



W5SFA

The Stephen F. Austin Radio Club, Inc.

An Association of Amateur Radio Operators in the Austin, Fayette and Waller County Areas

Mailing Address: 840 Deer Haven Road
Carmine, TX 78932

Meetings: Last Wednesday of each month

Repeaters: 145.410- (W5SFA – PL 100.0) Cat Spring, TX
444.875 (W5SFA – PL 103.5) Bellville, TX
146.96- (W5JUC – PL 103.5) Houston, TX

2008-09 Officers: President, Ben Worrell, NE5B
Vice President, David Warren, KD5GJF
Secretary/Treasurer, Kathy Croker, KB5ITB

February 25, 2009

Minutes of the January 2009 Meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Radio Club

The January 2009 meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Radio Club was called to order at 7:13 p.m. by Vice-President David Warren, who then read the Minutes of the previous meeting. A Motion to accept the Minutes as read was made by Johnny Holmes, seconded by Bruce Mitchell and the Motion carried. David then called for the reading of the Treasurer's Report by Kathy Croker. A Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as read was made by Bruce Mitchell and seconded by Robert Croker. The Motion carried.

The door prize drawing was held and won by Dave Jenkins, who donated the prize for a second drawing, won by Wade Eilers. The prize included a goodie bag containing PL-259 connectors, insulators, a pocket knife and several of the Presidential Coins. The door prize was generously donated by Carl and Linda Pleasant.

OLD BUSINESS

Dan White reported that due to unforeseen circumstances, he has not yet presented Judge Bilski with a list of the equipment approved by the Club for use during emergency operations.

Dan then went on to say that the Cat Spring repeater is down again due to a fault with the power supply. He will work on that to get it back up and running as soon as possible. He reported that UHF is down and the receiver VCO is out of line and needs to be put on a scope and re-aligned.

David Warren updated a previous report on the Giddings repeater, saying that after monitoring the AREA net meeting on January 27, 2009, he didn't think that the repeater had yet been moved.

Kathy Croker then mentioned that the Holiday Party was very much a success, with special thanks to Cameron Mitchell for hosting the affair. Everyone who attended commented on how much they enjoyed the tour through the heavens, courtesy of Cameron and his new observatory.

NEW BUSINESS

David Warren led the meeting attendees in a moment of silent prayer and reflection honoring Trustee and long-time member Carl Hickman, K5OWC, who passed away in December 2008. Deanna Hickman was a guest at this meeting.

Dan White then led a group discussion regarding the equipment that had been inventoried at Carl's home and showed pictures he had taken while there. He also mentioned that he needs help taking down the tower located at the house and that Dennis Alexander had volunteered to climb it. David Warren also volunteered to climb and will start an email circulating in order to determine the best date and time for everyone to meet who is interested in volunteering. Dan also mentioned that anyone interested in purchasing any of the equipment should contact Deanna to schedule a time to meet with her and noted that she is unaware of the value of the equipment, per se, and that it would be best to be frank with her about it's true value and what you would be willing to offer her for it.

Dan announced that he would be willing to accept the Trusteeship left vacant by Carl Hickman. A Motion to confirm the appointment was made by Kathy Croker, seconded by Johnny Holmes and passed unanimously. Johnny Holmes then administered the Oath of Office to Dan, which he performed perfectly. No re-oath was necessary.

A Motion was then made by Robert Croker to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Bruce Mitchell. There being no further topics to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Croker
KB5ITB
Secretary/Treasurer

ATTENDEES:

Kathy Croker, KB5ITB
Bruce Mitchell, KM5OG
Dave Jenkins, K5KX
Johnny Holmes, W5ALG
Dan White, W5AOV
Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM
Robert Croker, AD5ME
David Warren, KD5GJF



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Vice President, David Warren, KD5GJF
Secretary/Treasurer, Kathy Croker, KB5ITB

March 25, 2009

Minutes of the February 2009 Meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Radio Club

The February 2009 meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Radio Club was called to order at 7:11 p.m. by President Ben Worrell, who called for the reading of the Minutes of the previous meeting. Ben then called for the reading of the Treasurer's. A Motion to accept the Minutes and Treasurer's Report as read was made by David Warren and seconded by Bruce Mitchell. The Motion carried.

The door prize drawing was held and won by Bruce Mitchell. The prize was a pocket knife, generously donated by Carl and Linda Pleasant.

