

K5PRK Newsletter

The PARKing Ticket

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



Officers

President:

Tim Johnson, K5TCJ

Vice President:

Anthony Bourkas, KB3DVS

Secretary:

B. J. Watkins, K5BJW

Treasurer:

Mike Tharp, KG5TJF

Activities Director:

Richard Seitz, KG5HCJ

Communications Director:

Miranda Schwarck, KE5YZP

Webmaster

**James McCormick,
KG5KBP**

Public Relations:

Rob Forson, K5WFR

Newsletter Editor:

Neil Gould, NE5IL

Monday Nov 18, 2024 – 7:00 pm

[CW Academy](#). This online CW training course run by our own **Dave Koch** enables anyone interested in learning code with the training, guidance, and practice to do so. Why do CW in 2024?

Because if you like field operations, or low power, or POTA, CW is one of the easiest and best ways to make and confirm contacts with lightweight gear and small batteries. This is a great opportunity to tune in, ask questions, and find out if this could be a good course for you.

The **General Klub Meeting** will be at [First United Methodist Church Plano](#).

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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.

– **Michael K5MFP**

See someone at a meeting you don't know?

Are they a new member or a visitor?

Step up and introduce yourself, make them feel welcome.



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

Congratulations to those elected and reelected to the PARK Board of Directors at the October general meeting.

- Vice President Anthony Burokas KB3DVS
- Secretary BJ Watkins K5BJW
- Communications Miranda Schwarck KE5YZP
- Webmaster James McCormick KG5KBP
- Public Relations Rob Forson K5WFR

And **Thank You** to the previous holders of some of these positions whose contributions to PARK will be remembered and appreciated.

With this election the current PARK Board of Directors is as follows:

- President – Tim Johnson – K5TCJ
- Vice President – Anthony Burokas – KB3DVS
- Secretary – BJ Watkins K5BJW
- Treasurer – Michael Tharp – KG5TJF
- Communications Director – Miranda Schwarck KE5YZP
- Newsletter Ed. – Neil Gould – NE5IL
- Web Master – James McCormick – KG5KBP
- Public Relations – Rob Forson K5WFR
- Activities Director – Richard Seitz – KG5HCJ

PARK membership dues are once again due as of January 1, 2025. Now is a good time to renew your membership before the end of the year. As an incentive to renew early, everyone renewing their membership by the December 16th Holiday Party, will receive one free ticket for the drawing of prizes at that event. Speaking of which, you won't want to miss our [annual Holiday Party](#). There will be raffle prizes, a white elephant gift exchange, good food, and of course good camaraderie with fellow PARK members. Stay tuned for more information.

Tim Johnson K5TCJ President PARK

Future Club Meeting Programs

DECEMBER: 16

[PARK Holiday Party](#). Come one and Come all to our annual festivities at Spring Creek BBQ Restaurant in Richardson, to celebrate club members (and collect club member dues because dues payment gives you an additional ticket into the awards extravaganza we have every year. It pays to be a member. I won a HT one year that I still use today. Come and have some good food, hang out with club friends you haven't seen in a while and enjoy a PARK Club Meeting like you used to.

JANUARY: 20

Tommy Nylec, P.E., Sr. Director of Engineering for CoServ will speak about all things power. From generation and distribution in Texas to electrical safety including in-home power safety.

FEBRUARY: 17

Our own Sean Kelly will give a presentation about operating his ham radio in Ireland.

In the works for 2025:

NVIS - by Larry Randall

NWS - The DFW National Weather Service representative

HRO - New Radios Overview.

HamRadio 2.0 - Famous YouTube channel makes a visit.

Dallas Makerspace overview.

Ideas? Recommendations? —> VP@K5PRK.net

Anthony Burokas

General Class Ham (KB3DVS)

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

If anyone is interested in helping with *The PARKing Ticket newsletter*, please contact me anytime at newsletter@k5prk.net. – Neil NE5IL

PARK Upcoming Activities

October 2024

There are a few upcoming activities/opportunities for our many club members to participate in. Between now and the end of the year, communications support for the Dallas Marathon and the Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day Meals-On-Wheels events will be needed. We will also, of course, have our annual Holiday gathering in December.

