



# The Peanut Whistle

The Monthly Newsletter of the Amateur Radio Club of Parker County

ARCPC NEWSLETTER VOLUME 27 NO.6

JUNE 2017 ISSUE

## ARCPC OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT**  
THAD WEIKAL KG5ATD

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
TONY JONES KG5ELV

**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**  
VACANT

**EDUCATION CHAIRMAN**  
WILLIAM NEWMAN WL9N

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**  
**CLUB HISTORIAN**  
WILL TEAGUE W5KD

**PROGRAM-ACTIVITIES**  
VACANT

**FIELD DAY 2017**  
TBD

**HOSPITALITY**  
JUDY WOLF KB5JEY

**REGISTERED AGENT**  
JERRY THOMPSON W7JT

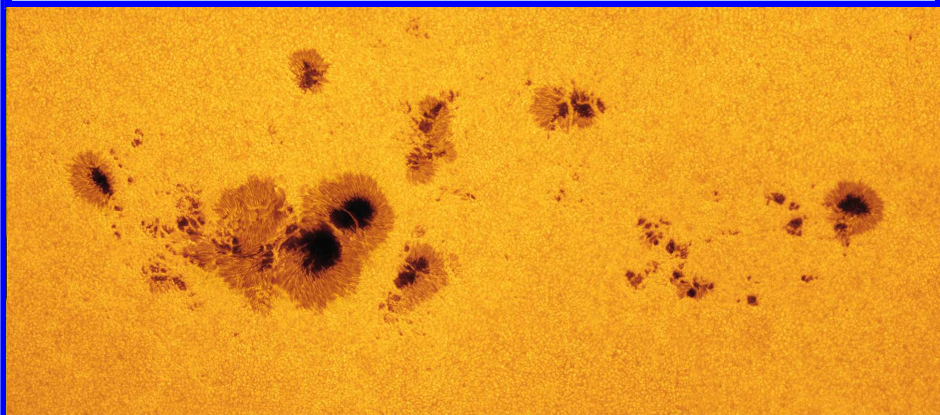
**RACES-ARES**  
ALLEN BEADLE KB5AB  
TONY GUESS N5NRU  
BILL NEWMAN WL9N

**VE TESTING**  
DOUG MAY WB5VQQ

**ARRL**  
**WEST GULF-NTX STAFF**  
DAVID WOOLWEAVER K5RAV  
JOHN STRATTON N5AUS  
JAY URISH W5GM

## SUN SPOTS

Every ham should learn about the effect they have on propagation



Sunspots are temporary phenomena on the photosphere of the Sun that appear as dark spots compared with surrounding regions. They are areas of reduced surface temperature caused by concentrations of magnetic field flux that inhibit convection. Sunspots usually appear in pairs of opposite magnetic polarity. Their number varies according to the approximately 11-year solar cycle.

Individual sunspots may endure anywhere from a few days to a few months, but eventually decay. Sunspots expand and contract as they move across the surface of the Sun with sizes ranging from 16 kilometers (10 mi) to 160,000 kilometers (100,000 mi) in diameter. The larger variety are visible from Earth without the aid of a telescope. They may travel at relative speeds, or proper motions of a few hundred meters per second when they first emerge.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Upcoming Ham Fests/Conventions

06/09/2017 | West Gulf Division Convention (Ham-Com)  
 Location: Irving, TX  
 Type: ARRL Convention  
 Sponsor: DFW Metroplex Clubs  
 Website: <http://www.Hamcom.org>

06/17/2017 | W5AW Tailgate  
 Location: Big Spring, TX  
 Type: ARRL Hamfest  
 Sponsor: Big Spring Amateur Radio Club  
 Website: <http://www.qsl.net/w5aw/>



### Presentation of Plaque

President Weikal presented a plaque in recognition for service as the Club President from 2015-2016 to the son of Jack G. Nixon, Jr., KG5BBV, who was unable to attend the meeting due to health issues.

