

**WYOMING CHAPTER OF ARMA INTERNATIONAL**  
**Chapter General Meeting**  
**January 12, 2009, 1:00 p.m.**  
**Echo Star Facility Tour**

**Please Note:** These minutes are abridged.

**Members Present:** Tony Adams, Mary Bausserman, Ramona Christensen, Pat Newbern, Valerie Roybal, Barb Thomasee, Tim Tyler, Rich Wilson

**Guests:** Adam Byrne

**Topic:** Tour of the Echo Star Facility

Members and guests met at Echo Star where they were introduced to Kip Wilcoxson, our Tour Guide and Echo Star Employee since Echo Star began their facility at the Cheyenne location east of town.

Mr. Wilcoxson gave a very interesting and informative tour and presentation of the Echo Star Facility, their history, current operations and a glimpse of their future. He explained this facility is one of several located elsewhere in the U.S.

We began the tour in the original building which has been added to several times and we then continued to move through the entire facility. As we moved along, Kip explained this facility is fully equipped and transitional to total independence from public utilities, electricity, and power with their own self supporting power plant, water, cafeteria, etc., and respective backup facilities for emergencies. This facility can actually function completely on it's own for months if necessary.

The extent of information Kip shared was incredibly interesting, however due to the "high-tech nature" of much of the actual work accomplished by Echo Star, many of us were simply in awe as we moved from one part of the facility to another.

Due to company privacy policies we were only able to view their 'large records' room from the hall. The hard record storage is in a secured area with an extensive rolling lateral file format like those found in large archives or archive vaults. Electronic records are maintained on their own servers in other specific areas equally secure.

At the end of the tour Kip fielded questions and also explained how the Echo Star Satellites (*or birds as he described them*) each flew in a maintained orbit which is determined per specific space as allocated. Kip drew a diagram illustrating orbit space, (appx. 23,000 miles above the earth's surface) and how it is divided up and 'assigned' from the 'Walker' placement with azimuth and elevations, with each space unique to its subscription or assigned placement.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Pat Newbern  
President