

CARC Membership Meeting

Tuesday 24 August 2021 5:30 PM
NOTE THE TIME CHANGE

The August 2021 MEETING WILL BE AT
Poor Richards Café Plano TX

**"De-mystifying the RF Exposure
Evaluation for Ham Stations"**
By Frank Krizan, KR5N

August Meeting Announcement

Thanks to the good graces of Sonja Ryder, owner of Poor Richard's Cafe in Plano, we once again are able to offer "in-person" meetings starting with our August 24th meeting. We're switching to our traditional start time of 5:30 pm (doors open at 5 pm), and will also offer audio and video via Zoom for any who are uncomfortable with in-person meetings and those who live some distance away.



Poor Richard's Cafe is located at 2442 K Avenue, Plano 75074 (southeast corner of E Park Blvd and K Ave) - see map below. Poor Richard's web site is <https://poor-richard-scafe.com> at which you can review their extensive breakfast and lunch menu. We hope you'll give Poor Richard's a try and make it a frequent stop as a way to say "Thanks" for allowing us to use their facilities. PRC is closed at night, so we have the private use of the cafe; however, there will not be any food or beverage service.

The August 24th meeting will feature a program titled "De-mystifying the RF Exposure Evaluation for Ham Stations,"

given by Frank Krizan, KR5N, of Plano. Frank will focus on the need to "keep things simple" while ensuring that everyone adheres to the intent of FCC policy. Many hams are wondering why there is a sudden move to forcing us to perform long, complicated calculations and measurements to ensure safety. As it turns out, the need to understand RF safety has been with us for the entire history of amateur radio and with FCC implications for almost three decades.



Frank will review a bit of the history regarding RF exposure concerns, how radio frequency energy affects the human body, our responsibilities as good citizens and how to approach most situations in a simplified, straight-forward manner. If you've gotten bogged down in the complexities of some of the manuals which show difficult-to-understand equations and graphs, you'll be happy to know there's a much easier way to approach the subject.

KR5N grew up in Brenham, Texas (the home of Blue Bell Ice Cream). He was fascinated by radio from an early age. Frank got his Novice license (WN5ABU) in 1961 and a year later became WA5ABU. He's a graduate of the University of Texas (at Austin) and went to work at Collins Radio Company in Richardson after a stint in the Navy. He worked in automated test engineering, advanced manufacturing technology and quality management his entire career at Collins, which became Rockwell Collins and later Alcatel Network Systems.

Frank has held the additional calls of KR1ZAN and K5HS (K-ditty - think about it!). He enjoys all aspects of amateur radio and considers himself a "Ham Generalist." Frank and his wife Nancy, K5NCK, moved to Plano a couple of years back. A son and daughter (and grand-kids) also live nearby. He is currently the President of the Collins Amateur Radio Club of Richardson.

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N5CXX CLUB STATION

Phone Number/Mail Station
Unavailable until further notice

VE SESSIONS

Collins Amateur Radio Club (CARC) Test sessions take place on fourth Tuesdays, immediately following the regular CARC monthly membership meeting (about 7:30 p.m.). The test sessions are held at **Poor Richards Café Plano TX**. Walk-ins are welcome, but it's best to register with the lead examiner, Kerry Weeks, at weeks.kerry@gmail.com or by phone at (214) 478-3230.

Dallas tests are held on the fourth Saturday of each month at 1000 hrs. 13350 Floyd Rd. (Old Credit Union) Contact Bob West, WA8YCD 972.917.6362

Irving tests are held on the third Saturday of each month at 0900. Fifth 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 1430, ending no later than 1645. **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 Janet Crenshaw, WB9ZPH at 972.302.9992.

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.

Richardson The Richardson Wireless Klub (RWK) VE team hold license testing on the third Thursday of each month at St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church, 1220 West Beltline Rd. Testing begins at 1900 hrs in room 12. Enter through the Northern most door on the east side of the church building. For further information contact Don Klick KG5CK. 972.464.2889 or E-mail rwkhamtest@gmail.com.

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The Prez Sez

with KR5N



Exciting news! - Thanks to efforts by Bill Fell, KK5PB, we have secured use of Poor Richard's Cafe on the 4th Tuesday evenings for in-person meetings of CARC. Poor Richard's is closed in the evening, so we have exclusive use for our meetings. Sonja Ryder is the owner of PRC and most graciously has allowed our use of the cafe. I would encourage all members, their families and friends to frequent Poor Richard's Cafe for breakfast or lunch and, if you see Sonja there, let her know how much you appreciate her allowing us to meet at PRC. Their menu is great - see <https://poorrichardscafe.com/our-menu/>

Methodist Richardson Medical Center had informed us that access to conference rooms would probably not be possible for the remainder of this year and possibly into part of 2022. Many of our members have been asking for in-person meetings, and the CARC Board investigated options for alternate meeting locations. Bill contacted Sonja, and we now have a very nice meeting facility. We will also feed the audio and video via Zoom for those who are remote or not comfortable with in-person meetings.