### 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](mailto:dougmay@uwmil.com)  
 VEC: ARRL/VEC  
 Location: What-a-Burger off of I20

### ARCPC HOSPITALITY

June, 2017 Meeting



### Refreshments

Judy Wolf  
 KB5JEY



### Jake Sez!

*“Character is much easier kept than recovered ”*

### The Amateur’s Code

by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

The Radio Amateur is:

**CONSIDERATE**..... never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

**LOYAL**..... offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

**PROGRESSIVE**..... with knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station, and operation beyond reproach.

**FRIENDLY**..... with slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

**BALANCED**..... Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

**PATRIOTIC**..... with station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

## ARCPC MEETING MINUTES



Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting  
Amateur Radio Club of Parker County  
Tuesday, May 09, 2017

The Meeting was called to order at 7:12pm by President Thad Weikal, KG5ATD at the new location of the Parker County Emergency Management (EOC) Building, 215 Trinity Street, Weatherford.

The Invocation was given by David Nelson, KG5ASU. Vice-President Tony Jones, KG5ELV afterwards led 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 13 members were present for the meeting. One guest was also in attendance; John 'Wes' Evans, KG5SLU who works in Mineral Wells and holds a recent Technician class license.

An announcement was made regarding the Ark-La-Tex Amateur Radio Club Tail Gate Sale - which will be taking place at The Texas Museum of Broadcasting & Communications, 416 East Main Street, Kilgore, TX, Saturday, May 13, 2017, 7:00AM - 12:00 Noon.

### OLD BUSINESS:

#### Presentation of Plaque

President Weikal presented a plaque in recognition for service as the Club President from 2015-2016 to the son of Jack G. Nixon, Jr., KG5BBV, who was unable to attend the meeting due to health issues.

Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Vice-President Tony Jones and a second by Director Joel Page, KW5JP to approve the Minutes for the April 11, 2017 Regular Monthly Meeting as printed in the May 2017 edition of the 'Peanut Whistle'.

#### ARCPC 2017 Hamfest Committee

Vice-President Jones reported that there had been no further progress made on planning the HamFest event. Further progress will be reported on at the next regular monthly meeting.

#### Annual Membership Dues

Secretary-Treasurer William Newman, WL9N stated he was now accepting 2017-2018 membership dues payments, and passed around renewal forms to all in attendance. He added that annual dues needed to be received by June 30th.

#### 2017 ARRL Field Day

President Weikal briefly reviewed the Club's intention to participate in the 2017 ARRL Field Day event which occurs this year on June 24-25th. He also inquired if there was any member interested in being the chairman of the event this year. Jerry Thompson, W7JT stated that he would attempt to contact Ken Stout, K5KMS and inquire if he would coordinate this event again this year - to be tentatively held again at the Pavilion in the North parking lot of the Church Of Jesus Christ Of Latter Day Saints, 2251 Bethel Road, Weatherford. Further progress will be reported on at the next regular monthly meeting.

#### W5PC Yahoo group emails

President Weikal briefly reviewed the status on the Yahoo Group ARCPC@yahoogroups.com - adding that new members have to be signed up to become registered as it remains a 'private club'. He requested that Director Will Teague ensure that all paid members have been invited to join the group. He also reminded everyone that the Club is now using the e-mail address of ARCPC@juno.com - and that all incoming mail is being forwarded to the Club officers for review and response.

#### Newsletter Committee

President Weikal solicited anyone interested in helping Director Teague in assembling the monthly Club newsletter - there were no volunteers.

*Continued on page 4*

## ARCPC MEETING MINUTES

### Development of Club 'Elmers List'

President Weikal solicited anyone interested in serving in the role of an 'Elmer' – to help out new amateur radio operators with equipment and operational issues – there were no volunteers.

### Club-Owned Property Inventory

President Weikal reported no progress had yet been made on conducting an updated inventory of Club-owned equipment, and that a date would have to be scheduled to accomplish this. The progress of this will be reported on at the next regular monthly meeting.

### Springtown All American Bicycle Ride

President Weikal provided additional information relating to the Springtown All American Bicycle Ride on Saturday, June 3rd 2017, stating the event sponsors are planning for 9 rest stops and utilizing as many SAG vehicles as possible. Secretary-Treasurer Newman reported the event details and contact information had been added to the ARCPC website. President Weikal encouraged everyone to participate and sign up for a position in the event.

### VOLUNTEER EXAMINER (VE) TESTING:

President Weikal reminded the membership that the next VE Session being held on May 15th, 2017 at 7:00pm at the What-a-Burger Restaurant. Director Page reported there were no license exams given during the April 17th session.

