



COMMUNICATOR

April 2021

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

Springtime is here

We are in the beginnings of Spring, with our Bluebonnets putting on a spectacular show. Temps are warming and most folks are beginning to do things outside such as spring cleaning and sprucing up the yard. It is a great time to do that in your shack too. Mine was cluttered from constant use as an office, so I am getting it back under control. I am also preparing the house to put it on the market, so I actually have a dual purpose in straightening it up. We continue to test and create new Hams every month. Members are actively mentoring some of these to guide them in the early stages of planning what they want to focus on and how to move forward. I know I made a couple of mistakes that weren't expensive, but someone looking over my shoulder would have been nice. If you would like to become a mentor, just let me know.

Thanks to our Bill, W5WJH, for a great presentation on "Getting Stated with HF in the Shack" during the March meeting. Lots of great tips on how to start working the HF bands and basics of propagation and factors that influence how our equipment functions. This month Jack returns with the first of two sessions on "Getting Started with the Raspberry Pi Processor". This month he will talk about obtaining and setting up the processor, and next month will be about loading and using it for applications. Future sessions teed up are:

- Learning and using CW
- Learning and Building with the Arduino
- Traffic Handling on DFW Nets
- Looking Across 100 Years of Amateur Radio

We are working to get all these great programs on the website as they occur. Our April meeting is the 16th via Zoom. The Board will meet at 6:30, and the membership at 7:30. Everyone is welcomed to attend the board meeting if you desire. Be on the lookout for the email with the link. It should be the same one we have been using.

If you have any questions, feel free to give me an email or call. My email is k5nn@att.net and my cell is 214-536-9726.

We hope to see you on the 16th.

73's

David Setzer K5NN

President-AARC

Announcements

April 2021 program

How to Get Started Using Raspberry Pi in the Shack – Part 1

“Join us this month on Zoom where Jack Weaver (AA5VZ) will help you get ready to start operating the HF digital modes using a dedicated Raspberry Pi computer. You will learn how to set up a complete work station for your shack starting with a Raspberry Pi-4 Kit. Then in May you'll add some free software (WSJT-X) and connect the Pi to your radio so you can start having fun using FT-8 and other digital modes on HF. So dive in and explore the marvelous world of HF Digital using the newest, feature loaded Pi!”

It should be an interesting program so we hope you will all join us via Zoom.

Newsletter Submissions

Submissions for the newsletter are due by the Saturday preceding the monthly club meeting. I would prefer to receive them in Word format or in a text editor like Notepad. If you can avoid it please don't send it in PDF format, as it is a pain to tear apart a PDF, if I need to change any formatting.

Events

Club Meeting – via ZOOM

We'll have our monthly membership meeting this Friday, April 16th at 7:30pm following the Executive Board meeting at 6:30. Both are open meetings so feel free to join in before the membership meeting if you like.

Check your email for the invite.

Hope to see you online.

Club Picnic

May 22nd, 9:00AM to 10:00PM

J.W. Dunlop Park; North Park Pavilion (same place we had it last time).

Due to COVID they are only doing “all day” rentals, so technically we have the Pavilion until 10:00PM. We could decide if we want to have the picnic in the afternoon, morning, or maybe both? It might be interesting to try an evening affair this year. I will be at this week's club meeting to discuss options. Saturday the 22nd is the day after the May club meeting, so we'll have one more newsletter announcement prior to the event. I have already reserved the pavilion, so we just need to bring food and drinks. I will be bringing my radio bag and new solar charger I just got from Buddipole.

