



MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



MSU ARC Meeting – June 7, 2022

Meeting was called to order by President, Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, at 7:01 p.m.

Roll Call & Question of the Night: Roll call was done and the question of the night was whether or not you are planning to attend Field Day and what food will you be bringing for the potluck.

Program: Field Day: Steven Dabbs, KN4IRN, presented an informative and interesting program on Field Day which will be held on Saturday June 25th 1pm – Sunday 26th 1pm CST at the MSU Arboretum at 300 Hickory Dr., Murray, KY 42071.

- Steven explained what Field Day is as the following:
 - ARRL's single most popular on-the-air 24 hour event
 - 4th weekend of June each year
 - Radio Amateurs from across the US & Canada participate
 - Phone (voice) – CW (morse code) – Digital (FT8, RTTY)
 - Emergency Preparedness – picnic – campout – Fellowship & FUN!
 - Not a “contest” but we do earn points
- He went over the objective of Field Day
 - Work as many stations as possible
 - 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 Meter HF bands, as well as all bands 50 MHz and above
 - Learn to operate in abnormal & less than optimal conditions
 - Introduce newly licensed or non-licensed folks to amateur radio
 - Beat Paducah!
- Steven explained how to make a QSO Exchange;
 - “CQ Field Day, this is K4MSU – Kilo 4 Mike Sierra Uniform, CQ Field Day!”
 - --- Station WY9ZR answers your CQ ---
 - You will reply: “WY9ZR you are 59, please copy 3-alpha KY QSL?”
 - --- Station replies QSL, please copy 1-Delta, WI ---
 - You will log the call sign, sent signal, receive signal, and section into N1MM then call QRZ to get another contact!
 - * Steven then asked the club to participate in a group exercise to practice making a contact *
- Steven explained the GOTA station:
 - An opportunity for unlicensed, newly licensed, or generally inactive licensees to experience first-hand amateur radio
 - Available for a licensed amateur who has not operated on HF in the past 12 months under their call sign.
 - A great opportunity to get people involved with amateur radio



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Program Field Day (cont):

- He reviewed the point accumulation for contacts
 - Phone: 1 point per contact
 - CW: 1 point per contact
 - Digital: 2 points per contact
 - Bonus points:
 - Youth participation: 20 points per participant age 18 or under that completes at least one QSO. 100 max
 - 100% Emergency power: 100 points
 - Media Publicity: 100 points
 - Set up in a public place: 100 points
 - Public information table: 100 points
 - Message to ARRL Section Manager or Section Emergency Coordinator: 100 points
 - W1AW Field Day Message: 100 points
 - Message Handling NTS/ICS213: 100 points max
 - A satellite QSO: 100 points
 - Natural power QSOs: 100 points
 - Site visited by Invited elected official: 100 points
 - Site visited by Invited served agency official: 100 points
 - Educational Activity: 100 points
 - GOTA Bonus:
 - Use the Field Day Entry Web App: 50 points
 - Safety officer bonus: 100 points
 - Social media bonus: 100 points
- A discussion was held about our Field Day operations and any questions were answered during the conversation.

Recap: Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, provided a recap of the club events since the last meeting.

- **MSUARC Spring Fox Hunt--** We had blast at the Fox Hunt with a total of 10 teams and 24 hunters. Josh, WV4O was truly a sly fox this year with the winning team having an elapsed time of 34 minutes. The Fox's Den was within walking distance of our club station, but it was very challenging to find. Tracy recognized the winners as W4GV, KN4MWE and KN4IRU.
- **KY QSO Party** – Tracy reported that we had a great time at the QSO party. Bill and Josh had everything set up and ready to go. We had several young HAMS participate this year and everyone had a blast.

Vice President Report: Todd Hackathorn, W4GV, asked for 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.



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Advisor Report: Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE, reported that there is no new mail for the club at this time. She also advised that she received an email from the university stating that Dr. Danny Claiborne is no longer in charge of the building where we meet, our new contact for now will be James Rogers and she will share his contact information with Tracy McKinney, W4IRT.

QSL Manager Report: Debbie Barton, W8IBT, reports that there are no new QSL cards for the club at this time.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, reports there were no deposits made this month. There was one check for \$7.00 to W5YI-VEC for VE fees. He advised that the current bank balance is \$4220.95. Prior to tonight's meeting, 82 members have paid 2022 dues.

