



# COMMUNICATOR

February 2019

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

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## 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

## President's Corner

Hi everyone!

We're off to a good start in 2019! Our first membership meeting in January was great fun with a fascinating look at how digital modes and the Internet can work together to help us understand propagation. The Cowtown Hamfest was great fun and well attended by Arlington ARC members, as well as lots of ham friends from around DFW. A bunch of us from AARC and MJARS got together for lunch, and a couple of our members even won prizes!

Now it's time to look forward to the Irving Hamfest in early March, not to mention ARRL Mentorfest in April.

I'm extremely pleased by the growth in interest for our club 2 meter net on Wednesdays at 7:00. The net is run by our own Price Wooldridge K5NNL. It's been interesting to see this weekly net take shape since last summer. It has given our members new and old a great way to congregate during the week and spend a little time on the air. We've even heard from other area hams and some who are passing through and decided to drop by the net because we sounded friendly and interesting. Thanks to all who have participated and made others feel welcome. I'd like to remind everyone who hasn't joined us yet to check in on Wednesday nights on our club repeater 147.14, PL 110.9.

I've also noticed a little group of our members getting interested in CW! There are many varied and complimentary approaches to learning Morse for ham radio, and I encourage anyone interested in learning to check with us about these options. Also thanks to Phil Stage N5PWW for his code trainings on test days. If you'd like to participate, please check with him. I'm looking forward to some enthusiastic CW helpers on Field Day!

Speaking of which, it will be summer before we know it. Between now and then we've got a lot of great stuff going on. I hope you all can join us!

73 de Virginia NV5F

# Announcements

## February Program

World Wide Flora and Fauna and Summits on the Air by George Burger W0PHX.

### Ideas for Winter reading

## The Well Read Ham Part 2

Welcome back gentle readers. This month I'll touch on a few more books that you may enjoy and I'll give a quick overview of Amateur Radio related magazines.

### ARRL anthologies

You may not have years and years of back issues of QST to go back and read or reread articles that are of interest to you, or you may not want to take the tablet or phone into the "reading room" as you peruse back issues online. The ARRL has thoughtfully gathered past articles and put them into books organized by subject. Most are available from the ARRL directly but are usually cheaper on amazon.com. Here are a few that I like:

ARRL's Vintage Radio – This is one of my favorites. I love old boat anchors. Plenty to keep you up late, collection, restoring and operating, it's all here.

Lots of antenna books, titles are self-explanatory; see the [ARRL](#) website for lots more:

ARRL's Yagi Antenna Classics

ARRL's Wire Antenna Classics and More Wire Antenna Classics

ARRL's Vertical Antenna Classics and More Vertical Antenna Classics

ARRL Antenna Compendium Volumes 1 -7

### Magazines:

[QST](#) – Well, what can you say? This is the journal of the ARRL and is sent to all members. It strikes a good balance at covering all things related to Amateur Radio. You'll find the latest news, legislative issues, construction articles, em-com information and equipment reviews. It's loaded with advertisements of the latest and greatest ham gear as well as the major dealers that sell it. If you're not a member of the ARRL, you should be, QST is worth the price alone.

[CQ](#) – Besides QST, CQ is the only general interest print magazine left and the only one that you might find on a newsstand. Plenty of great reviews, columns and information. Not quite as much editorial content as QST and less advertising. They sponsor some of the biggest on-air contests of the year including CQ World Wide and CQ WPX.

[Electric Radio](#) – A magazine dedicated to collecting, restoring, operating and reminiscing about tube type radios. Their motto is "Real radios glow in the dark". A very technically oriented magazine although it does include general interest articles.

[QRP Quarterly](#) – The journal of QRP Amateur Radio Club International (QRP ARCI). If your interest is low power operation and/or home brewing, this is your magazine. Very well written and edited, with projects from state of the art software defined radios to retro tube type regen receivers. The magazine I most look forward to receiving.

Well, that's about all I have room for now. We'll look at podcasts next month.  
73, Rob W5WS

## Current Events

### **Cowtown Hamfest 2019** **By Mary Calkins AE6Q**



*Cowtown Hamfest 2019*

Virginia NV5F and I went to Cowtown Hamfest 2019 ([www.cowtownhamfest.com](http://www.cowtownhamfest.com)) for the opportunity to make friends, go to ham radio classes, shop for radio doodads, and join in on the overall fun. *The Cowtown Hamfest was on January 18 and 19 at the Forest Hill Civic and Convention Center, 6901 Wichita Street, Forest Hill, Texas 76140. Cowtown Hamfest was founded by the Cowtown Amateur Radio Club ([www.cowtownamateurradioclub.net](http://www.cowtownamateurradioclub.net)) eleven years ago. The club's goal for the convention is to "offer quality, service, education, hands on ham gear to the Ham Community and to anyone desiring to further their Ham Experience". The convention features ham radio classes, VE testing, and many vendors to support your amateur radio hobby.*

There were a lot of ham radio class options. I decided to attend the AMSAT class presented by Keith Pugh W5IU. AMSAT is a worldwide organization of amateur radio operators that build, launch, and communicate with each other via amateur radio satellites. Keith has been a ham radio operator since 1953 and has served as AMSAT Area Coordinator since the 1980s.



