

PARK HERE

Officers

(your answers begin here)

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Activites
Communications
Webmaster
Public Relations

Newsletter

Tim Johnson, K5TCJ
Anthony Burokas, KB3DVS
B. J. Watkins, K5BJW
Mike Tharp, KG5TJF
Richard Seitz, KG5HCJ
Miranda Schwarck, KE5YZP
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Rob Forson, K5WFR Lonnie Webb, KG5WHQ president@k5prk.net vp@k5prk.net secretary@k5prk.net treasurer@k5prk.net activities@k5prk.net communications@k5prk.net

webmaster@k5prk.net
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EXPERIMENT AND HAVE FUN WITH YOUR RADIO

Learn more about the club at https://k5prk.net

Interact with the club at

https://www.facebook.com/groups/k5prk

Have a groups.io conversation with the club at https://k5prk.groups.io/g/main

Are you ready to read the content in the newsletter? It's all technician accessible. For you're benefit we color the tabs at the top of the page to coorespond to the colors of your ARRL license manual.

YOU HAVE BEEN DEPUITIZED AS ROVING JUNIOR NEWSLETTER REPORTER EXTRAORDINAIRE!

Go photograph, experiment, solder, attempt to antenna your lawn chairs. Just write it all down and send the information to newsletter@k5prk.net

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.

Our repeaters are open.

147.180 MHz + PL 107.2

K5PRK VHF Voice Repeater

444.250 MHz + PL 79.7

K5PRK UHF Voice Repeater

441.575 MHz +

DStar UHF Digital Voice Port B

1295.000 MHz - 20.000

DStar 23cm Digital Voice Port B

1255.000 MHz

DStar 23cm Digital Data

Broadcastify

K5PRK 444.250 K5PRK 147.18

If you notice problems with any of the club's repeaters, contact communications@k5prk.net via email with a detailed description of the issue.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Tim Johnson K5TCJ president@k5prk.net

July is only 2 months away which brings us PARK's annual ham gear auction. I am pleased to say that with equipment donations made to the club, we are putting together an impressive list of items to be auctioned off. We will be distributing a list of what we have on hand, so you can identify that treasure you plan to bid on. And don't forget to bring the gear you're ready to part with so there will be room in your shack for the 'new-to-you' gear you bring home.

By now most of you have seen my message on political commentary on the club's social media. For those not on our social media, here it is:

I have heard from members that our social media has again been used for political commentary.

Lest we lose members because of this, I will remind everyone that we are a HAM RADIO club. Politics has no place on our social media and will NOT be tolerated.

It ends now. No discussion, no grace period, no warnings, no more "please stop doing that".

Going forward posters of political commentary will be removed from our social media.

This is probably the most difficult message I've ever sent to our membership. PARK has members of many political affiliations and opinions, and we risk of alienating and losing members by introducing politics where it doesn't belong. Our membership numbers are down, and we can't afford to lose any more members or the inevitable negative publicity. Let's stick to what we are all here for... HAM RADIO.

Lots of opportunities to get on the air this month: Special Event Stations, Contests (even if you're a casual contester like me), Parks on the Air, Nets, and even answering or calling CQ.

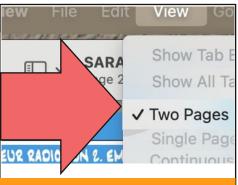
73, and see you on the air, Tim 🖶



Get you RadioQuest Score(pg.18): I'm thinking it warrants an end of year giveaway. Gotta start sending in your scores now, though!

One the cover:

This month's cover photo comes from KH6WI, a ham on the beach.



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Field Day: July 28, 2025

Next Meeting: June 16, 2025

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hi, PARK! I am reminded that we are hobby Radio.

Man, isn't it awesome to have a hobby, sport, or interest that lights you up and connects you with others who are just as stoked? You end up meeting cool people and building real friendships through that shared vibe.

The camaraderie, swapping tips, helping each other out, and sometimes making friends you'll know forever—that's the good stuff.

One of my big passions is amateur radio. I've joined a few clubs and met tons of fellow hams who get it. There's something special about chatting with someone halfway across the globe, or even having long, deep convos with certain folks.

Just being a radio operator is like saying "You don't have to be a dunker, a sprinkler, a waver, or a singer. You don't have to be a red or a blue and it's okay. I like having you for a friend—stranger!"

One night, I was up crazy late, and I caught this group of hams on the air. They were from all over the world, just shooting the breeze like old pals. It was cool to hear how well they connected, especially with the radio waves cooperating that night.

Stuff like that matters. And you know what else? It's worth pausing to think about the people we share these passions with. Let them know you're grateful for them—it goes a long way.

By Dave W8OV

A quick antenna repair inspired by a line in an old song: "And brought him strings and sealing wax and other fancy stuff" *

I've had an intermittent problem with my HF antenna for some time. Recently the problem has gotten noticeably worse. During the 19:00 UTC Wednesday CWT, a practice CW contest run by CWops, the antenna would not work properly at all. I went outside and gently shook the antenna and noticed one connector of the smaller 'doorknob' capacitor had broken loose. While a new one was a few days and a lot of cash away, I found a temporary solution.

So, I tied a piece of string around the broken 'doorknob' capacitor and was able to get back on for the remainder of the 19:00 CWT -- without "... sealing wax or other fancy stuff" See photo.

* Peter, Paul, and Mary; "Puff the Magic Dragon"

Watch out for that magic smoke! —ed ➡



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES FOR MAY AND JUNE

By Richard Seitz KG5HCJ

activities@k5prk.net

PARK 2025 Field Day HAS MOVED From Shawnee Park to Hoblitzelle Park

Upcoming Activities for Interested Hams:

Contests:

June 28-29

CLUB EVENT: PARK Field Day at
Hoblitzelle Park Pavillion
7500 Red River Drive
Plano, TX 75025
(Directly behind and East of Hendrick
Middle School)

July 12-13

IARU HF World Championship (See WA7BNM Contest Calendar for Details)

Special Event Stations:

July 1-7

13 Colonies Special Event(13 Stations, plus 3 bonus stations – in Philadelphia, England and France)

July 5

Colonial Williamsburg Special Event Station

Scope's "Monkey" Trial 100th Anniversary Event Station - Dayton, TN

July 12

US Independence Day Special Event – USS Midway Museum Ship -San Diego, CA

Ham Conventions:

Tidelands Texas City Hamfest Saturday July 12, 2025 (8am − 2pm) Doyle Convention Center in Texas City. ➡

STEPP IR SHUTTING

STEPPIR COMPANY ANNOUCEMENT

To all our valued customers:
Due to several emerging factors,
SteppIR will cease production of
consumer antennas and accessories on August 31, 2025. We will
accept and fulfill all consumer
antenna and spare parts orders
placed by August 31. After August 31, we will sell spare parts as
long as supplies last.

