



## GARC OFFICERS

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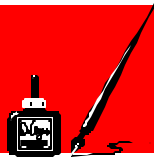
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w5bj@arrl.net

## The President's Pen By Kaye Duncan k5aye



Again, I want to start this article with a thank you to a whole bunch of people that pitched in and helped me at Skywarn School. With the absence of two board members due to illness or family matters, I was scurrying around trying to find people to help out at the last minute. Without hesitation Janet (WB9ZPH) and Gerry (WB4BIS) came to the rescue. Janet assisted me throughout the day with raffle ticket sales and renewals, and Gerry took charge of setting up the coffee sales. In addition, Bill Richards (KM5VZ) worked helping sale coffee and snacks throughout the day. With their efforts along with Garland Newman (W5IDN) and Allen Yoder (NG5Y) I made it through the day! Thanks guys, you're the best!

I also want to thank Joe Jurecka (N5PKY) for speaking to the membership last month on band openings on VHF. We appreciate his time and efforts on informing us on this very interesting aspect of amateur radio.

Just as a reminder; the GARC board elections will be held at this month's meeting on March 22nd. We will be allowing votes to be cast during social time at 7pm and at the break. The new board members will be announced after the break. In order to vote you need to be current on your dues so if you are not then we can take care of that as well.

It is my understanding that John Galvin (N5TIM) still needs help with the MS Walk on April 28th. If you can help out please contact him through email at [n5tim@arrl.net](mailto:n5tim@arrl.net) or you can sign up on the web at [www.qsl.net/n5tim/](http://www.qsl.net/n5tim/).

I will end this for now but I hope to see all GARC members at the next meeting! Until then.....73's, Kaye

# Upcoming events

**March 27, 2004 - MS Walk Plano** - Saturday MS Walk in Plano, Texas. To volunteer for the **Plano** walk, contact Jonathan Sennetti, K5VX at k5vx@arrl.net or use the Easy Sign-up Form to sign-up. Visit the MS Society Lonestar Chapter for additional information.

**March 27, 2004 - Mesquite Rodeo Parade** - Annual Mesquite Chamber of Commerce Rodeo Parade. The Ham Association of Mesquite along with other amateur radio operators are responsible for lining up the entries (bands, floats, vehicles and horses) for the parade. This is a great public service event for ham radio operators and those R.A.C.E.S. members who assist will get public service credit. We are looking for assistance from other clubs or radio operators with this event. The Rodeo Parade is a big event and we need about 40 radio operators on Saturday, March 27, 2004 at 8:00 AM. We are meeting at 302 Newsome St at Carver St (mapsc 50-W) and net control will be on 145.310 with PL Tone 162.2. Cold drinks and donut s will be provided. Those who assist with the event will receive a T-Shirt. The event should be over by 12 noon or before. To volunteer contact George Rice - KC5-TOO - garice@sbcglobal.net or Benny Rice - KC5-UBZ - bennyrice@sbcglobal.net or phone 972-222-3312.

**March 28, 2004 - MS Walk Dallas** - Sunday MS Walk in Dallas, Texas. To volunteer for the **Dallas** walk, contact John Galvin, N5TIM, n5tim@arrl.net or use the Easy Sign-up Form.  
Visit the MS Society Lonestar Chapter for additional information.

**April 3, 2004 - Scholarship Fun Run** - Watson Technology Ctr (GISD) on Dairy Rd is the prime sponsor with Benefits going to the Watson Ele. scholarship fund.  
The run will be held at Ablon Park located at 3850 Ablon Trail Dr. (beside Toler Elem.). It will start at 9:00 am on 3 APR 04 (Sat) and should be over by 1030.  
GPD is already set to block off the course, re-open the course as the tail end passes and will be stationed at the roadblocks.  
They will need 10 to 11 operators and one operator at the Start/Finish. It is only a one mile and three course. I assume simplex will be used. I will be the primary POC at: 972-226-1266 or kc5ggx@comcast.net. Thanks and 73, Andy Clements, KC5GGX

**April 24, 2004 - WalkAmerica 2004** - March of Dimes walk at White Rock Lake, Dallas, Texas. To volunteer for this event, contact John Galvin, N5TIM, n5tim@arrl.net or use the Easy Sign-up Form.

