



Murray State University Amateur Radio Club

Address: MSUARC
2580 University Station
Murray, Kentucky 42071

Website: www.k4msu.com

MSU ARC Meeting – May 2, 2023

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, “Have you made any long-time friends through HAM radio, may even friends that you may never meet in person?”

Program: Steven Dabbs, KN4IRN, presented a brief and informative program about HAM radio equipment and insurance.

- He went over the different types of equipment and accessories that you should consider insuring as they are a part of your radio investments, like: radios, power supplies, amps, computers, towers, antennas, coax, etc.
- Steven reviewed the various types of events that could cause damage or you to lose your equipment, like: fire, lightning, windstorms, hail, power surges, water damage, or theft.
- Steven explained the differences that you might find between using your home owner’s insurance versus ARRL insurance to cover your radio equipment.
- He also explained your duties after a loss of equipment
 - Proof of ownership
 - Receipts
 - Damaged equipment
 - Photos
 - Proof of loss
 - Proof of damage by a “qualified” business
 - Evidence supporting the type of damage
 - Repair or Replace
 - Photos
- Steven explained how the value the equipment lost is assessed taking into account the following:
 - Replacement costs
 - Actual Cash Value (market value)
 - Appreciate/Depreciation

Vice President’s Report: Diana Mishica, K4IRU, encouraged the club to make suggestions on future program topics and to volunteer to present if they would like to share.

Secretary’s Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, moved that the April meeting minutes be accepted as submitted. Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE, seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

Advisor Report: Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE, advised that she has been able to retrieve our mail. Debbie Barton, W8IBT, sent a test mail on 03-01-2023 and we just received it two weeks ago. Jana reports that we received a bill from the MSU newspaper, the bill was past due but we just now received it. Jana will give it to Bill Call, KJ4W, to be paid.

QSL Manager Report: Debbie Barton, W8IBT, was not present to report anything.



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Treasurer's Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, reported that debit card payments were made to W5YI-VEC for VE fees for \$28.00 and to Risk Strategies for the ARRL Club Liability Insurance for \$300.00. There was one deposit for \$245.00. Current bank balance is \$3,526.62. As of tonight's meeting, we have 82 paid members for 2023. At this point, only paid members may make or vote on motions at the meetings, or serve as an officer. A past member who has not paid their dues may catch up at any time during the year.

System's Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, reported that the 443.800 repeater including EchoLink and the 2m Winlink node were offline for a few days last week after a noise problem affected the repeater. He could not find the problem while at the repeater site in the penthouse of Faculty Hall, and in the process he apparently tripped a building circuit breaker which he never could find which shut down the power to penthouse receptacles. Bill took the repeater and its interface to the external controller home to test them. He was unable to find anything wrong with them and took them back to Faculty Hall last Friday. MSU still hadn't fixed the power problem so Bill used a long extension cord to a good outlet to get us going again, and everything worked fine then. He is guessing that no components had failed, but that the external controller had hung and just needed to be power-cycled. In the process of studying the repeater at home, he dug out our "spare" Yaesu repeater that used to be used on 146.940 and added the connections to it that he had added inside the 443.800 repeater 7 years ago to adapt it to EchoLink. So now the spare repeater would be quicker to swap into service on 443.800 if needed. Bill also cleaned a bunch of dust out of both repeaters—the Yaesu repeaters have a cooling fan that runs full-time and that brings in quite a bit of dust over the years. Also last week the MSU Network guys installed the new network feed cables in the club station and Bill restarted the HF Winlink gateway station, and all seems to be well with the computer network in the station. The 3 Club repeaters, the 2 APRS digipeaters and the two Winlink systems are all working well as far as Bill is aware.

VE Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, advised that an exam session was held after the April meeting. Four HAMS from the General Class License study course upgraded to General Class! Congratulations to Dr. Jordan Garcia, KN4AXN; Jerry Holt, N1BLH of Paris; Richard Holt, K4HNB of Paris; and Donna Pursifull, KQ4FEU. W5YI-VEC and the FCC have improved the turnaround time for upgrade processing, and the upgraded licenses were posted the next evening. A VE session will be held tonight after the meeting.

