

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 Dec 16, 2024 – 7:00 pm

[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.

In this Issue

[From the President and the Board](#)

[Future Club Meeting Programs](#)

[Proposed Constitution ByLaw Revision](#)

[ARRL News and Info](#)

[Short Takes](#)

[Area Nets](#)

[Ham Radio References](#)

[Latest Meeting Minutes](#)

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

Season's Greetings.

Mark your calendars... Monday December 16th is PARKS annual [Christmas/Holiday party](#). Come on out and enjoy good food, good camaraderie, good raffle prizes, and the ever popular "White Elephant" gift exchange. Details are in this newsletter.

It's that time of year again when PARK membership renewal comes due. If you haven't already done so, I encourage all members to renew their membership at this month's meeting / Holiday party. Your dues allow the continued operation and upgrades to PARKS repeaters, and other sponsored events, such as the December meeting holiday party. Don't forget, members who renew before or at the party will receive a free raffle ticket.

With the coming of 2025, we have a lot to look forward to. Winter Field Day is just around the corner, our VP Anthony Burokas – KB5DVS has some [exciting presentations](#) lined up, camaraderie when attending our monthly meetings, and of course many opportunities to get on the air.

Wishing you all Seasons Greetings and a safe and Happy New Year.

**Tim Johnson K5TCJ
President PARK**

Future Club Meeting Programs

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:

NWS - The DFW National Weather Service representative – March?

NVIS - by Larry RandallHRO - New Radios Overview.

HamRadio 2.0 - Famous YouTube channel makes a visit.

Dallas Makerspace overview.

Anthony Burokas Ideas? Recommendations? → VP@K5PRK.net

General Class Ham (KB3DVS)

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

PARK Members,

Following the ARRL driven suggestion in regard to financial practices, and its discussion at the November General Meeting and the December Board of Directors meeting, the following revision to PARK's Constitution / Bylaws is proposed.

Existing Article V Section 5 –

The Treasurer shall receive and receipt all monies paid to this club; shall keep an accurate account of all monies received and expended and shall maintain a double entry bookkeeping system according to accepted accounting practices. The Treasurer shall pay no bills without proper authorization (by the club or its Board of Directors). At the end of each quarter, the Treasurer shall submit an itemized statement of disbursements and receipts. A petty cash fund may be established in accordance with the By-Laws.

This proposed revision would add the following to Article V Section 5

above: *“The Board of Directors may at any time, call for an audit of the klub's books / financial records.”*

This addition is not a reaction to any issues, but a suggested proactive measure to help safeguard and protect the klub's financial assets, and the klub's Treasurer.

Following PARKs constitutionally required notifications, this proposed revision will be presented and recorded in the minutes of the December 2024 and January 2025 general meetings and brought before the membership for a vote at the February 2025 general meeting. – Tim

PARK Upcoming Activities

December 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](#).

Thanks to all!

73's

Richard Seitz

PARK Activities Director

activities@k5prk.net

PARK 2024 Christmas Holiday Party

As is tradition, the December Klub meeting will be our annual Christmas party. The evening of December 16th promises to be an entertaining evening with a casual atmosphere of fun and fellowship. We will have Raffle Prizes available for lucky ticketholders to win, and we are bringing back the White Elephant gift exchange, this year, which is always a member favorite.

This year's event will be held at the [Spring Creek BBQ restaurant, in Richardson, located at 270 N. Central Expressway](#). It is on the East side of Central on the Northbound access road, just North of



Beltline Rd/Main St. **We are scheduled to have the meeting room available from 6 to 9pm.** We are allowed access to the meeting room at no charge, if most of our members/visitors purchase food and drink. You are welcome to arrive earlier, if you wish, but you will need to dine in the main seating area. Please arrive hungry!

Raffle Prize Drawing

Raffle prizes are being supplied by the club and by club member donations. Raffle tickets will be sold at the door. If you have renewed your membership (paid your annual dues) by Dec. 16th, or the night of the meeting, you will receive one (1) free raffle ticket.

Raffle rule still in place – Raffle prize winners go home with only one (1) prize. Since people can purchase more than one (1) raffle ticket, a prize winner winning a subsequent prize must choose which prize to keep. The forfeited prize is then raffled off again.

White Elephant Gift Exchange

This year's rules for the white elephant gift exchange:

1. **Bring a gift.** Each player brings one wrapped gift (with value of \$20.)
2. **Determine Order.** Players draw numbers to determine the order in which they take turns.
3. **Take turns.** The first person selects and opens a gift and their turn ends. On subsequent turns, players can either steal another player's gift or open a new gift. The player whose gift is stolen can either steal another player's gift or open a new gift. The 2nd player whose gift is stolen, selects a new gift.
4. **Limit steals.** A gift can only be stolen twice, and the third person to have it keeps it.
5. **Final round.** In the final round, the first player can keep their gift or steal another guest's gift. The game ends when everyone has a gift.

