

JSCARC Monthly Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2023

Call To Order

President Terry Quick KA5TBB called to order the JSCARC regular monthly meeting on Thursday, Feb 9, 2023, at 7:15pm in the Inspiration Room JSC Gilruth.

Attendees:

KA5TBB (President)- Terry Quick
KI5LQT (Vice President)- Danielle Plauche
K5RG (Treasurer)- Ken Goodman
AB5SS – (Trustee) John Maca
W5OC (Secretary)- David Lee
AD5CQ- George Fletcher
KG5URA- David Kimbrell
N5LOW- Terry Moore
KB5PGY- David Fanelli

Treasurer's Report by Treasurer Ken K5RG

Club Balance \$6979.10

This month's income:

\$270 added funds from Houston Hamfest:
 \$200 from coax donation courtesy of Wayne Miner
 \$70 from other items

Asset management

\$4000 of club funds were deposited into a 15-month Certification of Deposit @ 5.12%
Performed at Wellby Financial Credit Union
Updated banking signature authority now includes Ken as well as Keith Grimm.

Expenditures

John Maca reimbursed for VBand club project build
\$290 expended for Go Boxes
1000' safety tape procured for future POTA events

2. Old business

Shutterfly Website + W5RRR Website storage

John AB5SS and Danielle KI5LQT

A follow up to the Shutterfly and storage options for the club website usage was brought up. John AB5SS responded to his previous action to report back on options to find

large capacity storage vendors for the increasing file demands of blogposts and graphic images. Terry KA5TBB approved the disposition to expend funds to implement the leading candidate, Amazon Web Service (AWS), for our club web use. AWS storage will be used to off-load media storage from the club's QTH.com hosted WordPress website. Cost for the AWS S3 service will vary depending on how much the club uses. For example, 100GB of storage with typical uploads/downloads is about \$28/year. WordPress plug-ins to enable using the AWS S3 service vary in price but we assumed a one-time cost of between \$50-150. Ken K5RG motioned to give John \$200 for the initial funding; Daniel KI5LQT seconded.

(Updated) Action John AB5SS

Initiate procurement of AWS service and work with Dave W5OC for implementation on W5RRR website. Status at next club meeting.

A follow up to the Shutterfly's demise was also discussed. "Band" was identified by Danielle KI5LQT, to mimic the Shutterfly's interface and functionality. There were some concerns expressed with having to separately register into the application under a completely different USERID/PW, just to use. No further action was requested by Terry KA5TBB, and the future use of "Band" would be a viable consideration when and if enough interest would be voiced from the other club members. Groups.io will continue to serve as the club user messaging function, but It was acknowledged that Groups.IO is an older less visually sophisticated listserver application unlike the more slick and user-friendly graphical interfaces provided by "Band"/Shutterfly/Facebook.

Action Closed Danielle KI5LQT- Shutterfly replacement.

Club Safety Vest Procurement

Danielle KI5LQT

- Danielle responded to her action to attend the Houston HamFest on Mar 3 to assess vendor vests designed for ham radio use. She identified vendor unique ham radio vests which were designed especially with pockets to hold HT radios. Her research identified a \$23.95 and upgraded \$32 version. The photos of the vests received positive responses from the club members present. The inclusion of logos and names would add additional fees. A 6% discount was available for quantify of 10. Terry KA5TBB asked for a follow up action:

(Updated) Action Danielle KI5LQT.

Contact vendor for specific quotes on muti sizes and our club's name. Target quantity 5. Status at next club meeting.

Shack Benchtop Safety Issue

A carryover discussion from the last 2 months, Terry KA5TBB announced his planning update to utilize 1" tubular steel to reinforce the weakness in the shack's tabletop integrity. A bottle of argon gas was just bought at Airgas. Terry did not want club reimbursement for this item.

Plans to procure tubing materials from Metal Supermarket will be targeted after measurements and drawings are developed.

(Open) Action to Terry KA5TBB

Implement steel welded supports for benches. Consider hosting a TIG welding demonstration for those wanting to learn/observe. Status at next monthly meeting.

N5FWB was not present to report on his action items.

From last month's minutes:

Hamfest at Gilruth Facility

Jerry N5FWB

A carryover action from last week, Jerry reports he expended effort to find proper POC. After exchanging multiple exchanges with others, including Lisa Gurgos, he was referred to Greg Della Longa. A meeting has been scheduled to discuss this subject with Jerry and Greg tomorrow (Feb 12). Danielle KI5LQT offered to support the meeting.

(Open) Action to Jerry N5FWB

Report back on meeting outcome to March 9 meeting

Shack add ons

Jerry N5FWB

It was suggested that boom mics for the shack should be procured to ease the fatigue of holding a mic during extended operations. Also, footswitches and headsets were identified as candidate procurement items needed for the shack operators. John AB5SS commented that the shack currently has one footswitch.

(Open) Action Jerry N5FWB

Identify items listed above for proposed procurement. Report back by March 9 meeting

3. New Business- None

4. Miscellaneous Topics

Water leak discovered by David KB5PGY; Ken K5RG called JSC Work Control at midnight; fixed. John AB5SS reports it looks ok and it's a recurring maintenance issue.

Ken K5RG wanted to express appreciation for Melinda Brandt special involvement during the March 4 Great Houston Hamfest. She hosted the JSCARC hamfest table for most of the time during the event..

Terry commented that he signed for the hot workplace permit needed for the upcoming JSC student intern soldering activity on Friday 3/10.

Ken K5RG reminded the club that Field Day is around the corner and that he would initiate the reminder for coordination with CLARC, or sister club station.

John AB5SS reminded the club that a workday at the shack was still needed to perform tower/antenna maintenance work including repairs of the 40m rotatable dipole, and guy wire tension measurement. John suggested April as a timeframe.

Adjournment

Terry KA5TBB elected to formally adjourn the meeting prior to the Show N Tell. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at around 7:30PM, by motion from AB5SS; seconded by Ken K5RG.

Show N Tell

George AD5CQ

George showed and discussed a 500 MHz(?) phased element Yagi that he converted to 2m. This was an extremely robust antenna that appears to be able to survive high velocity winds.

Terry N5LOW

Terry showed and discussed his most recent End Fed antenna w/ matching quarter wave ladder line transmission line and current Balun. He will use at upcoming POTA

David KG5URA

Dave showed and discussed his recent procurement of a French Fighting Kite for use at upcoming POTA. It utilized snap swivel, bungee cord to kite and line and an extremely heavy-duty kite reel due to exceptional drag stresses. Also, Dave brought his bleeder resistor box along with a dog spike ground.