



WCARC NEWS

January, 2009

www.wcarc.com

Williamson County
Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 1644
Georgetown, TX 78627

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WCARC Officers

President

Rick Trommer, W5NR

Vice-President

Donald Schliesser, K6RV

Secretary

Al Kirchner, KE5OIZ

Treasurer

Kees Talen, K5BCQ

WCARC Staff

Newsletter Editor

Bob Farmer, W9BF

Webmaster

Dallas Mellichamp, KD4HNX

Guest Speaker Committee

Donald Schliesser, K6RV

Tom Whiteside, N5TW

Bob Farmer, W9BF

Emergency Coordinator

Jim Russell, NQ5L

December Meeting Minutes

December 4, 2008

WCARC President Tom Whiteside N5TW kicked off the December meeting with the roll call. Twenty-six answered the roll call, and twenty-three signed the log sheet. One visitor was present: Claude Roznovak of Taylor. 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. Kees also reported he still has 2 polo shirts that have not been picked up. Dues for next year are being collected now. A summary follows:

November, 2008

Beginning Balance:	\$2,319.10
Receipts/Deposits:	\$267.06
Expenditures:	\$7.00
Ending Balance:	\$2,579.16
WCARES Funds Available:	\$667.71
Travis County ARES	\$87.50
WCARC Funds Available:	\$1,823.95

Paid Membership, 2008

	Beginning	Ending
Individual	69	69
Family	27	27
Honorary	3	3
Total	99	99
(YTD +3)		
Voting Total	125	125
Total Persons	131	131

WCARES – Jim Russell NQ5L

Jim described the involvement of WCARES in the November CAPCOG (Capital Area Council of Governments) drill. The event was a CBRNE drill (Chemical, Biological, Radiation, and Nuclear Event) based out of Burnet County, and Winlink was used extensively.

Coming up on December 9th, another major 8-county drill will take place. This one will focus on area St. David's hospitals by simulating the loss of a major medical facility and testing backup, evacuation, and decontamination processes and responses. 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

The Club repeater is working and is on 146.64 MHz with a tone of 162.2 Hz.

Contests and DX Report

Tom Whiteside N5TW commented that higher frequency operation has been poor but there have been good conditions for lower bands. Several members reported making a good number of contacts during recent contests.

Old Business /Special Events &

Announcements - Tom Whiteside N5TW

- Ham Class - Dallas Mellichamp KD4HNX has been organizing an upcoming Technician Class. The classes are expected to begin Saturday, January 10th, and go for four consecutive Saturdays. The exams will take place the Saturday after the class series during Swapfest. Attendees will include various staff members from area hospitals.

- Swapfest – Rick Trommer W5NR that our Swapfest is currently the only one planned for February, 2009. The date is expected to be February 7th and it will take place at VFW Post 8587. It will run from 7 AM to 3 PM. The regular Club meeting taking place on February 5th will be used to finalize preparations for the event. VFW will be selling food and coffee at Swapfest and admission will be

free. Tailgating will be allowed and free. VEs are encouraged to help with testing.

- Bob Redoutey N5KF – Bob has been appointed as the official PIO for Williamson County by the ARRL.

Congratulations go to Bob for a job well done!- Bantam Electronics

– Bantam has moved to 4616 West Howard Lane (building 5) and has 38,000 square feet of products and components. The \$25 minimum purchase requirement is waived for hams.

New Business

- Pushup Poles – the wife of a Silent Key has 4 pushup poles lying on the ground that are available for a small donation. They are 30 foot galvanized poles in good shape. Contact Brad NA5BD for information.

- Tape Measure – A request was made to replace Dick Foster W5TA's tape measure that was lost during field day.

- January Meeting – Will be held on the evening of January 1st.

Officer Elections

Tom Whiteside N5TW read the nominations for 2009.

President – Rick Trommer W5NR

Vice President – Donald Schliesser K6RV

Secretary – Al Kirchner KE5OIZ

Treasurer – Kees Talen K5BCQ

After a short discussion, a motion was made to accept all nominations and the vote was unanimous in favor of electing these officers.

Continuing will be Public Information Officer: Bob Redoutey, N5KF

Refreshments

December – Kees Talen K5BCQ

January - Rick Trommer W5NR

Programs – Rick Trommer W5NR

December - Members talked about their "Elmers".

January - Members are encouraged to bring digital photos of their equipment (radios/antennas) and present to the members.

Please contact Don Schliesser K6RV with your program ideas.

