



# THE ARCLITE

VOLUME 35 ISSUE 04

APRIL 2007

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VP@K5QHD.ORG

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## THE PRESIDENT'S PEN BY ALLEN YODER NG5Y



### From the Presidents Pen

I have been very busy promoting the club and trying to make things happen for us. They might not be available for the April meeting but we should have our Kroger Share cards by the end of the month. The way I understand they work is first you scan your Kroger Plus Card. Then you scan this new Kroger Share Card you will get from the Club. The share card won't change the price of your groceries at all but once a quarter Kroger will donate 1% of your purchases to the Repeater support fund. We have established a separate bank account for the repeater fund. Our goal being to replace the current 2 meter repeater and controller with a new and more friendly unit. We have a GE Repeater now that is approximately 20 years old and it is no longer supported. If it breaks and we can not find the component ourselves we are dead in the water on the primary repeater. We do have a backup unit. This unit is small and somewhat portable. It would be very nice to take the current 2meter repeater and designate it as the primary backup. Use the current backup as a mobile disaster and field unit and have a brand new repeater with a user friendly controller as the primary unit. BTW Melanie (KD5LVW) my wife has had a very good humor about all my club activates. But she calls the club the "Other Woman". I am pretty sure you will get to see her at the next meeting.

Continued on page 7

**MAIN STREET**  
**BAR & GRILL**  
**LIVE MUSIC**

Michael McDonald  
620 Main Street  
Garland, TX 75040  
Telephone: 972-272-3400  
Fax: 972-272-3405

Don't forget if your hungry before the main meeting that there is an informal get together for dinner at the Main Street Bar and Grill from 6 to 7 pm. Every 4th Monday of the month. See you there!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **APRIL 28th**

#### **Mesquite Rodeo Parade - 50th Anniversary**

This year is the 50th Anniversary of the Mesquite Rodeo Parade and it will be a three day event. The City of Mesquite and Chamber of Commerce is having "REAL TEXAS FESTIVAL" with a lot of entertainment. The Ham Association of Mesquite and Mesquite R.A.C.E.S. will be lining up the parade again this year and will need radio operators to assist. If you are a R.A.C.E.S. member this is a good opportunity to get credit for your community service. The staging area will be at Newsome & Carver this year and the Net Control will be at Florence Black Elementary School, (Newsome & Wilkinson). We will be meeting at Florence Black Elementary School at 7:30 AM. There will be donuts, coffee and cold drinks. Bring your HT and FSR radios and join in on the fun. I am looking for volunteers and we need about 40 people to handle this event. If you can assist please reply to this email. I have several people who have signed up and those do not have to reply. If you have any questions please give me a call. Thanks, George Rice, KC5TOO - 972-222-3312 or [garice@sbcglobal.net](mailto:garice@sbcglobal.net)

### **MAY 5th and 6th**

#### **SAM'S CLUB MS 150 Dallas to Fort Worth Bike Ride**

The 2007 Tour follows the Route pioneered in 2006. Starting in Frisco and ending in Fort Worth with an Overnight Pit Stop at Texas Motor Speedway, this two-day non-competitive 150 mile cycling adventure challenges riders of all ages, levels and abilities. The Lone Star Chapter is proud to retrace the route for the 21st Annual Dallas MS 150 Bike Tour. 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 15 years, and **you are needed once again!** Volunteer for both days, or choose Saturday or Sunday. Special SAG will be available to return Saturday only communicators to starting area. 2 meters will be the primary mode of communication, and we need lots of APRS equipment 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](mailto:j.marple@verizon.net). Register now and make your lodging or camping plans ASAP. If you can't get James, just contact John Galvin - N5TIM at [n5tim@arrl.net](mailto:n5tim@arrl.net).

May12th

#### **Lucas 5K Run**

The City of Lucas is holding a 5K run on Saturday May 12, 2007. They would like to have at least 12 hams help along the race route, shadow, and a sag vehicle. The race will start at 8:30 am and finish approximately 12 noon. The start/finish line will be at the new Lovejoy High School. We would like the hams to be on site at 7:30 am. If you are interested in helping please contact Bobette Mauck at [jbm0928@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jbm0928@sbcglobal.net) or 214-578-6248

## Minutes of the Garland ARC meeting 3-26-07 as submitted by Garland Newman

The meeting was called to order by Allen Yoder, NG5Y at 7:30 PM, Conrad AB6ST led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. After introductions by all present Allen awarded a door prize of a VOM to KK6FB ,Don Horton.

John Galvin, N5TIM, gave us a rundown on Public Service event up coming.

