

Volume 43 Issue 01

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

October 2021

CARC Membership Meeting

Tuesday 26 Octoberber 2021 5:30 PM
NOTE THE TIME CHANGE

The Octoberber 2021 MEETING WILL BE AT
Poor Richards Café Plano TX

**"Get Ready for Fun on the
Higher HF Bands,"**
by Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA

October Meeting Announcement

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

Poor Richard's Cafe is located at 2442 K Avenue, Plano 75074 (southeast corner of E Park Blvd and K Ave) - see map below. Poor Richard's web site is <https://poorrichard-scafe.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.

The October 26th meeting will feature a program titled "Get Ready for Fun on the Higher HF Bands," given by Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA, of Fort Wayne, IN. Carl's presentation will focus on the forthcoming improved propagation on the higher HF bands (15m, 12m, 10m and even 6m) for those with modest antennas and modest power levels. To do this, he will provide an update of the new Solar Cycle 25 and how it's going to affect the higher HF bands. Carl will also address how the 10.7 cm solar flux, the sunspot number and the K index impact propagation. He will finish with a discussion of simple antennas for the higher HF bands.

Carl started his radio career as a short wave listener in the late 1950s. He received his Novice license (WN9AVT) in

October 1961, and selected K9LA in 1977. Carl is an electrical engineering graduate of Purdue University and was an RF design engineer until his retirement in 2013. Carl enjoys propagation research, DXing (he's at the Top of the Honor Roll), contesting (he was NCJ Editor from 2002-2007), experimenting with antennas and restoring/using vintage equipment.

He and his wife Vicky AE9YL enjoy traveling, which has included DXpeditions to Syria (YK9A in 2001), to Market Reef (OJ0/AE9YL and OJ0/K9LA in 2002) and numerous trips to ZF (Vicky is ZF2YL and Carl is ZF2LA). He has received the Bill Orr W6SAI Technical Writing Award, the YASME Foundation Excellence Award and the Indiana Radio Club Council Technical Excellence Award.



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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



As I pen this column for another month, I am reminded of how fast this year has gone by. We're about to move into the heavy holiday period, which will hopefully be filled with the fun and joy of the season.

We're planning our Annual Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 7th, at Aboca's Italian Grill, 100 S Central Expressway in Richardson. We'll start to gather around 5:30 p.m. and order from the regular menu about 6 p.m. We always look forward to this gathering to enjoy fun, fellowship and good food. Plus, there will be plenty of door prizes!

As mentioned last month, we're delaying our Annual Meeting from November to March 2022 in order to finish up re-working the Constitution and related documents. The election of officers for 2022 will take place at the March 22, 2022 meeting.

The November meeting (2021) has been moved up a week earlier to avoid conflict with the Thanksgiving holidays. It will be held on November 16th at Poor Richard's Cafe in Plano and via Zoom. We're planning to have door prizes for both the in-person and Zoom attendees. The November get-together will be the culmination of our "Town Hall Meetings" at which members have been invited to learn about plans for the future and express their viewpoints on the direction they would like the Club to take.

In the next couple of weeks, members will receive a survey asking for some inputs on what's important and what's not. This will be sent via email and should only take a couple of minutes to complete. Please express your opinions.

Looking into the new year: We're going to continue our annual Show 'n Tell program in January. If you have a neat

gadget or software, built something from a kit or from scratch, learned a clever technique or found a useful web site, we'd like to ask you to participate in Show 'n Tell. Presentations should last between five and ten minutes; a few slides or photos are helpful, but at the in-person meeting we'll have a camera to show what you're talking about, and those on Zoom can hold up their item before a camera or use a remote camera. If you need help with showing your demonstrated item, please ask and we'll do our best to help.

February will be our ARRL Night, and Feb. 2022 will feature Steven Lott Smith, KG5VK, the ARRL North Texas Section Manager. Steve will give us an update on happenings in the North Texas Section, as well as at Headquarters, and be available to answer questions about the League, the Section and your membership.

