



COLLINS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Richardson, Texas

SIGNALS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Volume 43 Issue 04

Web Site <http://www.n5cxx.us>

January 2022

CARC

Membership Meeting

Tuesday 25 January 2022 5:30 PM
NOTE THE TIME CHANGE

The January 2022 MEETING WILL BE AT
Poor Richards Café Plano TX

Show-n-Tell

January Meeting Announcement

We are continuing to meet "in-person" at Poor Richard's Cafe in Plano. We've switched to our traditional start time of 5:30 pm (doors open at 5 pm), and we will also offer audio and video via Zoom for any who are uncomfortable with in-person meetings and those who live some distance away.



Our meeting in January (January 25th, 5:30 to 7 pm) is our Annual Show 'n Tell Night. We'd like to have five or six presenters who can show and tell and answer questions about a home-brew project, a kit build, a neat gadget they use, useful software for a PC or smart-phone app, a tip or a trick, a reference book, or something else that others could find useful. A presentation doesn't have to be formal - about five to ten minutes - bring the item to the meeting or show it via Zoom. If showing via Zoom, you may want to have a few photographs planned to show via the Share Screen.

Poor Richard's Cafe is located at 2442 K Avenue, Plano 75074 (southeast corner of E Park Blvd and K Ave). Poor Richard's web site is <https://poorrichardscafe.com> at which you can review their extensive breakfast and lunch menu. We hope you'll give Poor Richard's a try and make it a frequent stop as a way to say "Thanks" for allowing us to use their facilities. PRC is closed at night, so we have the private use of the cafe; however, there will not be any food or beverage service.

We had a wonderful Christmas Dinner Party at Aboca's Italian Grill on Tuesday, December 7th. There were 22 folks in attendance.

You've heard of the MLB ...
Now, welcome the MBL ...
"Muncha Buncha Lunch" – every Thursday, 1 p.m. at Poor Richard's Cafe



Dennis WA8ZBT Worked the NAQP Contest

Dennis Cobb, WA8ZBT, worked W7CXX in the NAQP CW last weekend. Dennis wrote, "I used the snipping tool for information from this website '3830 scores'. By the way 3830 scores got its name from back before the internet everyone would go to 3830 KHz (75 meter band) after the contest was over and report their scores. I used to listen to them. Usually, I would not report in because of running QRP."

Current	Contest	Call Used	Class	Power	Score
	ARRL Jan VHF Jan 15	WA8ZBT	Single Op	LP	96
	CWopsT 0300Z Jan 20	WA8ZBT	Single Op	LP	2,444
	NAQP CW January	WA8ZBT	Single Op	LP	71,200
	RTTY Roundup Jan 8	WA8ZBT	SO RTTY	LP	25,252
	ARRL 10 Dec 11	WA8ZBT	SO Mixed	LP	75,486
	RAC Winter Dec 18	WA8ZBT	SO Mixed	LP	77,182
2022	Contest	Call Used	Class	Power	Score
	CWopsT 0300Z Jan 13	WA8ZBT	Single Op	LP	2,058

"Here is a LoTW log of the Contacts I have had with W7CXX (24 contacts—a very active station, usually I think operated by "Jack" WA7LNW). I have worked WA7LNW (80 Contacts) over the years (information also taken from LoTW). He used to be very active in QRP Contests."

(See the log on page 7)

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N5CXX CLUB STATION

Phone Number/Mail Station
Unavailable until further notice

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 at **Poor Richards Café Plano TX**. Walk-ins are welcome, but it's best to register with the lead examiner, Kerry Weeks, at 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 week-ends.**

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 17th 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.

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The Prez Sez

with KR5N



Our first meeting of the new year will be held in-person and via Zoom on Tuesday, January 25th, beginning at 5:30 pm at Poor Richard's Cafe, 2442 K Avenue, Plano. The program for the evening is Show and Tell. Several of our members will be giving brief talks on a specific product, gizmo, project or software that they have found useful in their ham radio lives. The Zoom login details will be emailed on Monday prior to the meeting for those who can't attend in person. As usual, we will also have an ARRL VE Test Session at the conclusion of the meeting. Testing gets underway between 7 and 7:30 pm. If you wish to take a test or know of someone who would like to be tested, contact Kerry Weeks, K5WKS, at 214-478-3230 or via email at weeks.kerry@gmail.com. It is important to register in advance and find out what is needed before coming to the test.