Dallas Marathon, December 13th-15th - Events for the Dallas Marathon occur all days of the event, but the major support event is the race(s) that happen on Sunday, the 15th. The Ultra, Full and Half Marathons will be needing as many communicators as possible to fill-in along the lengthy (sectioned) course. [More information and signup here.](#)

Meals – On – Wheels, November 28th and December 25th – This annual volunteer comms opportunity is a truly worthwhile experience. The Visiting Nurses Association of Dallas coordinates the Meals-On-Wheels program. Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day, each year, the VNA works with local volunteer organizations to provide the packing and delivery of the meals to the program recipients. The volunteers that arrive early in the morning, organize, and prepare to pack lined-up vehicles with food and supplies for delivery. These volunteers are typically local church organizations and youth groups. The lined-up vehicles are driven by additional volunteers, some of them nurses, but most of them unaffiliated individuals and families that are willing to give up a few hours on their holiday to make the meal deliveries, to allow the (all year long) delivery employees an opportunity to spend time with their families. *Our communications support* helps with directing the arriving vehicles into position for registration, meal and supply fulfillment and then directing the vehicles safely out of the area. For more information and to volunteer, contact [Dave, W7DAV](#).

Annual PARK Holiday Party, December 16th – Our club's gathering, this year, will be back at the [Spring Creek BBQ in Richardson](#) (not McKinney) on the northbound access road of 75-Central, just north of Belt Line Rd. We will be bringing back the White Elephant gift exchange, this year!! The decision was made to increase the gift value amount from \$10, to \$20. This item can be something that you may choose to purchase for the exchange, or it could be any item from a former configuration of your ham shack, (ie, disconnected but working balun, any type of small electronic accessory that could be of use to someone building their own shack, assortment of usable connectors or adapters, or any electronic tool – crimpers, strippers, cutters, soldering iron, etc. that is still in safe, working order. Use your imagination, but please, out of respect to all other members, do not bring something that is just a jumble of junk – you know what I mean.) Small electronics kits, that must be assembled, are always great for those who are just learning to solder! Raffle tickets will be sold for an assortment of prizes at the party. As we have done in the past, any member that renews their annual membership prior to, or at the holiday party, will receive one free raffle ticket. Tickets will only be available at the door. You must be present to win.

I am also putting forth a request for donations of any items that could be used for the raffle. Any used (or new, or like new) working equipment, or quality accessories that you (or maybe your HAM friend down the street) may not have any current or future use of, would make our holiday gathering that much more special. I ask that you just give it some thought.

