

November 24, 2014

Kansas City DX Club Meeting Minutes



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

The November 24, 2014 meeting of the Kansas City DX Club was called to order by Vice President Bill Henderson, K0VBU, at 6:32 pm (2332 November 24, 2014 UTC). President Jeff Blaine, AC0C was unable to attend but he provided the outline presentation for the meeting.

Agenda

Introductions

Announcements

Charlie, K0THN, will introduce his amateur radio career to us.

Dave, W7FB, will give a demonstration of "Fishing for Trees".

Introductions

Visitors Rob Mayberry, KE5BR, Steph Liebling, KD0DSU, and Gary Liebling, W0SO, were introduced and welcomed.

As customary, we all introduced ourselves to the group.

Announcements

Bill went through the following announcements:

- Upcoming contests and dxpeditions were noted. The major dxpediton coming up soon is Navassa, KP1, scheduled for January, 2015.

Ham Introduction of the Month

Charlie Hett, K0THN, introduced himself.

- First became interested in radio by Short Wave Listening
- Learned Morse code as a Boy Scout
- Received a two tube radio kit for Christmas when in the 6th Grade
- First licensed as KN0THN in 1959
- Showed video of one of his early stations and climbing his radio tower
- Studied electrical engineering at Kansas State University and became a co-op student at the NASA Marshal spaceflight center in Huntsville, Alabama during the hey-day of the Apollo manned spaceflight program where he witnessed several

historical events and met some of the German rocket scientists who came to the U.S. after WWII

- First employed as an engineer by Honeywell Aerospace, Minneapolis, MN in 1968 where he continued working on aerospace flight controls programs including Apollo
- Licensed as K4GPN when working for Honeywell in St. Petersburg, FL.
- Returned home to Kansas in 1973 where he worked for King Radio and its legacy companies on general aviation avionics including flight controls and displays and HF communications radio designs.
- Showed photos of his current ham station including several boat anchors, his QSL cards over the years, meaningful QSOs, his trip to W1AW, and his family

Presentation

Dave Fisher, W7FB – Fishing for Trees

- Dave showed several hints for throwing wire antenna support lines over trees with the aid of a fishing rod and reel. He uses 12lb test monofilament line and 2 oz – 2.5 oz used automotive wheel weights to get the line over the tree. He showed an interesting way to attach the line to the weight making it easy to remove. Then he pulls the actual support line, Dacron rope, over with the fishing line. Dave ties a loop that is large enough to pass over the length of the weight after passing through a hole drilled in the end. The pull - back weight on the Dacron rope is a 3' ground rod which has the feature of not whipping around a tree limb as it is pulled up. He does not use pulleys – just let the dacron slide on the branches. Every six months or so he reties the lines so they don't cut the tree.

Business

Be sure to tell Jeff, AC0C, if you are going to attend the club party at his home on December 13 at 5pm.

A drawing was held for two gift certificates courtesy of Dave, W7FB.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm. The next meeting will be January 26 at 6:30 pm CST. (The party will replace the December meeting.)

Charles Hett, K0THN, KCDX Club Secretary