

THE ARCLITE

GARC OFFICERS

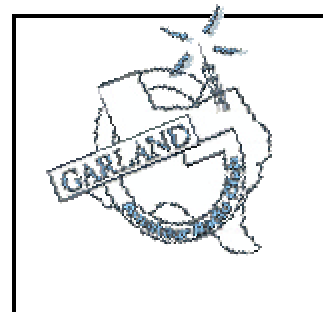
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FROM THE PREZ MARCH, 2001 By Kaye Duncan

I have been asked to keep this short and sweet this time, so I will do my best. I would like to thank last month's guest speakers Clay Orchard (KC5MXN), John Galvin (N5TIM), and Bob Jones (W5BJ) for their presentation on the extensive volunteerism of the GARC during 2000. We all know that we do a lot for our community and special interest organizations, but it is amazing to actually see the numbers. If you are interested in volunteering for public service events this year, please check out John Galvin's web page www.qus.net/n5tim/ for

the current list. The last I heard, communicators were still needed for the April 1st MS Walk.

I want to remind all members that the GARC Board elections will be held at this month's meeting. If you are interested in a board position, please contact one of the Election Committee Members to have your name added to the roster. Committee members are James Schroeder (KC5EOR), Ben Miller (KC5NFU), and Harold Yoder (N5MQA). Keep in mind that in order to run or vote in the elections you must have your dues paid for the upcoming year! In addition to the elections, Randy Dunning (KC5QHH) will talk



Where HAM RADIO IS FUN!!!

about past training activities and pass out QRO awards for the past year.

Also, we have several classes already this year, and some coming up soon. Check out the GARC web page at www.qul.net/garc/ for the latest information on classes being offered, as well

(Continued on page 3)

ELECTIONS MARCH 2001



Be sure and attend the March meeting of the GARC. We will be electing our new slate of officers into office.

*Those members who do not attend may have their names added to the ballot. ****

***JUST KIDDING

The K7VVV Solar Up- date



SEATTLE, WA, Mar 9, 2001-- Although the week's sunspot numbers and solar flux began low, they rose steadily, with the average sunspot number up more than eight points and average solar flux up more than ten. Thursday, March 1, the beginning of the reporting week, the sunspot number was a very low 59. December 10, 2000 was the last day with a reported sunspot number as low as this, when it was 58. Prior to that, the previous low was around September 11 and 12, 2000, when it was 27 and 38. To find another date with a sunspot number as low, one would have to look on the other side of the solar cycle peak, way back to October 2, 1999, when it was 47.

Current activity is a far cry from last summer, when daily sunspot numbers were routinely 200 or more, or even 300, or on July 20 over 400. Solar flux rose from a low of 129.7 last Friday, then jumped nearly 19 points in a single day to 176.6 on Wednesday. The official daily solar flux is always the noon reading, but there is also a 10 AM and a 2 PM reading (at local time for the observatory in Penticton, British Columbia). On that day the early reading was 164.8, and the late one was 165.5, so the noon reading, a more than 10-point difference, seems somewhat of an anomaly. Solar flux has not been this high since January 13, when it was 184.3.

Solar flux is predicted at 170 for Friday and Saturday, March 9 and 10, and 165 for Sunday and Monday. Current best projections show flux values hanging around 160 for March 13-23, then dropping to 135 around March 28 or 29. NASA's Spaceweather.com reports that the flux of solar X-rays has

increased several-fold since Monday, because hot gasses trapped by magnetic fields above several sunspots are glowing with high-energy radiation. M-class solar flares could erupt from regions 9368 and 9371 over the next day. Currently quiet geomagnetic conditions are forecast, but the planetary A index could rise to 15, indicating unsettled conditions on Sunday. For an explanation of the different classes of solar flares, look at <http://spaceweather.com/glossary/flareclasses.html>.

While the solar cycle appears to have peaked last year, we are

still at a high point in the cycle, and headed toward typical spring HF conditions, when overall propagation is best (as in the fall equinox). These times are when sunlight is maximized in both the northern and southern hemispheres, and propagation between the two is best.

Sunspot numbers for March 1 through 7 were 59, 77, 138, 157, 143, 131 and 102, with a mean of 115.3. The 10.7-cm flux was 131.4, 129.7, 139.6, 141, 155.8, 157.8 and 176.6, with a mean of 147.4. Estimated planetary A indices were 5, 8, 14, 17, 18, 6 and 7, with a mean of 10.7.