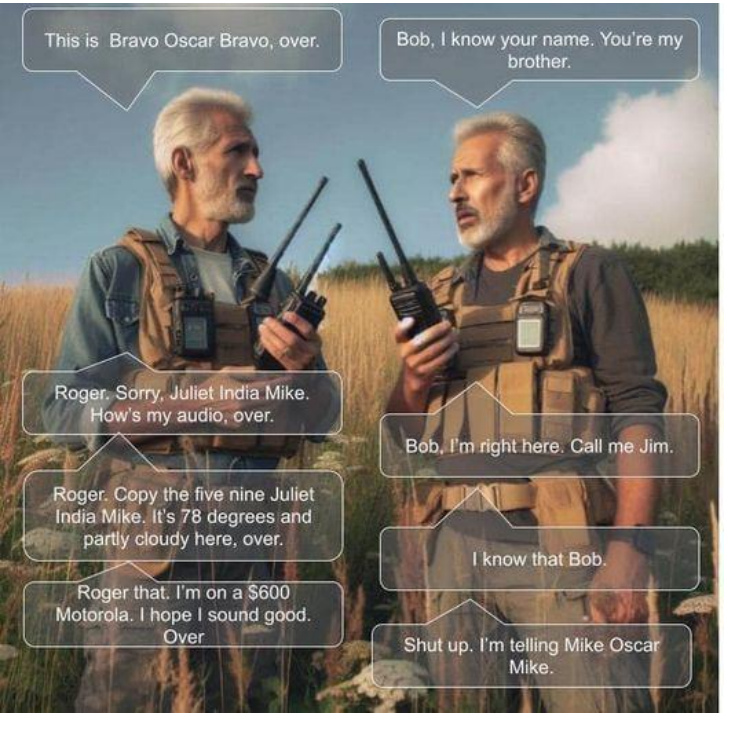
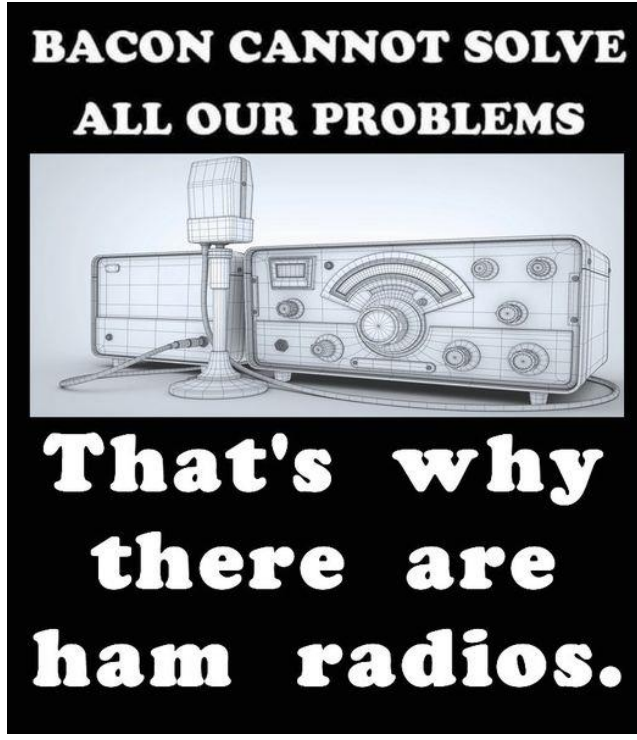
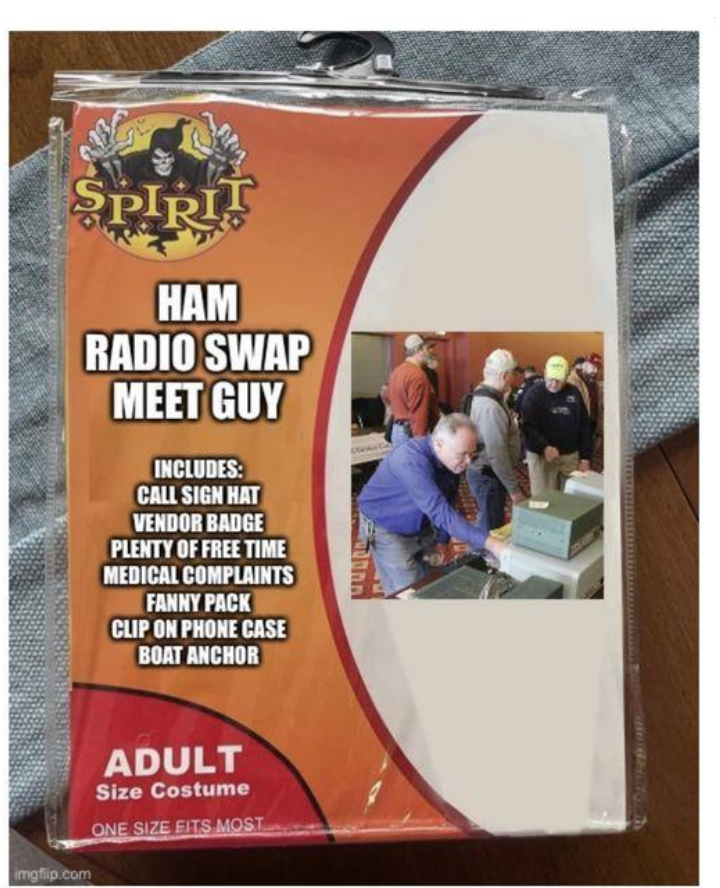
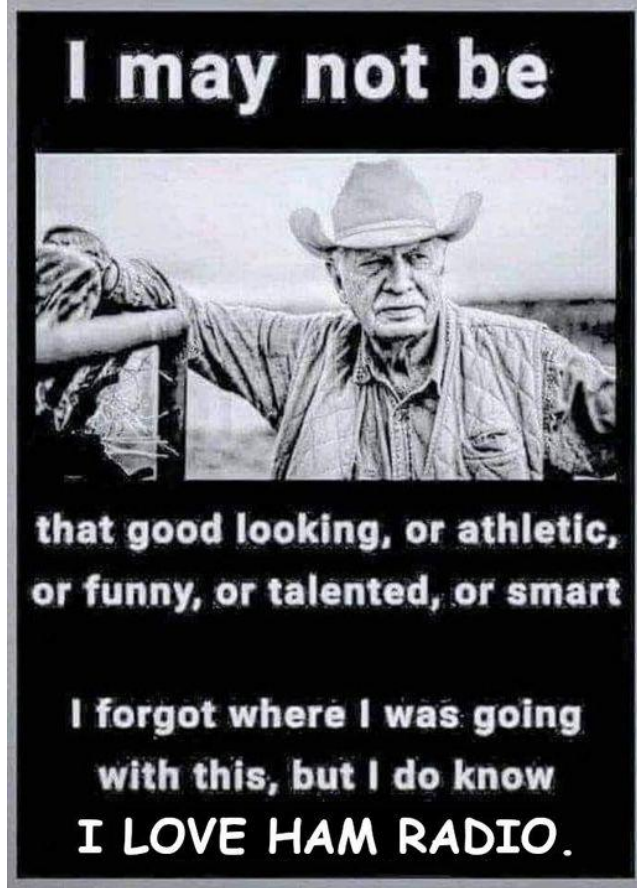
Thanks to all!