**May 1 & 2, 2004 - MS150 Red River Challenge** - Annual two-day non-competitive 150 mile cycling adventure that challenges riders of all ages, levels and abilities. Amateur radio operators are needed to provide the critical communication needs that this event must have to succeed. Hundreds of area hams have volunteered over the past 14 years, and **you are needed again!** Volunteer for both days, or choose Saturday or Sunday. 2 meters will be the primary mode of communication, but we plan to use APRS and possibly NVIS. Coordinators for those modes are needed. Who knows, if an ATV guru will step up, we could put ourselves on the map with ATV use as well!  
Contact KB5ZDG, James Marple, for more info at j.marple@verizon.net. Register now and make your lodging or camping plans ASAP.  
The following link will take you to the MS150 Red River Challenge web site:  
MS150 Red River Challenge web page.

Use the on-line volunteer registration Form, to assure a T-shirt and free meals for the weekend.

**May 8, 2004 - Wild Ride** - Richardson Regional Medical Center Wild Ride! is expected to draw 1,000 cyclists to Richardson and the North Dallas area on Saturday, May 8, 2004. Cyclists may register to ride 30, 50 or 62 miles through Richardson, Murphy, Wylie, Lavon, Nevada and Josephine. This new rally will be held in conjunction with the City of Richardson's Wildflower Festival.  
Ham radio operators are needed to provide communications over the route. In addition to the typical voice communication over VHF repeaters and APRS, this year we hope to connect the rest stops with 802.11 wireless internet. The goal is to have a webcam at each rest stop uploading pictures to a web site.  
Especially needed are hams who have 802.11 equipment with directional antennas and/or laptop computers with webcams. Also hams with high speed internet connections living in those towns can assist.  
Additional information about wireless internet plans are available the Dallas Area Working Group - High Speed Multimedia web site: <http://www.hykkonen.net/dawg-hsmm/>  
Please volunteer early to help with the planning.  
Contact person:  
Doug Kilgore KD5OUG Richardson Wireless Klub kd5oug@arrl.net or 972.231-8539.

## email addresses for current and past event coordinators

**Note;** Substitute "@" for "+" in each email address.

Richard Bartlett, KE6LOU - ke6lou+arrl.net

Bob Jones, W5BJ - w5bj+arrl.net

Clay Orchard, KC5MXN - oskip+juno.com

Bill Fell, KK5PB - kk5pb+arrl.net

Bob Bailey, N5ITN - n5itn+comcast.net

John Sanders, AB5ZR - ab5zr+arrl.net

John Galvin, N5TIM - n5tim+arrl.net

James Marple, KB5ZDG - j.marple+verizon.net

Bob Ashmore, KA5SNM - ashmore@mindspring.com

Jim Dye, N5JZ - N5jz+aol.com

Jonathan Sennetti, K5VX - sennetti+nortelnetworks.com

Scott Hammond, KK5PP - kk5pp+arrl.net

Jim Shultz, W5OMG - W5OMG+arrl.net

**August 21, 2004 - RED HOT CHILI PEPPER RIDE** - 20, 40, and 60 mile bike ride benefiting the Calumet Center of Dallas. Further information available at [http://www.qsl.net/ke6lou/red\\_hot\\_chili\\_pepper\\_ride\\_2004.htm](http://www.qsl.net/ke6lou/red_hot_chili_pepper_ride_2004.htm). To sign up, contact Richard Bartlett, KE6LOU [ke6lou@arrl.net](mailto:ke6lou@arrl.net), 972-741-8485, or use the Public Service Event Sign Up Form.