There will be no changes in terms of warranty service or technical support inquiries.

Given our long history of impact and innovation, we don't take this decision lightly but have decided it is necessary for our ongoing operations, and to make sure we can continue to efficiently provide our existing customers with product support services.

What has lead to SteppIR shutting down Ham Operations?

Commentary on the internet suggests that SteppIR is hugely invested in contracts supporting stock exchange communications. Note that they are only halting consumer antenna manufacturing. The demands being placed on them by their corporate data center obligations have simply absorbed all their resources. That's the way I hear it.

FIELD DAY 2025

By Mike Tharp KG5TJF

treasurer@k5prk.net

I recently came into possession of a 1961 Seeburg jukebox. I spent this weekend working on this cool acquisition. As a result though, my 2025 Field Day Report is a little rushed.

First and foremost, there is a change of venue this year. While I had reserved Shawnee Pavilion, the City got it into their heads that we had a preference for Hoblitzelle. So, the City of Plano tried to help us out this year by pre-arranging all the necessary permits for us to hold our Field Day event at Hoblitzelle including staying overnight. They were surprised when we reserved Shawnee.

The city asked if we could please reconsider using Hoblitzelle since they had already started the arrangements for that park. I told them Hoblitzelle would work just fine and thanked then for allowing us to stay over night.

This year we plan to showcase some technologies not normally part of the HF operations. We will be demonstrating Digital Mobile Radio (DMR), Echolink and Allstar. Our objective is to show that amateur radio is still relevant and that there is still room for innovations.

Saturday night we'd like to hold a cookout for anyone who cares to attend. This is intended to be a club function. Not just for those who operate or help set up. Add your name to the Dinner shift list. If you have a favorite treat or dish you'd like to share—

please bring it!

We are operating overnight this year. So, if you want to avoid the heat of the day on the 28th, come out any time after sundown. Someone will be there.

We'd enjoy your company.
As usual, I'll bring donuts and coffee on Saturday morning for those who help set up. Sunday morning, we'll be serving breakfast.

If you don't plan to attend but would still like to help, please bring water and Gatorade.
See you on the 28th. ■



MINUTES FROM THE MAY GENERAL MEETING



May 19, 2025 General Meeting Minutes

Officers Present
President
Treasurer
Secretary
Communications Director
VE Coordinator

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by **President Tim Johnson**.

Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

13 Members Present + 3 Guests.

President Report.

Programs for upcoming monthly meetings:

June – **Michael Tharp** – Field Day Preparation and Preview. July – PARK Annual Auction.

Need Suggestions for future programs...email VP@k5prk.net

Vice President - Absent.

Secretary:

Nothing to report.

Treasurer:

Treasurer **Michael Tharp** presented the current financial

report of the club.

Treasurer's report available on hamclub online.com

Communications Director:

Delay at Plano Medical Center due to remodel/construction.
Access to be determined.

Issues with unknown APRS interference with repeater. Working on identifying.

Newsletter Editor - Absent.

Activities Director - Absent.

Usual Activities reviewed by President.

Public Relations Director - Not Present.

DFW Ham Expo – will need volunteers to man our table June 6-7 in Lewisville.

Sign-up sheet is online.

Webmaster Not Present - No Report.

VE Coordinator – 2 Technician Class applicants past test.

Old Business:

None reported.

New Business: None Reported

Tonight's Program:

Larry Randall WA5BEN - NVIS

Antennas and You

Adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

ADDITIONAL INFO ON HAMCLUBONLINE.COM



Wondering about the Treasurer's report? Missing something from the minutes? Go log in at HamClubOnline.com using the email address you already gave the secretary and set a new password if you need to.

PROGRAMS

By Anthony Burokas, KB3DVS vp@k5prk.net

June 16—PARK Field Day
Mike Tharp will lead the overview for our planned 24-hour
Field Day operation event—the
first since Covid hit in 2020. We'll
need overnight operators,
campers, astronomers, chefs,
visitors, helpers for setup and
tear down, and more to make
this 2-day event a success. Keep
your eye out for the 2025 sign-up
form, here:

https://k5prk.net/field-day Note that the Field Day location has changed to Hoblitzelle Park.

July 21—PARK Annual Auction Spread the word! Bring the Ham Radio gear you no longer use to the auction. Be prepared to look through the tables and tables of gear to find some real bargains, and let the bidding begin! See the full description and rules at:

https://k5prk.net/club-auction

MINUTES FROM THE LAST BOARD MEETING



Plano Amateur Radio Klub **Board of Directors Meeting** June 2, 2025

Present: (On-Line) Tim Johnson, President Anthony Burokas, V.P. Michael Tharp, Treasurer B. J. Watkins, Secretary Miranda Schwark, Communications Director

Rob Forson, Public Relations Director

Richard Seitz, Activities Director Lonnie Webb, Newsletter Editor James McCormick, Webmaster

Visitors: None,

Quorum Established: 7:05 p.m. President

Formulating list of items for July Annual auction.

Vice President

Future Meeting Programs: June 16 - Michael Tharp KG5TJF - Field Dav July 15 - PARK Annual Auction

August 18 - Collin County Judge Chris Hill (Tentative)

Treasurer

Treasurer's report available on hamclub online.com

Field Day - City of Plano requested that we move Field Day back to Hoblitzelle Park for overnight session. They indicated that the antenna layout would be more appropriate in that location instead of near the frisbee golf field at Shawnee. They

will refund \$75.00 from our fees and have already coordinated with Plano Fire/Rescue and Plano P.D. Board concurred with moving back to Hoblitzelle.

Secretary

May General and Board meeting minutes uploaded to Ham Club On-line.

We now have 83 current members.

Secretary reached out by e-mail to a member that had expired, and got no response from him.

Communications Director Power Supplies are rebuilt and ready to install.

Key to water tower radio rack missplaced. Comm. Dir. will replace and have duplicate for Secretary.

Need Contact Presbyterian Hospital Plano Communications Liaison.

Need to Re-assign Repeater Trustee on ILS from Kip Moravec. Board agreed that Communications Director should also be Repeater Trustee.

Webmaster

E-mail links being updated. Officer pages need updating.

Activities Director

DFW Hamfest this weekend. Will get banners from Treasurer from storage on Thursday and set up prior to opening at 1:00 p.m. Friday.

