

Jan 2021



# K5PRK Newsletter

## Social Media

[K5PRK.Net](http://K5PRK.Net) [Facebook](#) [IO Group](#)



## Officers

### President:

**Sean Kelly, W5SPK**

### Vice President:

**Tim Johnson, K5TCJ**

### Secretary:

**Johnnie Young, KG5CQO**

### 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 Jan 18, 2021 - 7:00 pm**

**Solar Weather – Stan Starks – NW5Q**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98792856542?pwd=QmxGUDdNVFVhQWFLRDc0SFBsQjlxQT09>

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## Future Club Meeting Programs:

Feb 15, 2021	Weather Radar Fundamentals	Samiee Espinoza WX5JMD
March 15, 2021	HF Mobile Installation and Operation	Robert Evans WW9W

Meet informally on the PARK repeater,

**147.18, Thursdays starting around 8:00 p.m.** Think of things you want to talk about, tell us about your shack, questions about something you are having difficulties with and anything you want to talk about.

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### **President's Message – January 2021**

Dear Fellow PARK Members:

The announcement below concerns HAM-COM. Source: Google and Facebook pages.

It is with a heavy heart that I write this letter about the future of Ham-Com. After 41 years, Ham-Com has decided to close its doors in lieu of the restrictions in place for COVID-19 and the rising costs of putting on a show. The decision was not made lightly, but the safety and wellness of our volunteers, vendors, clubs, presenters, and attendees is our paramount concern.

We sincerely thank each and every person for their support over the past years. This starts with clubs who have participated in offering forums, transmitter sessions, VE sessions, talk-ins, and many more things through the years. Next, to the commercial and flea market vendors who have helped new hams get their first radio to established hams who are building the ultimate ham shack, we thank you for returning year over year. To the volunteer staff, functional directors, and access control, your dedication and hard work have contributed to the continued success of the show for 41 years. Finally, to our attendees. Without you, there is no show. Over 41 years, we have met a variety of people with one common passion, amateur radio. Ham-Com is proud to contribute to bringing people together to enjoy this passion. We will definitely miss this gathering of the broader community.

Our thoughts and best wishes to you and your families and “see you on-the-air”.

73

Bill Nelson - President of Ham-Com Inc

Obviously, this message impacts most if not all of us in multiple ways. There are personal and intellectual impacts. The friends we will not see. The presentations we cannot attend. The new products we cannot see. There is also a financial impact to PARK and the McKinney ARC. The loss of revenue from managing the outdoor flea markets represents a \$500-\$600 hit to our annual revenue. Any ideas to replace or partially offset this loss of revenue are welcome from the general membership.

The Board of Directors of PARK also took action to meet with Fred Varian, WD5ERD, to discuss in broad terms the decision tree employed to learn more about the above decision. Below is an executive summary of what we learned.

1. HAM COM is a not for profit company.
2. HAM COM is a national event and must be carefully coordinated for whatever facility is employed. In fact it is the fifth ranked convention of its type in the USA.
3. The HAM COM Board has conducted extensive research by visiting and meeting with convention officials in Dallas, Tarrant, Collin, and Denton Counties.
  - One of the attractions of HAM COM are the classes that are given.
    - Having a facility with classrooms is key
      - This is a HUGE advantage over other amateur radio conventions
4. The use of the Plano Convention Center under COVID-19 pandemic protocols limits to 50% capacity. In addition, \$3000 is required to guarantee concessions. Thus the economics did not support meeting convention center obligations.
  - The Irving facility is not available as it is required to be used for graduation for three high schools in Irving ISD. In addition, the use of Irving facility created financial liabilities that are still outstanding.
5. There are annual expenses that are required throughout the year to maintain operation of HAM COM. This includes the monthly payments to hold the facility for use, rental of a storage locker that holds HAM COM property, etc. Members of the HAM COM Board are supporting these expenses with personal funds.

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**After these opening remarks, the PARK Board of Directors offered the following remarks.**

1. HAM COM is a North Texas Treasure. More specifically, HAM COM is our Collin County Treasure. We all recognize that people come from all over Texas. But hams also come from the following states – Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, and New Mexico.
2. If we lose HAM COM, the Fort Worth Cowtown Hamfest or Belton Hamfest would swoop in to abscond with our treasure.
3. All PARK Board Members agreed that action was required to retain our treasure.
4. Several ideas were offered in a manner consistent with generosity and courtesy. Those ideas included a GO FUND ME PAGE, coordination of assistance with clubs, and research to find other facilities to name but a few.

Fred Varian agreed to take all of these ideas back to his Board of Directors. Prior to his departure from the ZOOM meeting, Fred Varian offered the following closing remarks. First, Fred Varian agreed that the notice released to the public was too severe. HAM COM is not dead but is in need of some assistance if it is to survive the pandemic and its undefined timetable. Second, the founders of HAM COM recognized several years ago that getting new blood onto the Board of Directors was essential and that action is completed. Those members are contributing as necessary in both word and deed.

