

# The ARCLITE

Volume 27, Issue 12

GARC Information Line 972 272-4499

Dec 1999

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Bob Jones, W5BJ



## From the Prez....

First I want to wish every one in my extended family of the Garland Amateur Radio Club a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. I do hope Santa is very good to all of you and that a new HT or HF radio makes its appearance under the tree.

To the Schroeder family, I would like to say welcome back and we are all so glad to hear that Sharon's (KC5ZGK) dad was better and pulled through his heart attack. Although I was unable to make the HF skeds, it was good to hear the news coming back from Pennsylvania on the GARC repeater that things were working out there.

Dec 27 is our annual Christmas party and I hope to see all of you there. Once again The GARC is providing the meat and we ask that the club members bring in a side dish or desert. Contact Kaye Duncan, KC5GLM, if you have a question about what to do for the food. If you wish to volunteer for doing some of the live entertainment, contact Janet Crenshaw, WB9ZPH.

So far, December has been a busy month. The major events so far this month have included the Dallas Marathon and the city of Garland Christmas tree lighting. Now that these are over and we must now prepare ourselves for the biggest single organized event the GARC and Garland RACES has ever been involved in: the Y2K rollover.

Bob Jones W5BJ has been heading this up and working closely with the City of Garland in all aspects of this. The city of Garland has included us in all of their backup plans and we were, in fact, mentioned by name in the last report to the mayor. To the 100 or so radio

*(Continued on page 2)*



**Next Meeting Date:**  
**December Holiday Party**  
**Dec 27, 1999**

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## From the Prez (Continued)

*(Continued from page 1)*

operators who volunteered to take a shift for this activity, I give you my personal thanks for the time and effort.

The city has equipped the Police Department, Fire Department, Water Department and Warehousing with dual band antennas and coax. The GARC has provided to Baylor Hospital of Garland a dual band antenna. Coax for the hospital radio antenna installation was donated by Charlie Mumphy KC5OZH.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our communications officer Mark Durbin (KC5GNG) for all of his efforts on the Y2K testing of the repeater and for going the extra mile to get the software updates for our repeater controller. Between that and buying new equipment for the ECC, the GARC is as ready as we can make it for the helping the city in whatever may happen in the next few weeks.

Have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year and I hope to see you all at the party!

73's  
Gerry, WD4BIS



## VE Testing

VE test sessions are on the 4th Thursday of each month unless announced otherwise. The next session is on Thursday, December 23, 1999. This session will be at 7:30pm at the Austin Street Church of Christ in Garland, on the SW corner of Austin and Glenbrook. The doors close at 7:30pm, so please be early.

If you have any special requirements or wish additional information, contact me at the following:

W.H.(Bill) Reynolds, K8DNE  
Garland Area ARRL Liaison V.E.  
972 475-9407  
k8dne@airmail.net



## Monday Night Info Net

The following have volunteered to be control operators for the Monday night information nets:

Reminder: a sample "script" for new control operators is available on  
<http://www.qsl.net/garc/>

Thank you to all the volunteers.

<b>December</b>	Theda Harrison, KC5QZZ
<b>2000: January</b>	Janet Crenshaw, WB9ZPH
<b>February</b>	No volunteer yet
<b>March</b>	No volunteer yet
<b>April</b>	No volunteer yet
<b>May</b>	No volunteer yet
<b>June</b>	No volunteer yet
<b>July</b>	No volunteer yet
<b>August</b>	No volunteer yet
<b>September</b>	No volunteer yet
<b>October</b>	No volunteer yet
<b>November</b>	No volunteer yet
<b>December</b>	No volunteer yet

If you're willing to volunteer, but are just not sure if you have the time, remember that many of us have unexpected problems come up during our months. It's usually not too difficult to call a few people in the roster to arrange for a substitute.

If you'd like to volunteer to be a substitute, contact the Comm officer (Mark, KC5GNG) and let him know. Your efforts will be appreciated.



