



The Peanut Whistle

The Monthly Newsletter of the Amateur Radio Club of Parker County

ARCPC NEWSLETTER VOLUME 26 NO.9

SEPTEMBER 2016 ISSUE

ARCPC OFFICERS

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WILLIAM NEWMAN WL9N

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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 NSNRU
BILL NEWMAN WL9N

VE TESTING
DOUG MAY WB5VQQ

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

"September is National Emergency Preparedness Month"



**BE SMART. TAKE PART.
CREATE YOUR FAMILY
EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATION PLAN**

Join with others to prepare for emergencies and participate in
America's PrepareAthon! | ready.gov/prepare

Creating your *Family Emergency Communication Plan* starts with one simple question: "What if?"

"What if something happens and I'm not with my family?" "Will I be able to reach them?" "How will I know they are safe?" "How can I let them know I'm OK?" During a disaster, you will need to send and receive information from your family.

Communication networks, such as mobile phones and computers, could be unreliable during disasters, and electricity could be disrupted. Planning in advance will help ensure that all the members of your household—including children and people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs, as well as outside caregivers—know how to reach each other and where to meet up in an emergency. Planning starts with three easy steps:

1. COLLECT.

Create a paper copy of the contact information for your family and other important people/offices, such as medical facilities, doctors, schools, or service providers.

2. SHARE.

Make sure everyone carries a copy in his or her backpack, purse, or wallet. If you complete your *Family Emergency Communication Plan* online at ready.gov/make-a-plan, you can print it onto a wallet-sized card. You should also post a copy in a central location in your home, such as your refrigerator or family bulletin board.

3. PRACTICE.

Have regular household meetings to review and practice your plan.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Ham Fests/Conventions

10/01/2016 | HamEXPO

Location: Belton, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Temple Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://tarc.org/hamexpo/>

10/21/2016 | Texoma Hamarama

Location: Ardmore, OK

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Texoma Hamarama, Inc.

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

11/05/2016 | Enid ARC Hamfest

Location: Enid, OK

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Enid Amateur Radio Club

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

01/14/2017 | San Antonio Radio Fiesta

Location: Schertz, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: San Antonio Radio Club

Website: <http://w5sc.org>

03/03/2017 | 27th Elk City Hamfest

Location: Elk City, OK

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: West Central Oklahoma Amateur Radio Club

10/27/2017 | Oklahoma Section Convention (Texoma Hamarama)

Location: Ardmore, OK

Type: ARRL Convention pending Executive Committee approval

Sponsor: Texoma Hamarama, Inc.

Website: <http://texomahamarama.org>



Jake Sez!

“You may not be able to turn back the clock, but you can always wind it again”

ARCPC HOSPITALITY

September, 2016 Meeting



Refreshments

Judy Wolf
KB5JEY



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@uwmail.com

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: What-a-Burger off of I20
Weatherford TX 76086

AUGUST 2016 ARCPC MEETING MINUTES



The Meeting was called to order at 7:04pm by President Thad Weikal, KG5ATD.

The Invocation was given by Doug May, WB5VQQ, and afterwards Vice-President Tony Jones, KG5ELV lead in the Pledge of Allegiance and Pledge of Allegiance to State Flag which was said by all in attendance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Weikal initiated personal introductions around the meeting tables.

A total of 15 members were present for the meeting. There were also 6 guests present at the meeting; Paul Finch, WB5IDM and his wife C.J. Finch, KD5NXG who are prior inactive members of the Club, Dave Lunden, KG5OPT – a new Technician licensee from Aledo, Michael Anderson – who is unlicensed but interesting in getting an amateur license, John Miller, KF5IJY – an Amateur Extra from Paluxy, TX, and Bettye Gilley – a friend of member Jerry Thompson, W7JT visiting the Club.

Tom Keifer, KG5OPU reported he took his Technician exam at the VE Session on July 18th and passed – he was subsequently issued his new license and callsign. There were no reported upgrades or new calls.

Club Director Will Teague, W5KD reported that he recently received his 40-Year Membership Pin from the ARRL, and passed it around for Club members to see.

OLD BUSINESS: Meeting Minutes

Will Teague, W5KD apologized for the recent delay in distributing the August 2016 edition of the 'Peanut Whistle' newsletter as he continues to be plagued with computer-related issues.

A motion was made by Alene May, KD5NNQ, and a second by Tony Jones, KG5ELV to approve the Minutes for the June 14th, 2016 Regular Monthly Meetings as printed in the July 2016 edition of the 'Peanut Whistle' - and the Minutes for the July 12th, 2016 Regular Monthly Meetings as printed in the August 2016 edition of the 'Peanut Whistle'.

