

# COMMUNICATOR

April 2023

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**

Greetings to all.

I hope everyone is enjoying this beautiful Spring weather and all the outdoor activities that it offers. This is a great time for planting gardens, roses, trees, and nurturing "antenna farms". For my part, I've transplanted some antennas into the ground that I once raised on the roof...for easier maintenance "as time goes on". And none of the branches have withered! Cycle 25 is providing all the fertilizer necessary to produce fruit over the next few years. This has been another eventful month for our club. Our second year to participate in the Mansfield St. Paddy's Pickle Parade with an AARC float proved successful again! Special thanks to Philip (KD5WBW), Ryan (KI5RZP) and Vickie (KI5RZO) for organizing, decorating, and getting the float ready on parade day. Ryan and Vickie donated use of their personal truck while Ryan provided the driving skills to navigate the crowd-swollen streets along the route. Two public announcements were made from the review stands describing the Arlington Amateur Radio Club, what we do, and giving an invitation to get involved with us. Great job and teamwork, everyone! Philip will fill us in this week on how it went and the fun we had. Speaking of fun – Be sure to mark your calendars and save the date to attend our Club Annual Picnic on May 20. David Spore (KB3UBD) announced again that he was able to reserve the North Pavilion at J.W. Dunlop Park for that day. So, get ready and join us for a time of great fun and fellowship!

During last month's meeting Virginia (NV5F) gave a remarkable presentation describing her challenging and successful journey in building a functional AMSAT CubeSat Simulator. The article she wrote based on her journey was published in the AMSAT Journal. Now, Virginia is utilizing her Simulator and companion Ground Station to demonstrate, in various clubs and events, how satellites carrying Amateur Radio equipment operate in space, facilitate long-range VHF/UHF communications, and add a fascinating niche to our hobby. This month I will piggyback on this marvelous subject and present a follow-up program on "How to get Started" talking to other hams via FM satellites, using readily available equipment you may already have. You don't want to miss it!

We'll have more news, information, and items of interest to talk about on Friday, so come join us. I'm excited! I hope you are. See you then!
'73
Jack Weaver, AA5VZ
President - AARC

### **Announcements**

#### April 2023 program

How to get Started with FM satellites

Following in the footsteps of last month's presentation by Virginia on building a satellite simulator, Jack, AA5VZ will be sharing "How to get Started" talking to other hams via FM satellites, using readily available equipment you may already have. You don't want to miss it!

#### **Items of Note**

Philip Scoggins, KD5WBW reports on 2023 Pickle Parade and Palooza Wrap-up



This was the second time the AARC participated in The World's only St. Paddy's Pickle Parade. Part of the festivities started with Philip, KD5WBW completing the 5K. He didn't place, so he was not awarded a jar of pickles.

The gang, Ryan Miller, KI5RZP, and Vicky Hess-Miller, KI5RZO, donated the use of their truck for the parade. At the meeting area we loaded all the decorations and whatnot. Then we proceeded to our holding spot. We had plenty of time to decorate. The weather

was nice though on the cool side with high thin clouds and a gentle breeze. The fake antenna Philip made proved to be a lot of work and time for Ryan to secure.

This year magnets did the majority of affixing decorations instead of painter's tape. The green tape fit the theme last year but looked like green tape. Jack Weaver, AA5VZ, joined after performing VE duties.



Philip ordered banners to conform to the parade's theme this year, Ease on Downtown. This was on his own dime. The banner did not arrive on March 17<sup>th</sup>. The expedited shipping was not guaranteed and not refundable. Oh, well, the banner was not critical to the

success of the decorations.

It was fun to see some other the other entries.





Ryan, Vicky, and Jack rode in the cab and Philip in the bed. All interacted with the crowd along the way. We had fun seeing people react to us and the plush toy pickle, Captain Gherk, to go where no pickle has gone before.







#### **Club Picnic**

May 20th, 9:00AM to 2:00PM (we have it all day if people want to stay longer) J.W. Dunlop Park; North Park Pavilion (same park we had it last year). 1500 W. Green Oaks Blvd Arlington, TX 76012

Bring your radio gear and practice for field day! Hot dogs/hamburgers and basics will be provided, but Feel free to bring a side dish, dessert, water, or other drinks. Hope to see all of you there!

#### **Newsletter Submissions**

Submissions for the newsletter are due by the Saturday preceding the monthly club meeting. I would prefer receive them in Word format or in a text editor like Notepad.