The CARC Muncha Buncha Lunches kicked off on Thursday, January 6th, at Poor Richard's Cafe. Attendance has been low due to the newness of this event and several folks suffering with various ailments following the holidays. The MBL is a weekly event starting at 1 pm at Poor Richard's. We hope you'll be able to join us soon for some good food, good talk and warm fellowship.

Several members of the CARC Board have been working on finalizing changes to the CARC Constitution and By-laws, and we expect to present amendments at the February meeting. The proposed changes will be emailed to all members prior to the meeting to allow you to review the changes. The Board has determined that it is not appropriate at this time to apply for 501(c)(3) non-profit status. Another changed recommended is to eliminate the Activity

Manager role and replace it with “Immediate Past President” to serve on the Board. The Executive Committee would consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

There are several other minor items throughout the Constitution that need adjustment and clarification, and those are being worked on as well. If you know of specific changes you’d like to suggest, please email your thoughts to any Club officer or attend the February Board meeting (via Zoom) on February 8th.

The Board has also discussed modifying our meeting formats to allow for more discussion among members. In addition to formal programs throughout the year, several meetings will be set aside for roundtable and/or panel discussions. Our members are valuable resources, and many have knowledge and experience that are priceless. We’ll be asking for ideas on what topics to include in future meetings and announce those in advance so everyone can do some research and be prepared to discuss and share what they’ve discovered.

Covid restrictions are still hampering our efforts to get the new Radio Room operational. We’ll keep you informed via emails and SIGNALS as conditions improve.

73 de Frank KR5N

Vice President/Membership Chairman Report

Membership Chairman Report – No new members were added during the last reporting period.

Current Membership - 62

Full Members – 45 (Includes Life and Retiree Members)

Associate Members - 17

The most current roster is posted on the Members Only portion of our web site. If you need a Member ID and Password for the Members Only portion you can contact Mike Hollingsworth at (C) 972-571-6060.

Membership renewal notices have been sent out to those members that had an expiration date of 31 December 2021. The deadline for membership renewal is 2 March 2022. Renewal forms and payment can be sent by regular mail to the address given on the renewal form or given to me at a regular meeting. The following members had expiration dates of 31 December 2021:

- W5AM KC5HXB
- KC5HXA KC5LOP
- K5QY AD5XD
- KC5QGK KC0RHZ
- W5DTG WB5RDA

- KK5Y KI5HNR
- N5TIM KG5QCQ

Your continuing membership is important to the CARC. Through the skills and experiences of all of our members, our club provides fellowship, education and service opportunities.

73s,
Bill K5MWC

Secretary’s Report

There is no Secretary’s Report since the December meeting was the CARC Christmas Dinner.

Drive Home Net Report – January 2022



The Collins ARC Drive Home Net continues on Tuesdays from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m. on the N5CXX Repeater 441.875 MHz, +5 MHz, PL=131.8 Hz. The Net is not held on the Tuesdays of the monthly membership meeting or on Tuesdays of social events and holidays.

All stations are invited to check-in, whether a member of CARC or not. The Net is informal, operating as a Roundtable.

THIS MONTH’S LOG:

DEC 21 - [6] KR5N Frank NCS; K5WKS Kerry; WB0UNI Jim; K5MWC Bill; KI5KRN Bob; N5WSV George.

DEC 28 - [5] KR5N Frank NCS; WB0UNI Jim; K5WKS Kerry; KC5MVE Paul; K5MWC Bill.

JAN 4 - [5] K5WKS Kerry NCS; WB0UNI Jim; K5MWC Bill; KI5KRN Bob; N5WSV George.

JAN 11 - [7] KR5N Frank NCS; WB0UNI Jim; K5MWC Bill; K5WKS Kerry; W5BJ Bob; KC5MVE Paul; KI5KRN Bob.

JAN 18 - [7] KR5N Frank NCS; K5WKS Kerry; W5BJ Bob; WB0UNI Jim; K5MWC Bill; KC5MVE Paul; KA5RTX Mark.

Average participation for this period: 6

Average participation for the previous period: 6

Net record for check-ins: 9

The Drive Home Net is intended for comments on amateur radio topics, listing items for buy/trade/sell, asking questions or contacting others on frequency. We hope you’ll give it a try soon. We’ve had some great conversations of late.

