



COMMUNICATOR

July 2015

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

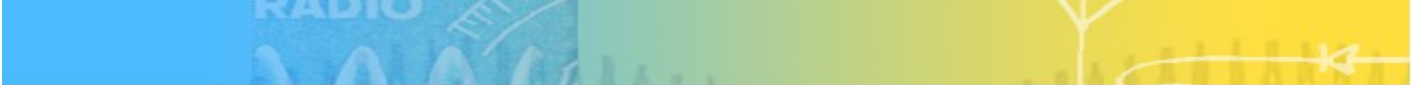
July Meeting

**The program for July 17th is "DXing for Fun"
Presented by: Randy Berger WA0D, Keller,
and John Nagle W5EXJ, Southlake'
DXing in St, Lucia in 2014.**

A huge thanks to everyone who showed up for the 2015 Field Day last month. It was a huge success. Many thanks to all who helped setup the antennas and equipment on Saturday and the take-down and cleanup on Sunday.

And a really big thank you to "Mr. Field Day" Bill Tatsch AE5BT and his family who provided the wonderful BBQ. Bill, you and your family really make this day each year special for everyone who attends. I, and I'm sure I speak for the entire club, can't thank you enough for all you do and what you provide.

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



Calendar of Events

July 17: Executive Board Meeting 6:30 pm, 501 W. Sanford.

Board meetings are open and anyone is welcome to attend.

July 17: General Membership Meeting 7:30 pm, 501 W. Sanford.

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

July 18: Dining Out Babes Chicken 230 N Center St, Arlington

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

August 1: First Saturday Breakfast 8:30 am Pioneer Restaurant 306 109th St, Arlington

Tidbits

A big thank you to AARC members who participated in the 4th of July Parade! Great job by long-time, highly experienced (along with one new participant), Amateur Radio Parade Monitors - as always! This was the first year that Arlington CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) members participated in conjunction with several Amateur Radio Operators along the Parade Route as additional eyes and ears for the City of Arlington. The 5 CERT volunteers enjoyed the experience and appreciated your camaraderie and instruction. They learned a lot in the process. It sounds like all went well. Paul Baumgardner has already invited CERT volunteers to participate again in 2016. Any feedback or comments that would make the experience for all better or more enjoyable, or less confusing (if there was any confusion) are welcome and appreciated. Thank you all again.

The next RACES Renewal / Training Class will be on Saturday, August 22nd at the JEOC (Joint Emergency Operations Center) in Fort Worth. For more information: www.tarrantraces.org

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 the HF digital modes this is a chance to get a really versatile interface at a good price. Terry Lines, KD5RA – 817-8754-5463.

2 Kenwood TS700's all mode 2m base rigs. \$100 for rig with tones. \$125 for rig with external VFO
Both refurbished by N5LFE

Also have several 2m Mobile rigs – cheap, several crystal rigs – free.

Random good stuff! Pictures available on request. Hal Collins KA5JHT 972-816-5296

I have a Yaesu FT8900R for sale. I have the unit, the separation kit, RT Systems programming software and the cable, as well as a Diamond 8900 antenna. There is no coax with it. I am asking \$450. David Lucas KF5CFW 817-781-7256

Birthdays

George Alkire	KG5HZI	7/3
Wayne Shelton	KZ5O	7/19
William Cooper Jr.	KF5JPC	7/18



Larry Kennedy	WA5GLO	7/9
Theresa Pollock	K5IWF	7/9

Next Meeting 7/17/2015

Misc. Club Info and Announcements

Unlike many organizations of which you may be a member, yearly membership dues for AARC cover the calendar year (January 1st through December 31st). That's why, after July 1st, dues for new members (not renewing current members) are reduced to half the yearly amount. In the past we have simply dropped members from the club roster and email distribution lists in July if they had been a member in the prior year but had not renewed by July of the present year. This year we wanted to give a heads-up to members who have not renewed. There are presently about 20 members on the roster who were carried forward from 2014 but have not yet paid dues for calendar year 2015. If you are not sure if you paid dues for 2015 and wish to remain as a member of the club please contact the club's treasurer, Terry Lines, for your dues status. It is not likely, but it is possible, that you paid dues and the payment was not properly noted. This year we plan to drop members from the roster in the beginning of August so if you do not receive the August newsletter but had been receiving the prior editions in all likelihood you were dropped from the club's roster. If this occurs and you wish to reinstate your membership please contact Terry Lines immediately.

Here is an item from Mark Chronister, N5LFE.

This month, I will mixing ham radio with one of my other passions, bicycling. I will be doing a 7-day bicycle ride (starting 7/19) across Iowa called [RAGBRAI XLIII](#) with over 10,000 other cyclists. RAGBRAI (Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa) is not a "race." Rather, it might be considered a 7-day tour and rolling party for pie, corn and pork-chop eating enthusiasts that have a cycling problem. I will likely put about 500 miles on the bike during this trip. The ride will overwhelm both the road and all types of communications infrastructure along much of the route. This is the fourth time that I have ridden this, having also done it in 2011, 2012 and 2014. This is a border to border ride that, by tradition, starts with dipping the rear wheel of the bike in the Missouri River and ends with dipping the front wheel in the mighty Mississippi River.

