

Mountain Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of the Meeting

18 February 2026

Our MARC meeting began at 1900, with Dean Buckhouse presiding. Intros around the room. No SK's noted.

January meeting minutes were discussed and accepted.

Treasurer's report was given by Bill, from Deb's email. General \$3769.42 VE \$278.43

The next VE session will be March 7 at the Sheriff's office, Divide

Repeaters are all well. Tranquil site internet is now wired.

ARRL website needs updated.

There is a new R2D2 Winlink Training

Field Day. Motion for \$500 in Hats, cups, etc. Voted and passed.

March meeting snack is Derek.

Meeting Adjourned at 1933

Amanda, section manager with ARRL, gave presentation..

10 members, 3 guests. Amanda, Tom Knobloch and Victor Poston on zoom

Submitted by Bill Wallick

Quick recap

The Mountain Amateur Radio Club (MARC) held their monthly meeting to discuss club activities and updates. The group welcomed several new members and heard a presentation from Amanda, the ARRL Colorado Section Manager, about a new year-long club competition celebrating Colorado's 150th anniversary and America's 250th anniversary. Amanda outlined the competition criteria and explained how clubs can earn certificates and endorsements by participating in various amateur radio activities. The club discussed upcoming events, including Field Day 2026, and agreed to order merchandise as they had in previous years. They also reviewed the status of their 501c3 application and discussed repeater operations. The conversation ended with a brief discussion about amateur radio equipment and licensing.

Next steps

- [MARC: Check the Woodland Park Library calendar for future meeting/event availability and report back.](#)
- [MARC: Update club officer information on the ARRL website using the new secretary access.](#)
- [Amanda: Send slides and information about the Colorado club competition to MARC.](#)
- [MARC: Forward club competition slides and information to Bill for posting on the club website.](#)
- [Amanda: Set up the Mountain Amateur Radio Club on the club competition website.](#)
- [MARC: Collect net reports and numbers from Greg and compile into a spreadsheet.](#)
- [Derek: Bring equipment for tuning Motorola DTR radios to the next meeting and demonstrate.](#)
- [MARC: Order Field Day shirts, hats, etc., as in previous years \(motion approved for ~\\$500\).](#)
- [MARC: Get back to Trans Lakers to finish router setup for the hardwired internet connection.](#)
- [MARC: Coordinate with Tracy to provide the TCO amateur support training link to interested members.](#)
- [Phil: Continue work on payment for Wes and Carol for the roach and Dragonfly, and update when complete.](#)
- [Victor: Continue work on getting the D-Star back on the air and update when progress is made.](#)
- [MARC: After going on the roof, check/tune the Springs link antenna for better performance.](#)
- [Amanda: Send link for the new Colorado QSO Party website to MARC/club.](#)
- [Amanda: Send out campaign starting March 1st for operators to host W1AW/0 call sign and handle pile-ups.](#)

Summary

Woodland Park Library VE Sessions

The meeting began with introductions and a discussion about the Woodland Park Library, where Marc mentioned that while they were initially kicked out, they could still hold VE sessions there later in the year. Amanda attended the conversation and complemented the meeting room's beauty. The group discussed pursuing future meetings and VE sessions at the library, with Marc planning to check their calendar for availability in the coming year. New members were welcomed to the amateur radio group, including several first-time attendees.

MARC Meeting Updates and Announcements

The Mountain Amateur Radio Club (MARC) meeting covered several updates and announcements. Amanda, the ARRL Colorado Section Manager, introduced a year-long club competition. The club discussed the next VE session scheduled for March 7th and the upcoming MARC meeting on March 18th. Financial updates were shared, including account balances and a pending refund of \$7. It was noted that the club's ARRL website access was limited due to missing officer information, and the secretary was granted access to resolve this issue.

Repeaters and Equipment Updates

MARC discussed updates on repeaters and equipment, mentioning that the repeater report link system is working well, with some minor issues with the Springs link that might need antenna adjustment. He noted that the Wi-Fi at Trans Lakers is now hardwired, and the 501c3 status is still pending final confirmation from the IRS. MARC also mentioned that Phil is working on payments for Wes and Carol, and they have spare repeaters if needed.

Dispatch Training and Equipment Updates

The meeting covered several topics, including background checks and training for community members to access the dispatch center, with Marc explaining the process and emphasizing the importance of confidentiality. Marc also discussed the revival of Oxcom training in the state and shared concerns about the lack of response from a participant. The group reviewed a recent Winlink training session and planned for an upcoming NBIS segment. Marc announced that Derek would demonstrate new equipment for tuning Motorola DTR radios at the next meeting, and volunteers were sought for March meeting snacks. Tom shared information about Elwood Downey, the creator of Ham Clock, and mentioned that Ham Clock would stop functioning in June, suggesting an open-source alternative.

Colorado 150 Club Competition

Amanda presented a year-long club competition in Colorado celebrating Colorado 150 and America 250, where clubs can earn certificates and endorsements for various activities like Field Day and VE sessions. Clubs can register through schedulemyclub.com and submit logs under their club call sign, with QSOs serving as the tiebreaker for the Club of the Year award. Marc requested the presentation slides to share on the website, and Amanda agreed to create a club profile for Marc's group to participate in the competition.