CARC Community Service Activities

Siren Testing Dennis Cobb WA8ZBT and Jim Skinner WB0UNI participate in the Richardson emergency siren testing. The January test was conducted on 5 January. Siren performance is beginning to improve now that older sirens are being replaced with newer equipment. 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. For your Public Service Report: The Garland Siren Test was conducted on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 with the following CARC members participating: Robert Geraldson, N5REG; Bob Jones, W5BJ; Jim Stafford, W5DTG.

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.

Excerpt from Jack, W5TFB's Book

Here is the next excerpt from Jack's book. Jack goes with Sue to her house and finds a lot more than he imagined.

We arrived. Brenda and the kids were back. I told Brenda, "The stock could simmer the rest of the day, then strain and put up. Jo will enjoy the skin and the vegetables if you have the patience to pick out the bones. When I broke them, I don't think there were any splinters, and after all afternoon cooking they should be fairly soft, but I would look anyway."

Mae and Sue were putting their stuff in the Z, and I told Brenda I cleaned the oven and washed dishes. Mae and John had dried and put up the dishes. "The paper towels in the trash have lye on them, so take care. The roaster pans are soaking in soapy water." We were sitting in the dining room, actually the de facto living room. It was a nice room, high ceilings and big windows looking east. The table was elliptical, and each of the six chairs had arms and cushions on the seats. Everything maple. The two corners opposite the windows had maple china cases with a narrow drawer, and an underneath cabinet. Between the cases was a long narrow parson's table, probably for a buffet.

Sue came in to say it was time to go. Brenda gave me a little hug, and I gave John his \$2,400 back. I'm not sure he knew why. He thanked me for telling him how to use the choke, and said he was going to a parts store Monday to get that additive. We left. Outside Sue told me to park behind the house. There was a wide blacktop driveway to a place to park.

The trip back was easy. Sue's house was about a mile from town, on the north side, set back from the road. She had a barn, a huge vegetable garden, and an orchard, extent unknown. The terrain was flat and free of natural trees. There

was another building, crude carpentry but well maintained. She saw me looking at it and told me it was the slave quarters. Presently her gardener's family was living in it, and sometimes a guest or a new employee. The wife helps with some housework, mainly cleaning the office. They were free to eat from the garden and sometimes came to the big house to eat. I asked when the house was built and she said 1850–52. She said the surrounding land is hers also, about 60 acres. She sold the other 580 acres (keeping the mineral rights) of the section to a big farming company that grows cotton and sugar cane. She got more for that than she paid in the first place.

I never figured out how many rooms the big house had. Sue had made no attempt to restore anything. It had modern windows, was well insulated and sealed, and half of the first floor was partitioned off, office space for her company, about 1,600 square feet. Before we went in she wanted to show me the office. It had a separate entrance from the back with a nice well-lit parking lot. It was Saturday and only a security guard was there. Sue took me to his office by the back door so she could introduce me. There were the standard black and white monitors for the cameras, and I saw a Sun server in a closet with a multiple DVD writer that was multiplexed. I asked him how many hours they got on a DVD. He said it depended, everything was event driven, but usually more than one week's worth. Since I didn't see any DVDs lying around, I assumed they were using re-writable DVDs and, since they had ten in the multiple writer box, that would be two or three months-worth. There were six unused bays. He made me a photo ID to clip on in case I wanted to go there during business hours. It also opened some locks. I had to give him my SS number. Then I had to leave. I went outside. Later I learned Sue had to sign off on it not in my presence (I suppose to avoid someone forcing her to do something) and assign me those privileges. I was given, initially, I was told, just access to the laundry, library, bedroom, and media center. I learned later that wasn't all. The domestic downstairs was like any house without locks all over the place except the doors to outside and the office.

When I was fetched and returned, I asked him how many there were of him. He said 6, working in fourteen 12-hour shifts (midnight until noon and noon until midnight) and five 8-hour shifts (8 until 5 with an hour for lunch) to handle the daytime load. That left time for everyone to have a yearly two-week vacation and accumulate sick leave. She told me she had 40 more working for her out of Lafayette and Baton Rouge but most either traveled or worked at home. The only thing missing was a hanger with a Lear Jet inside and a 3500-foot runway. I asked her, and she said it was not cost effective. I asked what they did there, and she said there were two main activities: long-term planning and money management, and research. I asked, "Research?" She said they looked all over the world for systematic trends that would suggest the collapse of a firm or market,

especially one in the energy sector. She said she had cash looking for red ink.

