

ARKAN MEETING NOTES – DECEMBER 2015

The Amateur Radio Klub of the Arkansas Northwest held its December meeting on Monday, December 7, at NTI in Springdale. We almost ran out of room in the electronics classroom with nearly 20 attendees present. Along with club members, we had many newcomers – hams and non-hams alike.

Scott-K5SAA, our outgoing President for 2015 – and who has done a very FB job in the office this year – called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

Our guest speaker for this month was Tem-N5KWL, who gave one of the finest presentations on repeaters that I have seen. Tem brought a plethora of repeater components with him as excellent visual aids. Tem owns the N5KWL linked system in our area, and has also constructed the first D-Star repeater which just went on the air recently. Tem also gave us a live demonstration through the repeater with a ham friend of his near Little Rock. The audio quality of D-Star is very remarkable. Very similar to the quality of Skype. We really appreciate Tem's time and effort in his presentation for the club, and he will definitely be on the docket for other presentations at future ARKAN meetings. Thanks Tem!

As with all ARKAN meetings when a VE testing candidate is present, we had one candidate for this meeting and she walked away with her Technician license. Congratulations to Devon Johnston! We'll be looking forward to hearing what your new callsign is!

The next ARKAN meeting will be Monday – January 4, 2016 – at Northwest Technical Institute in Springdale. The guest speaker for January will be newly elected Secretary Don-K5DB, with the topic of "HF Propagation". This presentation will especially help newcomers to HF to help them understand the characteristics of each HF band, and improve their operating enjoyment. We look forward to veteran operators also being present to insert their theories and operating experiences on HF as well! Mark your calendars now, and we'll be looking forward to seeing you then!

73! – Don, KD5B-ARKAN Secretary (elect)