Now that you have the briefing, let us look at ourselves and priorities. I know I have petitioned in the past few communications to pay your dues to the club. Now I ask you again to examine your wallet and prepare to make a contribution to save our treasure. I specifically asked Fred Varian if 2000 amateur radio operators each contributed \$20 (in other words \$40,000) would that be enough to finance the survivability of HAM COM. The answer was in the affirmative. Look at it this way, that is two years of tickets for admission you would have spent anyway to attend the show. If each of us reached into our pocket or did not go out and eat lunch for a week or reached into our cigar box with our secret next radio fund, we can make this happen. Several other members of the PARK Board and I are prepared to travel to the other clubs and make a similar plea. I hope that you will the similar means of charity. In conclusion, what is loved can be remembered fondly but hope and faith can fire new possibilities. Herein lays the great passion and success of our hobby for all.

## Dayton Hamvention Cancels 2021 Show

[Dayton Hamvention](#)<sup>®</sup> has been canceled for the second year.

"Unfortunately, several setbacks in the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic make necessary the difficult decision to cancel Hamvention 2021," a January 11 announcement from the Hamvention Executive Committee said. Sponsored by the Dayton Amateur Radio Association ([DARA](#)), Hamvention was set to take place May 21 - 23 in Xenia, Ohio.



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## Les Bannon WF5E - SK

On January 1, 2021, **Leslie Alan Bannon**, loving husband, father of 3 and grandfather of 5 and great grandfather of 2, passed away at the age of 84.

Les was born on March 20, 1936, to Jack and Violet Bannon of Indianapolis, Indiana. He was preceded in death by first wife Mitzi Darlene Muse, second wife Christina Sue Lagrange. He is survived by his sister Janice Bannon of Martinsville, Indiana. 3 Children, Pat LaGrange of Indianapolis, IN, Reid Bannon of Hurst, Tx and Barbara Harris of Lewisville, Tx, He is survived by 5 Grandchildren, Christopher LaGrange, Drew Bannon, Travis Bannon, Tiffany Harris, and Benjamin Harris, and 2 great granddaughters. Also, his dog Brittany.

Les graduated from Broad Ripple High School in Indianapolis, then went on to Purdue University where he graduated with a degree in Engineering.

He worked for his Father at Radio Distributing company (RADISCO) in Indianapolis, In. A company that was started in 1929 by his father and his uncle. After working for RADISCO, moved on in sales as an electronics part's distributor at Van Sickle of Indianapolis, In. He later moved himself and his family to Midland, TX to start a Rolls Royce Dealership in the hey day of Oil Boom. Later he changed careers to Aviation and started his own Business, Bannon Avionics. where he wired and installed radio and navigation panels in airplanes, during which time he had the opportunity of working and meeting President George W. Bush and his father. He was FAA certified and would drive all over west Texas to certify, aviation equipment for many customers.

He had many hobbies and interests over his life time. Amateur (Ham) Radio, he was first licensed in 1952 at the age of 16. He had a passion for this hobby that never ended. He never lost interest in Ham Radio and enjoyed it so much. He had achieved a great deal of success in this hobby, from working DX (380 +) countries of the world some of which are no longer in existence. He loved QSL cards, and even had a QSL Service over the years. WF5E QSL Service. He made friends all over the world, he was a master at CW (Morse code) his favorite mode. He chased DX, contested, built radios, and amplifiers, supported multiple Ham Radio Clubs, including the Lone Star DX Association, The DFW Contest Club, the Plano Amateur Radio Klub, the Lake Area Radio Association (LARA), in Lewisville, Tx. The Midland Amateur Radio Club. Indy Dxr's, and many other clubs and associations. He loved going to club meetings, he loved Ham Com every year, and the Dayton Hamvention.

His other interests included: He was an EMT on the volunteer fire department in Pike Township, Indianapolis, IN. He restored antique cars over the years and had quite the collection. He was a member of multiple car clubs and would go on Caravans in his old cars with the members of the club. He had a passion for photography, he would take pictures in the pits and garage at the Indianapolis 500 race. He loved Science fiction books, and movies and had quite the collection. He enjoyed food, Texas Roadhouse, Popeyes Chicken, (spicy) with the sweet heat sauce. His honey pepper bacon from Two Row in Allen, Tx. and of course, the all you can eat shrimp at red lobster. He could eat everyone under the table without gaining any weight.

