

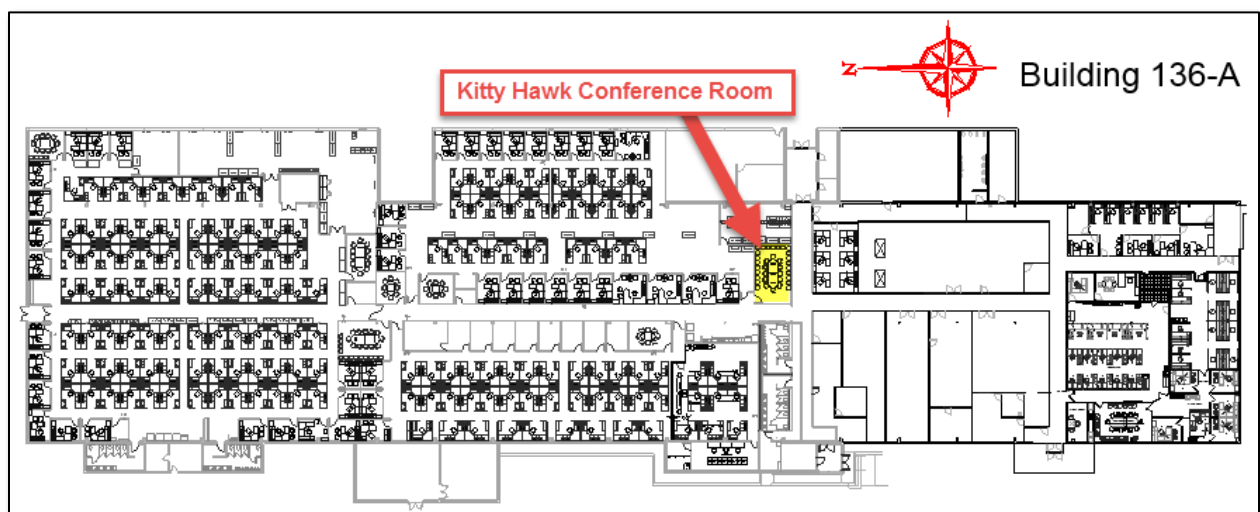
Inside this issue

- Meeting Changes
- Annual Meeting Announcement
- Officer Nominations – Absentee Ballots
- Membership Drive
- President's Letter
- The Quest Continues ...
- Calendar

Important Announcement about Meeting Changes

Please take special note of the new meeting dates. Starting December 2017, the Majors Field Amateur Radio Club will be meeting on the second (2nd) Thursday of each month. That means, Thursday, December 14th will be our next meeting. Meeting reminders will be updated accordingly.

Also, please note that our meetings will now be held at the KITTY HAWK conference room, also in Building 136A. Kitty Hawk is located down the hall from PD North and is close to the reproduction center. You can also find a map on our club website at <http://wd5gsl.net>.



Annual Business Meeting

Many have talked about it for months after it was over. Some have walked away with valuable HAM merchandise; still others have walked away with a new club title. It is that time again! Time for the ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING. This is the big one folks! Moreover, this year will not disappoint. Some of the top prizes that have been procured are three TYT MD-380 UHF Analog/DMR handtalkies. We also have a G5RV antenna and an MFJ Atomic Clock to give away too. We are working on even more gifts as well. Tickets for the door prizes are being distributed to members based upon their attendance at club meetings, field day, classes and VE sessions. We also give an extra ticket to officers and volunteers who lead certain events. We will draw prizes from the big prizes going down to the smaller prizes. Once you win something, you are no longer in the drawing. An e-mail was sent to members regarding their activity. Get your answers in A.S.A.P. to vice-president@wd5gsl.net.