### MONDAY NIGHT NET VOLUNTEERS:

President Weikal inquired if any attending members would volunteer to assist with the Club's Net Control duties on Monday nights at 8:00pm during the next five-week period beginning on May 15th. Vice-President Jones volunteered to assist on May 15th and June 5th - there were no other volunteers.

Weikal also stated he had received permission from the North Central Texas Connection (NCTC) to use their Aledo UHF Repeater at 443.200 PL 110.0 +5.00 - as a back-up frequency as needed for weekly Club nets.

Jerry Thompson added that the Club could also use the WB5IDM UHF repeater at 443.800 PL 110.0 +5.00 – as another back-up frequency.

### SECRETARY-TREASURER REPORT:

Secretary-Treasurer William Newman, WL9N reported on the current membership status – that as of May 8th the current membership of the Club remains unchanged at 42 paid members, 1 associate member, and 17 life members for a total of 60 active members.

There are currently no unpaid or outstanding bills received for payment.

Newman reported that based upon feedback from Club members – and at the direction of the Board – he submitted a request on 04/20/17 with the City of Weatherford to cancel the Club's remaining eight (8) pre-paid room reservations at the Harberger Hill Community Center for Regular Monthly Meetings. This should result in a refund in the amount of \$120.00. The request was eventually acknowledged by Grant Taylor at the City Parks and Recreation Office on 05/03/17 – however no specific details have been provided regarding the refund.

A motion was made by Vice-President Jones and seconded by Jack Nixon, KG5BBW to accept the Secretary-Treasurer Report.

President Weikal submitted a purchase receipt for payment – for a belated bereavement gift for Club Member Judy Wolf, KB5JEY in the amount of \$42.20. A motion was made by Jerry Thompson, W7JT and seconded by Director Will Teague, W5KD to approve payment

There are currently no unpaid or outstanding bills received for payment.

A motion was made by Vice-President Jones and seconded by Jack Nixon, KG5BBW to accept the Secretary-Treasurer Report.

*Continued on page 5*

## ARCPC MEETING MINUTES

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### NEW BUSINESS:

#### Boy Scout Amateur Radio Events

John Engels, KF5ECS initiated discussion on the Boy Scout ‘Radio Merit Badge’ program, and recent support he has observed for it from other amateur radio club activities in North Texas. He suggested that the Club consider participating in future ‘on-air’ activities to promote interest in the hobby. Further progress will be reported on at the next regular monthly meeting.

#### Monthly Regular Meeting Nights

Director Will Teague, W5KD brought forward discussion on whether the Club membership might consider changing its designated meeting date from the 2nd Tuesday of each month to another specified evening of each month. He stated that many past members had expressed that they had time conflicts with attending the meetings on this night – and he felt that is why many no longer attend meetings. Several possible alternative dates were then suggested. President Weikal indicated he would have to consult with the Parker County Emergency Management to see which ‘other’ nights the EOC Room might be available for use by the Club. Further information will be reported on at the next regular monthly meeting.

### ANNUAL ELECTIONS:

President Weikal in accordance with Club By-Laws began the Annual Election of Club Officers, by soliciting nominations for all offices from the floor or from individuals interested in serving in the position.

Singular nominations were received and seconded from the floor for the following five Board positions:

**President- Thad Weikal, KG5ATD**

**Vice-President - Tony Jones, KG5ELV**

**Secretary-Treasurer- Jay Cox, KG5BZW (To replace William Newman, WL9N – not running for re-election)**

**Director (Elected) - Will Teague, W5KD**

**Director (Elected) - Joel Page, KW5JP**

President Weikal called for a verbal election, and all five nominees were elected by unanimous verbal acclamation.

Officer terms of office will run during Fiscal Year 2017-18 from June 01, 2017 until May 31st, 2018.

### TRAINING:

There was no training session scheduled for this meeting.

Attendees purchased tickets for the 50/50 raffle, which was won by President Thad Weikal, KG5ATD in the amount of \$10.00 – which he turned back over in entirety as a donation.

A motion was made at 7:47pm to adjourn by Director Teague and seconded by Jerry Thompson, W7JT.

