
  - Solution 2 : Using temporary stakes that could be removed.
- Radio Stations:
  - All stations, including the GOTA, needs 2 Headsets.
  - Band pass filters are needed for the stations, especially 20 and 40.
- Food
  - It was agreed chicken is a good choice for Field Day.
  - It was suggested that we should add a few sides to go with the chicken.
- Antenna
  - Main suggestion is that we need to practice setting up antennas before Field Day.
  - A 20m vertical was added this year to help with interference.
  - Issue with the Windom antenna is that we can not get it high enough. It needs to be at least 40 feet high and there is not a good place to get it that high.
    - If we want a 160 meter antenna. We will need to research a better antenna for the space we have.
  - The Fan Dipole was great.
    - We need to have it prebuild.
  - A 15M antenna would be good to have also.

**Program** - "Practical Easy-To-Build 2 Meter Antennas" by Bill Call, KJ4W. He presented an interactive lecture with examples and hands on activities. Bill made a very important statement, "Any antenna is better than no antenna." He went on to show many kinds of simple antennas made from wire and PVC pipe. He also had a hands on demonstration of how an Antenna Analyzer works.

**New Business** - Mike Lyons, KK4PDL, suggested that we purchase Liability Insurance from ARRL for \$300 a year. Motion was made to purchase the insurance by Stephen Sacco, W1KYL, seconded by Tim Edmonson, KA4WWS, and motion carried.

There was a suggestion to purchase Band Filters for Field Day. It was determined that we should put more research into this and look at the issue again at the next meeting.

Tim Edmonson, KA4WWS, suggest that we should partner with Mayfield. They have an antenna and equipment but need a building to house the repeater and other equipment. A motion was made to use \$250 to help build a shed to house the equipment by Tim Edmonson, KA4WWS, seconded by Charlton Young, KJ4SYV, and motion carried.

Eric Rich, W4ELR, suggested we purchase a PCI serial card for the 440 repeater computer. Adding the serial card would allow us to manage the controller board and Echolink at the same time. Motion to purchase this card was made by Bill Call, KJ4W, seconded by James Flood, KJ4TKL, and motion carried.

Motion to accept new Associate Member applicant, Joseph Wray (WD4GXI), was made by Bill Call, KJ4W, seconded by James Flood, KJ4TKL, and motion carried.

Motion to accept new Associate Member applicants, Logan Pawlik (KN4NSQ) and Diana Mishica (KN4IRU), was made by Rich Palmer, KM4JZX, seconded by Charlton Young, KJ4SYV, and motion carried.

Motion to accept new Full Member applicant, Jana Hackathorn (KN4MWE), was made by Josh Kerr, KK4BKD, seconded by Charlton Young, KJ4SYV, and motion carried.

Motion to accept new Associate Member applicant, Julie Wells-Bolen (KN4JMN), was made by Tim Edmonson, KA4WWS, seconded by Bill Call, KJ4W, and motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned by Mike Lyons, KK4PDL, President, at 9:28 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Rich, W4ELR, Apprentice Secretary