



The Peanut Whistle

The Monthly Newsletter of the Amateur Radio Club of Parker County

ARCPC NEWSLETTER VOLUME 26 NO. 5

MAY 2016 ISSUE

ARCPC OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
JACK NIXON KG5BBV

VICE PRESIDENT
JAY COX KG5BZW

SECRETARY-TREASURER
WILLIAM NEWMAN WL9N

DIRECTORS
JOEL PAGE KW5JP
WILL TEAGUE W5KD

CLUB SERVICES

W5PC TRUSTEE-QSL MGR
WILL TEAGUE W5KD

WEBMASTER
WILLIAM NEWMAN WL9N

PUBLIC INFORMATION
PHIL DALTON W5PRD

EDUCATION CHAIRMAN
WILLIAM NEWMAN WL9N

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
CLUB HISTORIAN
WILL TEAGUE W5KD

PROGRAM-ACTIVITIES
VACANT

FIELD DAY 2016
KEN STOUT K5KMS

CHAPLIN
CLAY RILEY KC0BWR

HOSPITALITY
JUDY WOLF KB5JEY

REGISTERED AGENT
JERRY THOMPSON W7JT

RACES-ARES
ALLEN BEADLE KB5AB
TONY GUESS N5NRU
BILL NEWMAN WL9N

VE TESTING
DOUG MAY WB5VQQ

ARRL
WEST GULF-NTX STAFF
DAVID WOOLWEAVER K5RAV
JOHN STRATTON N5AUS
NANCY MCCAIN K5NLM

ARCPC ELECTION FOR 2016-2017 OFFICERS Is MAY 10, 2016



The above photo is the ARCPC club officers that were elected and served for the 2015-2016 year. The upcoming meeting on May 10, 2016 club officers for the 2016-2017 year will be elected. In the above photo back row left to right: Joel Page KW5JP Director (past President), William Newman WL9N Secretary/Treasurer, Will Teague W5KD Director. Front row left to right: Jay Cox KG5BZW, Jack Nixon Jr. KG5BBV.

Please come to the May 10, 2016 meeting (our next meeting) and cast your vote for the next group of ARCPC officers. By voting you will be showing your support for ARCPC. Remember you will need to be present and a member in good standing. If you would like to serve as a club officer for the upcoming year please let it be known to the current club officers. Nominations will be taken from the floor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Ham Fests/Conventions

06/10/2016 | West Gulf Division Convention
(Ham-Com 2016)

Location: Irving, TX

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: North Texas Area Clubs

Website: <http://www.hamcom.org>

07/16/2016 | Tidelands ARS Hamfest

Location: Texas City, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Tidelands Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://tidelands.org>

07/22/2016 | Oklahoma Section Convention
(Ham Holiday 2016)

Location: Oklahoma City, OK

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs

Website: <http://www.hamholiday.com>

08/05/2016 | Texas State Convention (Austin
Summerfest 2016)

Location: Austin, TX

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Austin ARC & Texas VHF-FM Society

Website: <http://www.austinsummerfest.org>

09/10/2016 | Lubbock ARC's 3rd Annual Ham-
fest

Location: Lubbock, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Lubbock Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://K5LIB.org>

01/14/2017 | San Antonio Radio Fiesta

Location: Schertz, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: San Antonio Radio Club

Website: <http://w5sc.org>

ARCPC HOSPITALITY

May, 2016 Meeting



Refreshments

Judy Wolf
KB5JEY



Jake Sez!

“If you think something is impossible, don't interrupt those who are getting it done”

Attention: To all ARCPC members, the upcoming meeting May 10, 2016 is the annual election for new club officers. Please plan to attend and vote for the candidate that you feel would do a good job in that office. Remember when you vote you are showing your support for ARCPC.

ARCPC VE TESTING

VE testing for all license classes and upgrades will be conducted on the third Monday of each month, except November and December.

Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Douglas E. May WB5VQQ

(817) 613-7289

Email: dougmay@uwmil.com

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: What-a-Burger off of I20

Weatherford TX 76086

Support ARRL as You Shop for Mom

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 8. If you're looking for the perfect gift, we invite you to shop at AmazonSmile and choose American Radio Relay League Inc. (ARRL) as your charity of choice.

With every purchase you make at AmazonSmile, Amazon will make a contribution to ARRL. This helps the League to extend its reach in public service, advocacy, education, technology, and membership. Get Mom something special this year, while supporting Amateur Radio and ARRL.

