

### CARC Membership Meeting

Tuesday 28 April 2020 7:00 PM  
NOTE THE TIME CHANGE

**THE APRIL 2020 MEETING WILL BE  
CONDUCTED BY VIDEO CONFERENCE!**

### April 28th Meeting via Zoom

While we continue to be subject to the COVID-19 "shelter in place" orders, the Collins Amateur Radio Club will conduct its monthly meetings using Zoom, an audio/video streaming app that conveniently works on virtually any computing platform (including smartphones and tablets).

The CARC Board of Directors has chosen to change our meeting times for Zoom meetings from our normal start time of 5:30 p.m. Our April 28th Zoom meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will last approximately 1-1/2 hours. The meeting session will open for check-ins around 6:45 p.m.

Meeting instructions are being sent to all Club members. It's recommended that members install the Zoom app in advance; but, it's not necessary. The Zoom link will determine if an app is installed and, if necessary, install a temporary version on your device. There's even a telephone dial-in method for those who may be away from a computing device - unfortunately, with dial-in, you won't be able to see the presenter's slides.

Our meeting will follow the traditional format: A brief business meeting followed by a program given by Milton Withers, AD5XD, on the 3905 Century Club Net. Milt will describe the purpose of the 3905 CCN, typical Net operation, the convenient NetLogger software, awards offered by the Club, and the QSL bureau operated for members.

Milton, known as Milt on the radio, was first licensed in 1994. He grew up in North Carolina, and after graduating from college, went to work for the Collins Radio Division of Rockwell International. Starting out in the factory, Milt soon became a microwave field engineer, traveling the world, while the microwave division was sold to Alcatel and later Nokia. He now provides microwave technical support.

Milt became fascinated with radio when he got a pair of walkie-talkies as a Christmas gift at the age of 8 or 9. While in high school, a friend gave him a BC-348Q receiver and he became an SWL. He carried a Sony shortwave radio with him on his business travels.

An avid HF operator, Milt enjoys contesting, chasing DX and special event stations. He operates all modes, but, favors FT8, RTTY and SSB, having achieved 8 Band WAS, 7 Band DXCC, WIA Worked All VKs and Worked All Japan prefectures. He's a member of the Collins ARC, DFW Contest Group, Richardson Wireless Klub, OMISS, and, of course, the 3905 CCN, where he's the Digital Net Coordinator, as well as NCS for the 40 & 80 meter nets for the club.

### CARC Community Service Activities

**Siren Testing** Dennis Cobb WA8ZBT, John McFadden K5TIP and Jim Skinner WB0UNI participate in the Richardson emergency siren testing. The April test was conducted as scheduled. Most sirens worked well, with a few of the usual glitches. The sirens are monitored by amateur radio operators and reports made using the Richardson Wireless Klub (RWK) repeater at 147.120 MHz. Siren testing occasionally uses the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) repeater at 145.430 MHz, which is designated as the backup repeater.

**Crime Watch Patrol** Jim Skinner WB0UNI participates in Richardson Duck Creek Crime Watch Patrol (CWP). CWP members, after successful completion of Richardson Police Department Training, patrol their neighborhoods and report all suspicious activities to the Police Department.

### The CARC Discussion Group

#### Invites You to Join Us

Simply send an email to [kr1zan@arri.net](mailto:kr1zan@arri.net) with a Subject of CARC Group, and, include your name, call sign, email address, and phone number in the body of the message. We'll take care of the rest.

**This is a CARC Member's Only Group.**

We use [groups.io](https://groups.io) as our discussion service. You don't need to register with them, but, by doing so you can access files, databases, photos and more.

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**VE SESSIONS**

**Collins Amateur Radio Club (CARC)** Test sessions take place on fourth Tuesdays, immediately following the regular CARC monthly membership meeting (about 7:30 p.m.). The test sessions are held in Conference Room A of the Methodist Richardson Medical Center, at the Bush/Renner/Shiloh intersection in Richardson. Walk-ins are welcome, but it's best to register with the lead examiner, Kerry Weeks, at [weeks.kerry@gmail.com](mailto:weeks.kerry@gmail.com) or by phone at (214) 478-3230.

