



COMMUNICATOR

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KB3UBD Grand Canyon Expedition

David Spore KB3UBD will be traveling to the Grand Canyon this week and plans to be QRV Friday and Saturday afternoons. His tentative schedule is as follows:

Friday, 3/15: 3–5 pm (20m)

Saturday, 3/16: 1–3 pm (20m), 6–7 pm (40m)

The times are likely the Grand Canyon's local Mountain Standard Time, which would put him QRV two hours later on a clock set to Central Daylight Time (5–7, 3–5, 8–9). He will be using his portable station (pictured), a nice setup with an FT-857 in a Pelican case, with the portable dipoles he demonstrated at the February club meeting, which store in a peanut butter jar. Try to work David at



least once during the weekend if you get a chance.

Conventions

Dayton Hamvention (May 17-19) – Make your travel and lodging reservations now if you're planning to go to Dayton. The hotels are already filling up. Also consider signing up for Tim Duffy's Contest University held the day prior to the opening of Hamvention. hamvention.org, contestuniversity.com.

Ham-Com (June 7-8) – The presentation schedule for Ham-Com isn't released yet, but we do know the LSDXA and DFWCG are planning activities, and the regular set of vendors is likely to be there. Want to try out a new radio you're considering, maybe the new Kenwood TS-990? There's a good chance it'll be there. hamcom.org.

Upcoming Special Election

Virginia Smith NV5F announced at the February club meeting that she would be resigning from the position of Vice President at the end of April for personal reasons. This will leave the Board with a vacancy that will need to be filled by special election at the April meeting. If you are interested in running for the position, contact Virginia.

Technician Classes Currently Running

Phil Stage N5PWW is currently running a Technician training class on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, expecting to conclude Thursday, March 21. The AARC would like to invite these future hams to our club meetings and events and to explore the wide world of amateur radio, which has as many facets and niches as anyone can imagine.

Presentation: Vintage Radio

“Vintage radio” means different things to different people. To some an original Yaesu FT-1000 qualifies as “vintage” (it is, after all, about 20 years old now). To others it might bring up images of the Kenwood or Yaesu hybrids from the ‘70s, or the Collins S-Line from the ‘60s, or the Collins 32V/75A/KW1 stations from the magazines in the ‘50s, or National’s post-war receivers. It could mean radios without serial ports on them, radios with any kind of tubes, radios with miniature tubes, radios with Loctal tubes, radios with 866A mercury rectifiers, or even radios that predate octal tubes entirely.

Howard Stone KC5PC (pictured), our presenter this month, is a vintage-radio aficionado and collector. He will give us some insight into radio history via his own amazing vintage radio collection, the Stone Vintage Radio Museum, located in his home in Fort Worth and featured on his website stonevintageradio.com.

Howard writes: “I built my first crystal set radio with my Dad when I was four years old. Working nights in the basement of our little frame house in South Minneapolis, we wound wire around a Quaker Oats box and used a piece of pyrite for a crystal and a cat’s whisker for a detector. In high school I became an amateur radio operator and repaired radios in the basement workshop to earn spending money. About that time I started squirreling away radio tubes and parts. However, I didn’t begin radio collecting in earnest until the late 1970s. From my boyhood to the present, my special interest has been in very early (pre-1920) wireless as well as tubes from the same era.”



Howard seated at his Clapp-Eastham 1 Kilowatt Radio Transmitter

Howard is pictured sitting at a full kilowatt spark transmitter made by Clapp-Eastham in 1914. The parts were assembled from several places in the US. The marble panel with the meter and the switches is original from the mid teens (to clarify, that’s 1910s, not 2010s) and came with all of the components already attached. The desk is a hand-scraped homebuilt piece designed after pre-broadcast transmitting desks of the period. Howard says the spark-gap transmitter still works.

If you have any bit of vintage gear you might like to share with us or have identified, bring it along to the meeting Friday.

Calendar of Events

March 15: Executive Board Meeting 6:30 pm, 501 W. Sanford.

Board meetings are open and anyone is welcome to attend.

March 15: General Membership Meeting 7:30 pm, 501 W. Sanford

March 16: VE Testing 10:00 am, 401 W. Sanford. Enter on north side of the building.

