
SIGNALS

Rockwell Collins Amateur Radio Club

Monthly Newsletter of the

Volume 31 Issue 7

Web Site <http://www.w5rok.us>

April 2010

RCARC Membership Meeting

Thursday, 22 April 2010
1700 Social 1730 Meeting
Methodist Richardson Medical Center
At Bush/Renner/Shiloh Intersection
Second Floor East Conference Room

Subject: Come and See—Also Initial Field Day Planning

camp radio shack command post (UHF & VHF mobile and HT near where they could also get radar). Near by area clubs also visited the summer camp and gave demo of APRS, CW and HF during the summer of 2009. This month Ross K5SRT learned from Dr. Wade Graves (KF5AUD) that Camp James Ray its going to have a Kenwood TS-2000 and external mounted MFJ antenna and a more formal Radio Shack after the benefits from last summer (can you say DX from above lake Texoma on a hill, I mean working Summer Camp). If you hear them on line please give them a call. (By Sidney Ross Terry K5SRT)

SIGNALING MERIT BADGE (First Offered In 1911). The Scouting program has brought back four historical merit badges to celebrate its 100th year of Scouting. One of the four historic merit badges to be offered only in 2010 is Signalling http://www.boyscouttrail.com/content/content/merit_badge_signaling-2046.asp. To complete this merit badge before year end the scout must:

1. Make an electric buzzer outfit, blinker, or signaling device.
2. Send and receive in the International Morse Code a message not less than 35 words of not less than 35 letters per minute.
3. Demonstrate an ability to send and receive International Morse Code by wigwag and by blinker or other signaling device at the rate of not less than 20 letters per minute.
4. Send and receive by Semaphore Code at the rate of not less than 30 letters per minute.
5. Know the proper application of the International Morse Code and Semaphore Codes.
6. Discuss various other code methods of signalling.

If you know how to help teach this subject, please talk to area Assistant Scout Masters or Jim Skinner (WB0UNI) and Ross Terry (K5SRT). If we work it right we might introduce many young men to CW and the area of Radio communications. It appears some Scouts at Lone Star District Camporee may get started on the Merit Badge during the April 16-18, 2010 Camporee <http://www.lonestardistrict.org/>.

The club has time to help out since most Scouts will need help to finish this by the end of the year, also we might use any materials developed during Ham Com <http://hamcom.org/> which will include several Boy Scout Troops in the area as well. (By Sidney Ross Terry K5SRT)



Local Club News

Meeting Notice This month's program was not finalized at the time of the newsletter's publication. But don't let that stop you from coming to see what the program is. It's always good! At a minimum, we will begin Field Day planning.

Club Meeting Talk-In Each month, on the night of the membership meeting we have a Talk-In on the club repeater. The Talk-In this month is 1630 to 1700 hours, prior to the meeting.

New Meeting Room: Methodist Richardson Medical Center. Join us at Rockwell Collins' newest and closest neighbor/partner Methodist Richardson Medical Center for our monthly Meeting. They are located right by our current location taking up the block between the George Bush Sr. and Shiloh Road on the South side of Renner Road (look for the tallest building in the area). Please park on the South side of the building. The outside entrance doors are locked after 7:00 PM.

Scout Ham Shack News. Last year W5ROK supported the Boy Scout Ranch at lake Texoma Camp James Ray (near Pottsboro TX), http://www.circle10.org/site/c.owL1KgN4LxH/b.1680591/k.7ACE/Camp_James_Ray.htm. Member RossTerry (K5SRT) learned in May 2009 that Dr. Wade Graves (KF5AUD) key camp organizer/director had received his ham license and wanted to setup radio equipment to monitor weather during summer camps (which came in handy during last years storms). After a few trips to make use of Anderson Power Poles, improve equipment options and loan of equipment they had a summer

RCARC OFFICERS

PRESIDENT		VICE-PRESIDENT	
Mike Schmit	WA9WCC	Bob Kirby	K3NT
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Open		Bob Diepenbrock	KC4UAI
		972.705.1461 Kc4uai@gmail.com	
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CLUB STATION		W5ROK	
972.705.1349		461-290	

VE SESSIONS

Dallas tests are held 4th Sat of each month at 10:00. 13350 Floyd Rd. (Old Credit Union) Contact Bob West, WA8YCD (972) 917-6362

Irving tests are held 3rd Sat. of each month at 09:00. 5th and Main St. Contact Bill Revis, KF5BL 252-8015