Our Club is only as strong as the involvement of its members. The handful of members in leadership roles can't be the wherewithal to produce all the programs, activities and projects of our Club. As we move into 2022, we'll be listing opportunities for service within the Club. Please consider your capabilities, knowledge and experience to find one or more areas of service that you can volunteer for. This doesn't mean you have to be a Club officer or chair a committee, but a participant - not just a spectator - is what is needed. And if you see a need for service or action within the Club that isn't mentioned, step up and volunteer to help fill the void. With everyone contributing in some way, our Club can become a glowing example of what's so special about the amateur radio hobby.

73 de Frank KR5N

Vice President/Membership Chairman Report

Membership Chairman Report - The CARC added Evan Roberts, W5IQS, as a new member. Evan has interests in CW, Evan is a member of the ARRL and he holds an Extra Class license, He is a member of the Marble Falls ARC. Evan lives in McKinney.

Welcome Evan!

Current Membership - 58

Full Members – 44 (Includes Life and Retiree Members)

Associate Members - 14

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.

The end of the fiscal year is approaching and with that comes a time for membership renewal for some of our cur-

rent members. Ham Club On Line (HCOL) will send out notices of upcoming renewals soon. These notices will go out to those whose membership expires on 31 December 2021. Thank you in advance for submitting a timely renewal. Your continued membership and participation is important to the CARC.

73s,

Bill K5MWC

Secretary's Report

28 September 2021

President Frank Krizan KR5N called the meeting to order at 1753. The meeting was in-person at our new meeting site at Poor Richard's Café in Plano. Zoom access was also provided for those not able to meet in-person.

The following were present at the meeting site:

Brian Belcher	WA5M
Jim Brown	AF5MA
Bill Fell	KK5PB
Frank Krizan	KR5N
John McFadden	K5TIP
Evan Roberts	W5IQS
Mike Schmit	WA9WCC
Jim Skinner	WB0UNI
Bill Swan	K5MWC
Rohan Thomas	KG5RCN
Kerry Weeks	K5WKS
Mark Wells	K9MDI

The following logged in via Zoom:

Jeff Box	WA5TCA
Bob Coulbourne	W4FTD
Bob Jones	W5BJ
Dennis Strouble	KW5DS
Matt Thomas	W5MT
John Walker	W1JCW
Brad Wick	W0CO

Officer and Committee Reports

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Rohan Thomas KG5RCN. The Secretary's and Activity Manager's reports were published in the September 2021 CARC Newsletter, and no clarifications or updates were offered at the meeting. The Vice President's report was also published, but

updated at the meeting by Bill Swan K5MWC to recognize new member Evan Roberts W5IQS.

Frank summarized the discussions and actions of the Board of Directors at their 14 September meeting, including a motion as shown under New Business below.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

A Board of Directors motion was presented for approval by the General membership: "Moved, that the CARC Board of Directors recommends to the Membership that the election of officers for 2022 be deferred until the March 2022 meeting to allow for development and approval of a new Club Constitution and By-Laws." The motion was approved unanimously by members present.

Announcements

Frank Krizan made the following announcements:

The November CARC meeting will be scheduled for 16 November to avoid proximity with the Thanksgiving holiday. Since the election has been moved to March 2022, the November meeting will be used to summarize and discuss results of town hall meetings to be scheduled in October.

Jim Skinner WB0UNI has volunteered to be the Champion for the CARC radio room installation.

Repairs are needed for the CARC 70mm repeater, but assessment of needs and a plan to implement will be deferred until access to the Collins facilities is restored.

The annual CARC Christmas dinner has been scheduled for Tuesday, 7 December at 1730 at Aboca's Restaurant in Richardson.

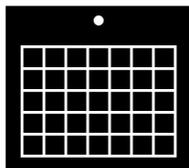
Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1812, followed by a presentation on "SteppIR Antennas, Everything You Ever Wanted to Know," by John Walker W1JCW, and a VE testing session.

ACTIVITY MANAGER'S REPORT

by Kerry Weeks, K5WKS

The September meeting featured a program by John Walker, W1JCW, on "SteppIR antennas, everything you ever wanted to know." John works for SteppIR and has provided extensive support to SteppIR antenna owners world-wide.



