

# 2024-04-09 Net Minutes

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**opened**

20:00

**closed**

20:42

## Check-ins (26)

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- Matthew Barry (KG5LYE)
- Bill Rose (K5WTR)
- Don Ling (WB5CK0)
- Joe Napoli (KG5SDF)
- Avery McIntosh (N7ALM)
- Ron Hambric (N5SBN)
- Brian Gaskamp (KA5BKG)
- Tom Talley (W5XTT)
- Dick Zimmer (W5DZ)
- Lorna Flansburg (KI5FIZ)
- Mike Wisby (KA5HIA)
- Garrett Martin (W5HVS)
- Bill Preston (KZ3G)
- David Bailey (K5DKB)
- Ralph Cobb (W5RYC)
- Harold Turbyfill (KG5SDG)
- Rick Pfeil (W4RDP)
- Brandon Bartlett (KG5LYN)
- Jon Edwards (KI5YZR)
- Phil Gates (N5ZKF)
- Tom Johnson (KI5ZPG)
- Curtis Pool (KD5HEY)
- Dan Quates (KJ5EPW)
- Jonathan Graham (KD5GG)
- Rich Rychetsky (W5SON)
- Brad Snyder (KG5SDE)

# Officer Reports

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## President

*David Bailey (K5DKB)*

- Next [monthly club meeting](#):
  - 2024-04-20 09:30
  - [American Legion Post 159, Waco St, Bryan, TX](#)
  - Radio in the park (weather permitting)
  - Maybe even going somewhere to activate parks on the air
    - Let me know if interested: [k5dkb@outlook.com](mailto:k5dkb@outlook.com) (also good on QRZ)

## Vice-President

*Paul Bilke (KF5WGJ)*

*excused*

## Secretary

*Matthew Barry (KG5LYE)*

- Minutes will be sent out after the net.

## Treasurer

*Lorna Flansburg (KI5FIZ)*

- Bank balance: \$9,112.82
- 63 members
- Next ham license exam:
  - 2024-04-20 11:00 (following club meeting)
  - Remember to bring **\$15** to cover the exam fee and your **FCC Registration Number (FRN)**
  - Need some VEs to help proctor the exam

## Announcements / Comments

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Question(s) #172 for conversation: *Eclipse experience sharing –OR– Are you attending the Belton Ham Expo this weekend?*

(If interested in submitting a weekly question, email [n5zkgf@arrl.net](mailto:n5zkgf@arrl.net))

## Matthew Barry (KG5LYE)

- Just got back from Garner State Park, where I watched the eclipse with my dad (KG5UZA) and brother
  - Unfortunately, did not get the chance to activate Parks on the Air: I was plenty busy with hiking and taking in the eclipse
  - Had clouds the whole time, but they opened just often enough to get some great photos
  - [Photos posted online](#)

## Ron Hambric (N5SBN)

- [Monthly ARES meeting](#)
  - Monday, 2024-04-15 18:30
- [CEOC visit](#)
  - Call (979) 821-1012 or on [KD5DLW](#)
- Got to see the eclipse in Maynard
  - Not full totality
  - Caught glimpses between the clouds

## Bill Rose (K5WTR)

- Question: Did you receive the new repeater?
  - KI5FIZ: The order has been accepted, but has not been shipped (or paid for) yet
  - N5ZKF: Heard that Yaesu promo has been extended through September
- Saw eclipse through the clouds

## David Bailey (K5DKB)

- Saw many partial eclipses, but this was my first *total* solar eclipse
- I'm a words guy, and there are no words to express what it looks like!
- It's definitely a bucket-list experience!
- Things *change* right as totality begins
- The next eclipse will be 2026 in Iceland/Spain

## Joe Napoli (KG5SDF)

- Mostly cloudy, but the clouds broke right around totality
- Went to Cedar Park
- All the birds quit singing

- Everything stands still

## **Don Ling (WB5CK0)**

- Got to see the eclipse, and it was exhilarating
- It got dark, and everything was still

## **Mike Wisby (KA5HIA)**

- Was out at RELLIS to support exercise at TDEM
- Shout-out to the following folks for the help!
  - KI5FIZ
  - W4RDP
  - KJ5DAA
  - KC5BWB
  - W5DZ (net control)
- BBQ lunch
- Switched from exercise support to weather-watching in the afternoon

## **Phil Gates (N5ZKF)**

- Was in Bell County to watch the eclipse
- Cattle were all lying down
- Birds stopped chirping
- Enough opening in the clouds to see moments leading up to totality and totality itself

## **Rich Rychetsky (W5SON)**

- Looking forward to going to Belton Ham Expo this weekend!

# **Information Exchange**

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## **Brandon Bartlett (KG5LYN)**

- HF station is up and going. Looking for recommendations on logging software
- Using QRZ online, but it's pretty slow
- Looking for something quick, efficient, and cheap or inexpensive
- W5DZ: I've been using [N3FJP](#) for many years
- N5ZKF: I've used several, and there was one that was portable that could run from a USB stick

- N5FJP has several contest-specific variants