Our July meeting was in-person at the Richardson Radio Control Club's flying field at Lake Lavon. It's a great facility. Several RRCC members brought out their planes for demonstrations and allowed several of our members to try out a trainer aircraft - what a thrill! We were asked to provide some demos of amateur radio. I wish to extend a Thank You to Milt Wilton, AD5XD, for bringing radio equipment to demonstrate FT-8 and HF voice, to Gene Duprey, K1GD, for bringing his Flex Radio Maestro to demonstrate remote HF operation, and to Bill Owens, AD5EW, who came out with his Class B motorhome equipped with HF and V/UHF radios.

Additionally, many thanks to Kerry Weeks, K5WKS, for serving ice cream and to Jim Brown, AD5XD, for setting up the Club's banner and info material.

Also attending from CARC were: Glynis Box, Jeff Box, WA5TCA, Mark Dempsey, N5MD, Chris Duprey, KD5IBA, Frank Krizan, KR5N, Josiah Makidon, Mike Makidon, John McFadden, K5TIP, Liz McFadden, K5LIZ, Tudi Owens, and Jim Skinner, WB0UNI.

RRCC members attending were: Lowell Enloe, Ed Kranz, Garry Lundberg, JP Morere, Curtis Simmons (RRCC President), Rimenez Souza (RRCC Media Manager), and Harold Walsh. Everyone from RRCC was warm and friendly and eager to show off the facility and various planes. More information about the Radio Control Club is available at www.rrcc.org. Click on the link toward the top of the page "Check out the aerial view of the flying field" for a great look at the Club's wonderful facility. Elsewhere in this newsletter, you'll find a gallery of photos from the ice cream social.

The day started out hot, but nearby thunderstorms provided some cooling outflows that made temps a bit more tolerable. We had to shut down operations a bit early because thunderstorm activity moved in; actually one storm developed right on top of the field. Lightning struck nearby, and that was the official signal to quit. The Social was a lot of fun. We all enjoyed some great fellowship and agreed that it's been too long between in-person gatherings.

The CARC Board of Directors has had a number of discussions regarding the future of the Club over the past year and a half. At the August Board meeting, the Board began discussions on how best to proceed with development of new governing documents, especially as we proceed toward classification as a 501(c)(3) organization. The Board chose to conduct a special workshop dedicated only to discussion of a framework for development of Mission and Vision Statements and Goals and Objectives and what levels of governing documents are needed. A report on this special workshop will be presented at the August meeting and in next month's SIGNALS.

Remember, Board of Director's Meetings are open to all members. If you have specific or general ideas or opinions regarding our Club, you are always welcome to attend the Board meetings (held via Zoom) to express your views. Everyone is very busy nowadays, so you're welcome to logon, ask for time to express your views and logoff. This is probably a lot easier than typing up a detailed email. Or, if you wish, send comments via email to kr5n@arrl.net

73 de Frank KR5N

Vice President/Membership Chairman Report

Membership Chairman Report - The CARC added Robert Geraldson, N5REG as a new member. Robert holds an Extra Class License and has interests in being an Elmer,

working on VHF/UHF/HF, working with packet and MARS. Robert is also a member of the Garland Amateur Radio Club. A special thanks goes to Robert for his valuable participation in the field day event.

Welcome Robert

Current Membership - 56

Full Members – 43 (Includes Life and Retiree Members)

Associate Members - 13

The most current roster is posted on the Members Only portion of our web site. If you need a Member ID and Password for the Members Only portion you can contact Mike Hollingsworth at (C) 972-571-6060.

73s,

Bill K5MWC

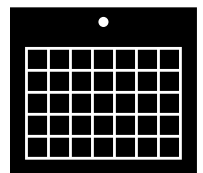
Secretary's Report

There is no Secretary's Report for July since the July meeting was the Annual Ice Cream Social, which was held at the Richardson Radio Control Club airfield at Bratonia Park at Lake Lavon.

ACTIVITY MANAGER'S REPORT

by Kerry Weeks, K5WKS

We had a great time at our annual Ice Cream Social held at the Richardson Radio Control Club's flying field next to Bratonia Park in Princeton, Texas. It was a hot day, but we had plenty of ice cream and ice cold water to cool things down. The Richardson Club's flying field is a very elaborate place. Their members were very cordial and answered questions about radio control. Several of our members got to fly a trainer - without crashing it! You can check out the RRCC info at www.rrcc.org.



We had several stations setup to demonstrate ham radio, ranging from voice and FT8 to K1GD's remote HF station to Bill Owen's (AD5EW) well-equipped motorhome (which was a hit because it was air-conditioned!). Several of the RRCC members asked if we might be willing to offer a ham radio demo in the fall when it's cooler. We discussed the possibility of something like Ham Radio in the Park, and they thought this was a great idea. Needless to say, we're looking into it.

The Ice Cream Social ended an hour early as sudden thunderstorms sprung up, one right on top of the flying field. A loud clap of thunder pushed us to take down the antennas and pack up the gear, just before a huge downpour.

Many thanks to Bill Fell, KK5PB, for negotiating use of Poor Richard's Cafe in Plano to allow us to have in-person meetings starting with the August meeting. A sincere THANK YOU to Sonja Ryder, owner of the Cafe. Poor Richard's is closed at night and delighted to allow us to use part of their space. There will be no food or drink service. Access will begin about 5 pm on the 4th Tuesday. Ring the doorbell at the main door to gain entrance. We will switch back to the traditional meeting times of 5:30 pm with VE testing starting after the meeting (about 7:30 pm).

