

# THE ARCLITE

THE GARC IS A 501(C)3 NON PROFIT ARRL SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

WHERE AMATEUR RADIO IS FUN AGAIN!

NOVEMBER

FALL-2008

## PUBLIC SERVICE

GARLAND  
CHRISTMAS ON  
THE SQUARE,

WHITE ROCK  
MARATHON  
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## CHRISTMAS PARTY

Annual GARC Party to  
be held at K5DHY's  
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## Repeater News

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## Swank Report



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## Hidden transmitter

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wants to restart  
K5QHD transmitter  
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## PRESIDENT'S PEN

Having only been a ham for four years, I have found that one of the more interesting publications for a newbie is a magazine called "World Radio." I particularly enjoy the "Rules & Regs" column by John Johnston W3BE with his "W3BE-O-GRAMS" and Krusty Olde Kurt Sterba's "Aerials." My subscription is paid up until June, 2011.

Well, it was announced this past week that World Radio has ceased publication and has been purchased by CQ Magazine. Their intention is to provide the content on the CQ web



site. There were less than 20,000 subscribers to World Radio out of a total ham community that exceeds 600,000, so the economics of publishing a hard copy magazine, even on newsprint, were just not there. I will miss it.

Speaking of aerials, our November club meeting will feature Gene Mason KZ5V with a presentation on Wire Antennas.

Elsewhere in this newsletter is an announcement of the club's annual Christmas Party. Sarah and I are pleased to open our home again for this event. The move to Murphy has been completed and the decorations will be up. Please RSVP if you are coming.

See you at the club meeting. Have a good Thanksgiving holiday.

73,  
Bill



REPAIRING EOC EQUIPMENT  
 W5BJ, BOB JONES W5IDN, GARLAND  
 NEWMAN AND N5TIM, JOHN GALVIN

**UPCOMING PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS**

Public service events are an excellent way to hone your communicating skills so you can be a valuable resource in an emergency situation. If you are a first timer let the coordinator know and you will be assigned accordingly.

Thursday, December 4 is Garland's Christmas on the Square. Operators are needed to assist with the tree lighting. Contact Clay Orchard KC5MXN at [kc5mxn@verizon.net](mailto:kc5mxn@verizon.net) or phone 972-278-2927.

Saturday, December 6 is the Plano Christmas Parade and the Plano Amateur Radio Klub is requesting

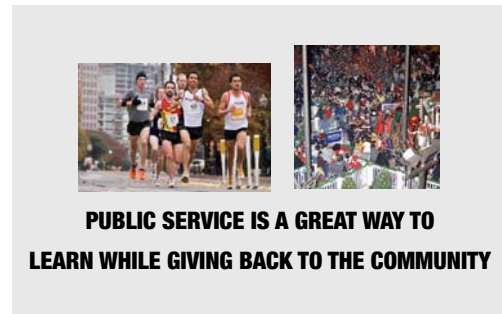
operators for that event. Please contact Robert AD5NR at [ad5nr@arrl.net](mailto:ad5nr@arrl.net) or phone 214-868-6664.

Sunday, December 14 is the Dallas White Rock Marathon Presented by NexBank. Contact is Bob Jones, W5BJ, [w5bj@arrl.net](mailto:w5bj@arrl.net). If you wish to help and have not received an e-mail from Bob please contact him immediately. Event information at <http://www.runtherock.com/>.

The first Wednesday of each month are the emergency warning siren tests in Garland and Rowlett. Ham operators are needed to visually inspect the sirens and report on their operation. You need not be affiliated with RACES to perform these tests

and you can do either the Garland test at noon or the Rowlett test at 1 pm or both. Siren locations and sign up are on the Rowlett RACES web site <http://www.rowlettaces.us/> or you can e-mail Ian DiFranco KE5FOM at [ian.difranco@verizon.net](mailto:ian.difranco@verizon.net).

As always, public service event information can be found on the web at John Galvin's public service we page at <http://www.qsl.net/n5tim/>







**HO HO HO!!!**



The GARC Christmas Party this year will be on Saturday, December 6 from 4:00 pm until 7:00 at the home of GARC President Bill Engel K5DHY and XYL Sarah. Their home is located at 705 Summer Place in Murphy (not the same location as last year). Once again the meat dishes will be provided by an anonymous donor (thanks!). Please bring a appetizer, salad, vegetable or dessert.