Public Relations

Obtaining proclamations from City of Plano and Collin County. Press releases for field day are prepared and being distributed.

License Testing Coordinator -Absent / No Report.

Adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

BOB JONES WSBJ, SK

By John Galvin, N5TIM

n5tim.ps@gmail.com

As a long time friend, mentor, Elmer and confidant, I am left saddened at the lost of my friend. I miss our long conversations about radios and every thing else in the world. Bob a Texas A&M graduate and U S Army veteran had an distinguished career with Collins Radio Company and through it's transitions with Rockwell International and Alcatel Telecom. Bob's radio involvement spanned many areas. He was asked by Garland city officials to start a Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) program in Garland and was the initial lead for over 20 years. Later becoming the first Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Emergency Coordinator for Garland. In addition Bob headed up the communications for the Dallas Marathon for many year, as well as, many local public service events. I will miss his enthusiasm for helping the amateur radio community. I will miss him.

Visitation for Robert "Bob" G Iones will be at the Charles W Smith Funeral Home, 2925 5th Street, Sachse, Texas 75048 Thursday June 12th 2025 from 6:00 PM until 8:00.

Funeral Services will be held at the First United Methodist Church, 1520 Blackburn Road, Sachse, Texas 75048 Friday, June 13th, 2025 at 10:00 AM John Galvin, N5TIM.

YOTA CAMP 2025 ANNOUNCES ON THE AIR TIMES AND STREAMING



Youth on the Air (YOTA) Camp 2025 Announces On the Air Times and Streaming Events

The camp for young amateur radio operators in North, Central, and South America will operate special event station WØY while camp is in session from June 15-20, 2025 in Thornton, Colorado, USA. The group will also contact the International Space Station; complete portable & mobile activations for Summits on the Air (SOTA), Parks on the Air (POTA), Buc-ee's on the Air & from WWV; and livestream the ARISS contact & opening and closing ceremonies on YouTube.

COLUMBIANA, Ohio, June 1, 2025

—Youth on the Air Americas Camp
2025 being held in suburban Denver,
Colorado will operate from the Bob
Heil, K9EID Memorial YOTA Camp
Amateur Radio Shack in person and
remotely as the campers finish
projects, between sessions, and during freetime.

Activation of the WØY callsign from the camp will begin the evening of Sunday, June 15th and conclude at 1800Z on Friday, June 20th.

In addition, campers will have the opportunity to operate during the following dedicated times:

- Monday, June 16th UTC (Sunday, June 15th MDT): 0200Z to 0400Z
- Tuesday, June 17th UTC (Monday, June 16th MDT): 0000Z to 0500Z
- Wednesday, June 18th UTC (Tuesday, June 17th MDT): 0300Z to

0500Z

- Thursday, June 19th UTC (Wednesday, June 18th MDT): 0300Z to 0500Z
- Friday, June 20 th UTC (Thursday, June 19th MDT): 0000Z to 0500Z Campers will also have dedicated satellite operating times on Tuesday, June 17th from 1600Z to 1900Z. A highlight of the camp will be several portable and mobile actvations, including Summits On The Air, Parks On The Air, Buc-ee's On The Air, and from WWV.
- WØY/WWV will be active on Wed-nesday, June 18th from 1615Z to 2100Z from NIST radio station WWV in Fort Collins, CO.
- WØY/B mobile will be active on Wednesday, June 18th from 2200Z to 0030Z from Buc-ee's. Stations will be able to earn a special downloadable Buc-ee's On The Air certificate for working WØY/B. Stations wishing to contact WØY/B from another Buc-ee's location should be advised that the business has not allowed antennas to be installed on their grounds. All operations should be from your vehicle and not interfere with their business.
- WØY plans to be active for SOTA on Thursday, June 19th from Genesee Mountain (WØC/FR-194) between 1930Z and 2300Z.
- WØY plans to be active for POTA on Thursday, June 19th from Two Ponds National Wildlife Refuge (US-0227) between 2000Z and 2230Z.

Campers will be able to ask questions to astronaut Nichole Ayers, KJ5GWI, who calls Colorado Springs as home, on the International Space Station during the camp as well. The ARISS contact is currently scheduled to take place on Thursday, June 19th at 1725Z. The ARISS contact will be

conducted using a satellite station built by one of the campers, Lyle Strachan, KEØZNV.

The opening and closing ceremonies and the International Space Station contact (ARISS) will be streamed live on the Youth on the Air YouTube channel. The opening ceremony is Sunday, June 15th from 2300Z to 0200Z. The closing ceremony is Friday, June 20th from 1600Z to 1700Z. The channel will also feature a daily highlight video spotlighting the activities of the previous day.

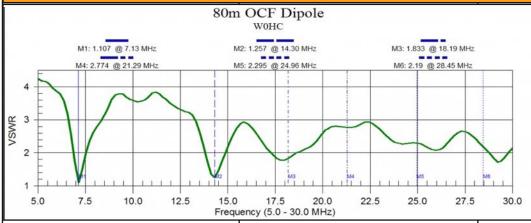
Finally, camper Jack McElroy, KM4ZIA is partnering with Edge of Space Sciences to launch a high-altitude balloon to near space and two pico balloons which will hopefully circumnavigate the Earth. The highaltitude balloon will launch either on Monday evening, June 16 or Tuesday morning, June 17 depending on the weather. For tracking of the high-altitude balloon, follow W4SDR-11 on APRS.fi. A voice beacon will also be on 146.550 MHz. The pico balloons will be launched on the afternoon of Tuesday, June 17 and can be tracked on WSPR.net as KM4ZIA or via APRS.fi at WØY-1 and WØY-11.

For more details about this camp, visit YouthOnTheAir.org/denver2025.

For additional information about YOTA Americas, please contact Public Relations at pr@youthontheair.org or Camp Director Neil Rapp, WB9VPG at director@youthontheair.org.

Thank you, **Frank Krizan KR1ZAN** frank.krizan@verizon.net

THE OFF CENTER FED DIPOLE



By Michael Payne, K5MFP MichaelPayneK5MFP@gmail.com

For a multi-band antenna, the Off Center Fed Dipole (OCFD) antenna is one of several antennas that hams have available to use for HF enjoyment. Loren Widom W8GZ is credited in 1929 with bringing the antenna to the attention to the amateur radio community.

The dimensions of a 80-10 meter OCFD is about 135.85 feet overall length with the offset feed point at 39.26 feet from one end. The feed point is at that point in the overall length. This is where a 4:1 current balun is placed, feeding both sections of the wire ant-enna. A quality 50 ohm coax is recommended. A tuner is also recommended for some of the bands.