She added, "What you see here is just the bookworms and accountants, a lawyer, and an economist specializing in the energy sector. There are 12 interns and 10 full-time, most with either a Ph.D., LL.D., or CPA education, although the most productive person working here has a Master of Library Science from Minnesota. I wish I had ten of her."

I said, "Why all the security?"

"It's not about stealing property. What we have here is data that cost a lot to obtain and which, if it got away, would be worth nothing to us. The company is incorporated, but all of the stock is held by me and people in the company who do the work. The stock is not publicly traded. I am chairman of the board and members, who serve for expenses only, are an oil and gas lawyer, an economist, a geophysicist, and three former (retired) employees. Members serve for six years and are replaced on a rolling system every year unless someone quits or is removed, maintaining always the 1-1-1-3 mix.

"Each year the par value of the stock is increased by the preceding year's net profit, except that it will never be more than 12% or less than the core rate of inflation. In the twelve years since we became a corporation, it has always been 12. The original par value was computed by finding the net worth of the company, as checked by an external auditor, and dividing that by 1,000,000. Initially those were all mine, par value about \$9. The current par value is just over \$35. No one can at present buy stock. The rest of the profits have been used to take on more employees and add to the physical plant, including this office space. The first of December each employee gets a yearly bonus of their average weekly salary in company stock at the par value. At any time, anyone can sell stock for the current par value, in cash, of course from my personal funds, in escrow in case I am incapacitated. I then resume ownership of those shares. In addition, each employee gets a merit raise determined by their Department Head but never less than the core inflation rate nor more than 20% unless approved by the board." "Sounds like a nice deal for all. Stable. How much does the CEO make?"

"The same as the Department Heads, except he has a company car, a full-time secretary, and a slightly nicer office, although all of the offices are the same size, 80 square feet. There are 16 offices. There is a door from the office to the house but I wanted you to see the house from the front."

The residential part of her home had mainly Danish furniture. Obviously, someone liked teak, probably Sue. I was looking for the standard grand gold leaf decorated staircase, but there was none. It was a modern stair, 4 feet wide and straight, with a landing to each side at each end branching off at right angles, one step at the top and two at the bottom. The house faced east, so this would be a nice

morning space and a cool evening one. The room had corner sofas around the west wall with generous end tables, and a single arm chair facing each sofa just under the stair. In the center was an unobtrusive door, which must go to the office. Under the stairs I spotted a noise-canceling system that sent to one side of the back audio which, in the range of voice frequencies, cancelled what you got directly from the other side.

There was other furniture near the windows, and on the north side two serious Danish chairs were up close to a chess board, a clock and pads for keeping an account of the moves ready. Away from the board were two more chairs that could swivel, not likely to be Danish. If there was one single impression I got it would have to be this: In spite of its cluttered composition, two groups of up to four could have a quiet conversation, and eight others, perhaps ten, could enjoy a sunrise or a cool afternoon, while yet another two could play chess.

On the north side there were two doors, one to a restroom and the other to a fairly large family room, with a door opening outside. I noticed a huge collection of chess books, some dating back to Paul Morphy, the great New Orleans master who dominated chess worldwide during the decade starting in 1857. There were perhaps twice as many other books but I didn't check them. On the south side two doors opened to a cramped broom closet and the dining room. The dining room had a boat-shaped teak table with 12 ladder-back teak chairs. Sue explained that the company sometimes used the room for larger meetings. There was a simple vase in the center with flowers, and three candles at each end. Nothing else other than a serving cart, teak and Formica with large teak wheels. In each corner was a corner cabinet, painted pine I would guess but well-done, with random pottery and knickknacks. They all looked old. I asked and was told they were all found in the house when she got it. Much more was found, especially pottery, that was broken beyond repair.

