
SIGNALS

Rockwell Collins

Monthly Newsletter of the

Amateur Radio Club

Volume 40 Issue 01

Web Site <http://www.w5rok.us>

October 2018

RCARC Membership Meeting

Tuesday 23 October 2018
1700 Social 1730 Meeting
1800 Program

Methodist Richardson Medical Center
At Bush/Renner/Shiloh Intersection
Conference Room A in Hospital Building

Subject:
June VHF Contest Recap
By Dennis Cobb WA8ZBT
and Bob Kirby K3NT

members, after successful completion of Richardson Police Department Training, patrol their neighborhoods and report all suspicious activities to the Police Department.

Save the Date: Family Day/Open House

Saturday, October 27, 2018 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Please note that the date for this event has been changed to **27 October** and is **only for employees and their immediate families. Retirees are not included.** Look for more information in the next few weeks. *(Contributed by Dennis Cobb WA8ZBT)*

June 2018 VHF Contest Results



Looks like results are in from the June 2018 ARRL VHF Contest. What you might not have realized is our prior club member and once president of RCARC, K5SRT-Sidney Ross Terry (now of Edmond OK) was operating an Unlimited Class rover KRSRT/R with KB0YHT-Nick Farlow (of Edmond OK). This was Nick's first time as a rover. With limited resources, some very knowledgeable friends from both W5ROK and KB5OKC clubs, and some loaned equipment to help make it all happen, K5SRT/R had a great showing in the region and category. *(Continued on page 3—lots of nice pictures)*

Local Club News

Meeting Notice

In addition to the monthly business meeting, this month's meeting is expected to include a presentation about the June VHF Contest by two of our esteemed members.

RCARC Community Service Activities

Siren Testing Dennis Cobb WA8ZBT, John McFadden K5TIP and Jim Skinner WB0UNI participated in the Richardson emergency siren testing on 3 October 2018. Most sirens operated properly, however, at least three had problems with either the sound, motion, or strobe. 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 participated in Richardson Duck Creek Crime Watch Patrol (CWP). CWP

RCARC OFFICERS	
PRESIDENT Gene Duprey K1GD 319.270.8159 geneduprey2015@gmail.com	VICE-PRESIDENT AVAILABLE
SECRETARY Jim Brown AF5MA 972.495.2209 jhksbrown@verizon.net	TREASURER Rohan Thomas KG5RCN 972.697.3512 Rohan7066@yahoo.com
ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE	WEBSITE MANAGER Mike Hollingsworth W5QH 972.571.6060 w5qh@arrl.net
STATION TRUSTEE Bob Kirby K3NT 319.360.0500 k3nt@arrl.net	NEWSLETTER EDITOR Jim Skinner WB0UNI 214.535.5264 wb0uni@arrl.net
MEMBERSHIP Joe Wolf N5UIC 214.202.2757 n5uic@arrl.net	W5ROK CLUB STATION 972.705.1349 461-290

AD5EW. 972.380.2859 or E-mail wtowens3@sbcglobal.net.

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President and VP Messages

This space reserved for President and/or Vice President Messages

VE SESSIONS

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 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 Bill Owens

See you at the meeting & 73's,
Gene, K1GD
RCARC President

Secretary's Report

25 September 2018

President Gene Duprey K1GD called the meeting to order at 1742.

The following were present at the meeting:

Dennis Cobb	WA8ZBT
Gene Duprey	K1GD
John McFadden	K5TIP
Mike Schmit	WA9WCC
Jim Skinner	WB0UNI
Rohan Thomas	KG5RCN
Joe Wolf	N5UIC

Officers and Committee Reports:

Rohan Thomas, KG5RCN, provided the Treasurer's Report. There were no other formal reports other than the Secretary's Report, which is contained in this newsletter.

Old Business:

Gene Duprey K1GD reported that he had not bought the headsets approved for purchase at the last meeting.

