

AIRWAVES



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LGames 5k

It was a brisk morning in the low 60s as member of the Majors Field Amateur Radio Club began to assemble at the TWO (Total Workout Organization) building, early Saturday morning. They gathered to volunteer their radios, expertise and time to provide a safety and welfare net and to monitor a 5K run at various positions on the course.

Last year, MFARC had the opportunity to assist TWO's Chance Young in his first LGames 5K run. That event provided good exposure to the possibilities of using trained radio operators at various places on a course to provide rapid response to any potential event that may occur. As we had last year, the MFARC organized a similar event for a slightly different course. The course started at the TWO and progressed out to FM 2101 towards the Majors Municipal Airport Terminal. From there, the route returned to FM 2101 around the Credit Union to the ball field then along a similar route toward the TWO again. The route concluded by making one detour to the Terminal road and then straight to the Start/Finish line to complete the 5K course.

This year's volunteers were Jae Stutzman – K5JAE, Victor Paul – WB0TEV, Nathaniel Stutzman – K5NJS, Scott Joseph – K5BGL, Mark Rice – KK5MR, Larry Smith – K5XB, Dave Hunter – KC7CEX and Michael Ketchum



– K5MDK as Net Control. Amy Ketchum assisted husband Michael by running messages to and from event coordinator Chance Young and Matt Arnold. Running a bit short-handed on volunteers, we spaced out the operators as best as we could. However, there was just enough operators to make this a very safe event. Each volunteer was offered their pick of a T-Shirt from an assortment of colored shirts from last year.

The race began in two parts: one as a competitive run and then a general run 5 minutes later. The net began at 7:54 and closed down at 8:56. We had no injuries and no critical messages to pass out of the 52 messages recorded during the event. Some of the lessons learned from this event were related to better positioning of course monitors to even our coverage, more involvement with supply preparation, and better course signage. An invitation to the Sabine Valley Amateur Radio Association (SVARA) was made for helping us with this event. However, there was a conflicting bike race in Greenville the next weekend that may explain the response.

Overall, the event went very good and we sure appreciate each one who came out to help. We have already been asked to help again next year, so please consider watching out for next year's LGames events and helping us out.

Submitted by Michael Ketchum – K5MDK

Special points of interest:

Local Hams helped out with 2 public service activities in September

Instructors are needed for the Technician Class in November

Cotton Patch Challenge

Amateur Radio operators from the Majors Field Amateur Radio Club and the Sabine Valley Amateur Radio Association assisted with the 21st annual Cotton Patch Challenge Bicycle Rally on Saturday, September 19th. Over 200 cyclists were able to complete distances of 21 to 63 miles through the countryside from Greenville to Leonard to Wolf City.

Hams were responsible for maintaining communications between Rest Stops, making reports of cyclists in need of repairs, and providing information about the tail end cyclist of each route.

The ride started from the Hunt County Courthouse in downtown Greenville at 8:00 am. The routes followed highway 69 north toward Celeste with the shorter routes breaking off. The 63 and 54 miles routes continued through Leonard and Bailey, where the long route continued North and East to Gober. All the Routes converged back onto Highway 34 for the trip back into Greenville.

With the support of the Ham radio operators, all the cyclists made it back to the finish line safely by 1:30.

Instructors Needed

The Majors Field Amateur Radio Club will be sponsoring a 1.5 day Technician Class on November 20-21, 2015 at the Hunt County Regional Medical Center in Greenville. Instructors are needed to teach the material for the technician exam.

The class will be split up into 20 sections based on Gordon West's Study manual, and each section is approximately 20 to 45 minutes in duration. PowerPoint slides have been created for each section, and may be modified by the instructor for their liking.

If you would like more information about being an instructor for this class, or you are interested in attending, please email Stephen Denison at classes@wd5gsl.org.

October

- 15 SVARA Meeting at 7:00pm at Hunt Regional Hospital
- 17 Jamboree on the Air (SVARA will be at the Armory)
- 29 MFARC Meeting PD North Conference Room at 11:45am

November

- 19 SVARA Meeting at 7:00pm at Hunt Regional Hospital
- 19 MFARC Meeting PD North Conference Room at 11:45am

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

- Daily DFW Early Traffic Net (NTS) at 6:30pm 146.88 – PL 110.9Hz
- Daily DFW Late Traffic Net (NTS) at 8:30pm 146.72 – PL 110.9Hz
- Daily DFW CW Traffic Net (NTS) at 7:00pm and at 10pm on 3541 KHz www.k6jt.com
- Thurs Sabine Valley Amateur Radio Association Net Every Thursday night at 7:00pm on the K5GVL/R 146.780 MHz (+) PL 114.8Hz
- Friday Majors Field Amateur Radio Club Talk-In Net** Every Friday morning on your way in to work on the WD5GSL/R 147.160 MHz (+) PL 100.0Hz

September Club Meeting Minutes

Michael Ketchum – President, opened the meeting at 1147. Announcements were made.

