

K5PRK Newsletter

The PARKing Ticket

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



Officers

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Tim Johnson, K5TCJ

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**Anthony Bourkas –
KB3DVS**

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Richard Seitz – KG5HCJ

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**James McCormick
KG5KBP**

Public Relations:

Dan Daniels, W5KKO

Newsletter Editor:

Neil Gould, NE5IL

Monday Feb 19, 2024 – 7:00 pm

Welcome members of [Dallas County REACT](#), a chartered team of [REACT INTERNATIONAL](#), INC. REACT has been monitoring the airwaves since 1962, and since its inception REACT volunteers have been providing a [wide range of radio related services](#) to the public and communities in times of emergency or disaster.

The **General Klub Meeting will be** at the [First United Methodist Church Plano](#) on the corner of Parker Rd and Spring Creek.

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Collin County SKYWARN Virtual training for 2024

Registration for these classes is limited to 500 registrants. If a class is full, continue to check back as any cancellations will open additional spots.

Thursday, February 15	Basic	7:00 pm	Registration Link
Wednesday, February 28	Basic	7:00 pm	Registration Link
Saturday, March 2	Advanced	9:00 am	Registration Link
Thursday, March 21	Advanced	7:00 pm	Registration Link

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](https://www.broadcastify.com/join/K5PRK444250)

[K5PRK 147.18](https://www.broadcastify.com/join/K5PRK14718)

**Note: If you notice
problems with any of the
club's repeaters, please
contact**

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.**

From the President

Winter Field Day was a bust thanks to rain and wet conditions making the site unusable. But Field Day is right around the corner and we're starting the planning for that event. I urge everyone to start thinking about how or what they can contribute to the event; and start making their plans to participate. Spring is right around the corner (we hope) and it's time to dust off those summer projects. Spring cleaning the shack to discard (oops ... redistribute) gear no longer needed or wanted? Got a new antenna to build? An old antenna to maintain or repair? Now is the time to start so you can enjoy the summer-time operating conditions.

73, and see you on the air,

Tim Johnson K5TCJ
President PARK

Informal PARK net

Every **Wednesday night at 8:00pm** on the PARK repeater, 147.180 with a PL tone of 107.2 offset. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to join in the conversation and it's a good place to ask about computer or ham radio subjects, or anything else that's on your mind. We don't think that there are any dumb or stupid questions. We encourage questions and will help you find an answer.

The only rule is no politics, crude or offensive language, and no religion because we are here to have fun and maybe learn something new.'

P. S. There is usually a few people on the repeater every night at 8:00pm talking about one thing or another and having fun! We encourage everyone to join us!! – **Michael K5MFP**

Field Day 2024

I'd like to recommend that we meet again at Russell Creek Pavilion. Is there interest in doing an overnight field day this year. We would like to have at least 5 people to man the pavilion overnight. I am volunteering to work the overnight shift. That means we need 4 more volunteers.

Mike Tharp KG5TJF

Future Club Meeting Programs

February, our ham club will welcome members of [Dallas Country REACT](#), a chartered team of REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC. REACT has been monitoring the airwaves since 1962, and since its inception REACT volunteers have been providing a wide range of radio related services to the public and communities in times of emergency or disaster. Formerly using Citizens Band frequencies, REACT is now more focused on UHF GMRS frequencies.

Dallas REACT president Gerald W. (Jerry) Jones, will cover how GMRS offers a low hurdle to use, with just a \$35 license fee for 10 years, and no test. GMRS is limited to 22 simplex channels, shared with license free FRS, and 8 repeater channels. There is a lot of capability within these limitations, though, with linked repeaters, networked systems, and a lot more. It is an interesting way to enable ordinary citizens to facilitate communications in times of need, and for casual communication as well, and something ham radio ops should be well aware of as part of their total skill set.

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March, Plano will welcome James Sargent of the 50 year old VRPS - The [Vintage-Antique Radio & Phonograph Society](#). This is a non-profit historical organization incorporated in the Irving and serving enthusiasts of Dallas-Ft. Worth Texas and Surrounding Areas. They have regular meetings and vintage radio auctions.