New Business:

The club decided to surplus the FT-1000 radio and other items. A committee, consisting of Dennis WA8ZBT and Gene K1GD, was selected to suggest what needs to be disposed of.

Discussions

Gene Duprey K1GD reported that he attended the Garland Radio Club meeting the previous week. Their program was about FT-8—text messaging over amateur radio. FT-8 requires a handy-talkie and a PC. It uses Ham Radio Deluxe.

Dennis Cobb commented that a new beta version of FT-8, which allows more characters, has been released.

Much discussion and wishful talking ensued about Maestro and Flex Radio. Finally, Gene K1GD intimated that he knows Joe Walsh WB6ACU. It wasn't clear how the discussion turned to the Eagle's guitarist.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 1835.

June 2018 VHF Contest Results *(Continued)*

Nick and Ross met during a van pool to/from work at Boeing near Tinker Air Force Base, where they learned of each other's Amateur Radio interest. Nick introduced Ross to N0LD-Randy Wing (of Choctaw OK) and W0HGJ-Harvey Jones (of Edmond OK) who also work at Boeing and have

been riveting in N0LD/R. For more information on the team past and present, see <http://OKRovers.info>.



Left to right Nick KB0YHT, Harvey W0HGJ, Ross K5SRT, and Randy N0LD on the way to HamCom 2018 prior to June 2018 VHF Contest.

After some planning in preparation for the June 2018 ARRL VHF grid chase contest, it was decided that K5SRT/R (Ross & Nick) and N0LD/R (Randy & Harvey) would use a grid circling technique with a start near a four-corner grid square close to Jacksboro TX, northwest of the DFW Metroplex. On several occasions Ross consulted with K3NT-Bob Kirby and WA8ZBT-Dennis Cobb of the club because he knew they had worked the VHF Contest in the past. They all met Friday at Ham-Com 2018 (<http://hamcom.org>) to view the recently engineered and configured Ford F-150 that would operate as K5SRT/R in its first VHF Contest. Club station W5R0K, operated by Bob and Dennis during the VHF Contest, made contact with K5SRT/R near Jacksboro TX.



On the road near Wichita KS: N0LD/R (foreground) and K5SRT/R (background) during June 2018 ARRL VHF Contest.

The story continues as Ross, Nick, Randy and Harvey met K3NT-Bob at Ham-Com and all attended the DX Dinner Friday night. Congratulations to K3NT-Bob, who ended up winning a DX Engineering gift certificate at the event. Bob joined K5SRT/R for a Sept. 2018 VHF Contest tour of Kansas after successfully enabling the K5SRT/R with additional radios and frequencies for the event. We are still waiting for result on that contest.



By the way, N0LD-Randy plans to speak about VHF Rovers at Hamarama October 27, 2018 in Ardmore OK. The event will also be attended by K5SRT-Ross who hopes to see all the RCARC members there. See Hamarama's new web site <http://hamarama.org/> for advanced tickets and for room and presentation times.

Go to this page to see the results from the June 2018 VHF Contest:

<http://contests.arrl.org/certificates.php>

<http://www.arrl.org/results-database>

The contest postings at the ARRL site listed below show W5ROK and K5SRT/R results.

http://www.arrl.org/files/file/ContestResults/2018/2018%20June%20VHF%20-%20Full%20Results%20-%20Version%201_04.pdf