April 2016 ARCPA MEETING MINUTES



The Meeting was called to order at 7:03pm by President Jack C. Nixon Jr., KG5BBV. The Invocation was given by David Nelson, KG5ASU, and afterwards Vice-President Jay Cox, KG5BZW lead in the Pledge of Allegiance which was said by all in attendance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: A total of 17 members were present for the meeting; however no Guest (s) were in attendance. Mack Avery, WA5ZKL reported he recently upgraded his amateur license to 'Amateur Extra' level; there were no other reported upgrades or new calls.

OLD BUSINESS: A motion was made by Jack Nixon, KG5BBV to approve the Minutes for the March 08th, 2016 Regular Monthly Meeting as printed in the April 2016 edition of the 'Peanut Whistle', and a second by Tim Jewett, W5TIE. President Nixon requested status on the planning for this year's ARRL Field Day being held June 25-26, 2016. Ken Stout, K5KMS – who had been appointed Chair for the event at the February 2016 meeting – was not present to give a report. Jerry Thompson, W7JT reported that he had recently inspected and tested the Club's power generator and that it would be operable for the event. He also solicited the names of any individuals interested in purchasing a 2016 Field Day pin or T-shirt as part of a group order. President Nixon stated he would make sure the Church Of Jesus Christ Of Latter Day Saints, 2251 Bethel Road – had been contacted to reserve the partial use of the parking lot for that weekend, as well as making arrangements with Rock Star Rental for portajohn. Director Will Teague, W5KD stated he was still in the process of putting together a system to better document our combined radio contacts from the event for reporting.

SECRETARY-TREASURER REPORT:

Secretary-Treasurer William Newman, WL9N reported on the current membership status stating it has remained unchanged since the last Regular Meeting – and as of April 12th, 2016 - the Club had 35 paid members, 1 paid associate member, and 17 life members for a total of 53 active members. William Newman stated that he was aware that the Club's Annual ARRL Club Liability Insurance Plan was due for renewal by the end of month in the amount of \$200.00, but to date had not received an invoice. There were no other outstanding bills received that require payment. He also passed out to those in attendance 2016-2017 Club Membership Renewal Forms – indicating he would begin accepting dues renewals at the meeting – payments for which are due by June 30th, 2016.

NEW BUSINESS:

Secretary-Treasurer Newman addressed the membership over his perception of the need to update the Club's By-Laws to incorporate changes in procedural matters and the way business items are routinely completed today – which may be in conflict with the original wording. Director Teague stated that several changes to the By-Laws had been voted on over the years at Club Meetings and would likely be in historical minutes; however it would appear that any amended written By-Law document is not available. Newman related that he will review the existing copy of the Club By-Laws – and will attempt to complete recommended revisions to the document for review and voting by the membership at the May Regular Meeting.

EQUIPMENT REVIEW & TRAINING: Director Teague conducted a technical skills training on techniques one could use to properly install PL-259 connectors to various sizes of coaxial cables. He displayed two video presentations from 'You Tube' titled "PL-259 Connector Installation - Part 1 and Part 2" – which were authored by Murray Cutler, W9EHQ in Woodstock, Illinois. Afterwards Club members briefly shared some of their experiences with soldering coax connectors.

Attendees then purchased tickets for the 50/50 raffle, and President Nixon Jr. won the 50/50 raffle in the amount of \$8.00.

At 8:10pm a motion was made to adjourn by Tim Jewett and seconded by David Nelson.



Respectfully submitted,
By William Newman WL9N
Secretary/Treasurer

ARRL



Frustrated Funding, Breached Secrecy Foiled North Korea DXpedition, Group Leader Says

A co-leader of the recent VP8STI/VP8SGI Intrepid-DX Group DXpedition, this week said "a surprising lack of support and lack of funding from some of the world's paramount DX foundations" thwarted his group's plans to mount a DXpedition to North Korea. In "The P5DX Story" posted on April 25, Paul Ewing, N6PSE, said that years of negotiations had finally yielded a written invitation from the Democratic Peoples Republic of North Korea (DPRK) -- the most-needed DXCC entity -- to operate there.

"We had hoped to be the first large DXpedition with clear and unambiguous proof that we were active within the country and with real evidence of permission," Ewing said in announcing the DXpedition's cancellation. The Intrepid-DX Group announced its "P5 Project" in 2013. With the recent intervention of an unnamed "emissary," Ewing said, North Korea "agreed to a 10-day Amateur Radio activity with three radios and up to 20 team members." Officials insisted on no advance publicity, and all involved were sworn to secrecy.

