

CARC Membership Meeting

Tuesday 28 September 2021 5:30 PM
NOTE THE TIME CHANGE

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

**"SteppIR antennas, everything
you ever wanted to know,"
by John Walker, W1JCW**

September 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 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://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.

The September 28th meeting will feature a program titled "SteppIR antennas, everything you ever wanted to know," given by John Walker, W1JCW, of Bryan, Texas. John will explain what makes the SteppIR antenna products unique, the basics of what makes them work so well and answer

questions about any of the products. Not familiar with SteppIR antennas? - Take a look at their web site: <https://www.steppir.com>.



John has been licensed since the age of 11 and plans to stay active as a ham for the rest of his life. He enjoys DXing, contesting and QSLing. John also participates in public service events and emergency comms. He is a support engineer for SteppIR and loves the fact that he can help hams world-wide.

W1JCW currently lives in Bryan, Texas, and has a marvelous antenna farm, which, needless to say, includes a SteppIR yagi. He recently won the CQWW QRP in 2019 with a SteppIR 2E/40m at 100 feet. "A lot to be said for the SteppIR antenna" says John.

Among his accomplishments are 5BWAZ (200 zones), nine- Band DXCC (10M through 160M), 6BWAS, and 5BWAC. He is DXCC Honor Roll Number One SSB and has confirmed nine or more bands from 100 different DXCC entities. This includes 107 entities confirmed on at least nine bands, 23 entities with confirmations on ten bands.

Need another Badge or Coffee Mug?



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

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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



Since many folks don't read every article, I'm putting this up front: CARC communicates via email. The majority of our announcements go out via hamclubonline.net email messaging. ARE YOU RECEIVING Club emails regularly? If not, check your email filtering settings to allow emails from @hamclubonline.net to not be sent to Junk or Spam. Emails are sent by private individuals, such as this newsletter, and certain other announcements. We try to put [CARC] in the Subject line of emails to help assure that proper filtering can take place.

It was great to see a good turnout for our first (inayear-and-a-half)in-person meetings in August. A sincere THANK YOU to Sonja Ryder, owner of Poor Richard's Cafe in Plano, for allowing us to hold our meetings in their facility. And likewise a big THANK YOU to Bill Fell, KK5PB, who handles security for us, allowing us access afterhours. Bill also arranges for a big screen TV for our presenters to use for their programs. We are continuing to use Zoom to allow remote presenters access and to allow our members who aren't comfortable with in-person yet and other members who are remote to attend.

On Thursday, September 30th, we're going to have a Club Lunch at Poor Richard's, beginning at 1 p.m. Order off the regular menu and pay for your own meal. The CARC Board will be presenting a souvenir Club Coffee Mug to Sonja to add to her collection of memorable coffee cups on display at the Cafe. We hope as many of our members as possible will join us on that day.

The CARC Board voted to change the meeting date of the November meeting from Nov. 23rd to November 16th to move the meeting away from the Thanksgiving holidays.

The Board will also present a motion to the membership at the September meeting to delay the election of officers until March 2022 to allow for finalizing and approval of the new Club Constitution and By-Laws.

With recent Covid cases showing up at the Collins Aerospace plant, access has become restricted once again. New retiree badges are on hold and only essential employees are allowed access to the plant. We're still trying to get our new radio room built up and coax and control cables re-routed to the antennas. We're hoping to arrange for a Saturday work-day soon to get a fair amount of work done and plan out future work days. There's also something not right with the CARC 70cm repeater, which requires looking into.

Your thoughts and ideas of what you would like to see our Club become, as well as programs, projects, activities, etc., will be welcomed at a series of town hall meetings. The dates and times for two Zoom meetings are: Sunday, October 3rd, 2 to 3 pm, and Saturday, October 16th, 2 to 3 pm. Then at the Nov. 16th in-person/Zoom meeting we'll summarize member inputs and gather more comments and ideas. At each town hall the Board will be showcasing the proposed Club Purpose, Mission Statement and Vision Statement. The Board is also interested in what Club features are most interesting and useful to members.

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, December 7th for our Christmas Dinner to be held at Aboca's Italian Grill in Richardson. More details forthcoming. Oh, yes ... and we're planning some nice door prizes — sorry, but no Zoom session that night.

