

Mountain Amateur Radio Club
Minutes of the Meeting
20 May 2026

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

April meeting minutes were discussed and accepted.

Treasurer's report was given by Deb. General \$2756.07 VE \$271.43

The next VE session will be July 4 at the Woodland Park Library.

The next General Meeting will be June 17 at the Sheriff's office.

Repeaters are all well. Dstar is in the shop.

Need to send 501-c-3 confirmation to Dan.

Discussed large batteries. \$250 to \$300 to general public. VVA will keep one and give one to the truck owner (that he hauled them with). Plan to donate to PPFMA and CMRG. Need one for Roach Battery. \$150 to MARC Members.

Snacks in June – Jeff Cain

Field Day, June 26. Deans place.

Meeting Adjourned at 2010.

11 members, 1 guest

Submitted by Bill Wallick

Quick recap

This meeting of the MARC (Mountain Amateur Radio Club) covered several key topics including equipment sales, repeater updates, and upcoming events. The club discussed selling surplus equipment including DEKA batteries priced at \$250 for public sale and \$150 for members, and radio equipment priced at \$100 for mobiles and \$50 for handhelds. Victor provided an update on D-Star repeater issues, noting progress with a technician in Michigan who may be able to help get the system online using a new computer with Intel 7 chip and Windows. The group confirmed they now have final confirmation of their 501C3 status. Dan announced that Derek Brown is no longer employed by Teller County, and the club discussed plans for upcoming Field Day on June 27-28 at Marc's location in Lake George, which will include battery power and solar panel demonstrations for extra points. The meeting also covered financial updates, library meeting scheduling challenges, and the potential sale of 30 DEKA batteries and 10 solar panels acquired from SSR CCMV Gold Mine.

Next steps

Bill

- Check with the bank about the minimum deposit required to avoid monthly fees on the VE account, and consider moving funds from community checking or discuss with the bank to remove the fee.

Danny

- Test selling 5 radios on eBay as a trial, including setting prices (\$100 for mobiles, \$50 for handhelds), and coordinate with Marc to obtain radios for sale.
- Coordinate with Marc to pick up radios for eBay sale and discuss logistics for shipping and handling.

Marc

- Forward the 501C3 final confirmation email to Dan.
- Coordinate with Carol to arrange transport of batteries to his house.
- Price and sell batteries to the public at \$250 each and to club members at \$150 each, and consider donations or reduced prices to local clubs in need.
- Set aside batteries and solar panels for club sites (Badger, Frank Lakers, Tenderfoot, possibly Springs and Tranquil Acres), and coordinate with interested members for personal or club use.
- Procure charge controllers for solar panels as needed for club and member use.
- Volunteer to organize June meeting setup.
- Organize Field Day event (June 27-28 at Lake George), including setup, battery and solar power logistics, and coordinate with interested members for participation and roles.
- Send official email invite to Eric (OEM official) for Field Day for bonus points.
- Announce and sell raffle tickets for the manufacturing event on July 25th.
- Remind anyone preparing for the technician exam that the question pool changes

July 1st.

Victor

- Continue working with Terry Taylors in Michigan to obtain and set up the new PC/gateway for the D-Star repeater, and update the group on progress.
- Reach out to Rich Painter (via CMRG's webpage) for assistance with D-Star repeater setup, referencing previous setup experience.

Collaboration

- All interested members: Decide before Field Day whether to operate 2 or 3 stations and confirm participation/roles (e.g., CW, phone, DMR, satellite, GOTA).
- Marc or other available member: Arrange for a table at the Sheriff's Department open house on June 6th, as Marc will be out of town.

Summary

Club Equipment and Financial Updates

The meeting covered several key topics including club equipment sales, financial updates, and repeater system maintenance. The group discussed selling surplus radios on platforms like eBay, with suggested pricing of \$100 for mobile radios and \$50 for handhelds. Financial reports showed the community checking account balance at \$2,756.07 after April transactions, with a suggestion to investigate minimum deposit requirements to avoid monthly fees. The repeater system updates included progress on getting D-Star back online, with work being done to replace the PC and update software, though challenges remain with finding the right equipment and technical support.

Equipment and Facility Updates

MARC provided an update on equipment and facility matters. He confirmed that Deb had processed a payment to Western Carroll and reported acquiring 30 8 alpha batteries and 10 solar panels for deployment at three sites: Badger, Frank Lakers, and Tenderfoot. Regarding the building's door, Marc recommended against immediate replacement of the 50-year-old wooden door, suggesting it could wait until it's in worse condition, and proposed adding a sweep to address the current gap issue.

HGM Battery Sale Pricing Discussion

MARC discussed the sale of HGM sealed batteries, proposing to sell them to the general public for \$250-\$300 each and to BART members for \$150-\$200 each. The group agreed to the pricing structure, with MARC also requesting one battery for personal use and one for a borrowed truck. The discussion concluded with a brief mention of DMR repeaters that could potentially be used for emergency communication.

Field Day Planning Meeting

MARC discussed upcoming Field Day activities scheduled for June 27-28 at his location in Lake George, explaining the setup options and scoring opportunities including battery power and solar panels. He announced that Derek Brown is no longer employed by Teller County, though the specific circumstances were unclear. The group also discussed radio equipment and frequencies, with MARC mentioning he had received code books and programs from Greg and Mike.

Field Day Event Planning Discussion

MARC discussed the upcoming Field Day event, describing it as a family-oriented get-together with barbecue and opportunities for new operators to learn. He shared personal experiences from past Field Days and explained the different approaches to the event, ranging from competitive contact-making to casual participation. MARC also mentioned upcoming club activities including a table at the Sheriff's open house and a July 25th meeting with equipment sales.