A swinging door connected the dining room to the kitchen. The kitchen itself was 15 by 15 with a modest pantry, 5 by 8, and a breakfast area almost the same size. By the breakfast area was another door to the outside. Maple butcher-block counters ran continuously along 12 feet of the south wall with an icebox at one end and a corner cabinet at the other, the counter extending an additional foot over that cabinet. A free-standing gas range was next with an overhead microwave oven built into the hood, then stainless counter, then an electric double wall oven. Temporary storage of items such as a stand mixer, food processor, and blender, at counter level, was next. This was beside a generous pastry/bread area along the north wall of the kitchen. Then a triple sink, a stainless countertop for depositing soiled dishes, underneath was a dishwasher beside the door to the dining room.

There was one additional work area: Centered in the kitchen was a 2 by 7 island, with 3-foot clearance in all directions. I suppose it was logically a small bar, for it had a small rectangular sink at one end, but it would be a good place for making pasta (there was a pasta machine tucked away beside the wall oven cabinets). The sink had three faucets, one for tap water and washing with a three-way valve, one with filtered chilled water, and one with nearly boiling water. With two people, one cranking and feeding rolled-out dough and the other, working from the other side, pulling it out and keeping it untangled, making fresh pasta would be easy, even fun. I later noticed a warmer oven on the end opposite the sink, nearest the dining room. Whoever designed the kitchen did not include a marble top for making candy, but later I found a 23 by 29-inch slab of 1 inch marble in a vertical cabinet. Heavy! Another marble slab, cut to fit in the gas oven with half inch clearance all around, was beside it, good for French bread and pizza. Overall, it was a good kitchen that two could cook in comfortably, three most of the time, and that could turn out a lot of baked or roasted dishes, but that had only four burners. (There was a portable electric burner, 3000 watts/25 amps, with a heavy-duty cord and a heavy insulated base, stored under the island sink. It had a temperature probe and a dial like on an electric skillet which would come in handy when making candy. I had never seen anything like it.) The island looked like a nice place for doing many things that do not require multiple heat sources.

I asked Sue if we could see what she had done upstairs. We went back to where we started and took the stairs. Upstairs the floors, except for the library and the center part of the media room, were carpeted. I won't say I twisted an ankle walking on the luxurious carpet, but it took me by surprise and I almost did. The second floor had much higher ceilings, looked like 12 feet. (I learned later that they had lowered the ceiling in the first floor to 8 feet.) There was a media center on the west side, a library across from that, and four bedrooms, each one occupying a corner. Each had a nice private bath, a huge closet, and as far as I could tell they were almost identical. Rarely democratic, a master bedroom for all, something I've never seen in a house.

I could tell which was Mae's and which Sue's. The others had the same furniture but it was covered in ghostly dust covers. Sue had the south-east room, and Mae the north-west one. The north bedrooms were a little smaller to make room for a public bathroom. Between the corner bedrooms on opposite sides of the hall were the library and the media center. A broom closet on the south side and a large restroom on the north, plus two doors on each end told the story. The only concession to the history of the house could be seen in the lighted portraits of early household members (individually and in groups), including some of the slaves, along the long hallway on the west side. They were wonderfully restored. Seeing them, I asked how they managed to be preserved. Sue said they were found in the attic carefully packed and disguised to look like part of the roof. I tried

to imagine that but didn't get anywhere. I asked, "Why didn't you restore the whole house?"

"Time. Cost. Plus, the house was already gutted and most of the woodwork and cabinetwork stolen. The original house had solid native pecan paneling. When I bought it the slave quarters were in good shape compared to the house. My architect said it would be cheaper to raze the house and start over. So, I fired him and hired a contractor (and master carpenter) and gave him a budget equal to the architect's fee and retainer, plus materials and labor he contracted out. He hired a small crew, retained a civil engineer on a consulting basis, and went to work. The architect filed suit, but it was thrown out. It only took a year to finish, except for the furnishings, and the cost was less than the office space alone would have been if built from scratch elsewhere."

I asked if I could look over the library. The library had big internal glass windows to each side of the door, lighting the hallway especially in early morning.

We entered the library. To my right was a door, which I guessed opened into Sue's bedroom. (That was wrong, it was a coat closet.) Beside that was a glassed-in area with a roll-top desk, a Mac computer, top of the line, a QMS color laser printer shared by everyone who used the library, a flat-bed scanner that could handle 11 by 17 sheets, a small conference table, four chairs like those in Brenda's dining room, a secretary's chair parked at the roll-top desk up against the wall, and at least 12 linear feet of real slate blackboard. There were shelves for books in the process of being added to the collection.