One of the plusses of an OCFD is adaptability to your property dimensions. It needs no ground plane radials as often required for vertical antennas. They are also lower in cost than beam antennas. They are easy to install and the cost can be low, especially if you construct the balun yourself from raw materials or as a kit. This article is not meant to be the ultimate guide to an Off

Center Fed Dipole. There are many YouTubes that you can use as a pattern, and there are plans online for building one. On a personal note, I had help building my OCFD approximately 15 years ago and the balun was replaced once due to a nearby lightining strike. I had a vertical antenna for a couple of years on top of my roof and it performed ok without the use of radials, but the OCFD is my antenna of choice.

← Figure 1. WOHC made this diagram of an antenna sweep on his 80m OCF dipole. Tuner optional, twin connector line and it hits all the major bands up to 80m.

Wire: Insulated copper or stranded antenna wire (14-16 AWG, ~135 feet total for 80m band).

Balun: A 4:1 current balun rated for your power output (100W or higher).

Coaxial cable or twin connector feed line.

Rope or cord: UV-resistant rope for securing the antenna. Bank line will do.

Soldering iron and solder: For secure connections.

Wire cutters/strippers/selfamalgamating tape.

Length (feet)=468/Frequency (MHz)For 80m (3.5 MHz):
Length=468/3.5≈**133.7 feet**

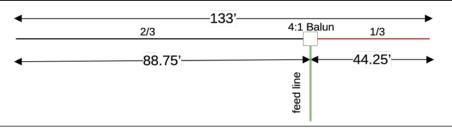


Figure 2. A simple example diagram of a OCF Dipole. I would add a foot to this one for sure.

Building an Off-Center Fed Dipole Antenna for Ham Radio

Unlike a traditional center-fed dipole, the OCFD is fed at a point offset from the center, typically at a 1:2 ratio, which allows it to resonate on multiple harmonically related bands (e.g., 80m, 40m, 20m, 10m, and sometimes 6m).

This design works well in various configurations (horizontal, sloper, or inverted-V).

Materials needed to build a basic OCFD antenna for ham radio, gather the following:

Conclusion

Building an off-center fed dipole antenna is a rewarding project for ham radio operators seeking a multi-band solution. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced operator, the OCFD offers flexibility and performance for a variety of operating conditions.

Note: Always follow safety guidelines when installing antennas, especially regarding power lines and lightning protection. Consult local ham radio resources or clubs for additional support.

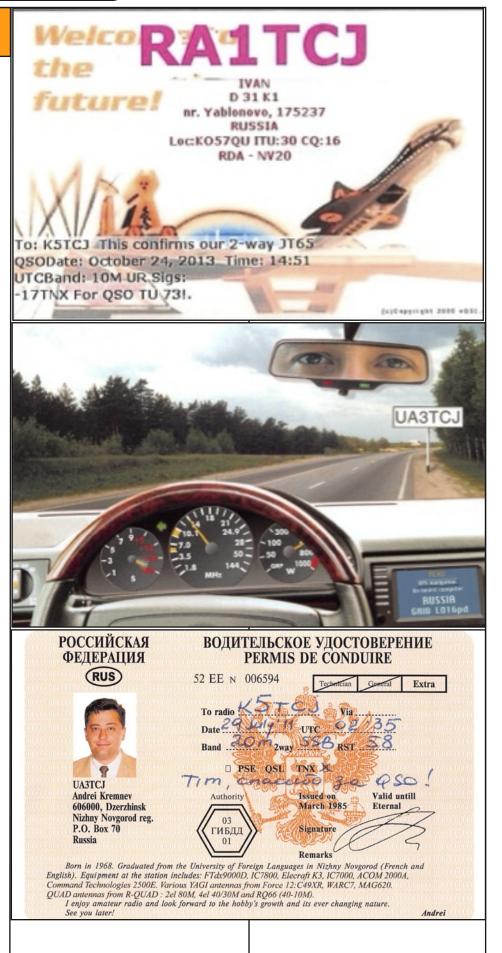
THE QUEST FOR QSL CARDS

By Tim Johnson K5TCJ president@k5prk.net

Have you ever wondered about other Hams with whom you share a callsign suffix? Me neither. Until I worked one! And then another!

I know have a spot filter alerting on a TCJ suffix, so I can continue my quest for a "Worked All My Suffix" Award. ☺

Tim K5TCJ. 🛋





DFW HamExpo is one of our local hamfests. You know, for a dead mall, the parking lot was FULL of antennas and that was just the regular parking. There were a half dozen PARK hams in

the expo hall at any given time. Keep in mind I don't know everyone by sight, yet!

By Anthony's account:
We had the PARK banner/
frame, but no paperwork or

anything club-related to hand out!

I talked up several people who were new and interested hams. One kid just passed his test at the Expo. One was licensed last













month. One father who has a new license was touring with his sons. I told him to bring them to Field Day. A younger kid who will be going to Princeton had a new license and got a free HT for passing, but had never turned it on, so I spent some time explaining the radio to him. There were a

couple others I talked to as well.

Really, the fish are there! They're swimming by, but ya got to throw a line out and reel them in. Got to make the effort!

I came home and printed about 20 of the flyer I've been working on, which has two panels on PARK, meeting info, and more.

Then I created and printed out QR codes for the website and Field Day for people to scan with their phone. And I created and printed out a "Tell Me More" sign up sheet for those interested so we can do later outreach.











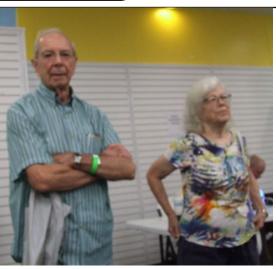












































FOR SALE

By Anthony Burokas, KB3DVS vp@k5prk.net

Kenwood TS-2000 Working great. Hand Mic.

Kenwood Manual.

Added the internal voice recorder/player for Contesting.

I have the interface cable for computer control.

SignalLink audio adapter for digital modes

And Heil Headset and adapter. \$850



Yaesu FT-100D
Box, Manual, Nifty Mini Manual,
hand mic
ATAS-100 multi-band screwdriver
antenna
+ other bits, I think I have a
headseet too.
\$650



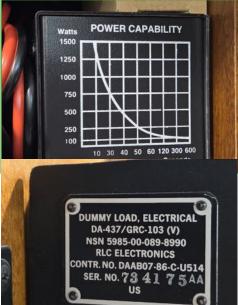
Yaesu FT-5100 2m/440 dual bander. Right side of screen as shown. So I only use it as a 2m FM backup. Hand mic. Printed manual. \$50



Astron VS-20M Super clean linear power supply. The big heavy one. Not switching. \$150.



