



COMMUNICATOR

August 2015

Arlington Amateur Radio Club • P.O. Box 1702, Arlington TX 76004-1702 • K5SLD.org

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August Meeting

The program in August is the Annual Ice Cream Social. Slides from Field Day and other AARC activities will be presented, so start gathering those photos you want to share!

Please send any pictures you might have to Dennis McGrath
N5ACK@YAHOO.COM

Club Meetings

Meetings are held the third Friday of each month in the Human Services building located at:

501 W. Sanford in central Arlington at 7:30 p.m.

Members generally begin arriving at 7:00 pm.

The executive board meeting is held prior to the general member meeting at starting at 6:30 pm. All members are welcome to attend the executive board meeting.



K5SLD Repeaters

147.14+ PL 110.9

224.8- PL 110.9

444.2+ PL 100.0

Calendar of Events

August 21: Executive Board Meeting 6:30 pm, 501 W. Sanford.

Board meetings are open and anyone is welcome to attend.

August 21: General Membership Meeting 7:30 pm, 501 W. Sanford.

August 22: VE Testing 10:00 am, 401 W. Sanford. Enter on north side of the building.

August 22: Dining Out Spring Creek BBQ 3608 S Cooper St, Arlington, TX 76015

September 5: VE Testing 10:00 am, 401 W. Sanford. Enter on north side of the building.

September 5: First Saturday Breakfast First Dixie 2400 W Pioneer Pkwy #105, Pantego

August 22 - RACES Renewal/New Member Training Class at the JEOC in Fort Worth. Sign up online at www.tarrantraces.org and complete and submit the documents and complete any FEMA classes you have not already completed. If you have not taken SKYWARN locally, contact Gerry Dalton in advance to see if he will accept the online course at <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/training/wxspot.php> for now with the understanding you would need to attend local NWS FWD SkyWarn Basic and Advanced class next Spring - usually the last weekend in January in Tarrant County.

- **September 12 - Cowtown Classic Bike Ride** in Crowley (you do not need to be a member of RACES to volunteer, sign up at www.tarrantraces.org)

- **SEPTEMBER 26TH - JOINT TARRANT COUNTY CLUB MEETING**

Location: Joint EOC, 275 W 13th St., Fort Worth, Texas

Time: 9:00-11:00 (or whenever it ends)

Special Guest: State Senator Konni Burton, who will be there to listen and get a better Understanding of what the amateur radio community is doing in Tarrant County.

ALL amateur radio club members throughout the county are invited to attend. Some clubs show up with several. If you've not had the opportunity to visit the JEOC, this is your opportunity. If you plan to attend, we need to know in advance to make sure there is sufficient room/seating.

For Sale

For sale MFJ-1279 "Super Soundcard Interface", 8 pin round connector. Asking \$80, used very little, like new condition includes power supply, manual, all cables, and software, new cost \$139.95. If you have been wanting to try these HF digital modes this is a chance to get a really versatile interface at a good price. Terry Lines, KD5RA – 817-8754-5463.

Birthdays

Steve Bennett	KD5ZD	8/14
James Boyd	KA5FVG	8/6
Trey Seastrunk	KC5QQR	8/21
Sherry Shelton	W5YUP	8/11
Jim Stiebing	WB5UFD	8/22
Jim Stiffler	N5SVX	8/22

Next Meeting 8/21/2015



Letter from the President

The summer is slipping away and I will soon find myself at Walmart buying school supplies. The summer months have been busy and have rushed by quickly. I hope everybody is having a good summer and enjoying some quality Ham radio time. I'm taking my HF portable rig out to the park more often, since we've moved right across from the Bob Duncan Park. It's a great place to setup a radio and make contacts. I usually go with the wife and kids and make it a family outing, whereby I can work the radio part of the time. My youngest son is showing some interest and likes helping me setup the antenna. For the club activities, I think we are doing fairly well this year. We've added a picnic, which I think should be an annual event, and we are looking at more activities the rest of the year and into next year. In September we plan to have a city-wide fox hunt (details coming soon), so look for information in the next newsletter. The date set for the hunt is September 19th, the day after our September meeting. Maurice will provide some fox hunting tips during the evening's presentation. We also talked about doing a kit-building project, which will likely happen after the first of the year. Soon we will be talking about JOTA, Elections, and the Christmas party. How time flies like a radio wave when you're having fun!