In his later years he struggled with Parkinson's disease and got to where he couldn't walk on his own anymore. He was without one eardrum, one hearing aide in one ear and his mind as sharp a tack. He would constantly email or text Reid or Barb when his Pepsi would run low or if he needed something on his HOT LIST he would call it. He was always tinkering with his ham radio and getting it to interface with the latest ham radio software. He was on the air up until his passing. Currently the family is not planning any memorial services. Later in the year, we will return his remains to Indiana for burial next to his wife Christina Bannon. He will constantly be in our memory.

In lieu of flowers, please send contributions to the Parkinson Voice Project. <https://www.parkinsonvoiceproject.org>

88 from PARK



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## Christmas Party Winners

Thanks to all of you that paid your 2021 dues so you would have a chance to win a prize. It wasn't nearly as fun as our normal PARK Christmas parties but it was the best that could be done this year. Katherine, KT5KMF, used an app that lets the user create a wheel with all eligible names were on the wheel that spins and spins until it stops at the winner. All eligible names were on the wheel. Interestingly ;) Katherine won the grand prize. She was kidded about her 'programming skills' to be the winner but no one is more deserving with all she has done during this tough year. - IMHO NE5IL



Grand Prize of a Radio

**Katherine Forson – KT5KMF**

TYT TH-8600 Dual Band Mini Mobile Radio

The radio was kindly gifted by Sue Casteel, wife of  
**Ollie Casteel, AF5QX, SK.**

He won this radio at last year's Christmas Party and was not able to use it.



Bradley West – K5CMO  
\$50 certificate to HRO



Frank Krizan – KR1ZAN  
\$100 certificate to HRO



John Dinneen – KC0L  
\$150 certificate to HRO



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## **PARK's Winter Field Day Event - by Anthony Burokas**

Are you looking for an operating event? Well don't miss Winter Field Day. It's almost as big as that other Field Day in the summer but now made FAR more convenient because you can operate out of your own home. Or you can do a temporary setup if you like. Either way, dust off that mic, wipe down the computer screen, and get your keyer's memory banks ready for PARK's Winter Field Day Event.

Winter Field Day runs for 24 hours during the last full weekend in January each year from 1900 UTC (2pm EST) Saturday to 1900 UTC (2pm EST) Sunday. For 2021 the dates are January 30th and 31st. Station set-up may commence no earlier than 1900 UTC (2pm EST) on the Friday before. Station setup may consume no more than 12 hours total. How & when you schedule/spend those 12 hours is up to you.

Bands: All Amateur bands, HF, VHF, & UHF except 12, 17, 30 and 60 meters.

Modes: Any mode that can faithfully transmit the exchange intact without a conversion table... CW, SSB, AM, FM, DStar, C4FM, DMR, Packet, PSK, SSTV, RTTY, Olivia, Satellite, etc... (note FT8 & FT4 cannot).

You can operate indoor - inside a remote, insulated, heated, and weather-protected structure where an Amateur station is normally not available. (Park buildings/cabins, community center, senior center, cottage, etc). An EOC or Club shack may be utilized, providing all equipment used is set up by the contestants.

Or outdoor: Operation from a location partly or fully exposed to the elements and at least 30 feet away from your normal station location and not using any part of a previously erected antenna system or ham station. A campground, park pavilion, canopy, picnic table, tent, pop-up camper, or a backyard shed/tent/deck, etc may be used.

Home operation is also a category - from inside a home or inside another structure attached to a home that could or would be the usual location of an Amateur station (garage, sunroom, etc), generally using a previously erected antenna system.

Our Klub score will be tallied by having individual members fill in "K5PRK in the "CLUB:" line in their Cabrillo log file.

The way it works is individual members operate separately, under their own privileges, and send in a log under their own callsign.

Then add "K5PRK" on the "CLUB:" line of the submission.

Everyone needs to use the exact same unique name.

Club scores will be the aggregate of the individual members' scores, regardless of how they operated and will be posted as distinct "Club/Group" scores once tallied. Your individual members' logs and scores will be tallied and posted as well (each under their own call), the same as any other entrant. Results will be posted on the Winter Field Day Association website ([winterfieldday.com](http://winterfieldday.com)) as we check and score them.

If you have any questions or participate contact Anthony Burokas at [KB3DVS@IEBA.com](mailto:KB3DVS@IEBA.com)

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## Radio Shack Tours

This member-coordinated activity is an evening tour of various member's radio shacks. Each person will sign in to zoom using their cell phone and can then (once they figure it out) switch cameras so they are using the phone's back camera and then they can show us their shack, what gear they use, how it's hooked up, and take questions from other members tuned in to the Radio Shack Tour.

These are voluntary tours, so if you'd like to invite your fellow club members into your shack for a tour, contact Anthony Burokas to get on the schedule at [KB3DVS@IEBA.com](mailto:KB3DVS@IEBA.com). Also download zoom to your phone and practice flipping to the rear camera in the app before the event. Make sure you have lots of light so we can see things. We expect that, even with questions, these tours to take not more than 1 hour, and because it's all remote- perfectly Covid-safe. :)

Keep an eye on the e-mail repeater and Facebook page for more information on when the actual Radio Shack Tours will begin.