OLD BUSINESS

The Trustee-ship of the repeaters formerly listed under Carl Hickman was transferred over to Dan White. He reported that he updated the listings and that all repeaters were "open" types, available to any Ham radio operator. All repeaters also have a battery backup, capable of sustaining operation of the equipment for one hour in the event of a power failure. All repeaters are up and operating properly at this time, with the exception of the clock on the Bellville repeater. Dan also noted that the password to the repeater in Bellville may have been changed last year by the man who was setting up the MS-150 links. The clock on that repeater is incorrect, which is the only malfunction with any of the repeaters at this time.

David Warren made a motion, seconded by Bruce Mitchell, to pay Dan up to \$20.00 for the freight charges incurred in sending the power supplies back to the manufacturer for warranty repairs. Dan told the members that he did not have the receipt with him at the time, but that he will email Kathy Croker with the information and she can write a check to him. The motion carried.

Dan then reported on the status of Carl Hickman's equipment. Several of the pieces have been sold. Dan has emailed Murray McNeese on Sunday Trader's Net, who has offered \$2,500.00 to Deanne for most of the remainder of the good gear. There is a Johnson Ranger, a couple of other older 2-Meter radios, a tray

of crystals, a Moseley antenna and 5 sections of the Club's tower at the barn, along with several other odds and ends. Ben Worrell will take the Club tower sections to his house for storage.

David Warren and Dan then led a discussion on how to get the tower at Carl's house down on the ground so it can be moved. David will call Dennis Alexander and talk to him about it.

NEW BUSINESS

Mention was made that Saturday, March 7, 2009, is the Ham Fest in Rosenberg. Dan said he may take some of Carl's things there and tailgate them.

Robert Croker then made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by David Warren. There being no further topics to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Croker
KB5ITB
Secretary/Treasurer

ATTENDEES:

Kathy Croker, KB5ITB
Robert Croker, AD5ME
Carl Pleasant, W5MPX
Bruce Mitchell, KM5OG
Dan White, W5AOV
Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM
Ben Worrell, NE5B
David Warren, KD5GJF
Skip Ferguson, K5AWC



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2008-09 Officers: President, Ben Worrell, NE5B
Vice President, David Warren, KD5GJF
Secretary/Treasurer, Kathy Croker, KB5ITB

April 29, 2009

Minutes of the March 2009 Meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Radio Club

The March 25, 2009, meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Amateur Radio Club (W5SFA) was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by club president Ben Worrell, NE5B. The minutes of the last meeting were read by Mike Hardwick, N5VCX. Ben asked if there were any additions or corrections, and since there were not the minutes stood approved as read. The treasurers report was not available, but Ben assured the club members that there is money in the bank.

The door prize was donated by Carl Pleasant and consisted of two insulators, a PL-259 coax connector, and four of the new \$1.00 coins. The door prize was won by David Warren.

OLD BUSINESS

Dan White reported that the clock on the 440 repeater at the Hickman residence still in not working.

David Warren asked Dan White if he had been contacted by Dennis Alexander concerning a date to lower the sectional, crank up tower and antenna at the Hickman residence. He said that he had but that he had not been informed as to when David and Dennis would want to do the job. David suggested to Dan that he schedule the gentleman with the bucket truck on a Sunday afternoon and inform David and Dennis to be there on the appointed day. Dan indicated that he would.

NEW BUSINESS

There was discussion mainly between Dan White and Mike Hardwick concerning the use of club equipment during the upcoming MS-150, the dates of which will be April 18–19. Dan said that he does not want any direct connections made with the equipment due to the possibility of equipment damage in the event of a lightning strike. He also stated that if any functions are changed by person or persons associated with the

MS-150, that all functions are to be restored to original settings after the event is finished. Mike Hardwick agreed to these conditions.

Ben Worrell brought up the issue of receiving an O.O. notice charging that he had interfered with an emergency communication that was in progress after stating to net control that operators need to follow FCC rules for identification during last year's MS-150. Ben stated that he had listened for at least twenty minutes and had heard only the net control operator ID while there were numerous transmissions during that period from operators who were not in compliance with the rule. Ben stated that if rules were not going to be followed that he personally would not participate in the upcoming event.

Ben further stated that, having the codes to club equipment, he could have taken W5SFA equipment off line, indicating that he would not necessarily have done so but that it was something that could have been done. This sparked a somewhat lengthy conversation between Mike and Ben in which Mike stated that such action would not only impact violators but would also "punish" those who were complying with the rules. Dan interjected the statement, directed to Mike, that if another incident occurs where one of our members receives an O.O. notice this year for "doing what is right", the MS-150 will not have use of W5SFA equipment next year. Mike stressed the fact that proper ID practices is stressed to all operators at all meetings leading up to the MS-150 event each year, and he promised that it will be stressed even more this year.