W5PC Yahoo group emails

President Weikal opened discussion to review progress made on the issue of the W5PC Yahoo Group. Director Will Teague stated that he had attempted to start a new Yahoo group named 'W5PC – ARCPC' as requested by the Club membership – but that the Yahoo system rejected this name as already being in use – or being too close in resemblance to the current group name. Following brief discussion, Teague was directed to try the new Yahoo group names 'ARCPC W5PC' or 'ARCPC', and report back on the status at the next regular monthly meeting. Director Teague did report he was successful in establishing a new Club e-mail account with the address of 'W5PC-ARCPC@gmail.com' for messages to be directed to current Club officers

147.040 Repeater Intermod Issues

President Weikal introduced guest speaker Paul Finch, WB5IDM – who is the owner of Azle Communications. Mr. Finch gave a brief history of his involvement in communications. He stated he was unaware of the cause(s) of the reported intermod issues on the 147.040 repeater but that there had been recent hardware changes that might be responsible, and he would follow-up on the complaint. Mr. Finch reviewed the background of radio repeaters in Parker County owned by Jack Perkins, W5URH – who has been suffering from debilitating chronic illness, and discussed the legal consequences that would occur if he should die without the repeaters being managed by a trust authorized by the family. This situation brought about the recent creation of the 'Parker County Repeater Association' - of which Mr. Finch is the current Coordinator. He stated that repeater operations should continue without change, and that the Association currently needs no supplemental funding - but may need some volunteer "man hours" from time to time to help out with maintenance projects at the repeater location(s).

AUGUST 2016 ARCPC MEETING MINUTES

Social Media Committee

President Weikal opened discussion to review progress made on the issue of the how the Club might improve its exposure on social media to increase awareness and its membership. Following brief discussion, Jay Cox, KG5BZW volunteered to assist on the Committee, and will look into initiating new 'Facebook' and 'Linked In' accounts. The progress on this project will be reported on at the next regular monthly meeting.

ARCPC 2016 Fall Hamfest Committee

President Weikal opened up the issue on the Club making plans for a HamFest in 2016 or 2017. Following brief discussion it was agreed by the membership not to hold a HamFest activity during Calendar Year 2016, but wait until Calendar Year 2017 when innovative planning might lay the basis for a successful event. It was also agreed upon that the Club should look into expanding the scope of the HamFest beyond just amateur radio-related activities - which in the past has undoubtedly limited the sector interest in attending the event. The HamFest Committee was directed to continue to investigate other local locations that might host the HamFest with reduced or no cost to reduce operational expenditures, and also possibly eliminate the need to rent tables and chairs. The progress on this project will be reported on at the next regular monthly meeting.

2016 Field Day

President Weikal inquired if the Club's final contact results had been forwarded to the ARRL. Committee Chair Ken Stout, K5KMS was not present and a determination could not be made. The status of this will be reported on at the next regular monthly meeting.

Club-Owned Property Inventory

President Weikal opened discussion to review progress made on the issue of conducting an updated inventory of Club-owned equipment including serial numbers in the event of theft or other loss. Jerry Thompson, W7JT stated that in actuality there is a very limited amount of Club-owned equipment to include; such as the trailer, generator, and some antenna components. It was suggested that a formal list be compiled of the equipment and digital photographs be taken to document them. The progress of this will be reported on at the next regular monthly meeting.

SECRETARY-TREASURER REPORT:

Secretary-Treasurer William Newman, WL9N reported on the current membership status – that as of August 8th the current membership of the Club now stands at 34 paid members, 1 associate member, and 17 life members for a total of 52 active members.

There were two outstanding bills received in the amount of \$30.00 to Award Center & Plastic Sign Inc. for a commemorative plaque; and \$5.00 to the Texas Secretary of Stater for periodic non-profit organization filing fees.

A motion was made by Tony Jones, KG5ELV and seconded by David Nelson, KG5ASU to accept the Secretary-Treasurer Report.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Weikal inquired of the membership if anyone would volunteer to assist with the Club's Net Control duties on Monday nights at 8:00pm during the next five-week period. Jay Cox, KG5BZW volunteered to assume duties for the August 15th date.

VOLUNTEER EXAMINER (VE) TESTING

VE Coordinator Doug May, WB5VQQ reminded the membership the next VE Session would be held on August 15th, 2016 at 7pm at the What-a-Burger Restaurant.

TRAINING:

No training session this month due to the scheduling of the Annual Ice Cream Social.