I encourage you to try breakfast and/or lunch at Poor Richard's as a way to say thanks for use of their facility. The address is 2442 K Avenue, Plano, 75074 (southeast corner of E Park Blvd & K Ave). Check out their web site (<http://www.poorrichardscafe.com>) for more info and menu.

For those who are uncomfortable with in-person meetings, we will offer the meeting audio and video via Zoom. The Zoom credentials are emailed to members the Monday prior to the meeting and are available in the Members Only Section of the Club website (n5cxx.us).

The August 24th meeting will feature a presentation on "Demystifying the RF Exposure Evaluation for Ham Stations" given by Frank Krizan, KR5N. A brief business meeting will begin at 5:30 pm, and the presentation should begin around 6 pm.

Upcoming meeting programs:

September 28 - SteppIR antennas, everything you ever wanted to know - John Walker, W1JCW

October 26 - Ionospheric Propagation Predictions - Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA

November 23 - Annual Meeting / Election of Officers

December - Christmas Dinner Party (Date and venue TBD)

January 2022 - Annual Show and Tell Night

If you'd like to do a program in 2022 or have a suggestion for a program (either a topic or the name of a speaker), let me know. How about Operating Events - which ones do you think the Club should take part in? And don't be shy about stepping up to organize our Club's involvement in a contest or Special Event. Send your ideas to weeks.kerry@gmail.com

ARRL VE TEST SESSIONS ARE RESUMING!

ARRL VE test sessions will once again be held immediately following the CARC meeting on the 4th Tuesday monthly at Poor Richard's Cafe, 2442 K Avenue, Plano TX 75074.

All levels of exams will be offered; BUT YOU MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE IN ORDER TO BE ASSURED A



SEAT. We also need to know who's coming in case we have to cancel due to Covid-19 declarations.

Contact Kerry Weeks, K5WKS, at 214-478-3230 or via email: weeks.kerry@gmail.com to register. Kerry will discuss the exam fees, what you need to do prior to the exam and what to bring to the test session. More info is available at: <http://www.arrl.org/what-to-bring-to-an-exam-session>

ARRL North Texas August 2021 Newsletter

Greetings fellow North Texas Amateur Radio OPS!

I Am Very Proud To Announce That Katherine Forson, KT5KMF Has Won The Hiram Percy Maxim Award

The Hiram Percy Maxim Award is the premier honor for a radio amateur and ARRL member younger than twenty-one, whose accomplishments and contributions are of the most exemplary nature within the framework of amateur radio activities.

While Katherine is no stranger to winning awards...

During a three-way telephone call between her family, John Robert Stratton N5AUS our ARRL West Gulf Division Director and our ARRL Section Manager, announcing the news to the Forson family, Katherine's dad Rob Forson K5WFR stated "she was speechless and that was a first."

Katherine will be presented her plaque and a \$1500 check from the ARRL at the Plano Amateur Radio Klub (PARK) meeting on the 20th of September at 8 pm. The presentation will be conducted by the ARRL West Gulf Director and your ARRL NTX Section Manager.

Our ARRL West Gulf Director John Robert Stratton, N5AUS also stated that the ARRL Board of Directors' most difficult decision was not in choosing Miss Forson for this award, but in what they were able to list in her citation of the award as her list of accomplishments were too lengthy to include all of them within the citation.

Congratulations Katherine!

Katherine is the first ever ARRL North Texas Amateur to win this prestigious award. I hope that this inspires many other young amateur radio operators to become more active and an integral part of their community and join our ARRL Section Management Team.

73, Steve, KG5VK - SM ARRL NTX



2021 ICE CREAM SOCIAL AT RICHARDSON RADIO CONTROL CLUB AIRFIELD





Sporadic SIGNALS

...captured by
Frank KR5N

The Austin Ionosonde is back up and easily viewed via: <https://region6armymars.org/resources/solarweather.php>
Another useful site if you'd like a real-time map of MUF and foF2, take a look at <https://prop.kc2g.com>.

As an ARRL Member, you have access to all four ARRL publications online, including QST, QEX, On the Air and National Contest Journal (NCJ). Plus, take advantage of ARRL podcasts. The On the Air and Eclectic Tech podcasts are sponsored by Icom. Both podcasts are available on iTunes (iOS) and Stitcher (Android), as well as on Blubrry.

Lots of good stuff in QST for September: Excellent article on locating sources of power line noise. Plus, I've been enjoying the "Look Back" section which takes a look at QST and amateur radio of 50 years ago. Great memories.

The current On the Air magazine features a Focus on EmComm. It includes a couple of great articles on the resurgence of packet radio and the importance of Winlink for emergency communications. And the latest episode of the On the Air podcast (Episode 20) features a discussion with Oliver Dully, K6OLI, who describes how amateurs use the Winlink network for various public service applications. He also discusses the equipment and software necessary to access Winlink.

If you haven't taken the time to peruse NCJ, thinking that it's just for contesters, think again! There's excellent material in each issue about equipment, cabling, software and antenna basics, and lots of excellent ideas on making successful contacts. I especially like the "Little Pistols Pages."

