



MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



MSU ARC Meeting – April 6th, 2021

Meeting was called to order by President, Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call & Question of the Night: Roll call was done and we had several new people joining us for the meeting tonight. There was no question of the night but all were excited to be meeting in-person again with the option of a ZOOM connection for those who were not able to make it in-person.

Program: Bill Call, KJ4W, presented a very interesting and informative program on the WINLINK Radio Based, Worldwide Email System. He provided an introduction of what the WINLINK system is and presented an overview of the history of WINLINK, how it works, what equipment is used in the system, different setup options, the application to the HAM radio hobby, and why it is beneficial in our internet-based world. Bill explained how to get set up and started using the WINLINK system and performed a real-time demonstration of how this radio-based email system works. Bill utilized a slide show that John Hart, KO4ZE, created five years ago and expanded on the information as new things have developed over the years. More information on WINLINK can be found at WWW.WINLINK.ORG and Bill's presentation can be found on the club's Facebook page as the meeting was recorded and posted there.

[Murray State University Amateur Radio Club | Facebook](#)

Secretary's Report: Josh Kerr, WV4O, moved to accept the minutes from the last meeting; motion was seconded by Bill Call, KJ4W. Motion approved.

Advisor Report: Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE, advised that there is nothing new to report at this time.

QSL Manager Report: Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, advised that Sue Reimer, NR4R, who was not in attendance tonight, had nothing to report at this time. Tracy also updated the club membership on health report of Dan Reimer, N4ZY, that there were no signs of cancer found at his last doctor visit.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, reports that one deposit was made for \$205.00. No checks have been written since the last meeting; but Bill advised that he does have some reimbursement that he needs to figure for the Winlink project and states that it won't be much. Current bank balance is \$3795.15. Currently 68 members have paid their 2021 club membership dues.

System's Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, states that the new Winlink digipeater and gateway has been moved to Faculty Hall and seems to be working well. Bill shared more about this in the program. Bill advised that he has not yet gone to Hamlin to install that amplifier. The 94 repeater has not required any attention, and all 3 repeaters and 2 APRS digipeaters are working well. Bill informed the club that Josh Kerr, WV4O, has reported that the computer which runs the WIRES-X link and the Radio Reference feed for the 443.800 repeater failed, and he has installed a replacement.

VE Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, reports that we did not have any exams last month. A test session will be held immediately following tonight's meeting.



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CERT Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, advised that the annual statewide Tornado Safety Drill was performed on March 4th, 2021 and several CERT member HAMS assisted with observation and reporting during the siren tests.

Net Manager Report: Chuck Williams, K4CHW, shared the NET reports via ZOOM. The net reports are as follows:

- *March 2021 Net Report:*
 - 5 sessions
 - 142 stations
 - 265 minutes
 - 627.16 operator hours.
- *Wellness Net*
 - 4 sessions
 - 69 stations
 - 53 minutes
 - 60.95 operator hours
- *SkyWarn Net (held 03/25/21)*
 - 1 session
 - 16 stations
 - 56 minutes
 - 14.93 operator hours

Special Events:

- **FOXHUNT** - Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, announced that the Spring FoxHunt will be held on April 17, 2021. We will gather at Tracy's 100 N. 5th Street location starting at 1:30 p.m. and the FoxHunt will begin at 2:00 p.m. Participants will need to enter the back parking lot from 4th Street (first drive north of Main Street).
 - George James, KY4GMJ, and Gary Cooper, KJ4EBQ, will be our Wylie CJ Fox. They will transmit in 5 minute intervals on 146.55 and give some clues as the FoxHunt progresses. George James, KY4GMJ, shared the FoxHunt rules and emphasized that SAFETY is the #1 priority. An explanation and rules for the FoxHunt can be found on our club's website at <https://k4msu.com/fox-hunts/>.
- **KY QSO Party** – Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, announced that our club has been invited to participate as a bonus station in the KY QSO Party on June 5, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. It was mentioned that we may possibly be able to operate from the club station at the university, COVID-19 precautions will still need to be followed. Bill Call, KJ4W, mentioned that participating as a bonus station would essentially obligate the club to have someone operating during the entire duration of the event. Club membership decided that we would like to proceed with participation in the KY QSO Party.



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Special Events: cont.

