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# OFARC Monthly Meeting Minutes 2026\_0228

The meeting took place at the American Red Cross building and was kicked off by Mark, WB5ANN at 9:15. The meeting was well attended, about 17 people. There were two guests that came to take license exams.

Many of the club members renewed their membership, paying their dues for the year.

Mark kicked off a round of introductions and gave us a brief history of the club, reminisced about past field days at the Oak Forest Lodge that were outdoors for 3 years in the sweltering heat. He explained about how great the property was with an abundance of tall trees from which we “drape” antennas, G5RVs and such. There was mention of Mike Perkins who had created an air cannon that we used to launch a tennis ball over the canopies that made antenna setup a breeze. Many of the members then are now Silent Keys.

Ultimately the lodge had to be sold (is now a bicycle shop) and we setup shop at TranStar. That went on for a number of years but we found there were too many restrictions and scheduling times and working through trustees was determined to be too much of a hassle. We also expected to have access to the radio room there but that never really panned out. In the last couple of years we’ve been meeting at the American Red Cross building that suits our purposes much better. We’ll enjoy this location as long as it lasts...

We met a fellow ham at breakfast, Rob, who lives in the area and joined the club on the spot. We mused he could be club president if he was so inclined. Rob, call sign K5LZD, was licensed in '57. He operates on a 75' long wire about 20' high. He mostly operates CW. He is mostly retired but does a lot of contract work with TxDot, maintaining old ground penetrating radar systems that were banned for sale by the FCC in 2002. Welcome, Rob... We hope you will enjoy the club and look forward to sharing the hobby with you for years to come!

Roger, K0KON, shared his recent experience with AI applications to do some research on an old antenna that he wanted to repair and install. He’s used CoPilot but got the best results with Gemini 3.0. He didn’t know much about the antenna so he sent a picture to Gemini 3.0 and it was able to identify the make and model, provide a datasheet, etc. Some others recommend Grok and Claude for the most technical AI queries. The best results from AI apps can be obtained when you ask detailed questions. Don’t be afraid to challenge the answers if they don’t make sense to you.

Roger also demonstrated some noise reduction technology available from RMnoise.com. With an app you install on your PC, you submit a 30 minute recording of the QRM and it builds a digital filter that will virtually eliminate it. The app works great with voice and even better with CW signals. To learn more, see this youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l34cA3mTllI>

Don, K15WWD, mentioned he had attended a recent meeting with the Texas DX Society. AI was the topic of discussion there well, led by John Bonica, K5EC and his presentation. If you are interested in DXing or to find their “Bullsheet” newsletter, See: <https://www.tdxc.net/index.php/news/tdxc-newsletters>

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am

*Minutes Recorded by Barry Basile, KG5IRR*