James will present "Atwater Kent, the early years". Even though Atwater Kent had no influence on ham radio, his development style was used by hams well into the 30's and even today with what we typically call "breadboarding".

Atwater Kent was an American inventor and prominent radio manufacturer based in Philadelphia. In 1925, the Atwater Kent Manufacturing Company became the largest maker of radios in the United States. The company also sponsored the popular The Atwater Kent Hour, a top-rated radio concert music program heard on NBC and CBS from 1926 to 1934. At its peak in 1929, the company employed over 12,000 workers manufacturing nearly one million radio sets.

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This spring, I am also working to bring in representatives of the DFW National Weather Service, and Texas Baptist Men / Texans on Mission who have been providing worldwide emergency assistance since 1967.

Also, look through your junk drawer and deep in your attic and garage because the annual PARK Auction is coming up again and we welcome donations to the club table to be auctioned off to assist with club activities and expenses. It's a great way to clear out old gear you never use, help the club, and have a lot of fun buying some new year you hopefully WILL use!

June will be an interesting program as PARK is looking to do an overnight Summer Field Day Activation which we haven't mustered since before Covid. It's been 5 years and it's time for members, young and old, to take on Field Day in all it's 24-hour glory. Put it in your calendars now. Be ready to join us when the sign-up form goes live.

Anthony Burokas

General Class Ham (KB3DVS)

VP: Plano Amateur Radio Klub – <http://k5prk.net>

Treasurer Report

Beginning Balance - 2/1/24		
Prosperity	\$	12,341.50
PayPal	\$	-
Petty Cash & Checks	\$	119.00
Beginning Balance Subtotal	\$	12,460.50
Planned Deb-its		
AT&T	\$	(53.76)
Digital Ocean	\$	(7.60)
Debits Subtotal	\$	(61.36)
Debits	\$	(61.36)
Credits	\$	-
Credits Subtotal		
Ending Balance	\$	12,399.14
Pre-approved Expenses		
Funded Projects	\$	1,729.51
Annual Recurring Costs	\$	2,707.40
50th Anniversary approved expenses	\$	600.00
Pre-approved Expenses Subtotal	\$	5,036.91
Available Funds	\$	7,362.23
Minimum Reserves	\$	4,000.00
Remaining funds	\$	3,362.23

[SOLAR ECLIPSE QSO PARTY SEEKS AMATEURS AND RADIO ENTHUSIASTS](#)



[FOR GLOBAL EXPERIMENT](#)