He provides telephone support for users and is the champion of re-building the stepper-motor systems used in the antenna elements. John has contributed

a number of design changes to SteppIR antennas to make them perform better. His presentation explained a great deal of the "ins and outs" of this amazing product.

We will meet at Poor Richard's Cafe in Plano to continue our in-person meetings. Poor Richard's is closed at night and delighted to allow us to use part of their space. There will be no food or drink service. Access will begin about 5 p.m. on the 4th Tuesday. Ring the doorbell at the main door to gain entrance. We will switch back to the traditional meeting time of 5:30 p.m. with VE testing starting after the meeting (about 7:30 p.m.).

I encourage you to try breakfast and/or lunch at Poor Richard's as a way to say thanks for use of their facility. The address is: 2442 K Avenue, Plano, 75074 (southeast corner of E Park Blvd & K Ave). Check out their web site (<http://www.poorrichardscafe.com>) for more info and menu.

For those who are uncomfortable with in-person meetings, we will offer the meeting audio and video via Zoom. The Zoom credentials are emailed to members the Monday prior to the meeting and are available in the Members Only Section of the Club website (n5cxx.us).

The October 26th meeting program is sure to be a hit. Our program will be given by Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, on the subject of "Get Ready for Fun on the Higher HF Bands". If you are a regular reader of articles on ionospheric propagation, you've probably heard of Carl. A brief business meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m., and the presentation should begin around 6 p.m.

Carl enjoys propagation research, DXing (he's at the top of the Honor Roll), contesting (he was NCJ Editor from 2002-2007), experimenting with antennas and restoring/using vintage equipment. Look at the October meeting announcement (elsewhere in this issue) to read about his many accomplishments.

Looking ahead, the CARC Board of Directors has decided that to avoid the Thanksgiving holiday week, the November meeting will be held one week earlier on Nov. 16th. This would normally be our Annual Meeting but, as announced last month, elections are being delayed until March 2022. The November meeting will be a continuation of the Town Hall Meetings seeking to hear what members want their club to be. It's important to voice your opinions. **We plan to have some door prizes at the November 16th meeting, so be sure to attend - either in-person or via Zoom.**

Upcoming meeting programs:

November 16 - Club "Town Hall" on the future of CARC

December 7 - Christmas Dinner Party at Aboca's Italian Grill, Richardson

January 25 - Annual Show and Tell Night

February 22 - ARRL Night - Steven Lott Smith, KG5VK, ARRL NTX Section Manager

March 22 - Revised Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

If you'd like to do a program in 2022 or have a suggestion for a program (either a topic or the name of a speaker), let me know. How about Operating Events - which ones do you think the Club should take part in? And don't be shy about stepping up to organize our Club's involvement in a contest or Special Event. Send your ideas to weeks.kerry@gmail.com

October CARC VE Test Sessions Report

ARRL VE Test Sessions are held immediately following the monthly CARC Meeting at Poor Richard's Cafe, 2442 K Avenue, Plano TX 75074.

All levels of exams are being offered; BUT YOU MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE IN ORDER TO BE ASSURED A SEAT. We also need to know who's coming in case we have to cancel due to Covid-19 declarations.



Contact Kerry Weeks, K5WKS, at 214-478-3230 or via email: weeks.kerry@gmail.com to register. Kerry will discuss the exam fees, what you need to do prior to the exam and what to bring to the test session. More info is available at: <http://www.arrl.org/what-to-bring-to-an-exam-session>

Two candidates were examined at the September 28, 2021 session. Chris Williams, KE5FNX, of McKinney, successfully upgraded to Extra. Congratulations, Chris! VEs at this session were Kerry Weeks, K5WKS, Mark Wells, K9MDI, and Frank Krizan, KR5N.

If you are an ARRL VE and would like to volunteer for future test sessions, contact Kerry at the email/phone shown above. If you are accredited through another VEC, Kerry can give you info on how to get accredited with the ARRL VEC.

Minutes of CARC Board of Directors Meeting

12 October 2021

President Frank Krizan KR5N called the meeting to order on-line via Zoom at 2029.