David, KB3UBD

FYI

Ham Radio Satellite Thought Dead is Working Again

After 7 years of silence, the Delfi-n3Xt satellite is again transmitting a signal. The 3U Delfi-n3Xt nanosat, launched by Delft University of Technology (TU Delft), has not been heard since 2014. Contact with the satellite was lost in late 2014 after an experiment with the linear transponder. The satellite surprised its sponsors when they received a signal from it on February 9th. It is unknown at this time if the satellite can be returned to full functionality. When functioning properly, the Delfi-n3Xt satellite transmits telemetry on 145.870 MHz and 145.93 MHz, and high-speed data on 2405 MHz. The inverting SSB/CW transponder has an uplink passband of 435.530 - 435.570 MHz LSB and a downlink passband of 145.880 - 145.920 MHz USB.

2021 Cowtown Marathon

First of all, Thank you to all that have signed up for the Cowtown Event on May the 8th. I really appreciate your help!

That said, **We need more volunteers!**

Please sign up in Better Impact.

If you have questions you can email me at K5IJD@yahoo.com or text me at 480-363-7487.

Chuck Inmon

Implementation of New Amateur Radio Licensing Fees

The FCC Report & Order on new licensing fees that was adopted in December 2020 was published on Friday, March 19, 2021.

As we all remember, the FCC originally proposed to burden Amateur Radio with a licensing fee of \$50.00. This was vigorously opposed both by the ARRL and Amateur Radio licensees across the nation. Although we were not successful in persuading the FCC to exempt Amateur Radio completely, the combined efforts of the ARRL and many individual Hams did result in the FCC's agreement to reduce the \$50 fee to \$35.00.

Although the majority of the new rules and fees become effective 30 days after the publication of the FCC's Report & Order — April 19, 2021 — the new fees for Amateur Radio license fees will NOT become effective on April 19, 2021.

The FCC explicitly stated on Page 15061, Paragraph 44 of the Report & Order:

It is further ordered that Commission's rules are amended as set forth in in the back of this summary, and such rule amendments shall be effective 30 days after the date of publication in the Federal Register — except for §§ 1.1102, ..., — which require notice to Congress and also require certain updates to the FCC's information technology systems and internal procedures to ensure efficient and effective implementation. Sections 1.1102, will not take effect until

- (1) the requisite notice has been provided to Congress;
- (2) the FCC's information technology systems and internal procedures have been updated; and
- (3) the Commission publishes notice(s) in the Federal

Register announcing the effective date of such rules.

Section 1.1102 is the section of the Report that applies to Amateur Radio.

It is the opinion of the ARRL's FCC counsel that the three prerequisites will NOT be completed before this summer. But, whenever those conditions have been met, the Report is clear that the FCC will provide advance notice of the actual date the new licensing fees will become effective.

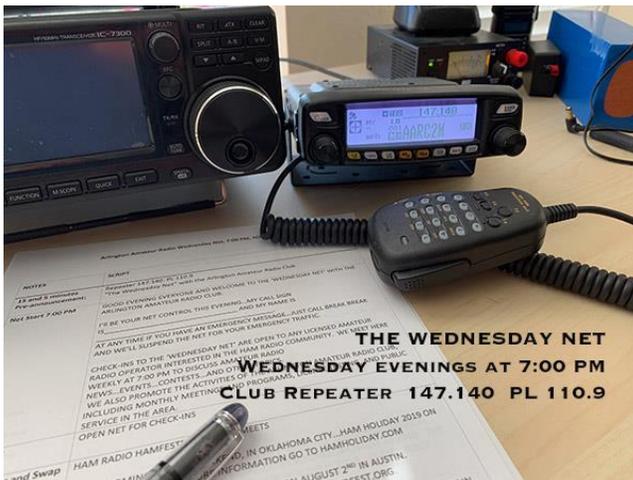
Thus it is not necessary for VECs to collect, or for any new licenses to pay, any license fees until the FCC publicly publishes in the Federal Register the date on which such fees must be collected/paid.

So, encourage everyone to get their licenses before this summer — it will save them \$35.00.