Dummy loads \$50 each

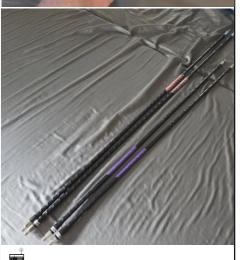


2M beam - 9 elements. \$95



MFJ Octo -4-band hamstick dipole Includes 20m and 40m hamsticks.
Actually near new. Bought but never deployed.
\$199





A microwave antenna shaped like a flared horn, used primarily for radio astronomy, satellite communication, and early microwave experiments. Developed in the early 20th century, with significant advancements in the 1930s–1960s, these antennas were key in detecting and transmitting microwave signals due to their wide bandwidth and directional properties.

Key Features

Design: Funnel-like structure, often conical or pyramidal, made of metal (e.g., aluminum or copper). The flared shape guides radio waves into or out of a waveguide. Function: Converts guided microwave signals into free-space waves or vice versa. Highly directional, focusing energy in a narrow beam.

Frequency Range: Typically operates in microwave frequencies (300 MHz to 30 GHz), ideal for UHF and SHF bands.

Applications in History:

Radio Astronomy: The most famous example is the Holmdel Horn Antenna at Bell Labs, used by Penzias and Wilson in 1965 to discover the cosmic microwave background (CMB) radiation,

providing evidence for the Big, Bang.

Communication: Used in early satellite systems (e.g., Telstar) and microwave relay stations for long-distance communication.

Radar: Employed in early radar systems during WWII and beyond.

Gain: Moderate to high (10–20 dBi), depending on size and frequency.

<u>Beamwidth:</u> Narrow, making it ideal for point-to-point communication or precise astronomical ob-

servations.

(photo credit: RossRadio, @cqcqcdx)

Advantages: Simple design, low noise, broadband capability. ■

RADIO QUEST

(GENERAL LEVEL				
	Tuned up your first HF frequency				
	Made a DX contact(out of the continental US)				
	Joined a traffic net				
	Sent a radiogram				
	Worked a Field Day contact				
	Participated in a contest				
	Used a digital mode				
	Sent an email over the radio				
	Connected your radio to the computer/internet				
	Used a SWR meter				
	Grounded your station				
	Grounded your antenna				
	Applied a lightning arrestor				
	Drove a ground rod				
	Computed RF emissions for your station				
	Ran your station on a battery				
	Powered your station from a car power supply				
	Created your first scratch paper log				
	Installed logging software(such as hamrs/n1mm)				
	Logged on to LOTW				
	Used a pi*star				

Threw a wire up in a tree for an antenna Have given a Roger Roger (RR) Stood on a ladder and wondered "Will it antenna?"

CHECK ALL THAT YOU HAVE COMPLETED. HAVE YOU FULFILLED THIS MONTH'S QUEST?

Used a Watt meter

Ioined RACES

Made a counterpoise

Know who Dave Cassler is

Listened to a weather net

DO YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT MONTH'S RADIOQUEST? LET ME KNOW HOW YOU DID. POST SCREENCAPS ON FACEBOOK FOR BRAGGING RIGHTS!

newsletter@k5prk.net

RADIO QUEST GENERAL LEVEL Tuned up your first HF frequency Made a DX contact(out of the continental US) oined a traffic net Sent a radiogram Worked a Field Day contact Participated in a contest Used a digital mode Sent an email over the radio Connected your radio to the computer/internet Used a SWR meter Grounded your station Grounded your antenna Applied a lightning arrestor Drove a ground rod Computed RF emissions for your Ran your station on a battery Powered your station from a car power supply Created your first scratch paper log Installed logging software(such as hamrs/n1mm) Logged on to LOTW Used a pi*star Used a Watt meter Made a counterpoise Threw a wire up in a tree for an antenna Know who Dave Cassler is Have given a Roger Roger (RR) Stood on a ladder and wondered 'Will it antenna? loined RACES istened to a weather net

I DARE YOU!

Take a stab!

I dare you to beat my score. It isn't necessary to hit my score quickly. Just share your score on QRZ or facebook.

We'll enjoy growing along with you.

If my math is right I scored 27 points while I was a general.

The glove is thrown, my radio friends.

YOU can do it! —KG5WHO

Email your scores to NEWSLETTER@K5PRK.NET There will be a prize.

I DARE YOU!

Take a stab!

I dare you to beat my score. It isn't necessary to hit my score quickly. Just share your score on QRZ or facebook.

We'll enjoy growing along with you.

If my math is right I scored 20 points while I was a technician.

The glove is thrown, my radio friends.

YOU can do it!
—KG5WHQ

ADIO QUEST Found an Elmer(someone to answer how-to questions) Listened on a frequency before talking Used your call sign on your handy talkie(HT) Spoke to another person on a regular (simplex) frequency) Spoke on club repeater Sent an APRS update Logged in on QRZ.com and created a logbook Made a contact via satellite/ISS on an Got my grid location Gave a signal report Send a CW/Morse code CQ Attended a ham club meeting loined the ARRL Checked-in on a club info net Asked a question on a net or a club loined breakfast Eyeball QSO on Passed a license exam Signed up for EchoLink Bought a cheap Chinese radio Bought an expensive Japanese radio Built a radio Built a j-pole/2m antenna Made a balun Made an RF choke Made a go-bag/go-box Went on a POTA expedition Asked a new contact what radio/ antenna they were using Was asked what radio/antenna you are Served as a net control operator oin the ARRL

RADIO QUEST

TECHNICIAN LEVEL

LEC	HNICIAN LEVEL
Fo	und an Elmer(someone to swer how-to questions)
Lis	tened on a frequency before talking
Us tal	ed your call sign on your handy kie(HT)
Sp reg	oke to another person on a gular (simplex) frequency)
Sp	oke on club repeater
Sei	nt an APRS update
	gged in on QRZ.com and created a book
Ma HT	de a contact via satellite/ISS on an
Go	t my grid location
Ga	ve a signal report
Sei	nd a CW/Morse code CQ
At	tended a ham club meeting
Joi	ned the ARRL
Ch	ecked-in on a club info net
	ked a question on a net or a club eting
	ned breakfast Eyeball QSO on curday
Pa	ssed a license exam
Sig	ned up for EchoLink
Во	ught a cheap Chinese radio
Во	ught an expensive Japanese radio
Bu	ilt a radio
Bu	ilt a j-pole/2m antenna
Ma	ade a balun
Ma	ade an RF choke
Ma	ade a go-bag/go-box
We	ent on a POTA expedition
	ked a new contact what radio/ cenna they were using
Wa usi	is asked what radio/antenna you are ng
Sei	rved as a net control operator
Joi	n the ARRL

CHECK ALL THAT YOU HAVE COMPLETED. HAVE YOU FULFILLED THIS MONTH'S QUEST?