Things to Do

## Garland Area Public Service Events

from John Galvin, N5TIM (<http://www.qsl.net/n5tim/>)

### Ongoing Events

**Garland Siren Test - Monthly** - The Garland early warning sirens are tested by the city the first Wednesday of each month at noon, weather permitting. Tests are generally conducted on the GARC repeater at 146.660Mhz with 600Khz negative offset. Amateur radio operators wishing to help with these siren tests should contact Bob Jones, W5BJ ([boj1@airmail.net](mailto:boj1@airmail.net)) if interested in helping out.

**Sachse Siren Test - Saturdays** - The early warning sirens located in Sachse are normally tested by the city each Saturday at noon, weather permitting. Participants are requested to be on site in Sachse by 11:45am and on frequency which is normally the GARC repeater at 146.660Mhz with 600Khz negative offset.

**RACES participation credit** is given towards fulfilling the yearly public service requirements. Amateur radio operators wishing to help with these siren tests should contact Doug Yates, AA5BP at 972-530-1850 (home phone with voice mail).

### Upcoming Events

**Dino Dash** - January, 2000 - Yearly walk/run in Dallas. More information is coming. Contact is Jim Galloway, N5MDI, at [jamesg@airmail.net](mailto:jamesg@airmail.net) or use the Easy Sign-up Form at <http://www.qsl.net/n5tim/sign-mdi.htm>



### Reports on Past Events

**Downtown Christmas Tree Lighting** - December 9, 1999 - The annual Garland Christmas on the Square, Christmas Tree Lighting and Santa arrival was again supported by members of the Garland Amateur Radio Club. The following provided communications for this unusually cold event; KC5MXN, KC5GGZ, WB5WUB, KD5EWT, WD4BIS, WB9ZPH, KD5IOC, KM5VZ & XYL on scanner, KA5IAA, N5DGR, NA5T, KC5WYE, AC5AX, W5BJ, KC5EOR, WA9WCC,

KC5VEW and WT5Q on site if needed.

If we had a Polar bear award, there many of you that would qualify so says KC5MXN Once again the city organizers were well pleased with the support of amateur radio and we're to do it again next year .

Contact Clay Orchard, KC5MXN, [mcorch@juno.com](mailto:mcorch@juno.com) with any follow up for this event.

**White Rock Marathon** - December 5, 1999 - The 30th running of the Marathon was again quite successful with very few transports and injuries. There ware a total of 52 amateurs from a host of local clubs putting in 416 hours of public service hours. The following amateurs provided communication support this year; AA5QX, AA7XC, AB5QZ, AC5DT, K5DTN, K8DNE, KA5TYW, KA5ZWY, KA5ALM, KC5FEZ, KC5GGZ, KC5GNG, KF9AS, KM5VZ, N5KKM, N5MDI, N5NOT, N5CSU, N5LZX, N5OD, N5TIM, N5YDX, N8QVT, W5BJ, W5LEP, W5QPP, WA5MWD, WA9WCC, WB5WUB, WD4BIS, WT5Q, N5UOI, KC5REE, KC5SDY, KD4LKH, KD5EWT, KD5INZ, KD5OUG, KF5FD, N7EKG , W9BWS, KC5IXE, KJ5VL, N5BKV, K5TVB, N5DWV, KD5CTS, KC5FEZ, KD5IOC, N5CSU, KD5INZ and WB5TFW.

Please contact Bob Jones, W5BJ with any follow up comments.

**Challenge Bike Ride** - October 30, 1999 - The city of Rowlett and the Easter Seals are hosting a 60, 30 and 10 mile bike ride. This event was cancelled the morning of the event due to weather. The City is planning to host the ride again next year with hopes that the weather corporates. The coordinator was Bob Bailey, N5ITN at [rdbailey@flash.net](mailto:rdbailey@flash.net). Many thanks to all the amateurs that were up and ready to operate. List of operators to be added as soon as information received. For more Easter Seals information visit [www.easterseals.com](http://www.easterseals.com)



## Y2K Report on GARC systems By Mark Durbin, KC5GNG

Just so everyone knows the repeater passed everything. It turns out that the last patch that I loaded in the controller also fixed the leap year issues that the system had previously. The system was tested for the following date rolls:

Dec. 31, 1999 to Jan. 1, 2000  
Feb. 28, 2000 to Feb. 29, 2000  
Dec. 31, 2000 to Jan. 1, 2001  
Feb. 28, 2001 to Mar. 1, 2001

All tests are passed and the system functioned perfectly.

