

Approved

**Houston Echo Society Meeting
American Red Cross Building
July 11, 2005**

Officers & Chairs

√	President	Marty Blaise, AG5T
√	Vice President,	Kent Marshall, W5TXV
√	Treasurer	Richard Banks, WC5O
√	Correspondence Secretary	Mike Nault, W5OFT
√	Recording Secretary	Lee Gaspard, WA5QXE
√	Parliamentarian	Phil Swartztrauber, W5GCT
__	Web master	Michael Urich, KA5CVH
√	Membership Chair	B. Frank Secor, Jr., KB5VSY
__	Newsletter Editor	_____ OPEN _____

K5NAV – Section Communications Manager

Members and Visitors Present

Name	Call Sign	ARRL Member?
Richard Banks	WC5O	No
Marty Blaise	AG5T	YES
Mike Davidson	N5MT	YES
Lee Gaspard	WA5QXE	YES
<u>Gene Horr</u>	<u>Ex KA5GXH</u>	No
Colin Jenkins	KU5B	Yes
Colin Jenkins	KU5B	Yes
Kent Marshall	W5TXV	YES
Mike Nault	W5OFT	YES
Paul Rubin	N8NOV	YES
<u>Glenn Sparks</u>	KI5GY	YES
Phil Swartztrauber	W5GCT	
Mark Tyler	K5GQ	YES

The meeting was called to order approximately 7:30pm.

Agenda

- Welcome
- No formal Presentation
- Old Business
 - Announcements
 - Correspondence
 - Status of Repeaters
 - Web site and Newsletter

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- Treasurer's
- Discussion of Field Day results

- New Business
 - Broadband over Power Line Trial (BPL)
 - Speakers' program for the rest of the year
 - Other business
- Projects/ Demonstrations

Marty opened the meeting. All introduced themselves.

Welcome

Everyone introduced himself or herself. There was a large crowd!

Presentation

Announcements:

Old Business

- Treasurer's report: \$2,812.86 in the bank
 - Richard Banks needs copies of our Corporate Tax Papers, IRS letter for C-7 status, Secretary of the State Registration, Corporate ID to initiate the movement of the bank account
- Frank Seicor presented a mock-up of the new Echo membership certificate and membership card.

- Repeaters Reports: 147.08 , 224.26, 147.32 all working

- Paul Rubin made a motion to accept the minutes and Richard Banks 2nd as corrected (minor corrections)

- **Field Day**
 - Various members discussed with they liked best about Field Day
 - In 2004 we achieved 4,020 points
 - In 2005 it appears that we achieved 4,748 points, including 1150 bonus points
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New Business

- **Echo Speaker Project**

Marty outlined background work that he has been doing to enhance our speaker program for the Echo meeting

- Marty took Lee and Dennis' list from a couple of years ago as a basis
- He has done biographical searches on QRZ web pages for any listed experts
- He has catalogued people & call signs versus their listed skills
- Marty proposed initiating a committee to approach these individuals for possible presentations
- After a bit of discussion and "friendly" nominations, the **Speaker Search Committee** is comprised of Marty, AG5T; Lee, WA5QXE; Kent, W5TXV; Collin, KU5B; and Mark, K5GQ

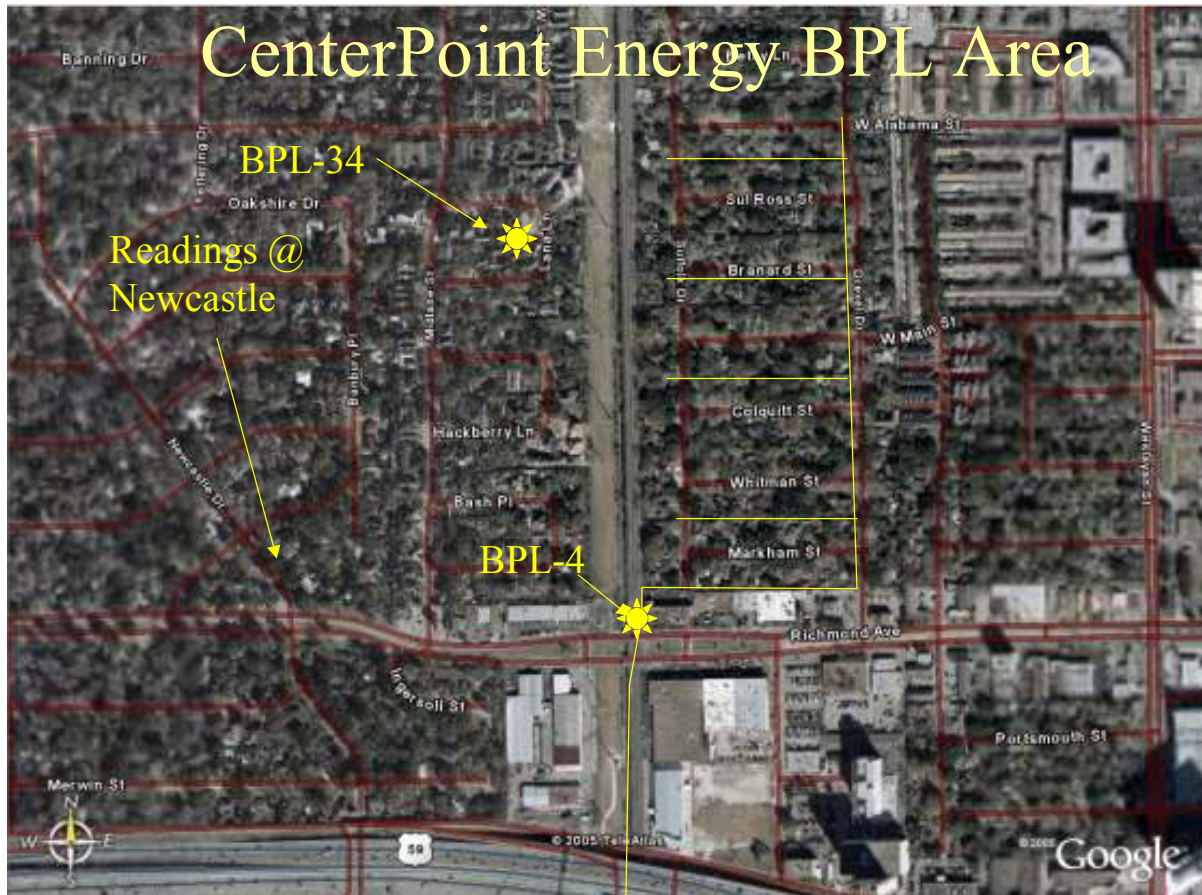
- **BPL:**

- Mike Davidson, N5MT spoke about the BPL trial with CenterPoint.
- Mike has identified at least three (3) BPL boxes (injectors) that went active about June 10 or 11.
- They have notches in the ham bands, but they do not appear to be "wide" enough to keep interference out of the Amateur spectrum.
- Ed Manual (N5EM) has a spectrum analyzer and is helping document the interference.
- Typical readings that he is seeing looks like this:

Frequency (MHz)	S Meter Reading
13.980	S9 + 20dB
14.000	S9
14.020	S7
14.050	S2
14.050 – 14.350	Never goes away in band
14.350	S8
14.370	S9 + 20dB
15.000	S9 + 20dB

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- Mike, Kent, and Lee sketched out a basic map of the area. A refined one is found below



- Information available at www.txbpl.com per Kent Marshall
- **New Meeting Time:** Mark Tyler moved that the meeting time for the months of June, July, and August be moved to 7pm rather than 7:30 pm start time. All in attendance was in agreement.

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm