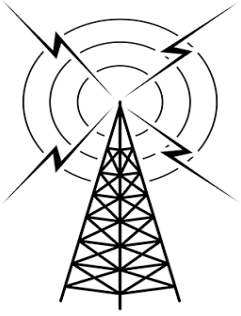


June 2020



K5PRK Newsletter

Social Media

K5PRK.Net [Facebook](#) [IO Group](#)



Officers

President:

Sean Kelly, W5SPK

Vice President:

Tim Johnson, K5TCJ

Secretary:

Daryl Morgeson, AF5QJ

Treasurer:

Ross Watson AF5QK

Activities Director:

Tony Campbell, W5ADC

Communications Director:

Kipton Moravec, AE5IB

Webmaster

John Hatch, KF5BSS

Public Relations:

Brian Trant, KF5VFM

Newsletter Editor:

Neil Gould, NE5IL

Special Zoom Meeting Notice

Monday June 15th, 2020 - 7:00 pm
Field Day Plans

Join the Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82385720108?pwd=Y0szMVJzM1I4T0lGbG1tY3FRaGpUZz09>

Meeting ID: 823 8572 0108

Password: 408818

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,82385720108#,,1#,408818# US (Houston)

+12532158782,,82385720108#,,1#,408818# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 823 8572 0108

Password: 408818

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[MENTOR FEST](#)

[AREA NETS](#)

[HAM RADIO REFERENCES](#)

[ARRL Field Day Rule Changes](#)

Monday Informal Club Get Together

In addition to the regular monthly meetings we have had informal Zoom meeting on most other Monday evenings. An email is sent out each Monday with the Zoom info. These meeting have been well attended and provide another way for us to keep in touch.

Tony sends out the Zoom info each Monday there is a meeting.

Future Club Meeting Programs

July 20	TBD	
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June 2020

PARK Field Day 2020

Details will be discussed during the June Zoom meeting.

- Coordinator: Mike Tharp KG5TJF mikeltharp@aol.com
- What: The largest HAM radio event in North America.
- When: June 27-28, 2020
- On the Air at 1:00 PM Saturday
- Off the Air at 1:00 PM Sunday
- **K5PRK**
- Where: Allen Masonic Lodge
(101 Allen Drive, Allen)
And for those who are concerned about Covid – from home!
- Call-in: use PARK Repeater 147.18+ PL 107.2

See the [ARRL FD Rules](#) that have been modified for this year to promote the safety of home operations for those concerned.

Anthony Burokkas, KB3DVS
created a logo for Field Day and set up a store to order various styles of shirts
<https://www.cafepress.com/k5prk2>



June 2020

PARK Repeaters

The Plano Amateur Radio Klub operates five repeaters, which are located in Allen, Texas about 180 feet above ground level. All licensed amateur operators are welcome to join us on the air. All repeaters are open.

**147.180 MHz +
(PL 107.2)**

K5PRK VHF
Voice Repeater

**444.250 MHz +
(PL 79.7)**

K5PRK UHF
Voice Repeater

441.575 MHz +

DStar UHF
Digital Voice Port B

1295.000 MHz – 20.000

DStar 23cm
Digital Voice Port B

1255.000 MHz

DStar 23cm Digital Data

Broadcastify

[K5PRK 444.250](#)

[K5PRK 147.18](#)

Contest University 2020 — Is Online and Free This Year

Due to the cancellation of Hamvention and the in-person Contest University, the sponsors of Contest University are offering it online and for free. It is being offered by Zoom and on DX Engineering's YouTube channel.

To register, go to: <https://www.contestuniversity.com/>

If you have never been able to attend, do not miss this opportunity.

John Robert Stratton, N5AUS, ARRL West Gulf Division Director

Short Takes

Kylee Shirbroun, KE0WPA, of Worthington, Minnesota, [has posted](#) a portion of the science fair video she made about amateur radio satellites. Another outstanding youth...