The Next Regular Monthly Meeting will be held on June 13, 2017 – 7:00pm at the Parker County Emergency Management (EOC) Building, 215 Trinity Street, Weatherford.



Respectfully submitted,  
By William Newman, WL9N  
Secretary/Treasurer

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Atlantic Hurricane Season Starts Today

06/01/2017

June 1 marks the official start of the Atlantic Hurricane Season, which continues through November 30. In an average season, based on data from 1981 to 2010, 12 named tropical cyclones should be expected, with 6 of these reaching hurricane intensity, and 3 developing into major hurricanes.

“This outlook is a general guide to the expected overall activity during the upcoming hurricane season,” the National Weather Service (NWS) Climate Prediction Center says. “It is not a seasonal hurricane landfall forecast, and it does not predict levels of activity for any particular location.”

The official NOAA 2017 Atlantic hurricane season outlook indicates a 45% probability of an above-normal season, a 35% probability of a near-normal season, and a 20% probability of a below-normal season. This outlook calls for between 11 and 17 named storms. This already includes the pre-season Tropical Storm Arlene, which occurred in April. Of these named storms, between five and nine of them could reach hurricane intensity, with between two and four of these becoming major hurricanes — Category 3 or above.

Here are the names for 2017 Atlantic Storms: Arlene, Bret, Cindy, Don, Emily, Franklin, Gert, Harvey, Irma, Jose, Lee, Maria, Nate, Ophelia, Philippe, Rina, Sean, Tammy, Vince, and Whitney.

The National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center points out that the 2017 Atlantic hurricane season outlook is produced in collaboration with hurricane experts from the National Hurricane Center (NHC) and the Hurricane Research Division (HRD). The Atlantic hurricane region includes the North Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, and Gulf of Mexico.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is encouraging residents and businesses to prepare by understanding their risk, planning for the entire family, and downloading the FEMA App. It contains important information on what to do before, during, and after a hurricane. The App also allows users to receive weather alerts from NOAA’s National Weather Service, includes lifesaving safety tips, and provides access to disaster resources should survivors need them. The App is available in the Apple App store or the Google Play store, and is also available in Spanish.

“Hurricanes and tropical systems have the potential to cause serious damage to coastal and inland areas,” FEMA said in a news release. “Their hazards could come in many forms including storm surge, heavy rainfall, coastal and inland flooding, high winds, and tornadoes.” FEMA advises:

- Know Your Risk:** Residents should learn what types of natural disasters are common in their state. NOAA’s historical hurricane tracks tool provides information on the severity and frequency of past hurricanes.
- Learn Your Flood Risk:** Flooding is the nation’s most frequent and costly natural disaster. Go to [FloodSmart.gov](http://FloodSmart.gov) and learn how to protect your home or business. Purchase a flood insurance policy if you do not already have one.
- Make A Plan:** Family members should discuss and plan how they will communicate with each other during a significant weather event when they may not be together, or during an evacuation order.
- Know your evacuation zone:** Evacuation zones are areas that may be impacted by hurricane flooding. Many communities designate evacuation zones and routes to get citizens to safety. If a hurricane threatens and local officials say it's time to evacuate, residents should evacuate immediately. Do not wait for the next forecast.

To learn more about hurricane seasons in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, visit [www.hurricanes.gov](http://www.hurricanes.gov). To learn more on how to prepare before, during, and after a hurricane, visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov). — Thanks to National Weather Service-Boston Office; FEMA

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Ham Radio Aviator Set to Depart on Round-the-World Flight

Brian Lloyd, WB6RQN, took off from Miami, Florida, on June 1 on a solo, round-the-world flight to commemorate Amelia Earhart's attempt to circumnavigate the globe 80 years ago.

"Airborne!," he posted to his Facebook page, once aloft. "En route to St Thomas!"

Lloyd will be on the air from Spirit, his single-engine Mooney 231 aircraft, during the course of his journey, expected to take 2 months. He will follow Earhart's historic route to fly around the globe at the equator, starting in Miami, skirting the Caribbean islands, then passing along the coast of South America before heading across the Atlantic.

"I am driven by the spirit of historic flights," Lloyd said before leaving his Texas airstrip for Miami. "It is important to remember the aviation pioneers like Amelia Earhart and their contributions to aviation. Their bold actions made today's air travel possible for all of us."