## **Birthdays**

Maurice Martin, KF7EQE 4/21

Michael Neaves, KC5YZS 4/30

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

## Calendar of Events

**April 21: Board Meeting** 6:30 pm, 501 W. Sanford, Arlington, TX, 76011 All members are welcome attend.

#### **April 21: General Membership Meeting**

7:30 pm, 501 W. Sanford, Arlington, TX, 76011

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87654674805?pwd=UTJBYk1BZ21Td2ljQy80RkpENkd6UT09

Meeting ID: 876 5467 4805

Passcode: 461496 One tap mobile

- +16694449171,,87654674805#,,,,\*461496# US
- +16699006833,,87654674805#,,,,\*461496# US (San Jose)

#### Dial by your location

- +1 669 444 9171 US
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 719 359 4580 US
- +1 253 205 0468 US
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 507 473 4847 US
- +1 564 217 2000 US
- +1 646 931 3860 US
- +1 689 278 1000 US

- +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 360 209 5623 US
- +1 386 347 5053 US

Meeting ID: 876 5467 4805

Passcode: 461496

Find your local number: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdhull92bc">https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdhull92bc</a>

#### ==== Dining Out (April 22, 5:00PM) ====

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

Pioneer Restaurant 306 109th St, Arlington, TX 76011

#### **Testing:**

There is a \$14 cash fee for taking the test ( if you pass and want to take the test for the next level, the \$14 covers the additional test(s) as well ).

As of April 13, 2022 the FCC will begin charging an application fee of \$35.00 for license applications.

Also note you will need your FRN number and a valid email prior to taking that first test.

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

May 20: Testing - 10:00 am, 401 W. Sanford. Enter on north side of the building



Join us for the Wednesday Net

Need a Badge?

## 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 2023 Membership Meeting Minutes submitted by Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA, Secretary

The regular meeting of the membership of the AARC was called to order on March 17th, 2023, at 7:30 pm by the President, Jack AA5VZ, accompanied by a teleconference simulcast. Other board members present included Vice President, Torre AA5CX; Secretary, Andy KB2VQA; Treasurer and Repeater Trustee, Maurice KM5RF; Training Coordinator and Agent of Record, Phil N5PWW; Emergency Coordinator, Clayton K5CWS; and Editor, Trey AF5XS.

Jack AA5VZ called the meeting to order, and asked attendees to introduce themselves by name and call sign. Maurice KM5RF mentioned that he achieved 9,000 contacts as a Parks on the Air (POTA) Activator.

Jack presented to Bill AE5BT a plaque of appreciation for his years of service in the role of Emergency Coordinator from 2003 to 2022. Jack thanked David W5DJO for presenting last month's program on building a go-kit. The next siren test will be conducted on April 5th. Club dues for 2023 are now due.

The club continues to hold a net on Wednesday night. Clayton K5CWS and Torre AA5CX have assisted Price K5NNL with conducting the net. Additional volunteers are welcomed.

Philip KD5WDW, in the role of Public Information Officer, reviewed the itinerary of the club's participation in the Mansfield St. Paddy's Pickle Parade. Ryan KI5RZP and Vickie KI5RZO have donated the use of their truck.

Torre AA5CX mentioned that Virginia would provide the evening's presentation on the AMSAT CubeSat simulator. Next month's presentation will be on the topic of working satellites presented by Jack. Torre mentioned an article he read on a novel antenna design for CubeSats designed by the University of Arizona. He informed the club of an opportunity to assist NASA with mapping the ionosphere during the occurrence of an upcoming solar eclipse.

Andy KB2VQA noted that the March newsletter contained the minutes from the February meetings. Clayton mentioned that the minutes did not contain his announcement of upcoming Skywarn training sessions, one being held on March 21st. A RACES renewal class is available on April 1st.

A motion was made and carried to accept the minutes as published with the addition of the training sessions.

Maurice KM5RF reviewed the financial report for February 2023. A motion was made and carried to accept the report for audit as published. Maurice feels that the club could make do with a smaller storage locker than the one the club currently occupies.

Trey AF5XS compiled and distributed the newsletter for March 2023. Submission of content is welcomed.

Phil N5PWW continues to hold testing sessions promptly at 10 am on the first and third Saturdays of the month at 401 W. Sanford Street (use the entrance on the north side). Phil is conducting training and testing on site at NCTTRAC.