"Our last major hurdle was that the DPRK was asking for a very large fee to be paid for the permissions at various government levels and ministries to operate from within the DPRK," Ewing recounted. The size of the requested fee, Ewing said, prompted him to approach several large Amateur Radio foundations for financial help. "All of our fees would be paid directly to a China-based tour company, and no direct exchange would take place with the North Koreans," Ewing pointed out. But the group was rebuffed.

Paul Ewing, N6PSE. [QRZ.com Profile Photo]

Ewing said he and co-leader David Collingham, K3LP, decided they had no other choice but to "drain our own personal retirement savings to provide the bulk of our funding." Money for various fees as well as equipment and air fare ran into the thousands of dollars.

Then, word of the DXpedition plans leaked out, igniting an Amateur Radio media firestorm. A week before the team's planned departure, Ewing learned that the DPRK had denied him and Collingham permission to enter North Korea, leading to his decision to cancel the entire enterprise. "I could not devote a sizable chunk of my life savings for a project that I could no longer participate in," he explained. "The financial losses suffered by Intrepid-DX and all of our team members are substantial."

"This could have been a DXpedition for the record books," Ewing concluded. "But now we will never know." In subsequent comments, Ewing said, "The DPRK stated that the visas were not approved because the two Americans had talked to the media in violation of the directive that there be no pre-event publicity. Of course, this was not true, but the damage was done."

A New QST QuickStats Poll Has Been Posted

This month's QuickStats poll has been posted! Check the QuickStats page at www.arrl.org/quickstats and answer these questions . . .

- Have you ever used a drone to inspect your antennas or assist with an antenna installation?
- Have you ever tried using an HF antenna at an ocean beach to see if the salt water improved its performance?
- Have you ever made a microwave contact using rain scatter propagation?
- Do you own a dummy antenna load?

Editor's Note: Above Articles were taken from the ARRL Website.

THE KB6NU BLOG

I'm EXTRA Ignorant

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

On Sunday, I received the following e-mail from a reader:

"Just wanted to let you know I passed the General exam using your study guide. It was very helpful. I am now generally ignorant whereas before I was only technically ignorant. Ha!"

My reply to him was:

"Well, if you're generally ignorant, I guess that makes me EXTRA ignorant!"

This isn't just a joke--being ignorant is part of the hobby. Amateur radio operators will always be ignorant about something or other. Even if you could master every facet of the hobby at some point in time, your mastery would be short-lived as the technology continued to advance.

Over the course of my amateur radio career, we've gone from equipment that primarily used vacuum tubes, to solid-state gear that first used discrete transistors and then integrated circuits, to software-defined radios. I could have, at some point, simply given up on the new technology and still enjoyed amateur radio. Some guys do that, and that's OK. It is only a hobby after all.

I'm not one of those guys, though, and if you're not one of those guys, then you have to resign yourself to being ignorant. But, that's a good thing, as long as you realize that you're ignorant. Realizing that you're ignorant will spur you on to learn new things and accept new challenges.

Recently, I realized that I'm mostly ignorant about satellite operation. I know some of the basics from having read articles and writing about the topic in my study guides, but I have never made a contact using a satellite. I think that might be one of my next challenges. With the advent of CubeSat, there are many new satellites up in the air and many more opportunities to have interesting contacts.

So, what are you ignorant about? By that I mean, of course, what's going to be your next challenge in amateur radio?

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When he's not challenging himself with new things, Dan falls back on something he knows pretty well--operating CW. You'll find him mainly on the 80m, 40m, and 30m bands. Dan is the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides, and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com, and you can contact him by e-mailing cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

Editor's Note: Above Article was taken from the KB6NU Blog.

NEWS BRIEFS

Deadline is June 1 for US Radio Amateurs to Submit IARU Region 2 HF Band Plan Suggestions

The deadline is June 1 for US radio amateurs to submit suggestions to the ARRL Board of Directors' HF Band Planning Committee regarding possible changes to the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 2 Band Plan. That band plan and other significant Amateur Radio spectrum issues will be on the agenda for the IARU Region 2 General Assembly in Chile this fall. The ARRL joins other IARU member societies in the Americas in seeking input from the amateur community on the Region 2 HF Band Plan. The HF Band Planning Committee will review the current plan, consider comments from US radio amateurs, and recommend any changes to the ARRL Board for submission to IARU Region 2.

"The ARRL HF Band Planning Committee wants to stress that the IARU Region 2 Band Plan is a voluntary guideline and does not supersede FCC regulations related to spectrum usage," Committee Chairman and ARRL Second Vice President Brian Milesosky, N5ZGT, noted. He also pointed out two other issues for radio amateurs to consider.