Officer Nominations – Absentee Ballots

The nominations were closed for now, but come to the annual business meeting to make your floor nominations. We have a few nominations that have been confirmed by our nomination committee. If you are unable to attend the Annual Business Meeting and you are a member of the club, you may cast your absentee ballot by sending an e-mail to vice-president@wd5gsl.net. You must provide your full name and callsign and whether you vote or abstain from voting for each officer position. If you cast an absentee ballot and show up at the meeting, your absentee ballot will be disqualified. You must be an E-Club member and MFARC Club member to vote. Here is the ballot you can cut-and-paste into your absentee e-mail ballot:

ANNUAL OFFICER ELECTIONS 2018 MAJORS FIELD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

FIRST & LAST NAME:	_____	CALLSIGN:	_____
PRESIDENT:	Larry Smith (K5XB) inc.		_____
	Jonathan Brown (WB5KSD)		_____
VIDE-PRESIDENT:	Michael Ketchum (K5MDK) inc.		_____
SECRETARY-TREASURER:	John Nelson Jr. (N0DFW) inc.		_____
	Scott Davis (KK7JS)		_____

Membership Drive

It is that time again for membership drive for 2018! The MFARC membership is managed by calendar year. The cost is \$10.00 for E-Club members and \$31.00 for non-E-Club members each year. You can pay your dues to John Nelson – N0DFW, our club Secretary-Treasurer in person. To contact him, write secretary-treasurer@wd5gsl.net or call him at (903) 454-0911.

President's Letter

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

The December 2017 MFARC meeting is coming up this Thursday the 14th. This date is in keeping with the vote last month to move our meetings to the Second Thursday of every month. MFARC officer elections will be held at this meeting. If you cannot attend, please send your absentee ballot to VP Michael Ketchums. If you don't like the candidates you see on the ballot, you can nominate someone, or yourself. I've said this before, but things are starting to move in your club. Exciting things. You'll want to be a part of it. Let your voice be known.

Meetings

This December we will move the meeting up to the 14th and at that point, we will settle into a meeting date that repeats the 2nd Thursday of every month going forward. Two-fold benefit is that it will clear up some conflicts some members were experiencing to make the meeting and it will keep us in a steady meeting cycle without having to move it around to accommodate the calendar in November and December. Be sure to note the change on your calendars.

AIRWAVES



Our traditional room, PD North CR, is lost to us for the time being due to its use for a closed program. Therefore, I reserved the Kitty Hawk CR for this coming meeting and for all meetings in 2018. Kitty Hawk is in 136A at the opposite end of the hall from PD North, across the hall from the break area.

The December meeting serves as our official "Annual Meeting" where we will hold nominations and officer elections for next year's leadership, review our plans and finances for the upcoming year, renew membership for next year, and give away some very desirable door prizes in drawings at the end of the meeting.

A word about your membership renewal: The first membership report to the E-Club we make in the New Year will determine our level of E-Club supported funding for the following year. Your turnout at the December meeting last year, and commitment to renew your membership at that meeting, more than doubled the E-Club support we received from the previous year, and allowed the ways and means to upgrade the 440 MHz repeater to digital. With your support, we can continue with projects such as 2-Meter repeater technology refresh, acquisition of a new HF radio for the club, or any other project you the members deem worthy.

Repeaters

We are actively moving forward with the upgrade to our repeater systems. Jon Brown has the new 440 MHz digital repeater up and running at his dad's house. Once installed, this will allow the 440 repeater to function as a combination analog/DStar/DMR node. Keith Anderson, the L3 MI Information Technology leader will meet with a few of us the week of Dec 4th so we can work out how to get internet connectivity at the repeater node. We will have a report on progress at the meeting on the 14th.

License Classes

David Rogers is planning a Technician class test session for the State Guard. We expect there will be a lot more attendance at this session than we are used to seeing, and David will need our support to help him do this.

Winter Field Day

This will be fun. Let's participate. David Rogers is leading the charge. Our dry run for this as a campout at Cooper Lake Park on November 11 showed us that Cooper Lake is probably not the right spot. Therefore, David is looking for more location suggestions. The actual WFD contest is in late January.

See you at the meeting Thursday. Bring a friend, bring a lunch... but don't bring your friend's lunch.

73,

Larry
K5XB
MFARC President



The Quest Continues ...

On November 11th, members of MFARC embarked on a journey to find a suitable site for our set-up for the upcoming **Winter Field Day** (January 27th and 28th, 2018). Cooper Lake State park proved to be a fantastic site for a “radio camping” HQ. The shelter had a microwave, a mini-fridge, and 2 bunk beds with real mattresses. Bathroom facilities were close by (some featured running water, and some consisted of trees.) The State Park offered canoe and kayak rentals, and free fishing. The shelter was a mere 50 feet from the lake. All-in-all, it was almost perfect. Almost.

