

JSCARC Monthly Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2023

Call To Order

President Terry Quick KA5TBB called to order the JSCARC regular monthly meeting on Thursday, Jan 13th, 2023 at 6:30pm in the Inspiration Room JSC Gilruth

Attendees:

KA5TBB (President)- Terry Quick
KI5LQT (Vice President)- Danielle Plauche
AB4ME- Jeff Harbour
AD5CQ- George Fletcher
K5RG (Treasurer)- Ken Goodman
KG5URA- David Kimbrell
KB5PGY- David Fanelli
KG5U- Dale Martin
KD5RBN- Phil Burley
W5OC (Secretary)- David Lee

1. Old business

Jingle Mingle Event

Danielle KI5LQT:

- 5 JSCARC club members participated:
 - N5FWB, KI5LQT, N5LOW, KG5U, KB5PGY
- The weather was cold
- Didn't get a chance to enjoy the festivities, all hard work
- Got good feedback/appreciation from Greg Della Longa (Gilruth) and the center
- Suggestion: the club purchase some (reflective) vests for future use.

Tower update

Terry KA5TBB

- No updates on tower
- Recently gave Greg Della Longa SAA paperwork per his request, but no response
- Status remains, "in work"

Ken K5RG

Club should consider the use of recently favorably publicized local drilling company a "minority Women Owned company"

Terry KA5TBB

This company has done work @ JSC before, B30 floor/foundation drill penetrations
Regarding our current foundation, last spring PAE structural engs came out to assess.

They wanted to add 2' of epoxy resurfacing for structural reinforcement

Ken K5RG

Reminded the club that we do not have the foundation bolts

2. **Treasury Report** by Treasurer Ken K5RG

- Current balance except for 3-4 membership \$7093 from Wellby, Paypal and savings

New expenditures:

- Insurance for equipment in shack = \$468.58
- Coverage for \$33,470 assets, costed at \$1.40/\$100 value
- Liability insurance comes up next month

Membership status:

- As of yesterday, 65 paid members (vs 80 paid last year)
- + 2 tonite

Donation status:

- For upcoming Texas City (July 8th) hamfest donations
 - Tom K3LLL has 4 hp vector voltmeter/analyzers
 - includes HP 8405 x2
 - Wayne KE5QG delivered to Ken @ shack today:
 - 4x boxes incl 250' of RF214 coax; in scuba and shack
 - side note: closecall car incident during Wayne dropoff
- no intentions for club participation at upcoming Houston Hamfest

3. Terry KA5TBB asks for other agenda/discussion topics:

Winter Field Day

A query was asked if anyone or the club has plans or interest in the upcoming Winter Field Day, Jan 28-29. Nobody affirmed any interest nor plans.

Action to Dave W5OC: Post query on Groups.io and Website soliciting interest or anyone wishing to lead it for the club.

Shack Needs/Comments

A query was asked if there are any shack updates.

- **Benchtop table legs** are fragile and need replacement per Dave W5OC. Some discussion ensued. No decisions made.
- **New QSL manager** may be needed (assuming K5UK has relinquished the role). KA5TBB asked if anyone wanted to do it; Dale KG5U, "energetically" volunteered
- **QSL cards**. Some discussion about QSL cards. We have plenty of older cards, but do we need updating?
Action to Dale KG5U: As new QSL mgr, assess if the club can use existing ones.
- **The D40** 40m rotatable dipole is still broken on top of tower
- **NAS Server**
 - Thanks to John AB5SS for installation of new server in shack
 - Reported 24K QSOs in consolidated log data.

- **IC-9700**
Previously reported Icom IC-9700 donation is not known to have been received. K5RG commented that he agreed to allow his QTH as a practical delivery destination to formally receive the equipment for the club, but nothing received to date.

4. New Business

Shutterfly Share Site

Danielle KI5LQT reports that the newly formed JSCARC Shutterfly Share Site will need to find a new online alternative. Shutterfly has announced the discontinuation of this collaborative environment (just as the club began using it...)

- Currently 8 members have opened accounts to access it
- It was to provide large photo repository, calendars, minutes, notices
- KI5LQT used for 15 yrs
- Shutterfly announced pulling plug in March
- Club needs to investigate for options
- **Action Dave W5OC:** post on Groups.IO soliciting suggestions for alternatives

Holiday party

General comments: went well; lots of fun
Consensus restaurant food was good.

Potential JSCARC Hamfest

Danielle KI5LQT comments that Jerry N5FWB has lots of good ideas; should consider having our own hamfest here. Lots of comments ensued, including partnering with CLARC and ask Gilruth to provide selling of food/refreshments

Action Terry KA5TBB: discuss with Greg Della Longa (Gilruth) if there might be any issues.

VHF net

Dale KG5U solicited comments on weekly 2m FM net performance. Members commented that Dale was doing good job, and appreciative of his contribution doing it. There were comments regarding improvements to Echolink from Jeff AB4ME, now that it's all setup. Several commented on the regret that it's not easy to identify on-line users except for a coded number. David KG5URA shared that Echolink users show up as a 5 digit code; AllStar users show up as a 6 digit code. KG5U sent a request for help to Echolink, for assistance to let our system decode the numbers into callsigns, but they pointed the issue to Allstar. KA5TBB commented that the Control Point indicates callsigns, but others can't see it, except for the numerical digit codes. KA5TBB suggest that the 2m net could benefit from more Special Topic presenters. General discussion ensued about the difficulty finding volunteers. KG5U may consider asking KG5LJZ for assistance.

Show N Tell:

George AD5CQ brought a homebrew 2m loop antenna

- Based from design published in QEX magazine
- Shaped as a triangle
- Currently approx 1.5:1 SWR but still refining it's performance
- Tuning at apex with a nylon screw
- Messed up at location of feed; more work
- Very sensitive in environ; hard time to place it w/o affecting it
- benefits: simple; omni
- very narrow; ~ 600 KHz
- loop antenna; estimates can handle 100W

Houston Marathon

Jeff AB4ME, reminds members that Houston Marathon desperately needs volunteers

Not too late to volunteer- this Sun

Reflected on "fun" when support is in pacer car.

See Dale KG5U if interested

Fox Hunt

Dave W5OC announces a club Fox Hunt will be activated on January 21 (Saturday).

Will post as traffic at upcoming 2m net and online. It will be within the Clear Lake vicinity

5. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30PM