### Anthony Burokas

General Class Ham (KB3DVS)

Moderator: DFW Radio Operators list — DFW-RO

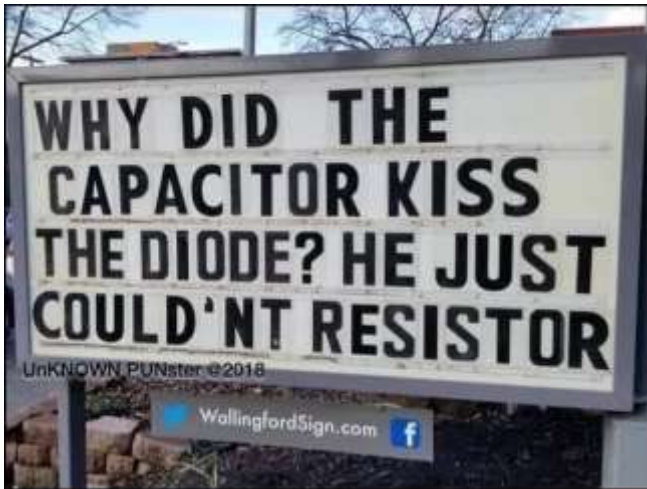
Member: Plano Amateur Radio Klub — <http://k5prk.net>

20-year video producer — IEBA.com



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Thanks to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Amateur.Radio.Funnies>



Across all countries, cultures and class  
we share one thing. This drawer.



Only one? I have many!



My son cringes at my garage and my shack!



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## 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](#)**

**Note: If you notice problems with any of the club's repeaters, please contact [communications@k5prk.net](mailto:communications@k5prk.net) via email with a detailed description of what the issue is. If we don't know that a repeater is down, we can't fix it.**

## Short Takes

The **2021 SKYWARN training** will be virtual on Saturday Jan 16. Here is the link to register.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2334382344511180813>

Let's meet on the PARK repeater **Thursdays starting around 8:00 p.m.**

Think of things you want to talk about, tell us about your shack, questions about something you are having difficulties with and anything you want to talk about. We'll start at 8:00, and go for however long people want to hang around. No set agenda, just talk. Someone may need to moderate if there are lots of people, but no net control unless needed. This is your time to talk about radio and related subjects.

Rules: Please no politics, religion or vulgarity. 73, Michael K5MFP

The VE testing session usually held before the PARK Meeting is temporally suspended because of following social distancing procedures. If you are interested in testing at another site, please contact Daryl Morgeson, AF5QJ at [AF5QJ@arrl.net](mailto:AF5QJ@arrl.net)

The FCC, based on input from the ARRL and its Members, agreed to lower the "Personal License Application Fee" that applies to **Amateur Radio licensees from \$50 to \$35**. Unfortunately, it did not accept the ARRL and its Members' argument that due to the services provided by Amateur Radio that the fee should be \$0.00.

Go to <https://tinyurl.com/y7mso3x4> for the FCC's complete Report & Order.

### ARLB002 FCC to Require Email Address on Applications Starting on June 29, 2021

Effective on June 29, 2021, amateur radio licensees and candidates must provide the FCC with an email address on all applications. If no email address is included, the FCC may dismiss the application as "defective."

The R&O is available online in PDF format at, <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-adopts-electronic-licensing-report-and-order>

The **QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo** will return March 13 - 14 for a full 48 hours. **Registration** is required, and to help cover the costs of staging this event, there will be a charge to attend. Advance tickets are \$10 (\$12.50 at the "door") and include entry for the live, 2-day show as well to the 30-day on-demand period. At the Expo

### [This Week in Amateur Radio](#)

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### Next Fox hunt in Plano Jan 23

Look out for the email from Katherine.

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As the ARRL Section Manager I wish to express a great deal of thanks to Katherine and her Dad "Driver" for the work they put into managing the care and feeding of Wheatley.

Katherine does an incredible job for us as our Section Youth Coordinator I owe a deep amount of gratitude to the whole Forson family.

Happy New Year to everyone!

Steve

**KG5VK**

ARRL NTX Section Manager

**Please note:** My Out Going Email address is [LottsPhoto@Gmail.com](mailto:LottsPhoto@Gmail.com)

[KG5VK@ARRL.ORG](mailto:KG5VK@ARRL.ORG) is forwarded to my Gmail address



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## ARRL News

### ARRL magazines

QST - ARRL's Monthly Membership Journal - [www.arrl.org/qst](http://www.arrl.org/qst)

On the Air - NEW! Beginner to intermediate level help and advice - [www.arrl.org/On-the-Air-Magazine](http://www.arrl.org/On-the-Air-Magazine)

QEX - The Forum for Communications Experimenters - [www.arrl.org/QEX](http://www.arrl.org/QEX)

NCJ - National Contest Journal - [www.arrl.org/NCJ](http://www.arrl.org/NCJ)

## ARRL Podcasts Schedule



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 edition of *Eclectic Tech* (Episode 24) discusses solid-state hard drive failures and features a chat with Scott Tilley, VE7TIL, about receiving signals from the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter.

