

# K5PRK Newsletter

## The PARKing Ticket

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



### Officers

President:

**Tim Johnson, K5TCJ**

Vice President:

**Anthony Bourkas –  
KB3DVS**

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**Johnnie Young, KG5CQO**

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**James McCormick  
KG5KBP**

Public Relations:

**Dan Daniels, W5KKO**

Newsletter Editor:

**Neil Gould, NE5IL**

**Monday Apr 15, 2024 – 7:00 pm**

**TBD – come be surprised!**

NWS had a conflict come up and has to reschedule.

The **General Klub Meeting will be** at the

[First United Methodist Church Plano](#) on the corner of Parker Rd and Spring Creek.

### In this Issue

[From the President and the Board](#)

[Field Day 2024 Plans](#)

[Solar Eclipse photos by Craig Young, KA5BOU](#)

[ARRL News and Info](#)

[Texas QSO Party – Who Wants to Party?](#)

[Short Takes](#)

[Area Nets](#)

[Ham Radio References](#)

### [Future Club Meeting Programs](#)

#### 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**

## 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](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.**

## From the President

As I write this, the great North Texas Eclipse is tomorrow (Monday the 8<sup>th</sup>). While the weather forecast is cloudy with rain in the afternoon, I hope we all had an opportunity to witness this natural phenomenon firsthand. The period of totality in any one spot is quite short, but the period of the Umbra (the shadow) traversing the lower 48 and beyond will have been upward to 4 hours. This will have given Hams many opportunities to get on the air to test for propagation anomalies. Were you able to get on the air? Did you notice any propagation changes?

Lots of opportunities later this month to get on the air. QSO parties for New Mexico, Georgia, North Dakota, Nebraska, Michigan, Ontario, Quebec and Florida; and more than a few Phone, CW and Digital contests as well.

28 groups.io mailing list members responded to my unofficial repeater usage poll. Thank you to those who responded. The findings will be shared at this month's general meeting, and afterwards on the mailing list.

73, and see you at our next meeting, and on the air.

**Tim Johnson K5TCJ**  
**President PARK**



## Field Day 2024

Field Day this year is June 22 and 23. We will meet at [Hoblitzelle Park](#). We have rented the pavilion for both days. This is our first overnight since Covid!

So, the first order of business is volunteers for the overnight shift. We already have 3 volunteers which is a good start. More would be merrier – come and join us!

We are planning to cook dinner on Saturday at Hoblitzelle for anyone at the pavilion. We could use some volunteers to bring fixin's such as cole slaw, potato salad and dessert. This should be a fun year and a good opportunity to operate some HF bands at night. Please come and join us!

**Details will be presented in a future meeting!**

## Treasurer's Report

	Prosperity	\$ 12,285.10
	PayPal	\$ -
	Petty Cash & Checks	\$ 353.00
Beginning Balance Subtotal		\$ 12,638.10
Planned Debits		
	AT&T	\$ (53.76)
	Digital Ocean	\$ (7.60)
Checks		
	FUMC	\$ (75.00)
	Field Day - Tharp	\$ (450.00)
Debits Subtotal		\$ (586.36)
Credits		
Deposits		
Credits Subtotal		\$ -
Ending Balance		\$ 12,051.74
Pre-approved Expenses		
	Funded Projects	\$ 1,729.51
	Annual Recurring Costs	\$ 2,707.40
Pre-approved Expenses Subtotal		\$ 4,436.91
Funds before reserves (\$4,000 for repeater emergencies)		\$ 7,614.83
Minimum Reserves		\$ 4,000.00
Available funds		\$ 3,614.83

## Future Club Meeting Programs

In **MAY**,

John Smith of **Texas Baptist Men / Texans on Mission** will visit and present about the activities of TBM who have been providing worldwide emergency assistance since 1967. Ham radio and communications has been a big part of their relief efforts so this will be an interesting one for sure. <https://www.tbmtx.org>

This **JUNE**,

Get out your coffee thermos for Field Day because 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. Sign up now and make a commitment to "get back out there" for Summer Field Day.

We need people to sign up for shifts, for overnights, and to assist with setup, tear down, meal crews, and general come out and join us. Sign up form is HERE: <https://bit.ly/PARK-FD-2024>

**JULY**

Seems a LONG way off but it's time to get that unused ham gear out of 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! <https://k5prk.net/club-auction/>

**AUGUST**

Will continue the great series of programs with something I haven't figured out yet, but I'm I have a few feelers out and I welcome your suggestions to [VP@K5PRK.net](mailto:VP@K5PRK.net)

**Anthony Burokas**


**General Class Ham (KB3DVS)**

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

Solar Eclipse photos and other outstanding space photos  
by our own [Craig Young, KA5BOU](#)

Home / Image **April 8, 2024 - Total Eclipse from Texas (through the clouds)**

Contains: Solar system body or event



©2024 KA5BOU


**April 8, 2024 - Total Eclipse from Texas (through the clouds)**

Equipment

- Imaging Telescopes Or Lenses [SVBony SV503 80ED](#)
- Imaging Cameras [ZWO ASI2600MC Pro](#)
- Mounts [ZWO AMS](#)
- Accessories [Stellarvue SFFR80A](#)
- Software [Pleiades Astrophoto PixInsight](#)

Like


Photographer



Craig Young  
Follow

about 19 hours ago 43 0 3

Histogram



**Craig has taken some incredible photos of the Universe**



That feeling when your  
HT battery quits



the moment the QSO  
turns to what restaurant  
we are going to meet at.