QEX is for experimenters and is often very detailed and complicated, but it's surprising how often I find a hint or clever design idea that I can use in another application on something I'm working on ... or dreaming about!

As a member of ARRL, you have access to virtually \$150 worth of magazines for the price of one magazine. There are few places that offer as much in any other hobby.

In case you hadn't heard, MFJ Enterprises Production Manager Michael W. Enis, KB5YJF, died on August 6. He was 53. He was considered the world expert for Ameritron amplifiers.

You may have read in recent DX news that 3 teams are working on Bouvet Island DXpeditions; however on 13

August Paul Ewing, N6PSE, posted the following announcement to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/3y0jbouvet2023/>:

"Dear DX Community,

We now find ourselves the #3 team in line to go to Bouvet. This recent development is not comfortable for us so we are now re-examining the Top Ten most wanted DXCC entities with a plan to redirect our efforts to an activation that will be most beneficial for everyone.

We are now closing our plans to visit Bouvet, however we plan to activate a different rare and much needed entity in January/February 2023. That is now our focus.

Watch for more updates on this exciting new project.

We wish our former 3Y0J teammates a safe and productive journey to Bouvet.

Thank you, The Intrepid-DX Group"

Thanks to Andrew (KE5GDB), Chip (KD4C), Ken (N5UA), and Jeffrey (N5TIT) a new 10-Meter propagation CW beacon has been deployed in the Richardson area. The beacon is an AA7DJ custom-designed compact 10-Watt 10M beacon. Its antenna is a Cushcraft AR10 (Ringo Ranger) 10-Meter Ringo vertical antenna. This antenna is a 1/2-wave vertical antenna with a low angle of radiation for good long-haul DX. The antenna is located on a 200-foot building with a full 360-degree view of the horizon. The beacon is on its IARU-coordinated frequency of 28209.0 kHz 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Listen for the beacon: its message is --- "VVV DE N5TIT/B EM12PX E E E E E E E"

... until next month, 73 de KR5N

HAM EXAM 101 - AUGUST 2021

It may have been a while since you took your ham exams, or, it may have been just a few weeks ago. Each month, we'll review one question from each of the pools (Tech, General and Extra) to test your Ham Knowledge. The correct answers are shown (upside down) elsewhere in this issue of SIGNALS.



1. What is generally the best time for long-distance 10 meter band propagation via the F layer?

- A. From shortly after sunset to dawn during periods of high sunspot activity
- B. From dawn to shortly after sunset during periods of low sunspot activity
- C. From dawn to shortly after sunset during periods of high sunspot activity

D. From shortly after sunset to dawn during periods of low sunspot activity

2. What is an instance in which the use of an instrument with analog readout may be preferred over an instrument with digital readout?

- A. When adjusting tuned circuits
- B. When measuring the frequency of an oscillator
- C. When testing logic circuits
- D. When high precision is desired

3. Which of the following digital modes is designed for meteor scatter communications?

- A. APRS
- B. Hellschreiber
- C. WSPR
- D. MSK144

FCC Application Fees Unlikely to Go into Effect Until 2022

(ARRL News) 08/16/2021

The schedule of FCC amateur radio application fees likely will not go into effect before 2022. FCC staff confirmed during a recent virtual meeting with Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VECs) that the agency is still working on the necessary changes to the Universal Licensing System (ULS) software and other processes and procedures that must be in place before it starts collecting fees from amateur applicants. Earlier this year, the FCC said it would not start collecting fees from amateur applicants before this summer. The new estimate is that the fees won't go into effect until early next year.

Once it's effective, the \$35 application fee will apply to new, modification (upgrade and sequential call sign change), renewal, and vanity call sign applications. All fees will be per application. Administrative update applications, such as those to change a licensee's name, mailing, or email address, will be exempt from fees. ARRL VEC manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, said Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams will not face the burden of collecting the \$35 fee.

"Once the FCC application fee takes effect, new and upgrade applicants will pay the exam session fee to the VE team as usual, but they'll pay the \$35 application fee directly to the FCC using the [FCC Pay Fees](#) system," she explained. When the FCC receives the examination information from the VEC, it will email a link with payment instructions to each successful candidate who then will have 10 days from the date of the email to pay.

After the fee is paid and the FCC has processed an application, examinees will receive a second email from the FCC with a link to their official license. The link will be good for

30 days. Licensees also will be able to view, download, and print official license copies by logging into their FCC ULS account. The FCC no longer provides printed licenses.

Licensees can log into the [ULS](#) with their 10-digit FRN (FCC Registration Number) and password at any time to view and manage their license and application, [print their license](#), and update anything in their FCC license record, including adding an email address.

FEE SCHEDULE

INDIVIDUALS

\$35 FEE: New, modification (upgrade and sequential call sign change), renewal, and vanity call sign applications. All fees will be per application.

NO FEE: Administrative updates, such as a change of name, mailing or email address, or license cancellation.

AMATEUR RADIO CLUBS

\$35 FEE: New, renewal, trustee change, and vanity call sign applications. All fees will be per application.

NO FEE: Administrative updates, such as a change of name, mailing or email address, or license cancellation.

Need another Badge or Coffee Mug?