We need to know how many people to expect so an RSVP signup sheet will be available at the November club meeting or you mail e-mail your RSVP to [k5dhy.ham@gmail.com](mailto:k5dhy.ham@gmail.com) or phone 972-633-0823.

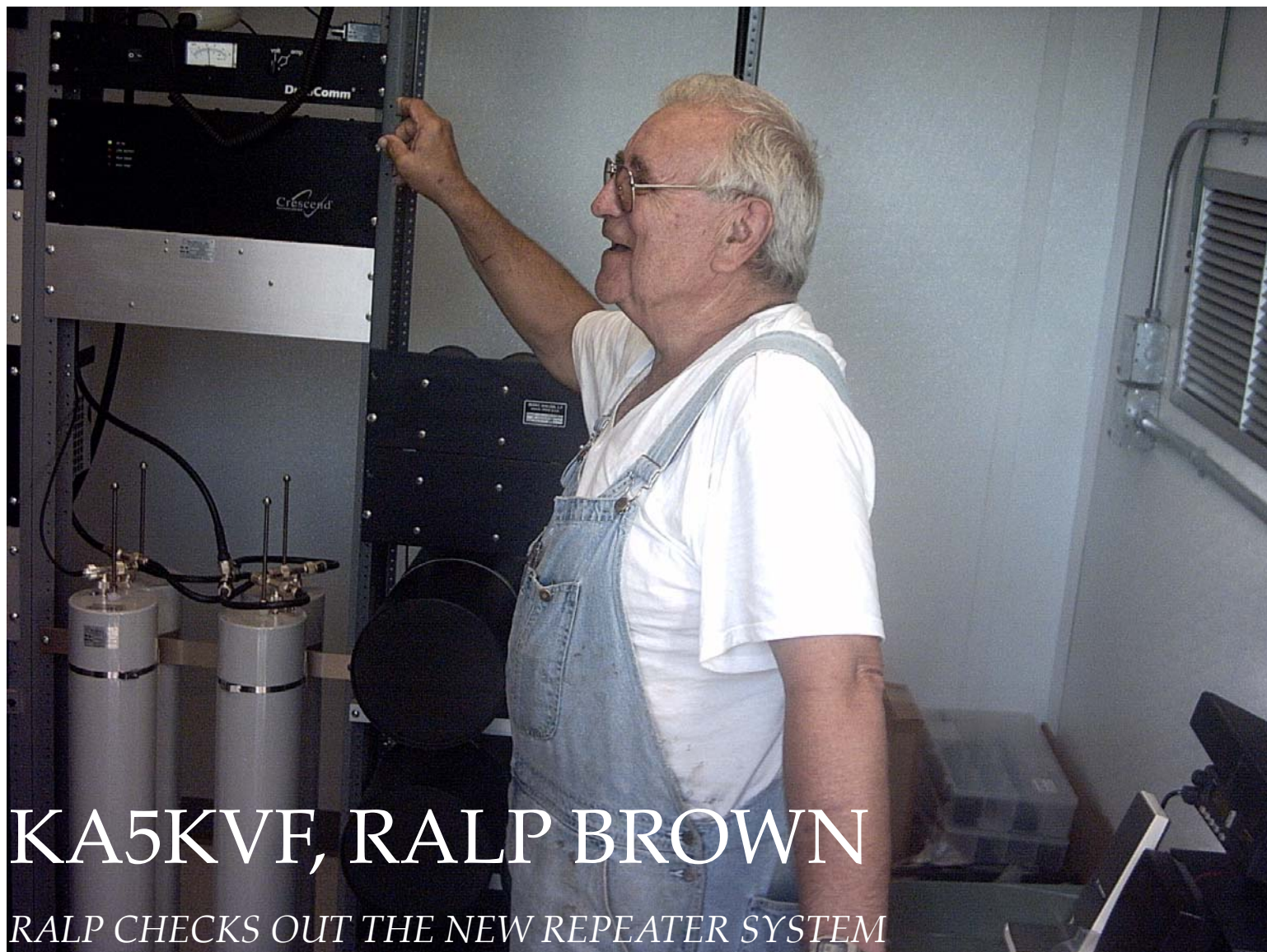
Directions from Garland: Take Hwy 78 North to Murphy Road. Turn left. Proceed past the light at Campbell/Blackburn Road and turn right on Sunset Dr. This is the second street BEFORE at light at Renner Rd. Go to the end of Sunset and turn left on Summer Place. The house is the third on the left. Talk in will be available on the 146.660 repeater and the location will beacon on APRS as K5DHY

