

June 29, 2015

Kansas City DX Club Meeting Minutes



Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate - Kansas City - Overland Park, KS

The June 29, 2015 meeting of the Kansas City DX Club was called to order by President Jeff Blaine, AC0C, at 6:34 pm (2334 June 29, 2015 UTC).

Agenda

- Introductions/Greeting
- Announcements
- Presentation – Lee, K0LW Grounding and HK0NA Malpelo DXpedition video shown by Jeff

Introductions

As customary, we all introduced ourselves to the group. Visitor Jim Mitchell, W0ZKW introduced himself. Welcome Jim. Twenty-nine people signed the register.

Announcements

- **Important Announcement – the AUGUST** KCDX Club meeting will be held on **August 24** instead of August 31. Glenn Johnson, W0GJ will be here to present the K1N DXpedition story and his talk “Is 3dB Worth a Divorce?”. Lee, K0LW, moved that we use club funds to pay for one night’s hotel lodging for Glenn. Jeff, AC0C, seconded. Motion carried,.
- Jeff announced upcoming contests and DXpeditions. One DXpedition of special interest might be 3A/IZ8EGM (Monaco) August 8-15. The contest of note might be the RSGB IOTA contest, July 25 – 26. It was noted that the North American RTTY QSO party is a great way to get your keyboard fingers wet in RTTY.
- We discussed ham related storm damage. Several members had damage to antennas or buildings.
- Field Day was discussed with quite a few members having participated. Several members were not present probably due to Field Day. Weather was great, 6 meters was hot but HF wasn’t too good on Saturday.
- Mike, KD0FW, showed the plaque he received from the ARRL as a thank you for his participation as a W1AW/0 operator during last year’s ARRL centennial operations. He thought it was a nice gesture that the ARRL remembered the service of the many operators.

Presentation Lee, K0LW, Tower Talk

- Lee began by showing several photos of some SK members.
- He showed a video of how to crimp N connectors on LMR 400 coax.

- He showed a video of how the electrical grounding of a police/fire department headquarters was reworked after receiving major lightning damage.
- He showed another video of raising an 8,000 lb tower with a crane. Looked kind of scary.

Lee suggested that President Jeff begin assigning members to do the member introduction talks. He then suggested that Bert, KA5PAO, do his this night. Bert graciously agreed.

- Bert said that he is a retired iron worker and participated as an expert welder in the construction of several buildings in Kansas City.
- He began his time as an amateur radio operator in Texas and his experience as an iron worker was very valuable in working with and installing antenna towers. He described how he enhances the base mounts when he installs them by using larger and more re-bar than specified.
- He explained his cap. It is useful for keeping welding sparks out of your hair and from going down the back of your neck by wearing it backwards.
- He discussed the Cadweld thermite device technique of electrically bonding steel together. Jeff found a couple of interesting videos on You Tube that illustrated how these things work.

There were some technical difficulties showing the HKØNA video. Another attempt may be made later.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

The July club meeting will be **July 27, 2015 at 6:30 pm CDT.**

Charles Hett, KØTHN, KCDX Club Secretary