**Dallas** tests are held on the fourth Saturday of each month at 1000 hrs. 13350 Floyd Rd. (Old Credit Union) Contact Bob West, WA8YCD 972.917.6362

**Irving** tests are held on the third Saturday of each month at 0900. Fifth and Main St. Contact Bill Revis, KF5BL 252-8015

**McKinney** VE test sessions are held at the Heard Museum the first Sunday of the month. The address is 1 Nature Place, McKinney TX. The time of the testing is 1430, ending no later than 1645. **Note: no tests given on holiday weekends.**

**Garland** testing is held on the fourth Thursday of each month, excluding November, and begins at 1930 sharp. Location is Freeman Heights Baptist Church, 1120 N Garland Ave, Garland (between W Walnut and Buckingham Rd). Enter via the north driveway. A HUGE parking lot is located behind the church. Both the parking lot and the Fellowship Hall are located on the east side of the church building, with big signs by the entrance door. Contact Janet Crenshaw, WB9ZPH at 972.302.9992.

**Plano** testing is on the third Saturday of each month, 1300 hrs at Williams High School, 1717 17<sup>th</sup> St. East Plano. Check Repeater 147.180+ for announcements.

**Richardson** The Richardson Wireless Klub (RWK) VE team hold license testing on the third Thursday of each month at St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church, 1220 West Beltline Rd. Testing begins at 1900 hrs in room 12. Enter through the Northern most door on the east side of the church building. For further information contact Don Klick KG5CK. 972.464.2889 or E-mail [rwkhamtest@gmail.com](mailto:rwkhamtest@gmail.com).

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**THE PREZ SEZ ...**

*by Frank Krizan, KR1ZAN*

Wow! Who would have imagined at the start of 2020 that we would be staying at home, working from home, social distancing, wearing masks (and it's not even Halloween or a stick-up) and using words like coronavirus, COVID-19, shelter-in-place, and, the one that has the media in a frenzy - Hydroxychloroquine!

Things, places and events have been thrown into a turmoil. I don't have to tell you that. Our Club has been affected: our meeting place cancelled, VE test sessions cancelled, Club operating events cancelled, hamfests cancelled, training classes cancelled and more. We substituted an on-the-air gathering for our March meeting and we're planning to conduct our April meeting using Zoom.

Our newly elected Club officers held a Board meeting using Zoom in mid April, and, it proved to be successful. I won't bore you with the minutia of meeting details, but, here's a relatively quick overview of the meeting:

- 1) All officers participated, plus the Newsletter Editor and Webmaster. Written inputs were received from K3NT and WA8ZBT.
- 2) Since the Club is converting to HamClubOnline for membership records, the member's anniversary will be associated with the date of their initial application. Existing members will continue with Dec. 31st unless they receive partial dues credit.
- 3) The April 28th meeting will be conducted using Zoom. All members are receiving instructions on how to install Zoom and join the meeting. Future meetings may, also, be conducted using Zoom if the April meeting is successful.
- 4) Field Day at the Club Station will be conducted by a minimal crew led by Bob Kirby, K3NT, and Dennis

Cobb, WA8ZBT. More details in a Field Day 2020 article elsewhere in this newsletter.

- 5) Club leadership will use email to communicate amongst themselves for Club business.
- 6) The need for an annual operating plan and budget, as well as a long range plan, was discussed and has been deferred to a future Board meeting.
- 7) Other than current projects underway and maintenance, major acquisitions are deferred until the coronavirus pandemic has subsided and a committee can be appointed to evaluate the Club Station status and develop an improvement plan.
- 8) ARRL CARC VE Testing is on-hold until the social distancing mandate is lifted and we have a facility in which to conduct tests. The alternative of "remote testing" is being followed and will be pursued if the VE Team determines it is practical for us.
- 9) The use of the N5CXX 70cm repeater for regular Nets was approved. A schedule is announced elsewhere in this newsletter.
- 10) The Club has a convenient email alias ([n5cxx@arrl.net](mailto:n5cxx@arrl.net)) which forwards to our Club Secretary. The CARC profile at ARRL has been brought up to date.