**GARLAND NEWMAN IS SELLING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FOR DON PIERCE**

every one can call me at 972 495-8731 home or 972 741-2434 cel. He also has some CB gear including a radio and some antennas. If any is interested

- 1 ea. Diamond SG7500 Super Gain Antenna. (2m/70cm) \$ 50.00
  - 1 ea. Mag mount (will fit the Diamond Antenna) \$ 25.00
  - 1 ea. ¼ wave 2 meter Antenna (2 m/70cm) \$ 20.00
  - 1 ea. Tram Antenna #1480 Dual Band Amateur Base Antenna. (never used) \$ 50.00
  - 2 ea. Yaesu FT-50 (5 watt) Handi Talkie (no charger) \$ 100.00
  - 1 ea. Kenwood TM-G707 duel Band Transceiver \$ 200.00
  - 1 ea. Kenwood Ts-830S HF Transmitter with MC50 Mic. Matching Speaker. Built in Power supply \$ 400.00
  - 2 ea. Uniden Bearcat BC 780XLT Scanner Excellent condition In box. \$180.00
- Several Speakers, a Radio Shack Scanner,





# KA5KVF, RALP BROWN

*RALP CHECKS OUT THE NEW REPEATER SYSTEM*

## REPEATER NEWS

The club operates two open repeaters for use by any licensed amateur radio operator. One is on 146.660 MHz with a negative 600 KHz offset and the other is on 442.700 MHz with a positive 5 MHz offset. Both repeaters require a PL tone of 110.9 Hz. Additionally the 146.660 repeater transmits a tone of 110.9 Hz to enable use of tone squelch found on most receivers. The backup two

meter repeater that is occasionally put into service does not have this feature.

The new repeater controller will be put into service soon.

If you are not familiar with the Club's guidelines for usage of our repeaters please take a few minutes to look them over. They are accessible on our web site under "Club Information" then "Repeater Use Guidelines."

## RACES NETS\*

Every Thursday Night at 9:00 PM local time on either the 146.66 or 147.24 unless otherwise specified. In addition there is also a 1st and 3rd Sunday net on 146.88 at 8:00 PM

## ARES NET

Unlike the Races nets you do not have to have an RACES Appointment to participate. ARES NETs are on the 4th Thursday 146.66 or 147.24 9:00 PM

## Siren Test

Garland's Early Warning Sirens are tested by the city on the first wednesday of each month at noon, weather permitting.

**\*RACES NET PARTICIPATION REQUIRES AUTHORIZATION BY RACES Authority or FCC**



## NEWS FROM WA5GNT

SWANK ROBERTS

The big, HEAVY 20" monitor @ the ECC needs a good home. FREE to anyone who has enough desk space & can move it !

WA5GNT will have the new 2009 "Enjoy the City" coupon books for \$20 each at the next meeting ...Nov.24 ... or Email [swank.roberts@gmail.com](mailto:swank.roberts@gmail.com) Go to [www.EnjoytheCity.com](http://www.EnjoytheCity.com) for a listing of local offers and a list of other cities where coupon books are available as possible Christmas gifts.

KCLE Radio, 1460AM has an "on the air" Trade Fair Monday thru Saturday from 9AM to 11AM to buy, sell or trade almost anything. Go to [www.kcle.com](http://www.kcle.com) for more info.

Technician & General (and possibly Extra also) classes will be available on Sunday afternoons @ the Emergency Communications Center(ECC) 1027-B Austin St if Swank Roberts, WA5GNT has two more people to Email him at [swank.roberts@gmail.com](mailto:swank.roberts@gmail.com) that they are interested.

