



COMMUNICATOR

Volume XI, November 2012

Arlington Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 1702, Arlington, Texas 76004-1702

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November Program

We will have our elections for club officers at the November meeting.



Ten Meters

Want to work DX but you're only a Tech? Don't have room for that 40m beam? Homeowners Association got you singing the antenna blues? You might just want to check out the action on 10 meters. All classes of Amateurs have SSB and CW privileges on at least a portion of the band and with sunspot cycle 24 approaching it's peak there has been a lot of activity. There is even an organization whose sole purpose is to promote the use of the band.

The bar is low for entry into 10 meters. A dipole antenna takes less than 17 feet of wire. Some PVC fittings from the hardware store and a little bit of coax will get you going. What, you don't have a radio that will do 10? Pick up a used Radio Shack HTX-10 for less than \$100 and you're good to go. Got an old CB antenna in the garage? It takes just a few minutes to adjust it for 10 meters.

Ok, so you've got a radio and you hung a piece of wire in the trees, now what? All Amateurs can use SSB on 28.300 to 28.500 MHz, so that's a good place to start. When the band is open you don't need big power or stacked monoband yagi's to work the world. Lately the band has been open to Africa and Europe in the mornings and Asia and the Pacific in the early evenings. Conditions are usually best in the Summer months and in December due to Sporadic E propagation. December 8 – 9 is the big ARRL 10 meter contest.

What can you work? Well, just about anywhere depending on the time and conditions. I was able to work over 50 countries on a contest weekend in October and over 120 countries so far this year with 100 Watts or less. South America is usually the easiest part of the world to work. Brazil and Argentina show up in my log a lot. Europe should prove fruitful on good mornings. Africa, Asia and the Pacific are a little more difficult.

Ten-Ten International (<http://www.ten-ten.org>) was founded to promote the use of 10 meters. A local chapter of Ten-Ten got me interested in the band. Ten-Ten also promotes several low pressure contests yearly. There are a couple of local nets on 28.460 on Wednesday and Sundays at 8:00pm. They'd love to help get you started on 10.

Calendar of Events

November 16 Executive Board meeting – 6:30pm, 501 W. Sanford. This is an open meeting, everyone is encouraged to attend.

November 16 General Membership meeting – 7:30pm, 501 W. Sanford

November 17 Dining out – 5:00pm, Red Robin, Arlington Highlands

November 17 VE Testing – 10:00am, 401 W. Sanford. Enter on North side of the building.

December 1 First Saturday Breakfast – 8:30am Pioneer Restaurant, 306 109th St.

December 1 VE Testing – 10:00am, 401 W. Sanford. Enter on North side of the building.

December 4 AARC Annual Holiday Party – 6:30pm, Blackeyed Pea, 1400 N. Collins

Tidbits

Ham Of The Year (HOTY) Bill Tatsch, AE5BT, will continue collecting ballots for the 2012 HOTY award at the November meeting. The award will be presented at the annual Holiday Party in December. There are lots of hard working hams in the club. Help us recognize one of them by casting your vote.

Elections for the Executive Board are coming up in November. Two Board members, Treasurer Chris Webster, K5LTX and newsletter editor Rob, NV5E will not be running for office. If you've ever had a desire to have more of a say in how the club operates this is a perfect time to step up. Enthusiasm is more important than prior experience. The resigning Board members will help make the transition as smooth as possible.

There was a good turn out of club members and scouts at the JOTA event on October 20th. There were two HF SSB stations, a QRP CW station and a VHF/UHF station set up. In addition, Virginia, NV5F, set up a CW demonstration/testing area for scouts to try for their Morse Interpreter strip. All of the scouts were able to get on the air and make contacts. Thanks to Bill, AE5BT, for setting things up with the Boy Scouts and thanks to W5DJO, W5FJB, N5ACK, NE5DL, AD5ST, KD5LCT, NV5E, KB2VQA and anyone I might have missed.

The DFW Contesting group will have a brunch at the Division Street Diner at 10:00am on December 1st. A little bit of a conflict with the club breakfast that morning but it's a great opportunity to meet some fellow hams that like to give their radios and themselves a workout.

I understand that W5GVP may have a slightly used TS-940s for sale. How's that new FT-2000 working for you Tom?