Mark Durbin, KC5GNG



## Meeting Minutes Oct 25, 1999

President Gerry Crenshaw called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting started with Pledge of Allegiance and visitor introductions.

Under old business:

- The minutes were approved as posted in the ACRLite.
- John Galvin, N5TIM, brought up the upcoming public service events.
- The club approved of getting keys for the ECC made for the RACES ANCS.
- Clay Orchard (KC5MXN) gave a report on Autumn Fest and a thank you to those who worked that event while it was raining.

Under new business:

- President Gerry informed the club that we now have our new mike for our ADI radio and we now have the 160 watt amp.
- Also under new business, Bill Reynolds told the club that we are on stand by for the VE testing at Ham Com. If the other group doesn't make it, we will get called in. So if you can help, call Bill.

For those of you who need auto patch codes email Mark Durbin (KC5GNG) at kc5gng@qsl.net

The bank balance at the meeting was \$2,314.69

Submitted by Secretary:  
T.J. Hoover (KC5ZTJ)



## Kid's Day – 1/1/2000

January 1, 2000 is the next national Kid's Day to encourage children's participation in amateur radio.

However, due to the GARC's involvement with the Garland Y2K preparations and planned activities at the ECC, the club will not be able to sponsor an organized Kid's Day event this time.

Those wishing to participate are encouraged to do so at your own shack, and the GARC will help with all the paperwork to get the children's participation certificate.



## Board Meeting Minutes Nov 4, 1999

The Board meeting was called to order by president Gerry Crenshaw at 7:00 p.m.

In attendance were Randy Dunning KC5QHH, Gerry Crenshaw WD4BIS, Ed Hubbuch KC5GGZ, Janet Crenshaw WB9ZPH, and TJ Hoover KC5ZTJ.

Under new business: the Garland Hospital said we could put an antenna for emergency preparedness on their building. They will provide the space and electricity if we provide the antenna. The Board approved the purchase of two antennas one for the hospital and one for backup.

Also under new business, the board approved Bob Jones (W5BJ) request that we exchange our new amp for the 50 watt version. Because it would only take a second of inattentiveness to burn the front end out of the amp since the radio defaults to the high power setting of 50 watts.

The ending bank balance at the meeting was \$2,558.91

Submitted by Secretary:  
TJ Hoover (KC5ZTJ)



## Selected ARRL Contests and Special Events (from <http://www.arrl.org/>)

### Remainder of December, 1999:

Belen (Bethlehem), NM: Valencia County Amateur Radio Association, KC5OUR, 1400Z Dec 18 to 2300Z Dec 26, celebrating Christmas from Bethlehem. 7.270 14.270 21.370 28.370 QSL. VCARA, PO Box 1076, Peralta, NM 87042.

Nazareth, PA: Christmas City ARC/Delaware-Lehigh ARC, WX3MAS, 1300Z Dec 18 to 0100Z Dec 20, with greetings from the Christmas cities of Nazareth and Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. 7.270 14.265 21.365 28.465. Certificate. Christmas City ARC/DLARC, Greystone Building- Gracedale Complex, RR8, Nazareth, PA, 18064.

Piney Creek, NC: Tri-State ARC, W4W, 0000Z Dec 22 to 2359 Jan 4, celebrating the year 2000 in the Blue Ridge Mountains. 3.978 7.278 14.278 21.378. QSL. W4UU, PO Box 4, Piney Creek, NC 28663.

