



# Murray State University Amateur Radio Club

Address: MSUARC  
2580 University Station  
Murray, Kentucky 42071

Website: [www.k4msu.com](http://www.k4msu.com)

## MSU ARC Meeting – June 3, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President John Coyle, W4PJC, at 7:00 p.m.

He noted that it was the 774th meeting of the MSU Amateur Radio Club.

**Roll Call & Question of the Night:** Name, call sign, and “Are you attending Field Day?”

John shared the adventures of the tower trailer when Calloway County Emergency Management and the MSU Amateur Radio teamed up to take it to display at an event sponsored by Western Kentucky Healthcare Coalition. The event was a “Mobilizing Assets Sustaining Show and Tell” and the tower trailer one-by-one lost 3 tires on the way home. After it spent the night in Benton, new tires were obtained and the trailer made it safely home.

### **Programs:**

**Josh Kerr, WV4O, presented a Ham Bit on the NIMM logger program.** It’s most commonly used for field day but it is a free download for anyone who wants to use it in their ham shack.

For use in Field Day, there are three main entry items:

- The contact’s call sign
- Class – they will tell you theirs
  - 3A is ours based on the number of radio stations we will have set up
- Section – ours is KY
  - DX is for anywhere out of the United States or Canada, including the International Space Station

The logging is shared on field day and duplicate entries are immediately flagged, so do not write contact information on paper, record it in the software as you make contacts.

There are other screens that can be helpful – they identify your current information (K4MSU, 3A, KY) for example. There are statistics for how long it’s been since you made a contact, a place to send messages across the shared screens, etc.

A key thing to remember for field day is to CTL + O to sign in or else your credit will go to the last operator who signed in. (Important for recognition/bragging rights!)

Note- you will have reminders of the key information at your radio station on Field Day.

So everyone will use K4MSU for field day. There will be a 20M, 40M, 10M, 15M during the day/75M night radio for use – be sure to sign up for time slots and specific radio stations online NOW at the k4msu.com web site. All are capable of CW and digital transmission.

The fox hunt educational program will be a mini fox hunt.

A question was raised about participating from a remote site and the answer is No. All operators per Field Day rules must be within 1000 feet of each other.

**Bill Call, KJ40, then presented about his pursuit of a GMRS repeater for club use.**

He has found a donor of a commercial repeater with a duplexer that may work well for us.



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Allen Fowler, club advisor, has approved an additional antenna for the Fine Arts Building rooftop. The repeater can go into his office or an area nearby. Bill may have a lead on a decent antenna. He will test and repair if possible.

Paul Hendrix, KJ4BCF, is monitoring frequencies for our use. There are only 8 GMRS channels!

Bill will have to buy a license as clubs cannot own a GMRS repeater.

Benton and Aurora have repeaters right now, and Paris, TN, has 2. Union City is exploring their options.

## **PAARS and KYPOTA:**

No report.

**Vice President's Report:** Tracy McKinney has been temporarily acting as VP but a new officer will be elected tonight. Diana Mishica, K4IRU, has done a phenomenal job and said she would be very glad to help the new VP.

**Secretary's Report:** The minutes were emailed by John and no changes or corrections were offered. Debbie Barton, W8IBT, moved for approval. Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE, seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Advisor's Report:** No report.

**QSL Manager's Report:** Debbie Barton, W8IBT, said that no QSL cards have been received.

**Treasurer's Report:** Bill Call, KJ4W, said that there were two deposits made, for \$245 and \$35. We had one disbursement of \$21.00 to W5YI Licensing Services for VE fees, and one emergency purchase to replace all 4 tires on the antenna tower trailer for \$500. Bank balance is \$3,179.17. As of this afternoon 73 members have paid their 2025 dues.

**Systems' Report:** Bill Call, KJ4W, said that neither of the Winlink system computers crashed this month! And the repeaters have been reliable! But the antenna tower trailer blew 2 tires and another was falling apart on the way back from showing it off at the HCC Expo in Eddyville. They parked it in Benton and went back the next day with new tires. Mitchell's friend Keith at Warehouse Tire gave us a great price. The repeaters, digipeaters and gateways are all working OK as far as Bill knows, with the Hamlin repeater still on reduced power due to the amplifier failure which he has not had a chance to work on yet.

**VE Report:** Bill Call, KJ4W, noted that we had a license exam session after last month's club meeting, at which Brad Boggess and John Lombardo passed their Technician Class exams and were issued KR4DVK and KR4DWF. There will be an exam session tonight, as we have had a couple of exams requests.

**CERT Report:** Josh Kerr, WV4O, noted that the CERT team had done a great job staffing the recent storm shelters that housed from 30 to 250 people with 75 animals!