The following logged into the meeting:

Jim Brown	AF5MA
Bill Fell	KK5PB (Non-Voting Participant)
Frank Krizan	KR5N
Bill Swan	K5MWC
Rohan Thomas	KG5RCN

Kerry Weeks K5WKS

Pre-Meeting Workshop

All Directors and other members present participated in a pre-meeting workshop beginning at 1900 to discuss and develop motions for action by the Board at the formal meeting summarized below.

Topics covered in the workshop included the following:

- The Board considered non-renewal of the Club's U. S. Post Office box contract when it expires this year. Usage is low, and a Collins Aerospace-provided mailbox continues to be available within the Collins facility. After much discussion all agreed to continue usage of the USPS box for at least another year.
- A motion was developed to authorize purchase of weights for use in conjunction with the two EZ-UP tents purchased recently.
- A motion was developed to move the date for the August 2022 CARC meeting from 23 August to 30 August to accommodate a scheduling conflict for the planned guest speaker.
- It was agreed that the CARC Board would not meet in December 2021.
- A discussion was initiated on Club participation in Winter Field Day on 29 and 30 January 2022. Alternatives for an operating location were discussed, but no decisions were made.
- The possibility of changing the Club name to minimize name conflicts with other Collins Aerospace-affiliated clubs was discussed. It was agreed to maintain the status quo.
- Discussions of alternatives for the Club organizational structure were begun in preparation for drafting of a new Club Constitution and by-laws.

Board Actions

Motion 1: To authorize purchase of EZ-UP tents weights as discussed at the preceding workshop at a cost not to exceed \$90.00. Moved by Jim Brown, seconded by Kerry Weeks and approved unanimously.

Motion 2: To change the date of the August 2022 CARC meeting from 23 August to 30 August. Moved by Jim Brown, seconded by Kerry Weeks and approved unanimously.

Additional Motions from the Floor

Kerry Weeks moved to allocate \$50.00 for purchase of door prizes to be awarded at the November 2021 CARC meeting. Jim Brown seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Adjournment

Moved at 2036 by Kerry Weeks and seconded by Bill Swan.

Drive Home Net Report - October 2021

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 (generally the 4th Tuesday. Exceptions are the November meeting - held on the third Tuesday to avoid the Thanksgiving holiday, in December when net schedules work around the Christmas Dinner and Christmas Eve/Day and in January to avoid New Year's Eve/Day).



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

SEP 21 - [8] KR5N Frank NCS; K5MWC Bill; WB0UNI Jim; AC5BC/m Bill; W5BJ Bob; K5TIP John; KC5MVE Paul; K5WKS Kerry.

SEP 28 - NO NET; GENERAL MEETING

OCT 5 - [8] KR5N Frank NCS; K5MWC Bill; K5WKS Kerry; WB0UNI Jim; KC5MVE Paul; W5BJ Bob; N5WSV George; K5TIP John.

OCT 12 - [7] KR5N Frank NCS; K5MWC Bill; WB0UNI Jim; K5WKS Kerry; KC5MVE Paul; N5WSV George; W5BJ Bob.

Average participation for this period: 8

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.

HAM EXAM 101 - October 2021

It may have been a while since you took your ham exams, or it may have been just a few weeks ago. Each month, we'll review one question from each of the pools (Tech, General and Extra) to test your Ham Knowledge. The correct answers are shown (upside down) elsewhere in this issue of SIGNALS.

1. Under which of the following circumstances may an amateur radio station make one-way transmissions?

- A. Under no circumstances
- B. At any time, as long as no music is transmitted
- C. When transmitting code practice, information bulletins, or transmissions necessary to provide emergency communications

D. At any time, as long as the material being transmitted did not originate from a commercial broadcast station

2. Which of these choices should be observed when climbing a tower using a safety belt or harness?

- A. Never lean back and rely on the belt alone to support your weight
- B. Ensure that all heavy tools are securely fastened to the belt D-ring
- C. Confirm that the belt is rated for the weight of the climber and that it is within its allowable service life
- D. All these choices are correct

3. Under what circumstances may a dealer sell an external RF power amplifier capable of operation below 144 MHz if it has not been granted FCC certification?