I asked Sue if she had a librarian, and she said MWF from 8 until noon, who also is head of research in her company. She had a MLS from Minnesota, which better prepares one to supervise a research group than it might seem. She did enjoy being close to a developing library even if only part time. I told her, "I think I know where you got the idea for this room." She didn't comment. It was probably insensitive of me to mention that. She told me a local high school student comes in every day after school to shelve books left lying around and to read the shelves against the catalog, two hours a day, for which she got \$7.50 an hour, a good deal for all. She and the librarian communicated by leaving messages in FIFO (First in First Out) files on the Mac. When one removes an item from the library they were expected to scan their employee barcode and the barcode on the book, and the database would be automatically updated. (That is easy but I can imagine it is not always done.)

I read the shelves, at the same time getting a rough estimate of the size of the collection. They were using the Dewey decimal system, named for Melvin Dewey. It was good for a small library but does not easily accommodate a completely new category or sub-category. Nothing does that perfectly. I've always thought a large library should be closed stacks, with an army of workers to fetch things and

an on-line catalog, extensively cross-referenced, pointing to the physical books, which are filed by size and date of arrival. This library had a good on-line catalog with small Macs scattered around to access it. You didn't need a password if that is all you wanted to do. You needed a username and password to do anything except access the data base. I tried it and found it to be natural and easy to use.

The super Mac ran a high priority interrupt-driven process that managed the small computers and processed requests. The office server, a Sun, and the library Mac communicated by message passing, which gave neither system access to the other. There were shelves around three walls of the library, with window seats where the windows broke the shelves. Inside there were eight 6 by 8 ft wide double shelves placed like dominoes on edge. These would not do in a public library because you could not get a wheelchair down the narrow space. The wall shelves on the hall side were not all books; below the books, at the 28-inch level, was a narrow pull out shelf to write or look at a book on, and below that were shallow cabinets. The shelves were about half full. I guessed there were right at 10 thousand books, with room for that many more. My personal library is twice that. Over half of the books were about business stuff. Those were on the inside shelves. I couldn't understand a few of the titles. There was a folio space in each of the eight double cases on the north side with stuff like seismic data and large maps. This space was close to being full. I asked, "Does your company use this library?" That was a stupid question. "Yes. All the expenses of the library are business expenses. That includes the expenses of the media center. Would you like to see that? You can come back here later." "OK."

This one was a surprise. There were two doors, one at each end. At the front (the north end) of the room was a 52-inch plasma display mounted on the wall, flanked by white board on both sides. There were no windows. The distance from the floor to the bottom of the display, as well as the angle at which it tilted, could be set from the projection booth. There was also an overhead projector waiting in the north-west corner (which seemed lame compared to the rest) and a pull-down silver beaded screen which could be deployed manually or from the booth. There were two columns of comfortable theater seats, each with a student desk top that could be brought up and folded over. Each seat had a USB and coax and twisted-pair Ethernet connection. With four rows and three seats on each side of center you could seat two dozen. There were probably more folding chairs at hand. Centered in the back was a projection booth and a rack mounted Mac that controlled the sound system. It probably did a lot more, I didn't ask. They had 8 and 16-mm projectors, DVD and CD changers, a VHS player, and a 2 by 2 inch slide projector. I imagined that the computer also controlled them. There was a projection unit suspended from the ceiling. "So this is for company presentations?"

"Yes, but the chairs are comfortable enough for family and friends to watch TV or a movie. We rarely do either."

We returned to the hall. I could tell by the sky that it was about 7. I asked, "Are you hungry?" It was my turn to get the no, this time not as loud. I needed a bath, at least a shower. I asked where would I sleep, and she said in the room next to hers. We entered. I was surprised to see the ghosts were gone and towels and body washing stuff was laid out on the bathroom counter.

Sue said, "I took the liberty of having your belongings brought upstairs. They are in the second drawer of the chest. I'm tired and will go rest now. I need to talk to Marie first. Been a long day." She left. I had a long-overdue shower.

