

## Meeting Information

<b>Event name</b>	NPARC HYBRID ZOOM MEETING #122 Mobile One Do You Copy? - W2GLS
<b>Time</b>	Sep 08, 2025, 07:30PM - 09:00 PM (EDT) at Salt Brook School
<b>Participants</b>	K2AL, K2DAM, KD2EKN, W2EWQ, KE2FKE, K2GLS, KA2HZIP, KD2JRI, KD2ONY, KC2OSR, K2OT, K2PER, W2PTP, K2UI, KC2WUF, W2GLS, KE2GPF.  ZOOM: KD2CMS, K4DH, K1DK, K2ESH, KB2FCV, KC2HLA, W2IOC, WB2QOQ, N2TO.

## Quick recap

The meeting served as a welcome-back session after a brief summer hiatus, with introductions led by K2AL and discussions about club activities and technical expertise. W2GLS, Greg Smith, shared his personal journey in amateur radio, including his early experiences and transition from writing magazine articles to publishing books. The conversation ended with plans for upcoming events, including an Ironman Triathlon, club presentations, and discussions about radio equipment and experiences among members.

## Next steps

- KD2ONY will circulate another announcement about the Ironman Triathlon volunteer opportunity on Sunday at Harriman State Park.
- K2AL to collect orders for club shirts with logo and call signs before placing the order from Alfred's in Madison.
- Kevin, N2TO, and James Kern, KB2FCV, to discuss and finalize the date and location for the fox hunt event in October.
- KB2FCV to prepare a club presentation on the basics of fox hunting and required equipment before the fox hunt event.
- Ed, KE2GPF, to receive details from K2AL on how to become a club member.
- N2TO to find presenters for the open meeting slots in November and December.

# Summaries

## New Phase and Introductions

The meeting began with K2AL welcoming everyone back after a short hiatus. He encouraged participants to introduce themselves.

## Amateur Radio Club Welcome

K2AL welcomed guest KE2GPG, Ed, of Madison who along with his XYL Suzanne, KE2GPF, and daughter KE2GPH were recently licensed.

## Ironman Event and Club Planning

KD2ONY announced an upcoming Ironman Triathlon event at Harriman State Park on Sunday, seeking volunteers and mentioning free barbecue after the event.

K2AL discussed club shirts with the logo and call sign, priced at \$49 including embroidery, and planned to order from Alfred's in Madison. KC2OSR mentioned an upcoming presentation at the September 22 meeting by Don, 7Q6M, who will speak about his mentoring work in Malawi and his foundation, with a tour of Bell Labs and dinner planned. Kevin invited members to propose presentations for the November and December meetings, while James Kern and Kevin agreed to discuss and plan a fox hunt event for October, including a potential club presentation on fox hunting basics.

## Amateur Radio Friendship Journey

K2GLS shared his experience of obtaining his amateur radio license in high school, highlighting his early interest in radio and his friendship with Greg, W2GLS, who later became an electronic technologist and published author. He described their renewed friendship at a historical society meeting and introduced Greg's upcoming presentation about his journey in radio. Bob also mentioned that Greg's story would be featured in QST Magazine along with a photo of them both.

## Radio Enthusiast's Historical Journey

W2GLS shared his early fascination with radio, starting with building a crystal radio set with his father in 1952. He described his methodical approach to troubleshooting and how he eventually received a station. Over the years, he collected radios from town trash collection days and church auctions, often acquiring them without paying. He continued his interest in ham radio, becoming a CW operator for over 70 years and joining the Chatham borough and Chatham Township RACES.

## Radio Passion and Racing Adventures

W2GLS also shared his long-standing passion for radio technology and his experiences as a RACES official and writer. He described his involvement in organizing races and using ham radio to coordinate street closures before cell phones existed. Greg also discussed his success in creative writing, including getting published in Monitoring Times Magazine in 2006, and his work on radio projects such as building radios from salvaged parts and writing articles on topics like lead-free solder and the history of Morse code. He concluded by recounting an exciting moment when he intercepted an unusual radio transmission and tracked its source using a custom-built radio direction-finding antenna.

### **Author's Journey from Magazines to Books**

Greg shared his journey from writing magazine articles to publishing three books, including humorous stories from his childhood in Mendham. He discussed his transition from writing for magazines to having his stories published in a monthly neighborhood magazine. The presentation concluded with a detailed account of Greg's early interest in amateur radio, sparked by witnessing its use in local police communications during a Halloween patrol.

### **Journey to Amateur Radio License**

W2GLS shared his journey of learning Morse code and obtaining his amateur radio license. He studied the manual, practiced with a code practice device, and eventually passed his novice class exam with the help of Bob Willis. After obtaining his novice license, Greg built a homebrew transmitter and made his first coast-to-coast contact. He later took and passed his general class exam, despite missing a few code characters due to a tugboat's noise interference heard outside the open window at the FCC office in NYC.

### **Amateur Radio Call Sign Journey**

W2GLS shared his journey with amateur radio, including his transition from WB2PPQ to W2GLS, a call sign he obtained with his initials and similar to his friend, K2GLS. Greg also mentioned his involvement with the audio system at his church, where he renewed his friendship with Bob, K2GLS, and how he now has the W2GLS vanity license plate, which sometimes causes confusion with local hams and church members. He expressed gratitude for the hobby of amateur radio and his restored classic radio equipment, which he uses for single-sideband nets.

### **Amateur Radio Experiences and Insights**

W2GLS shared his experiences with amateur radio, including his first contact with a neighbor, N2XJ, using CW and his investigation of a suspicious transmission that turned out to be a spy using encrypted messages. A brief Q&A session followed Greg's talk.

The meeting was closed at 9PM EDST.

K2AL President/Secretary, NPARC

These notes were generated by ZOOM AI Companion and edited by K2AL