VP NOTES

Well, this is my last month as your vice-president. It has been a fun two years. I know that whoever takes over the job will do a great job.

I want to thank Bill K8DNE, Bob W5BJ, and John N5TIM for preparing and presenting last month's program on the clubs year 2000 activities. As those of you who were there, it is easy to see why we believe that we are very busy. We, as a club do a lot, and there is a lot more we could do. The main thought is not to let our desire to help, outstrip our ability to be effective. As I said at the last meeting when talking about last year's field day, there was a lot of work by a few folks. I have been advised that there were closer to 15 operators that I had been told. So it was better than I thought.

March brings elections. Be sure that you have paid your dues so that you can vote. I have not seen the slate, but I know that it will be a good one as usual. After we have voted and counted, we will have a presentation by Randy KC5QHH, who will give us a report on the training activities and pass out his QRO awards. April's program will be about what it means to be a "HAM" in today's world. The presenter will be KC5MXN (anyone we know?)

Lots to do this year. N5TIM has two special events in April, KB5ZDG has the MS 150 bike ride in May, and of course the Star Spangled 4th of July. I am looking forward to working with most of you in the future as we have in the past. -30-
Clay KC5MXN V-Pres

Food For Thought
March 2001

This one is very hard to write for some reason.. I don't know if it is because it is my last as your V.P. or because some of our friends are looking for new POE's, or if the specter of needing to look for a job is in the future for some of our folks, or if the creative juices just will not flow. Well here we are on the verge of a new administration for the GARC. For some of us the past year or two has brought many new ideas and goals. For many of our friends there are new jobs, and for some, the need for new jobs. Where are we headed, and how are we going to get there? The more technology we reinvent the more we need to learn. The cycle is unending.

I was taught in school those many years ago, " the more we learn the less we know". Add to that the phrase " the hurrier I go the behinder I get". It is sort of like a whirlpool in the water, not to bad when you first get into it. But the longer you are there, the tighter the circle and the faster the spin. Growth (progress?) has become a two edge sword. As we race down the road of terminological marvels, have we lost sight of the side effects of all this?

Is it so wonderful that we can develop a machine that will allow 2 people to do the jobs of 20, and we call this progress. Have we reached the point that the results are so important, that the reliability of the method is no longer important. We consider the bottom line as the all important measuring stick, and we forget the people that got us there. What ever happened to , What if ? Instant gratification

responds only to what can we have today with no regard of what it will do to us tomorrow. The advertising world would have us to believe that having is the more important factor than tomorrow's cost. More of everything for everyone. One of my old college economics professor said that the American way was for any one to have everything they wanted without concern for the cost. Look out for the Piper.

As KC5GNG put it on the air the other day," we are developing ourselves out of a job. Where are we headed? Who can say. How are we going to cope? No one really knows. However; we are a resourceful bunch of folks, and the word is to always go forward. In the lyrics from the Musical 'Paint your Wagon', Where am I going I don't know, when will I get there I aint certain, All I know is I am on my way. And we are on our way even if we rather not be. Food for thought was just an idea that fit a given purpose. I have had some encouragement to continue writing them.

This I will try to do. In the meantime, let us be strong for those who need strength, lend a hand to the needy, and pray for those who may or may not know they need our help.....-30-

Peace and grace to you and yours.
Clay KC5MXN

**CODE CLASSES
CONTINUE**

Code Class (5 WPM)

Tuesdays , at 7:30 PM at the GARC ECC, 1027B West Austin Street, Garland, Texas. Classes run for 8 weeks with completion in time for the April 26 Garland VEC Test Session

**GENERAL
THEORY**

General Class (6 weeks)

Starts Thursday, April 19, 2001 at 7:00 PM at the GARC ECC, 1027B West Austin Street, Garland, Texas. Class run for 6 weeks transitioning to Tuesday evenings starting May 1, 2001 with completion in time for the May 24 Garland VEC Test Session.

**FROM THE PREZ
CONT:**

(Continued from page 1)
as other current GARC information.