The 2020 edition of AMSAT's *Getting Started with Amateur Satellites* is now [available for download](#) on the AMSAT store.

- National Traffic System (NTS) [online training](#)! Next training session set for Saturday June 20 at 2 pm Central time.

- [WORLDWIDE SIDEBAND ACTIVITY CONTEST](#) – A WEEKLY SSB Contest each Monday evening. This would be great practice for Field Day.

- [ARRL NTX May 2020 Newsletter](#)

- Looking for a way to create and print an Azimuthal Map for any location? Here's a link to do just that. Tim – K5TCJ

<https://ns6t.net/azimuth/azimuth.html>

- Earth-Moon_Earth Communications

I have always wanted to try this. Anyone in the club done it in recent times? With some limited research it seems to be pretty easy to do with the new digital modes. I know it is months away, but the EME contest is on Oct 10 -11 and Nov 28 - 29. Anyone interesting in giving this a go with me? I would anticipate this being a onetime go at it. Contact Tony W5ADC

- The K5RWK DMR Repeater is officially on the air! The repeater is located at the UT Dallas campus, on the TAGER tower. It shares an antenna with the 145.43 repeater, up at 250' AGL. The initial range testing has been amazing. See the website for the color code and talkgroup information (Digital -> DMR section): www.k5rwk.org/home/repeater-information/

NOTE: I have programmed my GD-77 and talked on this one. NE5IL

- [JUNE 2020 ECLIPSE FESTIVAL OF FREQUENCY MEASUREMENT](#)

June 2020

HAMS HELPING HAMS

Michael Payne - K5MFP

Hello everyone

I have a vertical antenna on my roof that between discussions with several other hams in the Plano Amateur Radio Klub, several of us thought that my Comet vertical would perform better if it had ground radials attached. On Sunday, June 14th, 2020, five hams from the HHH group, which stands for **Hams Helping Hams**, came to my house in the morning and set out to install radials for my antenna. Hams Helping Hams was formed to help other hams that for various reasons, are not able to get up on roofs, climb ladders and maintain their antennas and feed line anymore, and anything else that is needed to be done. Two HHH groups had been formed a couple of months ago by myself and other volunteers. One is the HHH Plano group from the PARK, Plano Amateur Radio Klub in Plano, Texas, and the other was formed with several volunteers from MARC, the McKinney Amateur Radio Club in McKinney, Texas.

Chad Hatch KE0UUN, and Richard Seitz KG5HCJ went up on the roof and measured and handed down the 8 copper wire radials and the other hams assembled and soldered the radial ends together at the antenna end. When Curtis Boatright N5RMY, Lynn Cooper N5LLC and David Rosenthal KF5ZIS were finished soldering the ends of the radials to a terminal lug, they handed them back up to the guys on the roof where they laid out the radials in a starburst pattern on the roof and attached them to the chimney mounted Comet CHA-250b vertical antenna. Then the radial ends were tucked under the ends of roof shingles at the far ends with a shot of roofing tar from a caulk gun and that prevented them from coming loose.

It took two hours to complete and then the group talked for a while longer while I went indoors to test the reception on the vertical antenna using my Yaesu FTt-450 HF radio. I compared the Comet vertical with the new radials against my Off Center Fed dipole. The OCF dipole was just a little louder sounding when switching between the two. But, the Comet reception was much stronger and louder than previously experienced and the reception was 75 percent better than it was when put up in 2005! The project was a success! Thanks to the HHH guys from PARK for their helping me in getting the antenna to better perform! I owe them all my gratitude for helping this older ham out. They did the job perfectly.

Photo: Front row left to right: David Rosenthal - KF5ZIS, Richard Seitz - KG5HCJ and Lynn Cooper - N5LLC

Back row left to right: Curtis Boatright - N5RMY



If you need help from the **Hams Helping Hams** team just let Michael or any PARK officer know.