Josh also noted that FEMA had set up an office in town after the president's disaster declaration related to the April 2 and 3<sup>rd</sup> tornados. Spread the word that the office is at 201 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street for the next 30 days and they will assist with people affected by those tornados AND any weather-related damage/loss that occurred after that.

Bill Call, KJ4W, said that the fall CERT class was already half full.



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Donna Pursifull, K4DPE, reminded everyone that there was a CERT meeting for all Calloway trained team members on Thursday, June 5.

**Net Manager Report:** John Coyle, W4PJC, presented the May statistics from Chuck Williams, K4CHW, who was absent.

- **4 Sessions**
  - 108 operators.
  - 151 minutes
  - 271.8 operator hours
- **Details**
  - 05/05 28 stations for 37 minutes
  - 05/12 29 stations for 45 minutes
  - 05/19 27 stations for 35 minutes
  - 05/26 24 stations for 34 minutes
- **SKYWARN Nets**
  - 05/02 15 stations for 24 minutes
  - 05/16 33 stations for 69 minutes
  - 05/20 32 stations for 58 minutes
  - 80 stations, 151 minutes = 201.33 operator hours

**Web Manager Report:** No report.

**Kentucky QSO Party:** Will take place this weekend, June 7-8, in the classroom next to the radio lab. Bill Call, KJ4W, will be available starting at 9AM and the event will run to 5:00 if there are operators in attendance. This will be a good opportunity to get some experience using the club equipment.

**Special Events:**

- Kentucky QSO Party June 7-8
- Elmer Launcher Build June 11, 6pm, PAARS building. \$60 deposit is due.
- Field Day June 28-29 at the MSU Arboretum
- Kentucky POTA August 9
- Fall Fox Hunt, October 4

**Old Business:**

John Coyle, W4PJC, has the supplies ready for the launcher build. He has a list of suggested tools for participants to bring with them on June 11.

**New Business:**

Randall Winchester, WD4HVA, presented the 6 submitted tee shirt designs and the 3 submitted cap designs. The club voted on the winners. Designs are attached to the minutes and were all outstanding! Orders are due to John ASAP so that these will be ready in time for field day.



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Chris Kunkel, KR4AHT, is ready to work on the club tee shirts and hats. Shirts will be \$16 (2X/3X will be \$3 more), and caps will be \$18.

Then there were nominations for Vice President. With Bill Call, KJ4W, moving for Matt Freeman, WX4WKY, to assume that position. That was seconded by Tracy McKinney, W4IRT. Congratulations to Matt!

**New Members:** We had one application from Brad Boggess, KR4DVK. Tracy McKinney, W4IRT, moved for approval. Bob Aldrich, WD8OWA, seconded. Brad was approved – welcome!

**Announcement:** Ben Rudy, KO4LFZ, was in attendance from Fulton K4CAY to promote a technician class that is coming up in July and open to all interested parties. More information can be found on their Facebook page.

He also noted that their repeater work was finished and shared that Union City K4JTM had set up a new repeater with full-time access of the Memphis area Skywarn net.

Their next meeting is next Thursday at 6:30 in the Fulton County Extension Office.

**Adjournment:** Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE, moved to move. Seconded by Josh Kerr, WV40. Meeting adjourned at 8:15.



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**Attendance: 38 people**

John Coyle, W4PJC

Paul Hendrix, KJ4BCF

Charles Isele, N1CDK

Dale Peer, KF7ZBK

Matt Freeman, WX4WKY

Tracy McKinney, W4IRT

Bob Atkinson, K9OIM

Helen Atkinson, Guest

Ward Adams, KQ4OPJ

Bill Call, KJ4W

Brenda Call, WA4IJU

Phillip Wright, NJ3J

George James, KY4GMJ

Donna Pursifull, K4DPE

Bob Aldrich, WD8OWA

Candy Aldrich, KJ4OZU

Robin Bracken, K4MNM

Tim Bradshaw, KR4CWR

Chris Kunkel, KR4AHT

Josh Kerr, WV4O

Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE

Todd Hackathorn, W4GV

Bill Barley, KO4TVH

Debbie Barton, W8IBT

Denis Barton, WB8SKP

David Barr, KA5JDO

Dale Barrett, WB7D

Valerie Barrett, KG4OCJ

Randall Winchester, WD4HVA

Stuart Naulty, KN4RGB

Joe Wray, WD4GXI

Brad Boggess, KR4DVK

Diana Mishica, K4IRU

Serena Craft, Guest

Ben Rudy, KO4LFZ

Will Rudy, KO4VLV

Alex Rudy, KO4YFI

Jessie Rudy, KO4ZBV

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Donna Pursifull, K4DPE, Secretary*