President's Report:

- Steven was praised for work with by-laws and class flyers.
- Not much activity accomplished this month due to work load.
- Request was made to post flyers for upcoming VE Class in member's work areas.

Vice President's Report:

- Club by-laws and amendments completed.
- The MFARC club by-laws are planned to be considered by the L3 E-Club at their next meeting on October 7th. They will vote at that time to include us in L3 E-Club membership.
- Need articles for Newsletter. Newsletter will be published a week after each monthly meeting.
- Need instructors for the upcoming VE classes.
- The material and slides used for the VE classes is provided by Gordon West.
- VE class will be on 11/20 and 11/21 (Friday and Saturday). Start at 6pm on Friday. Hours on Saturday are 8am to 5pm with testing after an afternoon break.

Secretary Treasurer's Report:

- The balance in the MFARC checking account as of 8/31/2015 is \$681.27.
- Two new members have paid their dues during this month.
- Membership dues for E-Club member is \$10 per calendar year.
- Non-E-Club members must join E-Club for \$21 prior to joining MFARC, so the dues for non-E-Club members is \$31. This is addressed in our club by-laws.

Old Business:

Remote HF Project:

- Antenna is connected with poor VSWR on some bands.
- David Kessinger to tune it in the near future.
- IT has rejected approval for HRD Software.

VE Class and Session:

- VE Session on November 7th for Home School Group on 2nd floor of Greenville hospital.
- VE Class on Friday and Saturday, November 20 ~ 21 with VE Session to follow. Class location is 2nd floor of Greenville hospital. Hours of class shown above.

L3 Games:

- Thanks to everyone who helped with L3 Games this year on October 12th.
- Michael Ketchum compiled a list of lessons learned from club members and on to L3 organizers to help improve the games next year.

Repeater Upgrade:

- Still need to replace two coax cables.
- Need to reprogram announcements – repeater is too "chatty".

New Business:

None brought up for discussion.

Discussion Topics:

Remote HF Station:

- L3 security denied our request to attach to the company network.
- Plan is to setup a secondary PC with ICN connection for e-mail and possibly remoting in from home. PC will be connected to the internet through the GEUS provider.
- Jae is currently working with a director at the Waco division to get this process moving.

Ratify Club By-laws:

- Club president went over the major changes in the amendments since the last discussion and e-mail distribution of the by-laws.
- A motion was made by Will Sanitate to adopt the club by-laws as presented.
- Motion was passed by voice vote along with three absentee votes in favor presented by club vice-president.

Planning for 2016:

Club events.

- Field Day 2016
- Contesting as a club.
- Next phase of Remote HF Station (which was discussed as a "remote" possibility).
- Access to the Log Periodic antenna at the Club Trailer at the MSTF site:
 - Need to plan to investigate this in the Feb, Mar, Apr time frame as a possible site for club field day activities in 2016.

Adjournment at 1230

A motion made by Michael Ketchum.

The motion passed by voice vote – No objections.

ATTENDANCE:

1. Scott Davis – KK7JS
2. Mark Bushnell – AE5FG
3. Stephen Denison – W5SMD
4. Jae Stutzman – K5JAE
5. Michael Ketchum – K5MDK
6. Scott Joseph – K5BGL
7. Will Sanitate
8. John Nelson – N0DFW

**MAJORS FIELD
AMATEUR RADIO
CLUB**

Phone:

(903) 457-4646

E-Mail:

Michael@Ketchums.info

**We're on the
Web!**

See us at:

www.wd5gsl.org

Your article submissions
are welcomed. Please
submit to Stephen
Denison

Majors Field
Amateur Radio Club
Greenville, Texas



Club Officers

President: Michael Ketchum – K5MDK
 Michael.Ketchum@L-3com.com
 (972) 408-6573 cell

Vice President Stephen Denison – W5SMD
 Stephen.Denison@L-3com.com
 (817)-501-5269 cell

Secretary Treasurer John Nelson – N0DFW
 John.C.NelsonJr@L-3com.com

Club Station

Club Station: TBD

VHF Repeater: WD5GSL/R
 147.160 MHz (+) PL 100.0 Hz
Friday Morning Talk-In Net

UHF Repeater: WD5GSL/R
 444.625 MHz (+) PL 151.4 Hz
 Temporary Antenna Position Limits Range Currently