To Be Continued

Dennis WA8ZBT Worked the NAQP Contest

24 Records Shown (1-24)
Sorted by QSO Date (0.012761 seconds elapsed)

Call sign	Worked	Date/Time	Band	Mode	Freq	QSL
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2019-03-10 12:59:00	160M	CW	1.82700	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2019-06-10 02:39:00	6M	DATA	50.00000	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2019-06-10 02:39:30	6M	FT8	50.31458	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2019-07-20 23:06:00	20M	RTTY	14.11500	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2019-07-21 02:44:00	40M	RTTY	7.11100	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2019-11-03 00:17:00	20M	CW	14.01600	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2019-12-08 03:13:00	160M	CW	1.81200	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2020-01-04 23:23:00	20M	RTTY	14.11300	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2020-01-05 01:37:00	40M	RTTY	7.10600	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2020-05-02 18:17:00	20M	CW	14.03900	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2020-05-03 02:21:00	40M	CW	7.02800	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2020-05-31 19:43:00	15M	CW	21.02800	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2020-08-01 18:36:00	20M	CW	14.05300	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2020-08-02 03:59:00	40M	CW	7.05800	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2020-12-05 04:34:00	160M	CW	1.83700	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2020-12-12 02:37:00	10M	CW	28.05400	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2021-05-01 15:49:00	20M	CW	14.03000	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2021-05-02 01:29:00	40M	CW	7.05500	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2021-06-12 18:38:00	80M	CW	3.54700	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2021-06-12 18:38:00	6M	DATA	50.00000	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2021-07-11 11:49:00	40M	CW	7.01100	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2021-08-07 18:31:00	15M	CW	21.02800	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2021-08-08 01:18:00	40M	CW	7.01900	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details WA8ZBT	W7CXX	2022-01-20 03:20:00	40M	CW	7.02400	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

New Collins Building Access Restrictions

Per Security, all "non-essential" access to Collins Aerospace facilities (including employee recreation activities) is shut-down until the Covid-19 pandemic is resolved. Anyone needing access to the Club Station must submit an email request to Security with an explanation of who, when and why access is needed, and the Security team will review, and if approved, the person will only be allowed access via the North Gate. For contact information, send an email to kr5n@arll.net asking for Security contact information.

 FYI—Until further notice, masks are now required inside all Collins buildings. Also, a temperature check is required before entering the property. During busy hours there is a manned tent near the north gate where the temperature check is performed. During off hours, there is a place at the north gate for a self-check.

Upcoming Events

Daily	DFW Early Traffic Net (NTS) at 6:30pm 146.88 – PL 110.9Hz
Daily	DFW Late Traffic Net (NTS) at 10:30pm 146.72 – PL 110.9Hz
Daily	Texas CW Traffic Net at 7:00pm on 3541 KHz and at 10pm on 3541 KHz www.k6jt.com
Tuesdays	Collins ARC Drive Home Net. 441.875 (+5) MHz, PL=131.8 Hz, 5:30-6:00pm (no net 4 th Tuesday.)
1st Wednesday	Richardson Emergency Siren Test. At noon using the Richardson Wireless Klub (RWK) repeater at 147.120 MHz.
2nd Wednesday	ARES North Texas HF Net Every month—3860 KHz at 8:30 pm—9:30pm

FEBRUARY

14-18 School Club Roundup Objective: To exchange QSO information with club stations that are part of an elementary, middle, high school or college. Sponsored by the ARRL, its Hudson Division Education Task Force and the Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club (LIMARC). The event runs from 1300 UTC Monday through 2359 UTC Friday. A station may operate no more than 6 hours in a 24-hour period, and a maximum of 24 hours of the 107 hour event. Details at <http://www.arll.org/school-club-roundup>.

19-20 International DX—CW Objective: To encourage W/VE stations to expand knowledge of DX propagation on the HF and MF bands, improve operating skills, and improve station capability by creating a competition in which DX stations may only contact W/VE stations. W/VE amateurs: Work as many DX stations in as many DXCC entities as possible on the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter bands. DX stations: Work as many W/VE stations in as many of the 48 contiguous states and provinces as possible. The event runs 48 hours, from 0000 UTC Saturday through 2359 UTC. Details at <http://www.arll.org/arll-dx>.

MARCH

5-6 International DX—Phone Objective: To encourage W/VE stations to expand knowledge of DX propagation on the HF and MF bands, improve operating skills, and improve station capability by creating a competition in which DX stations may only contact W/VE stations. W/VE amateurs: Work as many DX stations in as many DXCC entities as possible on the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter bands. The event runs 48 hours, from 0000 UTC Saturday through 2359 UTC Sunday. Details at <http://www.arll.org/arll-dx>.