Most Region 2 countries outside the US do not have the sort of detailed sub-band regulations contained in the FCC's Part 97. For radio amateurs in these countries, the Region 2 Band Plan may serve as the only source of guidance on spectrum usage.

The designation of a calling frequency or band segment for a particular purpose or mode in any IARU band plan does not convey any special rights or exclusivity of use. On the other hand the absence of a calling frequency or band segment associated with a particular purpose or mode should not suggest that these have been overlooked or are viewed negatively.

The Committee urges US radio amateurs who are considering suggesting revisions to the IARU Region 2 Band Plan first to study the existing IARU Region 2 Band Plan. They then should formulate a clear statement of any proposed changes, including a brief explanation of why each particular change would benefit all IARU Region 2 spectrum users. Participants should include name and call sign. Submit input via e-mail by June 1, 2016. Messages will be automatically acknowledged. Radio amateurs licensed in Region 2 countries other than the US should contact their own IARU member society for information on how to participate in the band-planning process.

The 19th IARU Region 2 General Assembly will take place in mid-October in Viña del Mar, Chile. Held every 3 years, the Region 2 Conference is attended by delegations from IARU member societies in throughout the Americas.

FCC Comments on Petition to Eliminate 15 dB Gain Limit on Amateur Amplifiers

The FCC has put on public notice and invited comments on a Petition for Rule Making (RM-11767), filed on behalf of an amateur amplifier distributor, which seeks to revise the Amateur Service rules regarding maximum permissible amplifier gain. Expert Linears America LLC of Magnolia, Texas, which distributes linears manufactured by SPE in Italy, wants the FCC to eliminate the 15 dB gain limitation on amateur amplifiers, spelled out in §97.317(a)(2). Expert asserts that there should be no gain limitation at all on amplifiers sold or used in the Amateur Service. "There is no technical or regulatory reason [that] an amplifier capable of being driven to full legal output by even a fraction of a watt should not be available to Amateur Radio operators in the United States," Expert said in its Petition.

Expert maintains that the 15 dB gain limitation is an unneeded holdover from the days when amplifiers were less efficient and the FCC was attempting to rein in the use of Amateur Service amplifiers by Citizens Band operators. While the FCC proposed in its 2004 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order in WT Docket 04-140 to delete the requirement that amplifiers be designed to use a minimum of 50 W of drive power and subsequently did so, it did not further discuss the 15 dB amplification limit in the subsequent Report and Order in the docket.

"Although no party advocated retention of the 15 dB limit, it remains in place today," Expert pointed out in its filing. "In the intervening years, advancements in Amateur Radio transmitter technology have led to the availability of highly compact, sophisticated low-power transmitters that require more than 15 dB of amplification to achieve maximum legal power output. Therefore, Expert seeks to remove the 15 dB limit from §97.317 so that Amateur Radio manufacturers and distributors will not be forced to needlessly cripple their amplifiers for sale in the United States." Expert pointed to its Model 1.3K FA amplifier as an example of a linear "inherently capable of considerably more than 15 dB of amplification," which would make it a suitable match for low-power transceivers now on the market having output power on the order of 10 W.

Membership Application/Renewal form 2015-2016



W5PC

www.w5pc.org



**AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF PARKER COUNTY, INC.
P.O. BOX 1795
WEATHERFORD, TX 76086**

ARCPC INFORMATION NET

Mondays at 8:00 pm on 147.040 (Tone 110.9)

WC5C Net

Thursdays at 8:00 pm on 147.1600+ (Tone 110.9)

MEETINGS

The Amateur Radio Club of Parker County holds general membership meetings Throughout the year on a monthly basis the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:00pm at Harberger Hill Community Center, 701 Narrow Street, Weatherford, Texas 76086.

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF PARKER COUNTY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____
LICENSE CLASS: (E)(A)(G)(T)(N) ARRL MEMBER: (YES) (NO) STATUS: (NEW) (RENEWAL)
(CIRCLE APPLICABLE ANSWERS ON ABOVE LINE)

ADDRESS: _____ EMAIL ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP (plus 4): _____
PHONE: HOME: _____ WORK: _____

INITIATION FEE: One time initiation fee per family - \$5.00 (+ 1 same household or full time college

ANNUAL DUES: \$10.00. HAM FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$15.00 student)(Add an additional \$5.00 if you wish to receive a hard copy of the newsletter).

HAM FAMILY MEMBER NAME: _____

CALL SIGN: _____

Cut out and mail this application to the ARCPC Secretary/Treasurer along with you check or money order for the amount due. Or, bring it to the next regular club meeting.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE IN JUNE