- A. The equipment dealer assembled it from a kit
- B. It was imported from a manufacturer in a country that does not require certification of RF power amplifiers
- C. It was imported from a manufacturer in another country and was certificated by that country's government
- D. It was purchased in used condition from an amateur operator and is sold to another amateur operator for use at that operator's station



**Sporadic
SIGNALS**

...captured by

Frank KR5N

Sad news to report:

AMSAT-NA Past President and ham radio satellite and digital pioneer Tom Clark, K3IO (ex-W3IWI), of Columbia, Maryland, died on September 28 after a short illness and hospital stay. An ARRL Life Member, he was 82. Clark's accomplishments are legendary, and he left a lasting footprint in the worlds of amateur radio satellites and digital techniques.

Read more here:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/view/past-amsat-president-and-director-and-amateur-satellite-pioneer-tom-clark-k3io-sk>

Tad Cook, K7RA, who writes the ARRL Propagation Forecast Bulletin, made the following comment in the Oct. 15th Bulletin:

"The November 2021 issue of QST arrived, and the article on page 70,

"Propagation Tools and Resources for Contesting" by WO1N, KC2G and

members of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club, shares some great

resources, not only of interest to contest operators."

The latest edition of Eclectic Tech (Episode 44) features Steve Allen, KC1SA, and a discussion about the current electronics parts shortage and what it may mean for amateurs. The On the Air and Eclectic Tech podcasts are available on iTunes (iOS) and Stitcher (Android) as well as on Blubrry.

From the ARRL Letter dated: Oct. 14, 2021:

The Intrepid-DX Group has extended the submission deadline for this year's Youth "Dream Rig" Essay Contest to November 15, 2021. The winner of the 2021 contest will be announced on December 1. Those who submitted an essay last year are invited to submit again. The prize is an Icom IC-7300 transceiver. Entry rules: (1) Write and submit a two-page essay that answers the question, "How can amateur radio evolve to remain relevant in the age of the internet? (2) Be a US amateur radio licensee aged 19 or younger. (3) Promise to keep the radio for 1 year and to use it on the air. (4) [Send](#) your essay in text or MS Word attachment by November 15, 2021 (no Google documents, please) (5) Alternatively mail it to The Intrepid-DX Group, 3052 Wetmore Dr, San Jose, CA 95148, USA, postmarked by November 15, 2021. All submissions become the property of the Intrepid-DX Group and may be published. [Contact](#) Paul Ewing, N6PSE, and visit The Intrepid-DX Group [Facebook page](#) for more information.

If you have youth hams in your family or know of some active youth hams let them know about this great opportunity to compete.

With the October 14th issue of the ARRL Contest Update, Paul Bourque, N1SFE, has taken over as Editor of the Update from Brian Moran, N9ADE. Paul is currently Contest Program Manager at ARRL, a position he's held since June of 2019. Paul's been a ham since 1994 and, as a newly licensed Technician, he was bitten by the VHF contesting bug and was active in those contests for a few years, and after several years of inactivity, he finally upgraded to General (and then Extra) and became active in HF contesting as well. Paul is planning several changes to the Contest Update and welcomes inputs from readers.

Windows 11 has been released. How's it working for you? Especially with amateur radio applications? If you've discovered some quirks, fixes, work-arounds, etc. pass them along to kr5n@arrl.net and we'll include them in next month's issue.

Satellite swarms are threatening the night sky. Is low-Earth orbit the next great crucible of environmental conflict? Almost overnight, a new arena of environmental conflict has opened up. Astronomers aren't the only ones who see an existential threat. Environmentalists, amateur stargazers, and indigenous leaders are working to revive astronomical traditions and see an affront to the planet's dwindling dark skies, an act as vandalistic as "carving initials into a tree trunk" in front of the whole world. Read the entire article, The Fault in Our Stars in Science magazine at ti.nyurl.com/ANS-283-Stars

[Thanks [Science.org](https://www.science.org) for the above information. This item appeared in the AMSAT News Service Bulletin of October 10, 2021]

Who says hams don't have a sense of humor? Got this from the August 2021 newsletter of the Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club (Australia):

A Kiwi bloke, an Aussie bloke and a beautiful blonde (female) Swedish backpacker are in a compartment on a train when it goes through a pitch black tunnel. A big smacky kiss is heard, followed by the sound of a slap. When the train emerges from the tunnel, the Aussie bloke is rubbing a big red mark on his face.