Joel Page, KW5JP volunteered to give an equipment-related training segment at the next regular monthly meeting on September 13th. Attendees purchased tickets for the 50/50 raffle, and Jay Cox, KG5BZW won the 50/50 raffle in the amount of \$5.00. At 7:52pm a motion was made to adjourn by Will Teague, W5KD, and seconded by Jerry Thompson, W7JT, where upon the Club membership proceeded to participate in the 'Annual Ice Cream Social Event'.



Respectfully submitted, By William
Newman, WL9N Secretary/Treasurer

Vanity Call Signs

About the Program

The FCC offers amateur licensees the opportunity to request a specific call sign for a primary station and for a club station. A call sign is selected by the FCC from a list of call signs requested by the licensee or license trustee. Military recreation stations are not eligible for a vanity call sign.

What is a Vanity Call Sign?

A Vanity call sign is a special Amateur Radio call sign specifically chosen by a person or club who is currently an Amateur Radio licensee (similar in purpose to Vanity license plates on cars). Vanity call signs usually include alphabetical characters of personal significance (e.g., licensee initials, parts of names, hobbies, etc), or sometimes are simply chosen because they are shorter calls, or sometimes they have double or triple duplicate characters (e.g., W1WWW).

A Vanity call sign is a call sign that the licensee wants assigned by the FCC for use in place of an existing call sign (or for an Amateur Radio club, it is a call sign assigned to replace the existing FCC-assigned club license call sign).

Newly licensed individuals and newly licensed clubs cannot get a Vanity call sign as their first call sign. A Vanity call sign can only be obtained in exchange (traded in) for an existing call.

There is a two year waiting period after the cancellation of a call sign before it is available to be applied for as a vanity call sign. However, there are exceptions to this two year waiting period. Please see "FCC Rules" section below.

The FCC Regulatory Fee was eliminated for Amateur Radio Vanity call signs in September 2015. There are no regulatory fees associated with FCC issued vanity call signs. However, organizations may charge a processing fee for filing an application to FCC on your behalf.

For persons who have no interest in a special call sign, the FCC will issue, at no charge, a systematically assigned call sign (next one up in their computer system, with the type {group} of call sign and call area number determined by the FCC computer based on the applicant's license class and license address).

Choosing a Vanity Call Sign

Whether you are applying as an individual or a club trustee, there will be some limits on the types of vacant Vanity call signs that may be available to you, depending on your license class or mailing address.

First, the FCC does not limit the Vanity call sign choice numeral (0-9). For example, you can be a W1-land addressee, and have a W6 (California) type call if you so desire.

Also, aside from a very few FCC-limited choices, Extra class licensees can choose virtually any vacant but valid US call sign -- FCC call sign Groups A, B, C or D. Although Advanced class licensees cannot seek the special 1x2, 2x1 or 2x2 (beginning with letter "A") Extra class type call signs, they can seek a 2x2 or 1x3 call sign (beginning with prefix N, K or W), or a 2x3 call sign (beginning with prefix letter K or W) -- FCC call sign Groups B, C or D. General or Technician class licensees can seek a 1x3 call sign (beginning with prefix N, K or W), or 2x3 call sign (beginning with prefix letter K or W) -- FCC call sign Groups C or D. Novice licensees also have access to the Vanity program. Novices can seek a 2x3 call sign (beginning with prefix letter K or W) of their choice -- FCC call sign Group D.

Vanity Call Signs

Unless you have a mailing address specific to Alaskan, Pacific or Caribbean areas, you would not be able to obtain certain call signs where the second prefix letter is an L, H or P in conjunction with certain call area numbers (e.g., KL7??? is limited to Alaskan addressees only, KH6??? to Pacific Island addressees only, KP4??? to Caribbean addressees only, etc).

Club call signs are limited per above and also are limited based on the class of license held by the trustee at the time of application. Should the club trustee change and the trustee's license class is of a different qualifying class, the club's call sign will not change.

Even when a call sign does not appear on the FCC database, it may not be available for assignment.

According to the FCC's Vanity web page on Call Sign Availability, a call sign is normally assignable two years following license expiration, surrender, revocation, set aside, cancellation, void ab initio, or death of the grantee. However, there are exceptions to this two year waiting period. Please see "FCC Rules" section below.

Where a vanity call sign for which the most recent recipient was ineligible is surrendered, cancelled, revoked or voided, the two-year requirement does not apply.

Refer to the Sequential Call Sign System for how call signs are sequentially assigned and the grouping and geographic region attributes of each call sign.