The next few months is somewhat of a toss-up. Kerry K5WKS is attempting to keep our programs on schedule. We're not sure if Collins Aerospace Fun Day will occur on schedule or be postponed/cancelled.

Please make every effort to participate in our Zoom meetings. We're trying our best to make them interesting and useful.

de KR1ZAN

## VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome New Members:

|        |                 |
|--------|-----------------|
| WA5TCA | Box, Jeff L.    |
| AD5XD  | Withers, Milton |
| KI5FJG | Wright, Adam    |
| NN2X   | Wright, Tom     |

Current Membership - 50

|           |    |
|-----------|----|
| Full      | 30 |
| Associate | 12 |
| Life      | 8  |

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

There is no Secretary's Report this month since last month's meeting was, unfortunately, cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Be sure to read the rest of this newsletter to catch up on what has been going on.

## FIELD DAY - 2020

ARRL Field Day is fast approaching. This year, it's Saturday and Sunday, June 27 & 28. The ARRL Field Day announcement puts it this way: "Every June, more than 40,000 hams throughout North America set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill and service to our communities and our nation. It combines public service, emergency preparedness, community outreach, and technical skills all in a single event. Field Day has been an annual event since 1933, and remains the most popular event in ham radio."



But, this year, the coronavirus epidemic has forced a number of conditions on public gatherings. How will social distancing and crowd sizes impact functions that involve demonstrations? What are our concerns about spreading the virus through contact or closeness? What restrictions have governments and health authorities put on functions, such as Field Day?

A Field Day Survey was conducted by our Club at the February meeting and the majority of respondents, who weren't committed to participating with another club, wanted to operate Field Day from our Club Station in Building 461. Longtime Field Day enthusiasts, Bob Kirby, K3NT, and Dennis Cobb, WA8ZBT, are planning to operate FD at the Club Station. The Station is small and cannot accommodate many people. If we have any restrictions on gathering sizes or social distancing, two people at a time may be the limit - one person on each of the state-of-the-art stations.

**If you wish to participate in Field Day from the Club Station, you must contact Bob Kirby via email at [k3nt.tx@gmail.com](mailto:k3nt.tx@gmail.com)** Bob has informed the Club that no formal organization is planned, nor will there be a formal, traditional Field Day meal and no one is available to escort anyone who is not badged.

If you are a member of another area Club, you may want to check on their Field Day plans and if you can participate. I've already heard that a few have decided on limited operators and are setting up with distance separating the stations in anticipation of virus rules persisting into the summer. A couple of these clubs have already filled their operating slots.

But, another very good option is to operate from your home station, ideally under emergency power. Some folks have been talking about setting up in their back yards to "simulate the field." What is Field Day? What are the Rules? How do I learn more? Everything you need to know about Field Day can be found at: <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

The main thing is study and re-study the rules. It's one thing when a Club conducts a large Field Day operation, and, another when you do it all by yourself.

Also, do a search on YouTube for "Field Day". There, you'll find a number of great (and not so great) videos of Field Days gone by. Some successful — some not so. As an aid for those who are new to ham radio, and, Field Day in particular, CARC is considering conducting a Zoom tele-conference sometime in May to conduct a workshop on Field Day rules, basic operating, etc. and answering questions for those who are setting up their own operations.



Post Field Day syndrome.

("NØUJR and His Friends" Cartoons used by Permission from Greg Trook, NØUJR)

## ACTIVITY MANAGER'S REPORT

by Kerry Weeks, K5WKS

Our April program, 4/28, is about the 3905 Century Club Net, presented by Milton Withers, AD5XD. This will be our first Zoom meeting, and, I hope all members will give this new mode of meeting a try. Other clubs in the area have been using Zoom very successfully to conduct their meetings.

Because our meeting room at Methodist Richardson Hospital was cancelled in March, we had to cancel our meeting.

We substituted a repeater checkin on the Collins ARC 70cm repeater. Frank KR1ZAN was our Net Control for the 2 hour test from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. We had a total of 7 check-ins, 4 CARC members and 3 non-members. The good news is we gained a new member from this Net. We plan to start conducting regular weekly nets (see article elsewhere in newsletter). I hope you'll become a regular participant.