Order from The Sign Man of Baton Rouge at:
<https://www.thesignman.com/clubs/collinsarccart.html>

CARC Community Service Activities

Siren Testing Dennis Cobb WA8ZBT, Frank Krizan KR5N, and Jim Skinner WB0UNI participate in the Richardson emergency siren testing. The August test was conducted on 4 August. Most sirens worked, but several were partially or totally non-functional. The sirens are monitored by amateur radio operators and reports made using the Richardson Wireless Klub (RWK) repeater at 147.120 MHz. Siren testing occasionally uses the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) repeater at 145.430 MHz, which is designated as the backup repeater. Assisting with July 7th Garland Siren Test were Bob Jones, W5BJ, and, Robert Geraldson, N5REG.

Crime Watch Patrol Jim Skinner WB0UNI participates in Richardson Duck Creek Crime Watch Patrol (CWP). CWP members, after successful completion of Richardson Police

Department training, patrol their neighborhoods and report all suspicious activities to the police department.

Drive Home Net Report - August 2021

The Collins ARC Drive Home Net continues on Tuesdays from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m. on the N5CXX Repeater 441.875 MHz, +5 MHz, PL=131.8 Hz. The Net is not held on the 4th Tuesday due to the monthly membership meeting (the exception is December when Net Schedules work around the Christmas Dinner and Christmas Eve/Day).

All stations are invited to check in, whether a member of CARC or not. The Net is informal, operating as a Roundtable.



JUL 27 - NO NET; ICE CREAM SOCIAL - Informal Net was attempted from lake, but unsuccessful.

AUG 3 - [9] KR5N Frank NCS; WB0UNI Jim; K5WKS Kerry; K5MWC Bill; N5WSV George; W5BJ Bob; K5TIP John; KI5QLE Kyle; KI5PWN Tom.

AUG 10 - [9] KR5N Frank NCS; K5WKS Kerry; WB0UNI Jim; K5MWC Bill; KI5QLE Kyle; W5BJ Bob; N5WSV George; KC5MVE Paul; K5GLD Randy. (Net ended early due to repeater issues).

Average participation for this period: 9. This is a new Net record!

Average participation for the previous period: 7

The Drive Home Net is intended for comments on amateur radio topics, listing items for buy/trade/sell, asking questions or contacting others on-frequency. We hope you'll give it a try soon. We've had some great conversations of late.

Summary of CARC Board Meeting - 10 August 2021

The meeting was preceded by an informal workshop beginning at 1901. The following were present:

- Jim Brown AF5MA (Board member)
- Bill Fell KK5PB (Non-voting participant)
- Frank Krizan KR5N (Board member and Chairman)
- Bill Swan K5MWC (Board member)
- Rohan Thomas KG5RCN (Board member)
- Kerry Weeks K5WKS (Board member)

Topics discussed during the workshop included:

1. Possible venues for future meetings. Although a few candidates for in-person events were identified, it appeared likely that Zoom would be the preferred choice for the near term.

2. Frank Krizan noted that the club's Nets meetings on Tuesdays were gaining in popularity. The last two events had record participation levels.
3. The need for setup of the Club's radio room was discussed. A leader or leaders for the effort are needed, but so far, we have no volunteers.
4. Plans were begun for development of a new CARC Constitution and supporting documents. The first step is the development of a general outline defining the scope to be addressed and identifying a specific document hierarchy. Frank Krizan agreed to develop the initial outline and distribute to the Board for review.
5. Key elements of the Constitution are the vision and mission statements. All agreed to a second Board meeting on 17 August to discuss these items.
6. Frank Krizan proposed purchase of two E-Z UP tents for use at Field Day and other club events; it was agreed that this would be moved at the formal meeting to follow.

The formal Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 2025. Kerry Weeks moved to purchase two E-Z UP tents at a cost not to exceed \$310 as proposed in the preceding workshop. Jim Brown seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Since no additional motions were raised, Kerry Weeks moved to adjourn, with a second by Bill Swan. The meeting was adjourned at 2028 by Board Chairman Frank Krizan.

Excerpt Three from Jack, W5TFB's Book

Here is the next excerpt from Jack's book. Jack passes his commercial license tests but Sue leaves for Germany. Continuing with the next part with his finding Sue many years later.

At work we had a subscription to Sam's, a publication that had service facts about everything electronic. It also had manuals on obtaining Commercial FCC tickets. Jerry wanted the First Class Phone ticket, which would let him work as a chief engineer for a radio station, and the video endorsement so he could do the same for TV. I thought that would be an incredibly boring job.

We studied for the exam together. I wanted the radar endorsement. No one in Wichita Falls had one. It was hard. For me the hardest part was all the regulations. Jerry had trouble with the EE math, which is easy if you know complex number arithmetic and some linear algebra. Our friend Homer Huddleston's father was an attorney (oil) and went to Dallas regularly, and we hitched a ride with him. The FCC office was in the same building his company had offices in. Homer was W5TLW. The father had a really comfortable car, a shiny white Lincoln with a spare tire mounted on the back in a round chrome container. It was really snazzy. We had a moody 1948 Plymouth the color of dirty vomit.