March 16: Dining Out 5:00 pm, Catfish Sam's, 2735 W. Division.

April 6: First Saturday Breakfast 8:30 am, Buttermilk Cafe, 404 N. Collins.

April 6: VE Testing 10:00 am, 401 W. Sanford. Enter on north side of the building.

Tidbits

Upcoming **World Wide Radio Operators Foundation (WWROF) webinars:**

March 18: The First Topband DX Contest - The 1921 Transatlantic Test (Frank Donovan W3LPL)

April 26: What I've Learned in Two Decades of Terrain Assessment (Dean Straw N6BV)

Details and registration links at wwrof.org/webinars

The word on the street is that Dean N6BV's lecture is definitely one you want to watch.

The **DFW Contest Croup is preparing a Contest Forum for Ham-Com** this year. The tentative schedule is for several hours of presentations on Friday, starting with a luncheon with a guest speaker, contest presentations from 1 to 4 pm, an antenna presentation at 4 pm, happy hour at 5 pm, adjourning to the W5DXCC dinner afterwards. The preliminary topical outline includes general contesting concepts, hardware and station building, antennas, computer logging, operating, and contest ethics. This will be a wonderful opportunity for all hams, from the contest novice to the advanced contesteer, to learn from some of the experts in the hobby. If you're interested in taking your contesting efforts (or, ahem, our Field Day efforts) to the next level, make plans now to attend the Contest Forum. Stay tuned for more information as it develops.

If you listened to the **Clipperton DXpedition** much at all, there are several things you must have heard quite a bit: UP, NO NA, EU ONLY, UP, 5NN, TU, and the occasional NO NA NO NA EU ONLY EU ONLY EU ONLY. These are some essential things to be familiar with when DXing. And while their pileups seemed reasonably civilized, and their operators were top-rate, apparently some North American stations just couldn't figure out that it wasn't their turn to call. But overall it seems to be a great success. Check out the DXA2 log search tool to search your call in the TX5K logs at dxa2.org.

Field Day plans are still under development, but expect more detailed news in the coming weeks. We are contemplating some minor changes from last year's setup, including switching logging software to [N1MM Logger](#) and some minor antenna changes. We think these will offer some improvements to our operation this year. As always, we need operators, particularly during the overnight shift. We would be delighted to operate the entire 24 hours of FD this year, and having enough operators is key. If you have some contest experience and would be interested in a more-than-casual shift at one of the four stations (HF CW, HF SSB, HF Digital, 6m), or you know someone else who would, please let its station captain (yet to be announced) know.

Contest Corner

Upcoming Contests

March 16-17: Russian DX Contest 1200Z – 1200Z. Exchange: RST and serial number.

March 17: North American Sprint (SSB) 0000Z – 0400Z. Exchange: Callsigns, serial number, name, state.

March 30-31: CQ WPX Contest (SSB) Full 48 hours. Exchange: RST and serial number.

April 21: ARRL Rookie Roundup (SSB) 1800Z – 2400Z. Exchange: Name, year first licensed, state.

April 27-28: Ten-Ten International (Digital) Full 48 hours. Exchange: Name, state, Ten-Ten number.

State QSO Parties: Oklahoma, Virginia (3/16); Missouri (4/6); Montana, Georgia (4/13)

For more information on these and other contests, see the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at hornucopia.com/contestcal.

Contest Results

The ARRL DX SSB contest the other week was a bit of a letdown when the sun burned a hole in the ionosphere shortly before the contest started, running the A Index up to near 30 for most of the first day of the contest. Conditions improved slowly over the weekend but were still lackluster. Despite that, **Rob May NV5E** made a respectable showing in the SOAB LP category with 256 QSOs and 133 multipliers for a claimed score of 102,144. Wayne Hoskins AD5ST was part of the **WS5J multi-op team** which managed a little better (thanks to an impressive antenna farm and amplifiers at WA5FWC, the host station) with 770 QSOs and 315 multipliers for a claimed score of 724,815 in the MSAB HP category. The top local score was from **K5UTD, the UT Dallas Radio Club**, with nearly 1.1M points, also in the MSAB HP category. This marked K5UTD's second appearance on the air after a decade of absence, thanks to the hard work of **David Sourdis HK1A**. If you're antenna restricted, short on available time, or just want to try multi-op, there are usually several local multi-single stations looking for operators for most of the major contests. See [DFW Contest Group](#) for more information.