At this point Dave Jenkins interjected that we had "beaten the issue to death" and conversation became more informal and not related to club business. Therefore, Ben Worrell called for a motion to adjourn which was made by Dan White and seconded by Dave Jenkins. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. by Ben Worrell.



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Vice President, David Warren, KD5GJF
Secretary/Treasurer, Kathy Croker, KB5ITB

May 27, 2009

Minutes of the April 2009 Meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Radio Club

The April meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Radio Club was called to order at 7:13 p.m. by President Ben Worrell, who called for the reading of the Minutes and Treasurer's Reports by Kathy Croker. Both reports were approved as read.

The door prize drawing was conducted, with Robert Croker winning a new pocket knife, donated by Carl and Linda Pleasant.

OLD BUSINESS

After short discussion, Dan White offered to donate the cost of recent club-related shipping charges he incurred.

Dennis Alexander has offered to donate a space for the 440 Repeater site.

Kathy Croker will contact David Warren with instructions that he is to strip the tower at the Hickman residence. He will contact Deanne Hickman to arrange a time convenient to both of them, and Wade Eilers, to arrange to pick up the necessary gear. Kathy will also call Deanne to let her know to expect a call from David.

Robert Croker made a motion, seconded by Wade Eilers, to move the repeater from Bellville to Dan White's home. The motion carried.

Robert and Kathy Croker reported the cancellation of the first leg of the MS-150, which resulted in non-participation by members of our organization for this year's event.

There was no new business to discuss at the meeting.

A motion was made by Dave Jenkins, seconded by Robert Croker, to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was ended at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Croker
KB5ITB
Secretary/Treasurer

ATTENDEES:

Kathy Croker, KB5ITB
Robert Croker, AD5ME
Carl Pleasant, W5MPX
Wade Eilers, W5TEN
Dan White, W5AOV
Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM
Dave Jenkins, K5KX
John B. Holmes, W5ALG
Ben Worrell, NE5B
Gene Antosh, KB5JJW



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2008-09 Officers: President, Ben Worrell, NE5B
Vice President, David Warren, KD5GJF
Secretary/Treasurer, Kathy Croker, KB5ITB

June 24, 2009

Minutes of the May 2009 Meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Radio Club

The May 2009 Meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Radio Club was called to order at 7:07 p.m. on the 27th by President Ben Worrell. Minutes of the April 2009 meeting were read by Secretary/Treasurer Kathy Croker, and were approved as read. She then gave the Treasurer's Report, and a motion to accept was made by Linda Pleasant, seconded by Carl Pleasant, and carried without further discussion.

The door prize drawing was held and Kathy Croker won a new pocket knife and sharpener, generously donated by Carl and Linda Pleasant.

OLD BUSINESS

The .440 repeater is temporarily located at Cameron Mitchell's home in Cat Spring and the antenna for it is now atop the Cat Spring Tower, courtesy of Trico Tower. David Warren took the .440 antenna and hardline down from the tower at the Hickman residence, but left the dB204 VHF Commercial antenna onsite.

NEW BUSINESS

In Dan White's absence, Cameron Mitchell reported that during the month, Dan had arranged for John Hill to install the .440 antenna atop the Cat Spring tower. John will donate the hardline for this and Dan agreed on behalf of the Club to contract the job for an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00.

Cameron then made a motion that a check be written by Kathy Croker in payment of the invoice from Trico Tower, when it is received. Robert Croker seconded the motion, which carried.

President Ben Worrell opened the floor for nominations for officers for the upcoming year, to be voted upon and installed during the June 2009 Meeting. Ben Worrell and Cameron Mitchell were nominated for the

office of President. Cameron respectfully declined the nomination. Cameron Mitchell and David Warren were nominated for the office of Vice President. David Warren was not in attendance to accept or decline the nomination and Kathy Croker volunteered to contact him, and then advise Members as to his decision. Kathy Croker was nominated to run unopposed for the office of Secretary/Treasurer. Robert Croker made a motion to close nominations, which was seconded by Linda Pleasant. The motion carried.