DO YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT MONTH'S RADIOQUEST? LET ME KNOW HOW YOU DID. POST SCREENCAPS ON FACEBOOK FOR BRAGGING RIGHTS!

newsletter@k5prk.net

JUNE				
Sunday	1	Monday 2	Tuesday 3	
1p Military Veterans D-Star Net @ REF026A 7p DARC (Dallas) Meeting on the Air 7p Intl D-Star Net @ REF001C 8p K5TIT D-Star Net @ REF33B 9p Collin County ARES @ WD5ERD		7p K5PRK Board Meeting @ Jits 7p GARC (Garland) Club Meeting 7:30p Texas ARES Net @ 3.873 MHz 7:30p RWK Meeting on the Air @ 147.12, PL 110.9 8:30p MARC (McKinney) Simplex Net @ 146.54	7p DARC (Dallas) General Meeting 7p HAM (Mesquite) InfoNet @ WJ5J (145.310 PL 110.9) 7:30p Ark-La-Tex D-Star Net @ REF048B 8p Texas D-Star Net @ REF004B	
1p Military Veterans D-Star Net @ REF026A 2p Texas RACES Net (HF) @ 7.255MHz 7p Intl D-Star Net @ REF001C 8p K5TIT D-Star Net @ REF33B Int'l Digital Contest ARRL INT'L DIGITAL	8	7:30p Texas ARES Net @ 3.873 MHz 8:30p MARC (McKinney) Simplex Net @ 146.54 K1USN Slow Speed Test ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	1p ARRL June VHF Contest 7p HAM (Mesquite) InfoNet @ WJ5J (145.310 PL 110.9) 7:30p Ark-La-Tex D-Star Net @ REF048B 8p Texas D-Star Net @ REF004B Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest ICWC Medium Speed Test DARC CW-Training Contest	
1p Military Veterans D-Star Net @ REF026A 2p Texas RACES Net (HF) @ 7.255MHz 7p Intl D-Star Net @ REF001C 8p K5TIT D-Star Net @ REF33B 9p Collin County ARES Training Net @ W5MRC JUN VHF SKCC Weekend Sprintathon Portugal Day Contest AGCW VHF/UHF Contest REF DDFM 6m Contest GACW WWSA CW DX Contest	15	6p VE Testing @ K5PRK 7p K5PRK General Meeting 7:30p Texas ARES Net @ 3.873 MHz 8p American Legion Post 315 Radio Club Net @ W5SRA 8:30p MARC (McKinney) Simplex Net @ 146.54 ARRL June VHF Contest Run for the Bacon QRP Contest SARL Youth QSO Party RSGB FT4 Contest	7p HAM (Mesquite) InfoNet @ WJ5J (145.310 PL 17 110.9) 7:30p Ark-La-Tex D-Star Net @ REF048B 8p Texas D-Star Net @ REF004B	
1p Military Veterans D-Star Net @ REF026A 7p Intl D-Star Net @ REF001C 7p DARC Meeting on the Air @ W5FC 8p K5TIT D-Star Net @ REF33B All Asian DX Contest, CW SMIRK Contest SKCC QSO Party IARU Region 1 50 MHz Contest LZ International 6-Meter Contest Stew Perry Topband Challenge Feld Hell Sprint WAB 50 MHz Phone	22	7p DARC (Dallas) Geek Net @ W5FC 7p GARC (Garland) Club Meeting 7:30p Texas ARES Net @ 3.873 MHz	7p HAM (Mesquite) InfoNet @ WJ5J (145.310 PL 24 110.9) 7:30p Ark-La-Tex D-Star Net @ REF048B 8p Texas D-Star Net @ REF004B	
	29	7:30p Texas ARES Net @ 3.873 MHz 8:30p MARC (McKinney) Simplex Net @ 146.54 QCX Challenge	7p DARC (Dallas) General Meeting 7p HAM (Mesquite) InfoNet @ WJ5J (145.310 PL 110.9) 7:30p Ark-La-Tex D-Star Net @ REF048B 8p Texas D-Star Net @ REF004B	

JUNE						
Wednesday 4 6:50p NTx Readiness QST Net @ 7.27750	Thursday 11a GARC (Garland) Crony Lunch @	Friday 6	Saturday 7 12p Garland "Hands-On" Gathering			
MHz LSB	Judy's Cafe 7p HAM (Mesquite) Monthly Meeting 8p GARC (Garland) InfoNet		7p DARC (Dallas) Tech Net 9p Saturday Night D-STAR Net@REF029A ARRL INT'L DIGITAL			
ARRL June VHF Contest 6:50p NTx Readiness QST Net @ 7.27750 MHz LSB 8:30p NTx ARES Net @ 3860 Phone Weekly Test A1Club AWT CWops Test Mini-Test 40 Mini-Test 80 NAQCC CW Sprint VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	11a GARC (Garland) Crony Lunch @ 12 Judy's Cafe 8p GARC (Garland) InfoNet CWops Test	NCCC FT4 Sprint Weekly RTTY Test NCCC Sprint K1USN Slow Speed Test	9a W5YI VE Test Session @ Wylie 7p DARC (Dallas) Tech Net 9p Saturday Night D-STAR Net@REF029A JUN VHF YB ORARI DX Contest Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB SKCC Weekend Sprintathon Portugal Day Contest AGCW VHF/UHF Contest REF DDFM 6m Contest GACW WWSA CW DX Contest			
6:50p NTx Readiness QST Net @ 7.27750 MHz LSB 7p Murphy CERT Net @W5SRA NAQCC CW Sprint VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	11a GARC (Garland) Crony Lunch @ Judy's Cafe 8p GARC (Garland) InfoNet Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest NTC QSO Party	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest 20	9a W5SRA Laurel VE Test Session 9a GARC (Garland) ECC Open House 7p DARC (Dallas) Tech Net 9p Saturday Night D-STAR Net@REF029A Kids Day All Asian DX Contest, CW SMIRK Contest Pajajaran Bogor DX Contest SKCC QSO Party IARU Region 1 50 MHz Contest LZ International 6-Meter Contest Stew Perry Topband Challenge			
6:50p NTx Readiness QST Net @ 25 7.27750 MHz LSB SKCC Sprint	12p Fourth Thursday Ham Lunch 11a GARC (Garland) Crony Lunch @ Judy's Cafe 8p GARC (Garland) InfoNet RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	27	Pield Day N5SAC Tech Class @ Sachse EOC 7p DARC (Dallas) Tech Net 9a Emory (Tailgate) Hamfest, Rains ARA 9p Saturday Night D-STAR Net@REF029A UFT QRP Contest His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB			
6:50p NTx Readiness QST Net @ 2 7.27750 MHz LSB	11a GARC (Garland) Crony Lunch @ Judy's Cafe 7p HAM (Mesquite) Monthly Meeting 8p GARC (Garland) InfoNet	3	12p Garland "Hands-On" Gathering 5 7p DARC (Dallas) Tech Net 9p Saturday Night D-STAR Net@REF029A			