73 de Frank KR5N

Vice President/Membership Chairman Report

Membership Chairman Report - The CARC added Brad Wick, W0CO, as a new member. Brad is a retiree and his interests include Contesting and Field Day participation. Brad is a member of the ARRL and he holds an Extra class license. Brad lives in Pitkin Colorado. The population of Pitkin in 2018 was 72 which was down from the 1880 population of 1891.

Welcome Brad

Current Membership - 57

Full Members – 44 (Includes Life and Retiree Members)

Associate Members - 13

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.

73s,

Bill K5MWC

Secretary's Report

24 August 2021

President Frank Krizan KR5N called the meeting to order at 1735. 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
Mike Schmit	WA9WCC
Jim Skinner	WB0UNI
Bill Swan	K5MWC
Matt Thomas	W5MT
Rohan Thomas	KG5RCN
Kerry Weeks	K5WKS
Mark Wells	K9MDI
Milt Withers	AD5XD

The following logged in via Zoom:

Bob Coulbourne	W4FTD
Mark Dempsey	N5MD
John Galvin	N5TIM
Keith Parris	WB5RBA
Clarence Sebesta	K5YO

Officer and Committee Reports

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Rohan Thomas KG5RCN. The Vice President's and Activity Manager's reports were published in the August 2021 CARC Newsletter. There was no Secretary's Report since the July meeting was the annual Ice Cream Social, where no business was transacted.

Frank summarized the discussions and actions of the Board of Directors at their two August meetings. Only one action was taken: Kerry Weeks K5WKS moved to purchase two E-Z UP tents for Club use at a cost not to exceed \$310; Jim Brown AF5MA seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Announcements

Frank Krizan announced that the next CARC Board meeting would be held via Zoom on 14 September. He stated that all members were welcome to attend and would be sent Zoom credentials to allow this if desired.

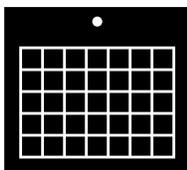
Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1753, followed by a presentation on "De-mystifying the RF Exposure Evaluation for Ham Stations," by Frank Krizan and a VE testing session at 19:30.

ACTIVITY MANAGER'S REPORT

by Kerry Weeks, K5WKS

Our meeting program in August was presented by Frank Krizan, KR5N, on the topic of "De-mystifying the RF Exposure Evaluation for Ham Stations." Frank gave us a bit of the history behind concerns of RF exposure to humans and the recent requirement by the FCC that all hams conduct a routine evaluation of their stations to ensure they are compliant with RF exposure guidelines.



His program described the "K.I.S.S." method, which simplified the evaluation process by utilizing a Worst-Case Concept. By using the worst case, most hams can easily determine that their stations (i.e., transmitters and antennas) are compliant as related to the safety of themselves, their families and neighbors.

It was great to return to in-person meetings once again last month. We will continue to meet at Poor Richard's Cafe in Plano. 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 pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Ring the doorbell at the main door to gain entrance. We will switch back to the traditional meeting time of 5:30 pm with VE testing starting after the meeting (about 7:30 pm).

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 September 28th meeting program will be given by John Walker, W1JCW, on "SteppIR antennas, everything you

ever wanted to know." A brief business meeting will begin at 5:30 pm and the presentation should begin around 6 pm.

Many of you may have met John in the indoor flea market area at HamCom in years gone by. I often helped him at his tables. He is known to many as "Big John." I think you'll find his presentation most interesting.

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 November 16th. This would normally be our Annual Meeting but, as you'll read elsewhere in this newsletter, it is being proposed that elections be 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.

Upcoming meeting programs:

October 26 - Ionospheric Propagation Predictions - Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA

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

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

January 25 - Annual Show and Tell Night

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

March 22 - Revised Annual Meeting & 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

CARC VE Test Sessions Have Resumed!

ARRL VE Test Sessions are once again being held immediately following the CARC Meeting on the 4th Tuesday monthly 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.arrrl.org/what-to-bring-to-an-exam-session>

Our first test session after the Covid interruption was held immediately following the August 24th meeting. We had one candidate, Jose L Mitjavila of Plano, who is now KI5RMB. 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

14 September 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
Jim Skinner	WB0UNI
Rohan Thomas	KG5RCN

Pre-Meeting Workshop

All Directors and other members present participated in a pre-meeting workshop beginning at 1903 to discuss and develop motions for action by the Board at the formal meeting summarized below.