McKinney VE test sessions are held at the Heard Museum the first Sunday of the month. The address is 1 Nature Place, McKinney TX. The time of the testing is 14:30, ending no later than 16:45. **Note: no tests given on holiday weekends.**

Garland testing is held on the fourth Thursday of each month, excluding November, and begins at 1930 sharp. Location is Freeman Heights Baptist Church, 1120 N Garland Ave, Garland (between W Walnut and Buckingham Rd). Enter via the north driveway. A HUGE parking lot is located behind the church. Both the parking lot and the Fellowship Hall are located on the east side of the church building, with big signs by the entrance door. Contact Bill Reynolds, K8DNE, 972-475-3854.

Plano testing is on the third Saturday of each month, 1300 hrs at Williams High School, 1717 17th St. East Plano. Check Repeater 147.180+ for announcements.

Greenville testing is on the Saturday after 3rd Thursday, 1000 hrs at site TBA, contact N5KA, 903.364.5306. Sponsor is Sabine Valley ARA. Repeater 146.780(-) with 118.8 tone.

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President's Message

No President's Message this month. Watch this column in the May issue of *SIGNALS*.

Mike Schmit, WA9WCC
wa9wcc@arrl.net

Vice-President's Message

Thanks to those RCARC members who helped with the introductory W5ROK station tours and also provided many with their first official licensed radio contact (QSO).

Another RCARC technician class gets underway April 13, 2010 and is being taught by member Ross, K5SRT. Contact k5srt@arrl.net if you can give Ross a hand with this class or following up with student questions on amateur radio

Help is requested for many club projects and activities. Consider lending a hand and giving a little bit back to your Rockwell Collins Amateur Radio Club. We need an Activities Chairman and Secretary offices filled.

A reminder that the RCARC Membership Roster is available in the for-members-only (FMO) section of our website <http://www.w5rok.us>

High Frequency (HF) activity is picking up. Ross, K5SRT has been working 20 meter PSK-31 contacts from W5ROK clubs station during his break. Ten meters is popping back in and I was able to work Hawaii on 10 meters from the club the second week of April during late afternoon. I also have been enjoying 2 meter SSB from our station. It is really interesting to see the increase in distance one can work over using Frequency Modulation (FM). This equipment is available in the club room. Suggested calling frequency is 144.200 MHz. Just be sure to move up or down once you make contact to continue your QSO.

A few radio class students and RCARC members have been asking questions about just how to participate in community events with amateur radio. A good place to start is the ARRL Operator manual found in our club station. It has a great section on emergency operation and supporting community events.

EP-8000 featured in 'Training & Simulation Journal' — Rockwell Collins new EP@-8000 image generator was recently featured in the *Training & Simulation Journal* article, "Pixel Power."

Based on our Common Open Reusable Elements (CORE™) simulation architecture, the EP-8000 is the "next chapter along the open systems architecture ...," said Kent Statler, executive VP & COO of Commercial Systems.

According to the article's author, "the realism [of the EP-8000] is jaw dropping." To read the article, visit the *Training & Simulation Journal's* Web Site. <http://www.tsjonline.com/story.php?F=4443888>

Rockwell Collins encourages virtual reality in classrooms Iowa schools are discovering a way to bring new technology into classrooms – one that requires wearing 3-D glasses – thanks to the efforts of several Iowa companies who are concerned about

the future of education and students' ability to compete in a high-tech world.

Our company is leading an effort to introduce virtual reality systems into about a dozen Iowa secondary schools to enrich student learning. Virtual reality systems provide students with the capability to experiment with ideas, without the cost of actually spending money on producing an actual project or product. Rockwell Collins is involved in this effort because fewer students are pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). As the Baby Boomer generation retires, our company and industry face a shortage of qualified technical graduates.

KCRG-TV9 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, recently aired a report on the virtual reality project. The report is available for viewing at <http://www.kcrg.com/news/local/87384697.html>.

SOTA Polar Bears & CW & QRP & GOATS? See: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=28OdR9gmzaU>

Michael Ketchum, x KF5FFT, is now sporting his new Vanity Call of K5MDK. You can hear Mike most days on 441.875 Mhz (131.8Hz PL).