Ride for Heroes	March 31	
Walk America,	April 21	White Rock Lake
Lancaster Bike Ride	April 14	Lancaster, Sponsor Irving ARC
Special Olympics	April 27 & 28	Wylie
MS-150 Bike Ride	May 4 & 5	Starts in Frisco
Richardson Wild Ride	May 19	Richardson
Ham Com	June 8 & 9	Plano

Treasurers report from Bill, KE5DHY reported we had a balance of \$2100.00 in the bank. Allen, NG5Y, announced the repeaters are getting old and need to be replaced. We need to raise money for this. Tom Thumb has a program that will allow the club to get some money if you use your Tom Thumb rewards card. You must go and sign up for the good neighbor rewards. If you have a Tom Thumb rewards card sign up and our number is #11636. This will not cost you anything. We are checking into Kroger, Albertson and others, to see if they have a similar plan. This money will be put in the repeater fund. New members were voted in including Don Horton, KK6FB, James Stafford W5DTG, Charles Myers, No Call

Swank, WA5GNT, announced that June 16 will be Kids Day at the ECC & will be open all afternoon. This is for Kids of all ages.

Elections were held for officers:

President:	Allen Yoder, NG5Y
Vice-president:	Swank Roberts, WA5GNT
Secretary:	David Beveridge, KE5MTE
Treasurer:	Wayne Williams, WT5J
Education Officer:	Bill Engel, KE5DHY
Com. Officer:	Ralph Brown, KA5KVF
Arclite Editor:	Melanie Yoder, KD5LVW

Randy Dunning, KC5QHH, made a motion to elect all members by acclamation, second by Al Kinnard, AD5AZ. Motion was passed.

The speaker was Duane Baade, W5PNM, on Software Defined Radio. If you missed this you missed a lot. A lot of questions and some very good discussion. Thanks Dwayne.

Meeting was adjourned by Swank Roberts, WA5GNT

## A FEW NOTES FROM THE GOOD NATURED TEXAN

BY SWANK ROBERTS, WA5GNT

Find out who your Ham neighbors are !

<http://www.vanityhq.com/cgi/hamlocator.cgi?http://www.ae7q.com>

Chuckles for you :

Hmmm... Discoveries are made by not following instructions.

Hmmm... One of the greatest labor-saving inventions of today is tomorrow.

Hmmm... How soon 'not now' becomes 'never'.

Where is Clark Kent ? Here is some help from Courtney Flatt, Garland neighborsgo editor, The Dallas Morning News

[cflatt@neighborsgo.com](mailto:cflatt@neighborsgo.com) 972-272-6591 ext. 263

Upload your stories, photos and videos with immediate results at [neighborsgo.com](http://neighborsgo.com).

Bring a friend to our meetings ... and remember we want Scouts to take our Amateur Radio Classes & join us in future events like Field Day & Kids Day.

As Charles Osgood says : "See ya on the Radio"

73,

Swank Roberts

[vp@k5qhd.org](mailto:vp@k5qhd.org) Where Radio is FUN ...Again !

I'm excited to let you know that our new Web site, [neighborsgo.com](http://neighborsgo.com), is now live. In addition to containing all the great local community news that you've come to expect every Saturday in the *Neighbors* print section, the site provides you with the publishing tools to instantly upload your stories, photos and videos. You can create groups, post events and comment on forums, as well.

The site also gives me the chance to select the timeliest, most relevant content to publish each week in our print edition, which as of Saturday also will be named *neighborsgo*.

Ideally, every one of the neighborhood associations in the Garland area will create its own neighborhood group on *neighborsgo*. I'd also like to see the churches and religious organizations create their own groups on the site. PTAs, civic groups, art organizations, this is your chance to broaden your reach and inform the Garland residents.

As with any new product, there are going to be glitches. So please share your thoughts with me after you log in and sign up at [neighborsgo.com](http://neighborsgo.com), and help me help you tell your stories and connect with others.

Thanks so much for all that you have done to make *Neighbors* a success, and I look forward to hearing from – and seeing you – on [neighborsgo.com](http://neighborsgo.com)!

## AMATEUR RADIO SPACE NEWS!

The fifth civilian to visit the International Space Station did accompany the station's Expedition 15 crew into space Saturday, April 7. Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) <<http://www.rac.ca/ariss>> reports that software pioneer and aviator Charles Simonyi, KE7KDP, plans to talk with students at four schools during his ISS stay -- one in his native Hungary plus schools in Ohio, Washington and Virginia. He also may make casual contacts. A client of Vienna, Virginia-based Space Adventures Ltd <<http://www.spaceadventures.com/>>, Simonyi, 58, will be the third passenger aboard the Soyuz TMA-10 "taxi mission" that will carry Expedition 15 Russian cosmonauts Fyodor Yurchikhin, RN3FI, and Oleg Kotov, to the ISS.

