



The Arclite

K5QHD
Garland Amateur Radio Club
Where Amateur Radio
is fun again

October 2011

K5QHD 146.66- 442.7+
Garland Women's Activity Center
713 W. Austin Street
Garland TX 75040

Meeting October 24

Doors open at 7:00 PM
Meeting starts at 7:30 PM

Visitors are ALWAYS Welcome at the GARC!
Bring a friend!!!



Ham Radio
in the 21st Century



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Presidents PEN

Come join us this Monday Night, October 24th for another fun filled GARC meeting. Topic (TBA) A new repeater use guideline has been prepared and should be posted to the club website soon.

Don't forget our regular "Croney Lunch" GTG every Thursday at 11:00 AM Furr's Cafeteria 350 South Plano Road Richardson, TX 75081-4505



Upcoming ARRL Conventions and Events

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

11/12/2011 | [NCTECH 2011](#)

Location: Azle, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Tri-County Amateur Radio Club and DiRECT ARC

Website: <http://www.wc5c.org/WC5CClub/NCTECH/tabid/152/Default.aspx>

[Learn More](#)

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

01/20/2012 | [Cowtown Hamfest](#)

Location: Fort Worth, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Lockheed Martin Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.cowtownhamfest.com>

[Learn More](#)

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

03/10/2012 | [10th Annual IARC Hamfest](#)

Location: Irving, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Irving Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://irvingarc.org/iarchamfest.html>

[Learn More](#)

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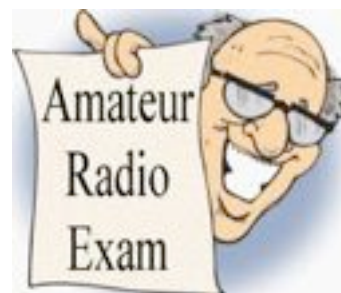
FOR MORE INFO CALL
(972) 272-4499



Upcoming VE Exam Sessions

Upgrade! Exam Session

- 1 EXAM SESSION
[10/27/2011 | Garland TX 75040-4903](#)
Sponsor: WB9ZPH VE Team-Garland
Location: Freeman Heights Baptist Church
Time: 7:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](http://sites.google.com/site/wb9zph/)
- 2 EXAM SESSION
[11/06/2011 | Mc Kinney TX 75069-8840](#)
Sponsor: McKinney ARC
Location: Heard Museum
Time: 2:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)
- 3 EXAM SESSION
[11/07/2011 | Mesquite TX 75149-4977](#)
Sponsor: KE5VPS VE Team-Mesquite
Location: Mesquite Fire Dept Training Center
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)
- 4 EXAM SESSION
[11/19/2011 | Irving TX 75061-4255](#)
Sponsor: Irving ARC
Location: Betcha Bingo #2/Mapsco 31A-Q
Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)
- 5 EXAM SESSION
[11/19/2011 | Wylie TX 75098-7704](#)
Sponsor: Plano Amateur Radio Klub
Location: Wylie Methodist Church
Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)



[WB9ZPH ARRL Volunteer examiner team – Garland Texas area](#) >

What to bring to the testing session

What you will need:

- **\$15** is the current test fee. We prefer the exact amount in cash.
- A government **photo id** (drivers license preferred).
- Your **Social Security Number or FCC Federal Registration Number**. We are required to submit either your Social Security Number (SSN) or your FCC Federal Registration Number (FRN) with your application.
- A pen (black ink) and pencil (we can loan you either or both if you're like me and never carry pencils (*smile*))
- If you already have a license: The original (and one copy) of any current (unexpired) amateur radio operator's license issued to you.
- If you've already passed a test: The original (and one copy) of any document that you will use to prove you've already passed a test element. These documents may include:
 - An unexpired Certificate of Successful Completion of Exam (CSCE) indicating the credit(s) earned
 - Pre March 21, 1987 Technician license (this provides credit for the Element 3 (General) exam)
 - A letter from the FCC confirming that you previously held a specific class of license for which you will be given credit for the Element 3 exams.
- A positive attitude and patience. The VE team will do our best to get you through the paperwork, get you tested, your exam graded, and do our part of the paperwork as quickly as possible, but it does take some time. We do appreciate your patience.

Lost your license?

In the event you have misplaced your license, or it was destroyed accidentally, you can get a letter from the FCC verifying that you do indeed have a license. You could also access your license information on a standard web database, such as the one found at: QRZ.COM. In such a case, simply print the page as displayed on the web site, and bring it to us. We will independently verify that your data is correct, and if everything is OK, then we're all set.

Pre-March 21-1987 Technicians?

Special note for persons who were issued a Technician Class license issued before March 21, 1987: If you still have a valid Technician or Tech Plus license, and were issued a Technician class license before 03/21/87, you are qualified for an **"instant upgrade" to General Class**. No further examination is necessary! Simply **bring us a copy of both your current license and your old license**, with the old license showing an expiration date on or before March 20, 1997 (which means the license would have been issued before 03/21/87). If you no longer have your original license, you can get a letter from the FCC verifying your information. Also, you might find an old Callbook (1986 edition or earlier). If you do, and your name and call are listed, make a copy of that page (be sure to include the Callbook issue date in the copy) and bring it in. All of these are acceptable as proof of being licensed in the applicable time period. As always, anything other than an actual license will be subject to independent verification.