John, K5TIP, has been working hard to ready his place for RCARC field day radio operation in June. Can you help John get a W5ROK FD operation together? If so, please contact him here: k5tip@arri.net

Till next month, 73 from Bob, K3NT
k3nt@arri.net
<http://w5rok.us>

Secretary's Report

Mike Schmit, WA9WCC, opened the meeting at 1735 on 25 March 2010, in the Methodist Richardson Medical Center Conference Room with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present at the meeting were:

Bob Ashby	K5IHR	Charles Beis	K5UWD
Loney Duncan	W0GZV	Joe Henchal	KF5G
Michael Ketchum	KF5FFT	John McFadden	K5TIP
Steve Phillips	K6JT	Dwight Ramsey	KE5SAS
Chuck Samuel	K7NWM	Michael Schmit	WA9WCC
Jim Skinner	WB0UNI	Carl Solomon	W5SU
Mike Starnes	AA5WX	Ross Terry	K5SRT
Joseph Wolf	N5UIC		

1. Officer Reports

- President's Report:** Mike Schmit, WA9WCC, starting the meeting, made comments about the events needing ham radio support, including Rockwell Collins Fun Days. Mike would like to install an antenna to support Fun Days and will advise of the date as soon as it is known. There was some discussion about how to spend the FY2010 company stipend, with a reference to the last yearly report having several items called out. Some members wanted to spend some on digital FM equipment such as D-Star. Also, the possibility of remote control of the station came up again, but it was explained that it was not possible because of the company's firewall. Any further ideas relative to club purchases should be forwarded to Mike.
- Vice-President's Report:** Bob Kirby, K3NT, was unable to attend and there was no Vice-President's report.

- Secretary's Report:** The Secretary's report is in the newsletter.
- Treasurers Report:** There was no Treasurers report.
- Station Trustee's Report:** The repeater is working well.
- Activities Chairman Report:** John, K8OCL, was unable to attend due to health problems.

2. Old Business

- Amateur Radio License Classes:** Dwight Ramsey, KE5SAS, announced that the second Radio Level 1 (Technician) class would start on April 13 and will run through May 6, 2010.
- Surplus Equipment Disposition:** John McFadden, K5TIP, asked if there was a plan to disposition the surplus equipment being stored in company facilities. The possibility of a flea market table at Ham-Com was mentioned but no decision was made.

3. New Business

- John McFadden, K5TIP, volunteered to host the Field Day operation at his station. Plan on an antenna party in May to check out John's antennas. (Any excuse for a party!)

The business meeting adjourned at 1800 for the program. Carl Solomon presented a very educational presentation, especially for new Amateurs on "Operating HF—The Practical Things You Didn't Learn When You Got Your Ham Ticket." It provided a fine introduction to the unique and challenging world of HF communications. There was good information on how to acquire equipment and how to use simple gear to effectively work HF bands.

Radio Level 1 Class Started April 13, 2010. The W5ROK training team has just started the second Radio Level 1 (Technician) class as of April 13 which will run through May 6, 2010. The format will be similar to those in the past (see high level outline below) and is based on the ARRL Radio Level 1 (First Edition - test is expected before June 2010) it includes six lunch time class sessions, tour, and planned Official FCC VE - Exam. If you can help please let S. Ross Terry (K5SRT) and Dwight Ramsey (KE5SAS) know. Development is underway on our first General class of the year and should be announced shortly.

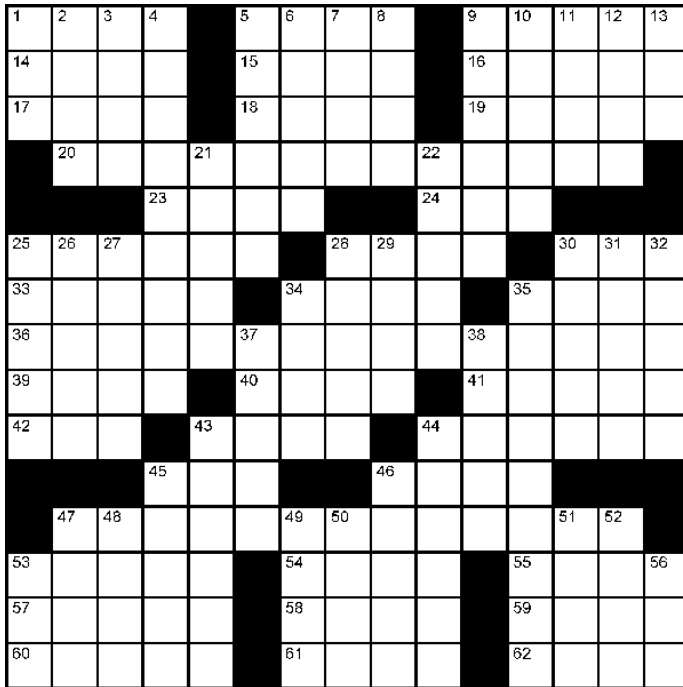
Class Schedule:

- April 13 Class 1--Chapter 5, Sections 6.1, 6.3, 6.6, 4.4, 4.5
- April 15 Class 2--Sections 6.2, 6.5, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 3.5
- April 20 Class 3--Sections 2.1, 3.1, 3.3, 4.6, 7.1, 7.2, 7.3 and page 2-11,
- April 22 Class 4--Sections 2.4, 3.4
- April 27--Tour. Meet in hall way outside of PACE LAB (We don't have the Temple Conf. Room on this date, we'll be moving from this location by 11:40 AM)
- April 29 Class 5--Sections 2.5, 2.6, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4 and page 2-11,
- May 4 Class 6--Sections 2.1, 2.2, 2.4
- May 6 Test*--: *Pending FCC VE Team Confirm, and Hospital Conf. room 2nd floor main building avail. (or alternate site see <http://w5rok.us> for map)

Events and Public Service Ops

17 April 2010: March of Dimes. White Rock Lake, Saturday 9:00 AM. Contact: John Galvin n5tim@arri.net. Typical equipment required: 5 watt 2 meter handheld. Magnet mount antenna helpful. (Cont. on page 4)

The Amateur Radio Crossword Puzzler



Across

- 1. Sea eagles
- 5. 1950s car maker
- 9. Face-to-face exams
- 14. Ham's OM
- 15. Director Preminger
- 16. Come again
- 17. N N, on 7.007, say
- 18. Start of a conclusion
- 19. It might be airtight
- 20. Four and four ninths?
- 23. Coax adapters
- 24. Rcvr ckt
- 25. Squirrel food
- 28. KH6IJ (SK)
- 30. Smart or Bond
- 33. QRS sending, not
- 34. FD abode
- 35. Joint with a cap
- 36. 1, 13, 53 and 56-down, and a puzzle sub-theme
- 39. Swimming power supplies?
- 40. Bit of trivia, slangily
- 41. A Czech Republic prefix
- 42. Driller's deg.
- 43. Tiny parts
- 44. Plates
- 45. W7 sect.
- 46. Flower tower?
- 47. Two-hundred ten?
- 53. Jeered
- 54. Surf sound
- 55. TA-33 part
- 57. Kazakhstan prefix
- 58. Gawk at

- 12. Garage job
- 13. Apologize, on 30m, say
- 21. Big gain
- 22. Bob Marley fan
- 25. Flashed over
- 26. Crowded
- 27. Milky gems
- 28. V4 place
- 29. "Put a lid ___!"
- 30. Hair net
- 31. Edible tubes
- 32. C C, on 7007, say
- 34. Be inclined
- 35. KM, on 7.007, say
- 37. VU physicist and Nobel Prize winner
- 38. Copier stuff
- 43. SM ops
- 44. AM
- 45. Special _____ station
- 46. Play for time
- 47. Kind of wave
- 48. Like some piano keys
- 49. High-tech suffix
- 50. Cartoon bear
- 51. Start of a conclusion
- 52. What a long element does
- 53. Not bad, on 7.007, say
- 56. Word with QSL

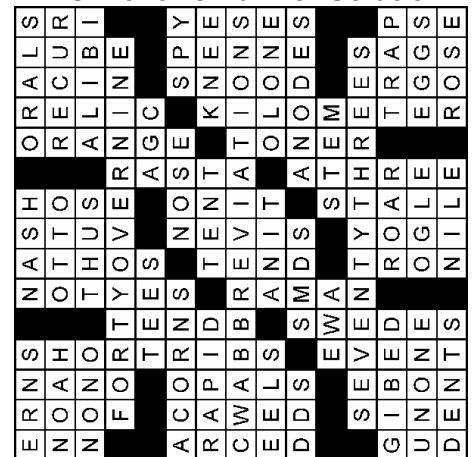
17-18 April 2010: MS-150 (BikeMS BP150) Houston-La Grange-Austin biking event. Benefits MS research. Houston Hams contact- Mike .SA Hams volunteer contact-Lee N5NTG lee@besing.com. Austin Hams contact Roger W5WIA@arrl.net.