Topics covered in the workshop included the following:

- Announcement that processing of additional badges for access to the Collins facilities are now on hold due to corporate Covid concerns. Use of existing badges will probably require prior approval and employee escort.
- December 7th (Tuesday) was proposed for the CARC Christmas dinner at Aboca's, pending coordination with the restaurant.
- A brief discussion addressed the format and content of a revised CARC Constitution.
- President Frank Krizan proposed that the election of CARC officers be deferred from the November 2021 Annual Meeting until the March 2022 meeting to allow development and approval of the a new CARC Constitution and By-Laws prior to the election. This was formulated as a motion to be voted on at the formal Board meeting.
- A series of town hall meetings (via Zoom) to determine member interests and recommendations for

future Club efforts was discussed. Meetings would begin prior to the 16 November 2021 Annual Meeting, with the final meeting on that date. All agreed in concept, with specific times and dates to be determined.

- Jim Skinner WB0UNI volunteered to serve as CARC Radio Room Champion.
- Status of the CARC 70cm repeater was discussed, and it was agreed that further assessment is needed to determine whether to repair, replace or decommission the equipment.
- It was announced that the new CARC website (n5cxx.org) was now on-line but without content. The existing website (n5cxx.us) will remain on-line until the new site is developed and populated.

Officer / Committee / Project Reports

Membership Chairman Bill Swan K5MWC reported a total of 57 members for the CARC, including new member Brad Wick W0CO.

Bill Fell KK5PB reported status of the VHF/UHF Go Kit (complete), HF Go Kit (complete) and the generator transport project (awaiting materials).

Board Actions

Motion 1: To accept the agenda as developed in the preceding workshop. Moved by Bill Swan, seconded by Jim Brown and approved unanimously.

Motion 2: "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." Moved by Jim Brown, seconded by Bill Swan and approved unanimously.

Adjournment

Moved at 2034 by Bill Swan and seconded by Jim Brown.

Drive Home Net Report - September 2021

The Collins ARC Drive Home Net continues on Tuesdays from 5:30 to 6:00 pm on the N5CXX Repeater 441.875 MHz, +5 MHz, PL=131.8 Hz. The Net is not held on the 4th Tuesday due to conflict with the monthly membership meeting (the exception is December when Net Schedules work around the Christmas Dinner and Christmas Eve/Day).



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

AUG 17 - [8] KR5N Frank NCS; K5WKS Kerry; W5BJ Bob; N5WSV George; WB0UNI Jim; K5MWC Bill; KC5MVE Paul; N5JJC Mark.

AUG 24 - NO NET; GENERAL MEETING

AUG 31 - [6] K5MWC Bill NCS; KR5N Frank; K5WKS Kerry; KC5MVE Paul; W5BJ Bob; WB0UNI Jim (Repeater receive issues continue and may have resulted in lower check-ins)

SEP 7 - [5] K5WKS Kerry NCS; W5BJ Bob; WB0UNI Jim; K5MWC Bill; KR5N Frank.

SEP 14 - [5] KR5N Frank NCS; K5MWC Bill; WB0UNI Jim; K5GLD Randy; W5BJ Bob.

Average participation for this period: 6

Average participation for the previous period: 9 (This was our Net record for check-ins)

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 - SEPTEMBER 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. What, in general terms, is standing wave ratio (SWR)?
 - A. The transmitter efficiency ratio
 - B. A measure of how well a load is matched to a transmission line
 - C. The ratio of high to low impedance in a feed line
 - D. An indication of the quality of your station's ground connection
2. What circuit is used to process signals from the RF amplifier and local oscillator then send the result to the IF filter in a superheterodyne receiver?
 - A. Balanced modulator
 - B. Mixer
 - C. IF amplifier
 - D. Detector
3. What technique minimizes the bandwidth of a PSK31 signal?
 - A. Reed-Solomon character encoding
 - B. Zero-sum character encoding
 - C. Use of sinusoidal data pulses
 - D. Use of trapezoidal data pulses



Sporadic SIGNALS

...captured by Frank KR5N

September is National Preparedness Month, so, several of the comments below relate to being prepared. A good place to start for readiness ideas is ready.gov

From the Aug 18 ARES Letter:

Tip: Here is an excellent, new 15-minute [video presentation on the ARES program for new and prospective ARES participants](#), by ARRL Orange (California) Section Emergency Coordinator Bob Turner, W6RHK

The Neighborhood Radio Watch (<http://www.edcarc.net/index.php/neighborhood-radio-watch/what-is-neighborhood-radio-watch>) concept integrates the use of amateur radio, GMRS (including repeaters), and scanners to monitor county fire frequencies. It is evolving into a terrific grassroots safety program that can be replicated in other areas of the country that face the risks of fast-moving disaster threats. -- Alan Thompson, W6WN, Public Information Officer, The El Dorado County Amateur Radio Club. There's more info at: <http://neighborhoodradiowatch.org/index.php>.

