

# 2024-05-14 Net Minutes

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**opened**

20:00

**closed**

20:37

## Check-ins (26)

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- Matthew Barry (KG5LYE)
- Avery McIntosh (N7ALM)
- Jeff McDowell (KI5CES)
- Brandon Bartlett (KG5LYN)
- Brian Gaskamp (KA5BKG)
- Curtis Pool (KD5HEY)
- Tom Talley (W5XTT)
- Don Ling (WB5CKO)
- Garrett Martin (W5HVS)
- Bill Rose (K5WTR)
- Kevin Walton (N4RMF)
- Bill Preston (KZ3G)
- Ken Wilson (KE5DFR)
- Mike Wisby (KA5HIA)
- Lorna Flansburg (KI5FIZ)
- David Bailey (K5DKB)
- Lee Kutty (KJ5GAB)
- Ralph Cobb (W5RYC)
- Harold Turbyfill (KG5SDG)
- David Vickers (KI5WEH)
- Phil Gates (N5ZKF)
- Jon Edwards (KI5YZR)
- Dominick Adamo, Jr. (KG5JRA)
- Russ McDonald (KL2PB)
- Rich Rychetsky (W5SON)
- Jonathan Graham (KD5GG)

## Opening Remarks

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## Officer Reports

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### President

*David Bailey (K5DKB)*

- Field Day Committee Meeting

- 2024-05-16 18:30
- For details on how to join, contact [treasurer@w5bcs.radio](mailto:treasurer@w5bcs.radio)
- Meeting this weekend
  - 2024-05-18 09:30
  - [American Legion Post 159, 101 Waco St, Bryan, TX 77803](#)
- Radio in the park after
  - [Tanglewood Park, 3901 Carter Creek Pkwy, Bryan, TX 77803](#)
  - The weather looks like it might cooperate!

## Vice-President

*Paul Bilke (KF5WGJ)*

*excused*

## Secretary

*Matthew Barry (KG5LYE)*

- Minutes will be sent out after the net.
- I will not be at the meeting this weekend.
  - Could someone please record minutes in my absence?
  - I can format them and send them out later
- National Train Day event at the [Hearne Railroad Museum Depot](#) was a lot of fun!
  - Even despite the fact that HF bands were closed due to solar activity

## Treasurer

*Lorna Flansburg (KI5FIZ)*

- 72 members
- Bank balance: \$9,227.82
- Ham license exam after club meeting
  - 2024-05-18 11:00
  - \$15 fee for exam
  - Must have your FCC Registration Number (FRN)!
  - Will be requesting volunteer examiners: please let me know if you will be available
- National Train Day recap
  - Lots of fun despite everything that was happening around us:
    - Crash on Hwy 6 caused a traffic jam
    - Bands were closed
  - Great turnout from the club: 15 club members, and 2 family members were there!

## Announcements / Comments

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Question #177 for conversation: *What was your experience with the recent severe geomagnetic storm?*

*(If interested in submitting a weekly question, email [n5zkf@arrl.net](mailto:n5zkf@arrl.net))*

### Matthew Barry (KG5LYE)

- Geomagnetic storm prevented us from making many contacts on HF
  - everything below 2 m was very noisy
  - made it all the way back to Bryan on VHF and UHF, though!
- Wish I could've seen the aurora, but was cloudy that weekend

## David Vickers (KI5WEH)

- Geomagnetic storm was brutal:
  - 80m, 40m, 20m, and 15m were all closed!

## Phil Gates (N5ZKF)

- Didn't copy any of the military stations for cross-band test
- Couldn't hear W5BCS from the train day special event
- Light pollution prevented me from seeing auroras.

## Buy / Sell

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### Rich Rychetsky (W5SON)

- I've moved up to iambic paddles
- Vibroplex keyer (single paddle) is for sale
- Note: needs radio configuration or external keyer in order to do dits and dahs
- Good on QRZ

### Lee Kutty (KJ5GAB)

- Looking to acquire equipment capable of transmitting on upper HF, VHF, and UHF: 10m, 6m, 2m, and 70cm bands
- Contact [n5z kf@arrl.net](mailto:n5z kf@arrl.net) (can relay info to Lee)
- KG5LYE:
  - [Icom ID-7100](#) is the only radio I'm aware of capable of doing all of these bands in a single transceiver, but it can be expensive
  - It might be easier or cheaper to get two separate transceivers:
    - Many options for dual-band VHF/UHF radios; and you can get a separate one for HF
    - Some of the nicer HF radios can do lower VHF as well

## Information Exchange

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### Mike Wisby (KA5HIA)

- N5SBN received a report that the CEOC had a lightning strike
  - Vertical antenna was vaporized!
  - Lightning arrestor did its job; none of the equipment was hurt (all of it was disconnected)
- N5ZKF
  - One of our local operators also had a lightning strike, and it damaged a *lot* of his equipment
  - Protect your equipment: Have your power and feed lines disconnected