2018 ARRL June VHF Contest

2018 ARRL June VHF Contest + Scores Table Key

Displaying entries for Section=NTX

Entries 1 to 16 of 16 listed

#	Call	Score	QSOs	Mult	Class	Section	Club	Ops
1	WD5K	64,224	446	144	B	NTX	North Texas Contest Club	WD5K
2	W5ROK	37,572	288	124	L	NTX		K3NT WA8ZBT
3	AA5AM	34,181	260	133	3B	NTX	North Texas Microwave Society	AA5AM
4	WQ5S	23,600	197	118	A	NTX	North Texas Microwave Society	WQ5S
5	KV5W	16,224	169	96	3B	NTX		KV5W
6	N6RH/R	12,512	246	34	RL	NTX		
7	K5ND/R	10,695	139	69	RL	NTX	DFW Contest Group	K5ND
8	WA5LFD	10,184	126	76	B	NTX		WA5LFD
9	KG5THG	7,630	109	70	A	NTX		
10	KC5GOI	6,554	113	58	A	NTX		KC5GOI
11	KG5IEE	1,702	46	37	A	NTX		KG5IEE
12	NN5T	1,632	51	32	A	NTX	North Texas Contest Club	NN5T
13	KF5YUB	1,073	37	29	3B	NTX		KF5YUB
14	K5EI	627	30	19	3B	NTX		K5EI
15	WB5ZDP	459	24	17	A	NTX	North Texas Microwave Society	WB5ZDP
16	NW5Q	170	17	10	3B	NTX	DFW Contest Group	NW5Q

Select Entries to List

Class: All and Section/Division: North Texas and Club: N/A

or Call sign:

List per-band counts

Choose Sort Order

(Contributed by Ross Terry K5SRT and Bob Kirby K3NT)

A New Story by Scott, N7NET

I am happy to have the first chapter of a new original work by Scott, N7NET. Enjoy, and once again, thanks to Scott.

Rose, Chapter 1 of ??

Charlie McIntire returned home to an empty house. He knew the house would be vacant, but somehow the absence of his father's voice, his laughter, the smell of his coveralls impacted him with a force greater than anything he'd expected. The eighteen months since his father's passing were swept away in one felled swoop. It was like it was only yesterday that the telegram that arrived at his duty station in Iceland. His death had been unexpected, the neighbor, Harley Groves had stated in the wire. The Red Cross could have easily arranged an emergency furlough for him. They stood at the ready, awaiting a nod. It would be ready in an hour, they'd said. The funeral can be postponed, Harley's wire had read. Just say the word, Harley added in the last line.

Charlie considered going home. He even slept on it. The following morning he reconsidered everything he knew. There was a war on. Women flight crews were ferrying B-17s and B-24s to England as fast as the American factories could build them. Radio traffic was vital. Iceland was a critical communications link, the solitary friendly CW signal for those following the Polar Route. If he left others would have to work longer hours. He could do nothing for his father, but much could be done for his fellow radiomen if he stayed.

He wired Harley: GO AHEAD WITH THE FUNERAL STOP IM NOT COMING HOME STOP.

Now, standing in the living room, he wished he had taken the leave that was offered. Perhaps he would be better prepared to bear what he now felt. The smell of his father's auto repair shop still lingered throughout the house, even after all these many long months. It wasn't something he could point to. It emanated from everywhere. It was in every cabinet, behind every door, in the stored quilts. Everything he saw and touched reminded him of the days when his father was alive. Rather than unpack, he tossed his duffle bag on the sofa and went into the shop. The tools and equipment were in their places. It was almost as if his father had gone to the parts store. His car, a 1938 Dodge, occupied one of the three bays. It was covered with a film of fine, gray dust, the type that filters around window frames. A trickle-charger had kept the battery up. And even though the gasoline was more than a year old, the motor started.

As the engine idled Charlie decided he would drive to May's Diner for coffee and conversation. Maybe seeing a few old friends and acquaintances would clear his head, help him come to grips with this feeling that he had been set adrift.

"Charlie!" shouted May as he pushed through the door. The heavy woman rushed toward him and caught him in a bear hug before he had cleared the entryway.

Heads turned and faces lit and he gripped a host of warm, extended hands.

"When are you going to open up your dad's shop?" asked Ned, a loyal customer since before the war.

"I'm not sure. I just hopped off the train two hours ago." He'd worked with his dad in the shop since he started high school. He knew how to wrench.