President's Column

Welcome everyone to the 2009 edition of the WCARC!

I would like to start off this year by giving my thanks to all the club members for your support and efforts that have brought this club together. Our new slate of officers for this year will strive to keep up with our past efforts and continue to maintain a fun and energized organization for you to enjoy.

To start off this year Dallas, KD4HNX has been working to have the club sponsor another Technician Class. Dallas has been working with various organizations like the Round Rock Medical Center, RRMCC, has asked WCARC and WC-ARES to give a Ham Radio class for some of their Staff Members. The class will also be open to the general public.

We hope to start classes on Saturday Jan 10th and end on Jan 31st. The classes will be 4 hours long and cover 2 chapters per week. Dallas is currently pulling our members together and scheduling instructors to teach the required chapters, so if you can, please support this training session by contacting Dallas and see how you can help with this training.

The exam session will be the following Saturday, Feb 7th, at the WCARC Swapfest in Georgetown.

Now a word about our Swapfest, the WCARC has a scheduled Swapfest on Sat. Feb 7th at the VFW Post 8587. This location is just behind our San Gabriel Park here in Georgetown and with this location we could/would be able to do tailgating in the parking lot as well as having the tables inside the VFW Post.

Please keep checking our club's website (www.wcarc.com) for updates to this event. I will be heading over to the VFW by the first of the month to talk to the folks at the VFW to arrange the table layout for our event. I'll keep everyone posted as to my progress and I'll also have more information at our next club meeting.

It might be a little early but I would like to start the club thinking about this years 2009 Field Day. In the coming months the Field Day Planning Committee will provide monthly sometimes biweekly updates reminders about

Field Day (27-28 June 2009). The club did a great job last year keeping this event fun and easy and if anyone would like to make changes or additions to this event lets get that information flowing. Remember, if you have questions, comments, suggestions, etc. regarding Field Day or if you want to volunteer to help set-up/take down, operate, take pictures, or other stuff, please send an e-mail to: w5nr@suddenlink.net

As a reminder to everyone, a large number of the club members meet for breakfast on Saturday morning. Our current location is the Village Inn restaurant in the Wolf Ranch Shopping Center. Start time is 7:00 AM. but the early birds start showing up around 6:30. Wolf Ranch is on the SW corner of I-35 and Highway 29. Come join us for breakfast!

I hope everyone is having a great holiday season and I'm looking forward to 2009 with the WCARC.

73, Rick W5NR

January 2009 Contest Calendar

SARTG New Year RTTY Contest	0800Z-1100Z, Jan 1
AGCW Happy New Year Contest	0900Z-1200Z, Jan 1
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 2
ARRL RTTY Roundup	1800Z, Jan 3 to 2400Z, Jan 4
EUCW 160m Contest	2000Z-2300Z, Jan 3 and 0400Z-0700Z, Jan 4
ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Jan 6
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 9
Hunting Lions in the Air Contest	0000Z, Jan 10 to 2400Z, Jan 11
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 10
MI QRP January CW Contest	1200Z, Jan 10 to 2359Z, Jan 11
Midwinter Contest, CW	1400Z-2000Z, Jan 10
North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Jan 10 to 0600Z, Jan 11
SKCC Weekend Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, Jan 11
NRAU-Baltic Contest, CW	0530Z-0730Z, Jan 11
Midwinter Contest, Phone	0800Z-1400Z, Jan 11
NRAU-Baltic Contest, SSB	0800Z-1000Z, Jan 11
DARC 10-Meter Contest	0900Z-1059Z, Jan 11
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 16
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 17
LZ Open Contest	0400Z-1200Z, Jan 17
Hungarian DX Contest	1200Z, Jan 17 to 1159Z, Jan 18
UK DX Contest, RTTY	1200Z, Jan 17 to 1200Z, Jan 18
North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Jan 17 to 0600Z, Jan 18
ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes	1900Z, Jan 17 to 0400Z, Jan 19
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Jan 19
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Jan 22
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 23
CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	2200Z, Jan 23 to 2159Z, Jan 25
REF Contest, CW	0600Z, Jan 24 to 1800Z, Jan 25
BARTG RTTY Sprint	1200Z, Jan 24 to 1200Z, Jan 25
UBA DX Contest, SSB	1300Z, Jan 24 to 1300Z, Jan 25
SPAR Winter Field Day	1700Z, Jan 24 to 1700Z, Jan 25
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jan 28
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 30
SARL Youth Day Sprint	0700Z-1100Z, Jan 31

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

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