**October 2, 2004(Tentative)- 10K Walk to Cure Diabetes** - Annual JDRF event at White Rock Lake (Winfrey Point), Dallas, TX. Contact Bob Jones, W5BJ with any questions or to sign on for this event. More details soon.

**October 2, 2004 - AIDS ARMS LIFE WALK** - 5K fun run/walk benefiting the Resource Center of Dallas. Further information available at [http://www.qsl.net/ke6lou/Aidsarms\\_lifewalk\\_04.htm](http://www.qsl.net/ke6lou/Aidsarms_lifewalk_04.htm). To sign up, contact Richard Bartlett, KE6LOU [ke6lou@arrl.net](mailto:ke6lou@arrl.net), 972-741-8485, or use the Public Service Event Sign Up Form [http://www.qsl.net/ke6lou/pse\\_appl.htm](http://www.qsl.net/ke6lou/pse_appl.htm).

## **GARC MEETING MINUTES**

### **February 23, 2004**

The meeting was called to order at 7:34pm. Pledge of Allegiance, member and visitor introductions, and acknowledgement of upgrades took place.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Meeting minutes were tabled to be read by members in the next Arclite

Anyone interested in a board position or helping out at the election contact Ed Hubbuch (KC%GGZ)

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Voted in new member Michael Nino

Kaye thanked Janet & Gerry Crenshaw, Bill Richards, Garland Newman, and Allen Yoder for their help at Skywarn School. Total profit from the raffle and coffee sales was \$524.00

John Galvin updated us on special events through April

Ralph Brown requested a motion from the membership to purchase repeater equipment for \$800.00 which includes 8 duplexers and 2 Motorola radios

(6 & 10 mtr). The motion was made and seconded and passed. Ralph will need help in moving them and storing them.

Bob Jones introduced Dana Davies who we helped with estate sale. Dana's father was W5RL and is a silent key. Dana presented the GARC for a check of 10% of the proceeds as well as a gracious bonus. Another check had already been presented to the GARC by Dana for selling off remaining equipment for \$300.

Garland Newman announced a new Technician Class starting on 2-24-04

Contact Carrye Lethgo for roster or Arclite distribution changes

Ralph Brown said we are still getting interference on the 440 repeater and is still working on trying to pinpoint it. Richardson Wireless Club and Nortel Club repeaters are getting the same interference.

Ed Hubbuch announced before tonight's deposits we had \$2,379.01. After deposits we should have around \$3,000.00.

Help is needed for April's GARC Information Net...

After a 10-minute break Joe Jureca (N5PYK) addressed the membership on **"Band Openings on VHF"**.

Cleanup then meeting was adjourned.

### To “FRN” or not to “FRN”? That is the question.

Do you have a Commission Registration System (CORES) number, and what is an “FRN” ?????  
Should you worry about either one?????

All the above are legitimate questions which should, at some time, have crossed every amateur radio operator’s mind recently. Over the past three years every radio amateur **should** have had some contact with both items. Believe it or not, you “could” be operating outside the law if you are totally unaware of the “FRN” number. Sounds bad, but not really. I will explain the steps that every radio amateur must accomplish to get their FCC records corrected and updated.

First, the story as it unfolded: (all dates are approximate.)

Around August 16, 1999, the FCC opened its doors to Amateur Radio applicants and the new Universal Licensing System (ULS). Many articles in the Ham magazines advised ALL amateurs to register their Tax Identification Number (TIN) in the ULS structure. At that time, the applicant would receive an “L” number. This was a long number beginning with the letter “L”. After the “test run” with the amateur community, the FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) opened up the ULS to all licensees, commercial and public services. On April 29, 2000, the FCC opened the ULS to Internet filers. All radio amateurs were instructed, via various publications, to register their social security number (TIN) via the Internet. Around September 2000, the FCC announced the creation of the FCC Commission Registration System (CORES). The new system was to be streamlined and to eventually replace the entire ULS system. In reality, ULS never really worked as the FCC expected it to work. The CORES system was to assign a new 10-digit FCC Registration Number (FRN), which would replace the License ID Number (LIN) assigned by the ULS system for WTB licensees. On, or about, January 15, 2001, the FCC mailed a letter to ALL ULS REGISTERED amateurs, which included their new FRN, which was automatically assigned in preparation for the discontinuation of the ULS system.