For May, we had planned to offer training for the Field Day software and rules which we were planning to use; but, now that we're simplifying plans for FD, we're considering offering a special Zoom workshop (date TBD) to help newcomers to Field Day understand the rules and what to expect with FD, and, get a program of interest in May. We expect our May meeting will be a Zoom meeting.

The remainder of our monthly meeting programs, beginning in June, should be stable. We haven't heard what's happening with the Collins Aerospace Fun Day in June. Let's hope we get back to normal soon.

If you have ideas for programs or Club activities, send them to me at [weeks.kerry@gmail.com](mailto:weeks.kerry@gmail.com)

## CARC VE TEAM REPORT

by Kerry Weeks, K5WKS

The coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic has caused us to have to cancel all our planned VE Test Sessions until we are able to get access to our meeting room at the hospital.

You may have heard of recent attempts at conducting remote testing, but, our VE Team is not setup to handle all the logistics of making this happen. Our VEC, the ARRL, is evaluating a method for remote testing, but, it may not be ready until after we are able to meet in person, once again.

If you would like to be added to a waiting list, send your name, phone number, and call sign (if you are currently licensed) to [weeks.kerry@gmail.com](mailto:weeks.kerry@gmail.com) Once we get the go-ahead to either conduct remote testing or re-start our in-person test sessions, we'll let you know.

In the meantime, keep studying and practicing exams online so you're prepared for the test once the quarantine is lifted.

## CARC Mentoring Net

Beginning Tuesday, May 5, 2020, at 5:30 p.m., the Collins Amateur Radio Club will host a weekly "driving home" Mentor Net on the CARC repeater, 441.875 MHz, +5MHz offset, PL=131.8 Hz. The Nets are expected to last 30 to 45 minutes. The Nets will take place on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 5th Tuesdays. The 4th Tuesday is a Regular Club Meeting, so no Net will be conducted.

Stations will be invited to check-in, ask questions, make announcement, share stories, interact with others on frequency, and the like. Announcements of upcoming Club

meetings and activities will be included. Brief training segments are, also, being considered.

Have something to buy, sell or trade? This Net will be another path for getting the word out. You may just find a customer or seller.

e're calling this a Mentoring Net because we believe that our Club's greatest assets are our members. Need help? Hopefully, someone will chime in with a suggestion or an offer to help.

Would you be willing to help out as a Net Control Station on a revolving basis? The more NCS volunteers we get, the fewer times per year we have to "run the show". Don't know how to be an NCS? Remember, this is a Mentoring Net. We'll all pitch in to help. To volunteer, contact Frank at [kr1zan@arrl.net](mailto:kr1zan@arrl.net)

## Sporadic SIGNALS

*captured by Frank KR1ZAN*



In case you didn't catch it, **Michael Van Norman, K6VN, from Santa Clarita, CA, won the Elecraft K4 raffle** which the Midland St. Patrick's Day Hamfest conducted! The Hamfest was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but, the

drawing was held on schedule at the MARC clubhouse on Saturday, March 21. Midland Police Chief Seth Herman drew the winning ticket. A video of the drawing is posted on their website: [w5qgg.org](http://w5qgg.org)

From the March 23, 2020 Austin SwapNet Newsletter: contributed by Donald, K6RV:

Here is something to occupy your time for a few minutes. **Very interesting info about Louis Varney, G5RV, and his invention of the G5RV dipole in 1946.** <https://www.mpoweruk.com/papers/G5RV.pdf>

As an instructor in years gone by, we were challenged to answer the question using the acronym **WIIFM (What's In It For Me?)**. Some members (who are now former members) of the ARRL complained over the years that the annual dues were getting too costly for their wallet. I'm sure they were thinking WIIFM? Well, **as a member of the ARRL, you now get \$143 worth of publications for your single ARRL membership of \$49.** In mid-April, ARRL Publications turned on digital access to all of the League's magazines - **QST** (the traditional ham mag), **On The Air** (the mag for new hams), **QEX** (the experimenter's mag) and **NCJ** (the mag for contesters). There's lots more reasons to be a member of ARRL — here's an article from 2015 that lists many more - <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/QST/This%20Month%20in%20QST/October2015/Value.pdf> If you're not an ARRL member, I hope you'll seriously consider signing up.