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](http://www.arrl.org/On-the-Air) | [Eclectic Tech](http://www.arrl.org/Eclectic-Tech).



The new ARRL North Texas Website is now Live <https://arrlntx.org>  
Get the latest Section News.

**ARRL Learning Network's new speaker forum/seminars** <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-learning-network>

These are 30 minutes presentation with 15 minutes allotted for Question and Answer session following the presentation These presentations are online using GoToWebinar which is safe Industry standard software.

Check out the ever growing [list of presentations](#).



**Amateur Radio Logging: Anthony Luscre, K8ZT**

**Emergency Communications: Why Train? -- North Texas Section  
Emergency Coordinator Greg Evans, K5GTX**

**Easy Helical Copper Tape and PVC 2-Meter Vertical Antenna --  
John Portune, W6NBC**

**[2020-2021 ARRL Contest Dates PDF](#)**



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Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, w3iz@arrl.org

## Second Century

# Why I'm An ARRL Member

*Like many hams, when I first started in ham radio, getting an ARRL membership was something you did naturally — if you were a ham, you became an ARRL member. When I first joined, I was mainly interested in DXCC and receiving QST. Later on, however, I realized that as a member of a national association, I was part of something bigger. That's when "the League" became my League — and by extension, it is our League, that does so much in service to ham radio.*

Our League is our liaison to the FCC. When there are threats to our frequency allocations, ARRL navigates the government bureaucracy to ensure that we can retain these valuable bands of radio spectrum. There are some who think fighting for frequency spectrum above the traditional HF, VHF, and UHF bands is a waste of resources. However, radio amateurs have been advancing radio science since the beginning. When radio was in its infancy, the Navy was only interested in very low frequencies and cast off the HF bands to the amateurs, who discovered that communications over long distances was possible with ionospheric propagation. As mesh networking is becoming popular, especially as a tool for public service communications, the microwave frequencies assigned to the Amateur Radio Service have greater value, and our League is fighting to keep them in the Amateur Radio Service. At the time of this writing, our League is preparing a response to an FCC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to charge a fee for amateur radio license transactions.

ARRL and the FCC have worked together to create the Volunteer Monitor program, a team of vetted and skilled radio amateurs who help support the FCC field offices by listening to hams on the air. This doesn't mean that every offender on the local repeater is going to the stockade, but it provides direction for the volunteers to collect information that will help the FCC prosecute egregious offenders. The FCC and ARRL know that good operators far outnumber the bad actors, so Volunteer Monitors make note of the exemplary operators, who we recognize with a Good Operator Notice.

ARRL is one of many societies of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU), which represents amateur radio on the global stage. We need amateur radio in other countries not only so we can have people to contact, but because amateur radio is a public resource that must be protected. Without the amateur radio societies of the IARU, ham radio simply would not exist.

Our League works directly with manufacturers that cause problems. Historically, this has included the BPL

industry, manufacturers of wireless modem jacks that operated on 3.52 MHz, and others. Recently, ARRL has worked with two solar-panel manufacturers and manufacturers of wireless power transfer devices to solve noise issues with their product. Currently, the ARRL Lab is actively involved with the IARU and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), helping to develop international law about spectrum use and interference at all levels, and specifically wireless power transfer for electric vehicles. As an individual, I could not possibly be heard by the automobile industry when it comes to RF noise or anything else. Our League has staff who are voting members on IEEE boards that shape industry standards, Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) standards, and power company policies on how to handle RFI issues.

Amateur radio should be fun, and our League sponsors many on-air contests and operating events. Even if competitive contesting is not your primary activity, these events bring many hams together on the air at one time, to offer you an opportunity to sharpen your skills, test your station, or try out things you have been experimenting with at your station. Proficiency gained while playing a game is the best kind of training. Regardless of what you do for fun, it's all ham radio and our League is here to ensure you can do what it is that you like to do.

You are reading this in QST, so it's probably safe to say you are already an ARRL member. Thank you for your membership. Your job now is to find someone who is not a member of our League and explain to them why you are an ARRL member, and how it would benefit them to be a member too. So, why am I a member of ARRL? For the very same reasons every radio amateur should be a member: because the ARRL represents me, and you, and all of amateur radio.

Norm Fusaro, W3IZ  
Director of Operations





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## 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. 146.540 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.

