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# SIGNALS

Rockwell  
Collins **Amateur Radio Club**

Monthly Newsletter of the

Volume 30 Issue 12

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

September 2009

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**RCARC**  
**Membership Meeting**  
Thursday, 24 September 2009  
1700 Social      1730 Meeting  
Rockwell Collins Building 462  
Dallas Conference Room

*Subject: TBD—Come and See*

**Return to Dallas Conference Room.** As decided in the last meeting, RCARC will return to the Dallas conference room for our monthly meetings. Although it is more difficult to get to, it provides a larger and more comfortable meeting place, especially when we have large groups. See you there.

**Phil Salas Article in September QST.** Phil, AD5X, has a great article in the September issue of QST, starting on page 47, on antenna accessories from Array Solutions. Be sure to read it. BTW, Phil, should there be figures 2 and 3?

**Membership Renewal.** It's that time again. Joe Wolf, N5UIC, has provided a new membership signup form to most of our current members, either in person (paper) or by email by now. Please complete the form and renew you membership as promptly as possible. Did you know that you can also sign up your spouse as an associate member, as well as people outside the employee/retiree community? Let's support our club with membership renewals before the current fiscal year expires.

## Local Club News

**Meeting Notice** The program for this month was not finalized when the newsletter was ready for publication, but the meetings are always great, so see you on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

**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.

**Public Service Activities.** Its time again for our annual report to the company. We really need to do a good job of reporting public service activities that we have participated in, whether as a club or as individual hams. Examples include bike races, Boy Scouts, Balloon Festival, storm chasing, emergency response, etc. Please report activities to any club officer.

**Officer Elections at this Month's Meeting!** Please consider placing their names in nomination for the 2010 Officer Slate. The current officers would like to see more involvement of others in the leadership, and some can not serve another year. Current and some past officers have taken on other duties in addition to their officer roles for the RCARC. Some have served multiple terms. They cannot keep doing this. So—here is your chance to make a difference: please volunteer to run for President, Vice President, Secretary, Activities Chair or Treasurer. You are guaranteed to get help from the past officers and other members active in the Club. The RCARC needs you. Can you help?

Make your interest known to the leadership now and help your club. There is plenty of lead time until the election this fall. When the nomination committee members call on you, respond—positively, please.

## Events and Public Service Ops

**26-27 September 2009: The Texas QSO Party.** The Texas QSO Party for 2009 will be held on September 26-27, 1400-0200Z (9am-9pm) Saturday and 1400-2000Z (9am-3pm) Sunday. The ARRL Contest Branch declared 2009 to be the 'Year of the State QSO Party', which means the level of activity in this year's Texas QSO Party may set records.

Stations within Texas contact stations anywhere, and stations outside Texas contact as many stations in Texas as they can. Texas stations send a signal report and their Texas county. Stations outside Texas send a signal report and their state, Canadian province, or country. Phone contacts count 2 points; CW and digital contacts 3 points. For Texas stations, the number of QSO points is multiplied by the sum of different Texas counties, states, Canadian provinces, and countries worked.

Suggested frequencies for phone contacts are 25 KHz above the bottom of the General class segments (except for 10m, where the suggested frequencies are 28.3 – 28.5 MHz), for CW contacts, 40-60 KHz above the bottom of the band, and for VHF, 50.200 and 144.200 MHz.

Email Cabrillo format logs to [no5w@consolidated.net](mailto:no5w@consolidated.net), or send paper logs to Texas QSO Party Committee, 6 Sweetdream Place, The Woodlands, TX 77381-6009.

The rules in detail are on the Texas QSO Party web site at <http://txqp.net>. (Cont. on page 3).

**RCARC OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT**

Bob Kirby K3NT  
319.360.0500  
k3nt@arrl.net

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

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OPEN

**WEBSITE MANAGER**

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**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Jim Skinner WB0UNI  
214.535.5264  
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**CLUB STATION**

972.705.1349

**W5ROK**

461-290

**VE SESSIONS**

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

**Irving** tests are held 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of each month at 09:00. 5<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> St. East Plano. Check Repeater 147.180+ for announcements.

**Greenville** testing is on the Saturday after 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**

This month's September meeting will be the Annual Election Meeting at which we wrap up the current year's business and elect the club's officers for the next year. So your attendance, if possible, is really important to the functioning of the club and the setting of its course for the next year. If you cannot attend, please take a few moments and e-mail or send in your input.

Thanks and a tip of the hat to our Secretary, Dwight Ramsey, KE5SAS, who took on being a one man nominating committee when no other member would step forward. By now, each of our members should have received his e-mail requesting your consideration to serve as a RCARC officer. If you have not served in the past, please seriously consider running for a RCARC office.

Soon Dwight should have received the list of the thousands of folks wishing to serve and he will carefully put together and e-mail an election ballot to voting RCARC members. Additional FY2010 BALLOTS will be available at this month meeting. So give Dwight a hand, call or visit with your fellow members and help select the best officer team possible to lead W5ROK, Rockwell Collins ARC in FY2010.



Here are the reported results when one radio club had few members offer to serve as officers.