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



ARRL News

ARRL magazines

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

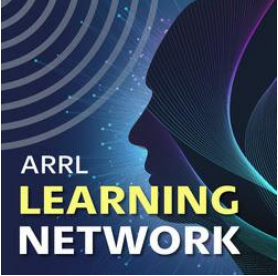



On the Air - NEW! Beginner to intermediate level help and advice - www.arrl.org/On-the-Air-Magazine

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.

Short Takes

[10 Meter Contest!](#)

This is THE contest to join THIS year due to the current sunspot cycle, especially for new Techs. In a few years 10 meters will be unusable. Contacts are made with CW and Phone.

Objective: For Amateurs worldwide to exchange QSO information with as many stations as possible on the 10 meter band.

Dates:

Second full weekend of December. Starts 0000 UTC Saturday; runs through 2359 UTC Sunday (**December 14-15, 2024**)

[Click Here for the Complete ARRL 10-Meter Contest Rules \(PDF\)](#)

2025 Youth on the Air Camp Application Period Open

Applications are now being accepted for campers interested in attending the 2025 Youth on the Air Camp. Licensed amateur radio operators, ages 15 through 25, who want to attend are encouraged to apply online at YouthOnTheAir.org. The camp is scheduled to take place June 15 - 20, 2025, in Thornton (Denver), Colorado and the [Denver Radio Club](#), an ARRL Affiliated Club, is the local host.



The current application period is for the fifth camp for young amateur radio operators in North, Central, and South America. For the best chance at being selected, applications should be submitted by 2359Z on January 15, 2025. Campers will be selected by the working group and notified by February 1.

To encourage attendance from across the Americas, allocations for campers are being held open for various areas of North, Central, and South America. If countries do not use their allocation or should someone within an allocation decline acceptance, those positions will be filled from the remaining pool of applicants. As this will be an ongoing process, everyone will not receive notification of acceptance at the same time. Preference will be given to first-time attendees.

Applications will continue to be accepted through May 1 and up to 50 campers will be accepted. The application process is free, but a \$100 USD deposit is required upon acceptance. Should a potential camper be unable to pay the \$100 deposit, they may apply for a scholarship or waiver. Campers are also responsible for their own arrival and departure transportation to the camp location. Travel assistance may also be available, especially for those traveling from outside of the USA and Canada. Travel during camp events is provided.

For details about the camp, visit the camp web page at YouthOnTheAir.org or email Camp Director Neil Rapp, WB9VPG, at director@youthontheair.org.

On December 17, 1903, after years of “tinkering” in their Dayton, Ohio, bicycle shop, Orville and Wilbur Wright made their first three flights in their new flying machine. [The Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club](#) (BARC) in Dayton will commemorate 121 years of the Wright brothers’ first flights with special event station W8W on December 17, 2024, from 1400z - 2100z. Operation will be on 7.217, 14.317, and 21.317 MHz on all modes. An E-certificate is available by email at WrightFlight@bellbrookarc.org.

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

November 18, 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

- 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

October General Meeting Minutes and November Board Meeting minutes are uploaded to Groups.io sites.

Annual Dues are due by Dec. 31st....renew early to avoid the rush....Bonus ticket if renewal is done before Christmas party.

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance \$11,066.64
Ending Balance \$12,574.28
Free / Available Cash \$ 4,137.37

Nov. 2024 Prosperity Bank Statement published per audit for membership.

Johnnie Young as ARRL representative explained ARRL suggested guidelines for club audit procedures.

Equipment Storage proposals submitted per previous membership approval of annual expenditure of no more than \$600.00 per year. Three facilities were selected for rental based on availability – Public Storage, Extra Space Storage and Cube Smart. Treasurer will complete rental procedure as instructed.

Communications Director – Miranda Schwarck

Reviewing repeater capabilities and current/future projects with Kip Moravec. Studying redundancy needs for repeater and peripherals

Newsletter Editor -Neil Gould

Newsletter uploaded
Plea made to get more material for next month's edition.

Webmaster – James McCormick

Not Present – no report

Public Relations – Rob Forson

Not Present – no report

Activities Director – Richard Seitz

Not Present – no report

Upcoming Events:

Dallas County VNA Meals on Wheels – Nov. 28th and Dec. 25th

Dallas Marathon – Dec. 15th

P.A.R.K. Holiday Party – Dec. 16th at Spring Creek BBQ - Richardson

OLD BUSINESS:

Tom May AG5WL Estate Sale – 3320 Remington Dr., Plano

NEW BUSINESS

None

Presentation: Dave Koch – K5OCH – CW Academy

Adjourn 8:37 p.m.