The following call signs are not available for assignment:

1. KA2AA-KA9ZZ, KC4AAA-KC4AAF, KC4USA-KC4USZ, KG4AA-KG4ZZ, KC6AA-KC6ZZ, KL9KAA- KL9KHZ, KX6AA-KX6ZZ;
2. Any call sign having the letters SOS or QRA-QUZ as the suffix;
3. Any call sign having the letters AM-AZ as the prefix (these prefixes are assigned to other countries by the ITU);
4. Any 2-by-3 format call sign having the letter X as the first letter of the suffix;
5. Any 2-by-3 format call sign having the letters AF, KF, NF, or WF as the prefix and the letters EMA as the suffix (U.S Government FEMA stations);
6. Any 2-by-3 format call sign having the letters AA-AL as the prefix;
7. Any 2-by-3 format call sign having the letters NA-NZ as the prefix;
8. Any 2-by-3 format call sign having the letters WC, WK, WM, WR, or WT as the prefix (Group X call signs);
9. Any 2-by-3 format call sign having the letters KP, NP or WP as the prefix and the numeral 0, 6, 7, 8 or 9;
10. Any 2-by-2 format call sign having the letters KP, NP or WP as the prefix and the numeral 0, 6, 7, 8 or 9;
11. Any 2-by-1 format call sign having the letters KP, NP or WP as the prefix and the numeral 0, 6, 7, 8 or 9;
12. Call signs having the single letter prefix (K, N or W), a single digit numeral 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and a single letter suffix are reserved for the special event call sign system.

Information on this page was taken from the ARRL Website

Vanity Call Signs

Locating Available Call Signs

For Extra class licensees seeking the rare 1x2 or 2x1 Extra class type call signs, some on line databases exist that attempt to list the potentially vacant calls. These web sites are of great service to Extra class hams.

For Advanced, General, Technician or Novice class amateurs, the number of possible choices (in the tens of thousands) is so great that it has been impractical for a data base to attempt to provide all of the possibly vacant call signs available to these amateurs.

Several databases can be found on the World Wide Web to assist you.

RadioQTH

AE7Q

FCC

Even when a call sign does not appear on the FCC database, it may not be available for assignment.

For individuals looking to develop their list of possible choices, we recommend the following approach:

1. Write down the types of suffixes, the call area number(s) and the prefix types you may desire;
2. Assemble some call signs using your desired components and then check on line databases to determine if your choices have already been assigned;
3. For those choices that are not apparently assigned (FCC accepts up to 25 call sign choices), arrange them in your desired order from most desired (#1) to your last choice (#25).

FCC Rules

The complete list of FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio Services Rules and Regulations may be viewed here on the ARRL Web.

Exceptions to the Two Year Waiting Period

- Former Holders of the Call Sign: A former holder of the call sign is exempt from the general rule that a call sign shown on an expired, surrendered, revoked, set aside, canceled or voided license is unavailable to the vanity call sign system for two years.
- “Close Relatives” of the Licensee: The term “in-law” includes “only a parent, step-parent, sibling, or step-sibling of a licensee’s spouse; and the spouse of a licensee’s sibling, step-sibling, child, or stepchild; or the spouse of a licensee’s spouse’s sibling or step-sibling.” The other “close relatives” are the deceased former holder’s spouse, children, grandchildren, stepchildren, parents, grandparents, stepparents, brothers, sisters, stepbrothers, stepsisters, aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.
- “In Memoriam” Call Signs: One exception to the two year waiting period applies to licenses for club stations who request the call sign of a deceased licensee when the club station trustee has the written consent of a close relative of the deceased. The FCC codified that the decedent’s club membership need not be current at the time of his or her death, as long as the decedent was a bona fide member of the club at some time during his or her life.

Vanity Call Signs

Availability of Call Signs Assigned to Stations of Deceased Licensees

- The FCC has codified that a signed request for license cancellation accompanied by a copy of a death certificate, an obituary or data from the Social Security Death Index [SSDI] that shows the date of death is necessary to cancel the license of a deceased amateur.
- The FCC clarified the rules to provide that the two year waiting period starts on the licensee's date of death.
- A call sign that is canceled due to the death of a licensee more than two years earlier, or within 30 days before the second anniversary of the licensee's death, will remain unavailable to the vanity call sign system for 30 days following the date the staff takes action to cancel the license.

Ineligible Applicants

- When a vanity call sign for which the most recent recipient was ineligible is surrendered, cancelled, revoked or voided, the two year requirement does not apply; however, the call sign will not be made available to the vanity call sign system for 30 days after information regarding the acknowledgement or determination of ineligibility is posted to the license in the Commission's licensing system.

Information on this page was taken from the ARRL Website

Never forget this day



Membership Application/Renewal form 2016-2017



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