John Robert Stratton, N5AUS

Club Net

Please join Net Control every **Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM for the club's "Wednesday Net"**. Each week we discuss HF conditions and activities, the contest and Hamfest calendars, answer the Question Pool Question of the Week, and have a general discussion to hear what's happening with our members and visitors to the Net. Don't be left out! Fire up your VHF/UHF rig, and key that microphone! Newcomers are especially welcome. Ask questions and get familiar with the hobby. Join us for the **"Wednesday Net" at 7:00 PM** on the club 2 meter repeater, frequency 147.140 MHz, with the PL Tone 110.9. We hope to hear you there!
73, K5SLD



Want a club name badge?

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

MARK CHRONISTER	4/6
JEFF RUTLEDGE	4/9
GRAHAM STRICKLAND	4/13
CYNTHIA BELISLE	4/16
MAURICE MARTIN	4/21
PATRICK HUGHES	4/27

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

Calendar of Events

April 16: General Membership Meeting 7:30 pm, via ZOOM – look for invite in your email.

April 17: Testing 10:00 am, 401 W. Sanford. Enter on north side of the building.

==== Breakfast (May 1, 8:30 am) =====

Pioneer Restaurant 306 109th St, Arlington, TX 76011

May 1: Testing 10:00 am, 401 W. Sanford. Enter on north side of the building.

May 22: Club Picnic 9:00AM to 10:00PM

J.W. Dunlop Park; North Park Pavilion (same place we had it last time).

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

March 2021 Membership Meeting Minutes submitted by Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA, Secretary

The regular meeting of the membership of the AARC was held via teleconference and called to order on March 19th, 2021 at 7:30 pm by the President, David K5NN. Other board members present included Vice President, Jack AA5VZ; Secretary, Andy KB2VQA; Treasurer and Repeater Trustee, Maurice KM5RF; Training Coordinator and Agent of Record, Phil N5PWW; Emergency Coordinator, Bill AE5BT; and Editor, Trey AF5XS.

David K5NN called the meeting to order.

Jack AA5VZ informed the membership that the slides and recordings from the previous How-To presentations are available on the club's web site. The presentation next month will be the first half of a presentation on using a Raspberry Pi computer in ham radio. The presentation in June will provide information on how to participate in Field Day activities.

Andy KB2VQA noted that the March newsletter contained the minutes from the February meetings. A motion was made and carried to accept the minutes as published.

Maurice KM5RF reviewed the financial report of February 2021. He paid the fee for hosting the club web site, the rental fee for the equipment storage unit, and the bill for insurance on the repeater equipment. A motion was made and carried to accept the report for audit as published. Maurice reported that the repeater is operating well. When access to the site is easier to attain, he will conduct repeater maintenance. He mentioned to the membership that he observed a long squelch tail on the Wednesday net, possibly caused by someone using cross band repeat that is not properly configured to access the repeater. If anyone needs help using cross band repeat, contact Maurice for assistance with configuring the feature.

Trey AF5XS compiled and distributed the newsletter for March 2021. All submissions are welcomed, and requested to be received by the Saturday before the club meeting.

Phil N5PWW holds testing sessions promptly at 10 am on the first and third Saturdays of the month at 401 W. Sanford Street (use north side entrance). No one has been scheduled to attend the next test session. There are no training classes being held at this time. By July, it's expected that the fee for new licenses and upgrades will rise to \$49.

Bill AE5BT announced Field Day 2021 was only 99 days away, starting on June 26th. In working with Rob W5WS on plans for participating in person in Field Day at the usual place, radio operations will likely be distributed between two different rooms. This will satisfy the current limitation of a maximum number of 10 people per room. The Field Day BBQ dinner can take place, with social distancing enacted.

Philip KD5WDW, the Public Information Officer, will post meeting information on Facebook.

David K5NN mentioned that the mentoring efforts of the club have been going well, and he's seeking additional volunteers to act as mentors to new hams. David will approach the city seeking a mayoral proclamation declaring June 21-27 'Amateur Radio Week'.