73's

Richard Seitz

PARK Activities Director

activities@k5prk.net



ARRL News

ARRL magazines

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

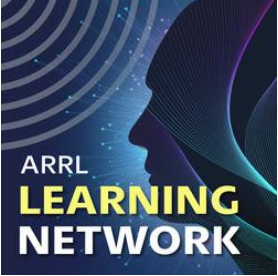


On the Air - NEW! Beginner to intermediate level help and advice - www.arrl.org/On-the-Air-Magazine

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

	<p>Visit the ARRL Learning Network (a members-only benefit) to register, check on upcoming webinars, and to view previously recorded sessions.</p>
	<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.</p>
	<p><u>ARES Task Book Updates</u></p> <p><i>October 10, 2024</i></p> <p>The ARES Task Book is an important resource and reference for amateur radio operators who hope to be of service to their communities</p> <p><u>A Tour of 10 Meters</u></p> <p><i>September 12, 2024</i></p> <p>The 10-meter band offers something for hams of every license class</p>
	<p>ARRL LEARNING CENTER FEATURES TWO NEW EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION TRAINING COURSES</p> <p>ARRL HAS RELEASED <u>TWO NEW COURSES</u> TO TRAIN EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS (EMCOMM) OPERATORS FOR VOLUNTEERING WITHIN THE <u>AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE® (ARES®)</u>. BOTH COURSES ARE WITHIN THE ARRL LEARNING CENTER.</p>

[2024-2025 ARRL Contest Dates PDF](#)

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

Throughout the month of November, AMSAT will celebrate the 50th anniversary of amateur satellite AMSAT OSCAR 7 (AO-7), a SmallSat launched on November 15, 1974.