My bicycle will be equipped with VHF/UHF amateur radio, APRS and GPS. Depending on radio coverage, it may be possible to track my location/progress near real-time on a Google map via APRS at: <http://aprs.fi/?timerange=604800&call=N5LFE-7>. The Google "street view" may give you some idea of what I see, minus the cyclists. Iowa is rural and quite hilly, which will affect how well this works. Past results have ranged from poor to excellent, depending upon the route which is different each year. This year will probably be somewhere toward the middle of that range. Radio coverage is expected to be best in the eastern half of the state (ride is west to east). The mapping is a "connect the data points" algorithm, so if there is missing data, I might appear to cut across a field or something that did not really happen, but it works fairly well. Location/packet transmissions are triggered both by turns and on a periodic schedule with the rate varied by travel speed.

The radio is a Kenwood TH-D72A 2m/70cm HT with integral GPS and TNC. Transmit power will be 5 watts (on 144.390 MHz for APRS) into a Larsen NMO-2/70 1/2-wave antenna that is mounted to the rear of my road bike saddle with a homebrew bracket (The bike frame is all carbon fiber, so I can't clamp anything to it.) Both voice and APRS operation is possible on the full-duplex radio, which is carried in a small handlebar bag. Most voice operation at RAGBRAI is on 146.520 MHz simplex, although repeaters are scattered along the route. I use a speaker/mic and place it on a short leash so that it can't fall into the spokes if I drop it. A small number of other amateur radio operators (loosely organized as the unofficial "Team Megacycles") usually participates in this event, so this may add another dimension to the experience with occasional QSO's. It also makes for good conversation with other curious non-ham riders on the road. I've been asked all sorts of questions in the past, including if the antenna helps my cellphone reception (which is quite poor, generally.) Battery charging will be available at our camp each



evening and I have two battery packs for the radio, so I can generally make it through the entire day.

Mark Chronister, N5LFE



Letter from the President

The summer is in full swing, and we are all busy going about our summer activities. For the club, I would like to come up with another activity that can be planned for August or September. Start thinking about some other club activities you would like to see; such as fox hunts, technical workshops, etc. This month's program should be interesting, and perhaps some members will be inspired to participate in a mini-DXpedition.

Thanks to everyone who participated in this year's Field Day. It was another success, and everybody had a great time. This year we got a visit from the Mayor of Arlington, which was a great plus and a very good opportunity to show off our club and Ham Radio.

I have mailed an official "Thank You" letter to the Mayor on behalf of the club, and will make a copy of it available at the meeting (there is a copy of it here on the next page of this newsletter).

Our summer months are looking good, and I plan to do more with the new membership committee over the next couple of months. Also, it looks like I may actually make the ice-cream social this year! I am looking forward to it.

**David Spore
KB3UBD**









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

Mayor Jeff Williams
Arlington City Hall
101 West Abram
Arlington, TX 76010

JULY 3rd, 2015

Dear Mayor Williams:

On behalf of all members of the Arlington Amateur Radio Club (AARC), I would like to thank you for visiting with us during our annual "Field Day" event. Each year Ham Radio operators participate in this 24 hour exercise, which allows us to demonstrate our ability to deploy and operate radios under emergency power conditions. We encourage elected officials to come out each year to ask questions and see first-hand what we do during Field Day. Your visit was very much appreciated, and I am sure you were overwhelmed with enthusiastic discussions of what we do and how we strive to serve the community.

The AARC has been around for 60 years, serving the community and promoting the hobby of Ham Radio. We strongly believe that Ham Radio is not just a hobby, but also plays an important role in emergency communication and community event support. Many Ham Radio operators participate in emergency organizations such as ARES and RACES, providing communications during natural disasters and other emergency situations. For community support, we provide communications assistance at public events, such as the upcoming Fourth of July Parade. The club is actively seeking more opportunities to provide our radio services. In addition to communication support, we also feel that it is important to educate young people about Ham Radio and get them involved. We often work with Scouts, schools, and other youth groups to promote Ham Radio and preach the benefits and personal rewards one experiences in Ham Radio.

We sincerely appreciate your visit and the opportunity we had to talk with you and show off our annual event. Our club is looking forward to finding new areas in which we can serve the City of Arlington and the public. Your interest in our Club is very important to us, and we hope that you will pay us another visit in the future. Thank you again for taking time out of your schedule to come see us.