ARRL November Sweepstakes, SSB version, is this weekend. A great way to practice for Field Day, test out some new gear, or work some states you might need for Worked All States. The exchange is complicated but it's a great way to hone your contesting skills. Try to work all 83 W and VE sections. See the ARRL website for details: <http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes>

Remember to buy your raffle tickets for the Yaesu FT-2900R two meter mobile transceiver to be given away in December. Outside of dues this is the big fundraiser of the year, so support your club! Tickets are just \$5.00 each.

October 2012 Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Andy KB2VQA, Secretary

The regular meeting of the Executive Board of the AARC was held on October 19th, 2012 at 6:37pm. Present were President, Dennis N5ACK; Vice President, Virginia NV5F; Secretary, Andy KB2VQA; Treasurer, Chris K5LTX; Editor, Rob NV5E; Training Coordinator and Agent of Record, Phil N5PWW; Emergency Coordinator, Bill AE5BT; and Trustee, Maurice KM5RF.

Chris K5LTX reviewed the financial report and noted that he paid for the mobile radio to be raffled in December.

Phil N5PWW reported that he conducts testing sessions on the first and third Saturdays of the month. There are training sessions for Technician and General classes.

Bill AE5BT noted that on October 20th the Club will setup stations to participate in the Boy Scouts' Jamboree on the Air (JOTA).

The meeting adjourned at 7:05pm.

September 2012 Membership Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Andy KB2VQA, Secretary

The regular meeting of the Membership of the AARC was called to order at 7:30pm October 19th, 2012 by the President, Dennis N5ACK. Other Board members present included Vice President, Virginia NV5F; Secretary, Andy KB2VQA; Treasurer, Chris K5LTX; Editor, Rob NV5E; Training Coordinator and Agent of Record, Phil N5PWW; Emergency Coordinator, Bill AE5BT; and Trustee, Maurice KM5RF.

Dennis N5ACK asked that the meeting attendees introduce themselves by name and call sign. He announced that Club officer elections will be held next month.

Chris K5LTX reviewed the financial report. A motion was made and carried to accept for audit the financial report as published.

The minutes for the September meetings were submitted for publication in the October 2012 newsletter. A motion was made and carried to accept the minutes as published.

Phil N5PWW continues to hold test sessions on the first and third Saturdays of the month. Training sessions for Technician and General classes have been scheduled for October 29th and 30th. A test session will be offered at the completion of the training sessions.

Bill AE5BT is collecting ballots for Ham of the Year. He also informed the Membership of an opportunity to participate in the Boy Scout event known as Jamboree on the Air (JOTA). On October 20th it will be the 55th anniversary of JOTA. At 9am tomorrow, interested AARC members will be setting up stations. The plan is to run the stations from 10am to 2pm.

Rob NV5E printed and distributed the newsletter.


A break was taken at 7:55pm. At 8:05pm, Wayne AD5ST gave a presentation on methods by which the AARC can optimize its performance during Field Day.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00pm.

The sign-in sheet showed 31 people in attendance, 27 indicating AARC membership.

