



Saturday, February 19, 2022

Fannin County

Amateur Radio Club

K5FRC

Open Repeaters:

145.470, 443.775. and 442.525

Club Meeting very third Saturday at the
Bonham Bois D'Ark Cowboy Church

Weekly Net (every licensed Ham can join)

Tuesdays 8:00 pm on 2 meters 145.470

OFFICER REPORTS

President

KF5KUW

What a year it has been so far, both good and bad. Now we are into our second month, so let's look forward to some more fun and entertainment.

Winter Field Day was a huge success! I was pleasantly surprised at how good our entries to the Chili/Soup cook-off tasted. The socializing was so rewarding, and top that off with some radio contacts, and what a weekend. I just have to remember to turn on the wireless router's multicast, so all the laptops can interact with the central data file...

And then the bad... We had freezing rain that coated trees and powerlines all across the county, knocking out power to over 6,000 residents, some for two or more days. For me, we only had some intermittent dropouts, but since we heat our house by a wood stove, we were toasty warm and comfortable. But not my antennas.

I was working with the National Weather Service throughout the freezing rain, passing along icing reports, trees down, power off, and slick bridges and roads. This lasted for almost 5 hours, finally turning into sleet and snow around 2:00 am. What a night. I heard a few branches breaking around my house, but whenever I looked out, I was not seeing anything serious. But when I woke up later than morning and looked outside, I was stunned.

I lost every HF antenna except my brand new terminated folded dipole (but the mast it was on became a pretzel). My Hex Beam was a mangled mess. And I lost one of my dual band VHF/UHF base antennas. Lastly, I am not sure how much damage my satellite antennas took, as those are now on my back burner while I try to get this mess cleaned up. That took 2-1/2 days...

Don't forget to join us every Tuesday at 8:00 pm for our weekly radio net. We are wanting to train more of our club to be able to run our net so that you can be prepared in case we need to do this for any inclement weather or special event.

We need to start planning for our Radio in the Park at Lake Texoma. Let's build upon what we learned at WFD and see how much fun we can have operating remotely from one of the islands in Lake Texoma.

It does appear that the Bonham bike rally, Autumn in Bonham, is not happening. I am scheduled to talk about this at the next Chamber of Commerce Board meeting, so we will see if there is any interest in reviving this event.

The Spirit of Bonham airshow is being scheduled again for this year. I will have more information on this soon.

Vice President KI5DQ

Hello from James Hunt – KI5DQ.

A 'lil about me:

- married, with a son at home.
- Prior callsign (only other one) KA9FHF.
- still working within the technical industrial world ... 37+ years.

Upcoming events this year include:

- February- APRS: Mike K5MJD
- March- Fox Hunting: TBD
- April- (?)
- May- Radio Terms and settings: James KI5DQ
- June- Field Day Secrets: TBD
- July- Radio Testing and Operations: Mike K5MJD
- August- Special Event planning, logistics: James KI5DQ
- October- Special Event
- November- (?)
- December- None, have a happy holiday.

Treasurer KI5FHN

As of February 10, 2022 the club has \$5460.69 in its checking account and \$223.79 in its savings account.

All bills have been paid.

Secretary N5DJB January Meeting Minutes

Meeting opening with pledge and Prayer

Officer reports

Winter Field Day planning and discussion with Mike, James Mark.

Jeff Peeler mentions EMP Shield for radios

TMC Bonham Radio net discussion (antennas not working)

Morse Code discussion made by several club members

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Mike Lindsey, Seconded by Jessie.

Motion carried and meeting was adjourned.

For the full secretary report please email (dixie.binford16@gmail.com)

WINTER FIELD DAY 2022

Results:

164 Phone contacts

4 multipliers

Score = 656



Since we are a radio club, here is a recap of our setup. We operated off K5MJD's generator and marine battery for all radio power, so this earned us a bonus. We set up 2 folded dipole antennas perpendicular to one another (one N-S, the other E-W), as well as KI5DQ's portable Alpha Antenna military vertical antenna. Lastly, we had a laptop at each radio position, and these were linked together using the same database file, so you were notified immediately if someone else had already logged a call on that band with the station you were trying to work. Of course, it did take Christian, Mike, and myself several hours to get all the bugs worked out so that this actually worked as planned, finally realizing we had 1 setting not activated (lesson learned...).

WFD CHILI/SOUP COOKOFF

We awarded first and second prizes for the Chili/Soup Cook-off, with Rebecca KI5IOO taking first, and Ruth Brown KI5NTK a close second.

Congratulations to our winners, and to all who submitted an entry. By the way, they were all good!



WFD IMAGES