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 9:00 PM - Collin County ARES -**

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

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 9:00 PM – Collin County ARES -**

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

**SARA (Sachse Amateur Radio Association) Nets Wednesdays 8:00 PM** – Ham Radio in Sachse – Weekly “On-The-Air” Information Net called “Ham Radio in Sachse”.

**W5SRA Repeater (440.350MHz, PL Tone 110.9, Offset +5MHz)**

You can see more about our club repeater here: <https://www.sachseradio.org/repeater>

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays 9:00 PM - Sachse Public Service Net –**

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

**W5SRA Repeater Repeater (440.350MHz, PL Tone 110.9, Offset +5MHz)**

### LARC Nets

**Tuesday 8:00 PM – Open Net** - The Lucas Amateur Radio Club holds an informal net open to all Amateur Radio operators.

K5LFD Repeater (442.2125 MHz, offset +5.0 MHz, tone 91.5)

**Wednesday 8:00 PM – Simplex Net** – An informal repeaterless net on 146.54 MHz to gauge the effectiveness of our VHF capabilities.

### 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.

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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.

### **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>

### **Daily 60 Meter Net 12:30 PM** –

Test your 60 Meter capability on Channel 1 5332.0 MHz (5330.5 MHz window freq).

If you want to list your favorite net please send as much information as you can to [newsletter@k5prk.net](mailto: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](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://youtu.be/RGluTpM7_K8)
  - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N6aFXH\\_SQUo&list=PL07A7D1C9D7BF7F48](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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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/Ow1hxClR5J8>



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Numerous Dave Casler Videos: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaBtYooQdmNzq63eID8RaLQ>  
 SPACE STATION CREW USES HAM RADIO TO CALL EARTH <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
  - 4<sup>th</sup> 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](#).

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**PARK members who have not renewed for 2021.**

We are asking you to renew as soon as possible.

We have 66 members who have renewed. We need at least 90 members to renew to help keep us able to meet our obligations. We would appreciate if you intend to renew to please do so as soon as possible.

You can mail a check to

Plano Amateur Radio Klug  
PO BOX 860435  
Plano, Tx 75086-0435

Or you can pay through PayPal located on the web site under 'Dues' located at the top of the home page.

**Ham Club on line**

To all members;

Especially to those who have renewed their PARK membership for 2021, please log on at

<https://www.hamclubonline.com/> and check your information as indicated below;

call sign  
name  
address  
email  
phone number

Most do not have a phone number, which is fine, but I do need your email address since this is the way I will be able to communicate with you. If you do not want your email visible to others, let me know and I will go in and hide it.

If you know of a new member, please give them my email address, [secretary@k5prk.net](mailto:secretary@k5prk.net) because for some new members who paid through PayPal I do not have the call sign and I really need that info.

If you can not log in please make yourself an account and add PARK to your list of clubs. It will send me an email to approve you, which I will and thereby be able to get the above info.

If you have any problems, please contact me at [secretary@k5prk.net](mailto:secretary@k5prk.net) or text me at 972-965-2000.

Thanks so much for your help

Johnnie – KG5CQO

Secretary

Start time: 7:10 pm

Location: Via Zoom

Facilitator: Sean Kelly – W5SPK -- President

Members 22

Guest 1

Pledge: Led by Sean Kelly – W5SPK

President Sean Kelly -- W5SPK

Agenda:

Officers Reports

President Sean -- Kelly W5SPK

Vice-President Tim Johnson -- K5TCJ

Secretary Johnnie Young – KG5CQO

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Treasurer Ross Watson -- AF5QK  
 Communications Director Kip Moravc -- AE5IB  
 Newsletter Editor Neil Gould -- NE5IL  
 Webmaster John Hatch -- KF5BSS  
 Public Relations Brian Trent -- KF5VFM  
 Activities Director Tony Campbell -- W5ADC  
 Field Day Coordinator Mike Tharp -- KG5TJF

#### Officers Reports

Old Business – from the floor  
 New Business – from the floor  
 Tonight's Presentation  
     Contesting from an HOA Station  
     Eric silver thorn – NM5M  
 Christmas Raffle  
 Close

#### President's Report Sean Kelly –W5SPK

I am repeating my petition to the club members to pay your individual club dues. As you are aware, we have several capital projects currently in an idle mode because of the COVID/SARS – 19 Pandemic. However, monthly operations continue as always. Ninety paying members is what is required to keep PARK operating. Although winter is upon us, our prime time for severe weather starts March 1<sup>st</sup> – a scant three months away. Between these two events, we need our assets up and running without interruption. In the end, being fully operational will keep us safe and sane.

Reminder of calendar change. Board Meetings now are on the First Monday of the month to allow new officers to participate and allow others to attend the Richardson Wireless Klub meetings which are at the same day and time.

Reminder...the Board has enacted a capital spending freeze cap.

