

2024-02-20 Net Minutes

opened

20:00

closed

20:49

Check-ins (38)

- Matthew Barry (KG5LYE)
- Brad Snyder (KG5SDE)
- Travis Scott (KI5TMS)
- Avery McIntosh (N7ALM)
- Bill Rose (K5WTR)
- Patrick Zapalac (KJ5ATR)
- Don Ling (WB5CK0)
- Brian Gaskamp (KA5BKG)
- Joe Napoli (KG5SDF)
- Ralph Cobb (W5RYC)
- Ken Wilson (KE5DFR)
- Ian Gates (KI5GBR)
- Rich Rychetsky (KI5QNR)
- Jerry Xu (KI5VYD)
- Kevin Walton (N4RMF)
- Ron Hambric (N5SBN)
- Dick Zimmer (W5DZ)
- Lorna Flansburg (KI5FIZ)
- Mike Wisby (KA5HIA)
- Zachary Cox (W5FEF)
- David Bailey (K5DKB)
- Rick Swaims (W5RTF)
- Harold Turbyfill (KG5SDG)
- Robert Carter (NC5R)
- Mike Mertes (KZ5M)
- Bennie Naiser (KA5TWB)
- David Vickers (KI5WEH)
- Jim Laird (KF5YY)
- Vic Pears (KX8V)
- Paul Bilke (KF5WGJ)
- Christy Bailey (KI5WUM)
- Phil Gates (N5ZKF)
- Jonathan Edwards (KI5YZR)
- Tom Johnson (KI5ZPG)
- Troyce Wilson (KC5CBI)
- Bill Preston (KZ3G)
- Becky Darien (K5BEC)
- Jonathan Graham (KD5GG)

Opening Remarks

- Wow! Thank you, *everyone*, for checking in!

Officer Reports

President

David Bailey (K5DKB)

- Very pleased to see y'all at the meeting on Saturday!
 - Nice to have a Winter Field Day recap and opportunity for feedback
 - Looking forward to next year already

Vice-President

Paul Bilke (KF5WGJ)

- Sorry for being so long-winded at the meeting on Saturday, but it was a good discussion!
- If anyone has any questions about anything, or if you want to provide any other feedback, feel free to email me at paul@conspiracy.net

Secretary

Matthew Barry (KG5LYE)

- Minutes will be sent out after the net.
- It's great to have the opportunity for anyone in the world to check in via Echolink
 - "Increasing our radio footprint!"

Treasurer

Lorna Flansburg (KI5FIZ)

- 59 members
 - If you'd like to renew, we accept applications via:
 - [HamClubOnline](#)
 - PayPal invoice (contact treasurer@w5bcs.radio)
 - In-person at club meeting
- Bank balance: \$9,086.14
- Very successful VE License Exam this weekend:
 - Mindy Caldwell (KJ5MJC) went from Tech to Extra in one sitting!
 - New Tech: Robert Sheffield
 - Special thank-you to Brad Snyder (KG5SDE) for donating a radio to give!
 - Next license exam opportunity will be 2023-03-16 11:00 at American Legion Post 159 (after W5BCS meeting)

Announcements / Comments

Question #165 for conversation: *Have you had SkyWarn training?*

(If interested in submitting a weekly question, email n5zkf@arrl.net)

Mike Wisby (KA5HIA)

- Emergency Management Group (Michelle, et al) usually hosts a SkyWarn class in Bryan each year
 - Usually two sessions, early afternoon and early evening, either in March or April
 - Often a “basic” session, but sometimes offer an “advanced” session
- Can also take the course online
- Also offered in Huntsville and other areas
 - Training schedule is on the [NOAA NWS site](#)

Joe Napoli (KG5SDF)

- It’s been a while, but got the training
- Interesting material

Matthew Barry (KG5LYE)

- I went to a training a long time ago; it was really neat!
- Do you have to renew training periodically?
 - N5ZKF: not aware of any requirements, but always good to refresh

Vic Pears (KX8V)

- Trains on time, but model train club has been dissolved by the city :(
- Ran SkyWarn net in Huntsville and had the feeling that I should “go mobile”
- Spotted a tornado to the north behind some trees and called it in
- Back then, it had to go through the Sheriff’s office, who had to verify it before it would be reported

David Vickers (KI5WEH)

- Was at the SkyWarn training last year; lots of people on the net here tonight were there as well!
- Shout-out to Kevin Walton (N4RMF) for all he did with SkyWarn!

Mike Wisby (KA5HIA)

- Exercise your right to vote!
 - 2024-02-20 - early voting opened today
 - Remains open through 2024-03-01
- <https://brazosvotes.org/>
- Locations:
 - **Brazos County Election Administrator Office (McLeod Training Room)**
[300 E Wm J Bryan Pkwy, Ste 100, Bryan, TX](#)
 - **Arena Hall**
[2906 Tabor Rd \(int. Tabor Rd and N Earl Rudder Fwy.\), Bryan, TX](#)
 - **Galilee Baptist Church**
[804 N Logan Ave, Bryan, TX](#)
 - **College Station Utilities Meeting and Training Facilities**
[1603 Graham Rd, College Station, TX](#)
 - **Memorial Student Center (MSC), Rm L526**
[Joe Routh Blvd, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX](#)

Jerry Xu (KI5VYD)

- Texas A&M [Undergraduate Research Scholar \(URS\) symposium](#)

- *tomorrow*, 2024-02-21, MSC Ballroom
- Poster presentations by honors undergraduates

Phil Gates (N5ZKF)

- Congratulations to Becky Darien (K5BEC) and Kerry Miller (WD5ABC) on their recent marriage!
- I've been to several trainings, both "basic" and "advanced"
 - I recommend going again if you haven't been in a while
 - The science *does* progress over time
- Highly recommend "advanced" course as well if you get the chance
 - You'll see "ground truth" of what is observed visually and on radar
- **Next training opportunity will be 2024-03-20 18:00/20:00**
 - [Brazos Center, 3232 Briarcrest Dr, Bryan, TX 77802](#)
 - Organized by Amy Zaragoza, azaragoza@cstx.gov
 - Contact n5z kf@arrl.net if you want more info

Information Exchange

Joe Napoli (KG5SDF)

- Any suggestions regarding Kenwood TS-590 or other HF radios?
 - N5ZKF: nothing with the Kenwood, but lots of experience with Yaesu radios—very capable and reliable!
 - KA5HIA: I have Kenwood TS-590S and is very capable, but doesn't have the nice waterfall display
 - Yaesu FT-DX10 was very fascinating to see at Winter Field Day
 - Icom IC-7300 is also *very* popular, but would recommend the FT-DX10 over it

Closing Remarks

Kevin Walton (N4RMF)

- Just had the chance to check into Central Carolina SkyWarn weekly net 21:15-05:00
 - NWS in Raleigh, NC
 - Headed by Nick, WX3H