"How'd you do in  
the contest?"



## Who Let the Smoke Out?

Apologies to: Baha Men from N2VAN

Who let the smoke out  
Poof, poof, poof, poof, poof  
Who let the smoke out  
Poof, poof, poof, poof, poof  
Who let the smoke out  
Poof, poof, poof, poof, poof  
Who let the smoke out

The RF was nice the RF was pumping  
Ah yeppee ah yo  
And everybody having a call  
Yepee ah yo  
And tell the fellas start CQ callin'  
Yepee ah yo  
Then DX respond to the call  
I hear a station shout out:

Who let the smoke out  
Poof, poof, poof, poof, poof  
Who let the smoke out  
Poof, poof, poof, poof, poof  
Who let the smoke out  
Poof, poof, poof, poof, poof  
Who let the smoke out

Last year on field day you had a ball  
You call me local and call me a lid  
Get back grumpy, you sound S3  
Get back you flea powered mongrel

Now I tell myself dem man no get angry  
Ah yeppee ah yo  
To hear DX calling VKs  
Yepee ah yo  
But I say hey man dats part of the contest  
Ah yeppee ah yo  
Them DX in front and the others behind  
I hear a station shout out:

Who let the smoke out  
Poof, poof, poof, poof, poof  
Who let the smoke out  
Poof, poof, poof, poof, poof  
Who let the smoke out  
Poof, poof, poof, poof, poof  
Who let the smoke out

A station is nothing if he don't have an amp  
LID station no have amp  
A station is nothing if he don't have an amp  
LID station no have amp

Who let the smoke out  
Poof, poof, poof, poof, poof  
Who let the smoke out  
Poof, poof, poof, poof, poof  
Who let the smoke out  
Poof, poof, poof, poof, poof  
Who let the smoke out

Last year on field day you had a ball  
You call me local and call me a lid  
Get back grumpy, you sound S3  
Get back you flea powered mongrel

If I was a ham, the party is on  
I got to get FT8 on  
'cause my mind done gone  
Can't you see the rays coming from Yagis  
Walking through the place like digi-ham  
Breaking it down  
Me and my feed line  
That's why they call me a Big Gun  
'cause I'm the man with the land when they  
see my towers they say ooooooh

Who let the smoke out  
Poof, poof, poof, poof, poof  
Who let the smoke out  
Poof, poof, poof, poof, poof  
Who let the smoke out  
Poof, poof, poof, poof, poof  
Who let the smoke out



FOXNEWS.COM

On this day in history, Dec. 12, 1901, Guglielmo Marconi sends first transatlantic radio message

**Translation:**  
"...about your car's extended warranty..."

imgflip.com

## 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)

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

## ARRL Podcasts Schedule

	<p>Visit the <a href="#">ARRL Learning Network</a> (a members-only benefit) to register, check on upcoming webinars, and to view previously recorded sessions.</p>
	<p><b>About ARRL Audio News</b></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><b>How to Listen to Audio News</b></p> <p>ARRL Audio News is distributed through the podcast host <a href="#">Blubrry.com</a>. 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>
	<p><b><u><a href="#">Contribute to Science While You Operate</a></u></b></p> <p>The Solar Eclipse QSO Party (or SEQP), is an on-air event coming up on April 8, the same day as the next total solar eclipse. The SEQP is a great opportunity for hams to contribute data to studies of Earth's ionosphere, the part of our atmosphere that makes radio communications possible, and all you have to do is get on the air and operate as you normally would. The lead organizer of HamSCI, Dr. Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, joins us in this episode to explain how to get involved.</p> <p>NOTE: The eclipse just passed but this is still very interesting</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](http://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](mailto:EXTRAW5SPK@GMAIL.COM)

## TARGET AREAS OF OPERATION AND TRAVEL





## Short Takes



A [comprehensive online calendar](#) dedicated to amateur radio events!

# K9YA TELEGRAPH

## THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT AMATEUR RADIO

### A FREE, MONTHLY, HAM RADIO eZINE

Since 2004, the Robert F. Heytow Memorial Radio Club has published its general interest amateur radio eZine—read by hams in more than 100 countries.

# THE COMMUNICATOR DIGITAL EDITION

Surrey Amateur Radio Communications

### VOICE OF AMERICA COVERAGE ANALYSIS PROGRAM VOACAP

VOACAP is free professional high-frequency (3-30 MHz) propagation prediction software from NTIA/ITS, originally developed for Voice of America (VOA).

**VOACAP for Ham Radio** HF propagation predictions from 3.5 to 28 MHz. [Online version.](#)

## 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)

### 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](mailto: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](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](#).

### **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
- 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](#).

**PLANO AMATEUR RADIO KLUB**  
**Application for Membership**

Klub year is from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>

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 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>

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](mailto:secretary@k5prk.net)