I will bring this article to a close and hope to see you at the meeting on the 26th. Until then.....73's, Kaye

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 31, 2001 - Mesquite Rodeo Parade - The Ham Association of Mesquite (HAM) finds itself in need of radio operators. On Saturday March 31st, the 46th annual Mesquite Rodeo Parade is scheduled. It is also going to celebrate the century mark for MISD. Expectation is that if not the largest it will definitely rank very close to the largest for this parade. We can also use those folks that have an interest in amateur radio and do yet have their license or just interested in helping with their time. On March 31st we gather between 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. at the corner of Newsom and Carver in Mesquite for our assignments. Our part is usually completed between 10:30 and 11:00 a.m. Any interested folks can sign-up by sending an e-mail to Rob Ashmore at rashmore@swbell.net or Wayne Baird, AA5NE. On the HAM Tuesday on-air net, open to all licensed amateurs, we will take names of those that can volunteer a few hours of their time. The net is on Tuesday evening on the HAM repeater at 145.310 (-) with a PL of 162.2 at 8:00 a.m. This repeater will be used for talk-in on Saturday morning.

April 1, 2001 - MS Walks - Sunday MS Walk in Dallas, Texas. To volunteer for this event, contact John Galvin, N5TIM, n5tim@arrl.net or use the Easy Sign-up Form. **Note: Set your clocks ahead for daylight savings time.**

April 1, 2001 - MS Walks - Sunday MS Walk in Plano, Texas. In need of coordinator. **Note: Set your clocks ahead for daylight savings time.**

April 28, 2001 - March of Dimes Walk - Annual March of Dimes walk at White Rock Lake, Dallas, Texas.

May 5-6, 2001 - MS 150 - The MS 150 bike ride. Same as 2000 with probable second day route change. Contact James Marple, KB5ZDG to sign-up for this event.

Easy Sign-up Form

June 2-3, 2001 - Dallas Air Show - Looks like we having an Air Show at Love Field this year. Stand-by for details.

HAMCOM2001 - June 8-10, 2001 - ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course to be offered at Hamcom2001. Arlington Convention Center, Arlington, Texas.

September, 2001 - JDF Walk - JDF walk at White Rock Lake, Dallas, Texas. Exact date to be determined.

You **do not** have to be a RACES/ARES/ARRL member to participate in any public service event.

The ARRL proclaimed 1997 the ARRL Year of Public Service recognizing the critical importance of public service activities in the amateur community. Lets keep the ball rolling for the new millinium by participating in amateur radio public service activities around our community. These events provide usefull field training for when we are needed. Although this web site focuses on special events there are other public service functions. The National Traffic System, RACES, ARES and SkyWarn are additional forms of Public Service.

Send comments, suggestions or information to: John Galvin, N5TIM at n5tim@arrl.net .

ARRL Seeks to Expand Amateur Access to 216-220 MHz

NEWINGTON, CT, Mar 12, 2001--The ARRL has suggested that the FCC expand the secondary amateur allocation at 219-220 MHz to provide access to the entire 216-220 MHz band. The League commented this month in response to a *Notice of Proposed Rule Making*, ET Docket 00-221, that proposes to reallocate 27 MHz of spectrum in various bands, including 216-220 MHz, from government to non-government use. In general, the FCC seeks to allocate the entire 216-220 MHz band to the Fixed and Mobile services on a primary basis. At 219-220 MHz, Amateur Radio now is secondary to the Automated Maritime Telecommunications System (AMTS). Within the 1-MHz of spectrum, Amateurs may install and operate point-to-point digital message forwarding systems, including intercity packet backbones, but only under strict limitations.

While the FCC has promised to protect AMTS and other operations from new interference, it extended no such assurances to amateur operations at 219-220 MHz. In its comments, the ARRL expressed fears that additional co-primary users "will essentially foreclose what limited opportunities there

are now for amateurs to make use of the 219-220 MHz segment."

The League suggested that in the face of such potential constraints at 219-220 MHz, permitting amateur access to the entire 216-220 MHz band on a non-interference basis would be one means to accommodate Amateur Radio operations in that portion of the spectrum. Such a move would, the ARRL said, "provide at least some opportunity for amateurs to engineer fixed links into the band, which would not be possible in the 219-220 MHz segment alone."

The ARRL acknowledged that the change would necessitate mileage-separation protection requirements for television broadcast facilities below 216 MHz and any other incumbent and new fixed and mobile service facilities within the band. "The Amateur Service is well-known for being able to make use of bands used by other services, which increases the efficiency of spectrum use," the League said. The allocation could be made "without any adverse impact on AMTS operations, television broadcast reception, or other, new co-primary operations in the 216-220 MHz band, Fixed or Mobile," the ARRL concluded.

