



COMMUNICATOR

APRIL 2017

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

On Frequency

Letter from the President

Time is flying by fast! We are just a month away from the annual picnic, which should be a great time to get together and make some radio contacts. I encourage new members to come so you can get to know some folks and maybe get on the air. The picnic is being held at the same place we had it last year... River Legacy Park at the Raccoon Run Pavilion. I've provided a map of the park pavilions to make it easier to find. Feel free to bring a side dish, chips or dessert. I will provide hot dogs, drinks and basic supplies. We should have a couple of radios setup running off of a generator or battery power (I'll have my solar panel setup).

Please let me know if you have any ideas for new club activities we could try this year. I would be interested in organizing a radio camping trip, so we might be able to start discussion at this month's meeting. There are several good campgrounds in Texas, and the one I went to in Oklahoma would be a good option too.

Have a great month! I am looking forward to the activities and programs still coming this year.

David
KB3UBD

River Legacy Parks

701 NW Green Oaks Blvd., 76006



Bob Heil, Ham Nation, and the Pine Board Project by Virginia Smith NV5F

Last month's club meeting was great fun, and we were happy to have so many members and guests come out to participate in our Skype meeting with Bob Heil, K9EID. His lifetime in ham radio and sound engineering, as well as music is a treasure to us all, to say the least. All should be encouraged to take full advantage of his willingness to share his love of our great hobby and his expertise in the basics of what makes good radio. For those who are not aware of Bob Heil's Ham Nation program, you would benefit from taking the time to look it up on YouTube, where all of the nearly 300 shows are available in their entirety. Bob launched this weekly video webcast on twit.tv back in 2011. TWIT stands for "This Week in Tech," which is an online "TV channel" dedicated to the latest in technology. Ham Nation is unique among its programs, which tend to focus on computers, software, and general gadgetry, all of which converge neatly on Ham Nation. This interdisciplinary role which it plays might lead one to consider radio as the root of all electronic technology. You can watch Ham Nation live each Wednesday night on twit.tv at 8:00 PM Central.

Among Ham Nation's regular hosts are - of course - Bob Heil K9EID, Gordon West WB6NOA, George Thomas W5JDX, and Don Wilbanks AE5DW with his weekly recap of the top stories from "Amateur Radio Newsline." There are also alternating biweekly segments on contesting/DX and viewer submitted photos and videos. The video webcast "Ham Radio Now" has its roots in the early days of Ham Nation when that show's creator Gary Pearce KN4AQ would sit in for Bob and produced some wonderful video segments which soon took on a life of their own. George Thomas was also an early contributor to Ham Nation with his extremely popular segment entitled "Smoke and Solder," based on humorous yet informative bits from his own webcast, "Amateur Logic," a monthly program which predates Ham Nation by several years. George also recently launched a ham radio education webcast entitled "Ham College." Any ham could brush up on concepts which have rusted a little since the last license exam with Ham College. Both "Ham College" and "Amateur Logic" are inexhaustibly packed George's dry and nerdy sense of humor, as well as information, projects and entertainment. Go back and at least watch the yearly holiday shows, which somehow manage to mix ham radio, Christmas and comedy.

Unlike Ham Nation, which must pack several detailed segments into about an hour, George's programs are more leisurely, open-ended, and refreshingly distracted. These shows play like an evening with geeky friends, covering subjects like food, beer, and old sci-fi movies and shows, while managing to inform on current radio and computer technology, as well as communication history. George and his co-host Tommy Martin N5ZNO have an ongoing food exchange with their recurring Skype co-hosts, Peter Barrett VK3PB from Australia, and Mike Morneau VE3MIC from Canada. There's nothing like watching two guys from Mississippi attempting to eat Vegamite! (In a later segment, they get Peter to eat a bowl of grits!)

Ham Nation is also peppered with ongoing "plots," not the least of which being Bob Heil's current retro radio romp, "The Pine Board Project." The project is in keeping with Bob's love of learning and understanding radio and is designed to take those old and new to ham radio through a series of small projects, beginning with a simple power supply built with components mounted on a small scrap of pine board and ultimately culminating in several

components (also built on pine boards) to comprise an AM tube transmitter with accompanying mic pre-amp which will operate at QRP output and work on 80 meters AM and CW. The point is seeing how simple radio is and to understand how it works by seeing everything and to enjoy being able to home brew something from scratch and to see it work! Bob reports that the first few segments of the Pine Board Project on Ham Nation this spring have been wildly popular. There are plans to put together a website which will include parts lists, schematics and distributor information for classic parts. Of course, those who are anxious to get going and have not seen the Ham Nation episodes can catch up with the back episodes on YouTube.