*Tom Schuessler N5HPY*

Virginia NV5F and I got to see Tom Schuessler N5HPY made a radio contact via a satellite fly by. This was the first successful satellite radio contact that I've ever witnessed. It was very exciting! Tom became a radio operator in 1985, got interested in amateur radio satellite communications in 2010, and supports AMSAT activities in the North Texas area.

I also attended the Amateur Radio and Emergency Communications Disconnects class by Dave Martin K5YFO. After class, I talked to Dave Martin K5YFO about how a new ham radio operator might get involved in helping with emergency communications and he provide these tips:

1. Attend the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) newcomers/renewal class ([www.tarrantraces.org](http://www.tarrantraces.org)). You can join RACES and learn how to participate in the SKYWARN weather net. There are other emergency/public service opportunities like parades, runs, etc.
2. Volunteer to help with radio support for the Cowtown marathon. New hams can be paired with more experienced ones, so you can learn net operations in support of the event.
3. Take the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) ICS-100C Introduction to Incident Command class. You can take this class online for free, and when you pass the test, you receive a certificate.



*Left to right: David Walker W5DJO and Phil Stage N5PWW*

We saw several members of the Arlington Amateur Radio Club enjoying the convention. Congratulations to two of our club members that were prize winners! David Walker W5DJO won a \$50 gift certificate to Ham Radio Outlet Inc. in Plano, Texas and Phil Stage N5PWW won a Yaesu FT-60R VHF/UHF dual band FM transceiver.

### A little Fun

### Cowtown Marathon Communications Support

Feb 23 & 24

We will need more folks. We especially could use some non-hams to help with getting the lead runners information relayed to the announcers at the finish line.

[View the Sign Up](#)

### Club Net

Be sure to check into the AARC net Wednesday night at 7:00pm on the clubs' 2m repeater (147.140, pl 1109). We've had some lively and very interesting discussions on digital modes and legal status of Chinese handie-talkies the last couple of weeks. If you have a topic or question feel free to bring it up, I'm sure we'll have lots of good information to pass along. 73, K5SLD

Want a club name badge?

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

Richard Para 2/1

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

# Calendar of Events

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

**==== Dining Out (February 16, 5 pm) ====**

Kincaid's,  
3900 Arlington Highlands Blvd #113, Arlington, TX 76018

**==== Breakfast (March 2, 8:30 am) ====**

Pioneer Restaurant 306 109th St, Arlington, TX 76011

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

**March 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 the Office Of Emergency Management (817-459-6939).

# Meeting Minutes

## January 2019 Membership Meeting Minutes submitted by Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA, Secretary

The regular meeting of the membership of the AARC was called to order at 7:32 pm on January 18th, 2019 by the President, Virginia NV5F. Other board members present included Vice President, Mary AE6Q; Secretary, Andy KB2VQA; Emergency Coordinator, Bill AE5BT; Treasurer and Repeater Trustee, Maurice KM5RF; Training Coordinator and Agent of Record, Phil N5PWW; and Editor, Trey AF5XS.

Virginia NV5F called the meeting to order and asked the attendees to introduce themselves by name and call sign. She reminded the membership that January 2019 marks the time to pay dues to continue their membership in the AARC.

David Spore KB3UBD, as Membership Committee chair, will be working on processing club historical documentation in to an archive.

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). The question pool for the General exam will change on July 1st. He offers Morse code training, both before and after the testing session, to those who are interested. There are currently no training sessions in progress at this time. He is working on organizing a Technician and General Class training opportunity.

Due to the government shutdown, processing of amateur radio licenses has stopped. Requests are being placed in a queue for later processing.

Maurice KM5RF reviewed the treasurer's report as published in the newsletter. A motion was made and carried to accept the report for audit as published. He is looking for 3 volunteers to participate in the audit committee to review the 2018 financial records at the February meeting. Maurice informed the membership of the repeater upgrade which was conducted in November. The foot print of the UHF repeater has been improved. He thanked Rob May W5WS and Harold Reasoner K5SXX for the assistance.

A motion was made and carried to authorize the sum of \$200 for use by the Repeater Committee for 2019.

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

Bill AE5BT let the membership know that Field Day 2019 was only 155 days away, being held on the weekend of June 22nd. There will be a BBQ dinner on Saturday evening. The current plan is to use a beam antenna for operations during Field Day. If anyone has access or knows of someone with access to a lift/bucket truck which could be used during that weekend to erect a beam antenna to a height of 25 to 30 feet, please contact Bill.

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 starting the first weekend of the month.

Mary AE6Q reported that this evening Rob W5WS will give a presentation on FT8 and PSKReporter. She will be attending various ham conventions in an effort to find presenters and presentations for the club. Any members who have an interest in a particular topic should contact Mary. Future presentations will include kit building and Morse code training methods.

A break was taken at 8:13 pm. The meeting resumed at 8:27 pm with a presentation on FT8 and

PSKReporter given by Rob W5WS.

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 pm. The sign-in sheet showed 25 people in attendance, 24 indicating AARC membership.