Simonyi

is paying an estimated \$25 million for the privilege of spending eight days in space.

"Charles and crew were in Baikonur, Kazakhstan, participating in final flight preparations," a Space Adventures mission update said this week.

"These activities include suit pressure checks, launch day press conference rehearsals and spacecraft fit checks. The crew also participated in a traditional flag raising ceremony."

Simonyi also has taken part in other longstanding Russian space program traditions, including visits to Red Square in Moscow and to the tomb of Soviet space pioneer Yuri Gagarin. During his stay aboard the ISS, Simonyi will conduct experiments on behalf of several international space agencies.

Upon their arrival at the ISS, the two cosmonauts will join US astronaut Suni Williams, KD5PLB, whose duty tour will span Expeditions 14 and 15. Yurchikhin and Kotov will spend about six months aboard the ISS, while Williams will return home in June.

Simonyi will come back

to Earth with Expedition 14 crew members Mike Lopez-Alegria, KE5GTK, and Mikhail Tyurin, RZ3FT, aboard the Soyuz TMA-9, now docked to the ISS. Yurchikhin, 48, will be making his second flight to the ISS; he was a member of a 2002 shuttle crew that did construction work on the station. Kotov, 41, is making his first spaceflight.

The Expedition 14 crew earlier had been readying the space station for the arrival of the Expedition 15 crew and Simonyi. The Soyuz TMA-10 launched from Kazakhstan at 1731 UTC on April 7. It docked with the ISS at 1903 UTC on April 9.

A footnote from NASA: On April 3, Lopez-Alegria set a US record for a single flight of 196 days in space.

A one-time Microsoft application developer and reputed billionaire, Simonyi has established a Web site <<http://www.charlesinspace.com/>> to chronicle his experiences. Space Adventures organized the flights for private space explorers Dennis Tito, KG6FZX, Mark Shuttleworth, Greg Olsen, KC2ONX, and Anousheh Ansari. -- some information from Space Adventures Ltd and NASA

For more information, contact the Garland Amateur Radio Club, [www.k5qhd.org](http://www.k5qhd.org) FREE classes are available to ANYONE interested in obtaining an Amateur (Ham) Radio License ! The general public (and especially Boy Scouts) are always welcome to visit us !





# REWARD APPLICATION

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DATE

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AMERICAN AIRLINES AAdvantage #: \_\_\_\_\_

If you need to obtain an American Airlines AAdvantage account number, call 1-800-433-7333. Ask for Tom for details.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_



## GOOD NEIGHBOR PROGRAM

Complete this portion to link your Reward Card to the charity of your choice (you can choose to link up to three charities). Ask the courtesy booth for the GNP number of a particular charity. To learn about the Good Neighbor Program go to [www.tomthumb.com](http://www.tomthumb.com).

REWARD CARD NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

**Charity to be added to your Card:**

GNP Charity#

1. Charity # \_\_\_\_\_

2. Charity # \_\_\_\_\_

3. Charity # \_\_\_\_\_

**Charity to be deleted from your Card:**

1. Charity # \_\_\_\_\_

2. Charity # \_\_\_\_\_

3. Charity # \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ DALLAS



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**Garland, TX 75042**  
 (near Walnut & Jupiter, behind Pizza Hut)  
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## President's Pen continued from page one

Swank has several meetings mapped out for our year. We have organized a Field Day Committee. If you have something you want to do at Field Day please contact Ralph Brown KA5KVF and we will see if it can be done. I have been busy in other areas as well. I have been in contact with the board of the Dallas Amateur Radio Club and with the President of the Ham Association of Mesquite. We have formed a Yahoo Group Called North Texas Amateur Radio Club Union. This is just a place for Club members to share fund raising ideas as well as share ideas for meeting topics between clubs.

Since we have been talking so much about Kroger, let me remind you that we already have our Tom Thumb Good Neighbor account set up. It's a little easier on you to use. It works like the Kroger Share Card in that it will raise funds for the club. The difference is you need only know the clubs Good Neighbor Number. 11636. You fill out the form and give it to the customer service desk and then every time you use your Tom Thumb Rewards Card and buy groceries you are helping the club too. I will include a sign up form in the Arclite. If you shop at Tom Thumb at all please sign up. Don't limit yourself, tell your friends and relatives about these programs. The more who help, the bigger the reward will be. We can give anyone who asks a Kroger Share Card. Anyone else may sign up with Tom Thumb.