FEMA Shelter-in-Place Guidance

FEMA has released Shelter-in-Place Pictogram Guidance for ten hazards and three building types. The pictograms provide clear, visual guidance to the public on shelter-in-place actions classified by both hazard and building type to ensure the public takes effective protective actions when instructed to shelter-in-place during emergencies.

The guidance provides recommended interior locations for specific hazards, additional actions for protection, and the recommended duration for staying sheltered-in-place. The ten hazards are: Active Shooter, Chemical Hazards, Earthquake, Flooding/Flash Flooding, Hurricane, Nuclear/Radiological Hazards, Pandemic, Thunderstorm, Tornado, and Winter Storm. The three building types are: Manufactured or Mobile Home, 1- or 2-Story Buildings, and Multi-story Buildings. The shelter-in-place pictograms can be used by community partners in multiple communication channels, such as posters, websites, just-in-time social media posts and by emergency managers for Integrated Public Alert & Warning System Wireless Emergency Alerts. The Shelter-in-Place Pictogram Guidance can be downloaded from https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_shelter-in-place_guidance_5-25-2021.pdf

From Cheap QSLs web site. <http://cheapqsls.com/>

Advanced Notice To our loyal QSL Customers by Hal Hunter:

ADVANCED NOTICE OF CLOSURE.

Sue and I will be closing our doors as of October 31, 2021. We have decided it is time to enter our full retirement and start enjoying life. Being in our mid 70's and eyesight failing and the usual aches and pains of old age doesn't help either when you put in 12-14 hour days.

Please spread the word for us. The website will also have a posted notice when we start September 2021. We both have enjoyed serving the Amateur Radio community for over 20+ years. We have only had one price increase in all those years despite rising operating cost, not to mention everlasting postage increases.

From the bottom of our hearts we thank each and every one of you for letting us print your QSLs. Guys and Gals, we are tired, and it is time for us to enjoy life.

73, Hal K6RF & Sue WA6SUE

Robert N3XKB submitted this item to the Austin SwapNet Newsletter Aug 24, 2021:

During CW Academy, somebody sent me a list of very short stories that I then converted to CW mp3 files in 5, 7, and 10 words / minute overall, 25 wpm character speed (Farnsworth). I put these on a USB stick for use in the car. 101 files at each speed, plus the original text included. 224MB file size.

<http://www.n3xkb.com/CW-practice-stories-5-7-10wpm.zip>

(de KR5N: These are also good files for practicing "head copy").

Similarly, Bennett WB5GVY, sent this in to SwapNet for the Aug. 24th issue:

As a follow-up to the question on grounding from Monday night's new ham net, I recommend the following presentation on Grounding and Bonding by Ward N0AX.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rTGFvYjl0o>

Not only is this "fire hose" talk well done, there are a wealth of references. This is just one of several quality videos posted by the Front Range 6 Meter group.

FYI: Ward Silver's presentation lasts an hour and is well worth your time.

From RWK Discussion Group August 28, Dave, WA5TET, posted the following:

For those interested in the finer details of coax selection here's a link to a thread on the SimSmith groups.io:

<https://groups.io/g/SimSmith/message/2179>

From Kenwood TS-890 groups.io Sept 2, 2021 (published with permission of author - **this reminds us all to be creative in our troubleshooting methods.** And don't ignore suggestions from OTs "who've been there and done that!"

"Just wanted to bring closure to our discussions and your thoughtful suggestions regarding my mysterious 5th harmonic from a broadcast station.

"The culprit turned out to be a UHF right angle adapter in the coax feed from my shack tuner to the outdoors remote coax switch. The right-angle adapter was out of sight between the interior window and storm window, so not obvious. Replacing it with a short coax jumper totally eliminated the 5th harmonic reception and cured up a bunch of other strange behaviors as well.

