

MAARS Club Meeting – March 2018
Meeting Commenced: 6:27 pm
Meeting Concluded: 7:20 pm
Attending: Ashley Benteman - KE0IQV

Officer Reports:

President

- Natasha with Pottawatomie County reached out to Jim for a ham radio contact. Jim agreed to be the county's contact, but no one knows what it is for. So at the next CERT meeting on the 31st, Jim hopes to find out more.

VP Report

- Nothing to report.

Treasurer

- \$1,098.54
- Collected \$30 in dues last month

Committee Reports:

Field Day

- Summary: working with Riley county emergency management and using public works/county shops out on Tuttle Creek Blvd for location. This year it is June 23rd. We can operate for 24 hours and get as many contacts as we can. Anyone can participate no matter their license.
- No official changes but there will be more to come very soon
- Working on the one by one call and should have confirmation of it soon
- Volunteers are needed, please see Jon

Events

- Wildcat Warrior 5K, April 14
 - River pond area
 - We will be stationary to provide coordination between check points
 - This will be a great chance to test digital modes
 - We can go over plans at the next meeting including volunteers
- Fox Hunt is in May
 - Radio directional finding exercise
 - More information to come on a special build session to make the antennas

Repeater

- It was proposed to get Farren access to the repeater for management purposes. Farren is capable and willing to learn from others in the area to work on our repeater.
 - We would like to be able to change our voice messages and possibly include a frequency identifying if someone is using tone or no-tone.

Trailer

- Weather is starting to cooperate to refinish the trailer. The trailer will be sand blasted and then we can re-paint. Dave in Clay Center has offered to sand blast and we only cover the cost of materials. Jon will work with Dave on a cost estimate.
- They are currently thinking about using white automotive primer and then paint orange stripes on the tower. We may need to authorize the purchase of paint sometime soon.
- We hope to use it on field day

Old Business:

Test Session

- May 12th

Batteries

- Myron has AA batteries to give away

New Business:

Volunteer Examiner

- George proposes getting a group together of people wanting to become volunteer examiners to work together to complete this. If interested, see George.

Digital Repeater

- It would be supplementary to our current repeater and could be an opportunity for experimentation and to expand coverage.
- There is a possibility that we could put this on one of the new towers going up for the new Riley county communications plan
- There is also possibly a county tower behind the county shops that is not being used that we could pursue
- This would possibly cost a total of approximately \$2,500 and so we would need to do fundraising to complete this project
- A quick and informal poll was taken on who uses the various digital modes; fusion~5, dmr~5, d-star~1
- Is there anyone interested in creating a proposal including purpose, plan and fundraising?
This is a committee that can meet and report back.
 - There is not a rush on this
 - The committee would also help decide which digital technology to pursue
 - Jon & Gene will volunteer to help push it along and Farren will consider it

Joyce's grandson

- Joyce's grandson, 12 years old, passed the technician test! She is wondering if anyone knows another ham around the same age that he could talk to. Please let her know if you know of someone.

Old Repeater

- Dave has old repeater radio deck that we could keep as back up or use it as a fundraising opportunity and sell it. Jim suggests we keep it as back up for now and we can re-visit this in the future.

Digital Mode Presentation