We went, skipping school, and passed everything we took. If I had missed one more I would have failed the radar endorsement. Sam's was weak on that one, and I wasn't all that swift myself. With that I could work for the FAA. I never did as an individual. They used us as consultants. I was the only one in Wichita Falls licensed to adjust their radar sets. I also worked on the Air Force avionics at Shepard Field. They didn't care if I looked like I was twelve.

Sue and I tried the Mathematics Magazine problems, and did about one a month, which we sent in. They never printed one of our solutions. They do print a list of names of the people who submit correct solutions. When I taught at Texas A&M I read solution submissions a couple of years for the Monthly, but had to quit when the NASA work got to be so heavy. It takes more time than you would think. The work for the Monthly was confidential. One of the problems was actually wrong, and I got a little paper out of my example that showed the theorem to be proved was false.

The spring semester ending was sad. Sue's father was transferred to Germany. Sue was good at languages and knew German and French as well as English, but she didn't like it there. The two sisters stayed to finish school. Their grandmother stayed with them. That was rough, losing a friend I was so close to. The day she left she told me she loved me. I said, "You what?" I was dumbfounded. We promised to keep in touch but she never sent me her address, and I never heard from her. I guess I handled the love thing wrong.

Finding Sue

It was Saturday 17 November, 2008. I was not lost, but I didn't know where I was. Not lost because I knew how to return to where I came from. Starting well east of Lafayette Louisiana, near I-10, I had been walking east alongside I-10 for an hour, and was in Breaux Bridge. I got caught in an afternoon shower, and the sun was casting long shadows peeking under the heavy clouds. Some of the lightning was pretty close, and I felt disoriented.

A girl, looked 14 or 15, said, "Mister, are you OK? That one was close." I had to strain to hear her for my ears were ringing. I told her I was fine. She tilted her head to the left.

The girl was vaguely familiar. She said, "You are not from around here." I confessed. She said, "I'm from New Iberia." I said that's where they make Tabasco Sauce. She said, "I wish they would go somewhere else. When the wind is just right it burns your eyes. What are you doing over here? Trying to eat up all our good food I bet."

I said, "Yes, but I'm really here because a friend died and his wife wanted me to come help with everything."

She said, "Out here?"

"No, west of here near I-10. They're having the funeral, probably over, the burial, and a party afterward. I did everything I could to help but I don't go to funerals. I do like walking." There was something about the way her eyes sparkled, the way she tilted her head when listening. I asked, "And why are you out here? The weather looks bad still, although it may not rain again."

She explained, "I had to come up for air. My Grandma is having a birthday party given by her younger sister, only a year younger. They just talk about old times as if they were yesterday. She is 70 today. I can't stand the old talk, and they don't have any recent music, just scratchy old stuff. Have you ever heard of Bill Haley? She wiggles like a bait pot full of earthworms when he plays and sings. Uncle Johnny is always trying to get in my pants, and they keep feeding him beer."

I had a hunch, nothing mystical: Sue's birthday is 17 November, and she would be 70 today. I asked, "Where are your parents, if you don't mind my asking?"

"Oh, they be dead, long ago, when I was little. I don't remember them. I don't go to funerals either, especially not living ones like they're having in there now. My Grandma brought me up, and I only let her down once, last year; old Doc Hammond got rid of it and she never knew. What about you? It will be dark in an hour. We are headed towards my grand-aunt's house. I guess you could sleep in the old Packard if you are tired."

I decided to test my intuitive feeling. "Do you know your Grandma's maiden name?"

"Sure, Susan Marie Barber. She never married. They named me Marie after her, but everybody calls me Mae. Why?"

I lied, "Oh, nothing special. Just curious. Just one more question, if I may, before we arrive. Has she ever mentioned a man named Jack?"

She tilted her head to her left, taking me in. Sue did that when thinking. "You are Jack. I thought so, not from the beginning, from your questions. You'll have to ask her that. I've heard about you from her sister Brenda. Why didn't you answer her letters? To reach Sue you will need to pass Brenda, who is not your greatest fan. You hitched?"

"I was but not now. I didn't answer her letters because I never received any. I would have, there was so much I wanted to tell someone and it seemed like she was the only one I knew. I didn't have any other friends."

"Well, we're here. I think they're out back. Watch out because if you are not nice Brenda and I will throw you to the 'gators." I didn't call her on the 'gators threat. I knew they were rare here. Most of those were pets that grew too big and were let go.

"I'm always nice." We walked into the space between the house and barn. The barn was in better shape than the house, which needed a new roof. A beagle mix, puppy really, ran out to greet Mae, who called her Jo. She checked me briefly, I guess I passed. I saw an old Packard, sitting on concrete blocks topped by 2 by 6's. The hood was open, and I wandered over to look at it. It was in beautiful condition, clean, belts and hoses and wires looked new. I counted: yes, a straight 12 block, at least 74 years old. That's when the last one was made.

It seems that the man under it was Uncle Johnny. He wiggled out, wiped off his hands on a dirty once red rag, and told me his name, John. I told him mine, and we shook hands. He said he used to work in the plant in Lafayette but it closed and he was just helping out his Ma until he could find work. He looked about 50-55.