He thinks "the Kiwi bloke must have tried to kiss the Swedish girl, but she thought it was me and slapped me."

She thinks "one of the men must have tried to kiss me, missed and got the other man, who slapped him."

The Kiwi bloke thinks "I hope we go through another tunnel so I can kiss my arm and slap that Aussie bloke again!"

... until next month, 73 de KR5N

CARC Community Service Activities

Siren Testing Dennis Cobb WA8ZBT, Frank Krizan KR5N, and Jim Skinner WB0UNI participate in the Richardson emergency siren testing. The September test was conducted on 1 September. Most sirens worked, but several were partially or totally non-functional. 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. Assisting with July 7th Garland Siren Test were Bob Jones, W5BJ, Robert Geraldson, N5REG and 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.

Helping People Have Fun with Amateur Radio

[The following article is used with permission of the author, Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, and is taken from his excellent blog at <https://www.kb6nu.com/ratpac-presentation-helping-people-have-fun-with-amateur-radio/>. Dan is the creator of the "No-Nonsense" Tech, General and Extra Study Guides. Dan's ideas in his presentation can be useful as we strive to help newcomers to the hobby, as well as OTs wanting to learn about new technologies, modes, etc.]

Last Wednesday, I gave this presentation to the Radio Amateur Training Planning and Activities Committee, also known as [RATPAC](#). RATPAC hosts Zoom presentations twice-a-week. On Wednesdays, the presentations are on general amateur radio topics, and on Thursdays, the presentations are on amateur radio emergency communications.

The thrust of my talk was how to be a better mentor for newcomers to amateur radio. In amateur radio circles, we commonly call this "Elmering," but I think that we have possibly outgrown that term. The main points in my talk are:

- Be enthusiastic about **ALL** of amateur radio.
- Make yourself available.
- Listen
- Show, don't tell
- Teach **AND** learn

I also have a slide that includes a number of small things that you can do that mean a lot to newcomers and a list of resources.

[Click here](https://www.kb6nu.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/ratpac-20211013.pdf) to get all the slides. (<https://www.kb6nu.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/ratpac-20211013.pdf>)

For a full video recording of the presentation, go to <https://player.vimeo.com/video/633786233?h=82e20480ad>

Dallas Marathon 2021 News

To all potential 2021 Marathon Communicators:

Communicator's sign up for the Marathon is now open. Use the below url to get started.



<https://sites.google.com/site/dallasmarathoncomms/volunteering/sign-up?authuser=0>

The Marathon is the second Sunday in December, December 12, 2021 to be exact. Please mark your calendars for this event.

Please pass this information to any one you know that might be interested in helping out this year.

Last year's Dallas Marathon was canceled because of COVID. We need about 65 amateur operators for different positions during the race.

There will be a Marathon, Half Marathon and an Ultra Marathon (50 km). It will be in downtown Dallas. Here is a map of the course.

<https://www.rundallas.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/2021-Dallas-Marathon-SUNDAY-Graphical-Map.pdf>

It is a good event to raise money for the Dallas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children. Scottish Rite for Children is a world-renowned leader in the treatment of pediatric orthopedic conditions, sports injuries and fractures, as well as certain related arthritic and neurological disorders and learning disorders, such as dyslexia.

All kinds of positions are open. We have operators at each of the water stops along the route. Because of the size of the event, it is recommended that you use a mobile radio to get a good signal to the repeater. However there are a few positions where you can get by with an HT. If you are mobile, then it would be good to have an APRS also.

For more information, contact John Galvin, N5TIM, at n5tim@arrl.net

73 and Thanks from your Communications Committee.

Need another Badge or Coffee Mug?



COLLINS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Richardson, Texas www.N5CCX.as
Jim
AF5MA



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



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@arrl.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

NOVEMBER

6-8 Nov. Sweepstakes – CW--For stations in the United States and Canada (including territories and possessions) to exchange QSONovember-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>.