NOW, here is “the other half of the story”:

Firstly, only about 6-10 percent of the amateur community took the FCC seriously and registered their TIN and receiver their “L” number assigned by the ULS process. Further, very few amateurs remember the mailing of the letter from the FCC assigning the radio amateur their FRN number. Needless to say, that letter SHOULD have been filed with their license papers. Secondly, the FCC did, in fact, announce that they were shutting down the ULS and switching totally to CORES on December 31, 2001. Thusly, as I write this article, the FCC does NOT know you by your callsign any more. You either have an FRN or the FCC does not know you exist. In other words, if you have ANY business with the FCC (modifications, renewals, etc), they will not know who you are, without the now infamous FRN.

#### **Obtaining your FRN:**

Get your handy Internet browser cranked up and get ready to have some “fun” on the FCC web site. Bring up the FCC web site at <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/> and choose the “REGISTER CORES/CALLSIGN” icon. The next screen will have a field which says “If you are not registered with the FCC”. Choose “Register now” and click “Continue”. The next screen will be the “Registration Type” screen. Choose “An individual” and click on “Continue”. The next screen will be the “Register a Domestic Individual” screen. Keep following the screen instructions until the process is completed. When you arrive at the “CORES Password” section, erase the default password and enter your own selection for a password and hint. Print any screen that contains numbers that correspond to the “L” number and the FRN. Record your passwords as entered. File these prints with your License (FCC Form 660).

#### **Updating your call sign/ASR information:**

Bring back the FCC web site at <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/> and again choose the “REGISTER CORES/CALLSIGN” icon. The next screen will have a two item field which says “If you are already registered with the FCC”. Choose “Update call sign/ASR Information” and click “Continue”. On the next screen, enter your newly acquired FRN (no dashes) and your password. Click “Continue”. Read as much of the next page as you wish, but the first bullet instruction is what you need. You should click on “Enter Call Signs”. You will be presented with a screen that will allow you to enter up to 100 call signs. Needless to say, enter your ONE call sign in block #1. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on “Submit”. You have now “married” your new FRN and your call sign.

## RESETTING YOUR CORES PASSWORD

### **Ohh my Goodness!!!! Where is my PASSWORD?????**

Let me pose two scenarios for y'all to contemplate:

Scenario #1: You have misplaced the letter from the FCC that you received in the first quarter of 2001 (if you were licensed at that time) and you did not record the enclosed password.

Scenario #2: You obtained your "FRN" but forgot to hit the "print" key and/or record the password that you inserted at the FRN registration time. You might also have an FRN and not have ever talked to the FCC. This happens when you obtain a new license.

You can rebound from either scenario by accomplishing the following few steps.

From a telephone that is located near your computer, place a telephone call to the CORES Help Desk at 1-877-480-3201 (Option #2) toll free, or 1-202-414-1250 and you pay the toll. Explain to the person at the "Help Desk" that you have forgotten to record your password or you do not have a password and you need their help. You will be requested to provide your FRN and TIN/SSN. After the appropriate identification, the CORES Administrator will give you three options:

1. He can give you your password "hint".

2. He can reset your password to a CORES system generated password and send said password information via postal mail. Upon receipt of the CORES system generated password, you must proceed to "A" through "G" in step #3 below to enter a password of your choice.

3. He can assign you a 24-HOUR temporary password over the phone. With this option you will need to go immediately to the CORES website "Update" option and change your temporary password to your selected permanent password. Follow the steps below.

