



COMMUNICATOR

May 2018

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

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Announcements

May Program

Introducing FT8!

At this month's meeting Tod Farrell WE5TR will give us a look at the mysterious new world of FT8. This digital mode which swept the world in less than a year, has already surpassed its predecessors JT9 and JT65. Yet in spite of this new mode's popularity, it remains an enigma to many hams.

Club Meetings

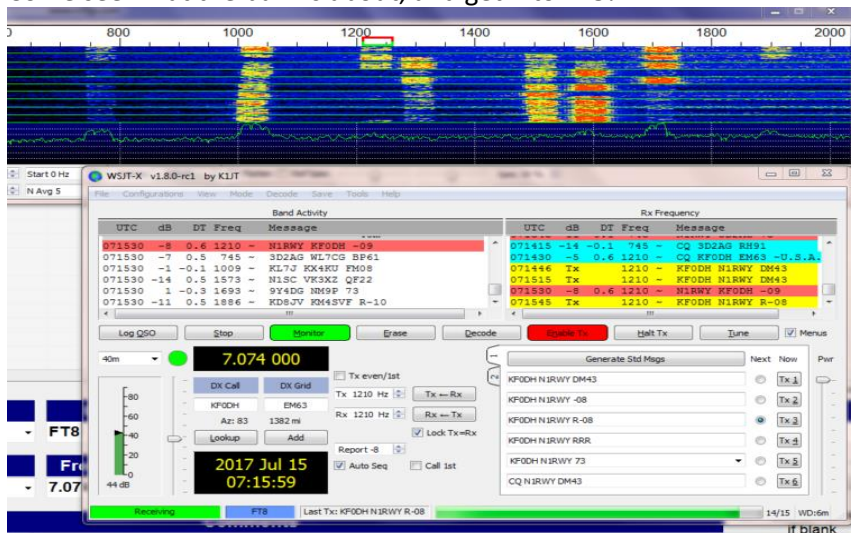
Meetings are held the third Friday of each month in the Human Services building located at:

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.

Come this month and learn what it is and what it can do for you as an into to digital modes, a way to rack up DX, or a nifty way to measure propagation from your QTH. Come see what the buzz is about, and get into FT8!



K5SLD Repeaters

147.14+ PL 110.9

224.8- PL 110.9

444.2+ PL 100.0

Current Events

Mentorfest 2018, a Successful Follow-up Virginia Smith NV5F

The ARRL North Texas Section held Mentorfest 2018 on April 28th at the Hella Shrine in Garland. The second installment of the event follows closely on The heels of Mentorfest 2017 last fall, with a nice assortment of subjects and good attendance. The purpose of this little hamfest is to foster continuing education for all hams in The North Texas area. Knowledgeable local Elmers and local organizations were on hand giving programs on everything from basic soldering skills to DMR and FT8. Jay Urish W5GM The ARRL North Texas Section manager and Mentorfest event coordinator was on hand to represent the League and to hand out some nice door prizes too!

The facility provided by the Hella Hams was easy to find, roomy, and welcoming. At first the idea of having all the class sessions running simultaneously in one big space seemed like a recipe for "QRM," but it actually made things very social and relaxed. For one thing there was no problem finding the program of your choice, and since each class was presented multiple times there was no worry about missing something interesting.



Our old friend Bob Ballard KG5SQJ was there giving his popular talk on manually programming Baofeng HTs , and Mary KG5URO, who had invited me along to Mentorfest, had brought hers along to program. I enjoyed the program on AREDN - emergency MESH network - by Bill Richards KM5VZ. I'm hoping to have him or one of his colleagues present for us at Arlington ARC later this year. Hand were also treated to some practical antenna building and tutorials on how to attach Anderson poles.

The outdoor exhibits of mobile emergency setups were interesting as usual and presented against a pleasant lakefront park, a great place to relax of eat or just take a break. Unfortunately the bands were not in great shape for practical demos of HF setups, but just seeing a mobile hamshack stuffed into a trailer is inspiring. The ingenuity of hams to get the job done in a compact and efficient design is always amazing to me.

Many thanks to Jay and the ARRL for putting on Mentorfest. May it continue to grow and attract the interest of Elmers and all hams, no matter where they are in their journey of learning. And of course, let the learning continue at Ham-Com in June!

Canary Islands Day

Members of the Unión de Radioaficionados Españoles (Sección Comarcal de Las Palmas) club [EA8URL] will be on air with a special callsign, EG8CID, between May 10-30th.

Activity is to celebrate "Canary Islands Day".

Operations will be on all bands and modes.