**Don't have an HF rig or the ability to string up antennas** and would like to get a feel of what HF propagation is like? There's a software product that may help you fill the void until the real thing comes along.

**HamSphere® ([hamsphere.com](http://hamsphere.com)) is a virtual Ham Radio Transceiver.** Once installed, you will be able to communicate with thousands of Amateur Radio operators and Radio Enthusiasts in over 250 DXCC countries around the world. You can even use HamSphere without a Ham Radio license by using a special HamSphere call sign. HamSphere is a highly realistic shortwave simulation based on SDR (Software Defined Radio) technology.

It's not only a virtual XCVR, but, a complete Ham Radio "society" -- logbooks, qsl cards, awards, Nets and more. You can try out powerful transmitters, elaborate antennas and learn a great deal about propagation. BUT, remember -- it's not REAL ham radio -- it's a simulation. It's been suggested that having this app on your smartphone allows you to demonstrate ham radio to someone who's curious no matter where you are. **HamSphere can be downloaded for free for virtually all platforms** with access to a great many features for a 30-day free trial. After that, for more time and features, the cost is 35 Euros (approx US\$38) annually.

**Wondering what to do after working the FM birds?** Sean Kutzko, KX9X has updated his series of satellite operating tips with "Satellite Basics (Part 3): Upgrading to the Linear Satellites". Covering everything from equipment suggestions to proper tuning procedures, this information-packed article can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/ANS-082-Linear-Birds>.

**807s Anyone?** I was corresponding with an ARRL HQ staffer recently and noted that her call sign was **KM1IPA**. **Kimberly McNeil** is a Senior Member Services Representative for the League. I looked up her call and saw that it's a vanity call, so I had to ask: "I can see that the KM stands for your initials, but, what's the IPA stand for?" Her answer: "Yes, the KM is for my initials and the IPA stands for one of my favorite beverages, the India Pale Ale."

From the Austin ARC SwapNet Newsletter Mar. 30, 2020: This comment stemmed from **concerns about the coronavirus and its effect on one's lungs.**

As one still has to be authorized to get a medical evaluation, one can do a quick self-check.

- Take and Hold a -big- breath for ~10 secs.

- If you notice any new discomfort, tightness or coughing, it is worth noting and keeping track of any progression.

**Mark, N5TXZ, mentioned this** on the RWK discussion group recently:

Came across this page that has many areas of free information, especially NVIS.

<https://duvalaresjax.org/field-operations-manual/>

It's from the Duval County ARES (FL)

From ARRL Contest Update, April 1, 2020:

"Don't forget that pandemic rules about **physical distancing apply, even when working on radio projects**. If you need help to get that antenna in the air, troubleshoot a rig, or any other reason where others are needed to be physically present, it's best to wait for now. Even for outdoor projects."

VE9KK wrote on his blog recently: "**The CWops or CW operators club** has only been around since January 2010 and according to their website now have over 1000 members and I would think that to date it's more than that. Even more exciting is that in 2012 the CW academy was founded within CWops. The CW academy is for those who are interested in learning code, to those who want to improve their speed and then, at the top end those who want to head copy the code! CWops also have a Morse Code trainer page this is a very detailed page and I can only imagine the hours that were put into its creation. With the spare time that has been unexpectedly placed upon our lives and if you're interested in Morse Code or want to improve your code the CWops page is the place to go. I have enrolled in their intermediate course and opted to start in the fall as I am not sure I can put the time aside that is needed during the summer." **Mike Weir, VE9KK**, is a regular contributor to AmateurRadio.com and writes from New Brunswick, Canada. Contact him at [ve9kk@hotmail.com](mailto:ve9kk@hotmail.com).

I've looked at the **Morse Code Trainer** and it has a large number of features. The best part is it's free and runs on virtually any browser.

