

2024-09-17 Net Minutes

opened

20:00

closed

20:41

Check-ins (26)

- Matthew Barry (KG5LYE)
- Bill Rose (K5WTR)
- Jeff McDowell (KI5CES)
- Brad Snyder (W5BLS)
- Don Ling (WB5CK0)
- David Vickers (KI5WEH)
- Robert Grigsby (KI5WFZ)
- Garrett Martin (W5HVS)
- Russ McDonald (KL2PB)
- Jason Shutt (KI5LG0)
- Matt Robinson (W5XMR)
- Thomas Sanborn (KJ5DAA)
- Dick Zimmer (W5DZ)
- Lorna Flansburg (KI5FIZ)
- Mike Wisby (KA5HIA)
- David Bailey (K5DKB)
- Joe Napoli (KG5SDF)
- Harold Turbyfill (KG5SDG)
- Ralph Cobb (W5RYC)
- Rich Rychetsky (W5SON)
- Travis Scott (KI5TMS)
- Bennie Naiser (KA5TWB)
- Phil Gates (N5ZKF)
- Jon Edwards (KI5YZR)
- Rick Pfeil (W4RDP)
- Brandon Bartlett (KG5LYN)

Officer Reports

President

David Bailey (K5DKB)

- Club Meeting this weekend!
 - 2024-09-21 09:30
 - American Legion Post 159, [101 Waco St, Bryan](#)
 - Unfortunately, I won't be able to be there, but I hope you have an enjoyable time without me
- Election season is coming up (not just National kind)
 - I will be forming an officer search committee
- Radio in the Park
 - Hopefully cooler weather is on the horizon
- Local Meshtastic info:
 - Change in propagation due to moving the O&M repeater node
 - It would be a good idea to put some more high-elevation nodes up around town

Vice-President

Paul Bilke (KF5WGJ)

- *excused*

Secretary

Matthew Barry (KG5LYE)

- Minutes will be sent out after the net.
- Looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting!

Treasurer

Lorna Flansburg (KI5FIZ)

- Bank balance: \$8,114.72
- 83 members
- Our next Ham License Exam will be after the club meeting this Saturday
 - 2024-09-21 11:00
 - American Legion Post 159
 - You must have your FRN!
 - Need Volunteer Examiners, so let me know if you'll be available to help

Announcements / Comments

Question #194 for conversation: *Do you have a fuel-powered generator? If so, whole-house or portable?*

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

Bill Rose (K5WTR)

- I have 2 generators
 - 5200 W - not enough to power the air conditioner
 - 1800 W
- also have 4x100 W self-built solar system
- Enough to power fridge, freezer, lights, and fan
- No transfer switch; just extension cords

Jeff McDowell (KI5CES)

- 4000 W generator
- Got me through the “snow-pocalypse”
- Trying to justify the cost since power is pretty reliable around here
- No transfer switch; just extension cords

Garrett Martin (W5HVS)

- On-board 8000 W generator for motor home
- Very quiet, both volume and on the radio
- Sureguard combo surge-protector and transfer switch

Matthew Barry (KG5LYE)

- Don't have a generator...
 - Where would you look to get one? Brands?
 - When is a good time?
 - How big is big enough?
- N5ZKF:
 - Generators may qualify for tax exemption during time
 - Avoid winter time
- K5WTR:
 - Resources and calculators available on Internet
 - As for sizing: Determine total wattage of what you want to run
 - A/C needs double the running wattage (at least) due to large startup surge
 - New place in town for buying these things: [Northern Tools off East Bypass](#)
- W5XMR:
 - Modern variable-speed A/C doesn't have as much inrush current

- “Soft start” can be added to older systems
- Pay attention to LRA amperage and running amperage
- W5HVS:
 - Was about to say same thing: “soft start” makes a huge difference!
- N5ZKF:
 - Not just phase-matching
 - Soft start is an active device

Phil Gates (N5ZKF)

- Lots of lunar events tonight:
 - Harvest Moon, also called a “supermoon”
 - Partial lunar eclipse
 - peaks around 21:45

Information Exchange

Bill Rose (K5WTR)

- Lots of solar activity earlier today
 - 02:57Z
 - G4 geomagnetic storm
 - Chance of aurora sightings