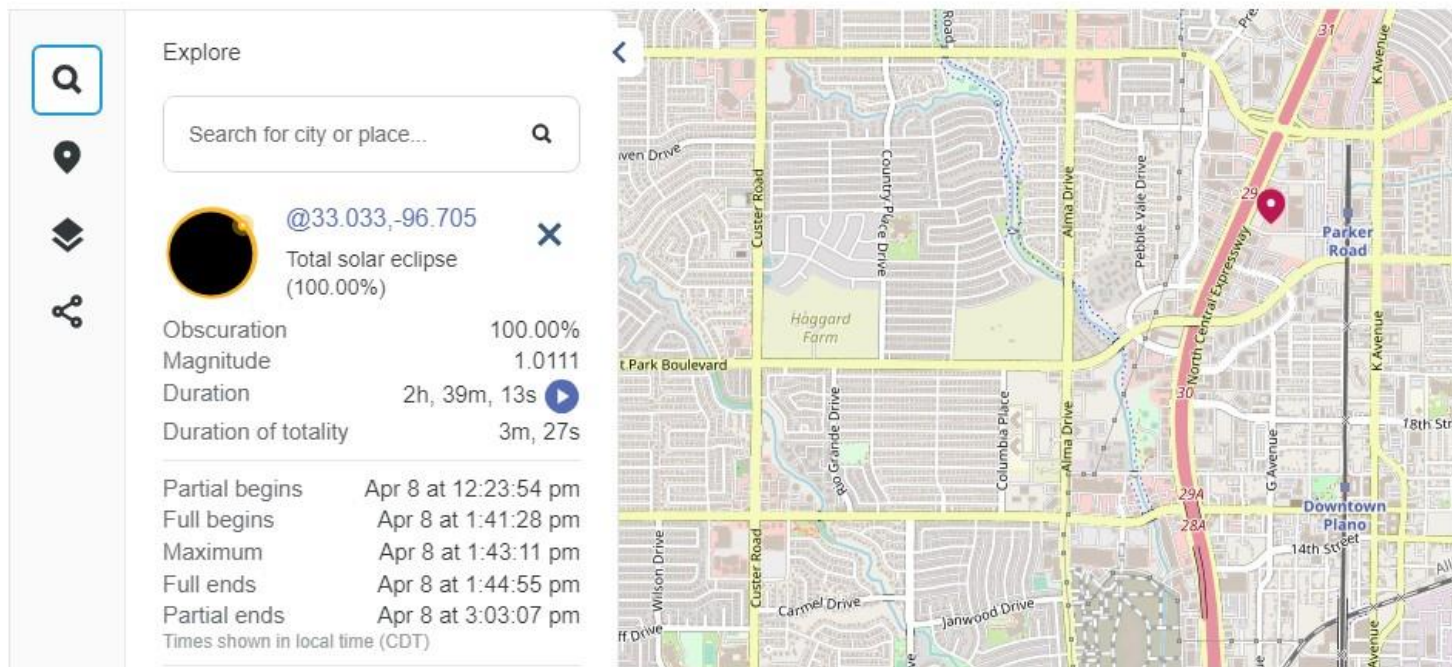
PARK should take advantage of being right in the path of the total eclipse on April 8 by participating. What are some ideas? Set up a field day type station in a public area? The [Solar Eclipse QSO Party rules](#) can be found here.

I have received permission to use a corner of Plano Super Bowl parking lot to set up a small station in the parking lot. The eclipse details are shown below. This map came from [here](#).

My plan is to have 1 station using a Buddie pole type antenna using digital and/or ssb from about 11am until 4pm. This can be expanded if there are enough others interested.

Plano Super Bowl is pinned in the map below.

Eclipse Map — [April 8, 2024 Total Solar Eclipse](#)



I saw a total eclipse in 1973 off the coast of Africa. It is a sight not to miss. It will be the first total solar eclipse visible in Dallas-Fort Worth since 1878 and the last for almost 300 years.

If you have other ideas or interested in participating, please let [Neil](#) know.

We are planning a high altitude balloon launch during the Eclipse on April 8.

If you are interested in participating, plan on having that Monday free.

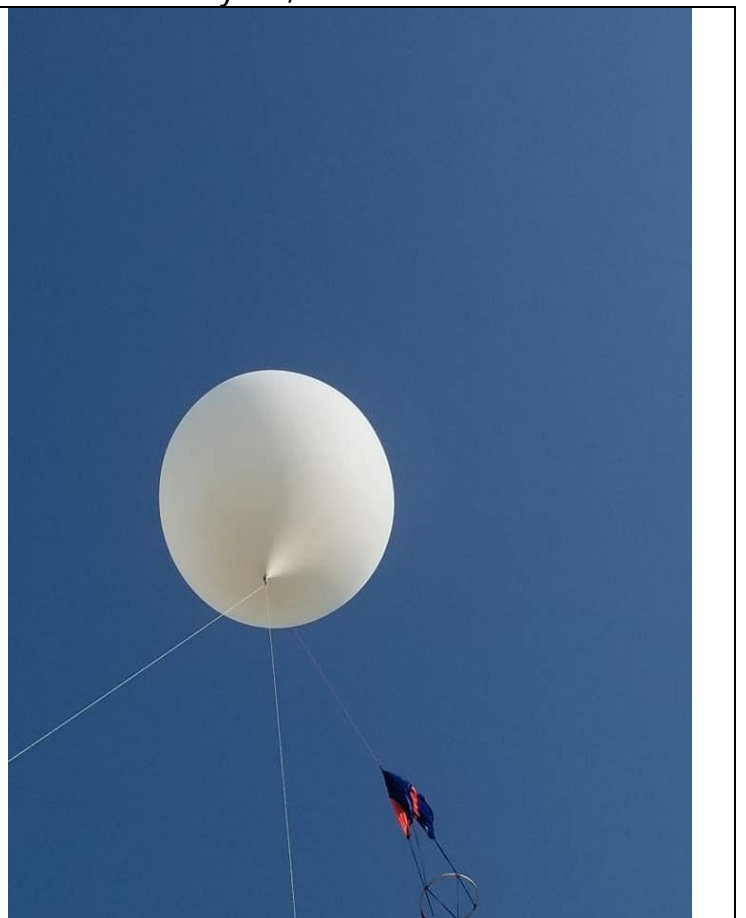
We plan to take pictures of the eclipse east of Dallas for the maximum viewing time at altitudes near 100,000 feet.