JULY				
Sunday	29	Monday	30	Tuesday 1
1p Military Veterans D-Star Net @ REF026A 7p Intl D-Star Net @ REF001C 8p K5TIT D-Star Net @ REF33B		7:30p Texas ARES Net @ 3.873 MHz 8:30p MARC Simplex net		7p DARC (Dallas) General Meeting 7p HAM (Mesquite) InfoNet @ WJ5J (145.310 PL 110.9) 7:30p Ark-La-Tex D-Star Net @ REF048B 8p Texas D-Star Net @ REF004B 8p Lucas Open Net RAC Canada Day Contest QCX Challenge
1p Military Veterans D-Star Net @ REF026A 7p DARC (Dallas) Meeting on the Air 7p Intl D-Star Net @ REF001C 8p KSTIT D-Star Net @ REF33B 9p Collin County ARES @ WD5ERD NZART Memorial Contest CQ Worldwide VHF SSB/CW Contest TA VHF/UHF Contest Marconi Memorial HF Contest Original QRP Contest PODXS 070 Club 40m Firecracker Sprint	6	7p GARC (Garland) Club Meeting 7:30p Texas ARES Net @ 3.873 MHz 7:30p RWK Meeting on the Air @ 147.12, PL118 8:30p MARC Simplex net RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	7 0.9	7p HAM (Mesquite) InfoNet @ WJ5J (145.310 PL 8 110.9) 7:30p Ark-La-Tex D-Star Net @ REF048B 8p Texas D-Star Net @ REF004B 8p Lucas Open Net ARS Spartan Sprint DARC RTTY Sprint
IARU HF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 1p Military Veterans D-Star Net @ REF026A 2p Texas RACES Net (HF) @ 7.255MHz 7p Intl D-Star Net @ REF001C 8p K5TIT D-Star Net @ REF33B SKCC Weekend Sprintathon QRP ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint	13	7:30p Texas ARES Net @ 3.873 MHz 8:30p MARC Simplex net K1USN Slow Speed Test 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial (MWC)	14	7p HAM (Mesquite) InfoNet @ WJ5J (145.310 PL 15 110.9) 7:30p Ark-La-Tex D-Star Net @ REF048B 8p Texas D-Star Net @ REF004B 8p Lucas Open Net Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest ICWC Medium Speed Test
1p Military Veterans D-Star Net @ REF026A 7p DARC(Dallas) Meeting On The Air 7p Intl D-Star Net @ REF001C 8p K5TIT D-Star Net @ REF33B 9p Collin County ARES Training Net @ W5MRC LABRE DX Contest CQ Worldwide VHF Digital Contest IARU Region 170 MHz Contest North American QSO Party, RTTY		6p VE Testing @ K5PRK 7p K5PRK General Meeting 7:30p Texas ARES Net @ 3.873 MHz 8p American Legion Post 315 Radio Club Net @ W5SRA 8:30p MARC Simplex net Run for the Bacon QRP Contest K1USN Slow Speed Test ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial (MWC)	21	7p HAM (Mesquite) InfoNet @ WJ5J (145.310 PL 22 110.9) 7:30p Ark-La-Tex D-Star Net @ REF048B 8p Texas D-Star Net @ REF004B 8p Lucas Open Net Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest ICWC Medium Speed Test
1p Military Veterans D-Star Net @ REF026A 2p Texas RACES Net (HF) @ 7.255 MHz 7p Intl D-Star Net @ REF001C 8p KSTIT D-Star Net @ REF33B FRAPR 10M Contest MARAC US Counties QSO Party ARAM 50 MHz Contest RSGB IOTA Contest Alabama QSO Party ARS Flight of the Bumblebees	27	7p DARC (Dallas) Geek Net 7p GARC (Garland) Club Meeting 7:30p Texas ARES Net @ 3.873 MHz 8:30p MARC Simplex net K1USN Slow Speed Test ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial (MWC) RSGB FT4 Contest ICWC Medium Speed Test	28	7p HAM (Mesquite) InfoNet @ WJ5J (145.310 PL 29 110.9) 7:30p Ark-La-Tex D-Star Net @ REF048B 8p Texas D-Star Net @ REF004B 7p HAM (Mesquite) InfoNet @ WJ5J (145.310 PL 110.9) 8p Lucas Open Net Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest ICWC Medium Speed Test

