

**THE FOUR SEASONS BEAUMONT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
MEETING FEBRUARY 26, 2016**

**ATTENDANCE:** On Friday February 26, 2016 the Four Seasons Beaumont Amateur Radio Club had a meeting in the RCN Building. Officers present included President Pete Hersey, Vice President Dick Van Bree and Secretary Mike Mendoza; also present were Alfred Blair, Rob Gardner, Ron Goodrich, Pat Haynie, Harry Henderson, Ted Mohr, Bud Peck, Jim Peterson, Bill Taylor, Rich Teeman and Fred Weck.

**RADIO ROOM:** All of the radios were up and running for one day. The HF radio is the one exception; it performed flawlessly on CW the first night but the SWR readings went from 1.2-1 to 6-1. Pete and Alfred tried to trouble shoot the problem. They found no problems with any of the wiring or connections. Pete sent the antenna back to the manufacturer in Virginia for repairs but they said nothing was wrong with it and sent it back. They charged us \$43 for shipping and handling. Pete thinks that either the balun or one of its connectors were damaged during an over night rain storm and maybe that is what caused the problem. The Saga continues. The club took up a collection and Pete received \$45 from the club members to offset this cost.

Dick obtained new cables to connect all of our radios to the antennas. We initially only had one cable and it was being shared by all three frequencies. A test was run with an AH 4 antenna tuner. The test indicated that no tuner was needed on (HF?). There was also an existing problem with the radio room acoustics. Listeners have said that our radios sound like they are in an echo chamber. It was suggested that egg crates on the wall would help dampen the noise. The solution will probably some type of rug and an antenna sock.

Pete explained that the new cables and the new cable raceway had been installed. Crystal ordered some table pads to protect our operating surface. A tool box with basic tools and some legal pads rounded out all of the acquired equipment.

Alfred has volunteered to teach a class on how to use the **POWER WERX** radios since there use was not intuitive.

**GATES:** It was mentioned that **SOLERA'S** operating frequency interferes with our gate. It was also revealed that the secret code to the Breckenridge gate was 5150.

**TECHNICIAN CLASS:** Pete and Alfred will be offering a one day technician class for anyone wanting to become a ham radio operator. The class will be offered on Thursday April 7.

**ADVANCED EXTRA CLASS:** The Desert Rats will be offering an Advanced Extra class beginning on March 28, 2016 at the City of Palm Springs Corporate Yard on Mondays from 7-9 pm. The course will last until the first Monday in May and the test will be given on the following Saturday.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next **Four Seasons Beaumont Amateur Radio Club meeting will be on Friday March 25, 2016.** Dick Van Bree will be running the meeting because Pete will be out of town.