The flight path of the balloon is very dependent on the wind and weather, which we will not know until a week before the eclipse. We will try to get a flight path that maximizes our time in the eclipse, and that depends on how the wind blows.

We will keep everyone updated on the PARK email list. As things become more settled.

Kip
AE5IB

Pictures from the PARK launch on July 24,2021



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



MY ELMER ALWAYS SAID
CALLING CQ WAS LIKE A BOX
OF CHOCOLATES



YOU NEVER KNOW WHO
YOU'RE GONNA GET.

CB Radio Max Power = 4 Watts Range = 4 Miles	
GMRS Max Power = 50 Watts Range = 30 Miles	
Ham Radio: Max Power = 1,500 Watts Range = Worldwide	



The "Advanced" exam I had to take.

BASIC ELECTRICAL EXAM

1. What color is the green grounding screw? _____
2. When hooking up a 200v heater, you must use 220v wire?
___ TRUE ___ FALSE
3. Electricity will leak out of pipes if they are not connected with rain tight fittings? ___ TRUE ___ FALSE
4. To trip a breaker, you must stick out your foot as it walks by. ___ TRUE ___ FALSE
5. When dealing with conduit the O.D. must be larger than the I.D. or the hole will be on the outside. ___ TRUE ___ FALSE
6. A keyless fixture cannot be unlocked ___ TRUE ___ FALSE
7. A breaker reads "20" on the handle. This means that it can only be tripped 20 times before it wears out. ___ TRUE ___ FALSE
8. If you plug a 110v appliance into a 120v line, 10 extra volts will leak out and make a mess. ___ TRUE ___ FALSE
9. The gauge # of a wire tells you how many outlets you can plug into it. ___ TRUE ___ FALSE
10. When pulling 4/0 wire thru a 1/2" PVC conduit, the "PVC" stands for "Pipe Very Crowded" ___ TRUE ___ FALSE
11. An OHM is a Hindu measurement of voltage ___ TRUE ___ FALSE
12. A Flush Mounted device may only be hooked up to a toilet.
___ TRUE ___ FALSE
13. High voltage wire is only used in the upper stories of a building and low voltage wires is only used in the lower floors and basement. ___ TRUE ___ FALSE
14. If you have a molded case breaker, the mold can be removed with soap and warm water. ___ TRUE ___ FALSE
15. Electrical Inspectors are also known as _____

FYI: "Advanced" was a license class that used to be between General and Extra.

The **Advanced Class** operator license, whose privileges closely match those of the General class license but included 275 kHz of additional spectrum in the HF bands, was deprecated by the [restructuring in 2000](#). – NE5IL

ARRL News

ARRL magazines

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

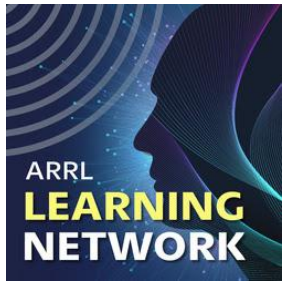


On the Air - NEW! Beginner to intermediate level help and advice - www.arrl.org/On-the-Air-Magazine

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

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

Listen to [ARRL Audio News](#), available every Friday.