And here are the results of a Radio Club with members who will run for a club office. (From Pella ARC, Pella, IA)

Hey, do not forget that it is also RCARC membership renewal time. A reminder to return your completed membership form with any changes, such as a license upgrade or new e-mail address, along with your dues to RCARC.

#### Selected RCARC August 2009 Activities:

- Vice President Report – Sidney Ross Terry, K5SRT
- Secretary Report – Dwight Ramsey, KE5SAS
- Treasurers Report – Robert Diepenbrock, KC4UAI
- Yet Another Great SIGNALS Newsletter – Jim Skinner, WB0UNI
- Station Trustee – Steve Phillips, K6JT
- W5ROK VHF contest operation.- Dennis Cobb, WA8ZBT
- Meeting Refreshments Setup Volunteer – Jim Skinner, WB0UNI
- RCARC Roster/Database/Applications/Marketing – Joe Wolf, N5UIC
- Station Tours - Sidney Ross Terry, K5SRT, Bob Kirby, K3NT, Dennis Cobb, WA8ZBT
- RCARC Digital project - Robert Diepenbrock, KC4UAI; Bob Kirby, K3NT
- Club Librarian - Stephanie Keese, AC5NF
- Website Updates - Wayne Hughes, WA0TGH
- August 2009 Program –“Growing RCARC & Increasing member participation” Helping members to understand and apply radio frequency knowledge - RCARC Attending Members

Enjoy your Radio Hobby. Share what you know and Learn what you don't, support your local club and Best Regards (73),

Bob Kirby, K3NT  
[K3nt@arri.net](mailto:K3nt@arri.net)  
<http://w5rok.us>

## Secretary's Report

Ross Terry (K5SRT) opened the meeting at 1743 (August 28 2009), in the Temple Conference Room with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present at the meeting were:

Charles Beis	K5UWD	Bob Diepenbrock	KC4UAI
Loney Duncan	W0GZV	Bob Kirby	K3NT
John McFadden	K5TIP	Dwight Ramsey	KE5SAS
Michael Schmit	WA9CC	Jim Skinner	WB0UNI
Bill Swan	K5MWC	Ross Terry	K5SRT
Joseph Wolf	N5UIC		

#### 1. Officer Reports

- a. **President's Report:** Bob Kirby (K3NT) referred the members to his article in "Signals" that was recently published.
- b. **Vice-President's Report:** Ross Terry (K5SRT) reported on the status of club T-shirts, discussed in old business.
- c. **Secretary's Report:** Dwight Ramsey, KE5SAS. The report was accepted as published in the July Signals.
- d. **Treasurers Report:** Robert Diepenbrock (KC4UAI) was absent but provided data for Bob Kirby to report. Bob reported that the current bank balance has increased due primarily to the club receiving its yearly stipend check from the company. The time to receive the check was significantly longer than in previous years. This was because it is believed that the process has changed. In previous years the club was allocated a budget and a check was written. This year a check was not written until after all purchase receipts from the previous year were submitted. Among the members attending, the consensus was that

this process would make it difficult for the club to plan for the future since not only would there be uncertainty in coverage by the company but also timeliness of the refund. Kirby with Swan support will obtain clarification of the process from company organizations.

- e. **Station Trustee's Report:** There was no Station Trustee's report.
- f. **Activities Chairman Report:** There was no Activities Chairman report, as the office is currently unfilled.

#### 2. Old Business

- a. **Club T-Shirts:** Ross reported that he had met recently with a t-shirt vendor that other RC organizations had used. During the radio club meeting a design was settled upon. Ross is awaiting the receipt of a catalog to select a shirt style and color. W5ROK will proceed independent of sister clubs in obtaining the t-shirts. Several members indicated they would purchase a shirt when available.
- b. **RFI in the Shack:** No status was provided on this issue.
- c. **Meeting Programs:** In the interim until the activity chairperson position is filled, Loney Duncan (W0ZGV) is pursuing speakers for the next few meetings.
- d. **Club Elections:** Bob Kirby indicated that club rules prevent him from running a second time for president. He encouraged all members to volunteer for the officer positions that will be voted on at the September meeting.

#### 3. New Business

- a. There was no new business.

The meeting concluded with members discussing various techniques for gaining greater participation at the meeting and in recruiting new members. The meeting closed at 7:00 PM.

**Ham On A Map.** Would you like to see the Ham's in your area plotted on a map try out N4MC's Ham Locator? At <http://www.vanityhq.com/> can be found in the left tool bar area an icon that looks like push pens on a map. It allows you to enter Zip codes, select a map size and then plots pens based on the FCC call sign database address. You can then zoom in and place your mouse over the push pen, and see information on that operator or club. The first time the program starts with information that existed when the tool was developed so you want to refresh it. The clubs push pen is located at our P.O. Box.