David (KG5KPU) and Hommy (KG5SKP) went out Saturday morning to set up camp. In a rare turn of events, everything went smoothly. The Wolf River Coils 10m thru 80m portable vertical went up in 30 minutes. Despite its maximum height of only 15 feet, it worked like a champ all weekend. The vintage Icom IC706 cranked out a full 100 watts running off of a deep-cycle marine battery. Contacts were made from all corners of the country.

Gabe (W5TTX) and his father-in-law joined the team later in the afternoon. As soon as he arrived, Gabe was handed the microphone and told to “get to work.” Being a Technician class operator, and not having a home station, Gabe had yet to work an HF contact. Being a real trooper, he jumped in and started working contests. The frantic pace didn’t faze him. After a few contacts, he was a pro.

Shortly after Gabe proved his prowess, Larry (K5XB) arrived to scope out the site. After a tour of the facilities and some good-natured banter with a Park Ranger, we got down to serious business. A fire was started, hot dogs were cooked, and marshmallows were roasted to a golden brown. After all, it is important not to make important decisions on an empty stomach.

After our “snack” of dogs and toasted marshmallows, we decided that, despite its many amenities and wonderful setting, Cooper Lake State Park would not be suitable as a location for WFD. Campsites were too close together, precluding our ability to 1) run a generator, and 2) run any type of dipole. Plus, parking could be an issue if more than 2 or 3 people were operating at the same time.

So, the quest continues for a suitable site for our **Winter Field Day** operation. Please send any suggestions you may have to David (KG5KPU) at davidarlan@hotmail.com, or text to 903-513-5622.

Written by David Rogers – KG5KPU

Calendar

- Dec 14 MFARC Meeting at 11:45am at B136-A Kitty Hawk Conference Room.
NOTE THE CHANGE IN PLACE AND WEEK!
- Dec 21 SVARA Annual Meeting at 6:00pm at Baker’s Ribs.
NOTE THE SPECIAL PLACE AND TIME!

AIRWAVES



- Jan 1 Straight Key Night – CW <http://www.arrl.org/straight-key-night>
- Jan 7 Kid's Day – ARRL - <http://www.arrl.org/kids-day>
- Jan 7-8 RTTY Roundup - <http://www.arrl.org/rtty-roundup>
- Jan 11 MFARC Meeting at 11:45am at B136-A Kitty Hawk Conference Room.
- Jan 13 San Antonio Radio Fiesta 2018 – Schertz, Texas <http://w5sc.org>
- Jan 18 SVARA Meeting at 7:00pm at Hunt Regional Hospital.
- Jan 19 Cowtown Hamfest (ARRL NTX Convention) – Forest Hill, TX <http://cowtownhamfest.com>

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 <http://www.k6jt.com>
- Thurs SVARA Net Every Thursday night at 7:00pm on the K5GVL/R 146.780 MHz (+) PL 114.8Hz
Meets every Thursday night except on SVARA meetings 3rd Thursday of each month.

Officers

- President:** Larry Smith – K5XB
president@wd5gsl.net
(254) 644-6465 cell
- Vice President:** Michael Ketchum – K5MDK
vice-president@wd5gsl.net
(972) 408-6573 cell
- Secretary/Treasurer:** John Nelson Jr. – N0DFW
secretary-treasurer@wd5gsl.net
(903) 454-0911 cell
- VE/Class Team Leader:** Jae Stutzman – K5JAE
classes@wd5gsl.net
- Club Trustee:** Jonathan Brown – WB5KSD
trustee@wd5gsl.net

Club Repeaters

- Club Station:** TBD
- VHF Repeater:** WD5GSL/R
147.160 MHz (+) PL 100.0 Hz
- UHF Repeater:** WD5GSL/R
444.625 MHz (+) PL 151.4 Hz

AirWaves is a production of the Majors Field Amateur Radio Club

We're on the Web! Find us at: <http://wd5gsl.net>

Your article submissions are welcomed. Please submit to editor@wd5gsl.net.