

Mountain Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of the Meeting

19 November 2025

Our MARC meeting began at 1901, with Dean Buckhouse presiding. Intros around the room. No SK's noted.

Previous meeting minutes were discussed and accepted.

Website, front page says SO, inside says WP, need to fix.

Treasurer's report was given by Deb.

The next VE session will be Jan 3. Not sure where.

Repeaters are all well. Springs link has white noise.

Expecting a check from the County.

Christmas Party at Judges, 17 Dec at 6p.

Programs, APRS at Tenderfoot, GMRS repeater.

Meeting Adjourned at 1946.

10 members, Jon on zoom

Submitted by Bill Wallick

MARC General

Quick recap

The meeting covered various operational updates including meeting locations, reimbursement checks, and upcoming VE sessions. Technical discussions focused on radio system performance, including SWR readings and potential equipment adjustments, along with plans for investigating VHF issues on the roof. The group also addressed financial matters, project donations, and future communications initiatives, while discussing facility maintenance needs and the organization's history.

Next steps

- [Dean: Request meeting room reservation for 2026 meetings and confirm location for January 3rd VE session, then post details on the website.](#)
- [John, RC, Tom, and others: Meet with facilities personnel next Wednesday at 9am to go up on the roof, trace coax connectivity, and investigate high SWR on the VHF repeater.](#)
- [Marc: Attempt to attend next Wednesday's roof work to assist with repeater troubleshooting \(pending schedule/permission\).](#)
- [Victor: Retrieve D-STAR radio and related equipment \(including duplexers\) from the site, bring to shop for firmware upgrade and testing.](#)
- [Victor: Provide serial number information \(or photos\) for D-STAR equipment to enable firmware/software order.](#)
- [Bill \(and/or Dean\): Draft and send donation letter to Wes for the roach and dragonfly repeater donation, including estimated value.](#)
- [James: Measure doors at Tenderfoot and Graphical Acoustics sites and report back to group for potential replacement.](#)
- [James: Check coolant level at Tenderfoot site in next few days and, if possible, measure doors at both locations.](#)
- [Group/James: Coordinate acquisition and installation of new doors for Tenderfoot and Graphical Acoustics sites \(after measurements obtained\).](#)
- [Bill: Research club history and initial members, possibly contacting Brian Hallman](#)

or others for details.

- Danny: Continue work on GMRS repeater project and coordinate with others interested in GMRS repeater setup.
- Group: Consider programming future meetings with hands-on or educational topics (e.g., Packet/WinLink, APRS gateway setup, project demos) and provide suggestions to meeting organizers.
- Group/Individual with APRS gateway: Prepare and potentially install APRS gateway at appropriate site (pending site selection and readiness).
- John and Amanda: Provide net reports as requested by group.

Summary

VE Session and Reimbursement Updates

The meeting began with introductions and a discussion about the location of meetings, which are still listed as being held at the library despite changes in venue. The group discussed a reimbursement check for \$1,190 related to work done at Pikes Peak Regional OEM. The next VE session was scheduled for January 3rd, with the location still undecided between the current site and Woodland. There was also a brief mention of adjusting the frames length on the 220B star repeater system due to potential light noise issues.

VHF SWR Investigation Scheduled

Jon reported that UHF SWR readings were good at 1.1-1.2, but VHF readings were higher at 2.8 on transmit and 3.2 on receive. The team scheduled a roof visit for next Wednesday at 9 AM to investigate the VHF SWR issues by tracing coax connectivity. Marc offered to join the investigation if available, and Jon mentioned that RC and Tom would be present while he was unable to attend due to a medical appointment.

Project Updates and Financial Status

MARC confirmed that Greg's All-Star and Echolink links are working, though audio levels are slightly low. Jeff checked in the previous night but opted not to conduct the net due to concerns about delays. MARC discussed financial matters, noting that First 41 sent a regular account statement and a VE account statement, both showing zero withdrawals. Wes and Carol accepted offers for the roach and dragonfly projects, with Wes requesting a donation letter for a portable repeater project. MARC mentioned that a \$1,190 reimbursement check was in status 51C3.

Christmas Party and DSTAR Updates

The group discussed a \$500 donation to a 501c3 organization, noting it wouldn't need to be reported as an asset. They confirmed the Christmas party would be held at Judge's on December 17th at 6pm, earlier than usual meeting time. Victor has been working with Rich Painter on DSTAR radio firmware upgrades, and Marc suggested bringing Rich to his house to complete the work and test the equipment.

Radio Projects and Club History

The club discussed several radio and communications projects, including setting up APRS and GMRS repeaters. Marc proposed installing an APRS gateway in Teller County, which would be beneficial for SAR operations and four-wheel drive activities. The group also considered putting up a GMRS repeater at Marc's property to cover the South Platte River Valley. They discussed the need for facility maintenance at their building, including replacing the door. Marc offered to take measurements for a new door and potentially pick up some equipment from another location. The club also touched on the history of the organization and the need to gather more information about its founding members.