June 2020

ARRL News

ARRL magazines

QST - ARRL's Monthly Membership Journal - www.arrl.org/qst

On the Air - NEW! Beginner to intermediate level help and advice - www.arrl.org/On-the-Air-Magazine

QEX - The Forum for Communications Experimenters - www.arrl.org/QEX

NCJ - National Contest Journal - www.arrl.org/NCJ



ARRL Podcasts Schedule

The latest episode of the On the Air podcast (Episode 5) focuses on the various types of modulation and tips on go-kits. The On the Air podcast is a monthly companion to On the Air magazine, ARRL's magazine for beginner-to-intermediate ham radio operators.

The latest episode of the Eclectic Tech podcast (Episode 9) includes a discussion of CW decoding software, intermodulation distortion, and blockchain technology.

The On the Air and Eclectic Tech podcasts are sponsored by Icom.

Both podcasts are available on

iTunes (iOS) and Stitcher (Android), as well as on Blubrry --

[On the Air](#) | [Eclectic Tech](#).

June 2020



Oct 17 Mentor Fest rescheduled

Time: 9:00am - 4:00pm

Location: Hella Shrine Center, 2121 Rowlett Rd., Garland, TX 75043

The Garland Hella Hams and the ARRL North Texas Section would like to invite all current and prospective Hams to attend Mentorfest! This event is a great way for Hams, especially those recently licensed, to meet and learn about a variety of subjects. Amateur radio operators have a great tradition of helping each other learn about and gain experience in the many facets of the hobby. Mentorfest is designed to build on this tradition by providing a place for Hams of all ages and experience levels to come together, exchange knowledge and make new friends while having fun and enjoying the great hobby of Amateur Radio.

- Here are some of the things you can expect at Mentorfest...
- 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, ARES/RACES, REACT, National Weather Service and others showing how you can get involved.

Amateur License Testing - 1:00p - 4:00p

If you wish to test for a new license, or upgrade your existing license, bring \$14 and a photo ID.

June 2020

Local and Some HF Area Nets

MARC Nets

Sunday 8:00 PM – General Information Net – we ask participants about their week in ham radio and their thoughts on a question of interest to the ham community.

W5MRC Repeater, (146,740 MHz, offset -0.600 MHz, tone 110.9)

Monday 8:30 PM – Simplex net – see how far your VHF radio can go without a repeater

Along with general discussion. 146.520 MHz Since this is simplex, no offset or tone are required.

1st and 3rd Mondays 8:00 PM - The MARC Ladies Net – All radio amateurs are welcome.

W5MRC repeater (146.740 MHz, offset -0.600 MHz, tone 110.9)

Collin County ARES Nets

Collin County Amateur Radio Emergency Service conducts two training nets each month. You do not need to be an ARES member to participate, all radio amateurs are welcome.

1st Sunday 9:00 PM - Collin County ARES -

K5PRK repeater, 1(47.180 MHz, offset +0.600 MHz, tone 107.2 Hz)

3rd Sunday 9:00 PM – Collin County ARES -

W5MRC repeater, (146.740 MHz, offset -0.600 MHz, tone 110.9 Hz)

SARA Nets

Wednesdays 8:00 PM – Ham Radio in Sachse –

Weekly “On-The-Air” Information Net called “Ham Radio in Sachse”.

N5LOC Repeater (145.25MHz, PL Tone 141.3Hz, Offset -0.600 MHz)

2nd and 4th Sundays 9:00 PM - Sachse Public Service Net –

ARES, RACES & Other Public Service Emergency Responders (like local CERT groups) Training.

N5LOC Repeater (145.250 PL Tone 141.3 Offset -0.60MHz)

3rd Tuesday at 7:30 pm

Simplex Net 146.40

GARC Nets

Thursday 8:00 PM – Info net – The Garland Amateur Radio Club holds an informal net open to all amateur radio operators. The net begins with check in and general announcements, followed by general discussion.