AO-7 is still working and has been nicknamed the “sleeping beauty” of satellites because it came back to life after years of “sleeping.” Designed by radio amateurs, the final assembly occurred in a basement laboratory not far from the Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland. AO-7 lived a very healthy lifetime of 6.5 years but in late 1980, AO-7’s NiCad battery began to show serious signs of increased series resistance. This was a sure sign to AMSAT command stations that the end was in sight for AO-7. The cells had been originally matched for capacity by NASA and they all failed within a matter of weeks of one another. AO-7 stayed asleep for 21 years, but then one day in June 2002, the satellite woke up again. This was only possible if something caused an open circuit in the battery. On June 21, 2002, a very active user of AO-7, Pat Gowain, G3IOR, from the UK, made a telephone call to Perry Klein, W3PK, the first AMSAT president and designer of the VHF/HF transponder. Gowain was wondering if a new low-Earth-orbit (LEO) spacecraft had been launched. He was hearing Morse Code telemetry again on AO-7’s old beacon frequency. He played Perry a tape recording and it turned out to be AO-7 telemetry! AMSAT will honor this historic achievement with a series of short articles highlighting the life of AO-7. You can visit a special page on the AMSAT website where you will find a collection of AO-7 articles and links at <https://www.amsat.org/amsat-ao-7-a-fifty-year-anniversary/>.

Short Takes



[Calaméo - Surrey Amateur Radio Communications](#)

The Communicator is a free bi-monthly digital journal for Amateur Radio and electronics enthusiasts. We have readers in over 160 countries. [Visit our website](#) to view or download a PDF copy of many previous newsletters.

[Gpredict](#) is a real-time satellite tracking and orbit prediction application. Gpredict can track an unlimited number of satellites and display the data in tables and various graphical view.

Features

- Satellite tracking
- Orbit prediction
- Doppler tracking
- Antenna rotor control

[Home](#) / [Browse Open Source](#) / [Communications](#) / [Ham Radio](#) / [Gpredict](#)



Gpredict

Real time satellite tracking and orbit prediction

Status: **Beta** Brought to you by: [csete](#)

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.](#)

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](#)
 - [ARRL General License](#)
- View video classes
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vG2S_xV3zJE&t=0s
- 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/>

**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



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2024

1900 Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance

1905 Welcome from Tim Johnson, K5TCJ and President of PARK
Introductions

1910 Review of Officer Reports
President's report
Vice President's Report

- Future Programs
 - November 18: CW Academy - Damon Koch K5OCH
 - December 16: PARK Holiday Party
 - January 20: CoServe - Tommy Nylec, P.E., Sr. Dir. Engineering
 - February 17: Operating in Ireland – Sean Kelly W5SPK

Secretary's Report

- Last two sets of BOD Meeting Minutes uploaded to Groups.IO
- The minutes from tonight's meeting will be my last act as Secretary.

Treasurer's Report

- Beginning Balance \$11,108.98
- Ending Balance \$13,508.72
- Free / Available Cash circa \$5,000

Field Day Coordinator

- Mike Tharp offered his slides of the final results
 - Powerful suggestion was made to include other organizations such as the Salvation Army with our Field Day.
- Miranda Schwarz is the new Field Day and Communications Director
- Rob Forson is the new Public Relations Director

Communications Director

- Dick Thiot – not present
 - Miranda Schwarz is the new Communications Director
 - Miranda indicated internet access is miserable. Log on is insufferably long.
 - Packet Mode of 12KB is OK.

Newsletter

- Neil Gould – not present
 - Plea made to get more material for next month's edition.