I asked if he had her running yet, and he said she would start but only ran a few minutes and then died. I don't know much about cars but my uncle in Clovis New Mexico used to have one like this. I remembered that the choke was real sensitive. It seemed possible that Uncle Johnny didn't know that, and it might get me some points with Brenda, no harm in trying. "May I try it? I just want to see how it sounds."

It was pulled out all the way. I started the engine, and, as she warmed up eased the choke in until the engine wasn't running rough or missing. I fed a little gas; I had forgotten how much torque this engine had. I climbed out, Johnny got in, and gently gunned it. He as one happy camper. Later I could tell him what I did and show him how. I realized I was taking a chance; Brenda might think John was a good-for-nothing bum and wished the car would fall off its perch and crush him.

When he finally turned it off and shut the hood the two women came out. "Ma, I got the car running good." (There goes plan A. Plan B had to wait, and I didn't like it.) I recognized Sue. She looked healthy. She hadn't noticed me yet. Brenda said something to John I didn't catch. Mae was walking briskly toward her grandmother. I was trying to be invisible. Jo noticed I wasn't occupied and rolled over to get her underside petted. She wasn't fat, but was too big around to be a standard beagle. Maybe some basset hound. She hadn't shown me her voice yet, but that wouldn't decide anything.

Mae and Sue were in the house. The screen door to the back porch didn't look right. The bottom hinge was about to come off and the door was at a funny angle. I would call Lethe (the widow) as soon as I got a chance and leave a message telling her where I was. There was a public phone at a gas station about two blocks away. Brenda was grilling John, sitting next to him in the old car. He kept looking at me and I kept being invisible. It was clear that Brenda didn't believe John. If he started the car now it would run fine, provided it would start. Probably would, it hadn't had time to cool much. I noticed that he pumped the gas peddle before starting the car, so that would insure a rich mixture even if the choke were set for a lean mixture as it was now. Sure enough, he started it, and it missed a bit but after a second start ran fine. She got out (it was pretty far to the ground, but she made it), and both headed for the house. I walked over to the old Packard, pulled the choke all the way out (Plan B), and headed to the gas station. I could indeed sleep nicely in the car. The back seat was better than Lethe's couch.

Returning from the call (which turned out to be a local call), I was almost run over by Mae roller skating. Evangeline Street was a gravel road but one side had a concrete sidewalk. Kind of weird. She said her Grandma wanted to sleep on it before deciding whether to see me. Mae told me to sleep in the Packard, and that Uncle Johnny wanted to put the tires on it in the morning now that he had it running good. I told her I'd be glad to help. (So Mae didn't know. Good. She could have; I guess she wasn't paying attention.) I wasn't hungry, ate some junk food at the gas station. I was tired, mainly from driving about 300 miles, then cooking for Lethe for four hours. I felt grimy as well, but last time I checked I smelled better than John. The barn didn't have running water that I could see. If I offended anyone they could ask me to leave or show me where I can

clean myself. I didn't care one way or the other, but tomorrow, when John showed off his great mechanic work, was going to be fun to watch, and I wanted to. Not to be with them. I figured it would go a mile or two before quitting. I imagined myself sitting on a lawn chair sipping mint juleps when they returned, on foot. I have no idea what a mint julep is, but it sounds southern, and there was no lawn chair in sight. That's what imagination is for, to supply items when they are scarce.

To be fair to John, probably no one he knew had ever seen a car with a manual choke, and the thing was not visible since it was hidden by the steering column and wheel. The last car made in the US with one appeared in 1974. John would have been about 14 then. The choke control was dusty, and I took care not to make it look recently used, using only my fingernails.

The grease I ate at the gas station was gone, sort of digested. Their outhouse was dusty, so they had modern plumbing, but I used it. I spotted a hose going to the house I had missed before, turned on the water, and splashed cold water on my face and arms, ran my fingers through my long dirty gray hair, and played with Jo. It was getting dark, so I climbed in the car, rolled up my sweatshirt for a pillow, and slept.

To Be Continued

(Contributed by Steve Phillips K6JT)

New Collins Building Access Restrictions

Per Security, all "non-essential" access to Collins Aerospace facilities (including employee recreation activities) is shut-down until the Covid-19 pandemic is resolved. Anyone needing access to the Club Station must submit an email request to Security with an explanation of who, when and why access is needed, and the Security team will review, and if approved, the person will only be allowed access via the North Gate. For contact information, send an email to kr5n@arri.net asking for Security contact information.

FYI—Until further notice, masks are now required inside all Collins buildings. Also, a temperature check is required before entering the property. During busy hours there is a manned tent near the north gate where the temperature check is performed. During off hours, there is a place at the north gate for a self-check.

Plano Balloon Festival Cancelled

The Plano Balloon Festival, Inc. has made the difficult decision to cancel the 2021 H-E-B Central Market Plano Balloon Festival that was scheduled for September 17 – 19. With the continued increase in COVID cases, specifically the Delta Variant, the Festival board and staff has considered the health and safety of our Festival pilots, attendees, volunteers, sponsors, and vendors our top priority. In making this difficult decision we are mindful of the extremely large number of families that attend the event, the majority of which have children under 12 years of age. Providing a safe environment for everyone that visits the event is crucial, especially for our youngest attendees. Safety has been at the forefront of our Festival from the very beginning and that will not change. This was not an easy decision, but the right one to make. We deeply appreciate the support of our partners, sponsors, and the community; and look forward to the best festival ever in 2022.