August Financial Report

Submitted by Chris, K5LTX, Treasurer

| AARC October 2012 Financial Report | | | | | | | |
|--|---------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|------------|
|  | | | | | | | |
| | Actual | Actual | Actual | Actual | Actual | Actual | |
| | May-12 | Jun-12 | Jul-12 | Aug-12 | Sep-12 | Oct-12 | |
| Income | | | | | | | |
| Dues | \$25.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$35.00 | |
| PayPal Dues | \$47.94 | \$81.62 | \$23.97 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$23.97 | |
| Radio Raffle | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$90.00 | \$110.00 | |
| Good & Welfare | \$16.00 | \$16.00 | \$12.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | |
| CD interest | \$0.24 | \$0.00 | \$0.36 | \$0.37 | \$0.37 | \$0.36 | |
| | \$89.18 | \$97.62 | \$36.33 | \$0.37 | \$90.37 | \$169.33 | |
| Expenses | | | | | | | |
| Storage Hut | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$225.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | |
| Field Day expenses member reimbursement | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$42.99 | \$0.00 | |
| Radio for raffle | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$169.99 | \$0.00 | |
| Bank fees | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | |
| 1-800-Flowers (G&W) | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$53.98 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | |
| Bank fee donation | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | |
| Donation - ARRL scholarship fund | \$0.00 | \$50.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | |
| SafeHaven donation | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | |
| Web Hosting & Domain Fees (Go Daddy) | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$97.09 | |
| 1 year PO Box fees | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | |
| | \$0.00 | \$50.00 | \$53.98 | \$225.00 | \$212.98 | \$97.09 | |
| Variance | | | | | | | |
| | \$89.18 | \$47.62 | -\$17.65 | -\$224.63 | -\$122.61 | \$72.24 | |
| | Actual | Actual | Actual | Actual | Actual | Actual | Ending |
| | May-12 | Jun-12 | Jul-12 | Aug-12 | Sep-12 | Oct-12 | Balances |
| General Fund | \$72.94 | \$81.62 | \$23.97 | -\$225.00 | -\$122.98 | \$71.88 | \$2,025.64 |
| Repeater Fund | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,211.90 |
| Good & Welfare | \$16.00 | -\$34.00 | -\$41.98 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$587.42 |
| Chase/Capital One Checking | \$88.94 | \$47.62 | -\$18.01 | -\$225.00 | -\$122.98 | \$71.88 | \$3,824.96 |
| Chase CD/Capital One CD (as of June 2012) | \$0.24 | \$0.00 | \$0.36 | \$0.37 | \$0.37 | \$0.36 | \$2,163.89 |
| Total Chase Bank | \$89.18 | \$47.62 | -\$17.65 | -\$224.63 | -\$122.61 | \$72.24 | \$5,988.85 |
| Petty Cash | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$25.00 |
| Total - All Balances | \$89.18 | \$47.62 | -\$17.65 | -\$224.63 | -\$122.61 | \$72.24 | \$6,013.85 |
| <p>Note: \$225.00 for 6 month's storage paid 8/31/12; good through 2/28/13.</p> <p>Note: The new Capital One CD, opened 6/19/12, has a maturity date of 12/19/12.</p> <p>Prepared by Chris Webster, K5LTX Treasurer AARC since August 2009</p> | | | | | | | |

Volunteers Needed to Help Test Warning Sirens

If you live or work in Arlington, chances are you have heard the wail of one of our warning sirens. In the event of severe weather, these sirens going off might save your life. But, what if they did not go off? Where would we be then?

Volunteer observers, working in conjunction with the Arlington Fire Department, Office of Emergency Management, assist in the testing of the city's sirens on the first Wednesday of each month, weather permitting. Observers monitor and report on the RC repeater, K5SLD, 147.140 MHz, pl 110.9. There are provisions for call-in reports from non-ham observers as well.

If you have the time available, we would love to enlist your cooperation and radio expertise in this most necessary and rewarding effort. Your report of a malfunctioning siren just might mean the saving of a life or avoidance of bodily injury.

Siren observer lists are emailed to known participants 1 to 2 days in advance. Please monitor our 147.140 repeater starting about 11:45am. on the day of the test. Announcements begin at 12:15pm pm., and the formal net opens about 12:45pm on test day. All observers should be on location and checked in by that time. Testing begins at 1:00pm and is usually concluded by 1:20pm. You may join us at any time that you are able. Detailed maps in PDF and printed formats will be available upon request to assist you in locating the sirens. We particularly need observers in the western and southern parts of Arlington. For more information contact Linda, W5LMC, at l_mcmillen@prodigy.net or the Office of Emergency Management at 817-459-6939.

2012 Club Officers

President: Dennis McGrath N5ACK – n5ack@arrl.net – 972-352-6602

Vice President: Virginia Smith NV5F – pipertoo@earthlink.net – 601-467-5920

Secretary: Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA – kb2vqa@optonline.net – 817-652-0307

Treasurer: Chris Webster K5LTX – Chris.Webster@hcahealthcare.com – 817-480-2918

Editor: Rob May NV5E – roblitespeed@hotmail.com – 817-303-8891

Training Coordinator: Phil Stage N5PWW – n5pww@sbcglobal.net – 817-465-5624

Emergency Coordinator: Bill Tatsch Jr. AE5BT – ae5bt@att.net – 817-467-4619

Trustee: Maurice Martin KM5RF – km5rf@att.net – 817-266-9906

Agent of Record: Phil Stage N5PWW – n5pww@sbcglobal.net – 817-465-5624

Web Master

Jason Archip KD5LCT – kd5lct@endofnet.com – 817-821-9510

Repeater Committee

Chairman Paul Baumgardner W5PSB

Maurice Martin KM5RF and Harold Reasoner K5SXX

Join us! http://www.k5sld.com/forms/aarc_membership_application_form_distributed.pdf