**Very nice of Joe Wolf, N5UIC, to make a welfare check** during the virus epidemic. Joe, a Life Member of CARC, has always been concerned about the well being of our Club members and other friends. He's always the first to spread the word about health concerns of mutual friends.

The **Lone Star DX Association** posted the following in April:

"At this time Ham-Com 2020 is still a go! Let's keep our fingers crossed!

However despite Ham-com reopening registrations for the time being, ticket sales for the annual **W5DXCC dinner** have slowed to the point where the **LSDXA has decided not to hold the dinner this year**. Due to the uncertainty of the ability to meet our costs we have decided to stand down for this year.

All ticket sales up to this point will be refunded and we will of course hope Ham-com goes on and and that we will be able to see many of you there.

We apologize for any inconvenience or disappointment this causes and hope everyone understands this decision."

Until next month, 73 de KR1ZAN

## A Little Levity during these Interesting Times

Tomorrow is the National Home-school Tornado Drill. Lock your kids in the basement until you give the all clear. You're welcome!

I was so bored I called Jake from State Farm just to talk to someone. He asked me what I was wearing.

2019: Stay away from negative people. 2020: Stay away from positive people.

The world has turned upside down. Old folks are sneaking out of the house, and their kids are yelling at them to stay indoors!

You think it's bad now? In 20 years, our country will be run by people home-schooled by day drinkers...

This virus has done what no woman had been able to do...cancel all sports, shut down all bars, and keep men at home!!!

Do not call the police on suspicious people in your neighborhood! Those are your neighbors without makeup and hair extensions!

Since we can't eat out, now's the perfect time to eat better, get fit, and stay healthy. We're quarantined! Who are we trying to impress? We have snacks, we have sweatpants – I say we use them!

I never thought the comment "I wouldn't touch him/her with a 6 foot pole" would become a national policy, but here we are!

Me: Alexa what's the weather this weekend? Alexa: It doesn't matter – you're not going anywhere.

Can everyone please just follow the government instructions so we can knock out this virus and be done?! I feel like a kindergartner who keeps losing more recess time because one or two kids can't follow directions.

I swear my fridge just said "what the hell do you want now?"

When this is over...what meeting do I attend first...Weight Watchers or AA?

## Home at Last – Part 1

*By Vic, W7VSE (SK)*

*The last few issues have had a story from Vic about his time during WW II in the Army Air Corps. This story, also from Vic, tells about what happened upon his return from his duty in China.*

October 1944. It was nice to be home again. I got the old 4-door brown 1937 Chevy out of the cobwebs in the garage. It had not been driven for quite a while. I got some help and we pushed it and got it started and it ran good. I drove it up a block to the Sinclair service station, parked it by a pump and told Charlie Hunter to "fill-er up." He filled the gas tank

and I got some money out to pay him. He said, "Where are your gas coupons?" I said, "What in the hell are gas coupons?" and then told him I had been in China and India for two years and didn't know anything about coupons. I was in my Army Air Corps uniform. He looked at me for a few seconds, and then he said, "Aw, get the hell out of here!" For the rest of my 30-day stay in Waurika, I got all the gas I needed and coupons were not mentioned again.

Charlie Hunter and I were old friends from way back. We lived just a few houses apart. The first paying job I ever had was mowing his lawn, with an old push mower, for 25 cents a week.

My grandmother that raised me was the only mama I ever knew. She was 70 years old now, (I was 22), and we decided we would go visiting kinfolk. We got in that old Chevy and drove about 120 miles down to Ft. Worth, TX, and visited my great Uncle and Aunt, Gibbs and Maggie Layton, and their two sons, Mose and Ted Layton.

Mose was a very successful man. He had been an engineer on the Rock Island Railroad. Just before the war he started driving a dump truck and parlayed that into 3 trucks and drivers. Then he organized a company with a fleet of trucks and heavy equipment for building and repairing highways.

Ted Layton, his brother, started up a sand and gravel supply business and also really did well. We had visited the three Layton families many times before the war.