When the bank account hits \$4000.00 dollars, all capital spending stops (except previously allocated expenditures). This level of funds will allow us to continue operations (without additional income) for a period of nearly two years.

#### Vice-President's Report Tim Johnson – K5TCJ

Not in attendance

Report presented by Sean Kelly – W5SPK

#### Programs

Tonight December 21<sup>st</sup>  
     Christmas Party Meeting  
     Contesting from an HOA Station  
     Eric Silverthorn -- NM5M  
 January 18, 2021  
     Solar Weather  
     Stan Starks – NW5Q  
 February 15, 2021

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Weather Radar Fundamentals  
Samiee Espinoza – WX5JMd

#### PARK Recurring Activities

Every Thursday Night – Informal Net – at 2000  
Late Riser Breakfast – Saturdays @ 0530  
Recommend following Social Distancing Protocol  
'No Name' Riser Breakfast – Saturdays @ 0900  
Recommend following Social Distancing Protocol

#### January Meeting Schedule

January 4, 2021 Board Meeting  
January 18, 2021 General Membership Meeting

#### February Meeting Schedule

February 1, 2021 Board Meeting  
February 15, 2021 General Membership Meeting

#### March Meeting Schedule

March 1, 2021 Board Meeting  
March 15, 2021 General Membership Meeting

#### Secretary's Report Johnnie Young – KG5CQO

[secretary@K5prk.net](mailto:secretary@K5prk.net)

#### General Meeting Minutes

November minutes are in the newsletter and have been uploaded to PARK IO groups.

Go to files on the left side then under 2020 Secretary—then under General Meeting Minutes, and finally General Meeting Minutes Nov 2020, then click on that and the minutes will open for you on the left bottom of your monitor and click it to open.

Each month this section will have the next month's minutes located their.

If anyone has trouble finding them. Call me and I can walk you through it. I have set it up this way so that each month and then the next year I can easily add to it.

Any questions about the minutes?

None.

I do appreciate all the members who paid their dues after the email went out and the board extended the date to get your names on the prize wheel.

I have been adding info and updating the member information on Ham Club on line. I need everyone's email address and if you do not want it published please let me know. If you recently joined the club especially by paying dues through PayPal, I need your call sign. I would appreciate it if you would download the registration form from the web page and mail, email me the information asked for on the form. Especially now I need to be able to send out info, announcements via email.

I will be doing my best to send out email through/via Ham Club on line asking for this info. But if I do not have your email you will not get it and the FCC does not have your email for me to see. If I have your address, I will need to mail it to you.

If you want to send me your email, my email is on the web site under Officers. Just click on my name and call sign. My home email is on IO groups and you can use that one too. If mailing,



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the club's mailing address is on the web site, first page.

Does this make sense?

David Abshire – W5DLA, asked how one can check their info.

Logging into Ham Club on line will show you your information and allow you to edit it.

At present time we have 66 members.

Treasurer's Report Ross Watson – AF5QK

The financial report was read to the members in attendance.

The bank branch where we must go to change signatures on the account is closed for COVID.

This will get done when they open back up.

Communications Director Kip Moravc AE5IB

The repeaters are repeating.

Trying to get rid of the old repeater. There is some interest but no one has picked it up.

Working on another cabinet.

Hospitals are still closed due to COVID

Newsletter Editor Neil Gould – NE5IL

Newsletter is good, due to the content members send in

Send items to [newsletter@k5prk.net](mailto:newsletter@k5prk.net)

If you see anything that needs to change, please send an e-mail.

Sorry the zoom link changed and the zoom link in the newsletter was incorrect.

Thanks to Tony Campbell – W5ADC and Johnnie Young – KG5CQO for their contributions for the newsletter.

Webmaster John Hatch – KF5BSS

Web site is K5prk.net

If need a log-in send an e-mail to [webmaster@K5prk.net](mailto:webmaster@K5prk.net)

Any articles for the web site

Any help with io groups

Also, any help with HamClub on line, just email me.

You can log in and add the club to your information.

There is also a resource area on the web site for your use, please check it out.

Public Relations – Brian Trant – KF5VFM

Not in attendance

Nothing to report due to social distancing protocol

Activities Director Tony Campbell—W5ADC

Not much going on at this time.

I am working on some projects and will share via the newsletter

Winter Field Day, you can work from home and give points to the club

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Skywarn is January 16<sup>th</sup>, register early, zoom space is limited

Field Day Coordinator Michael Tharp – KG5TJF

Not in attendance

Nothing to report

Old Business

None

New Business

Katherine Forson -- KT5KMF – we are ready to choose a winner for the latest Fox Hunt for Wheatly.

Sean Kelly – W5SPK – if the wheel is ready let's give it a spin.

The winner is "Chip Coker – KD4C" Congratulations

Rob Forson – K5WFR – will get the HRO certificate to the winner.