### **January 2019 Executive Board Meeting Minutes submitted by Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA, Secretary**

The regular meeting of the Executive Board of the AARC was held on January 18th, 2019 at 6:38 pm. Present were President, Virginia NV5F; Vice President, Mary AE6Q; 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.

Virginia NV5F called the meeting to order.

Phil N5PWW holds testing sessions at 10 am on the first and third Saturdays of the month. The question pool for the General exam will change on July 1st of this year. Due to the government shutdown, amateur radio license requests are not being processed at this time, but are being placed in a queue to be processed later.

Virginia NV5F noted that the membership will vote tonight to appropriate money for the routine operation and maintenance of the repeater system, as noted in section 1E of the AARC bylaws.

Maurice KM5RF reviewed the financial report with the board. He completed the installation of the new RF amplifier and rack adapters at the repeater site on November 17th, as well as performed two firmware upgrades. The process took approximately 4 hours to complete. He thanked Rob May W5WS and Harold Reasoner K5SXX for their assistance.

Maurice will ask for volunteers to participate in the audit committee to review the club's financial records for 2018.

Andy KB2VQA submitted the November meeting minutes to Trey for publication in the January newsletter.

Trey AF5XS printed and distributed the newsletter.

Bill AE5BT received a request from an organization to provide a presentation on amateur radio for a group of blind youths. Bill will provide more information to the membership as the date draws nearer.

Mary AE6Q informed the board that the evening's presentation will be given by Rob W5WS on the topic of PSKReporter and FT8. Future presentations will include Morse code training techniques and ham radio kit building. Mary and Virginia plan on attending the Cowtown hamfest and provide pictures and an article for the newsletter.

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.

## AARC January 2019 Financial Report

	DESCRIPTION	CATEGORY	BALANCE
BALANCE	12/31/18	GENERAL FUND	\$ 2,174.32
		G&W	\$ 273.84
		REPEATER FUND	\$ 666.22
		CHECKING	<b>\$ 3,114.38</b>
		SAVINGS	\$ 25.00
		C.D. \$1.09	\$ 2,178.67
		PETTY CASH	\$ 25.00
		NET TOTAL	<b>\$ 5,343.05</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			\$ -
		NET CHANGE	\$ 524.81
INCOME			
	DEP DUES	DUES	\$ 464.56
	DEP GOOD & WELFARE	G&W	\$ 12.00
	DEP DONATION MARY CALKINS AE6Q	REPEATER FUND	\$ 48.25
BALANCE	01/31/19	GENERAL FUND	\$ 2,638.88
		G&W	\$ 285.84
		REPEATER FUND	\$ 714.47
		CHECKING	<b>\$ 3,639.19</b>
		SAVINGS	\$ 25.00
		C.D.	\$ 2,178.67
		PETTY CASH	\$ 25.00
		NET TOTAL	<b>\$ 5,867.86</b>

# Membership

## Want to join the club

2019 Club Dues are due

Print a membership form from our website [k5sld.org](http://k5sld.org) and join us. Annual dues are \$25.00 Individual, \$35.00 Family, or \$15.00 Associate

## 2019 Club Officers

<b>President:</b>	Virgina Smith NV5F - <a href="mailto:virginia@pipertoo.com">virginia@pipertoo.com</a> - 601-467-5920
<b>Vice President:</b>	Mary Calkins AE6Q - <a href="mailto:AE6Q@ARRL.net">AE6Q@ARRL.net</a> – 817-946-3400
<b>Secretary:</b>	Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA – <a href="mailto:kb2vqa@optonline.net">kb2vqa@optonline.net</a> – 817-652-0307
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Maurice Martin KM5RF – <a href="mailto:km5rf1@charter.net">km5rf1@charter.net</a> – 817-266-9906
<b>Editor:</b>	Trey Seastrunk AF5XS – <a href="mailto:trey01@swbell.net">trey01@swbell.net</a> - 817-891-6372
<b>Training Coordinator:</b>	Phil Stage N5PWW – <a href="mailto:n5pww@sbcglobal.net">n5pww@sbcglobal.net</a> – 817-465-5624
<b>Emergency Coordinator:</b>	Bill Tatsch Jr. AE5BT – <a href="mailto:ae5bt@att.net">ae5bt@att.net</a> – 817-296-8026
<b>Trustee:</b>	Maurice Martin KM5RF – <a href="mailto:km5rf@att.net">km5rf@att.net</a> – 817-266-9906
<b>Agent of Record:</b>	Phil Stage N5PWW – <a href="mailto:n5pww@sbcglobal.net">n5pww@sbcglobal.net</a> – 817-465-5624
<b>Public Information Officer:</b>	David Lucas KF5CFW – <a href="mailto:kf5cfw@gmail.com">kf5cfw@gmail.com</a> – 817-781-7256
<b>Webmaster:</b>	David Lucas KF5CFW – <a href="mailto:kf5cfw@gmail.com">kf5cfw@gmail.com</a> – 817-781-7256
<b>Repeater Committee:</b>	Maurice Martin KM5RF (chair), Rob May W5WS, Don Kovatch N5YAK, Gerry Dalton W5MAY