Robert Croker then made a motion, seconded by Carl Pleasant, to end the meeting. There being no further business to discuss, members adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Croker
KB5ITB
Secretary/Treasurer

ATTENDEES:

Kathy Croker, KB5ITB
Robert Croker, AD5ME
Carl Pleasant, W5MPX
Linda Pleasant, AD5LP
Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM
Ben Worrell, NE5B
Eugene J. Antosh, KB5JJW



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2009-10 Officers: President, Ben Worrell, NE5B
Vice President, Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM
Secretary/Treasurer, Kathy Croker, KB5ITB

July 29, 2009

Minutes of the June 2009 Meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Radio Club

The June 2009 meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Radio Club was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by President Ben Worrell, who called for the reading by Kathy Croker of the Minutes and Treasurer's Report from the May 2009 meeting. Johnny Holmes made a motion, seconded by Linda Pleasant, to accept the Minutes as read. Johnny Holmes made a motion, followed by a second from Cameron Mitchell, to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Both motions carried.

OLD BUSINESS

The door prize drawing was held and Dan White won a pocket knife, generously donated by Carl and Linda Pleasant.

Kathy Croker reported that a check in the amount of \$780.00 was sent to Trico Tower in payment for the work they did erecting the antenna. Dan White gave a report on the status of the repeaters, saying that one controller was now running both the 2 meter and the 440 repeaters on the Cat Spring tower. They are linked and it is possible to transmit on either band with either type of radio. He also mentioned that the UHF antenna is located on the Northeast corner of the tower at 300 feet and the VHF antenna is located at 400 feet on the top, East side of the tower.

Ben Worrell then announced the nominations for officers for the upcoming year. Dan White made a motion, seconded by Johnny Holmes, to close nominations and accept those nominated as the next year's officers. The motion carried and officers are: Ben Worrell, President; Cameron Mitchell, Vice President; and Kathy Croker, Secretary/Treasurer.

NEW BUSINESS

New member Gene Antosh reminded the meeting attendees that June 27-28 is Field Day. He is involved with the Columbus Tilson Contest Club and went on to detail the activities planned by the club for this year's contest participants.

Ben Worrell announced that he will be absent from the September Club meeting.

Kathy Croker mentioned that the equipment insurance premium notice is due to arrive during July. A motion was made by Linda Pleasant, seconded by Johnny Holmes, to allow Kathy to pay the bill when it comes in. The motion carried. Kathy also mentioned to attendees that dues are now due.

Kathy Croker then made a motion, followed by a second from Linda Pleasant, to end the meeting. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Croker
KB5ITB
Secretary/Treasurer

ATTENDEES:

Kathy Croker, KB5ITB
Carl Pleasant, W5MPX
John B. Holmes, Jr., W5ALG
Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM
Dan White, W5AOV
Ben Worrell, NE5B
Linda Pleasant, AD5LP
Gene Antosh, KB5JJW



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2010-11 Officers: President, Ben Worrell, NE5B
Vice President, Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM
Secretary/Treasurer, Kathy Croker, KB5ITB

August 26, 2009

Minutes of the July 2009 Meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Amateur Radio Club

The July 29, 2009, meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Radio Club was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by President Ben Worrell. Minutes of the June 2009 meeting were read by Kathy Croker. Kathy then gave the Treasurer's Report. Both reports were accepted as read.

The door prize, donated by Carl and Linda Pleasant, was a pocket knife and was won by Wade Eilers.

OLD BUSINESS

Gene Antosh reported 8,000 contacts made by 6 operators and 3 guests during his group's Field Day efforts.

Ben Worrell reminded club members that the ARRL Section Manager Election is coming up, and to please cast ballots for candidate of choice.

Kathy Croker mentioned an Eco-Watch link that was sent to her by Woody Woodall, which she will email to the membership.

NEW BUSINESS

Dan White reported a conversation with Judge Carolyn Bilski wherein he told her that \$10,000.00 would be needed in order to purchase radio equipment to be kept in the Courthouse for emergency preparedness meetings and actual emergency situations. She will request \$10,500.00.

He also reported that the antenna on the Courthouse needed maintenance. Dan then gave members present packets he had prepared listing all the repeater control commands.