"With the guidance from an older and wiser ham, we began a methodical search, first using a 50' piece of coax to jumper directly all the way from the transceiver to the antenna feed. Then, we worked our way back toward the transceiver one connection at a time, until the problem would reoccur. Amazingly, we counted 14 PL-259 connectors in the chain between the radio and the antenna. Lots of chances for a bum connector.

"Ironically, I had just bought this right-angle adapter from new stock at Berryville Hamfest; it was of Asian manufacture. Essentially, there was no reliable continuity between the incoming and outgoing coax shield. While it worked sometimes at low power, as soon as I ran >100 watts, the problem surfaced. Examination of the adapter shows it has only two "tits" to make contact with the mating PL-259. Those looked burnt. While you would think the knurled screw sleeve would make contact, it depends on an uncoated steel C ring to keep it mechanically (and electrically) connected to the adapter shell.

"I have removed all right-angle adapters from the antenna feed chain. Now things are working as they should. Thanks to all for your suggestions and comments. Perhaps that's a wonderful thing about our hobby: one learns as one does.

Ed, W8NL"

A Better Mouse Trap? For users of groups.io, there are now apps for your smartphones. Groups.io app is now available for both iOS and Android. Here are the links:

iOS:

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/groups-io-app/id1553820507>

Android:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=io.groups.webapp>

... until next month, 73 de KR5N

2021 ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET)

ARRL Bulletin 24 ARLB024

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT September 23, 2021

To all radio amateurs

ARLB024 The 2021 ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is Just Ahead. The weekend of October 2 - 3 is designated for holding the annual ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET), although local and Section-level exercises may take place throughout the Fall. The SET is ARRL's primary national emergency exercise and is designed to assess the skills and preparedness of Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) volunteers, as well as those affiliated with other organizations involved in emergency and disaster response.

The SET encourages maximum participation by all radio amateurs, partner organizations, and national, state, and local officials who typically engage in emergency or disaster response. In addition to ARES volunteers, those active in the National Traffic System (NTS), Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), National Weather Service (NWS) SKYWARN, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), and a variety of other allied groups and public service-oriented radio amateurs are needed to fulfill important roles in this nationwide exercise.

The SET offers volunteers an opportunity to test equipment, modes, and skills under simulated emergency conditions and scenarios. Individuals can use the time to update a "go-kit" for use during deployments and to ensure their home station's operational capability in an emergency or disaster. To get involved, contact your local ARRL Emergency Coordinator or Net Manager.

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.



2nd Annual Richardson Radio Control Club

R/C SWAP MEET & AUCTION!

Over 160
Tables!
25,000 Sq. ft.

Allen, Texas

Saturday, September 25, 2021

Allen High School Cafeteria

300 Rivercrest Blvd., Allen, Texas 75002

(see map on back)

Swap Meet: 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

(6:00am-8:00am Table Setup & Reservation Check-in)

Auction: 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm (or sell out)

General Admission: \$5 (in-and-out OK)

(Ladies and children under 12 free!)

For more
information

Mark Wilson
972-345-4092
swapmeet@rrcc.org
www.rrcc.org

See next page for
table reservation
information
2 1/2 X 6' Tables &
Chairs Included
with Reservation
Staging Area for
Large Planes
Display

EVENT SPONSORS



OCTOBER 1-2, 2021

[Bell County Expo Center, Belton, Texas](#)

50 miles north of Austin

130 miles north of San Antonio

140 miles south of Dallas / Ft. Worth

165 miles northwest of Houston

Approximately 80 percent of the population in Texas lives within 200 miles of **HamEXPO!**

Admission Fee for the public is \$5.00 per person at the door (children under 12 free). Includes one free raffle ticket (a \$2.00 value).

Vendors, this your opportunity to sell product or distribute information to about 1,200 motivated buyers on a Saturday morning. All indoor spaces have free electricity. There are a limited number of spaces against the wall.



Hosted by the [Hella Hams](#) and the ARRL North Texas Section

Saturday October 9, 2021 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

[Hella Shrine Center](#) 2121 Rowlett Rd Garland TX 75043

The [Hella Hams@Hella Shrine](#) and the ARRL North Texas Section would like to invite all current and prospective hams to attend Mentorfest!

Don't miss out!