Clayton K5CWS mentioned that Field Day 2023 was 99 days away, starting on June 24th. A Skywarn training session is available on March 21st, and a RACES renewal class is available on April 1st.

Old business: No old business was presented. New business: No old business was presented.

A break was taken at 8:18 pm. The meeting resumed at 8:33 pm with a presentation by Virginia NV5F on her

journey of building a CubeSat simulator.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm. The sign-in sheet showed 21 people in attendance, all indicating AARC membership. Zoom attendees numbered 2.

## March 2023 Executive Board Meeting Minutes submitted by Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA, Secretary

The regular meeting of the Executive Board of the AARC was held on March 17th, 2023, at 6:31 pm, accompanied by a teleconference simulcast. Present were President, Jack AA5VZ; Vice President, Torre AA5CX; Secretary, Andy KB2VQA; Treasurer and Repeater Trustee, Maurice KM5RF; Emergency Coordinator, Clayton K5CWS; Training Coordinator and Agent of Record, Phil N5PWW; and Editor, Trey AF5XS.

Jack AA5VZ called the meeting to order.

Jack mentioned that the program for the evening would be presented by Virginia NV5F on the topic of building a CubeSat simulator. Jack thanked David W5DJO for presenting last month's program on building a go-kit. The monthly siren test as canceled due to poor weather.

Torre AA5CX noted that Virginia would be presenting on her experience with building an AMSAT CubeSat simulator. In the future he may present on his experience with setting up a ham shack. Torre brought a printout of an article on a novel antenna design for CubeSats designed by the University of Arizona.

Philip KD5WBW, in the role of Public Information Officer, reviewed the itinerary for the club's participation in the Mansfield St. Paddy's Pickle Parade.

Andy KB2VQA confirmed that the March 2023 newsletter contained the minutes from the February 2023 meetings.

Maurice KM5RF reviewed the financial report for February 2023. He reported that the repeaters are in working order

Trey AF5XS published the March 2023 newsletter.

Phil N5PWW continues to hold face to face testing sessions promptly at 10 am on the first and third Saturdays of the month. A training session for the Technician Class exam is scheduled for April 24th and 25th. Phil is conducting training and testing on site at NCTTRAC.

Clayton K5CWS mentioned that 99 days remained before Field Day 2023. He mentioned that his announcement of Skywarn training opportunities didn't appear in the February meeting minutes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm.

## March 2023 Financial Report

		DESCRIPTION	CATEGORY	BALANCE
BALANCE				
	2/28/2023		GENERAL FUND	2,264.31
			GOOD & WELFARE	674.13
			REPEATER FUND	823.47
			CHECKING	3,761.91
			SAVINGS	2,235.44
			PETTY CASH	25.00
			NET TOTAL	6,022.35
EXPENSES				
		AARL	REPEATER	
EFT			INSURANCE	108.50
			TOTAL	108.50
INCOME				
		DUES	2023 DUES	116.63
		GOOD & WELFARE	G&W	23.00
			TOTAL	420.62
			TOTAL	139.63
			OVERALL NET	
			CHANGE	31.13
BALANCE	3/31/2023			
	3/31/2023		GENERAL FUND	2,272.44
			GOOD & WELFARE	697.13
			REPEATER FUND	823.47
			CHECKING	3,793.04
			SAVINGS	2,235.44
			PETTY CASH	25.00
			NET TOTAL	6,053.48

## **Membership**

#### Want to join the club

2023 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

Membership dues received after July 1st from applicants that were not members the previous year shall be one-half of the annual dues

#### 2023 Club Officers

President: Jack Weaver, Jr. AA5VZ - jmw1709@hotmail.com - 972-567-7815

Vice President: Torre Quinn, AA5CX – <u>aa5cx.tx@gmail.com</u> -

Secretary: Andy Kapushoc, KB2VQA – <u>kb2vqa@optonline.net</u> – 817-652-0307

Treasurer: Maurice Martin, KM5RF – <u>km5rf1@charter.net</u> – 817-266-9906

Editor: Trey Seastrunk, AF5XS – <u>trey01@swbell.net</u> - 817-891-6372

Training Coordinator: Phil Stage, N5PWW – <u>n5pww@sbcglobal.net</u> – 817-465-5624

Emergency Coordinator: Clayton Starkweather, K5CWS – <u>clayton.starkweather@gmail.com</u>

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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 - KD5WBW@arrl.net – 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