To operate now in the 219-220 MHz segment, amateurs

must register with the ARRL and notify AMTS licensees if within 640 km (approximately 400 miles) of an AMTS facility. If the intended operation is within 80 km (approximately 50 miles) of an AMTS station, amateurs also must get the AMTS licensee's approval. The ARRL says getting such approvals has been difficult to impossible, and amateurs have not been able to make much use of the allocation as a result.

Last month, in comments filed in PR Docket 92-257 (see "League Seeks Greater Flexibility at 219-220 MHz" elsewhere on this page), the ARRL suggested letting amateurs submit computer-generated field strength contours that demonstrate a lack of interference potential to AMTS sites, in lieu of having to get written permission. In this proceeding, the ARRL further suggested that amateurs who proposed to operate in the 216-220 MHz band be allowed to used "fixed-distance separations" in lieu of the present consent requirements, as a means to demonstrate the absence of interference potential to AMTS and other co-primary users.

A copy of the ARRL's comments in ET Docket 00-221 are available on the *ARRLWeb* **

April 2001

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 RACES NET	2 GARC NET Richardson Races 147.12	3 Code Class ECC 7:30p	4 DARC MEETING 146.94 Swap Net	5 147.18 Park Net GARC RACES NET	6	7
8	9 GARC NET	10 Code Class ECC 7:30p	11 146.94 Swap Net	12 147.18 Park Net GARC RACES NET	13 DEADLINE FOR ARCLITE SUBMISSIONS	14 DARC VEC TEST
15 RACES NET	16 GARC NET Richardson Races 147.12	17 Code Class ECC 7:30p	18 146.94 Swap Net	19 147.18 Park Net GARC RACES NET GENERAL CLASS (ECC)	20	21
22	23 GARC MEETING	24 Code Class ECC 7:30p	25 146.94 Swap Net	26 VEC TEST Garland	27	28
29	30 GARC NET					

Same Net Time, Same Net Frequency

The Following nets occur on a regular basis throughout the month.

Every Monday night at 7:30 PM. local time except for meeting nights the GARC conducts a goodnews/info net on 146.66 MHZ

RACES holds nets on Every Thursday Night at 9:00 pm local time on either the 146.66 or the 147.24 repeater. In addition to these nets there are also additional RACES nets held at 8:00 pm local time on the first and third Sunday of the month. These Sunday night nets are held on the 146.88

repeater. Only those stations who are authorized by the FCC or the regional Races authority may transmit on a Races frequency during Races nets unless there is a threat to life or property.

145.31 8:00PM Tuesdays
Mesquite ARC holds a goodnews/info net

146.94 8:00PM Wednesdays
FT Worth holds a info/swap net.

147.18 8:00PM Thursdays
Plano ARK holds a goodnews/info net

Garland Siren Test

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 if interested in helping out.



GARC K5QHD Membership Application Form

Full (Amateur License Required) membership -\$15.00/year
Life (20 times above rate) membership—\$300 (65+ is \$150, one payment attach proof of age)
Senior membership—\$10.00/ Year (Over 65) or Legally Disabled.
Family membership—\$5/year (must have one of the above) **RENEWAL Y/N:** _____
Associate membership—\$15/year (for those not yet licensed)
Student membership—\$10.00/year (must be full time student) **DATE:** _____

NAME: _____

CALL SIGN: _____ **Class of License:** _____

EMAIL ADDRESS : _____

WOULD YOU PREFER TO RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL OR US-MAIL? EMAIL SAVES THE CLUB POSTAGE AND PRINTING COST, SAVINGS ARE USED TO FINACE REPEATOR UPGRADES & MAINTANCE, NEW EQUIPMENT , CLUB ACTIVITIES AND PARTIES.