Webmaster

- James McCormack – not present
- The statement was made he was working improvements to the web page
 - Clean-up of directory is underway

Activities Director

- Statements regarding the following activities
 - Recurring Events
 - **Monthly PARK Meetings**

- Board of Directors Zoom Meeting – 1st Monday 7:00 PM
- General Meeting - 3rd Monday 7:00 PM
- **WinLink Wednesday** Every Other Wednesday
 - Go to www.collinares.net for link and details.
- **CollinARES Training Nets**
 - Typically holds training nets twice per month
 - You need not be a member to check in.
 - Nets begin at 21:00 local and last 20 minutes to an hour.
 - 1st Sunday: PARK Repeater (K5PRK) 147.180 (+) 107.2
 - 3rd Sunday: MARC Repeater (W5MRC) 146.740 (-) 110.9
 - Go to www.collinares.net for detailed information.
- **Weekly FOX Hunts**
 - **Freddie the Fox (McKinneyARC)**
 - Found in McKinney from 0900 Saturday to 1900 Sunday
 - TX on 434.500 MHz on a 3-minute cycle
 - Scan the QR Code once found and fill out the form
 - Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/Freddy-the-Fox-109578464255677>
 - **Fox #1 (RichardsonWK)**
 - Found in Richardson every weekend
 - TX on 144.500 MHz on a 3-minute cycle
 - RWL Website: www.K5RWK.org/foxfhunt/

Weekly FOX Hunts (Continued)

➤ **Wheatley (RichardsonWK)**

- Found in Richardson every weekend
- TX on 433.250 MHz on a 3-minute cycle
- Scan the QR Code once found and fill out the form
- Wheatly's Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/wheatley-website/home>

➤ **Weekly PARK "Casual" Net**

- Every Wednesday Night at 2000 local.
- PARK Repeater (K5PRK) 147.180 (+) 107.2
- What does "Casual" Net Mean?
- No Net Controllers
- No Checking In
- No Scripts
 - Just key your mic, make your presence know, and initiate / Join the conversation.

➤ **Upcoming Events**

- **Dallas Marathon**
 - 13th to 15th December – Most support needed the 15th (Sun.)
 - Location: Dallas City Hall Plaza, Uptown, White Rock Lake
 - Communications Support for Event
 - Several Volunteer Positions Available
 - More information coming soon! Watch the group.io emails.
- **Dallas County VNA Meals on Wheels**
 - 28th November and 25th December
 - Location: 1440 W. Mockingbird Ln, 75247
 - Communications Support for Volunteer Food Pickup
 - More information coming soon! Watch the group.io emails.
- **2024 Holiday Party**

- 16th December – Event to Start at 7pm (Please arrive early to allow time to eat/visit before the party begins)
- Location: Spring Creek BBQ - Richardson
- Bringing back the White Elephant Gift Exchange!
- Increasing the W-E Gift Exchange value to \$20 (formerly \$10)
- W-E Gift does not have to be a purchased item, but ALL W-E Gifts do need to be wrapped.
- Tickets will be sold for Raffle Prize Drawings
- Board Proposal to Increase Raffle Prize Purchases from \$600 to \$800.

Motion was made by Randy Jennings K5LKL to spend \$800 on raffle prizes for Christmas Party. The motion was seconded by Anthony Bourkas, KB3DVS. Motion passed unanimously by the membership present at the meeting.

VE Testing

- Daryl Morgeson – Present
 - Two present for testing
 - 1 tech and 1 General

During the New Business Section of the Meeting, it was mentioned that the following meeting fall on holidays
 January 20th – MLK Day
 February 20th - President's Day
 March 17th – St. Patrick's Day

Action Item for Randy Jennings --- > will we be able to meet at the church or do we need to relocate temporarily. November meeting to advise

OCTOBER 21st

- **Vintage Radio Restoration**
 - **Walt Zaleski – The Vintage Radio Guy**
- A brief look into the history, restoration and golden era of American radio production (circa 1935-1955).
- <https://friscomercantile.com/collections/the-vintage-radio-guys>

Meeting adjourned circa 2030. Sean, W5SPK not present due to email from work.