TEXAS  FIXINS

POOR
Richard's
CAFE

We encourage you to dine at Poor Richard's Cafe, and, thank them for allowing us to hold our meetings in their facility.

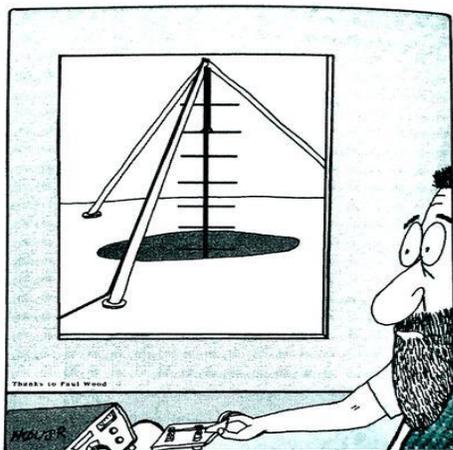
—  —

2442 K Avenue, Plano 75074
<https://poorrichardscafe.com>

Need another Badge or Coffee Mug?



Order from The Sign Man of Baton Rouge at:
<https://www.thesignman.com/clubs/collinsarccart.html>



Earl tests his "vertical incident ground-wave" theory, with a 56 element yagi suspended above a three mile deep hole in his back yard. So far he has failed to contact any Chinese stations.

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

The Amateur's Code

by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE - never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL - offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE - with knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station, and operation beyond reproach.

FRIENDLY - with slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED - Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC - with station and skill always ready for service to country and community

PERIODIC TABLE OF MAJOR AMATEUR RADIO CONTESTS



2021

Multimode CW Digital
 off-the-air SSB VHF/UHF

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2 1800Z ARRL RTTY Roundup	37 2400Z NA Sprint CW	76 0400Z ARRL DX SSB	73 2400Z SP Polish DX	41 varies 7QP/IN/DE New England QSO Parties	25 1200Z SEANET Contest	63 1400Z Marconi Memorial HF	47 1400Z NAQP CW	84 0900Z CWops CW Open	42 1900Z California QSO Party	36 2100Z ARRL SS CW	83 0300Z ARRL 160
9 1800Z NAQP CW	10 0600Z WPX RTTY	14 2400Z NA Sprint RTTY	14 0400Z JIDX CW	11 1300Z CQ-M DX	8 1200Z ARRL June VHF	9 1150Z IARU HF	14 1200Z WAE CW	11 2350Z WAE SSB	12 2350Z Oceania CW	10 0800Z WAE RTTY	13 0000Z ARRL 10
16 1800Z NAQP SSB	17 0600Z ARRL DX CW	20 2400Z Russian DX	21 1200Z CQMM DX	17 2350Z King of Spain	18 1200Z All Asian CW	19 2400Z CQ VHF	20 2100Z NAQP SSB	21 0600Z WA/NJ/NH QSO Parties	16 1500Z Worked All Germany	17 1450Z ARRL SS SSB	18 2350Z RAC Winter
16 1800Z ARRL January VHF	18 0300Z CQ 160 SSB	26 2200Z WPX SSB	27 0800Z Florida QSO Party	24 2400Z Contest University Dayton Hamvention	25 1100Z ARRL Field Day	20 1700Z RSGB IOTA	23 1800Z WW Digi	26 1200Z CQWW RTTY	25 0900Z CQWW CW	27 0800Z HAPPY HOLIDAYS	28 2400Z HAPPY HOLIDAYS
29 2200Z CQ 160 CW	31 2150Z CQWW SSB			29 0000Z WPX CW	30 2400Z CQWW SSB				30 0000Z CQWW SSB	31 2400Z CQWW SSB	

A contribution from EA3O.



Richardson, Texas
www.N5CXX.us

PO Box 830766
Richardson, TX 75083-0766

TO:



Richardson, Texas
www.N5CXX.us

CLUB STATION
 (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 25 January 2022 **5:30 PM**
NOTE THE TIME CHANGE
 THE JANUARY MEETING WILL BE AT
Poor Richards Café Plano TX

NEXT SIGNALS INPUTS DEADLINE:
→→→ 18 February 2022 ←←←