Upcoming Events

Daily	DFW Early Traffic Net (NTS) at 6:30pm 146.88 – PL 110.9Hz
Daily	DFW Late Traffic Net (NTS) at 10:30pm 146.72 – PL 110.9Hz
Daily	Texas CW Traffic Net at 7:00pm on 3541 KHz and at 10pm on 3541 KHz www.k6jt.com
Tuesdays	Collins ARC Drive Home Net. 441.875 (+5) MHz, PL=131.8 Hz, 5:30-6:00pm (no net 4 th Tuesday.)
1st Wednesday	Richardson Emergency Siren Test. At noon using the Richardson Wireless Klub (RWK) repeater at 147.120 MHz.
2nd Wednesday	ARES North Texas HF Net Every month—3860 KHz at 8:30 pm—9:30pm
AUGUST	
21-22	10 GHz & Up – Round 1. The objective is for North American amateurs work as many amateur stations in as many different locations as possible in North America on bands from 10-GHz through Light. Amateurs are encouraged to operate from more than one location during this event. Details at http://www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up .
22	Rookie Roundup – RTTY —To encourage newly-licensed operators in North America (including territories and possessions) to operate on the HF bands and experience competitive operating. On the 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter HF bands. From 1800 UTC through 2359 UTC. Details at http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup .
SEPTEMBER	
11-13	September VHF. Objective: amateurs in the US and Canada (and their possessions) to work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees x 1 degree grid squares as possible using authorized frequencies above 50 MHz. Stations outside the US & Canada (and their possessions) may only work stations in the US (and its possessions) and Canada. Begins 1800 UTC Saturday and runs through 0259 UTC Monday. Details at http://www.arrl.org/september-vhf .
18-19	10 GHz & Up – Round 2. The objective is for North American amateurs work as many amateur stations in as many different locations as possible in North America on bands from 10-GHz through Light. Amateurs are encouraged to operate from more than one location during this event. Details at http://www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up .

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The Amateur's Code

by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE - never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL - offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE - with knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station, and operation beyond reproach.

FRIENDLY - with slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED - Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC - with station and skill always ready for service to country and community

Quiz Answers
 1. C (T3C09)
 2. A (G4B14)
 3. D (E2D01)

"NØUJR and His Friends" Cartoons used by Permission from Greg Trook, NØUJR

Yea, I just bought one of those new "smart" HF rigs. It almost anticipates your settings. Only thing is, when I forget myself and use rough language, the darn thing retunes itself to 11 meters.

PERIODIC TABLE OF MAJOR AMATEUR RADIO CONTESTS



2021

Multimode	CW	Digital
off-the-air	SSB	VHF/UHF

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2 1800Z ARRL RTTY Roundup	3 2400Z NA Sprint CW	7 0400Z ARRL DX SSB	7 2400Z SP Polish DX	4 1500Z 7QP/IN/DE New England QSO Parties	25 1200Z SEANET Contest	6 1400Z Marconi Memorial HF	4 1400Z NAQP CW	8 0900Z CWops CW Open	4 2150Z California QSO Party	3 2100Z ARRL SS CW	8 0300Z ARRL 160
9 1800Z NAQP CW	10 0900Z WPX RTTY	14 2400Z NA Sprint RTTY	14 0400Z JIDX CW	10 0900Z CQ-M DX	11 1300Z ARRL June VHF	8 1200Z IARU HF	14 1200Z WAE CW	11 2350Z WAE SSB	12 2350Z Oceania CW	10 0800Z WAE RTTY	14 2350Z ARRL 10
16 1800Z NAQP SSB	17 0900Z ARRL DX CW	20 2400Z Russian DX	21 1200Z CQMM DX	17 2350Z King of Spain	15 1200Z All Asian CW	19 2400Z CQ VHF	20 2100Z NAQP SSB	18 0900Z WA/NJ/NH QSO Parties	19 1500Z Worked All Germany	16 1450Z ARRL SS SSB	17 2100Z RAC Winter
16 1800Z ARRL January VHF	18 0300Z CQ 160 SSB	26 2200Z WPX SSB	27 0800Z Florida QSO Party	24 1800Z Contest University Dayton Hamvention	25 2150Z ARRL Field Day	20 1100Z RSGB IOTA	23 1700Z WW Digi	26 1800Z CQWW RTTY	28 1200Z CQWW CW	25 2400Z HAPPY HOLIDAYS	27 0800Z HAPPY HOLIDAYS
29 2200Z CQ 160 CW	31 2150Z CQWW SSB			29 0000Z WPX CW	30 2400Z CQWW SSB				30 0000Z CQWW SSB	31 2400Z CQWW SSB	

A contribution from EA3O.



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Membership Meeting
 Tuesday 24 July 2021 **5:30 PM**
NOTE THE TIME CHANGE
 THE August 2021 MEETING WILL BE AT
Poor Richards Café Plano TX

NEXT SIGNALS INPUTS DEADLINE:
→→→ 17 September 2021 ←←←