CERT Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, reported that Facebook page for CERT activities has been created and is waiting to be approved by Emergency Management Director, Jeff Steen. It is still in the start-up stage at this time, but if you are on the master list of contacts you should receive an invite when it is up.

Net Manager Report: Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, presented the net reports as Net Manager, Chuck Williams, K4CHW, was not present tonight:

- *April Net Report:*
 - 4 sessions
 - 111 stations
 - 207 minutes
 - 382.95 operator hours



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- *SkyWarn Session on 04-06-2023*
 - 21 stations
 - 25 minutes
 - 8.75 operator hours

Special Events:

- KY DMR Net, TG3121 Thursdays at 7:00 pm
- Princeton HAM Fest is June 3, 2023
- KY QSO Party is June 3, 2023
- 2023 ARRL Field Day is June 24-25
 - The Field Day committee has already met and is making progress on plans for this year's event.
 - The operating schedule sign-up sheet is on our website at k4msu.com
 - The potluck sign-up sheet is on our website as well.
 - Bill Call, KJ4W, will send out an email about ordering event t-shirts.
- Lewis and Clark Trail On the Air
 - June 3rd to June 18th 2023
 - Contact one club in each of the 16 states on the historic Lewis and Clark Trail
 - www.lctota.org
- Thirteen Colonies
 - July 1st through July 7th, 2023
 - Three bonus stations
 - TM13COL, France
 - GB13COL, Great Britain
 - WM3PEN, Philadelphia, PA
 - www.13colonies.us
- KYPOTA is August 12th, 2023
 - The main location will be at Cherokee Park/Kenlake State Park activated by John Coyle, W4PJC and operating under the club callsign **K4MSU**
 - There will be additional locations
 - LBL is being activated by Tracy McKinney, W4IRT and Steven Dabbs, KN4IRN operating under the special event callsign **K4Y**
 - Columbus-Belmont State Park is being activated by Michael Knight, KG4QPO
 - KY Dam Village is being activated by Bill Call, KJ4W, Brenda Call, WA4IJU, and Joshua Sloan, KO4EAP, operating under the club callsign **W4GZ**

Announcements:

- **Fulton County Amateur Radio Club** – Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, reminded everyone that the Fulton County club has their NET on Sundays at 7:30 p.m. on 145.270 (-) with PL Tone of 100 Hz



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- **ARRL Membership** – Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, encouraged everyone to become of a member of ARRL.
 - When you join ARRL, you'll have access to information, learning, programs, and services to help you get (and stay) active and on the air.
 - Join now and get immediate access to the full benefits of ARRL membership.
 - <https://www.arrl.org/membership>

Old Business: Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, advised that there is no old business to address tonight.

New Business: Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, advised that there is no new business to address tonight.

New Members: Corbie Gomez, KO4ARX reported that there were two new member applications tonight from: **Mike Davis and Angela Davis**. Josh Kerr, WV4O, motioned to approve the new members and Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE, seconded the motion. The new member was approved unanimously.



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Attendance: 31 people

Tracy McKinney, W4IRT

Bill Call, KJ4W

Todd Hackathorn, W4GV

Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE

Corbie Gómez, KO4ARX

Josh Kerr, WV4O

Stuart Naulty, KN4RGB

John Coyle, W4PJC

Gary Cooper, KJ4EBQ

Charles Isele, N1CDK

Bob Aldrich, WD8OWA

Candy Aldrich, KJ4OZU

Courtney Aldrich, no callsign - guest

Don Edwards, K4MKY

Paul Hendrix, KJ4BCF

Jessica Hendrix, KQ4FDS

Mike Duvall, KQ4FDC

Dave Thomas, KO4QZA

Jack Ellis, K9JLE

George Rob, KK4SRR

Michael Knight, KG4QPO

Nathan Knight, KQ4BVS

Steven Dabbs, KN4IRN

Diana Mishica, K4IRU

Michael Inman, K4MWI

Jerry Holt, N1BLH

Alex Rudy, KO4YFI

Wil Rudy, KO4VLV

Ben Rudy, KO4LFZ

Bob Atkinson, K9OIM

Helen Atkinson, no callsign

Mike Davis, no callsign – guest

Angela Davis, no callsign – guest

Respectfully submitted,

Corbie Gómez, KO4ARX, Secretary