David Spore
KB3UBD

August/September Contest Calendar

August 2015	
+ TARA Grid Dip Shindig	0000Z-2400Z, Aug 1
+ 10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB	0001Z, Aug 1 to 2359Z, Aug 2
+ European HF Championship	1200Z-2359Z, Aug 1
+ ARRL August UHF Contest	1800Z, Aug 1 to 1800Z, Aug 2
+ North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Aug 1 to 0600Z, Aug 2
+ SARL HF Phone Contest	1300Z-1630Z, Aug 2
+ WAE DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Aug 8 to 2359Z, Aug 9
+ SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Aug 8 to 2359Z, Aug 9
+ Maryland-DC QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 8 to 2400Z, Aug 9
+ SARTG WW RTTY Contest	0000Z, Aug 15 to 1600Z, Aug 16
+ ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Aug 15 to 2400 local, Aug 16
+ North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Aug 15 to 0600Z, Aug 16
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Aug 17
+ Hawaii QSO Party	0700Z, Aug 22 to 2200Z, Aug 23
+ Ohio QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 22 to 0400Z, Aug 23
+ SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Aug 26
+ YO DX HF Contest	1200Z, Aug 29 to 1200Z, Aug 30
+ SCC RTTY Championship	1200Z, Aug 29 to 1159Z, Aug 30
+ SARL HF CW Contest	1400Z-1600Z, Aug 30
September 2015	
+ All Asian DX Contest, Phone	0000Z, Sep 5 to 2400Z, Sep 6
+ Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0600Z-0800Z, Sep 5
+ AGCW Straight Key Party	1300Z-1600Z, Sep 5
+ DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	1100Z-1700Z, Sep 6
+ MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint	2300Z, Sep 7 to 0300Z, Sep 8
+ FOC QSO Party	0000Z-2359Z, Sep 12
+ WAE DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Sep 12 to 2359Z, Sep 13
+ SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Sep 12 to 2359Z, Sep 13
+ ARRL September VHF Contest	1800Z, Sep 12 to 0300Z, Sep 14
+ North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 13
+ Swiss HTC QRP Sprint	1300Z-1900Z, Sep 13
+ SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest	1600Z, Sep 18 to 1000Z, Sep 20
+ ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Sep 19 to 2400 local, Sep 20
+ Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW	1200Z, Sep 19 to 1200Z, Sep 20
+ SRT HF Contest SSB	1300Z, Sep 19 to 1300Z, Sep 20
+ QRP Afield	1500Z, Sep 19 to 0300Z, Sep 20
+ Washington State Salmon Run	1600Z, Sep 19 to 2400Z, Sep 20
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Sep 21
+ SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Sep 23
+ CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Sep 26 to 2400Z, Sep 27
+ Texas QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 26 to 2000Z, Sep 27

The above is an abbreviated list only.

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

For more information on contesting in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, visit DFW Contest Group at dfwcontest.com.



July 2015 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 on July 17th, 2015 by the President, David KB3UBD. Other board members present included the Vice President, Linda W5LMC; Secretary, Andy KB2VQA; Treasurer, Terry KD5RA; Training Coordinator and Agent of Record, Phil N5PWW; and Repeater Trustee, Maurice KM5RF. Absent were Emergency Coordinator, Bill AE5BT; and Editor, Dennis N5ACK.

David KB3UBD called the meeting to order and asked the attendees to introduce themselves by name and call sign.

The minutes for the June meetings were submitted for publication in the July 2015 newsletter. A motion was made and carried to accept the minutes as published.

Terry KD5RA reviewed the treasurer's report from the month of June. 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 at 10am. There are no training classes currently being conducted.

Maurice KM5RF reported that the new repeaters will receive a firmware upgrade when the firmware is made available. The firmware is expected to be available in July. The repeater amplifier has been ordered.

Linda W5LMC thanked those who assisted with providing communication assistance during the Fourth of July parade. Tonight's meeting will feature a presentation on DXing from Costa Rica and St. Lucia, and the August meeting will be the ice cream social. If you have ham radio related pictures from the past 12 months and would like them shown during the ice cream social, please send them to Dennis N5ACK. The meeting in September will feature a presentation by Rob and Maurice on the installation of coaxial cable connectors.

David KB3UBD thanked those people who assisted with dinner activities during Field Day.

A break was taken at 7:50pm. At 8:00 pm the meeting resumed with Randy Berger WA0D and John Nagle W5EXJ presenting on DXing for Fun from Costa Rica and St. Lucia.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm. The sign-in sheet showed 30 people in attendance, 27 indicating AARC membership.

July 2015 Executive Board Meeting Minutes submitted by Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA, Secretary

The regular meeting of the Executive Board of the AARC was held on July 17th, 2015 at 6:31pm. Present were President, David KB3UBD; Vice President, Linda W5LMC; Secretary, Andy KB2VQA; Treasurer, Terry KD5RA; Training Coordinator and Agent of Record, Phil N5PWW; and Repeater Trustee, Maurice KM5RF. Absent were Emergency Coordinator, Bill AE5BT; and Editor, Dennis N5ACK.

Terry submitted the financial report for June for publication in the newsletter. He viewed the report with the board.

Phil is not conducting any classes. A training class for General Class will be conducted if a minimum of 10 people sign up.