20-22 Nov. Sweepstakes – Phone--For stations in the United States and Canada (including territories and possessions) to exchange QSONovember-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>.

20-21 EME - 50 to 1296 MHz—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-contest>.

DECEMBER

3-5 160 Meter--For Amateurs worldwide to exchange information with W/VE amateurs on 160-meter CW. Starts 2200 UTC Friday, ends 1600 UTC Sunday: forty-two hour period with no time limitation. Details at <http://www.arrl.org/160-meter>

11-12 10 Meter-- For Amateurs worldwide to exchange QSO information with as many stations as possible on the 10 meter band. Starts 0000 UTC Saturday; runs through 2359 UTC Sunday. Details at <http://www.arrl.org/10-meter>

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>

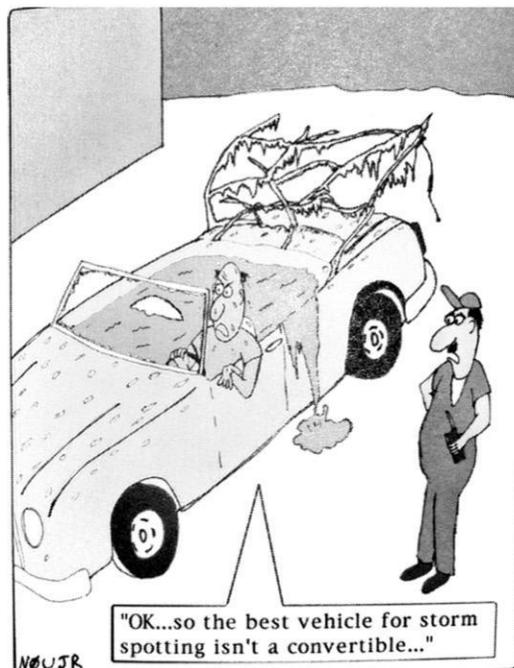
QUIZ ANSWERS
 1. C (T1D02)
 2. C (G0B07)
 3. D (E1F03)

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



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

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	3 2400Z NA Sprint CW	7 0430Z ARRL DX SSB	7 2400Z SP Polish DX	4 1500Z 7QP/IN/DE New England QSO Parties	1 varies SEANET Contest	2 1200Z Marconi Memorial HF	6 1400Z NAQP CW	3 1400Z CWops CW Open	4 2358Z California QSO Party	2 2100Z ARRL SS CW	8 0300Z ARRL 160
9 1800Z NAQP CW	10 0600Z WPX RTTY	14 2400Z NA Sprint RTTY	14 0400Z JIDX CW	10 0900Z CQ-M DX	11 1300Z ARRL June VHF	8 1200Z IARU HF	9 1158Z WAE CW	14 0900Z WAE SSB	11 2358Z Oceania CW	10 0800Z WAE RTTY	14 2358Z ARRL 10
16 1800Z NAQP SSB	17 0600Z ARRL DX CW	20 2400Z Russian DX	21 1200Z CQMM DX	17 0900Z King of Spain	18 2358Z All Asian CW	15 1200Z CQ VHF	19 2400Z NAQP SSB	20 2100Z WA/NJ/NH QSO Parties	18 1500Z Worked All Germany	19 1458Z ARRL SS SSB	17 2100Z RAC Winter
16 1800Z ARRL January VHF	18 0359Z CQ 160 SSB	26 2200Z WPX SSB	27 0800Z Florida QSO Party	24 2400Z Contest University Dayton Hamvention	25 2158Z ARRL Field Day	20 1100Z RSGB IOTA	23 1700Z WW Digi	26 1800Z CQWW RTTY	25 0900Z CQWW CW	27 0800Z HAPPY HOLIDAYS	24 2400Z HAPPY HOLIDAYS
29 2200Z CQ 160 CW	31 2158Z WPX CW			29 0000Z CQWW SSB	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 26 Octoberber 2021 **5:30 PM**
NOTE THE TIME CHANGE
 THE October 2021 MEETING WILL BE AT
Poor Richards Café Plano TX

NEXT SIGNALS INPUTS DEADLINE:
→→→ 05 November 2021 ←←←