Point your browser to <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

Choose "REGISTER" (CORES/CALLSIGN)

On this screen, choose "Update Registration Information". Click "Continue"

On this screen, enter your "FRN" and the temporary password that the CORES administrator issued.

On this screen, move down the page and click on the "CORES Password" section.

Enter your permanent or new password and click on "Submit" to save the new entries/update.

**RECORD YOUR PASSWORD AND FILE IT WITH YOUR LICENSE.** It is a good idea to "Print" the entire "Update Registration" page (prior to hitting the "Submit" button) and file it with your license.

You are now ready to handle any Amateur Radio License business that you might need to accomplish at a later date. Be advised that if you fail to update the FCC database (within 30 days of any change) with your corrected information about your license, you may be in violation of several Code of Federal Regulations sections. If the FCC ever has reason to send you mail, and that piece of mail is returned to them as "undeliverable", you could be liable for some correspondence with Riley Hollingworth. L

Author: W.H. (Bill) Reynolds, K8DNE  
ARRL Liaison Volunteer Examiner  
04-07-2004

## For sale or trade

If you have any items for sale (should be Ham Radio related) let us know and we can post it here for you...  
If you are looking for a job, or your employer is hiring let us know...

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MFJ-784 Tunable DSP Filter with MFJ-55 firmware upgrade. In box and in excellent condition with manuals. .... \$ 125.00

Astron RS-12 Power Supply. Very good condition Clean ..... \$ 50.00

Power One open frame power supply. 12 volts at 6.8 amps. With A/C cord. .... \$ 10.00

Astatic D104. Good condition ..... \$ 35.00

Contact John Galvin, N5TIM at 972-530-1186

Thanks, John

John - N5TIM

[www.qsl.net/n5tim](http://www.qsl.net/n5tim) for Public Service Info <http://garland-races.home.comcast.net>

JUNK - Stuff we throw away. STUFF - junk we keep.

## FRN Cont:

Upon completion of the FCC CORES registration, wait two or three days and then check your call sign on the ARRL's license look-up page <http://www.arrl.org/fcc/fcclook.php3> via the web. You should see your Licensee ID number and your FRN. Print this page and file it with your FCC Form 660 (License). This will insure that you have two copies of the numbers (if you completed the copies from the last two paragraphs) and that they are filed with your license. Checking the FCC database via the ARRL lookup page will insure that your information was, in fact, recorded into the FCC database. You are now ready to handle any updates/renewals/modifications that are necessary via the FCC internet web site. REMEMBER that you are in violation of the Code of Federal Regulations (Part 97, Subpart "A", Section 97.23) pertaining to Amateur Radio if you have changed your residence address and have NOT notified the FCC within 30 days of the change. There are, in fact, many folks who have not met this particular CFR requirement.

Forgotten your CORES password???? Not to worry!! Please read my instructions on "RESETTING YOUR CORES PASSWORD.

Author: W.H. (Bill) Reynolds, K8DNE  
ARRL Liaison Volunteer Examiner  
03-07-2004



# April 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 <small>VEC TEST</small>	23	24
25	26 <small>GARC Meeting</small>	27	28	29	30	

## Same Net Time, Same Net Frequency

The Following nets occur on a regular basis throughout the month. Every 1st & 3rd Monday night at 7:30 PM. local time except for meeting nights the GARC conducts a good news/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  
Ham Association Of Mesquite holds a good news/info net

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

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

## Garl and 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 Bill Richards, KM5VZ if interested in helping out.

## 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 1st, 3rd 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, Ralph Brown ([wrbraun@juno.com](mailto:wrbraun@juno.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 [ng5y@arrl.net](mailto:ng5y@arrl.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, Carrye Lethgo (KD5RFB) at [clethgo@yahoo.com](mailto:clethgo@yahoo.com).



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



*Please Rush!!!*

Reminder

**GARC Information Net - 1st & 3rd Monday nights at 7:30 p.m.**