



Murray State University Amateur Radio Club

Address: MSUARC
2580 University Station
Murray, Kentucky 42071

Website: www.k4msu.com

MSU ARC Meeting – November 4, 2025

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

He noted that it was the 791st meeting of the MSU Amateur Radio Club

Roll Call & Question of the Night: Name, call sign, and “Are you going to attend the Christmas Party?”

Typical gift for Christmas party is \$15 with a 30 pounds max weight!

Condolences have been sent on behalf of the club to the family of silent key William “Pepper” Sullivan, WF1RE

The club has given \$250 toward Christmas gifts for needy families in the county. Donations are needed from club members. Please give to Debbie, Jana, or Candy as soon as possible.

We are lucky to now be in possession of a trailer donated by Western Kentucky Healthcare via CCEM/Josh Kerr WV40. It comes with medical supplies, water, and a generator. It needs a thorough cleanout due to a roof leak and the presence of mold.

Program: Matt Freeman, WX4WKY presented “Take Advantage of Propagation During Sunspot Cycles”

Key points:

- Provides upper band magic – seize the solar cycle
- Ionosphere makes 10 meters unique
 - Day and night behave differently
 - Day provides many layers
 - Night has fewer and is weaker – 10 meter is not much good at night
 - Time of year matters too, based on closeness to the sun
 - Layers are higher in the summer
- 10 meter activity varies widely based on long distance with skip vs line of sight
- Solar cycle also impact 10 meter range
 - Solar activity is trending downward toward the end of the year
 - Use it now!
- 10 meter has varied use
 - CW 28-28.3 MHz
 - Sideband phone 28.5
 - International Calling Frequency 28.4
 - AM Calling Frequency 29
 - C4FM 29.6 Frequency
 - There are some repeaters (100 KHz offset)
 - 29.620, 29.640, 29.660, 29.668



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- With 10 meter Matt got recent access across the US, and into many countries in Europe
- ARRL is having a 10 meter contest 12/12 from 6:00 to 6:00
 - Good opportunity for contact
 - Phone and CW – no digital
 - Can operate 36 of 48 hours
 - Protocol is simple
 - Exchange report and State = 59KY
 - There is a category for limited antennas overlay too
 - Arrl.org/10-meter for more information
- Keep an eye on useful solar flares
 - Follow the Space Weather Prediction Center for activity reports
- When 10 meter is ALMOST open, 12meter and 15 are open
 - Need less solar activity
 - 12 meter is also good because NO CONTESTING is allowed there
- His presentation will be available at www.k4msu.com

Vice President's Report: Matt Freeman, WX4WKY, no report.

Secretary's Report: The minutes were emailed by John and no changes or corrections were offered. Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE, moved for approval. Bill Call, KJ4W, seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Advisor's Report: No report.

QSL Manager's Report: No report.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, reported that he had made no deposits and no payments this past month. Bank balance remains \$3,223.41. As of this morning our paid membership remained at 77 members.

Systems' Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, reported that no repairs were necessary this past month! He did restart both of the Winlink computers last Sunday following the time change. The 146.940 repeater noise problem is still with us, and with the weather not being suitable so he hasn't worked on it at all. The repeaters and digipeaters are all working OK as far as he know, with the Hamlin repeater still on reduced power due to the amplifier failure which still needs work.

VE Report: We have not had a license exam session since the August meeting. No exams have been requested for tonight. We will be starting the Technician Class license study course this Thursday evening November 6, at 6:00pm at CCFR Station 1. 14 have signed up for the course so far. The FCC is still not processing any license applications because of the government shutdown. But there is a procedure to deal with that for new applicants, so we will have the study course as usual whether or not the shutdown ends soon. Tentatively the exam night at the end of the course is planned for Thursday night December 11 at CCFR. Since our Christmas Party takes the place of the December meeting, there will not be an exam opportunity that night; **but anyone**



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who has been studying for an exam can come to our **December 11 test session**. Just let Bill know.

CERT Report: Bill Call, KJ4W, reported that the Fall 2025 CERT course has finished. 17 have completely graduated and 2 more may finish when they complete a couple of requirements. 4 of the course members were already ham radio operators, and 11 other of the CERT students have signed up for the Technician Class course.

A quarterly CERT meeting is scheduled for December 4th with Christine Wielgos, NWS, as the presenter.

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

- **4 Sessions of the 2 meter nets**
 - 95 operators.
 - 146 minutes
 - 231.16 operator hours
- **Details**
 - 10/06 23 stations for 41 minutes
 - 10/13 19 stations for 43 minutes
 - 10/20 21 stations for 32 minutes
 - 10/27 19 stations for 30 minutes
- **SKYWARN Nets**
 - None reported

Web Manager Report: No report.

Special Events:

- Christmas Party – John Coyle has reserved the Hop Hound party room for December 2 at 6pm
 - There will be a “dirty Santa” gift exchange.
 - **John will be asking for headcount in forthcoming email**
 - **PLEASE REPLY** so he knows how many to plan for
- Quarterly CERT meeting – December 4
- Christmas Parade - December 6
- Trailer decorating – FRIDAY December 5
- Next Licensing exam– December 11 at CCFR on Sycamore Street

Old Business:

We still need a volunteer to coordinate Elmer days.

The club GMRS repeater is up and running.



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New Business:

Ben Rudy has an upgrade to General class offering in Fulton in January

- Will be both in person and via zoom
- 270-577-0723 for more information

There is discussion regarding the location of the next Field Day. Location TBD but the choices are the Arboretum and the Calloway County Extension property north of town.

New Members: No applications

Adjournment: Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE, moved to move at 7:58. Seconded by Donna Pursifull, K4DPE.

Attendance: 20 People

John Coyle, W4PJC

Charles Isele, N1CDK

Dale Peer, KF7ZBK

Colleen Pulcifer, none

Josh Kerr, WV40

Stuart Naulty, KN4RGB

Jana Hackathorn, KN4MWE

Brenda Call, WA4IJU

Todd Hackathorn, W4GV

Michael Jackson, KU1L

Larry Call, KD6UNL

Bill Call, KJ4W

Matt Freeman, WX4WKY

Brad Boggess, KR4DVK

Bob Atkinson, K9OIM

Helen Atkinson, Guest

Bill Barley, KO4TVH

Joe Wray, WD4GXI

Donna Pursifull, K4DPE

Tracy McKinney, W4IRT

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Pursifull, K4DPE, Secretary