Dallas, TX: Number One Christmas Carol, N1CC, 1400-2100Z Dec 24, Number One Christmas Carol 20th annual Christmas Event. 28.475. QSL. Jim La Porta, 112 Woodruff Court, Lexington, SC, 29072.

Edisto Island, SC: Aiken Contest Club, AC4WW, 2100Z Dec 26 to 0200Z Dec 28, celebrating the five-year reunion of "Islands on the Air" South Carolina style. 7.262 14.040 14.262 21.262. QSL. Doug Glass, 127 Trailwood Dr, Aiken, SC, 29803.

Austin, TX: 3M Amateur Radio Club, W2T, 1100Z Dec 31 to 2400Z Jan 2, for Y2K readiness. 7.230 14.340 21.410 28.350. Certificate. 3M ARC - W3ARC, A147-5S-03, 6801 Riverplace Blvd, Austin, TX 78726-9000.

Wichita, KS: Wichita Amateur Radio Club, W0SOE, 1800Z Dec 31 to 1000Z Jan 1, tracking the arrival of the New Year and Y2K. 7.275 14.255. QSL. Barbara Foster KB0VHI, 1383 N. Park Place Rd, Milton, KS 67106-8011.

Anaconda, MT: Anaconda Amateur Radio Club, W7VNE, 2300Z Dec 31 to 0700Z Jan 1, celebrating the New Year. 3.875 7.235 14.250. Certificate. AARC, Phil Watt, 1112 Heather Dr, Anaconda, MT 59711.

Dallas, TX: Dallas Amateur Radio Club, K2M, 1800Z Dec 13 to 1800Z Jan 1, celebrating the year 2000. 3.885 7.225 14.225 21.325. Certificate. Dallas Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 744266, Dallas, TX, 75374.

Marion, IN: Grant County ARC, WA9SPT, 2300Z Dec 31 to 0700Z Jan 1, celebrating year 2000. 3.915 7.235 14.310 28.410. Certificate. L.B. Nickerson, KA6NQW, 517 N. Hendricks Ave, Marion, IN 46952.

### January, 2000:

Jan 1, 2000: ARRL Straight Key Nite

Agoura Hills, CA: APA Digital Communications Network, N2K, 0000Z Dec 24 to 2359Z Jan 7, celebrating the new year and the Y2K rollover. 3.870 14.340 21.390 28.390. QSL. Jeff Reinhardt, 5904 Lake Lindero Dr, Agoura Hills, CA 91301.

Roanoke, VA: Roanoke Valley Amateur Radio Club, W4CA, 0000-0600Z Jan 1, at First Night Roanoke, Celebrating the Year 2000. 7.250 14.250 21.325 28.410. QSL. RVARC, PO Box 2002, Roanoke, VA 24009.

Siasconset, MA: Amateur Radio Society on Nantucket, W1NQT, 1200-2400Z Jan 1, First Sunrise, Marconi Site, IOTA NA46, Grid Square FN51, 7.250 14.250 21.350 28.450. QSL. Ken Blackshaw, 4 Sandwich Road, Nantucket, MA 02554.

Jan 8-9 ARRL RTTY Round-Up

West Central Florida Section, FL: ARRL West Central Florida Section, AE4MR, 1300Z Jan 15 to 0500Z Jan 24, for first contacts from the new ARRL West Central Florida Section. 7.271 14.031 14.271 28.371. Certificate. Dave Armbrust, 1641 Baywinds Ln, Sarasota, FL 34231.

Melbourne, FL: Collins Amateur Radio Club, W4CRC, 0000Z Jan 15 to 2200Z Jan 16, to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Collins KWM-2. 3.895 7.260 14.245 21.375. Certificate. Collins Amateur Radio Club, 2052 Algeria St NE, Palm Bay, FL 32905.

Plano, TX: Rockwell Collins Amateur Radio Club, W5ROK, 0000Z Jan 15 to 2200Z Jan 16, to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Collins KWM-2. 3.895 7.260 14.245 21.375. Certificate. Rockwell Collins Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 940714, Plano, TX 75094.