- ◆ [Formal presentations](#) on a number of topics
- ◆ [Local clubs](#) providing information on their activities
- ◆ [Elmers](#) (ham-speak for mentors) available for informal [discussions on just about any topic](#)
- ◆ [Tours of emergency communications vehicles](#)
- ◆ Representatives from the ARRL, local clubs, ARES/RACES, the National Traffic System, and others [showing how you can get involved](#)

Mentoring available!

Amateur radio clubs, individual hams, and organizations with ties to amateur radio will be available to provide mentoring by [answering questions](#) on a large range of topics and [providing demonstrations](#) in a very informal setting.

Would you like to be a mentor?

Your excitement about a favorite subject might be an [inspiration to another ham!](#) Come share your knowledge and experience! Email mentorfest@arrlntx.org to learn more.

We invite all ARRL affiliated clubs to come share information about their activities!

If your club is interested, email mentorfest@arrlntx.org for details.

Volunteers needed!

Opportunities include assisting with parking lot control for EMComm vehicle static displays, and greeting attendees to help them with their Mentorfest event questions. Email mentorfest@arrlntx.org to learn more and sign up!

Find more information at arrlntx.org/mentorfest

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@arri.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

AUGUST

21-22 10 GHz & Up – Round 1. The objective is for North American amateurs work as many amateur stations in as many different locations as possible in North America on bands from 10-GHz through Light. Amateurs are encouraged to operate from more than one location during this event. Details at <http://www.arri.org/10-ghz-up>.

22 Rookie Roundup – RTTY—To encourage newly-licensed operators in North America (including territories and possessions) to operate on the HF bands and experience competitive operating. On the 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter HF bands. From 1800 UTC through 2359 UTC. Details at <http://www.arri.org/rookie-roundup>.

SEPTEMBER

11-13 September VHF. Objective: amateurs in the US and Canada (and their possessions) to work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees x 1 degree grid squares as possible using authorized frequencies above 50 MHz. Stations outside the US & Canada (and their possessions) may only work stations in the US (and its possessions) and Canada. Begins 1800 UTC Saturday and runs through 0259 UTC Monday. Details at <http://www.arri.org/september-vhf>.

18-19 10 GHz & Up – Round 2. The objective is for North American amateurs work as many amateur stations in as many different locations as possible in North America on bands from 10-GHz through Light. Amateurs are encouraged to operate from more than one location during this event. Details at <http://www.arri.org/10-ghz-up>.

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>

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.

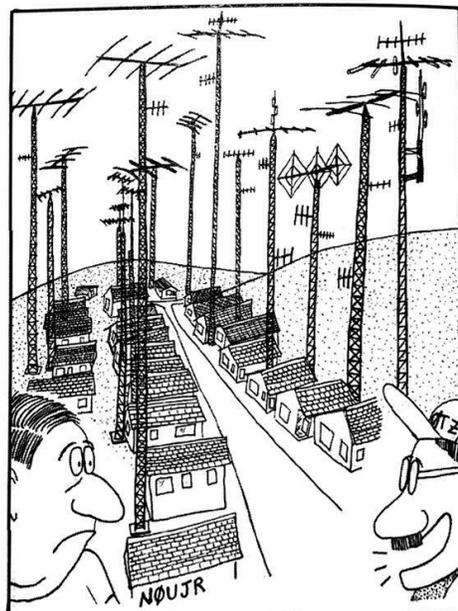
PROGRESSIVE - with knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station, and operation beyond reproach.

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

QUIZ ANSWERS
 1. B (T7C03)
 2. B (G7C03)
 3. C (E8C04)



"Actually sir, this is a hams only community. Covenants here require at least one tower per household."

"N0UJR and His Friends" Cartoons used by Permission from Greg Trook, N0UJR

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 0400Z ARRL DX SSB	3 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 0900Z CWops CW Open	4 2358Z California QSO Party	2 1900Z ARRL SS CW	8 0300Z ARRL 160
9 1800Z NAQP CW	10 0600Z WPX RTTY	13 0000Z NA Sprint RTTY	14 2400Z 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	13 0000Z 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 1800Z WA/NJ/NH QSO Parties	16 1500Z Worked All Germany	17 1458Z ARRL SS SSB	18 2358Z 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	28 1200Z CQWW CW	25 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 28 September 2021 **5:30 PM**
NOTE THE TIME CHANGE
THE September 2021 MEETING WILL BE AT
Poor Richards Café Plano TX

NEXT SIGNALS INPUTS DEADLINE:
→→→ 15 October 2021 ←←←