Cameron Mitchell reported the Texas QSO Party will be September 26-27. Discussions on club-related topics being completed, Ben Worrell called for a motion to adjourn. Kathy Croker made the motion, seconded by Robert Croker. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Croker
KB5ITB
Secretary/Treasurer

ATTENDEES:

Kathy Croker, KB5ITB
Ben Worrell, NE5B
Wade Eilers, W5TEN
Dan White, W5AOV
Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM
Linda Pleasant, AD5LP
Johnny Holmes, W5ALG
Dave Jenkins, K5KX
Robert Croker, AD5ME
Gene Antosh, KB5JJW



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2010-11 Officers: President, Ben Worrell, NE5B
Vice President, Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM
Secretary/Treasurer, Kathy Croker, KB5ITB

September 30, 2009

Minutes of the August 2009 Meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Radio Club

INSERT MEETING MINUTES HERE.



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2010-11 Officers: President, Ben Worrell, NE5B
Vice President, Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM
Secretary/Treasurer, Kathy Croker, KB5ITB

October 28, 2009

Minutes of the September 2009 Meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Amateur Radio Club

The September 30, 2009, meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Radio Club was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Vice-President Cameron Mitchell. Minutes of the August 2009 meeting were read by Kathy Croker. Dan White noted a change to the report, replacing the \$10,500.00 funds request by Judge Bilski with a corrected amount of \$15,000.00. Kathy then gave the Treasurer's Report. Both reports were approved with the single change.

Cameron Mitchell welcomed Guest Doug Rowlett, and introduced him to meeting attendees.

The door prize, donated by Carl and Linda Pleasant, was a box of 9 mm ammunition, and was won by Doug Rowlett.

OLD BUSINESS

Dan White reported receiving a call from the new Emergency Management Manager for the county. Dan has now submitted a bid received from AES for the equipment we have requested from the county. He has also requested a bid from Texas Towers, but has yet to receive anything from them.

NEW BUSINESS

A general discussion was had regarding this year's Club Holiday Party. Several dates were discussed but none confirmed. Suggestions were made to move the party from our usual December date to one in January. Cameron Mitchell offered to host the party again, in the event that no one else offered to be this year's host. It was generally decided to table the discussion and return during the October meeting to finalize a date and place for the event. Kathy Croker will send an email to the membership soliciting suggestions.

A motion was made by Kathy Croker to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Robert Croker. There being no further business to discuss, the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Croker
KB5ITB
Secretary/Treasurer

ATTENDEES:

Kathy Croker, KB5ITB
Robert Croker, AD5ME
Carl Pleasant, W5MPX
Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM
Linda White, Guest
Dan White, W5AOV
Doug Rowlett, WB5IRI



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Vice President, Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM
Secretary/Treasurer, Kathy Croker, KB5ITB

January 27, 2010

Minutes of the October 2009 Meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Radio Club

At 7:18 p.m. Wednesday, October 28, 2009, President Ben Worrell called to order the monthly meeting of the Stephen F. Austin Radio Club. Minutes of the previous meeting, as well as the Treasurer's Report, were read by Kathy Croker. A motion to approve both items as read was made by Robert Croker and seconded by Linda Pleasant. The motion carried.

The door prize drawing was held and Ben Worrell won a box of .38 Special ammunition, generously donated by Carl and Linda Pleasant.

OLD BUSINESS

A discussion was had regarding the holiday party typically held by the Club and it was decided, after a motion was made by Cameron Mitchell and seconded by David Jenkins, then passed, that the club would officially change the name of this get-together to the Annual Banquet, and that it would now be held in January in order to avoid conflicts with otherwise busy holiday schedules. The main course for this year's banquet is to be barbecue and attending members will bring side dish accompaniments. It will be held Saturday, January 9, 2010, at 4:00 p.m. at Cameron Mitchell's home in Cat Spring.

Dan White reported that a guest, Ray Chislett, from the Office of Emergency Management was supposed to be at the meeting, but was unable to make it. Dan then related that a laptop or desktop was requested as part of the equipment needed at the courthouse and that the purchases had been approved, the purchase order had been issued and the equipment should be delivered within about a week or so. Dan was to be there upon arrival in order to receive, inspect and test it.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to be discussed.

At 8:03 p.m., a motion was made by Linda Pleasant and seconded by Robert Croker to end the meeting. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Croker
KB5ITB
Secretary/Treasurer

ATTENDEES:

Kathy Croker, KB5ITB
Robert Croker, AD5ME
Ben Worrell, NE5B
Dan White, W5AOV
Linda White, Guest
Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM
Carl Pleasant, W5MPX
Linda Pleasant, AD5LP



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November 2009 – There was no meeting.



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Secretary/Treasurer, Kathy Croker, KB5ITB

December 2009 – There was no meeting.