- 59. Dipole terminators
- 60. Dings
- 61. SU river
- 62. Compass symbol

Down

- 1. FB RST., in the DX test, say
- 2. Easy antenna place
- 3. Smaller than a micro
- 4. Popular beef cuts
- 5. Meaning of 17-across
- 6. Monk Apollo's QTH
- 7. R followers
- 8. Nozzle site
- 9. Three on a resistor
- 10. Museum piece
- 11. Label on a DC

This month's Puzzler Solution



(Puzzler by Chris Codella, W2PA, reprint courtesy of ARRL.org)

1-2 May 2010: MS- 150 Bike Tour. Saturday and Sunday. Contact: James Marple j.marple@verizon.net. Register: www.nationalmssociety.org/chapters/sam-club/index.aspx. Operators required for one or both days. Required equipment: 2 meter mobile, 30 watts and mag mount antenna. Must be able to move operation to tour official vehicle.

15 May 2010: Richardson Wild Ride Bike Rally, Benefiting Methodist Richardson Cancer Center. Saturday. Contact: Doug Kilgore kd5oug@arrl.net. Required equipment : 2 meter mobile capable of operating from a rally official vehicle.

May 2010: Richardson Wild Ride Bike Rally, Benefiting Methodist Richardson Cancer Center. Saturday. Contact: Doug Kilgore kd5oug@arrl.net. Required equipment : 2 meter mobile capable of operating from a rally official vehicle.

22-23 May 2010: South Central Tour de Cure (Bike ride Benefiting American Diabetes Association). San Antonio to Austin, TX with overnight stay in San Marcos. ATX Hams contact – Jeff N5MNV N5MNV@arrl.net. Hays/Caldwell Hams contact David KD5MML kd5mml@gmail.com. SA Hams Contact Lee N5NTG info@sanantoniohams.org. (By Joe Wolf - N5UIC)

11-12 June 2010: Ham-Com 2010. Ham-Com, Inc. <http://www.hamcom.org> Talk-In: 147.18 (PL 107.2).

The Good Ole Days or How Things Ought to Be



"Here's a message from Milwaukee"

This thoughtful wife knows that the moment her husband tunes in on Schlitz the reception is good. For Schlitz has a very good taste that beer-lovers are changing to with ultra high frequency. Taste Schlitz yourself. You'll soon know why --

**Schlitz tastes so good to so many people,
it's first in sales in the U.S.A.**



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The Beer that made Milwaukee Famous

Rockwell-Collins

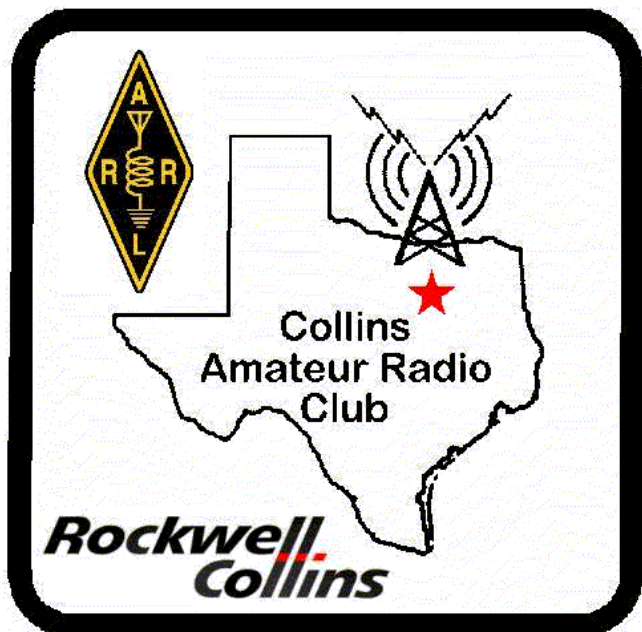
Amateur Radio Club

Mail Station 461-290

P.O. Box 833807

Richardson, TX 75083-3807

TO:



CLUB STATIONS

(972) 705-1349

W5ROK REPEATER

441.875 MHz +5 MHz Input

131.8 Hz PL - RX and TX

W5ROK-1 PACKET BBS ROK Node

145.01 MHz

Thursday 22 April 2010

1730

Methodist Richardson Medical Ctr
At Bush/Renner/Shiloh Intersection

→ *Second Floor Conference Room* ←

NEXT SIGNALS DEADLINE:

→→→ 16 may 2010 ←←←