At 7:54 pm Bill W5WJH started the presentation on the topic of getting started in HF radio.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm. The teleconference attendance screen showed 22 people in attendance, 19 being AARC members.

**March 2021 Executive Board Meeting Minutes
submitted by Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA, Secretary**

The regular meeting of the Executive Board of the AARC was held via teleconference on March 19th, 2021 at 6:32 pm. Present were President, David K5NN; Vice President, Jack AA5VZ; Secretary, Andy KB2VQA; Treasurer and Repeater Trustee, Maurice KM5RF, Training Coordinator and Agent of Record, Phil N5PWW; Emergency Coordinator, Bill AE5BT; and Editor, Trey AF5XS.

David K5NN called the meeting to order. He's seeking additional volunteers to act as mentors to those new to the hobby of amateur radio.

Jack AA5VZ mentioned that the previous presentations are available on the club's web page. He informed the board that the evening's presentation would be on getting started in HF radio. Next month will be the first half of a two part presentation on configuring and using the Raspberry Pi computer in amateur radio. The presentation for June will cover how to participate in Field Day.

Andy KB2VQA confirmed that the March newsletter contained the minutes from the February meetings.

Maurice KM5RF, reviewed the financial report published in the March 2021 newsletter. He paid the bill for the equipment insurance covering the repeater site, the fee for hosting the web site, and the rental fee for the equipment storage unit.

Trey AF5XS published the March 2021 newsletter.

Phil N5PWW continues to hold testing sessions promptly at 10 am on the first and third Saturdays of the month. Social distancing is in practice. He is waiting to see when the city will ease the restriction of gatherings being limited to no more than 10 people. There are no training classes in session at this time.

Bill AE5BT has been working with Rob W5WS on planning for Field Day 2021. To limit the number of people in a room, operations may be split between two different rooms. Only 99 days to FD2021.

David K5NN will approach the city for a mayoral proclamation that the week of June 21-27, 2021 be known as 'Amateur Radio Week'.

Maurice KM5RF noted that he observed a lengthy squelch tail during the Wednesday net on 147.14 MHz. He suspects that it's caused by someone cross band repeating without the correct settings. He'll provide assistance to anyone attempting to use cross band repeat.

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm.

AARC March 2021 Financial Report

	DESCRIPTION	CATEGORY	BALANCE
BALANCE			
	02/28/21		
		GENERAL FUND	\$ 2,799.39
		GOOD & WELFARE	\$ 544.84
		REPEATER FUND	\$ 286.47
		CHECKING	\$ 3,630.70
		SAVINGS	\$ 25.00
		C.D.	\$ 2,206.76
		PETTY CASH	\$ 25.00
		NET TOTAL	\$ 5,887.46
EXPENSES			
INCOME	DUES	DUES	\$ 131.62
		NET CHANGE	\$ 131.62
BALANCE			
	02/28/21		
		GENERAL FUND	\$ 2,931.01
		GOOD & WELFARE	\$ 544.84
		REPEATER FUND	\$ 286.47
		CHECKING	\$ 3,762.32
		SAVINGS	\$ 25.00
		C.D.	\$ 2,206.76
		PETTY CASH	\$ 25.00
		NET TOTAL	\$ 6,019.08

Membership

Let me know if you need any club business cards, which are handy for introducing people to the club or handing out during Ham conventions.

Want to join the club

2021 Club Dues are due

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

2021 Club Officers

President:	David Setzer K5NN – k5nn@att.net - 214-536-9726
Vice President:	Jack Weaver, Jr. AA5VZ - jmw1709@hotmail.com – 972-567-7815
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:	Philip Scoggins KD5WBW - mphilip-scoggins@tx.rr.com – 817-939-7623
Webmaster:	David Lucas KF5CFW – kf5cfw@gmail.com – 817-781-7256
Repeater Committee:	Maurice Martin KM5RF (chair), Rob May W5WS, Don Kovatch N5YAK, Gerry Dalton W5MAY