ARRL Podcasts Schedule

 The logo for the ARRL Learning Network features a dark blue background with a profile of a person's head on the right, looking towards the left. The text "ARRL LEARNING NETWORK" is written in white and yellow on the left side.	<p>Visit the ARRL Learning Network (a members-only benefit) to register, check on upcoming webinars, and to view previously recorded sessions.</p>
 The logo for ARRL Audio News shows a silver microphone in the center, with a yellow and blue sunburst pattern behind it. The text "ARRL Audio News" is at the top, and the ARRL logo is at the bottom.	<p>About ARRL Audio News</p> <p>ARRL Audio News is a summary of the week's top news stories in the world of Amateur Radio, along with interviews and other features. Enjoy ARRL Audio News anywhere: on your smart phone or tablet, your local repeater, or stream it on the go!</p> <p>How to Listen to Audio News</p> <p>ARRL Audio News is distributed through the podcast host Blubrry.com. You can subscribe to the podcast via your IOS or Android mobile device using your favorite podcast app, or listen and download episodes direct from the Audio News page at Blubrry.</p>
 The logo for ARRL On the Air has a red background with a pattern of small white dots. The text "ARRL On the Air" is written in white and yellow.	<p><u>The Joys of Being a General</u></p> <p>The January/February 2024 issue of <i>On the Air</i> featured a story from Brian McSpadden Gardener, KE8JVX, about "The First-Year Experiences of a General-Class Ham," in which Brian detailed how he got his feet wet as a General, and how he put together his first station for HF. Brian joins this episode of the podcast to tell us a little more about his first year as a General, as well as what he's done since then.</p>

[2023-2024 ARRL Contest Dates PDF](#)

A complete list of special event stations, including Veterans Day stations, is available at www.arrl.org/special-event-stations.

Texas QSO Party – Who Wants to Party?

2024 CONTEST DATES

Saturday September 21: 9AM to 9PM CDT / 1400 UTC TO SEP 22 0200 UTC AND
Sunday September 22: 9AM to 3PM CDT / 1400 UTC TO 2000 UTC

RULES / SCORING

See <https://www.txqp.net/index.php/rules/operating-rules>

CATEGORY (NEEDED FOR EXCHANGE):

STATION CALL / SIGNAL REPORT / COUNTY ABBREVIATION / TXM – SO

SEAN – W5SPK WANTS TO LEAD A TEAM OF OPERATORS IN HIS POV

2017 CHEVY TAHOE WITH ICOM 7000 WITH A TARHEEL 200A ANTENNA.

COOLER AND FIRST RESPONDER KIT AND TOOLS ON BOARD

TEAM: ONE DRIVER AND THREE QUALIFIED HF OPERATORS.

ROTATING DRIVER, NAVIGATOR, OPERATOR AND LOGGER.

NEED TO START PLANNING ROUTES AND SPOTTING SAFE / CLEAR OPS

GAS AND FOOD ONLY / NO LODGING – WE WILL SLEEP IN OUR OWN BEDS.

INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING AND BRING SOME RECOGNITION TO THE CLUB...

EMAIL ME - EXTRAW5SPK@GMAIL.COM

TARGET AREAS OF OPERATION AND TRAVEL



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.

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)

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.

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

[Search for 100s of nets.](#)

[On-Air Net Scraper](#)

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

[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](#).

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>

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
- 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](#).

**PLANO AMATEUR RADIO KLUB
Application for Membership**

Klub year is from January 1st to December 31st

Annual KLUB Membership (Individual) \$30.00/Year _____
Annual KLUB Family Membership \$40.00/Year _____
Student Membership (18 and Under) \$ 5.00/Year _____

Half year is from July 1st to December 31st

Klub Membership (Individual)..... \$15.00/half Year _____
Klub Family Membership \$20.00/half Year _____

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: _____

The PARK Roster is given to KLUB Members Only. Please circle any information that you do not want published.

License Class: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Previous Call(s): _____ First Licensed: _____

Call Sign(s) of Other Family Members: _____

ARRL Member? _____ ARES Member? _____

Other Hobbies and Interests: _____

Reason(s) You wish to join PARK: _____

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 ____

Signature _____ Date _____

PARK Secretary Only:

Date of Application: _____

P.A.R.K.
P.O. Box 860435
Plano, TX 75086-0435

or send via email to secretary@k5prk.net