Sincerely,

David A. Spore
KB3UBD
President, AARC

July/August Contest Calendar

July 2015

+ RAC Canada Day Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Jul 1
+ DL-DX RTTY Contest	1100Z, Jul 4 to 1059Z, Jul 5
+ Marconi Memorial HF Contest	1400Z, Jul 4 to 1400Z, Jul 5
+ DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	1100Z-1700Z, Jul 5
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z, Jul 8 to 0400Z, Jul 9
+ FISTS Summer Sprint	0000Z-0400Z, Jul 11
+ SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Jul 11 to 2359Z, Jul 12
+ IARU HF World Championship	1200Z, Jul 11 to 1200Z, Jul 12
+ DMC RTTY Contest	1200Z, Jul 18 to 1200Z, Jul 19
+ North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Jul 18 to 0600Z, Jul 19
+ CQ Worldwide VHF Contest	1800Z, Jul 18 to 2100Z, Jul 19
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Jul 20
+ SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jul 22
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z, Jul 22 to 0400Z, Jul 23
+ RSGB IOTA Contest	1200Z, Jul 25 to 1200Z, Jul 26

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
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z, Aug 12 to 0400Z, Aug 13
+ 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
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z, Aug 26 to 0400Z, Aug 27
+ 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

The above is an abbreviated list only.

For more information on these and other contests, see the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at [.hornucopia.com/contestcal](http://hornucopia.com/contestcal)

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



June 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 June 19th, 2015 by the President, David KB3UBD. Other board members present included the Vice President, Linda W5LMC; Secretary, Andy KB2VQA; Treasurer, Terry KD5RA; Emergency Coordinator, Bill AE5BT; Training Coordinator and Agent of Record, Phil N5PWW; Editor, Dennis N5ACK; and Repeater Trustee, Maurice KM5RF.

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

The minutes for the May meetings were submitted for publication in the June 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 May. 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. He will not hold a test session on July 4th. There are no training classes currently being conducted. A new pool of exam questions for the General Class exam will go into effect on July 1st.

Dennis N5ACK published the June 2015 newsletter and brought additional copies to the meeting.

Maurice KM5RF reported that the new repeaters will receive a firmware upgrade in July. With the remaining allocated money for the repeater upgrade, a repeater amplifier will be purchased for the 2-m repeater. He recommended the club purchase ARRL repeater insurance to cover the new system. The motion was made and carried to purchase the insurance.

Linda W5LMC mentioned that the July meeting will feature a presentation on DXing from Costa Rica, and the August meeting will be the ice cream social. Siren testing continues on the first Wednesday of each month.

A break was taken at 8:00pm. At 8:10 pm the meeting resumed with Bill AE5BT presenting the plans for Field Day. Setup of the stations and antennas will start at 9am. Anyone can visit and operate the equipment as there will be supervising control operators. Dinner is planned for 6pm on Saturday and the membership is encouraged to bring a side-dish to complement the BBQ main course.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45pm. The sign-in sheet showed 34 people in attendance, 30 indicating AARC membership.

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

The regular meeting of the Executive Board of the AARC was held on June 19th, 2015 at 6:34pm. Present were President, David KB3UBD; Vice President, Linda W5LMC; Secretary, Andy KB2VQA; Treasurer, Terry KD5RA; Emergency Coordinator, Bill AE5BT; Training Coordinator and Agent of Record, Phil N5PWW; Editor, Dennis N5ACK; and Repeater Trustee, Maurice KM5RF.

Terry submitted the financial report for May for publication in the newsletter. He reviewed the report with the board. The CD will be rolled over.

Phil will not hold a test session on July 4th. A new pool of test questions goes into effect on July 1st for the General Class exam.

Linda informed the board that the presentation for next month will be on the topic of DXing.

Maurice reported that the new repeater is running, working well, and being used for siren testing. The amount of \$1600 was allocated for the new repeater, with \$1000 spent. The sum of \$550 will be spent on a repeater amplifier. Maurice recommended that the membership be asked to purchase repeater insurance, costing approximately \$55/year, from the ARRL to cover the new repeater. A motion to bring the matter before the membership was made and carried.

Bill reviewed his plans for Field Day.

The meeting adjourned at 7:17pm.

June 2015 Financial Reports

Submitted by Terry Lines KD5RA 2015 Treasurer

Arlington Amateur Radio Club June 2015 Financial Report

Accounts as of 5/31/15	General fund	2678.43	
	G&W	258.28	
	Repeater fund	866.90	
	Checking	3803.61	
	C.D.	2170.95	
Last Month Total Capital One			5974.56
Expenses	XX	0.00	
	XX	0.00	
	XX	0.00	
	XX	0.00	
	XX	0.00	
		0.00	
Income	Dues	23.97	GF
	G&W Raffle	0.00	
	Christmas Raffle	0.00	
	Donation	0.00	
	Other	0.00	
		23.97	
Balances			Net Change 23.97
	Calc checking total		3827.58
	Bank Statement		3827.58
	Checkbook Balance		3827.58
C.D. (renew 6/19/15)	Interest this month	0.18	2171.13
This Month Total Capital One			5998.71
Petty cash			25.00
Club TOTAL as of 6/30/15			6023.71

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