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Cedar Rapids, IA: Collins Amateur Radio Club, W0CXX, 0000Z Jan 15 to 2200Z Jan 16, to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Collins KWM-2. 3.895 7.260 14.245 21.375. Certificate. Collins Amateur Radio Club, 855 35th St, Mail Station 150-100, Cedar Rapids, IA 52498.

Jan 22-24 ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes

Coloma, CA: El Dorado County Amateur Radio Club, AG6AU, 1600Z Jan 22 to 2100Z Jan 23, for the 152nd anniversary of the discovery of gold in California. 14.060, lower 25 kHz of the General phone bands, and the 10-meter Novice/Technician phone band. QSL. El Dorado County ARC, PO Box 451, Placerville, CA 95667.

San Diego, CA: Challenger Middle School ARC, KI6YG, 1430-2400Z Jan 28, to commemorate the 14th anniversary of the space shuttle Challenger tragedy. 14.250 21.350 28.350 146.52. QSL. Frank Forrester KI6YG, Challenger Middle School, 10810 Parkdale Ave, San Diego, CA 92126.

Punxsutawney, PA: Punxsutawney Area Amateur Radio Club, K3HWJ, 1300 to 2000Z Jan 30, celebrating Punxsutawney Ground Hog Day 2000. 14.025-14.150; 7.025-7.100. Certificate. Sherman Hollipeter, W3QOS, PO Box 20, Big Run, PA 15715.



## ARRL DX news ARLD051

### ARLD051 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by Tedd, KB8NW, the OPDX Bulletin, The 599Rpt, 425DXnews, The Daily DX,

QRZ DX and Contest Corral from QST. Thanks to all.

SWAZILAND, 3DA0. Andre, ZS5WPX, is QRV as 3DA0WPX. He can be found on 20, 15 and 10 meters SSB. QSL to home call.

TANZANIA, 5H. John, IN3GNV, is QRV as 5H3MG until January 15 using SSB and RTTY. QSL via IN3YYQ.

NEPAL, 9N. Lawrence, W8NRB, is QRV as 9N7RB mainly on 20 to 10 meters SSB. QSL to home call.

TONGA, A3. Paul, A35RK, is currently QRV on 30 to 10 meters. He hopes to be active soon on 6 meters and the low bands.

MOLDOVA, ER. Special Event station ER2000A is active until January 20 to celebrate the new millennium. QSL via ER1DA.

GUADELOUPE, FG. Phil, ON4LCE, will be active on 80 to 80 meters including the newer bands, using SSB, RTTY and PSK31 as TO2000 between December 20 and January 3. QSL to home call.

AUSTRAL ISLANDS, FO. Einar, LA1EE, is QRV as FO0EEN, and has been found on 40 meter CW.

SOUTH KOREA, HL. Choi, HL3IUA, has been QRV on 1824 khz at his sunrise and sunset.

FINLAND, OH. Look for "Santa," OH9SCL, to be QRV from December 17 to 19 on all bands and

modes. QSL via OH9HNP.

FERNANDO DE NORONHA ISLAND, PY0. Iwao, PY7FT, and Nori, JA1WSK,

will be QRV as PY0FT from December 21 to 28. Nori will concentrate

on 20, 15 and 10 meters using RTTY and PSK31. Iwao will use SSB and

SSTV. QSL via JA1ELY.

TURKEY, TA. Nilay, TA3YJ, and Berkin, TA3J, will be QRV from December 21 to January 21 as special event station YM2ITA. Look for their SSB on 160 to 10 meters, including 2 meters and 70 cm. QSL via TA3YJ.

MACQUARIE ISLAND, VK0. Alan, VK0LD, is QRV on all bands. He will be active during the year 2000.

HONG KONG, VR2. The Hong Kong Amateur Radio DX Association will sign VR2K until January 31 on all HF bands. QSL via VR2XRW.