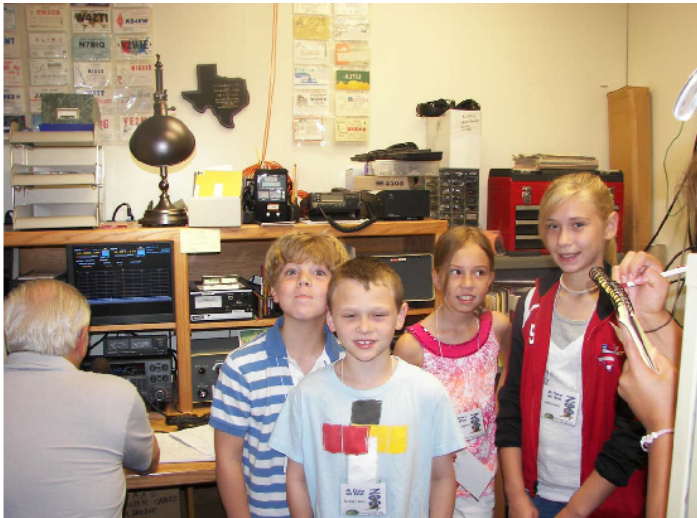
## Events and Public Service Ops

**10-11 October 2009: ARRL International EME Competition.** The object of this event is two-way communications via the earth-moon-earth path on any authorized amateur frequency 50 through 1296 MHz. **Date and Contest Period:** Full weekend 48-hour period (0000 UTC on Saturday through 2359 UTC Sunday). The dates are October 10-11, 2009. More info at <http://www.arri.org/contests/rules/2009/eme.html>.

**17 October 2009: Jamboree On The Air.** Be sure to read the announcement on page 5 of this newsletter about the upcoming Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) that is being hosted by the Irving club for the Circle 10 Council of the Boy Scouts of America. This is an opportunity for our club to help reach many young men with the hobby of amateur radio. Not only is this fun and interesting for scouts, but it is a way to get youth interested in ham radio. BTW, there is a great article about JOTA 2009 on page 61 of the September issue of QST.



# Kids-at-Work Work Day—Belated Photos.





## Irving Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

PO Box 153333  
 Irving, TX 75015-3333  
<http://www.irvingarc.org>



July 10, 2009

To all North Texas amateurs,

The youth of this generation are the future of amateur radio. Scout organizations around the world have banded together to provide a marvelous opportunity to showcase amateur radio to the scouting community. October 17, 2009 marks the start of the 52<sup>nd</sup> **Jamboree on the Air**, a day for scouts from all over to communicate via amateur radio.

In North Texas, the Circle Ten Council International Committee has asked the Irving Amateur Radio Club to help them put on a showcase JOTA event at the National Scouting Museum here in Irving. We are planning to operate six stations spanning HF phone and digital modes; VHF/UHF with IRLP and Echolink; and satellite contacts. There are also plans to offer a Radio Merit Badge course at the event as well. Circle 10 will be heavily promoting this event to all the scout groups in it's service area and will be offering free food for all as well as free admission to the museum so a good turnout is anticipated.

This event is large enough that we know that we can not do it ourselves. As a result, we are bringing this open invitation to all amateurs interested in helping us with setup, operations, informational displays, public relations, etc.

We know that many of you are committed to JOTA stations that will be set up in your communities. If you however, are not yet involved in this amazing opportunity to share the hobby we all love with the next generation of future hams, we would greatly appreciate your participation with us.

For more information about what is proposed to happen at the Scout Museum event, or to volunteer your services for planning and implementation, please contact Tom Schuessler, N5HYP at the e-mail address below.

We look forward to working with many of you on this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

Tom Schuessler, N5HYP  
 IARC JOTA chairman  
[tjschuessler@verizon.net](mailto:tjschuessler@verizon.net)

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 ARRL Affiliated Special Service Club • Club License WA5CKF*



# Rockwell-Collins

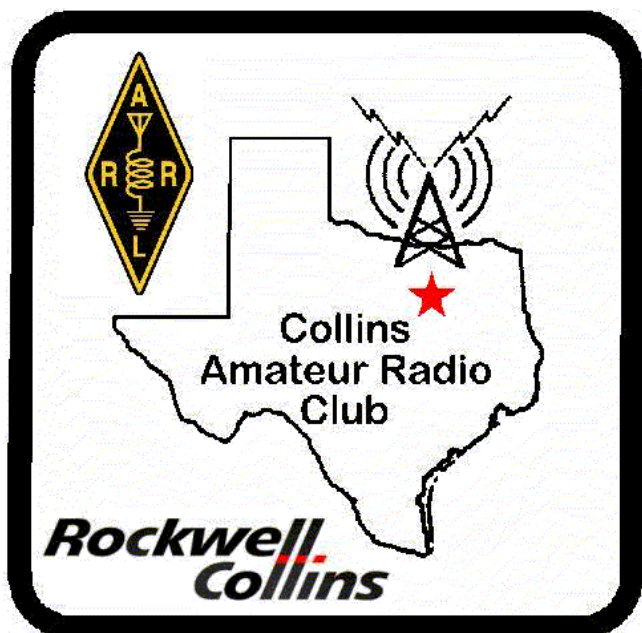
Amateur Radio Club

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

### MEETING

Thursday 24 September 2009

1700 Fellowship

1730 Meeting

Rockwell Collins Building 462

Dallas Conference Room

### NEXT SIGNALS DEADLINE:

→→→ 12 October 2009 ←←←