

Minutes-January 15, 2026, General Meeting

Executive Committee Members Present

President: Geoff Kline KI5VNB

Vice President: Eric Bramini KC8OPY, Field Day Coordinator

Treasurer: Tom McClory KE8FWZ, Youth Coordinator

Secretary: Jim Gifford N8KET, POTA Coordinator

Senior Director: Don Macon KE8WVJ

Junior Director: Glenn Rodgers WI8O, Clubhouse Safety

Executive Committee Members Absent

NA

President Geoff Kline KI5VNB led with the Pledge of Allegiance. Introductions were made, and we recognized visitors and new and advanced hams. The mic was passed around the room and members and guests introduced themselves.

January meeting minutes

The emailed minutes were presented for approval.

Eric Bramini KC8OPY moved we accept; Ray Hitt N8VMX seconded; passed.

Membership Report

Jeff Pursel KJ6XC said that 125 of 177 members' dues were received before tonight's meeting.

Treasurer's report –Tom McClory

Tom McClory KE8FWZ provided figures on 2025 Financials, Year-end Financials, and Expenses. The reports are attached to this email.

Tink Siwecki moved we accept the report; Tim Procuniar N8NQH seconded; passed.

President's Update

Geoff Kline KI5VNB gave a status on the radio room/clubhouse, including the need for an emergency light, step ladder, grounding wire for each station, and an HDTV antenna.. He also announced that Paul Sharp was stepping down as Education Coordinator.

He announced the special event station on September 19, 2026.

- Commemorate the Wright Brothers first-ever complete circular flight of an airplane at Huffman Prairie on September 20, 1904
- Planning is on-going but looking to potentially operate from several significant locations
 - Huffman Prairie
 - Carillon Historical Park
 - Other sites
- -More information will be coming

Winter Field Day Update

Minutes-January 15, 2026, General Meeting

Eric Bramini KC8OPY gave a report of WFD at Hills and Dales Park.

Officers/Coordinators Reports

- Reminder of Movie Night next Thursday in the Radio room – Tink Siwecki KD8NUA
- Reminder of new POTA monthly event – Jim Gifford N8KET
- Reminder of newsletter articles – Ray Hitt N8VMX
- BARC Lunch Bunch announcement made by Jim Gifford for Jim Totten WA8HUB.
- Tech night to start on February 17 @ 6pm – From Bob French /Geoff Kline: “Please complete survey if you haven’t yet.”

December Presentation- Antenna in Tight Spaces – Eric Bramini

Eric Bramini presented an excellent talk on how to place antennas in tight spaces.

Antennas for Tight Spots

Why This Matters

- Apartments
- Condos
- HOAs
- Small yards

More Why This Matters

- Portable
- Stealth
- Using limited confines

Typical Constraints

- Limited horizontal room
- Limited height
- RF noise from neighbors
- HOA rules
- Need for low antenna visibility

Antenna Suggestions

- End-fed half wave (EFHW)
- Magnetic Loop
- Short verticals
- Attic antennas
- Stealth wires

Minutes-January 15, 2026, General Meeting

- Gutters, fences, flag poles

End-fed Half Wave

- Flexible layout
- Sloped
- Zig zagged fence line
- Multi-band capability

Magnetic Loops

- Apartments and condos
- Balconies

Short Verticals

Attic Antennas

Stealth Wire

Creative Layouts

Performance Tips

Feed Line Issues

Common Mode Chokes

Experiments with Grounds and Counterpoises

Tuners

Radials

Tools to Use

Portable Masts

Antenna Modeling

Software

Real World Operating Strategies

Propagation

Summary and Questions

Larry Darner KD8RER moved we close the meeting; Jon Thuermer KB8SRQ seconded; closed at 8:15pm.