DX Spot

The **TX5K Clipperton Island DXpedition** has just concluded its operations, and by all accounts it was a great success. They had excellent operators with often 8 or more stations on the air simultaneously. It was a blast jumping from band to band to work them. We hope you got at least one new bandmode-country out of it. Here are some other upcoming DX:

March 9-23: 8Q Maldives 8Q7WK

March 10-18: Spratley Island 9M4SLL

March 12-23: T2 Tuvalu T2GM

March 15-23: PJ7 Sint Maarten PJ7/N0TG, PJ7/AA4VK, PJ7/N1SNB

March 10-April 1: KH0 Mariana Islands KH0XH, KH0HW, AH0BT

April 15-20: V6 Micronesia V63T, V63DX

February 2013 Membership Meeting Minutes

submitted by Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA, secretary

The regular meeting of the Membership of the AARC was called to order at 7:30pm February 15th, 2013 by the President, Dennis N5ACK. Other Board members present included Vice President, Virginia NV5F; Secretary, Andy KB2VQA; Treasurer, Joyce W5FJB; Editor, Wayne AD5ST; Training Coordinator and Agent of Record, Phil N5PWW; Emergency Coordinator, Bill AE5BT; and Trustee, Maurice KM5RF.

Dennis N5ACK asked that the meeting attendees introduce themselves by name and call sign.

Joyce W5FJB reviewed the financial report. A motion was made and carried to accept for audit the financial report as published.

Phil N5PWW continues to hold test sessions on the first and third Saturdays of the month. He announced the training session for Technician Class being held at the Texas Department of Health Services. A session for General Class is expected to follow the completion of the Technician Class training session.

Virginia NV5F reported that tonight's presentation will be by Wayne AD5ST on topic of audio mixers. She announced that she will be stepping down from her post as Vice President in April. A special election will be held in April to fill the position of Vice President.

The minutes for the January meetings were submitted for publication in the February 2013 newsletter. A motion was made and carried to accept the minutes as published.

Bill AE5BT informed the Membership that Field Day 2013 is scheduled for June 22nd and 23rd.

Wayne AD5ST printed and distributed the newsletter.

A break was taken at 8:02pm. At 8:27 David Spore KB3UBD gave a brief presentation on building a peanut butter jar dipole antenna. At 8:35pm, Wayne delivered a presentation to the use of audio mixers.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30pm.

The sign-in sheet showed 33 people in attendance, 29 indicating AARC membership.

February 2013 Executive Board Meeting Minutes

submitted by Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA, secretary

The regular meeting of the Executive Board of the AARC was held on February 15th, 2013 at 6:36pm. Present were President, Dennis N5ACK; Vice President, Virginia NV5F; Secretary, Andy KB2VQA; Treasurer, Joyce W5FJB; Editor, Wayne AD5ST; Training Coordinator and Agent of Record, Phil N5PWW; Emergency Coordinator, Bill AE5BT; and Trustee, Maurice KM5RF.

Joyce W5FJB reviewed the financial report.

Phil N5PWW reported that he is holding a Technician class during the day at the Texas Department of State Health Services. Upon completion of the Technician class, there are plans to hold a General class. Phil continues to conduct testing sessions on the first and third Saturdays of the month.

Maurice KM5RF resolved an issue with the audio of the IRLP link being too low.

