



WCARC NEWS

November, 2008

www.wcarc.com

Williamson County
Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 1644
Georgetown, TX 78627

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WCARC Officers

President
Tom Whiteside, N5TW

Vice-President
Rick Trommer, W5NR

Secretary
Tim Stevens, KD5WML

Treasurer
Kees Talen, K5BCQ

WCARC Staff

Newsletter Editor
Bob Farmer, W9BF

Webmaster
Dallas Mellichamp, KD4HNX

Guest Speaker Committee
Rick Trommer, W5NR
Tom Whiteside, N5TW
Bob Farmer, W9BF

Emergency Coordinator
Jim Russell, NQ5L

October Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2008
WCARC President Tom Whiteside N5TW started the October with the roll call. Twenty-two responded to the roll call and 21 signed the log. One visitor was present: Steve Lively K5SGL. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved without corrections.

Treasurer's Report – Kees Talen, K5BCQ
Kees presented the Treasurer's Report, which was accepted by the members. A summary follows:

September, 2008

Beginning Balance:	\$2,489.01
Receipts/Deposits:	\$104.06
Expenditures:	\$29.67
Ending Balance:	\$2,563.40
ARES Funds Available:	\$580.21
WCARC Funds " ":	\$1,983.19

(YTD +\$19)

Paid Membership, 2008

	Beginning	Ending
Individual	69	69
Family	27	27
Honorary	3	3
Total	99	99

(YTD +7)

Voting Total	125	125
Total Persons	131	131

WCARES – Jim Russell NQ5L
October will be a busy month and all are encouraged to participate. The Simulated Emergency Test (SET) will be on Oct. 11th and radio support will be provided on Oct. 18th for the Outlaw Trail 100 bicycle ride. WCARES meetings take place on the second Thursday of the month, at 7 PM, at Round Rock Fire Station #6 on Joe DiMaggio Drive, just west of the Dell Diamond on Highway 79, east of I-35. The 146.64 repeater is used for talk-in.

Repeater Report – Tom Whiteside
Tom is planning to check on the strength of the repeater tone because of reports that it is a little loud. The Club repeater is working and is on 146.64 MHz with a tone of 162.2 Hz.

Contests and DX Report
Tom Whiteside said DX is getting quiet but the low bands are about to perk up as the equinox approaches. A Texas QSO party was held last weekend. Some participants drove over 1000 miles to get in on the fun.

Old Business /Special Events & Announcements

- Fall Picnic: Rick Trommer W5NR said the picnic will be held after the SET on Oct. 11th. Start time is 5:30 PM at The Arbors in San Gabriel Park. Rick will be up early to cook briskets for the event.
- Ham Class - Dallas Mellichamp KD4HNX said the new ham classes for Round Rock Medical Center will start soon. He is still working on the schedule with the hospital.
- Outlaw Trail 100 – Dallas said he's still 4 to 5 SAG Wagons short and is looking for volunteers.

New Business

- Antenna help - John Warren NT5C said Mary Caruthers, XYL of former member Jim Caruthers W5HRB (SK), would appreciate help with getting antennas down and to a new home. There are 6 poles up to 30 feet in height. Several members expressed an interest in helping, with the plan being to sell the antennas and give the proceeds to Mary. Preliminary plans are to take down the antennas after the Outlaw Trail 100 event, before the Club picnic.
- Boy Scout Jamboree Activity - Paul Rawlins NE5PR discussed the coming Jamboree efforts by his Boy Scout troop on the day of the Outlaw Trail 100. They will be manning water holes near Bartlett as well as running an HF rig. Members

who know other Boy Scouts are encouraged to relay this information to those who may want to participate.

- Discounted Antennas - Tom Whiteside said that Donald Schliesser K6RV, who is traveling, said he can arrange for a significant discount on a brand of 6 meter antennas. Contact Donald soon if you're interested.
- Elections – Tom Whiteside N5TW described the election process which begins with bringing nominations in November and a vote in December. Kees Talen K5BCQ has agreed to stay on as Treasurer and Bob Redoutey N5KF is willing to continue as Public Information Officer (PIO). Tim Stevens KD5WML is seeking replacement as Secretary after 3 years in the role. Rick Trommer W5NR is willing to move from the Vice President's position to President, replacing Tom Whiteside, leaving the VP role open for a new officer. Anyone interested in serving in the open positions should contact Tom.
- Radios – Flex-Radio in Austin is developing two new radios. The 100 Watt laptop-based model 3000 Software Defined Radio (SDR) will sell for about \$1500 and there will be a smaller version as well.

Refreshments

October – Scott Hamende KD5JX

November - Dallas Mellichamp KD4HNX

Programs – Rick Trommer W5NR

October - Vertical Antennas - Dick Foster W5TA

November - Life of a Links Trainer - Linky Brokhausen N5AKJ

Please contact Rick with your program ideas.

President's Column

Welcome to the November WCARC newsletter

This has been a generally slower paced month after the excitement with hurricanes the previous two months. Many club members participated in the Williamson County ARES Simulated Emergency Test and also the Outlaw 100 bike race doing radio support. And it was great to see a number of you at the club picnic in San Gabriel Park! Thanks to Rick Trommer W5NR for his efforts (and great result) with the brisket plus handling the reservations for the event. This last month was also the Belton Hamfest and that is always fun. The cooler fall weather has been terrific and has brought a welcome reduction in static for low band DXing. We've even had a couple of Sun spots make it across the surface of the Sun before fading!

