



COMMUNICATOR

April 2024

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

Welcome to April! Spring has sprung, we've gone to daylight savings time in our country, and we're shaking off the cold winter and moving into much better weather. A few seminal events happen in April. Ok, it is tax month, but that's the last thing we want to concentrate on.

April 25th, 1874 is the birthdate of Guglielmo Marconi, inventor of wireless telegraphy, radio, and ultimately, our hobby. In the good old days of Marconi, all that was available was CW, and on VERY long wavelengths. Marconi's first transmitter was little more than a spark gap, a copper sheet, a monopole (yes, monopole!) antenna, induction coil, and a straight key. Hence was born wireless communication over long distances, a fantasy come true back in the day.

Also this month is the 112th anniversary of the sinking of the RMS Titanic. While the sinking was a tragedy, radio and Marconi are both inexorably linked to Titanic. On the night of April 14th, 1912, two radio operators, Jack Phillips and Harold Bride desperately called for help from the sinking ship. The radio setup they were using had been designed the Marconi company, with the antenna setup by Marconi himself. For close to two hours Phillips and Bride called CQD and SOS, summoning help to the stricken ship. Due to their tireless efforts, 705 people were saved.

For many years I had the idea that radio installations had to be big, complicated affairs. Over the past several months I have come to understand and appreciate that a simple setup can be amazingly effective. Using nothing but a monopole and a copper sheet Marconi started calling across valleys, then towns, then over seas. Titanic had a radio set that was only 10% efficient, and yet she could raise stations thousands of miles away using nothing but CW over wire antennas. Today, using nothing but low power

inexpensive radios with an assortment of wire antennas, thousands of hams are making millions of contacts. If you happen on someone who is interested in radio communications who has the same misapprehension I did, let them know it doesn't have to be expensive or complicated to get into ham radio!

Hope to see everyone at the next meeting on the 19th!

- Joe Wigner, K5MGY

President AARC

Announcements

April 2024 program

Modified NorCal Doublet Antenna – I used this homebrew 80M-10M antenna to score the Highest 2022 Winter Field Day Score of all Outdoor Category, Low Power (100W), Single Operator, Phone Only Stations with 382 Accepted SSB Contacts (23 “Busted Exchanges”). By Bob, KG5SQJ

Items of Note

Events

Upcoming Section, State, and Division Conventions

- May 11 | [ARRL Nebraska State Convention](#), Lincoln, Nebraska
- May 17 - 19 | [Dayton Hamvention](#), hosting the ARRL National Convention, Xenia, Ohio
- May 31 - June 2 | [SEA-PAC](#), hosting the ARRL Northwestern Division Convention, Seaside, Oregon
- June 1 | [Atlanta Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL Georgia Section Convention, Marietta, Georgia
- June 9 | [BreezeShooters Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention, Butler, Pennsylvania
- June 15 | [ARRL Maine State Convention & Hamfest](#), Augusta, Maine
- June 15 | [Knoxville Hamfest and Electronics Convention](#), sponsoring the ARRL Delta Division Convention, Knoxville, Tennessee

Club Picnic

May 18th, 9:00AM to 2:00PM

J.W. Dunlop Park; North Park Pavilion

1500 W. Green Oaks Blvd

Arlington, TX 76012

As last year, the pavilion is available to us all day. Typically, we go from morning to mid-afternoon, but people are welcome to stay longer. We can bring our radios and practice for field day! Hot dogs/hamburgers and basics will be provided, but feel free to bring a side dish or dessert. 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. 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 or make any edits.

Birthdays

Maurice Martin 4/21

Michael Neaves 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 19: Board Meeting 6:30 pm, 501 W. Sanford, Arlington, TX, 76011

All members are welcome attend.

April 19: General Membership Meeting 7:30 pm, 501 W. Sanford, Arlington, TX, 76011

If you want to join via Zoom:

Join Zoom Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87105638926?pwd=dzNjSzVpS1Z2ZDJ2aFpOZ1cwNk96dz09>

Meeting ID: 871 0563 8926

Passcode: 844919

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,87105638926#,,,,*844919# US (Houston)

+17193594580,,87105638926#,,,,*844919# US

==== Dining Out (April 20, 5:00PM) ====

Joe's Pizza Pasta & Subs, 4300 Matlock Rd Ste 100, Arlington, TX 76018

==== Breakfast (May 4, 8:30 am) ====

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.

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

May 4: Testing - 10:00 am, 401 W. Sanford. Enter on north side of the building



Join us for the Tuesday Net

| | |
|--|---|
|  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 |  K5SLD Arlington Texas DAVE W5DJO |
|--|---|

Need a Badge? \$10.95 + Tax

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 2024 Membership Meeting Minutes submitted by Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA, Secretary

The regular meeting of the membership of the AARC was called to order on March 15th, 2024, at 7:38 pm by the President, Joe K5MGY. Other board members present included Vice President, Price K5NNL; 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.

Joe K5MGY called the meeting to order and asked attendees to introduce themselves by name and call sign.

Joe mentioned upcoming local events including the solar eclipse (April 8th), the Belton Hamfest (April 12th-13th), and Texas State Parks on the Air (April 20th-21st). The club picnic will be held on Saturday May 18th at J. W Dunlop Sports Center. Joe informed the membership that the Irving ARC awarded the AARC a micro-grant.

Price K5NNL asked the membership for their preference on upcoming programs and a doublet antenna was selected.

Andy KB2VQA noted that the March 2024 newsletter contained the minutes from the February meetings. A motion was made and carried accept the minutes as published.