EMPTIES 4 CASH

The GARC has worked with recyclers in the past to try and help both the club and make a “greener” planet. We have found a new vendor who has the resources to help the club in another **GREEN way.**

Please bring your used “inkjet” cartridges to this and future GARC meetings. We will collect and submit them to the empties 4 cash program. This will keep the cartridges out of the land fills and better yet, provide some much needed cash to help with the clubs treasury.

If you can hold the ink cartridge in the palm of your hand, that is the type the Empties 4 Cash program wants. They will not accept the large toner cartridges that laser printers use. If it fits in the palm of your hand bring it!



September Meeting Minutes

The September GARC Meeting was called to order by John Honeycutt W7ZTF on the 26th at 7:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Before we got into regular business, we received a special presentation from Stacy Rogers KK5SAR of the ARRL "Certificate of Appreciation to Garland Amateur Radio Club for serving with distinction during the ARRL Convention HamCom 2011. A sincere thank you is bestowed this day: July 1, 2011." Introductions were made by the 28 present with a HAPPY BIRTHDAY to EH. Minutes for the last 2 months were approved as printed in the Arclite. The Board members made their reports, with Ralph reporting that the repeater was connected to the antenna at the higher position on the tower we use, so we should have a larger coverage area now, but we still are checking to see if we get back to the problems that caused us to use the lower antenna. There are only a few events coming up other than the Dallas White Rock Marathon, the first Sunday in December with 25,000 runners, but continue to check out John Galvin's public service requests list, available from the club website (www.k5qhd.org). After a break at 7:45, we had an interesting talk by Andy WY5V and Tim KD6FWD from Mesquite on fox hunting, both as a sport in itself, and as a means to hone the skills needed to track down undesired interferences. We broke up shortly after 9 PM

WANTED:

If you have any Ham Radio Related Gear For Sale or Trade email the newsletter editor with your details so you can find your listing posted for the rest of the club to see. If you are in need of any help with your station or have a question, comment or suggestion let us know. Email board@k5qhd.org and let us know.

Bob Heil's new show Ham Nation on Leo Laporte's TWiT network

Posted on [May 27, 2011](#) by [Thomas](#)

As a big fan of ham radio and an avid listener of the TWiT network, I'm pleased as punch that Leo Laporte has asked Bob Heil (K9EID) to host a show called Ham Nation.

I spoke with Bob about the new show at the 2011 Dayton Hamvention. He has many ideas and a lot of enthusiasm and energy to put into Ham Nation.



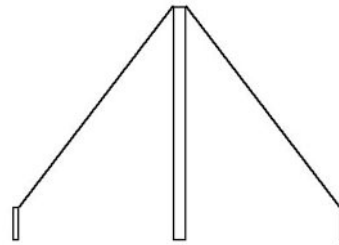
His first line up? None other than Joe Walsh WB6ACU and Dave Jennings WJ6W. Bob also has plans to use future shows to give Leo Laporte radio lessons so he can obtain his Tech License. This could be a first for ham radio and leveraging the listenership of the TWiT network, could bring a lot of newcomers into the hobby.

[Click here to go to Ham Nation's home page.](#)

[Subscribe to Ham Nation via iTunes.](#)

An Inverted "V" - An Underutilized Performer.

By Larry K5XG



Above is a drawing of an Inverted "V" antenna. A common place antenna in stations from the 50s and 60s; they are inexpensive, stealthy, and easy to install. However, it is little known and/or used by today's newly licensed hams.

For most new hams today their default HF antenna seems to be a vertical. For some a vertical is their only antenna. In my experience a HF vertical antenna is just one step above no antenna at all. But better to be on the air than not.

Consider this.... an 80 meter inverted "V" with its apex at 40 feet will be 20 to 25 dB LOUDER than a vertical for contacts 200 to 300 miles away. An inverted "V" antenna will cost about \$10. The cheapest vertical is around \$150.

You can feed an 40 meter inverted "V" antenna at right angles to the 80 meter inverted "V" antenna with both antennas fed off the same piece of coax. That's \$20 for two bands that will be 20 to 25 dB louder than your vertical.

You will find that just about any other reasonable antenna will outperform a vertical 95% of the time. I still use a vertical antenna for that other 5% of the time. And the vertical is also a good reference antenna for testing. A phased array of verticals is a subject for another time.

Think about how an inverted "V" antenna would fit into your station.

See you at lunch,

Larry K5XG

WHEN: Each Monday at 11:30 AM

WHERE: El Fenix in Plano

WHO: Lots of new and long time hams from the DFW area. Sometimes visitors from other call districts

We normally stay from 11:30 AM until 1:00 PM or later... so if you can't get there at 11:30 you can arrive late and we will still be there. El Fenix is located on the north bound service road of US 75 just a few hundred feet north of Plano Parkway.

South bound on US 75 take the Plano Parkway exit and make the U-Turn over US 75. The restaurant is a few hundred feet up on the right.

North bound on US 75 take the Plano Parkway exit and cross Plano Parkway. The restaurant is a few hundred feet up on the right.

We sit at a large table in a back room (most southern) that is better for those arriving at different times.

Recent & Upcoming Birthdays

Charlie Myers

Jay Urish

Wayne Williams

Clay Orchid

Don't see your name on here?
Have you shared your birthday
with the Club/Arclite Editor? You
may omit the year, all we need
is month and day.



GARC K5QHD

October 2011

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**



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.

Note: No trees were killed in the sending of this message. However, a large number of electrons were terribly inconvenienced.