MACAO, XX9. Moto, JK2PNY, is QRV as XX9TSS on 40 to 6 meters using CW and SSB until December 26. Meanwhile, the callsign XX9SAR will be used by all Macao stations to celebrate the restoration of Macao. QSL via operator's instructions.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The OK DX RTTY Contest, Croatian CW Contest, Stew Perry Top Band Distance Challenge, RAC Winter Contest and the International Naval Contest are all scheduled for this weekend. Please see December QST, page 88 for details.



## December 1999

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
12	13 7:30pm GARC Information Net (KC5QZZ)	14	15	16 9pm: Garland RACES training net	17	18 Noon: Sachse Siren Test
19 8pm: Dallas RACES training net	20 7:30pm GARC Information Net (KC5QZZ)	21	22	23 7:30pm Garland VE Testing Session 9pm: Garland RACES training net	24	25
26	27 7:30pm Monthly GARC Meeting: Holiday Party	28	29	30 9pm: Garland RACES training net	31	

## January 2000

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 <b>Y2K Plan in Action</b>
2 8pm: Dallas RACES training net	3 7:30pm GARC Information Net (WB9ZPH)	4	5	6 9pm: Garland RACES training net	7	8 Noon: Sachse Siren Test
9	10 7:30pm GARC Information Net (WB9ZPH)	11	12	13 9pm: Garland RACES training net	14	15 Noon: Sachse Siren Test
16 8pm: Dallas RACES training net	17 7:30pm GARC Information Net (WB9ZPH)	18	19	20 9pm: Garland RACES training net	21	22 Noon: Sachse Siren Test
23	24 7:30pm Monthly GARC Meeting	25	26	27 7:30pm Garland VE Testing Session 9pm: Garland RACES training net	28	29 Noon: Sachse Siren Test
30	31 7:30pm GARC Information Net (WB9ZPH)					

## GARC General Information

### Repeaters:

The GARC operates two open repeaters for its members and for all local or visiting Amateur Radio Operators: Two meters: **146.66 (-)** and 70 Cmeters: **442.70 (+)**

### Voice Mail:

For late-breaking news or to leave the club a message, call our 24-hour voice-mail line at **(972) 272-4499**.

### Information Net:

GARC Information Net: held every Monday at 7:30PM on 146.66 (except for meeting nights and holidays). The net features current events, "swap shop", and a technical information exchange. All area hams are encouraged to check in. All members are encouraged to volunteer to be net control for this net. Contact the GARC communications officer, Mark Durbin (*Mark.Durbin@wcom.com*), if you are interested.

### Internet:

Information on the GARC can also be found on the world wide web address below:

<http://www.qsl.net/garc/>

The web site includes a map to the monthly meetings, classes, links to local public service events, and other items of interest to the hams in the Garland area.

### Newsletter:

The Arclite is published monthly for the members of the Garland Amateur Radio Club. The contents of this newsletter are copyrighted the date of publication, but may

be reprinted without permission in any Amateur Radio Publication provided proper credit is given and the motive is the advancement of amateur radio and not for profit.

The deadline for Arclite materials is the 2nd Monday of each month. If you have any informative or educational articles that you would like to see included in this newsletter, or if you have items to be included in the GARC calendar, please send it to the Arclite editor.

Arclite Editor, 1027-B West Austin St.,  
Garland, TX 75040

or emailed to the Arclite Editor at *janet11@ibm.net*

### Membership:

Membership forms are available at the GARC monthly meetings and on the GARC web site. Once the membership form and dues are submitted, new members are voted in at the next GARC monthly meeting.

The GARC membership roster is distributed to GARC members only and is included twice a year in the Arclite. It is not to be used for any commercial purposes.

To submit changes to the GARC roster (such as change of address, updated phone numbers, license upgrade, etc), send them to the GARC secretary, TJ Hoover (KC5ZTJ) at *tj@hisword.net*



Garland Amateur Radio Club  
Emergency Communications Center (ECC)  
1027 B West Austin Street  
Garland, TX 75040



*Please Rush!!!*

In This Issue...

**Happy Holidays!!!!**