I was thinking about bending the rules again. Oklahoma was a "dry" State. You could not buy liquor anywhere in the State except from a bootlegger, or drive just across the state line into a "wet" Texas County and buy all you wanted. I figured I could get a whole case and bootleg some of it to finance my partying. I took Uncle Ted aside and asked if there was a wholesale liquor house in town. He told me exactly how to get there. So, I made a trip, by myself, to that liquor store and bought a whole case (12 fifths) of good bourbon whiskey for 60 dollars, 5 bucks a bottle. That booze would bring 10 or 12 dollars a bottle in Oklahoma. I put the case in the trunk of the Chevy. I didn't tell Mom about this. But when we drove back to Oklahoma I really started feeling guilty. What if the cops stopped us and found that booze? I sweated a whole lot and drove very low and slow all the way back home. I did not get stopped, thank goodness. I don't think Mom ever knew about it.

I found I was not a good bootlegger. I got too worried about getting caught bootlegging and going to jail. So, I sold one bottle of that whiskey to Henry Davis, who ran the service station a block south of us, I only charged him 5 bucks for the bottle—same as I had paid for it. I won't go into the gory details of that remaining time at home, but we did have fun.

But, again, all good things come to an end, and I said my good byes and boarded a steam train at the Old Rock Island Depot. I had orders to report to the AACS detachment at Selfridge Field, near Detroit Michigan. It was a long train

ride. I was stationed at Selfridge field for several weeks and was not assigned to any duty. I had signed up for a three-year hitch in the Army Air Corps, and it had now been about three and a half years. I had the required "points" to be discharged, but they told me that all Morse code men were "frozen" and would have to remain in the service until further notice. They also said I would probably be sent overseas again, possibly to the Philippine Islands. So, I went into town as often as I could and had fun. One bar I went into in Detroit, was the longest bar in the world, I guess. You walked into the bar on one street and the bar ran continuously for a whole city block, with another entrance on that street. They had a "dumb waiter" system that brought food up from a kitchen in the basement. One day I was sitting there in that bar, just a few stools in from one street. I was having a beer and talking with a pretty girl. Suddenly, they had a fire in the basement. They didn't tell us to leave, so we sat there, drinking our beer and watching the firemen bring in their equipment from the hydrant outside, and take it down the stairs to extinguish the fire. It was quite a commotion. Soon, it was all over.

Now I could elaborate on taking that girl home on the bus in the suburbs and spending the night with her French maid. But that would be bragging. Let's just say I had an enjoyable time while stationed at Selfridge field.

But in a few weeks, I received news that I could hardly believe. They told us that the entire AACS detachment, there at Selfridge, was being transferred to Shepherd Field, Wichita Falls, TX, and that was only 35 miles from my hometown of Waurika OK!

*(To be continued) (Contributed by Steve Phillips K6JT)*

## Contest University USA 2020 - online

Contest University USA 2020 will be held on-line via Zoom on Thursday May 14, 2020. CTU 2020 is free.

The CTU course outline is posted here: <https://www.contestuniversity.com/course-outline/>

Connection details to the CTU Zoom bridge will be posted on the Contest University web site one week ahead of CTU.

CTU 2020 will be recorded for easy viewing any time after May 14 and the slide decks will be posted on the CTU web-site as well.

At the end of CTU 2020 Dave, K3ZJ from CQ Magazine will present the 2020 CQ Contest Hall of Fame awards - live on the Zoom bridge.

73, Tim Duffy, K3LR

Contest University Chairman

<http://contestuniversity.com>

[Editor's Note: If you have never attended Contest University at Dayton, this is a great educational event. The presenters are top notch and the programs provide a wealth of

ham radio knowledge that's useful for all aspects of the hobby, not just contesting.]