QSL via LoTW or via EA8URL

Interested in a Club Badge?

 <hr/> ACCENT AWARDS & TROPHIES <hr/> <p>1815 W. PARK ROW • ARLINGTON, TX 76013</p> <p>TROPHIES • PLAQUES • RIBBONS • ENGRAVING SIGNAGE • BADGES • ACRYLICS</p> <p><i>sales@accentawards.us</i></p> 817.469.8791 <hr/> <i>www.accentawards.us</i>	 <p>DAVE W5DJO</p> <p>\$8.95 each plus tax</p>
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Birthdays

Morrie Pickler 5/15

If I missed your birthday, let me know (I won't include the year, it makes me feel old) - Trey

Calendar of Events

May 18: General Membership Meeting 7:30 pm, 501 W. Sanford.

==== Dining Out (May 19, 10 am to 2 pm) ====

Replaced by Picnic at River Legacy Park

==== Breakfast (June 2, 8:30 am) ====

Pioneer Restaurant 306 109th St, Arlington, TX 76011

May 18: Testing 10:00 am, 401 W. Sanford. Enter on north side of the building.

June 2: Testing 10:00 am, 401 W. Sanford. Enter on north side of the building.

Warning sirens

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 David Walker W5DJO (cushmantx@sbcglobal.net) or the Office Of Emergency Management (817-459-6939).

Meeting Minutes

April 2018 Membership Meeting Minutes submitted by Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA, Secretary

The regular meeting of the membership of the AARC was called to order at 7:31 pm on April 20th, 2018 by the President, Rob NV5E. Other board members present included Vice President, Virginia NV5F; Secretary, Andy KB2VQA; Treasurer and Repeater Trustee, Maurice KM5RF; Emergency Coordinator, Bill AE5BT; Training Coordinator and Agent of Record, Phil N5PWW; and Editor, Trey AF5XS.

Rob NV5E called the meeting to order and asked the attendees to introduce themselves by name and call sign.

Maurice KM5RF submitted the treasurer's report for publication in the newsletter. A motion was made and carried to accept the report for audit as published.

Maurice reported that the club's web page was moved to a different hosting company to save the club money.

As repeater trustee, he reported that the repeaters are in working order. He would like to make an upgrade to the UHF repeater by adding an RF amplifier. Maurice provided two options. The first option was to purchase an amplifier with a 40 watt output, and the second option having a 70 watt output. A motion was made and carried to purchase the 70 watt amplifier and transfer \$300 from the general fund to the repeater fund to cover the cost.

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

Bill AE5BT reminded the membership that Field Day 2018 will be held on Saturday and Sunday, June 23-24. Assistance will be needed to setup the stations on Saturday morning, starting at 9 am, along with packing up the stations on Sunday around 11 am.

A dinner is planned for Saturday at 6 pm and the membership is asked to bring a side dish, for example, ice, drinks, salad, or potato salad.

Virginia NV5F informed the membership that the evening's presentation would be a live Skype presentation by Gordon West. She also reminded the membership of the AARC repeater net held on the Saturday following the club meeting, at 7 pm on the 147.14 repeater.

Phil N5PWW holds testing sessions on the first and third Saturdays of the month at 10 am at 401 W. Sanford St. (use the north side entrance). There are no plans for training sessions at this time. If anyone is interested in attending CW classes, contact Phil.

Trey AF5XS compiled and distributed the newsletter. If you would like any items of interest to appear in the newsletter, please submit them to Trey no later than the Sunday before the club meeting.

David Spore KB3UBD, as Membership Committee Chair, has been collecting member biography information for publication in the newsletter. He has also organized a club picnic at River Legacy Park on Saturday, May 19th. There will be hamburgers, hot dogs, and radios.

Rob NV5E mentioned that the new AARC repeater net held its second check-in last month. The third

installation of the net will be held tomorrow, The Saturday following the club meeting, at 7 pm on the 147.14 repeater.

Cindy Mohat KE5DQG (representative of the Police at UTA) presented David Walker W5DJO and Maurice Martin KM5RF with the Partnership Award for providing assistance in achieving "Storm Ready" certification.

A break was taken at 8:12 pm. The meeting resumed at 8:33 pm with a live Skype presentation by Gordon West on real amateur radio emergency communications.

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm. The sign-in sheet showed 33 people in attendance, 28 indicating AARC membership.

April 2018 Executive Board Meeting Minutes submitted by Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA, Secretary

The regular meeting of the Executive Board of the AARC was held on April 20th, 2018 at 6:39 pm. Present were President, Rob NV5E; Vice President, Virginia NV5F; Secretary, Andy KB2VQA; Treasurer and Repeater Trustee, Maurice KM5RF; Emergency Coordinator, Bill AE5BT; Training Coordinator and Agent of Record, Phil N5PWW; and Editor, Trey AF5XS.