K5QHD Repeater (146.66 MHz, PL Tone 110.9 Hz, Offset -0.600 MHz)

North Texas Hospital Net

North Texas Hospital radio club weekly nets check in with area hospitals. Friday mornings (time TBD 8:30 am or 9 am). Jimmy Dominguez is NCS. 442.400/146.700. Regular splits PL tones 110.9/110.9. All are welcome to check in from your QTH as individual.

Attention; The North Central Texas Healthcare ARC net begins at 0830 Friday and moves to 146.700, the past Fridays the 146.700 repeater has been down, with uncertainty when the 146.700 repeater will be back online, the North Texas Central Healthcare ARC will only have the 442.400 portion of the net.

June 2020

HF Nets

Daily Net 11:00 AM – 9:00 PM – The Maritime Mobile Service Network – Any licensed ham (General Class or higher) can check in. This net is focused on assisting those who are maritime mobile and over the years, several distress calls have been handled by this net. 14.300

Sunday 2:00 PM – Amateur Radio Satellite Net - Open net for licensed amateur satellite discussion and updates 14.282

Daily Net – OMISS – Focused on awards, particularly Worked All State (1:30 PM frequency 14.290) (8:00 PM frequency 7.185)

Many more nets are listed here <http://ac6v.com.htm>

Overland Bound

Weekly Net Every Friday night at 7:30 PM Central Time – A net for people who like to explore and take part in overland camping – hosted on the USA Grits-N-Gravy Conference Server (USA-GNG) Echolink Node: 591550 <http://www.usagritsngravy.net>

If you want to list your favorite net. Please send as much information you can to newsletter@k5prk.net

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What is Amateur Radio (Ham Radio?) from ARRL

(Thanks Johnnie Young)

Amateur radio is a multifaceted hobby that includes people around the world. There are about 740,000 ham radio operators in the US. The FCC has allocated [30 different frequency bands](#) from 135 KHz to greater than 275 GHz to amateur radio operators. These frequency bands are used for many different aspects of the hobby.

Some videos describing Amateur Radio:

<https://youtu.be/ysOq6ywTSzU>

<https://youtu.be/rs0i0h4OyMo>

https://youtu.be/5Z9136_Nhh4 - Classic Walter Cronkite video

Licensing:

There are [3 levels of ham radio licensing](#) in the US, Technician, General and Extra. Each level requires passing a multiple choice exam. The questions used for these exams are all [published on the web](#).

Study Aids:

Students can study for their license exam(s) in several different ways.

- Take a class
- Study training books. These are two of the most popular
 - [ARRL Technician Study Guide](#)
 - [Gordon West 2018 to 2022 Technician Class](#)
- View video classes
 - https://youtu.be/RGluTpM7_K8
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N6aFXH_SQUo&list=PL07A7D1C9D7BF7F48
- Take practice Exams
 - <https://www.eham.net/exams>

Taking the Exam:

Exams are offered by many clubs [around the metroplex](#). The Sachse club gives exams 9:00 [each 2nd Saturday at the Wylie Masonic Lodge](#).

Other Ham Radio Related Links:

Sachse Radio Club: <http://www.sachseradio.org/>

Largest/Oldest Ham Radio Org: <http://www.arrl.org/home>

Local Ham Radio Outlet Store <https://www.hamradio.com/locations.cfm?storeid=20>

Finding a nearby Club: <http://www.arrl.org/find-a-club>

Ham Radio Mesh Network: <https://www.arednmesh.org/aredn-advantage>

Amateur Radio Satellites: <https://www.amsat.org/>

Ham Radio Repeaters: <https://www.repeaterbook.com/>

Other videos:

HAM Radios: Quick and Easy Way to Get Into HAM Radio Hobby: <https://youtu.be/t0sMDRLGB3Q>

HAM Radio Basics- HAM 101: <https://youtu.be/Ow1hxCIr5J8>

Numerous Dave Casler Videos: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaBtYooQdmNzq63eID8RaLQ>