See you at the April Meeting.

73's

NG5Y



## FCC Poised to Cut Vanity Call Sign Fee by More Than 40 Percent

NEWINGTON, CT, Apr 19, 2007 -- The FCC has proposed reducing the regulatory fee to obtain or retain an Amateur Radio vanity call sign by more than 40 percent starting later this year. *In a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)* released April 18, "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2007," in MD Docket 07-81, the Commission is proposing to cut the fee from its current \$20.80 to \$11.70. If ultimately adopted, that would mark the lowest fee in the history of the current vanity call sign program. "In this *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, we propose to collect \$290,295,160 in regulatory fees for Fiscal Year (FY) 2007, pursuant to Section 9 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended," the FCC said. "These fees are mandated by Congress and are collected to recover the regulatory costs associated with the Commission's enforcement, policy and rulemaking, user information, and international activities." Regulatory fees are collected in advance to cover the term of the license and are submitted at the time of application, the FCC points out. Comments on the proposals outlined in MD Docket 07-81 are due May 3. Reply comments are due May 11. The Commission is obligated to collect nearly \$290.3 million in regulatory fees during FY 2007 to fund its operations. "Consistent with our established practice, we intend to collect these regulatory fees in the August-September 2007 time frame in order to collect the required amount by the end of the fiscal year," the FCC said. **Regulatory Fee Roller Coaster** The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the years, but even the current fee is far lower than the \$70 the FCC first announced in its 1994 *Report and Order*. The fee subsequently was reduced to \$30 for the initial rounds of vanity call sign filers in 1996. Over the 11 years of the program, the fee has varied from a low of \$12 to a high of \$50. The FCC indicates in the *NPRM* that it anticipates some 14,700 Amateur Radio vanity call sign "payment units" or applications during the next fiscal year.

### Vanity Fee Due for New, Renewal Applications

The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign but upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. The first vanity call sign licenses issued under the current Amateur Radio vanity call sign program that began in 1996 came up for renewal last year. Those holding vanity call signs issued prior to 1996 are exempt from having to pay the vanity call sign regulatory fee at renewal. That's because Congress did not authorize the FCC to collect regulatory fees until 1993. Such "heritage" vanity call sign holders do not appear as vanity licensees in the [ULS](#) Amateur Radio database. Amateur Radio licensees may file for renewal only within 90 days of their license expiration date. All radio amateurs must have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before filing any application with the Commission. Applicants can obtain an FRN by going to the [ULS](#) and clicking on the "New Users Register" link. You must supply your Social Security Number to obtain an FRN.

### ARRL Processes License Renewals, Including Vanities

The ARRL VEC will process license renewals for vanity call sign holders for a modest fee. The service is available to ARRL members and nonmembers, although League members pay less. Routine, non-vanity renewals continue to be free for ARRL members. Trustees of club stations with vanity call signs may renew either via the ULS or through a Club Station Call Sign Administrator, such as ARRL VEC. League members should visit the "[ARRL Member Instructions for License Renewals or Changes](#)" page, while the "[Instructions for License Renewals or Changes](#)" page covers general renewal procedures for nonmembers. There's additional information on the ARRL VEC's "[FCC License Renewals and ARRL License Expiration Notices](#)" page. License application and renewal information and links to the required forms are available on the ARRL [Amateur Application Filing FAQ](#) Web page. The [FCC's forms page](#) also offers the required forms.



# MAY 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Join the K5QHD yah oo group	To view an interactive	1 Calendar	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 Board Meeting Meeting on the Air	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Open House ECC
20	21	22	23	24 VEC TEST	25 Meeting on the Air	26
27	28 CLUB MEETING	29	30	31		

## SAME NET TIME, SAME NET FREQUENCY

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

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

### ON THE AIR

We have restarted our "Meeting on the air". Tune in on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month at 7:00 PM 146.660 MHZ All licensed amateurs are welcome to participate.

## 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 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**.

### Internet:

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

<http://www.k5qhd.org> ALSO

SEE K5QHD Under Yahoo Groups

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 [editor@k5qhd.org](mailto:editor@k5qhd.org)

### 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, at [secretary@k5qhd.org](mailto:secretary@k5qhd.org).

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



**Where Radio is Fun ... Again !**

*Please Rush!!!*

**Reminder**

**RENEW YOUR ARRL SUBSCRIPTION AT THE GARC**