- **Field Day** – Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, advised that this year’s Summer Field Day will be on June 26th and 27th. Josh Kerr, WV4O, reported that a request has been submitted for the reservation of the MSU Arboretum for our Field Day events.
- **Cave City HamFest** – Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, informed the club that the Cave City HamFest will be held July 10th, 2021 as an outdoor event only. There will be about 40 vendor spots available and the rest will be tailgate spots in the parking lot of Cave City Convention Center.
- **KYPOTA** – John Coyle, W4PJC, advised that there is still a need for a few more volunteers for the KYPOTA committee for the 2021 event. If you are interested in being on this committee and helping with the KYPOTA event please email John at jcoyle347@yahoo.com. The current date of the KYPOTA event is August 14, 2021. John also mentioned that they were able to obtain a special event call-sign for the KYPOTA event; the special call sign is **K4Y**. John advised that they plan to publish a back-up date in the rules for the event, in case it needs to be postponed due to weather like our last one. He has submitted a draft of the rules for the event and will finalize those soon. Todd Hackathorn, W4GV, is working on some things with the logging program N1MM for the event. A brief explanation of KYPOTA event was given for any new attendees or those who are unfamiliar with the event.
- **HUNTSVILLE HAMFEST**
 - Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, reported details on the Huntsville Hamfest. Several members are already planning on attending and have reserved their hotel rooms. If you plan to attend make those reservations soon and buy your tickets online as soon as they are available as there may be limits on those.
 - The details are as follows:
 - **DATES:** August 21 – August 22, 2021
 - **TIME:** Saturday August 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **and** Sunday 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 - **VENUE:** Von Braun Center South Hall
 - **ADDRESS:** 700 Monroe St. SW, Huntsville, AL 35801
 - **WEBSITE:** <https://hamfest.org/>

Old Business: There was no old business to discuss.

New Business:

- Three new member applications were submitted. Bill Call, KJ4W, motioned to approve the new members and Charlton Young, KJ4CY, seconded the motion. The new members were approved unanimously:
 - Joshua Sloan, KO4EAP
 - Jedediah Lamb, KN4YGO
 - Ruben Fuentes, WB5WTF



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New Business: cont.

- Officer Elections were held tonight in accordance with the club constitution and by-laws.
 - **President:** Tracy McKinney, W4IRT was nominated by Steven Dabbs, KN4IRN, and the nomination was seconded by Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE. The nomination of Tracy as club President was approved unanimously.
 - **Vice President:** Dan Reimer, N4ZY, was nominated by Bill Call, KJ4W, and the nomination was seconded by Charlton Young, KJ4CY. The nomination of Dan as club Vice President was approved unanimously.
 - **Secretary:** Corbie Gomez, KO4ARX, was nominated by Bob Aldrich, WD8OWA, and the nomination was seconded by Debbie Barton, W8IBT. The nomination of Corbie as club Secretary was approved unanimously.
 - **Treasurer:** Bill Call, KJ4W, was nominated by Charlton Young, KJ4CY, and the nomination was seconded by Bill Husfield, K9MMW, the nomination of Bill Call as club Treasurer was approved unanimously. Bill Call will also remain as club trustee.
 - **Managers:**
 - Sue Reimer, NR4R, will continue to serve as the QSL manager.
 - Josh Kerr, WV4O, will continue to serve as the Web manager.
 - Chuck Williams, K4CHW, will continue to serve as the NET manager.
 - Tim Edmonson, KA4WWS, and Rich Palmer, KM4JZX will continue to serve as the Field Day co-managers.
 - John Coyle, W4PJC, will continue to serve as the KYPOTA manager.
 - Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE, will continue to serve as University Advisor.

- Robin Jones, KF4GCD, requested to address the club in regards to trying to get a set meeting time scheduled for the Mayfield HAM Radio Club. Robin inquired about the interest and willingness of the MSU ARC members to attend a club meeting in Mayfield on the 3rd Thursday of every month. This would start on May 20th and the meeting would be held at the Cuba Church of Christ at 7:00 p.m. The membership expressed interest and it was the general consensus that individuals would try to attend those meetings when possible and support the Mayfield club as we consider it a sister club. It was noted that the meeting time would be at the same time as our Thursday night wellness net, but it may be possible for individuals to check in while mobile or be relayed in to the wellness net.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. by Tracy McKinney, W4IRT.



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Attendance: 40 people

Tracy McKinney, W4IRT

Josh Kerr, WV4O

Bill Call, KJ4W

Brenda Call, WA4IJU

Joshua Sloan, KO4EAP

Steven Dabbs, KN4IRN

Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE

Todd Hackathorn, W4GV

Bob Atkinson, K9OIM

Helen Atkinson, no callsign

James Flood, KJ4TKL

Ruben Fuentes, WB5WTF

Charlton Young, KJ4CY

Corbie Gómez, KO4ARX

Bob Aldrich, WD8OWA

Candy Aldrich, KJ4OZU

Robin Jones, KF4GCD

Earl H., guest – no callsign

John Coyle, W4PJC

Mary Husfield, KC4TIE

Bill Husfield, K9MMW

Greg Gordon, KX4VI

Gary Cooper, KJ4EBQ

Gary Bolton, K1DXI

Tom Radja, KO4HCL

Michelle Proctor, KN4SCB

Matt Freeman, WX4WKY

Debbie Barton, W8IBT

Denis Barton, WB8SKP

Julie Sacco, K4JVJ

Steve Sacco, W1KYL

Todd Carr, W4TZX

George James, KY4GMJ

Dan Eakin, KO4PDT

Jedediah Lamb, KN4YGO

Robert Bracken, KJ7RJB (*Zoom*)

Chuck Williams, K4CHW (*Zoom*)

Diana Mishica, KN4IRU (*Zoom*)

Valerie Barrett, KG4OCJ (*Zoom*)

Stuart Naulty, KN4RGB (*Zoom*)

Respectfully submitted,

Corbie Gómez, KO4ARX, Secretary