

Active Amateurs Radio Group - General Meeting (07/17/2025)

Quick recap

The meeting began with discussions about format changes for future meetings, including the separation of administrative matters to quarterly meetings while regular meetings focus on entertainment and engagement topics. Technical discussions centered around new ham radio equipment, including features and specifications of various radios, with participants experiencing some audio troubleshooting issues during the presentation. The conversation ended with conversations about club business matters, including donation limits and ongoing technical challenges with repeaters and antennas.

Next steps

- Glenn: Develop and finalize the 12-month meeting topic calendar with themed content for each month
- Howard: Implement the new quarterly meeting format with full business meetings in October and administrative updates in between
- Rick: Coordinate with the climber for antenna repair work on both towers
- Howard: Follow up with Mark regarding the contribution limit for the club's 501c3 designation
- Glenn: Create and distribute a member survey to gather feedback on meeting preferences and topics
- Glenn: Send out meeting reminders both a few days before and the day of the monthly meetings to improve attendance
- Ronnie: Follow up with firmware updates for the FTX-One Field radio in August for Wires-X functionality

Summary

Meeting Format and Planning Updates

The meeting began with a discussion about the format change for future meetings, where administrative and business matters will be handled in the quarterly meetings, while the regular meetings will focus on entertainment and engagement. Glenn shared an AI-generated 12-month meeting topic plan, including themes like emergency ops, digital modes, antenna building, propagation, and field games, with specific activities like show-and-tell sessions and member surveys to keep attendees engaged. The group also discussed the upcoming officer elections and the need to inform members about the format changes, with the next full administrative meeting scheduled for October.

New members

New member KR4ERK was approved via survey

Club Updates and AI Discussion

The club meeting began with a discussion about AI-generated content, where KK4WBT shared his experience with creating a video and expressed amazement at the technology's capabilities. Howard then announced changes to the meeting format, deciding to hold quarterly business meetings and monthly topic-focused sessions, aiming to increase attendance. Glenn provided a report on website updates and forum activities, while Mark presented the treasurer's report, noting a cash balance of \$580, much of which is reserved for the year-end raffle. The conversation ended with a motion to close and a transition to Ronnie's presentation on new ham radio equipment.

Resolving Ronnie's Zoom Audio

The meeting experienced technical difficulties with audio, particularly for Ronnie who was participating in his first Zoom meeting. Glenn and Howard helped troubleshoot the audio issues, ultimately resolving them by having Ronnie use a phone speaker while Howard relayed his audio through the phone. The meeting continued with Ronnie able to participate normally after the audio was fixed.

New HF/VHF Radio Features

Ronnie discussed the features and specifications of a new radio he purchased, which includes HF and VHF/UHF capabilities, a 10-watt output, and a Bluetooth module. He explained that the radio can be used with an optional amplifier for increased power and functionality, and he detailed the radio's various features, including an SD card slot, screenshot capability, and a PC interface. Glenn inquired about the radio's primary use and remote capabilities, to which Ronnie responded that it would serve as his base radio and be used for POTA activations. Ronnie also mentioned some bugs in the firmware and expressed excitement about the radio's potential, despite its limitations.

New Radio Features and Updates

Ronnie discussed his experience with a new radio, highlighting its features and limitations. He noted that while the base unit is not yet available, the head unit is in stock. Ronnie explained that the radio has a 100-watt 6-meter capability and comes with a thick paper manual, with additional advanced manuals available for download online. He mentioned that a firmware update for wireless X functionality is expected in August. Ronnie also

shared his preference for the basic waterfall display over the 3D version, finding the latter too cluttered.

Resolving Ronnie's Audio Troubleshooting

The conversation ended with Ronnie presenting, followed by technical troubleshooting of audio issues on Ronnie's computer. Glenn and Howard helped Ronnie resolve his microphone problem by discovering that his Bluetooth headset was the source of the audio input, despite having an internal microphone. The issue was resolved when Ronnie connected his microphone cable directly to the computer.

The conversation ended with a motion to close.

Motion to END by WW4HG - 2nd Mark KK4NNY and Jason KK4WBT

July 17, 2025, 18:24-20:07 (EDT)