JULY

Wednesday 2	Thursday 3	Friday 4	Saturday 5
6:50p NTx Readiness QST Net @ 7.27750 MHz LSB 8p PARK Informal Net @ 147.180+ MHz, (107.2) 8p Simplex Net @ 146.54 MHz VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	11a GARC (Garland) Crony Lunch @ Judy's Cafe 7p HAM (Mesquite) Monthly Meeting 8p GARC (Garland) InfoNet 8p Denton County ARES Training Net Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest NRAU 10m Activity Contest SKCC Sprint Europe	Independence Day 8:30,9a North Texas Hospital Radio Club weekly check in Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	12p Garland "Hands-On" Gathering 7p DARC (Dallas) Tech Net 9p Saturday Night D-STAR Net@REF029A Venezuelan Ind. Day Contest FOC Old School Classic 1960s QSO Party NZART Memorial Contest
6:50p NTx Readiness QST Net @ 7.27750 MHz LSB 8p PARK Informal Net @ 147.180+ MHz, (107.2) 8p Simplex Net @ 146.54 MHz VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	11a GARC (Garland) Crony Lunch @ 10 Judy's Cafe 8p GARC (Garland) InfoNet 8p Denton County ARES Training Net	8:30,9a North Texas Hospital Radio 11 Club weekly check in	IARU HF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 9a W5YI VE Test Session @ Wylie 7p DARC (Dallas) Tech Net 9p Saturday Night D-STAR Net@REF029A SKCC Weekend Sprintathon
6:50p NTx Readiness QST Net @ 16 7.27750 MHz LSB 8p PARK Informal Net @ 147.180+ MHz, (107.2) 8p Simplex Net @ 146.54 MHz 7p Murphy CERT Net @ WSSRA Phone Weekly Test A1Club AWT CWops Test (CWT) Mini-Test 40 VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini-Test 80	11a GARC (Garland) Crony Lunch @ Judy's Cafe 8p GARC (Garland) InfoNet 8p Denton County ARES Training Net Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest NAQCC CW Sprint CWops Test (CWT) NTC QSO Party	8:30,9a North Texas Hospital Radio Club weekly check in NCCC FT4 Sprint QRP Fox Hunt Weekly RTTY Test NCCC Sprint K1USN Slow Speed Test	9a W5SRA Laurel VE Test Session 9a GARC (Garland) ECC Open House 7p DARC (Dallas) Tech Net 9p Saturday Night D-STAR Net@REF029A LABRE DX Contest Russian Radio Team Championship Trans-Tasman Low-Bands Challenge YOTA Contest CQ Worldwide VHF Digital Contest Feld Hell Sprint IARU Region 170 MHz Contest North American QSO Party, RTTY
6:50p NTx Readiness QST Net @ 23 7.27750 MHz LSB 8p PARK Informal Net @ 147.180+ MHz, (107.2) 8p Simplex Net @ 146.54 MHz CWops Test (CWT)	12p Fourth Thursday Lunch 11a GARC (Garland) Crony Lunch @ Judy's Cafe 8p GARC (Garland) InfoNet 8p Denton County ARES Training Net CWops Test (CWT)	8:30,9a North Texas Hospital Radio Club weekly check in NCCC FT4 Sprint QRP Fox Hunt Weekly RTTY Test NCCC Sprint K1USN Slow Speed Test	7p DARC (Dallas) Tech Net 26 9p Saturday Night D-STAR Net@REF029A
6:50p NTx Readiness QST Net @ 30 7.27750 MHz LSB 8p PARK Informal Net @ 147.180+ MHz, (107.2) 8p Simplex Net @ 146.54 MHz Phone Weekly Test A1Club AWT CWops Test (CWT) Mini-Test 40 Mini-Test 80	11a GARC (Garland) Crony Lunch @ 31 Judy's Cafe 8p GARC (Garland) InfoNet 8p Denton County ARES Training Net CWops Test (CWT)	8:30,9a North Texas Hospital Radio 1 Club weekly check in	12p Garland "Hands-On" Gathering 7p DARC (Dallas) Tech Net 9p Saturday Night D-STAR Net@REF029A

MAKE A DEATH RAY

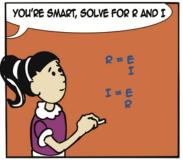
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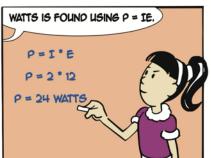


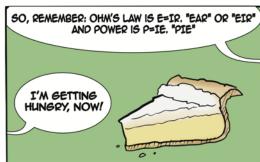












The world's largest log-periodic antenna is located at the Santa Maria di Galeria transmitter site, 11 miles north of Vatican City, and is operated by Vatican Radio. This massive antenna is 150 feet long, 90 feet tall, and has 18 elements, operating from 3.85 MHz to 16 MHz.

[via: RossRadio, @cqcqcqdx]



FOR EVERYONE

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MIKE CALL









SHOVEL & LIME











ARRL Field Day, Saturday and Sunday, June 28-29

For Immediate Release: Plano Amateur Radio Klub Operators Will Focus on Skill, Service and Science During Nationwide On the Air Event



PLANO, TEXAS - Members of the Plano Amateur Radio Klub, or PARK, will be participating in the national amateur radio ARRL Field Day exercise, June 28-29, at Plano's Hoblitzelle Park. Since 1933, ham radio operators across North America have established temporary ham radio stations in public locations during Field Day to exhibit the science and skill of amateur radio. This event is open to the public and all are encouraged to attend.

Field Day will begin Saturday, June 28 at 1:00 PM and continue until shutdown at 1:00 PM on Sunday, June 29. The event will take place at the City of Plano's Hoblitzelle Park pavilion, located at 7500 Red River Drive, behind Hendrick Middle School.

ARRL Field Day is a showcase for how amateur radio works reliably under any conditions from almost any location to create an independent communications network.

"Ham radio functions completely independent of the Internet or cell phone infrastructure, can interface with laptops or smartphones, and can be set up almost anywhere in minutes. That's the beauty of amateur radio during a communications outage," said Sierra Harrop, W5DX, Public Relations and Outreach Manager for ARRL [the American Radio Relay League - The National Association for Amateur Radio®, www.arrl.org], which represents amateur or "ham" radio operators across the country. "In today's connected world, ham radio remains one of the best ways for people to learn about electronics, physics, meteorology and numerous other scientific disciplines, and is a huge asset to any community during disasters or emergencies if the standard communication infrastructure goes down. Ham radio is also a great sandbox for tomorrow's technology leaders to get hands-on with STEM concepts," Harrop added.

Beside demonstrations of emergency communications, other events planned during Field Day are: visits by Plano area dignitaries, a visit by Plano Fire-Rescue, an educational workshop and opportunities for unlicensed operators to make contacts with other Field Day sites and/or possibly out of the country at PARK's Get On The Air [GOTA] station.

PARK recently celebrated its 50th year as a club. Throughout the year, members participate in multiple service events in the area such as the Plano Balloon Festival, the Blackland Triathalon and Meals on Wheels. It is also maintains the primary radio system used by the Collin County SKYWARN storm spotter program. Any time severe weather is active in the county, operators are on the air reporting severe conditions to the local National Weather Service office in Fort Worth.

Anyone may become a licensed amateur radio operator. There are more than 750,000 licensed hams in the United States, as young as 9 and as old as 100. And with clubs such as PARK, it's easy for anybody to get involved right here in Plano. For more information about Field Day or amateur radio, visit www.arrl.org/what-is-ham-radio and about the Plano Amateur Radio Klub, visit www.k5prk.net.

Join us on Field Day!

Rob Forson, K5WFR Plano Amateur Radio Klub Public Relations Officer publicrelations@k5prk.net







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CHET ON THE A













JAMBOREE WEATHER