

Where Amateur Radio is fun again!!!

# THE ARCLITE

March 2009

Issue 3

K5QHD.ORG

K5QHD:  
GARLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Meets at  
713 W. Austin Street Garland TX  
TELEPHONE  
972-272-4499  
REPEATERS  
146.66-442.700+

## President's Pen

I was intrigued by article in the March issue of QST describing the hexagonal beam antenna by Leo Shoemaker K4KIO. A big tower and a fancy multi-band, multi-element beam is not on the horizon right now so I was looking for an antenna with better performance than the simple vertical I've been using for the last four years. The hexagonal beam is a five band (20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 meter) antenna with a driven element shaped like the letter "W" and a semi-circular reflector on each band. It's light enough to go on top of the push-up pole I recently acquired. I've started construction but the rain and cold have put it on hold until the nice weather returns. Hopefully it will be up and on the air by the club meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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Skywarn 2009  
Photo Memories  
By W5RRY



*GARC Booth at Skywarn 2009*



*Ham Association of Mesquite Table*



*Quite a turn out*



**Ham Radio**  
in the 21st Century

# Speaker this month to be John Galvin N5TIM

## PRESIDENT'S PAGE CONTINUED

Speaking of the club meeting, our speaker this month will be John Galvin N5TIM with a presentation titled "APRS...making it work for you". Bring your APRS questions and John will show us how to make it work. The club meeting will also be our annual election of officers. We are always looking for good candidates to be the leadership of the club. If you are interested in running please let the nominating committee know.

March 29 is the date for the European version of daylight savings time to take effect. It's also the date the shortwave broadcast stations begin their summer schedule. This is good news for those of us that like to use 40 meters at night. As of that date broadcasters will no longer be permitted to transmit in the 40 meter segment between 7100 and 7200 KHz because of a decision by the 2003 World Radio Communication Conference. IARU Region 1

has changed its band plan recommendations to allow Phone emissions up to 7200 KHz. Many of the regulatory agencies have already made the change in their countries.

Does this mean we don't have to operate split mode on 40 meter Phone? Certainly there will be less of a need as we now will have overlap from 7125 (Extra Class licensees) or 7175 (General Class) to 7200. However Phone is permitted in most countries down to 7050 KHz and that is not changing. As I see it, split operation will probably stay around, especially in contests when the 75 KHz segment will be real crowded. And, by the way, did you see the incentive here to get that upgrade to your license?

See you on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

73,  
Bill

## 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.

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."

## 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.

Saturday, April 18 will be March of Dimes March for Babies 2009 at White Rock Lake. This is a 7 mile walk starting at 9:00 a.m. We need shadow, base station and mobile communicators for this event. Please contact John Galvin N5TIM at [n5tim@arrl.org](mailto:n5tim@arrl.org) to volunteer. For information about the event visit [www.walkamerica.org](http://www.walkamerica.org) or [www.marchofdimes.com/texas](http://www.marchofdimes.com/texas). If you've never done a public service event before this is a good one to get your feet wet.

Saturday, April 25 is the second Annual Seton Soles Fun Run. Radio operators are needed from about 6:30 a.m. until the finish which is expected to be about 11:00 a.m. The event is a great for newcomers to hone their skills. Only an HT will be required. We will be looking for 2 shadows, about 10 operators on the course and one net controller. If you are interested in helping plan the event or be the communications coordinator on the day of the event, let me know. Reserve the date. If you have never coordinated an event before this is a good one to get started with as it does not cover a lot of territory. It is also a good event for practicing being Net Control. Staging will be at the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton church in Plano. Contact Tony Campbell - W5ADC at [tony@w5adc.com](mailto:tony@w5adc.com) or 972 342 1729.

Saturday and Sunday, May 2 and 3 are the dates for the Sam Club MS-150 Bike Ride from Frisco to Fort Worth with overnight at Texas Motor Speedway. You may volunteer for one or both days. To sign up go to [www.ms150.org](http://www.ms150.org) and follow the links to Sams Club and then "Support the Ride."

The Wild! Ride Bike Rally and Walk supporting the Richardson Regional Hospital Cancer Center will be held on Saturday, May 16, 2009. The 64 mile bike route leaves Richardson, crosses the Lavon Dam, goes out to Josephine TX and then back again. A new 5K Wild! Walk will be added this year for those not riding bikes. Ham operators with VHF/UHF capability are needed for shadow operators, rest stops, and SAG vehicles. APRS will be used for SAG vehicles. Again this year, hams with digital cameras, laptop computers and 802.11 bridging equipment are needed. Digital pictures will be taken at each rest stop and uploaded for display at the Finish line. Ham volunteers may contact Doug Kilgore KD5OUG, [kd5oug@arrl.net](mailto:kd5oug@arrl.net), phone 972-231-8539, or submit a form at <http://k5rwk.org/wr/form.html>.