Trey AF5XS compiled and distributed the newsletter for March 2024. Submission of ham radio related content is welcomed and should be submitted via email using his email address found on the last page of the newsletter.

Clayton K5CWS mentioned that 99 days remained until Field Day 2024, the fourth weekend in June. He informed that club that the RACES volunteer sign-up method is changing.

Maurice KM5RF reviewed the financial report for February. The repeater insurance was paid. A motion was made and carried to accept the report as published for audit.

Maurice reported that the repeater is in working order. He visited the repeater site to replace a duplexer.

Old business: No old business was presented.

New business: David Spore KB3UBD donated to the club radio equipment he acquired from a silent key. Maurice will evaluate the equipment. The board recommended that the membership have the first right of refusal to purchase the equipment, with the remaining equipment to be sold to others. The motion was made and carried to accept the recommendation of the board. An invitation to an open forum Zoom meeting will be emailed to the membership in the next few weeks.

The club picnic will be held on Saturday, May 18th. There will be hamburgers and hot dogs and the membership is asked to bring a dish.

Phil N5PWW noted that a Technician exam training class is scheduled from 8 am to 4 pm on April 24-26 if at least 10 people participate. A possible test session may be held on April 27th. David Walker is the point of contact at (817) 992-9459. Phil continues to hold testing sessions in person 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). An FRN is required before the test session.

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm. The sign-in sheet showed 22 people in attendance, 20 indicating AARC membership. Zoom attendees numbered 4.

The evening's presentation started at 8:17 pm. Joe K5MGY presented "Radio Direction Finding: An Overview." The presentation concluded at 8:52 pm.

March 2024 Executive Board Meeting Minutes submitted by Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA, Secretary

The regular meeting of the Executive Board of the AARC was held on March 15th, 2024, at 6:31 pm. Present were President, Joe K5MGY; Vice President, Price K5NNL; 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.

Joe K5MGY called the meeting to order.

Joe announced that the Irving ARC awarded the Arlington ARC a micro-grant. David Spore KB3UBD is expected tonight to donate to the club radio equipment he acquired from a silent key. The consensus of board was to sell the equipment.

Price K5NNL mentioned that Joe K5MGY would be presenting the evening's program on the topic of direction finding. Several upcoming programs are in the works.

Andy KB2VQA confirmed that the March 2024 newsletter contained the minutes from the February meetings.

Phil N5PWW continues to hold face to face testing sessions promptly at 10 am on the first and third Saturdays of the month. Training classes for the Technician exam will be held if at least 10 people participate. David Walker W5DJO is the point of contact for the classes being held from 8 am to 4 pm April 24th-26th, with possible testing on the 27th. In regard to the regular membership meeting, Phil would like the meeting to finish and all depart the meeting room by 9pm.

Clayton K5CWS asked the board members if they intended to attend Field Day. He informed the group that RACES has stopped using the sign-up method that was being used in the past.

Maurice KM5RF reviewed the financial report for February. The micro-grant money has been received. He presented a history of past expenses and income so that the board would be more informed regarding future spending. Money could be saved by downsizing the storage locker. Joe K5MGY suggested conducting an extra business meeting before the April meetings. The date of March 28th 7pm was selected for an open forum Zoom meeting.

Maurice reported that he visited the repeater site to install a duplexer. The repeater is working fine.

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.

March 2024 Financial Report

| | DESCRIPTION | CATEGORY | BALANCE |
|---------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| BALANCE | 2/29/2024 | | |
| | | GENERAL FUND | 1,510.28 |
| | | GOOD & WELFARE | 815.13 |
| | | REPEATER FUND | 842.35 |
| | | CHECKING | 3,167.76 |
| | | SAVINGS | 2,236.33 |
| | | PETTY CASH | 25.00 |
| | | NET TOTAL | 5,429.09 |
| EXPENSE | | | |
| | | TOTAL | 0.00 |
| INCOME | | | |
| | DUES | 2024 DUES | 40.00 |
| | 2 @ 5.00 PER RENEWAL | REPEATER FUND | 10.00 |
| | GOOD AND WELFARE | GOOD AND WELFARE | 14.00 |
| | DONATIONS FROM KB5PMX | DONATION | 512.59 |
| | GRANT FOR IRVING CLUB | DONATION | 733.00 |
| | DIVIDEND | INTEREST INCOME | 0.22 |
| | | TOTAL | 1,309.81 |
| | | OVERALL NET CHANGE | 1,309.81 |
| BALANCE | 3/31/2024 | | |
| | | GENERAL FUND | 2,795.87 |
| | | GOOD & WELFARE | 829.13 |
| | | REPEATER FUND | 852.35 |
| | | CHECKING | 4,477.35 |
| | | SAVINGS +.22 | 2,236.55 |
| | | PETTY CASH | 25.00 |
| | | NET TOTAL | 6,738.90 |

Membership

Let us 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

2024 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

2024 Club Officers

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| President: | Joe Wigner, K5MGY – joe.wigner@gmail.com |
| Vice President: | Price Wooldridge, K5NNL - pricewool@gmail.com |
| 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@yahoo.com – 817-465-5624 |
| Emergency Coordinator: | Clayton Starkweather, K5CWS – clayton.starkweather@gmail.com |
| Trustee: | Maurice Martin, KM5RF – km5rf@att.net – 817-266-9906 |
| Agent of Record: | Phil Stage, N5PWW – n5pww@yahoo.com – 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 |