Ham Nation and Amateur Logic also have companion websites which each provide a WIKI with show notes and index of topics for each episode, so one can even hand pick the shows that are of interest. And, of course there are countless other projects from simple to complicated: from making a telegraph with batteries and wires, to replacing a broken laptop screen! These programs are invaluable to hams and technology fans, a veritable university education in communication and technology - all very entertaining and all for free! So use them and enjoy them, and you will soon find that our hobby is truly inexhaustible... and quite accessible.

Ham Nation Live on TWIT Wednesday at 8:00 pm - <https://twit.tv/live>

Ham Nation on TWIT - <https://twit.tv/shows/ham-nation>

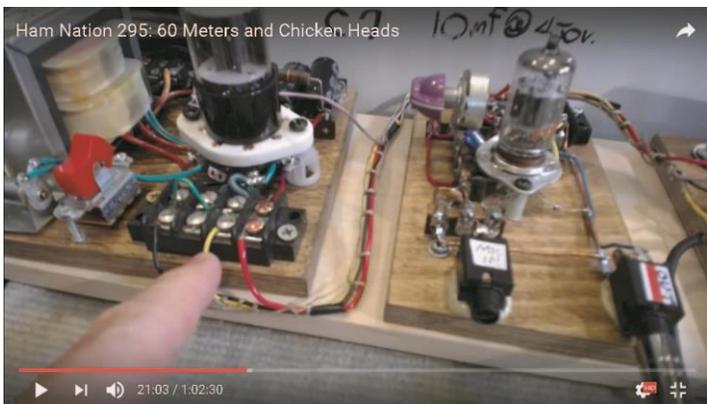
Ham Nation on YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/user/TWiTHamNation>

Ham Nation show WIKI - http://wiki.twit.tv/wiki/Ham_Nation

Amateur Logic - <http://www.amateurlogic.com>

Amateur Logic WIKI - <http://amateurlogic.tv/wiki/doku.php>

Ham Radio Now – <https://www.hamradionow.tv/>



Announcements

April Meeting Topic

Welcome to System Fusion - Repeaters 101

This month's club meeting will feature a presentation by Maurice Martin KM5RF titled 'System Fusion Repeaters 101'. We will focus on the features and use of the club's new Yaesu System Fusion DR-1X repeater.

The presentation should be of interest to members interested in the new digital technology, or those who are new to the club or to this new digital/analog repeater system. There will also be a short presentation on the RF Shark Open Spot set up in portable operation. We will have a repeater to show as well as a wide variety of C4FM Digital radios. So if you're not sure what all that new repeater can do, come and find out!



For Sale

I have a used Model MFJ-259 1.8-170MHz analyzer for sale at \$100.

Contact me via email: jstiebin@sbcglobal.net

Thanks.

Jim Stiebing
WB5UFD

Items of Note

This is the last Newsletter using the Club's classic logo. Next month we will begin using the new club logo.

Birthdays

Mark Chronister 4/06
Kelly Wouters 4/17

Calendar of Events

April 21: General Membership Meeting 7:30 pm, 501 W. Sanford.

==== Dining Out (April 22, 5:00 pm) ====

Babe's Chicken Dinner House, 230 N. Center St., Arlington, TX 76011

==== Breakfast (May 6, 8:30 am) ====

Pioneer Restaurant 306 109th St, Arlington, TX 76011

May 06: 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.

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 David Walker W5DJO (cushmantx@sbcglobal.net) or the Office Of Emergency Management (817-459-6939).

Meeting Minutes

March 2017 Membership Meeting Minutes submitted by Andy Kapushoc KB2VQA, Secretary

The regular meeting of the membership of the AARC was called to order at 7:31 pm on March 17th, 2017 by the President, David KB3UBD. Other board members present included Vice President, Virginia NV5F; Secretary, Andy KB2VQA; Treasurer and Repeater Trustee, Maurice KM5RF; Emergency Coordinator, Bill AE5BT; Training Coordinator and Agent of Record, Phil N5PWW; and Editor, Trey AF5XS.

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

David informed the membership that a survey was sent to the membership by the Membership Committee Chair, Gray Strickland KG5CEA. If any AARC members would be interested in volunteering on the Membership Committee, contact Gray.