System's Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, reports that he and Steven Dabbs, KN4IRN, lowered the 146.940 repeater antenna on May 14 (Steven's birthday) and cleaned and tightened connections, and shook water out of the connectors. That work reduced the noise on the repeater a lot. He advised that he installed the new Broad-Band Dipole at the club station last week, with the help of Steven Dabbs, KN4IRN, and Tracy McKinney, W4IRT. The new antenna got a good workout on 40 meters last Saturday at our Kentucky QSO Party operation, and seemed to work well. 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, reports that a VE session was conducted after the May club meeting, and Dan Eakin, KO4PDT, upgraded to General Class. He advised that there is one request so far for an exam tonight. Bill also reminded everyone that prospective new hams should be aware that the Technician Class Question Pool is to be replaced at the end of this month, so beginning July 1 a new study book should be used. Bill stated that we plan to offer a VE session at Field Day, Saturday evening following the potluck meal.

CERT Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, reported that the CERT members were asked to assist in traffic control and parking for the funeral service of Chief Deputy Jody Cash. Seven HAM radio operators, 4 of which were CERT trained, responded. Bill expressed that he was out of town and greatly appreciates those who volunteered and for Tracy's leadership. CERT member HAMS will be observing siren testing this Friday. EM Director Richard Palmer, KM4JZX, is planning on us conducting a CERT course this Fall.

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

- *May 2022 Net Report:*
 - 5 sessions
 - 123 stations
 - 262 minutes
 - 537.1 operator hours.



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Special Events:

- **KYPOTA** – Our club hosts the KYPOTA and this year it will be August 13, 2022. For additional information: <https://k4msu.com/kypota/>

Old Business:

- **Club Surplus Equipment** - Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, explained that this project has been placed on hold for the time being.

New Business: Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, reported that the club has been asked to assist with parking for the Murray Calloway County Fair if we are interested in the job. The dates are June 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18. On the 14th-16th they will need four people, and on the 17th and 18th they would need ten people between 5:45pm and 9:00pm. The club would receive a \$1000 cash donation for our assistance and there is a fraternity who has members still in town that we could partner with and split the donation. Tracy advised that he will send an email to the membership to see if there is any interest.

Acknowledgement: Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, took a moment to acknowledge and thank those who helped with traffic control and parking for Chief Deputy Jody Cash's funeral service. Their help with parking the hundreds of cars at both the CFSB Center and the cemetery was greatly appreciated. Thank you to: KA4WWS, KN4MWE, K9JLE, W4GV, WD4HVA, WD4IEC, and W4IRT.

New Members: Corbie Gomez, KO4ARX reported that there were no new member applications tonight.

Announcement: Ben Rudy, KO4LFZ, mentioned that the Paducah HAM radio club has an end-fed antenna set up at the Ft. Massac Park for those who would like to try any POTA operations there. He said anyone could contact that club to get information on its location and how to get set up to use their antenna.



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Attendance: 31 people

Tracy McKinney, W4IRT

Bill Call, KJ4W

Brenda Call, WA4IJU

Joshua Sloan, KO4EAP

Corbie Gómez, KO4ARX

Steven Dabbs, KN4IRN

Todd Hackathorn, W4GV

Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE

Bob Atkinson, K9OIM

Helen Atkinson, no callsign

Stuart Naulty, KN4RGB

Gary Cooper, KJ4EBQ

Bob Aldrich, WD8OWA

Candy Aldrich, KJ4OZU

George James, KY4GMJ

Steve Adcock, KF4KNF

Jack Ellis, K9JLE

James Flood, KJ4TKL

Ben Rudy, KO4LFZ

Jessie Rudy, KO4ZBV

Will Rudy, KO4VLL

Alex Rudy, KO4YFI

Larry Call, KD6UNL

Larry Morris, AD6QJ

Denis Barton, WB8SKP

Debbie Barton, W8IBT

Diana Mishica, KN4IRU

Dave Thomas, KO4QZU

Joe Wray, WD4GXI

Angela Wray, "Hamette", no callsign

Eric Davies, no callsign

Respectfully submitted,

Corbie Gómez, KO4ARX, Secretary