Maurice reported that the repeater amplifier has been ordered. When it arrives, he will schedule a time with the repeater committee to install it. He will also fill out the forms for the ARRL repeater insurance. Maurice also discussed repeater etiquette with the board. The K5SLD ARRC repeater etiquette guide will be published in the newsletter and emailed to the membership.

Linda informed the board that the membership successfully provided communication assistance during the Fourth of July parade. During the August meeting the ice cream social will be held, and in the month of September Rob and Maurice will present on solder/crimp techniques for coaxial cable connector installation.

David KB3UBD would like to schedule a technical workshop for some time in September that would involve building an AM transistor radio kit.

Rob May reported preliminary Field Day results. The club nearly doubled the number of QSO points from the previous year. The meeting adjourned at 7:16pm.

July 2015 Financial Reports

Submitted by Terry Lines KD5RA 2015 Treasurer

Accounts as of 6/30/15

	General fund	2702.40	
	G&W	258.28	
	Repeater fund	866.90	
	Checking	3827.58	
	C.D.	2171.13	
Last Month Total Capital One			5998.71
Expenses	Get Well Bubba Roy	56.24	G&W
	Safehaven Tarrant County	250.00	Gen
	XX	0.00	
	XX	0.00	
	XX	0.00	
		306.24	
Income	Dues	184.38	
	G&W Raffle	0.00	
	Christmas Raffle	0.00	
	Donation	0.00	
	Other	0.00	
		184.38	
			Net Change -121.86
Balances	Calc checking total		3705.72
	Bank Statement		3705.72
	Checkbook Balance		3705.72
C.D. (renew 6/19/15)	Interest this month	0.18	2171.31
This Month Total Capital One			5877.03
Petty cash			25.00
Club TOTAL as of 7/31/15			5902.03

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).

Membership

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

2015 Club Officers

President:	David Spore KB3UBD – davids@instruments.com – 301-481-8244
Vice President:	Linda McMillen W5LMC - L_mcmillen@prodigy.net - 817-795-0999
Secretary:	Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA – kb2vqa@optonline.net – 817-652-0307
Treasurer:	Terry Lines KD5RA – kd5ra@live.com – 817-874-5463
Editor:	Dennis McGrath N5ACK – n5ack@arrl.net - 972-352-6602
Training Coordinator:	Phil Stage N5PWW – n5pww@sbcglobal.net – 817-465-5624
Emergency Coordinator:	Bill Tatsch Jr. AE5BT – ae5bt@att.net – 817-296-8026
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:	David Lucas KF5CFW – kf5cfw@gmail.com – 817-781-7256
Webmaster:	David Lucas KF5CFW – kf5cfw@gmail.com – 817-781-7256
Repeater Committee:	Paul Baumgardner W5PSB (chair), Maurice Martin KM5RF, Gerry Dalton W5MAY



K5SLD AARC REPEATER ETIQUETTE

1. Always identify yourself according to the regulations. This means every ten (10) minutes and at the end of your transmission. This is not only AARC's policy; it is also required by our license. It never hurts to give your station's call sign more than less. It helps other users know you are there if they are listening.
2. Avoid lengthy conversations, pause between transmissions. This in no way means keep the repeater quiet. On the contrary AARC put the repeater on the air to be used and we are very happy when it is busy. It does, however, mean that we all should remember to leave pauses for those to have their say.
3. Always yield the frequency to a breaking station (any station with emergency traffic). The pro sign "break" has a very specific meaning on ham radio. So if you hear it, then give them the frequency. If you use it, remember the importance of its use. Ham radio has saved many lives and you never know when it may need to save yours.
4. Yield existing conversations to recognized activities: Weekly Nets, RACES, Siren Testing, etc.
5. Do not engage in political soap boxing or views on religious matters. These subjects are very personal to others listening and should be avoided. Do not engage in any personal antagonisms. Keep in mind that some conversations are best held in private. Hate speech or derogatory remarks directed at any person or group (political, ethnic, racial, religious, sexual orientation, etc.) are never allowed on AARC repeaters. Please keep that stuff to yourself, nobody else wants to hear your personal rants over the airwaves. AARC is firm on this policy, you will be warned and if you continue you may be asked to leave the repeater.
6. Do not use CB lingo/language or phonetics excessively. This is FM, not like HF so we all can hear you loud and clear.
7. Selling items OTHER than ham related equipment is not allowed, nor is conducting any business. This is not only our policy but is also a prohibition against our license. As Amateur Radio operators, we are prohibited from gaining any pecuniary benefit from our operation of our amateur radio stations. When in doubt take it off the air.
8. Watch your language; the repeater is "G Rated" 24 hours a day. Sometimes slips happen. That being said there is a complete difference between an inadvertent slip and an intentional act.
9. If you hear stations jamming or interfering do not make any comment, ignore them. Do not antagonize those interfering! This is not going to make them stop; it also puts your license at risk as well.