Want to be a medical guinea pig and get paid for it ?  
Checkout [www.Benchmarkresearch.com](http://www.Benchmarkresearch.com) or call them at 1-800-369-2875 .

As Charles Osgood says,  
"See ya on the radio"  
Swank Roberts, WA6GNT  
Education instructor of the GARC

## MINUTES OF OCTOBER 2008 MEETING BY KD5RFD

LOWELL ALLEN JR.

The October GARC Meeting was called to order by Bill Engle K5DHY at just before 7:30. The September minutes were approved as printed and the Board members made their reports. Most importantly was that all bills are paid. Be sure and check out all of N5TIM John Galvin's public service requests on the website. Any of these events is a great way to introduce your friends, or anyone you know who has expressed any interest at all in Amateur Radio, to the hobby and the way we do our communicating. Remember December 14 is the White Rock Marathon and our own Bob Jones W5BJ is going to need a bunch of help for this nationally known, and so worthwhile, event. Tom Blackwell N5GAR gave a short report on ARRL happenings including the 40 Meter experimental problem that was resolved much quicker and easier than normal. He also the participation of FLEX at the Belton HamFest and the discussed the problems in the wording of the Paris Texas proposed law on operation of two way communication in school zones. Then we moved on to the main event of the evening, the annual auction, presided over by Randy Dunning KC5QHH.

The November Board Meeting was held on the 10<sup>th</sup> at 7PM. The offer to have some "Foxhunts" was discussed since Mark Collins KB5RXL was interested. Check the newsletter and the website for future involvement. Garland Newman W5IDN confirmed that our guest speaker for the November 24<sup>th</sup> meeting will be Gene Mason talking on Wire Antennas. Wayne Milliams WT5J announced that the club made almost \$100 from the auction – thanks to all those who contributed and bought those new found treasures. See notes from the president about the Christmas / Holiday Party on December 6 at 4PM. Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

## K5QHD

News and more for the Garland Amateur Radio Club. The GARC Currently has two repeaters on 146.660 and 442.700 Both PL Tone 110.9

THE GARC is a 501(C)3 non profit organization established to promote amateur radio and also provide disaster and emergency communications.

August meeting date is the 25th at the Garland Women's Activity Center 713 W. Austin Street. Garland TX. 75040  
Doors open at 7:00 PM  
Meeting at 7:30



# WAYS TO HELP THE GARC



It's often said that the more you put into something the more you get out of it. The Club could really use a volunteer to bring the "Good News Net out of hiatus. The GARC can also use your financial assistance and every little bit helps.

As previously announced Kroger has a new Neighbor to Neighbor program. This program will pay

out \$1 million to organizations in Texas and Louisiana proportionately based on purchases between May 1, 2008, and April 30, 2009, In order to get us in on the action you will need to print the customer letter which can be found at:

<http://www.krogerneighbor.com/pdf/10000081152.pdf>

Then take the letter to the Kroger store and have the cashier scan it after he/she scans your KrogerPlus card. You only need to do this once. We will then receive credit for your purchases during the

duration of the program. Payout to the organizations will be after April 30, 2009.

Thanks for your support of the GARC.

Our Tom Thumb Good Neighbor number is

**11636**

73,  
Bill Engel K5DHY  
President

## Hidden transmitter hunts



Mark Collins KB5RXL has expressed interest in restarting hidden transmitter hunts for the Garland Amateur Radio Club. Hidden Transmitter Hunts are a wonderful opportunity to build your Amateur Radio Skills. These skills will prove invaluable to locate intruders or unauthorized transmissions in our bands as well as the ability to locate a station in distress.

It's also lots of fun both to try finding the fox and also being the fox. For now the GARC is joining with the Mesquite Ham Association of Mesquite Club and their hunts.

The Ham Association of Mesquite hosts a **FOX (Transmitter) hunt** the last Sunday of the month starting at about 1:00 p.m. Initial contact and coordination is on the WJ5J repeater at 145.310 w/PL of 162.2. Contact Tim Lewis - KD6FWD for more information. All are invited to participate.



WA5GNT, Swank Roberts and W9VE Don Murray ham it up



## Space Shuttle Endeavor Audio

Guess Who?..... Yes! Charlie Kc5ozh....

