

Minutes – MARC Meeting 18 February 2009

Submitted by Jeff Smith – KBØYCI

1902 – Meeting called to order by President Dean Buckhouse (KBØVVA)

1902 – Introductions

1903 – The minutes of the January meeting were briefly discussed. A motion to accept the as written was made by Wes Wilson (KØHBZ), seconded by John Tine (KDØDZR), and accepted by unanimous vote.

1905 – Announcements

- Mention was made that in January club dues were due (\$20, includes family)
- Hamcon 2009 is coming up on 29-31 May. Thanks to Steve Williams (KØSRW) for giving a program on Hamcon at the January meeting. Scotty West (KCØHIL) gave an update from the planning committee. Riley Hollingsworth has backed out of speaking at the conference. A replacement is in the works, and promises to be very good.
- Field Day will be 27-28 June 2009. As it stands now, the club will likely hold it in Lake George again. Dean (KBØVVA) and Gloria Buckhouse (KBØVUX) have offered the use of their property again for the event. A volunteer to coordinate the event will be asked for during the March meeting.

1907 – Officer's Reports

- No reports from the President, VP, or Secretary
- Treasurer's Report
 - Wes Wilson (KØHBZ) gave the report. The quick version is the club still has money (same as in January). A good number of dues came in. We are currently in good shape for the time being, though we do need to get members who have not paid yet to do so.
 - Kit Haskins (KAØWUC) and Dean (KBØVVA) are working on putting together a list of club equipment so we can update our insurance policies.
 - It was suggested by Bill Olson (KCØWDL) that perhaps the club put in with the government for a share in the “stimulus” package.

1910 – Other announcements

- Refreshments – John (KDØDZR) thanked Gloria Buckhouse (KBØVUX) for providing the refreshments for the February meeting. Wes (KØHBZ) volunteered to bring them for March.
- Repeaters – Kit (KAØWUC) reported that the 685 machine has PA problems. Kenwood released a new version of the PA board and we were able to obtain new ones under recall. Badger Mtn's has been replaced (though the squelch remains very tight), the 82 machine does not need a replacement. The Tenderfoot repeater is due for replacement of the board, as well as our spare repeater. The UHF systems didn't have the problem with the PA boards. A packet station for Badger is still in the plans, and we have the equipment. The ongoing noise problem with the 685 continues to be an issue. UHF does not have the issue with the noise interference. Kit is looking into perhaps replacing the 685 with a UHF pair. Kit noted that the noise is most likely coming from a broadband internet provider.

1917 – Old Business

- MARC QSL card status: Ann Burnham (ACØFB) reported that she now has some time to work on this, and will order the cards as soon as she recalls what changes needed to be made.
- Scotty (KCØHIL) re-iterated that Hamcon 2009 is coming up. The early bird registration rate expires on 1 March. To make room reservations at the Holiday Inn, use the number for the inn in Estes Park, do not call the national number for Holiday Inn. Bill (KCØWDL) asked if there was any interest in sharing a room with others to save on cost.

1925 – New Business

- The club has a VE session coming up on the first Saturday of March.
- Wes (KØHBZ) said that the annual SKYWARN spotter training will be held on 4 April, 8 AM. Contact Sid White (K4ARM) to reserve a spot in the training.

1930 – Break

1954 – The meeting was called back to order

1955 – Program

- Wes (KØHBZ) gave a presentation on packet radio, focusing on the software programs that we use. Winpack and Qforms were highlighted and demonstrated.

2112 – Meeting was adjourned.