



MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



MSU ARC Meeting – August 2, 2022

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 the question of the night was “What are your plans for KYPOTA?”

Program: John Coyle, W4PJC, and Todd Hackathorn, W4GV, presented information on how the MSU ARC sponsored KYPOTA event works. It will be held on August 13, 2022 from 9am to 5pm. John went over the history of the event and how previous years have gone. He reviewed how QSO exchanges should be done. John also explained that we will have 3 locations set up:

- **K4MSU** (club’s main station) will set up at the Cherokee Pavilion inside KenLake State Park
- **W4GZ** will set up at KY Dam Village
- **K4Y** will be set up at Colson Overlook located inside LBL.

Todd Hackathorn, W4GV, provided information on the N1MM logging system used for KYPOTA. Todd explained that you can find more information from the MSU website, <https://k4msu.com/kypota/>.

John Coyle, W4PJC, also mentioned that we need to rotate chairmanship of the event to get fresh ideas. He asked that people take pictures while at KYPOTA and advised that after this event we will decide if we want to continue sponsoring the event in 2023.

Vice President Report: Todd Hackathorn, W4GV, had nothing new to report but, as always, we encourage input regarding future presentations.

Secretary’s Report: Debbie Barton, W8IBT, moved to accept the minutes from last meeting; motion was seconded by Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE. Motion approved.

Advisor Report: Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE, has submitted to receive the money from our MSU account for the communication equipment. Jana also reports that the new chair of the building, Jamie Rogers, will not kick us out of the building.

QSL Manager Report: Debbie Barton, W8IBT, reports that she sent out 64 QSL cards from the KY QSO Party to advertise and promote the club. She also states that we have received 15 to 16 cards back in the mail from that.

Treasurer’s Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, reports there were no deposits made or checks written in July. Current bank balance is unchanged at \$4735.86. Bill did pay the annual MSU Arboretum dues, \$100, online by credit card; so that will be reimbursed next month when the credit card bill comes in. The number of active members is still the same, 86 paid members prior to tonight's meeting.



MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



System's Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, reported that he went to the Hamlin repeater site to work on a CCFR radio, and checked the W4GZ repeater while he was there. It is working fine. Bill states he has been working on the HF Winlink Gateway system at home, and has the donated radio and modem working with a computer from the club station that Eric had obtained. Bill is waiting on an answer from the Winlink system administrator to get operating frequencies selected, otherwise the system is ready to go on Pactor. Bill states that he would like to also add a sound card mode, either Vara or ARDOP, but that would take some more equipment and effort. The 3 Club repeaters, the 2 APRS digipeaters and the 2m Winlink system are all working well as far as he knows.

VE Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, states that we have not conducted a VE session since Field Day. We do have 1 request for an exam tonight. Bill has studied the new W5YI-VEC procedures and has printed out the all-new exam forms. Remember that the Technician Class Question Pool was replaced on July 1 so potential examinees should get a new study book.

CERT Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, states that there were no CERT activities this month. We are planning on conducting a CERT course this Fall. It will be on Thursday evenings beginning September 15. By next meeting Bill will be taking sign-ups.

Net Manager Report: Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, presented the net reports as submitted by net manager: Chuck Williams, K4CHW, (not in attendance):

- *July 2022 Net Report:*
 - 4 sessions
 - 96 stations
 - 191 minutes
 - 305.6 operator hours.

Special Events:

- **KYPOTA** – John Coyle, W4PJC, and Todd Hackathorn, W4GV, explained in detail what KYPOTA is in tonight's program. It will be held August 13, 2022 and for additional information: <https://k4msu.com/kypota/>
- **K4MSU Fall Fox Hunt:** Saturday October 15th. We will meet at Club Station parking lot at 1:30 p.m. and start hunting at 2:00 p.m.

Announcements:

- Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, asked that everyone keep Brenda Call, WA4IJU, in our thoughts and prayers.
- Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, reminded everyone to obtain their visitor parking permits for parking on Murray State University grounds. It can be found by searching on Google for "Murray State University Parking Pass" and visitor parking permits are free. Debbie Barton, W8IBT, mentioned that you must pull into your parking space ensuring that your license plate is visible, as it is your permit.



MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



Announcements (cont.):

- Josh Kerr, WV4O, went over the results from Field Day 2022. We compared what we able to do last year to what we accomplished this year. This year we had 3,026 total points, which was a decrease of 884 points from last year. The top three operators for 2022 were as follows:
 - **1st Place** - Bob Aldrich, WD8OW with 264 points
 - **2nd Place** - Todd Hackathorn, W4GV with 90 points
 - **3rd Place** - Steve Adcock, KN4KNF with 57 points
- Josh stated that he will go ahead and make the reservations for 2023 Field Day if the club is okay with having it at the MSU Arboretum again.

Old Business:

- **Club Surplus Equipment** - Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, explained that no action has been taken on this topic yet.
- **Pledge of Allegiance** – Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, reopened a conversation about the club possibly saying the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of each meeting. This was presented to him by a club member who had seen it done at another club. Tracy has polled several of the members of the club but wishes to present it to the entire membership. After some discussion:
 - Debbie Barton, W8IBT, motioned that the club not say the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of each meeting. After further discussion, Debbie, rescinded her motion and Josh Kerr, WV4O, made the following motion:
 - Josh Kerr, WV4O, motioned to table this topic until the next meeting, with a reminder being included in each Monday Morning club email that we will revisit this discussion at the September meeting and vote by secret ballot on an action. Bill Call, KJ4W, seconded the motion. Debbie Barton, W8IBT thirded the motion. Motion was carried.
- **Purchase of Two ICOM 7300s** – Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, mentioned that a discussion about the possible purchase of two more ICOM 7300s for the club to be able to use at events like Field Day and KYPOTA is still on the table to be discussed at a later time.

New Business:

- **New Club Laptops** - A discussion was brought up about the club needing to purchase five new laptops. Randall Winchester, WD4HVA, suggested that we get prices on some laptops before we purchase anything. Tracy mentioned that he has asked Josh Kerr, WV4O, and Stuart Naulty, KN4RGB, to help with researching what to purchase. Tracy advised that this item will be kept on the table until next month.
- **Fall Fox Hunt** – Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, initiated a discussion about when we should hold the Fall Fox Hunt. After checking dates, it was decided that the fox hunt will be held on October 15th, 2022. We will meet at Club Station parking lot at 1:30 p.m. and start hunting at 2:00 p.m.



MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



New Business (cont.):

- **MSU Centennial Homecoming** – Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, mentioned that the MSU Centennial Homecoming will be on October 29th, 2022. Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE, stated that it is far too expensive to participate in the Tent City part of homecoming. Josh Kerr, WV4O, suggested that we possibly open the club station that week and advertise using HAM radio communications or possibly set up a special event to promote HAM radio to the students. Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE, stated that she will try to come up with something to do in her department's tent to help promote as well.
- **Non-Profit Exploratory Committee** – Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, mentioned that he would like to start an exploratory committee to research and discuss the idea of beginning a non-profit organization. Tracy asked Josh Kerr, WV4O, to chair this committee and requested that several others serve on the committee. He will send out an email to set up a time for the committee to meet.
- **Trailer with Tower** – Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, mentioned that John Coyle, W4PJC, has found a trailer with a 106-foot antenna tower that the club may be interested in purchasing. John and two other club members have agreed to pay a percentage of the cost of the trailer/tower purchase and will ask the club to also pay up to \$500.

New Members: There were no new member applications tonight.

Josh Kerr, WV4O, moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Steven Dabbs, KN4IRN, and Todd Hackathorn, W4GV. Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.



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Attendance: 30 people

Tracy McKinney, W4IRT

Bill Call, KJ4W

Larry Call, KD6UNL

Corbie Gómez, KO4ARX

Josh Kerr, WV4O

Stuart Naulty, KN4RGB

John Coyle, W4PJC

Bob Aldrich, WD8OWA

Candy Aldrich, KJ4OZU

Todd Hackathorn, W4GV

Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE

Denis Barton, WB8SKP

Debbie Barton, W8IBT

Jack Ellis, K9JLE

Joe Wray, WD4GXI

Angela Wray, "Hamette", no callsign

Steve Sacco, W1KYL

Kami Spencer, no callsign

Dave Thomas, KO4QZA

Randall Winchester, WD4HVA

Diana Mishica, KN4IRU

James Flood, KJ4TKL

Steven Dabbs, KN4IRN

John Lewis, no callsign

David Wagoner, KQ4AJT

Bill Barley, KO4TVA

Dave Eakin, KP4AJT

Kent Herrington, K4TMX

Scott Rob, KK4SLM

George Rob, KK4SRR

Respectfully submitted,

Corbie Gómez, KO4ARX, Secretary