In case you have not heard/ noticed. The space shuttle, Endeavour, will be docking with the International Space Station today, Sunday 16th of November, current tentative schedule is set for 4:04PM CST. There is Nasa/Space Shuttle/ Station Audio being re-transmitted on our 95 { 441.950 MHz}, local Amateur Radio repeater in Rowlett, Texas. You may be able to hear the transmissions if you are close enough to Rowlett. If not, there are other freqs available in the DFW area you may hear. Thanks to Echolink and the WWW, HAMS are able to continue to use this repeater by RF without any interference to the SPACE SHUTTLE. :-}

NASA TV is not available on Time Warner Cable ..... BUT, you may go to the following internet link and watch Nasa/Space Shuttle/Station activities along with listening on your radio/scanner.  
<http://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/nasatv/index.html>

About the middle of the page under the column labeled "Multimedia", click on "NASA TV", and it will take you to the action! Should be some neat, live video, of the shuttle docking with the space station.

Other, BUT, certainly not all, NASA/ Space Shuttle/Station Audio re-transmissions on Amateur Radio Frequencies that you may receive in the DFW area, follows, listed in MHz:

- 145.190
- 145.310
- 146.600
- 441.325
- 441.950
- 445.000
- 448.750

Any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me off list. Thanks again for listening to Rowlett's, Kc5ozh Amateur Radio Repeater System.  
 Happy Scanning!!  
 Charlie

"It is not the class of license the Amateur holds, but the class of the Amateur that holds the license."

Charles Mumhrey  
 Amateur Radio Station Kc5ozh Repeater System:  
 Rowlett Main: 441.325 MHz + 162.2  
 Dallas: 441.950 MHz + 162.2  
 Rowlett II: 441.950 MHz + 110.9  
 Rowlett R.A.C.E.S. Unit 808 ARO-Equipment  
<http://www.CharliesElectronics.com>

If you are not within range of our station, you also have another opportunity to listen to live shuttle audio. You will need a short wave receiver capable of receiving single sideband or an amateur radio HF (3-30 MHz) transceiver. Check the [NASA Amateur Radio Clubs](#) page for information on their retransmissions of shuttle audio on several of the amateur radio HF bands.

The GRC Shuttle audio retransmission is normally turned on 1-2 hours before a shuttle flight, continues throughout the shuttle

mission, and is turned off after landing. Visit the [NASA shuttle mission page](#) to find out about current, future and past shuttle missions and schedules.

Programming can also be received may also be available through your local cable television network. NASA digital TV is also broadcast for reception via satellite dish on AMC 6, Transponder 17C. Coordinates are 72 Degrees west; downlink frequency is 4040 MHz; polarity is vertical. The FEC is 3/4. Data rate is 36.860 MHz; symbol is 26.665 Ms.

If you don't have any radios, there's still hope. You can listen and see shuttle broadcasts over the Internet at [NASA TV](#). They have real time Internet audio and video broadcasts during Shuttle missions.



# GARC GENERAL INFO

## Repeaters:

The GARC operates two open repeaters for its members and guest amateur radio operators on 146.66 (-) and 442.7 (+) Both with PL Tone 110.9 Trustee: Bob Jones W5BJ

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

## INTERNET:

See us at <http://www.k5qhd.org> also on Yahoo groups

## 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. The deadline for Arclite materials is the 2nd monday of each month.

## MEMBERSHIP:

Membership forms are available at the GARC monthly meetings or the GARC website. Members can be voted in at each meeting. Club Rosters for non commercial uses can be obtained by club members by contacting a board member.

President: Bill Engel K5DHY

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

Vice President: Garland Newman W5IDN

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

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

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[For More Info call \(972\) 272-4499](tel:972-272-4499)

## GARLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Emergency Communications Center (ECC)

1027 Austin Street Suite B.

Garland, TX. 75040-5608

Where Ham Radio is Fun Again!

K5QHD is the Bill Folsdtadt Memorial Station



**PLEASE RUSH!!!**

Donate your excess goods to the GARC. Don't forget the club is a 501(C)(3) organization and that all your donations can be tax deductible.