Virginia NV5F informed the Board that she will be resigning from the post of Vice President in April.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

February 2013 Financial Report

submitted by Joyce Waites W5FJB, treasurer

AARC February 2013 Financial Report



	Actual Oct-12	Actual Nov-12	Actual Dec-12	Actual Jan-13	Actual Feb-13	
Income						
Dues	\$35.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$285.00	\$200.00	
PayPal Dues	\$23.97	\$0.00	\$57.65	\$129.56	\$129.56	
Radio Raffle	\$110.00	\$65.00	\$45.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Good & Welfare	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$22.00	
CD interest	\$0.36	\$0.37	\$0.36	\$0.37	\$0.37	
	<u>\$169.33</u>	<u>\$90.37</u>	<u>\$103.01</u>	<u>\$434.93</u>	<u>\$351.93</u>	
Expenses						
Storage Hut	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$225.00	
Field Day expenses member reimbursement	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Radio for raffle	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
1-800-Flowers (G&W)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Ham of the Year expense, member reimbursement	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.22	\$0.00	
Liability Insurance	\$0.00	\$320.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Web Hosting & Domain Fees (Go Daddy)	\$97.09	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
	<u>\$97.09</u>	<u>\$320.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$50.22</u>	<u>\$225.00</u>	
Variance	\$72.24	-\$229.63	\$103.01	\$384.71	\$126.93	
	Actual Oct-12	Actual Nov-12	Actual Dec-12	Actual Jan-13	Actual Feb-13	Ending Balances
General Fund	\$71.88	-\$230.00	\$102.65	\$364.34	\$104.56	\$2,367.19
Repeater Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,211.90
Good & Welfare	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$22.00	\$629.42
Capital One Checking	\$71.88	-\$230.00	\$102.65	\$384.34	\$126.56	\$4,208.51
Capital One CD (as of June 2012)	\$0.36	\$0.37	\$0.36	\$0.37	\$0.37	\$2,165.36
Total Capital One	\$72.24	-\$229.63	\$103.01	\$384.71	\$126.93	\$6,373.87
Petty Cash	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Total - All Balances	\$72.24	-\$229.63	\$103.01	\$384.71	\$126.93	\$6,398.87

Note: \$225.00 for 6 month's storage paid for 3/1/13 to 8/31/13.

Note: Capital One CD renewed for six months on 12/19/12.

Note: liability insurance paid in Nov 2012; coverage 12/1/12 to 11/30/13.

Prepared by Joyce Waites, W5FJB
AARC Treasurer since January 2013

Public Service

The City Of Arlington tests its outdoor warning sirens at 1:00 pm on the first Wednesday of each month, using volunteer observers, most of whom are hams reporting into a net held on the AARC's 2m repeater (147.140+, PL 110.9). Check-ins begin during the noon hour, and the test typically concludes before 1:30 pm. More observers are always needed, so please consider helping with this valuable effort if you can spare about an hour at lunchtime once a month. For more information, contact Linda W5LMC (L_mcmillen@prodigy.net) or the Office Of Emergency Management (817-459-6939).

2013 Club Officers

President:	Dennis McGrath N5ACK – n5ack@arrl.net – 972-352-6602
Vice President:	Virginia Smith NV5F – pipertoo@earthlink.net – 601-467-5920
Secretary:	Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA – kb2vqa@optonline.net – 817-652-0307
Treasurer:	Joyce Waites W5FJB – w5fjb@sbcglobal.net – 817-277-7044
Editor:	Wayne Hoskins AD5ST – ad5st@arrl.net – 817-822-6452
Training Coordinator:	Phil Stage N5PWW – n5pww@sbcglobal.net – 817-465-5624
Emergency Coordinator:	Bill Tatsch Jr. AE5BT – ae5bt@att.net – 817-467-4619
Trustee:	Maurice Martin KM5RF – km5rf@att.net – 817-266-9906
Agent of Record:	Phil Stage N5PWW – n5pww@sbcglobal.net – 817-465-5624
Public Information Officer:	Jason Archip KD5LCT – kd5lct@endofnet.com – 817-821-9510
Webmaster:	Jason Archip KD5LCT – kd5lct@endofnet.com – 817-821-9510
Repeater Committee:	Paul Baumgardner W5PSB (chair), Maurice Martin KM5RF, Harold Reasoner K5SXX

Club Repeaters

K5SLD/R 147.140+ PL 110.9 224.800– PL 110.9 444.200+ PL 100.0 IRLP

Membership

Print a membership form from our website k5sld.org and join us. Annual dues are \$25 for individuals.

Please welcome new club members Carl Twilley WB5MND, Robert McLain, and Will Hoag WA5OLT.