The minutes for the February meetings were submitted for publication in the March 2017 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 at 10 am. Phil conducted a Technician Class training session in early March. A total of 8 people participated in the session, and all 8 passed the exam.

Bill AE5BT announced that there were only 99 days remaining until Field Day, which is held on June 24th and 25th, 2017. Rob May NV5E will lead a Field Day Planning Committee meeting.

Trey AF5XS published and distributed the March newsletter. If you would like to submit information for publication in the newsletter, contact Trey with the information no later than the Sunday before the club meeting.

Maurice KM5RF reviewed the treasurer's report as it appeared in the newsletter. A motion was made and carried to accept for audit the report as published.

David KB3UBD reserved a pavilion at River Legacy Park for the Saturday after the May club meeting for the purpose of holding the AARC picnic. A motion was made and carrier to reimburse David for the cost (\$80) of the reservation.

Virginia NV5F presented a redesigned AARC logo and T-shirt designed. The membership voted in favor of the new AARC logo and T-shirt design. Virginia also informed the membership that the presentation this evening would be by Bob Heil (via Skype). Next month's presentation will be given by Maurice on the topic of using the repeater.

A break was taken at 8:02 pm and the meeting resumed at 8:18 pm with a presentation by Bob Heil.

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 pm. The sign-in sheet showed 29 people in attendance, 27 indicating AARC membership.

**March 2017 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, 2017 at 6:32 pm. Present were President, David KB3UBD; Vice President, Virginia NV5F; Secretary, Andy KB2VQA; Treasurer and Repeater Trustee, Maurice KM5RF; Emergency Coordinator, Bill AE5BT Training Coordinator and Agent of Record, Phil N5PWW; and Editor, Trey AF5XS.

Gray Strickland KG5CEA, the Membership Committee Chair, reported that he sent a survey to the membership via email.

Virginia NV5F will present a newly designed AARC logo to the membership tonight. Next month's presentation will be a tutorial on the repeater by Maurice.

Maurice KM5RF reviewed the financial report with the board.

Phil N5PWW will hold a testing session tomorrow. He and Dave Walker W5DJO conducted a Technician Class training session in the month of March. The participants numbered 8, and all passed the exam.

Andy KB2VQA submitted the meeting minutes from the month of February for publication in the March newsletter.

Trey AF5XS published and distributed the newsletter for the month of March.

David KB3UBD mentioned that he made the reservation for a pavilion at River Legacy Park. The AARC picnic will be held there on Saturday, May 20th from 8 am to 2 pm. This will give an opportunity for people to gain operating experience in preparation for Field Day.

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm.

AARC March 2017 Financial Report

DATE	NUM	DESCRIPTION	CATEGORY	AMOUNT	BALANCE
BALANCE 12/31/2016	2/28/2017				
			GENERAL FUND		\$2,433.55
			G&W REPEATER FUND		\$243.53
			CHECKING		\$364.00
			SAVINGS		\$25.00
			C.D.		\$2,173.28
			PETTY CASH		\$25.00
			NET TOTAL		\$5,264.36
			PAVILION RENTAL		-\$80.00
EXPENSES	2006	David Spore AARL Equipment Insurance	INSURANCE		-\$69.30
	EFT				
INCOME	DEP	DUES	DUES		\$219.85
	DEP	G&W	G&W		\$0.00
	DEP	CLUB SHIRT SALES	MISC		\$334.00
			NET CHANGE		\$404.55
BALANCE 12/31/2016	3/31/2017				
			GENERAL FUND		\$2,838.10
			G&W REPEATER FUND		\$243.53
			CHECKING		\$364.00
			SAVINGS		\$25.00
			C.D.		\$2,173.28
			PETTY CASH		\$25.00
			NET TOTAL		\$5,668.91

Membership

Print a membership form from our website k5sld.org and join us. Annual dues are \$25 for individuals. 2017 Dues are due.

2017 Club Officers

President:	David Spore KB3UBD – davids@instruments.com – 301-481-8244
Vice President:	Virgina Smith NV5F - virginia@pipertoo.com - 601-467-5920
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 Officer:	David Lucas KF5CFW – kf5cfw@gmail.com – 817-781-7256
Webmaster:	David Lucas KF5CFW – kf5cfw@gmail.com – 817-781-7256
Repeater Committee:	Maurice Martin KM5RF (chair), Gerry Dalton W5MAY