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SPACE STATION CREW USES HAM RADIO TO CALL EARTH [HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/H73EYCYSZF8](https://youtu.be/H73EYCYSZF8)

Listen to episodes of ARRL Audio News on your iOS or Android podcast app, or online at <https://blubrry.com/arrlaudionews/>

Various Ham Radio Activities:

- Local/Regional communications
- World wide communications using Digital network linked repeaters
- World wide radio to radio communications
- [Contests](#) – Making as many contacts as possible
- Fox hunts – Finding a hidden transmitter
- Amateur Radio Satellite
- Supporting local events
 - Races (marathons, bike races, etc.)
 - Plano balloon festival
 - Parades
 - 4th of July events
- Extending RC aircraft video and telemetry
- Amateur Radio Emergency Data network (Network when the grid goes down.)
- Winlink – Email via ham radio
- Skywarn – Storm spotters (Most storm spotters report via ham radio.)
- Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES)
- Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES)
- Antenna design/building
- CW (Morse code) communications
- DXpeditions – Location in an remote area (usually islands) for a short period of time and making as many contacts as possible.
- Summit On the Air – Transmitting from mountain summits
- JOTA - Jamboree-on-the-Air – Boy Scouts
- RF experimentation. Many [Maker groups](#)
- [High altitude balloon experiment.](#)

June 2020

ARRL Contest Program Issues Field Day 2020 FAQ

The ARRL Contest Program has released some Frequently Asked Questions related to the [temporary rule waivers](#) for Field Day. On May 28, the ARRL Programs and Services Committee (PSC) adopted these provisions only for the June 27 - 28, 2020, event: (1) Class D stations may work all other Field Day stations, including other Class D stations, for points, and (2) an aggregate club score will be published, which will be the sum of all individual entries that indicate a specific club. [Contact](#) the ARRL Contest Program with any questions related to Field Day 2020.

Q: Several of our club members are going to operate independently and wish to attribute their scores to the aggregate club score. What call sign should they use?

A: Participants should use their own call signs. Except for Class C (mobile) entries, all transmitters, receivers, and antennas located within a 1,000-foot-diameter circle may operate using a single call sign. This prohibits the use of a single call sign from more than one location. Under the 2020 waiver, those operating from home, including backyard operations, must use their own station call signs. Multiple home stations operating with a club call sign or modified club call sign, such as W1AW-1, W1AW-2, W1AW-3, etc., are not allowed.

Q: How does my club submit an aggregate club score? Does the club need to add up each participating member's scores and submit a club entry with the aggregate score under the club call sign?

A: Each participant will submit his or her own independent entry under his or her call sign. ARRL will calculate the aggregate score based upon the club name entered on the official Field Day [entry form via the web applet](#) (preferred method) or on the paper Field Day entry form. In order for results to be tabulated correctly, all club participants must enter the club's official name exactly the same, avoiding abbreviations or acronyms. This is important!

Q: Our group is still planning to operate at the usual Field Day site, but some members do not feel comfortable gathering in a large group this year. Can we still submit an entry using the club call sign, as well as have members operating from home using their own call signs?

A: Yes. If your club is still hosting a group Field Day effort, it will submit an entry as usual, using the club call sign. Club members operating at home will submit separate entries with their own call signs and will enter the club name on the entry form for club aggregate scoring.

Q: Can a club member operate from home using the club call sign?

A: Yes, but the call sign may only be used in one location. The member must receive permission from the trustee of the club call sign.

Q: Our club normally enters Field Day in Class A. If we operate from our home stations, in which class should individual members enter in order to be included in the aggregate club score?

A: Each member will operate independently and will submit the entry using whatever class applies to their operation. Typically, home stations running on commercial ac power are Class D, while home stations running on battery, solar, generator, or the like (i.e., not from ac mains) are Class E. When the results are



June 2020

published, each club member will be listed in the results under the class in which they operated. For 2020 only, aggregate club scores will be listed by the club name in a separate listing. Read [more](#).