In late May, severe weather on the Atlantic route and aircraft equipment problems forced Lloyd to call off his New York-to-Paris seed flight. "There was only a short window of time that the flight could have happened, and the window has now closed," a May 22 announcement said.

Lloyd will be on the air using HF SSB on or about 14,210.0 kHz, 14,346.0 kHz, 18,117.5 kHz, or 7,130.0 kHz. Onboard he has a Mobat Micom-3 transceiver, which puts out about 125 W. His antenna is under the fuselage. He also will utilize ALE (automatic link establishment) on the Amateur Radio HFLINK frequencies.

"The flight route has some very long legs, so I will have plenty of opportunities during June and July to talk with ham operators while flying over the world's oceans," said Lloyd, 62, who has been licensed since 1976 but has been flying since 1968.

To give his 1979 Mooney aircraft additional range, he modified it to carry 150 gallons more fuel. He's also equipped it with modern navigation equipment, long-range radio, and satellite communication gear. Since the flight involves some risk, special safety gear is part of his equipment ensemble.

In addition to being a pilot, Lloyd is a flight instructor and educator. He lives near San Antonio. His commemorative flight is co-sponsored by The Classic Aircraft Aviation Museum, a non-profit in Texas, and by individual contributions.

Information on this page was taken from the ARRL Website

## NEWS BRIEFS

### **Our Sun's 11-Year Magnetic Cycle Destined to Disappear**

The Sun's 11-year magnetic cycle appears to be ending, but that won't happen anytime soon. In a paper submitted on May 26 to the journal *Solar Physics*, two solar scientists are reinterpreting earlier evidence to hypothesize that the Sun's rotation rate and magnetic field are in a transitional phase that could lead to lengthening solar cycles, with the cycle ultimately disappearing altogether between 800 million and 2.4 billion years from now. Travis S. Metcalfe and Jennifer van Saders propose the scenario in their paper "Magnetic Evolution and the Disappearance of Sun-like Activity Cycles."

"After decades of effort, the solar activity cycle is exceptionally well characterized, but it remains poorly understood," the authors say in the paper's abstract. "Pioneering work at the Mount Wilson Observatory demonstrated that other Sun-like stars also show regular activity cycles and suggested two possible relationships between the rotation rate and the length of the cycle. Neither of these relationships correctly describe the properties of the Sun, a peculiarity that demands explanation."

The authors cite stellar evidence for the shutdown of "magnetic braking" in stars similar to our Sun. "The new picture of rotational and magnetic evolution provides a framework for understanding some observational features of stellar activity cycles that have until now been mysterious," they said.

Metcalfe explained their observations through a recent *Forbes* magazine article. "Our previous discoveries identified an unexpected transition in the rotation and magnetism of middle-aged stars," Metcalfe is quoted in the article, "The Sun's Magnetic Dynamo Is Weakening" by Bruce Dorminey. "We now have direct evidence that the stellar dynamo — the mechanism inside stars that sustains their magnetic fields — actually shuts down during this transition."

In their paper, the authors said that future observations with the Las Cumbres Observatory global telescope network "promise to probe the onset and duration of the magnetic transition that drives the evolution and eventual disappearance of Sun-like activity cycles."

A 2016 paper Travis co-authored — "Stellar Evidence that the Solar Dynamo May Be in Transition," published in *The Astrophysical Journal Letters*, concluded, "The Sun still exhibits a dipole component to its global field, particularly near magnetic minimum, but the solar analogs also suggest a gradual concentration of the field into smaller spatial scales, leading to weakened magnetic braking."

Metcalfe is listed on the paper as being associated with the Space Science Institute and the White Dwarf Research Corp, both in Boulder, Colorado. Van Saders is listed as being associated with the Observatories of the Carnegie Institution for Science in Pasadena, California, and the Department of Astrophysical Sciences at Princeton University in New Jersey.

Information on this page was taken from the ARRL Website



**Membership Application/Renewal form 2017-2018**



**W5PC**

[www.w5pc.org](http://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 the Parker County EOC 215 Trinity 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: \$15.00. HAM FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$20.00** 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 ARCPK 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**