At the last club meeting, I mentioned that we were beginning preparations for the club December elections – hard to imagine but that is coming up! My job has been made easy all year with folks being quick to jump and volunteer to take things on and the preparation for the elections has continued that trend. It is the job of the club officers to bring a slate of candidates for the club's consideration at the November meeting, and I am very pleased with the candidates that have stepped forward! We have candidates for every position but secretary as of this writing, and these will be announced at the November meeting. At the December meeting, other nominations for office from the floor are welcome, and the vote will happen then. Let me know if you are interested in the secretary position!

Speaking of volunteering, thanks to Dallas KD4HNX for committing to bring refreshments to the meeting. He asked to be reminded and this is his reminder! (We will see if he reads the newsletter!)

Rick W5NR has a great program lined up for us. Our very own Linky N5AKJ will present the life of a Links trainer and a short video! Linky is one of the club founders, a WWII vet and a heck of a neat lady, and you won't want to miss this one!

Hope to see everyone at the meeting!

73 Tom Whiteside N5TW

WCARC Meetings

1st Thursdays - 7:30 PM

Wesleyan Retirement Home
139 Estrella Crossing
Georgetown, TX 78626

Join Us For Breakfast

Saturdays at 7:00AM

Village Inn Restaurant, Wolf
Ranch
1007 West University
Georgetown, TX 78626

WCARES Meetings

2nd Thursdays - 7:00 PM

Round Rock Fire Stn #6
2919 Joe DiMaggio Drive
Round Rock, TX 78664

November 2008 Contest Calendar

NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Nov 1
IPARC Contest, CW	0600Z-1000Z, Nov 1 and 1400Z-1800Z, Nov 1
Ukrainian DX Contest	1200Z, Nov 1 to 1200Z, Nov 2
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW	2100Z, Nov 1 to 0300Z, Nov 3
NA Collegiate ARC Championship, CW	2100Z, Nov 1 to 0300Z, Nov 3
IPARC Contest, SSB	0600Z-1000Z, Nov 2 and 1400Z-1800Z, Nov 2
High Speed Club CW Contest	0900Z-1100Z, Nov 2 and 1500Z-1700Z, Nov 2
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	1100Z-1700Z, Nov 2
ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Nov 4
NCCC Sprint	230Z-0300Z, Nov 7
WAE DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Nov 8 to 2359Z, Nov 9
JIDX Phone Contest	0700Z, Nov 8 to 1300Z, Nov 9
OK/OM DX Contest, CW	1200Z, Nov 8 to 1200Z, Nov 9
Kentucky QSO Party	1400Z, Nov 8 to 0200Z, Nov 9
CQ-WE Contest	1900Z, Nov 8 to 0500Z, Nov 9
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	0000Z-2400Z, Nov 9
RSGB 80m Club Sprint, SSB	1900Z-2030Z, Nov 13
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Nov 14
ARRL EME Contest	0000Z, Nov 15 to 2359Z, Nov 16
JT Hamradio-50 Anniversary DX Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Nov 15
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Nov 15
SARL Field Day Contest	1000Z, Nov 15 to 1000Z, Nov 16
All Austrian 160-Meter Contest	1600Z, Nov 15 to 0700Z, Nov 16
Feld Hell Sprint	1800Z-2100Z, Nov 15
RSGB 2nd 1.8 MHz Contest, CW	2100Z, Nov 15 to 0100Z, Nov 16
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB	2100Z, Nov 15 to 0300Z, Nov 17
NA Collegiate ARC Championship, SSB	2100Z, Nov 15 to 0300Z, Nov 17
EU PSK63 QSO Party	0000Z-2400Z, Nov 16
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Nov 17
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Nov 20
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Nov 21
YO International PSK31 Contest	1600Z-2200Z, Nov 21
LZ DX Contest	1200Z, Nov 22 to 1200Z, Nov 23
SKCC Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Nov 26
RSGB 80m Club Sprint, CW	1900Z-2030Z, Nov 26
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Nov 28
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Nov 29 to 2400Z, Nov 30

WILLIAMSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

OWNED EQUIPMENT

Reviewed July 3, 2008

QTY—DESCRIPTION—LAST LOCATION—DATE

Tower Work

1 Gin Pole - John Benedict—KE5RS - 05 May-07

1 Tower Step - Rick Trommer—W5NR - 05 May 07

Antenna measurement

1 MFJ Antenna Analyzer - K6RV, Don Schliesser - 15 Jul 08

1 MFJ Grid Dip Adapter W5TA, Dick Foster -20-Nov-05

HF Antennas

1 Butternut HF Vertical 10M-80M - W5TA, Dick Foster, 5 Jul 07

1 Cushcraft 6-el. 440MHz Beam - N5TW, Tom Whiteside, 3 Jul 08

1 Cushcraft R7 HF Vertical - W5TA, Dick Foster - 20-Nov-05

1 Hygain triband antenna - N5TW, Tom Whiteside, 3 Jul 08

1 Mosley Triband Antenna (Donated by Harvey, N0AJP) - N5TW, Tom Whiteside, 3 Jul 08

Masts

1 Push Up Mast - KC5RPF, Ken Larsen - 23-Nov-05

2 Push Up Masts - N5TW, Tom Whiteside, 3 Jul 08

Power Supplies

1 20 Amp Power Supply - KB7UQD, Jim Mischel - 04 Aug 07

Miscellaneous

2 Heavy Duty Power Cords - K5HTK, Jim Hester - 24-Nov-05