Sunday, May 31 is the first Annual Frisco Youth Triathlon. Radio operators are needed from about 6:00 a.m. until the finish which is expected to be about 10:00 a.m. They will know more as the event gets closer, but they need about 6 shadows, 6 on the course, and 1 or 2 for net control. Reserve the date. They are also looking for a coordinator. If you have never coordinated an event before this is a good one to get started with as it does not cover a lot of territory. It is also a good event for practicing being Net Control. Staging will be at the Frisco Athletic Center. Contact Kipton Moravec - AE5IB at [kip@kdream.com](mailto:kip@kdream.com) or 214-929-8121.

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# Minutes of February 2009 GARC Meeting

Respectfully Submitted, Lowell Allen, Jr. KD5RFD

The February GARC Meeting was called to order by Bill Engle K5DHY at 7:30 with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Randy Dunning KC5QHH.

Introductions were made and we were happy to see some new faces. The minutes were approved as printed and the Board members made their reports. Be sure and check out all of N5TIM John Galvin's public service requests available from the club website ([www.k5qhd.org](http://www.k5qhd.org)).

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. Tom Blackwell N5GAR gave a short report on ARRL happenings and the North Texas Emergency Plan. A very exciting event is coming up on Saturday March 28, the balloon launch of ARBONET – 3 at the Clarksville Airport. Not only will there be a number of radios on board, this two stage flight

will be trying for the high altitude record. More details are available at [www.arbonet.net](http://www.arbonet.net) Don't forget the elections of officers will be done at the March 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting. It is also time to renew your membership in the club. After a short break our Guest Speaker, Brad Wagoner K5BAW, spoke on the Red Cross's Disaster Services Technology capabilities showing a set of pictures highlighting their equipment and operations.

The March Board Meeting was held on Saturday the 7<sup>th</sup> at 9AM. Garland Newman W5IDN confirmed that our guest speaker for the March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting will be our own John Galvin N5TIM with a live demonstration of how to set up an APRS tracking beacon. Swank Roberts sent in his report since he had to work. There were eight students attending the March 1 class, including two from KPYK Radio – 1570 AM. The board was request to and approved ordering five more Technician

Class books. Ralph Brown KA5KVF reported that we really are almost ready to install our new repeater controller. I know that no one will be more pleased and relieved than Ralph will be when that effort is complete. Wayne Williams WT5J announced that the club received more than first reported from the activities we had going on at the Sky Warn Weather School on February 21. Meeting was adjourned at just after 9:30 AM. We then had Dennis Cagle drop by asking about the club and license requirements.



# Public Service Continued

LEARN BY DOING & HAVE FUN DOING IT!!!

Monday, September 7 is the second Annual Blacklands Triathlon. Last year they had nearly 500 participants for the first year. This year they hope to be better organized, and have more people.

Radio operators are needed from about 6:00 a.m. until Noon. We will know more as the event gets closer, but we need about 6 shadows, 18 on the course, and 2 for net control. Reserve the date. Contact Kipton Moravec - AE5IB at [kip@kdream.com](mailto:kip@kdream.com) or 214-929-8121.

Sunday, December 13 is the Dallas White Rock Marathon.

Contact is Bob Jones, W5BJ, [w5bj@arrl.net](mailto:w5bj@arrl.net). You may sign up now with Bob. Event information will be at <http://www.runtherock.com/> as the event approaches.

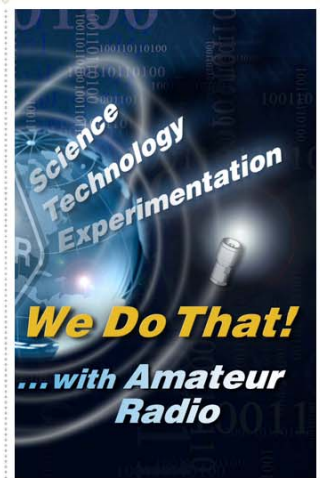
The first Wednesday of each month are the emergency warning siren tests in Garland and Rowlett. Ham operators are needed to visually inspect the sirens and report on their operation. You need not be affiliated with RACES to perform these tests and you can do either the Garland test at noon or the Rowlett test at 1 pm or both. Siren locations and

signup are on the Rowlett RACES web site <http://www.rowletttraces.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.ql.net/n5tim/uplist.html>.



*Downtown Dallas Looking North*



# GARC GENERAL INFO

## Repeaters:

The GARC operates two open repeaters for it's 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)

Secretary: Lowell Allen KD5RFD

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

Treasurer: Wayne Williams WT5J

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

Comm Offier: Ralph Brown KA5KVF

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

Education Officer: Swank Roberts WA5GNT

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

Arclite Editor: Allen Yoder NG5Y

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

CONTACT THE BOARD AT [board@k5qhd.org](mailto:board@k5qhd.org)

[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



Name

Address

City

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. **PLEASE RUSH!!!**