Rob NV5E called the meeting to order.

Rob NV5E reminded the board that in May the AARC picnic will be held on the Saturday following the club meeting.

Virginia NV5F informed the board that a presentation by DX Engineering in May would not take place.

Phil N5PWW holds testing sessions on the first and third Saturdays of the month.

Maurice KM5RF reviewed the financial report with the board. He presented two different options for adding a Henry Radio RF amplifier to the UHF repeater. The options will be brought before the membership for consideration.

Maurice also mentioned that the club's web site had been transferred to a different hosting company.

Andy KB2VQA submitted the March meeting minutes to Trey for publication in the April newsletter.

Bill AE5BT is preparing for Field Day 2018 activities.

Trey AF5XS published and distributed the newsletter.

David Walker W5DJO mentioned that a class room used for training is nearing completion of its renovation and will soon be ready to be occupied.

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.

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AARC April 2018 Financial Report

	DESCRIPTION	CATEGORY	BALANCE
BALANCE	03/31/18		
		GENERAL FUND	\$ 3,065.97
		G&W	\$ 227.41
		REPEATER FUND	\$ 404.00
		CHECKING	\$ 3,697.38
		SAVINGS	\$ 25.00
		C.D.	\$ 2,176.51
		PETTY CASH	\$ 25.00
		NET TOTAL	\$ 5,923.89
EXPENSES	CHK #2016	US POSTAL SERVICE	
		P.O. BOX	\$ 96.00
INCOME			
	DEP	DUES	\$ 98.97
	DEP	GOOD & WELFARE	\$ 25.00
		NET CHANGE	\$ 27.97
BALANCE	04/30/18		
		GENERAL FUND	\$ 2,768.94
		G&W	\$ 252.41
		REPEATER FUND	\$ 704.00
		CHECKING	\$ 3,725.35
		SAVINGS	\$ 25.00
		C.D.	\$ 2,176.51
		PETTY CASH	\$ 25.00
		NET TOTAL	\$ 5,951.86

Membership

Membership Committee

Hard to believe another month has gone by! I hope to see everyone at the club picnic this Saturday! I will be showing up at 9:00AM to start setting things up. Anybody who is interested in portable operation should definitely come out and see how its done! I have a complete HF station in a backpack (which includes battery, solar panel, antenna, tuner, FT-857D, netbook, Signalink, tools, accessories).

I will be bringing another sign-up sheet for the Elmer volunteers. Don't forget to contact either myself or Mary to let us know what topic(s) you would like to elmer for. The idea is to encourage people to seek out help from members, as there are plenty of people eager to help. Next month I will have the new member packet ready and hope to present some additional ideas and announcements from the committee.

===== New Member Spotlight =====

Mary Calkins



KG5URO

As a new amateur radio operator since August of 2017, I have found this new hobby very exciting. Bill Gilliland invited me to an Arlington Radio Club meeting and the rest is history in the making! I have enjoyed making new friends at the club and am eager to make new contacts in all 50 of the United States of America and around the world. I am fluent in French and have already made radio contacts in Montreal. I work at FlightSafety International, a company that trains pilots and aircraft mechanics. I have been married for 30 years and have two grown children.

Ron Colbert



KG5YET

My name is Ron Colbert KG5YET and I have recently joined the world of amateur radio earning my technician license in February and my general license in March. I have worked as an electronics technician for over 30 years and decided to take up amateur radio to expand my knowledge of electronics and work towards setting up my station for a retirement hobby. I am currently studying for my amateur extra exam and I am looking forward to earning my extra ticket. I am especially interested in setting up a portable station and learning all about antennas. I am looking forward to getting to know the members of the club and to learning what amateur radio has to offer.

Time to pay Dues

Print a membership form from our website k5sld.org and join us. Annual dues are \$25.00 Individual, \$35.00 Family, or \$15.00 Associate

2018 Club Officers

President:	Rob May NV5E – nv5e@arrl.net – 817-303-8891
Vice President:	Virginia Smith NV5F - virginia@pipertoo.com - 601-467-5920
Secretary:	Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA – kb2vqa@optonline.net – 817-652-0307
Treasurer:	Maurice Martin KM5RF – km5rf1@charter.net – 817-266-9906
Editor:	Trey Seastrunk AF5XS – trey01@swbell.net - 817-891-6372
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:	Maurice Martin KM5RF (chair), Gerry Dalton W5MAY