**Coronavirus Ham Radio Guidelines**

*Thanks to Steve, N0SM, for passing along these guidelines that were created by Wayne, W4TZB.*

Amateur Radio operators are requested to adapt to the Coronavirus mitigation guidelines as they apply to amateur radio operating:

- All ham radio operators are encouraged to stay at least 6 feet from the microphone in order to maintain proper separation from others. The distance may be reduced if a mask is put on the microphone.
- CW operators should wear appropriate gloves when handling keys. Keyboard CW operators should disinfect their keyboards.
- There should be no more than 10 stations on the same frequency at the same time.
- Disinfect all knobs, switches, etc. before operating ... especially touch screens and PTT.
- Shoe covers should be worn when using foot switches. Use of hands-free VOX is strongly encouraged although from 6 feet away, it may be necessary to shout.
- Disinfect all antenna cables coming into the station.
- Only mobile stations and walkie-talkie contacts are permitted where sit-down service has been banned. The 6 ft microphone separation guideline is suspended for these types of operation, but the use of a mask on the microphone is strongly recommended.
- Mobile operators are encouraged to remain in their vehicles except to get necessities.
- Operators should leave their operating positions only for necessities.
- Outdoor antenna work is allowed as long as there is social distancing among all who are present.
- Hoarding of batteries, spare tubes, etc. is discouraged and is unfair to others. We are in this together.
- New equipment and parts should be ordered "to-go" online for front porch delivery.
- Do not test (tune) your equipment unnecessarily. Testing should be reserved for those who actually need it. Your understanding and cooperation in this matter will be appreciated.

*(Contributed by Steve Phillips K6JT)*

**Upcoming Events**

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Daily</b>                    | DFW Early Traffic Net (NTS) at 6:30pm 146.88 – PL 110.9Hz   |
| <b>Daily</b>                    | DFW Late Traffic Net (NTS) at 10:30pm 146.72 – PL 110.9Hz   |
| <b>Daily</b>                    | Texas CW Traffic Net at 7:00pm on 3541 KHz and at 10pm on 3541 KHz <a href="http://www.k6jt.com">www.k6jt.com</a>   |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday</b> | Richardson Emergency Siren Test. At noon using the Richardson Wireless Klub (RWK) repeater at 147.120 MHz.  |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday</b> | ARES North Texas HF Net Every month—3860 KHz at 8:30 pm—9:30pm  |
| <b>JUNE</b>                     |   |
| <b>13-15</b>                    | <b>June VHF</b> For amateurs in the US and Canada (and their possessions) to work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees x 1 degree Maidenhead grid squares as possible using authorized frequencies above 50 MHz. Stations outside the US & Canada (and their possessions) may only work stations in the US (and its possessions) and Canada. All legal modes are permitted. Details at <a href="http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf">http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf</a>   |
| <b>20</b>                       | <b>Kids Day</b> Twice a year, ARRL offers an event designed to promote Amateur Radio to our youth. Share the excitement with your kids or grandkids, a Scout troop, a church or the general public! Kids Day is designed to give on-the-air experience to young people and hopefully foster interest in getting a license of their own. It is also intended to give older hams a chance to share their station and love for Amateur Radio with their children. Details at <a href="http://www.arrl.org/kids-day">http://www.arrl.org/kids-day</a> |
| <b>27-28</b>                    | <b>Field Day Objective:</b> To contact as many stations as possible on the 160, 80, 40, 20,15 and 10 Meter HF bands, as well as all bands 50 MHz and above, and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. Details at <a href="http://www.arrl.org/field-day">http://www.arrl.org/field-day</a> .  |
| <b>JULY</b>                     |   |
| <b>11-12</b>                    | <b>IARU HF World Championship.</b> Objective: to contact as many other amateurs, especially IARU member society HQ stations, around the world as possible using the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter bands. Begins 1200 UTC Saturday and ends 1159 UTC Sunday.  |



Richardson, Texas

Mail Station 461-290

Richardson, TX 75083-3807

TO:



Richardson, Texas

**CLUB STATIONS**

(972) 705-1349

**N5CXX REPEATER**

441.875 MHz +5 MHz Input

131.8 Hz PL - RX and TX

**N5CXX-1 PACKET BBS COL Node**

145.05 MHz

**N5CXX-N1, NRCXX-N2 & N5CXX-N3 HSMM-MESHNET Nodes 2.4 GHz**

**Membership Meeting**

Tuesday 28 April 2020 **7:00 PM**

**NOTE THE TIME CHANGE**

**THE APRIL 2020 MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED BY VIDEO CONFERENCE!**

**NEXT SIGNALS INPUTS DEADLINE:**

**→→→ 15 May 2020 ←←←**