"Well, by Jove, we haven't had a good mechanic in this town since the draft board snatched you up," Ned said, pumping Charlie's hand.

"How about that ham radio? Are you gonna be gittin' back on the air?" asked Melvin, the portly hardware store owner who had always stocked a good supply of radio parts.

"As a matter-of-fact, I will. The government still has the frequencies locked up, but there is scuttlebutt that they will be released any day now," Charlie assured him.

The talk continued and Charlie whiled away two hours at May's. By that time he knew what he had to do. (To be continued) *(Contributed by Steve Phillips K6JT)*

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
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
OCTOBER	
27-28	EME - 50 to 1296 MHz —Objective: To work as many amateur stations as possible via the earth-moon-earth path on any authorized amateur frequency above 50 MHz. Full weekend 48-hour period (0000 UTC on Saturday through 2359 UTC Sunday). Details at http://www.arrl.org/eme-con-test .
NOVEMBER	
3-5	Nov. Sweepstakes – CW --For stations in the United States and Canada (including territories and possessions) to exchange QSO November-SweepstakesLogo.jpg information with as many other US and Canadian stations as possible on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter bands. 2100 UTC Saturday through 0259 UTC Monday. Details at http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes .
21-22	Nov. Sweepstakes – Phone --For stations in the United States and Canada (including territories and possessions) to exchange QSO November-SweepstakesLogo.jpg information with as many other US and Canadian stations as possible on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter bands 2100 UTC Saturday through 0259 UTC Monday. Details at http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes .
24-25	EME - 50 to 1296 MHz —Objective: To work as many amateur stations as possible via the earth-moon-earth path on any authorized amateur frequency above 50 MHz. Full weekend 48-hour period (0000 UTC on Saturday through 2359 UTC Sunday). Details at http://www.arrl.org/eme-con-test .

Rockwell-Collins

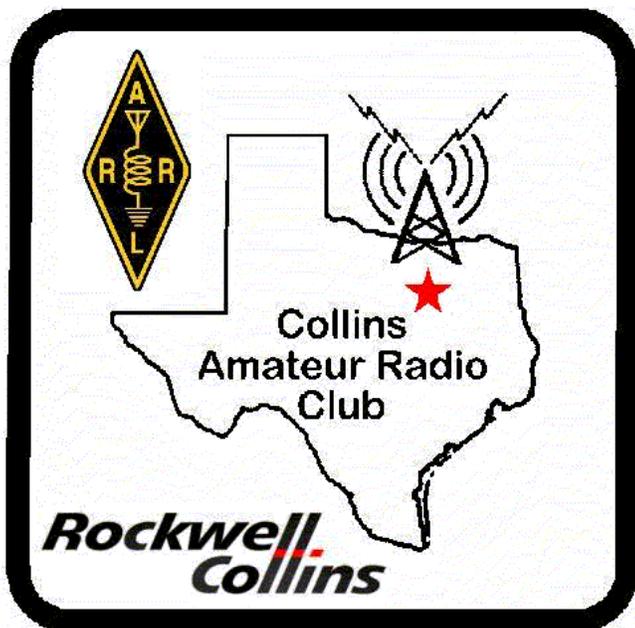
Amateur Radio Club

Mail Station 461-290

P.O. Box 833807

Richardson, TX 75083-3807

TO:



CLUB STATIONS

(972) 705-1349

W5ROK REPEATER

441.875 MHz +5 MHz Input
131.8 Hz PL - RX and TX

W5ROK-1 PACKET BBS ROK Node

145.05 MHz

W5ROK-N1, W5ROK-N2 & W5ROK-N3 HSMM-
MESHNET Nodes 2.4 GHz

Tuesday 23 October 2018

1700 Social 1730 Meeting

Methodist Richardson Medical Ctr
At Bush/Renner/Shiloh Intersection

Conference Room A in Hospital Building

NEXT SIGNALS INPUTS DEADLINE:

→→→ 16 November 2018 ←←←