EMAIL ONLY : _____ US-MAIL: _____ BOTH: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

HOME -PHONE (_____) _____ WORK -PHONE (_____) _____

PAGER (_____) _____ CELL-PHONE (_____) _____

Do you prefer your membership data (email/phone/address) to be kept confidential? _____

PAID ARRL MEMBER Y/N: _____ RACES Member Y/N: _____

Occupation: _____ ARES MEMBER or ARRL Appointment: _____

Other Hobbies or Interest: _____

Would you like to learn more about the rewards of being a club officer, Y/N: _____

Would you like to learn more about public service events? Y/N : _____

Would you like to upgrade your Amateur License Y/N: _____

COMMENTS: _____

Payment Type: Check Amount \$ _____ Check # _____ Cash Tendered\$ _____



Be sure to include your dues check for the appropriate amount:
Mail to: GARC Treasurer 1027B West Austin Street. Garland, Texas. 75040

COMPUTER PROBLEMS???

CRASHED HARD DRIVE, CORRUPTED FILES, CONFUSING INSTALLATION MANUALS, SOFTWARE RUN AMUCK?

CALL ALLEN: KB5GME (972) 202-7533

**FOR THE BEST PRICED ONSITE SERVICE THIS SIDE OF THE MISSISSIPPI
EXPERT ON WINDOWS 98,95-WINDOWS 3.X, DOS & PC HARDWARE
IF YOU HAVE SOME PERIPHERAL YOU WANT INSTALLED ON YOUR MACHINE I CAN DO IT FOR YOU.**

MARCH 2001 GARC BALLOT

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY BY CURRENT GARC MEMBERS.

*Place a mark, or fill in the square to the left of the candidate you wish to vote for.
Only 1 vote per position.*

NOMINATED BY COMMITTEE

WRITE IN

President- Kaye Duncan KC5JWB

V.President- David Villegas N5DAV

Secretary — Allen Yoder KB5GME

Treasurer - Ed Hubbuch KC5GGZ

Ed. Off. — Bill Richards KM5VZ

Comm. Off. - Mark Durban KC5GNG

Arclite Ed. - David B. Kaun KD5LGU

BRING THIS COMPLETED FORM TO MEETING OR MAIL IN ASAP.

Chads of any type or flavor will not be counted.

MINUTES
OF February
GARLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Feb 26, 2001

The regular meeting of the Garland Amateur Radio Club held at the Garland Women's Activities Building was called or order at 7:30 p.m. by the President, Kaye Duncan, KC5JWB.

The club membership was led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Don Duncan, KC5GLM, followed by the introduction of members and guests.

Minutes of the January 2001 meeting were approved as published in *The Arclite*.

OLD BUSINESS:

The weather station raffle during the RACES Skywarn School netted \$536.00 for the club.

James Schroeder, KC5EOR, stated more club members were needed to be candidates for club officers. The elec-

tion of club officers will be at the March 2001 meeting.

John Galvin, N5TIM, reported on upcoming public service events. Additional operators are needed for the MS Walk.

NEW BUSINESS:

The club voted to receive the following new members:

Garland Newman *To be licensed

Chris Nelson N5ZVP

Gordon Reynolds KB5JWJ

Scotty Smith *To be licensed

Michael Schmit WA9WCC

Tom Blackwell updated the club on

pending Texas legislation relating to antenna matters and wireless operation from a vehicle.

STAFF REPORTS:

Kaye Duncan, KC5JWB, GARC President, stated that Gerry Crenshaw, WD4BIS, would be net control for the GARC Information nets for March.

The President presented a new club sign for use at public events.

ARTICLES MARKED **

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March 2001

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25	26 GARC MEETING (ELECTIONS))	27 Code Class ECC 7:30p	28 146.94 Swap Net	29 147.18 Park Net GARC RACES NET	30	31

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 (kc5gng@qsl.net), 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 kb5gme@ev1.net

Membership:

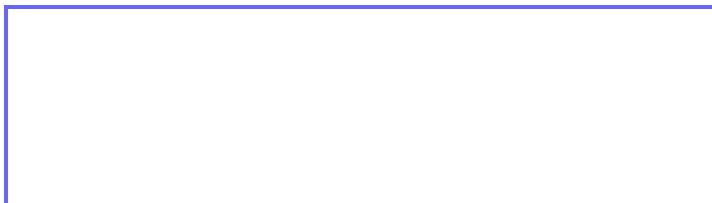
Membership forms are available at the GARC monthly meetings and on the GARC web site. Once the membership form and dues are submitted, new members are voted in at the next GARC monthly meeting.

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, LD Carpenter (K5LD) at ld.carpenter@verizon.net



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



Please Rush!!!

Reminder

The last Friday of month is Hidden Transmitter Night