Thanks to Katherine Forson – KT5KMF and 'her driver' Rob Forson – K5WFR was hiding Wheatly and keeping records of those who find the fox. This is a fun activity to practice some radio skills.

Tonight's Presentation –

Eric Silverthorn – NM5M

Contesting from an HOA Station

Eric became a HAM as a young boy and quickly learned the more he participated in ham activities the better he became.

Eric discussed first what you need to make contacts, even contacts from far away.

If you live where you are limited on the type and size of antenna you can use, you can still make many contacts and contacts that are far away. It is a myth that you must have a big station. Other groups, especially places far from us have large antennas that can send strong, powerful signals and can even pick up our weak signals.

How to work within HOA or even city regulations.

Meet your HOA agreements

Give your neighbor tranquility

Keep the wife happy

Options

Be unobtrusive

Hide it

Put it indoors

Get creative

Eric show examples of many of the type and placement of the antenna listed below

Ex: You can lay a dipole on the roof and it will work well

Use a flag pole antenna

Vertical antenna are hard to see but remember it needs good radials

Use a vertical only as high as a fence

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Put a hamstick antenna in the attic  
You can only do what you can do

Why Contest?

You can contact many stations in a short period of time.  
Competition is against your peers  
There are all kinds of awards  
You get satisfaction from long distant contacts.  
You can do a lot in a short time

There are many contest

For ex:

North American QSO Party for cw, ssb, rtty  
Rtty Roundup  
ARRL DX for cw, ssb

There are ARRL affiliated contesting clubs

Whatever you do pick modes that contribute to your success  
10 and 15 meter is now opening up

The club appreciated this presentation and many will probably try one of two of the examples shown.  
Thank you, Eric Silverthorn – NM5M for you time and expertise.

## CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Sean Kelly – W5SPK

One radio from the estate of Ollie Casteel – AF5QX -- now a silent key – donated by his wife.  
So kind of Mrs. Casteel to offer this to us.

A TYT TH – 8600 dual band mini mobile radio.

Three gift certificates to Ham Radio Outlet

Arrangements can be made to either meet or deliver to your QTH.

Sean Kelly – W5SPK asked Ross Watson – AF5QK if he had gotten the HRO Certificates.

Ross Watson – AF5QK had gotten the four HRO Certificates for the Fox Hunt

And asked Johnnie Young – KG5CQO if that info was in the previous minutes

Johnnie Young – KG5CQO said that was before her time as secretary

Sean Kelly – W5SPK asked Ross Watson – AF5QK to get the three HRO Certificates for the three prizes for tonight.

Katherine Forson – KT5KMF, our official wheel spinner did the honors for each prize.

**Congratulations to all the winners.**

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The Radio – Katherine Forson – KT5KMF

HRO Certificates

Bradley West – K5CMO -- \$50

Frank Krizan – KR1ZAN -- \$100

John Dinneen – KC0L -- \$150

Ross Watson – AF5QK will get the HRO certificate for the Fox Hunt to

Rob Forson – K5WFR

Johnnie Young – KG5CQO will contact the three prize winners to help set up time and place to give them their HRO certificate.

Motion to adjourn;

John Dinneen – KC0L

2<sup>nd</sup> the motion

Michael Payne – K5MFP

Adjourned; 8:25 PM

Sean Kelly – W5SPK

Thank you for attending

Stay healthy

Stay Safe!



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PARK Members,

I would appreciate if every member would fill in the following registration form. I am particularly in need of the information concerning ARRL. To continue to be considered an ARRL Affiliate Club we need to have 51% of our members to also be members of ARRL. If you were considering it, please join.

Thank you for considering this.

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## PLANO AMATEUR RADIO KLUB

### Application for Membership

Annual KLUB Membership (Individual).....	\$30.00/Year	_____
Family Membership (Immediate Family Members).....	\$40.00/Year	_____
Student Membership (18 and Under).....	\$ 5.00/Year	_____
D-STAR Gateway Registration .....	\$50.00	_____

### *For The Treasurer Only*

Total Amount Paid (Circle One: Cash or Check # \_\_\_\_\_) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member ? \_\_\_\_\_ ARES Member ? \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Published Membership Information**

The PARK Membership Information is available on the club web site <http://www.k6prk.org> to only paid members. It is the responsibility of the individual member to populate the member profile with the desired information. PARK information will be emailed to members via the web site mailing list.

The Plano Amateur Radio Klub (PARK) is an organization which thrives on the support and participation of ALL KLUB Members. Volunteers are needed regularly for the support of KLUB activities, manning technical projects, staffing organizational or social committees and providing communications for public service events.

Are you willing to stand for election to a PARK Office and/or Director Position? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Will you agree to support PARK, to keep it strong and thriving? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_