



MSU ARC Meeting – October 3rd, 2023

Meeting was called to order by Vice President, Diana Mishica, K4IRU, at 7:04 p.m.

Roll Call & Question of the Night: Roll call was done and the question of the night was, “Do you have any family members who are HAM radio operators?”

Program: James Flood, KJ4TKL, presented an interesting and informative program entitled “When All Else Fails.”

James went over possible events that may cause chaos and communication systems to fail like: regional and natural disasters, cyber attacks, pandemics, major power grid failures, and war. He explained reasons why it would be wise to stay put in your current home or location.

James explained the advantages and disadvantages of HAM radio in this sort of emergency scenario.

- Some advantages are:
 - Monitoring and talking to local emergency services
 - Longest range of any portable radio
 - Providing similar services as other radio types
 - Works well when cell, internet, and other systems are down
 - Does not rely on a centralized system
 - Source of real time information
- Some disadvantages are:
 - Can be affected by weather
 - Can be affected by terrain
 - Requires skill and a licensed operator
 - Requires a power source
 - Requires practice
 - Requires some level of preprogramming
 - Requires knowledge of how to program the radio
 - Requires a list and/or understanding of frequencies

James went over some key things to consider when looking at what kinds of radios, antennas, and power source to use. He also explained when to listen to and operate the radio in an emergency type situation by having it only on for 3 minutes on a rotating schedule usually every 3 hours at midnight, 3am, 6am, 9am, etc. This will save your radio power and your time.

He also discussed the benefit of being able to relay information to and from: shelters, EOCs, medical facilities, emergency services, operational sites, private and neighborhood nets.

Vice President’s Report: Diana Mishica, K4IRU, advised that if anyone is interested in presenting a program or has ideas for future programs please see her.

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



Advisor Report: Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE, reported that the mail is working properly at the moment and that the club has \$17.00 in our account with Murray State University.

QSL Manager Report: Debbie Barton, W8IBT, reported that she has received 5 QSL cards.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, advised that there were no deposits this past month, but he does have a check and some cash to take to the credit union. One payment was made by debit card to W5YI-VEC of \$7.00 for VE fees. Bank balance is \$3,698.56. Bill paid the renewal fee for the trailer tower insurance Monday and that charge will show up on next month's report. Prior to the meeting we have 92 paid members for 2023.

System's Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, reported that the only issue this month has been to restart both computers that run the Winlink gateways when MSU sent forced updates to the operating systems. He hasn't finished the repair on the Hamlin repeater amplifier so it is still running at reduced power. Other than that, the 3 Club repeaters, the 2 APRS digipeaters and the two Winlink systems are all working well at the moment as far as he is aware.

VE Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, advised that we had a VE session after the September meeting and Michael Inman, K4MWI, upgraded to General Class. He will try tonight for Extra Class. So far that's the only exam request for tonight.

CERT Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, reported that the Fall 2023 CERT course is underway. We've had 3 sessions so far and have 16 attending; 4 of these are HAM radio operators presently. Several attendees are interested in taking the HAM radio course which will begin on November 9, 2023. CERT members participated in monitoring the weather sirens during the testing we did on September 8, 2023.

Net Manager Report: Diana Mishica, K4IRU, presented the net reports as Net Manager, Chuck Williams, K4CHW, was not present tonight:

- *September Net Report:*
 - 4 sessions
 - 100 stations
 - 200 minutes
 - 333.3 operator hours

Special Events:

- **KY DMR Net**, TG3121 Thursdays at 7:00 pm
- **PAARS** – Next meeting is Monday, October 16th, 2023.
- **TECHNICIAN Study Class** will begin on Thursday November 09, 2023. Contact Bill Call 270-293-0068 for additional information.



- **Christmas Parade** will be on December 2nd 2023 at 5:00 p.m. Steven Dabbs, KN4IRN, motioned that the club enter a float in the parade again this year. Bill Call, KJ4W, seconded the motion and motion was carried. Josh Kerr, WV4O, motioned that the club spend up to \$250 on the float and candy to pass out at the parade; Debbie Barton, W8IBT, seconded the motion and the motion was carried.
- **Christmas Party** will be on December 5th at 6:00 p.m. at the Keg. Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, will call to make reservations.

Announcements: Bill Call, KJ4W, had a special congratulations to to MSUARC member / Volunteer Examiner / Web Manager / CERT member / CERT Instructor Josh Kerr, WV4O, on beginning his duties on Monday as Calloway County EM Director!

Old Business:

- **Santa Project** - Debbie Barton, W8IBT, motioned that the club donate \$250 to the santa project and members could donate individually if they wish so that the club can buy Christmas gifts as we have in the past. Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE, seconded the motion and the motion was carried. Debbie and Jana will start collecting money at the November meeting and will organize a shopping trip for anyone who would like to join them.

New Business:

- **HAM of The Year** – Diana Mishica, K4IRU, opened a discussion about HAM of the Year. She explained that the nominees could not be anyone who has been HAM of the Year in the last 5 years. Diane opened the floor for nominations and the following people were nominated:
 - **Debbie Barton, W8IBT** – nominated by Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE
 - **Stuart Naulty, KN4RGB** – nominated by John Coyle, W4PJC
 - **Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE** - nominated by Debbie Barton, W8IBTBill Call, KJ4W, motioned that the nominations cease and Joe Wray, WD4GXI, seconded the motion. Motion was carried and there were no opposition to the nominations. Voting for HAM of the Year will be held at the November club meeting and the winner will be announced at the Christmas Party. The committee to count the votes will consist of John Coyle, W4PJC; Steven Dabbs, KN4IRN, and Josh Kerr, WV4O.
- **Club merchandise/swag** – Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE, suggested that the club have some stickers or some other type of club “branded” swag made to be passed out to MSU students to promote the club. James Flood, KJ4TKL, motioned that the club spend up to \$100 on stickers or other branded merchandise; Todd Hackathorn, W4GV, seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

New Members: Corbie Orten, KO4ARX reported that there were two new member application for tonight from Ian Bradley Albertson (no callsign) and Cory Wentz, KD9ISM. Bill Call, KJ4W, motioned that the new member application be accepted. Mike Inman, K4MWI, seconded the motion and the new members were accepted unanimously.



**Murray
University**

State

Address: MSUARC
2580 University Station
Murray, Kentucky 42071

Website: www.k4msu.com

Attendance: 32 people

Bill Call, KJ4W

Todd Hackathorn, W4GV

Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE

Corbie Orten, KO4ARX

Michael Knight, KG4QPO

Josh Kerr, WV4O

Stuart Naulty, KN4RGB

John Coyle, W4PJC

Gary Cooper, KJ4EBQ

Charles Isele, N1CDK

Bob Aldrich, WD8OWA

Candy Aldrich, KJ4OZU

Don Edwards, K4MKY

Paul Hendrix, KJ4BCF

Jessica Hendrix, KQ4FDS

Donna Pursifull, KQ4FEU

Bill Barley, KO4TVH

Joe Wray, WD4GXI

James Flood, KJ4TKL

Larry Call, KD6UNL

Denis Barton, WB8SKP

Debbie Barton, W8IBT

Steven Dabbs, KN4IRN

Diana Mishica, K4IRU

Michael Inman, K4MWI

Ian Albertson, no callsign

Ian Marshall, no callsign

Haley Garrison, no callsign

Devin Williams, no callsign

Cory Wentz, KD9ISM

Mark Germain, KC9FOC

Phillip Wright, KK4AHW

Respectfully submitted,

Corbie Orten, KO4ARX, Secretary