



# WCARC NEWS

February, 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

## January Meeting Minutes

### January 1, 2008

WCARC President Rick Trommer W5NR called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Fifteen members answered the roll call and 15 signed the log sheet. Jim Schepp was a visitor and was introduced to the members by President Trommer. The December, 2008, minutes were approved as written.

President Trommer made an announcement concerning Past President Tom Whiteside's efforts and work in aiding the WCARC's efforts and progress in 2008.

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

### December, 2008

Beginning Balance:	\$2,579.16
Receipts/Deposits:	\$5,042.56
Expenditures:	\$36.00
Ending Balance:	\$7,585.72
WCARES Funds Available:	\$2,833.99
Travis County ARES	\$2,253.78
WCARC Funds Available:	\$2,497.95

### Paid Membership a/o 12/31/2008

	Beginning	Ending
Individual	69	69
Family	27	27
Honorary	3	3
Total	99	99
Voting Total	125	125
Total Persons	131	131

### **Officers**

President Trommer introduced the newly elected officers to the general membership.

**WCARES** – Jim Russell NQ5L  
Jim Russell NQ5L gave a report on the

recent CAPCOG event held in December, 2008. Jim announced that the WCARES monthly meeting is scheduled for next Thursday at Round Rock Fire Station 6, on Joe DiMaggio Drive.

**Repeater Report** – Tom Whiteside  
Tom reported that the club repeater (146.64 with a tone of 162.2) is working and is on-line.

### **Contests and DX Report**

Tom Whiteside made a few brief comments regarding the recent 10 meter contest. There was a short discussion on contesting



**Old Business /Special Events & Announcements** - Tom Whiteside N5TW  
Rick Trommer W5NR spoke about our Swapfest scheduled for February, 2009. The Swapfest will be held at the VFW Post 8587 near the San Gabriel Park. Amateur Radio testing will be available during the Swapfest.

### **New Business**

President Trommer spoke to the membership regarding the club insurance policy. He explained that the insurance covers just about any type of general insurance and liability that occurs during a club sponsored activity. The annual premium in the amount of \$320 is due and payable at this time. A motion was made, seconded and approved to pay the annual premium.

President Trommer addressed the question of whether the club should purchase a laptop computer to be available to guest speakers during our monthly meetings as well as for general club use. Some discussion was conducted and the subject will be revisited at the next meeting.

The subject of the club spring picnic at

San Gabriel Park was discussed. The general consensus was that the picnic should be held on the first Saturday after the Belton Hamfest. The specific date will be announced in the near future.

Steve Sparks W5KS announced that he had an HF radio in excellent condition that was available for sale.

### Refreshments

January - Rick Trommer W5NR

February - Jim Russell NQ5L

### Programs – Donald Schliesser K6RV

January - Members (K6RV, N5TW, W5NR, K5AEM) discussed their equipment (radios/antennas).

February - Presentation by John of Flex Radio on their line of software-defined radios.

*Please contact Don with your program ideas.*

### President's Column

Here we go into February with a full plate of club related events underway. So to start off this year Dallas has undertaken another venture with some 22 to 23 folks, and by the time you read this has completed another Technician training class. The final step of these efforts will be that of testing which will happen on February the 7th at our swapfest. Dallas and his instructors deserve a round of applause for their work and efforts to obtain this training class.

Our WCARC Swapfest is drawing some outside attention as the emails with questions and requests for tables are starting to arrive. I have at this time some 10 requests for table reservations and 5 additional requests for tailgate reservations. This seems to be in-line with our past Swapfest requests knowing that more requests will be called in just days before the actual event takes place, so stay tuned for more information. The ARRL has shipped to me the related door prizes that they give to us for these events, and I'll be checking on our other door prizes later this week.

If you know that you are going to need a table for this event, please give me an email and provide me with your requirements so I can continue planning on table requirements. The price per table is \$10 and you can pay at the door but let me know as soon as possible so I can reserve your table.

We talked at the last meeting about Field Day for this year (27-28 June 2009) and I would like to continue this talk in February, so please give it some thought and bring your thoughts and questions to this meeting.

As you might have seen on the reflector our Saturday morning breakfast has been moving from place to place here in Georgetown, we are seeking a new establishment, and we are currently sampling a few places around the area so with that, please keep up with the reflector so you will know where we are meeting next. We will make every effort to keep you informed as to what we find.

Thats about it for now, the club is very active and we have a number of fun activities scheduled.... Please join in on as many activities as you are able to participate in and enjoy the fellowship of the WCARC.

73, Rick W5NR

#### **WCARC Meetings**

**1st Thursdays - 7:30 PM**

Wesleyan Retirement Home  
139 Estrella Crossing  
Georgetown, TX 78626

#### **Join Us For Breakfast**

**Saturdays at 6:30AM**

for January 31  
Monument Cafe  
500 S. Austin Avenue  
Georgetown, TX 78626

#### **WCARES Meetings**

**2nd Thursdays - 7:00 PM**

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

## February 2009 Contest Calendar

Vermont QSO Party	0000Z, Feb 7 to 2400Z, Feb 8
10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB	0001Z, Feb 7 to 2359Z, Feb 8
Minnesota QSO Party	1400Z-2400Z, Feb 7
AGCW Straight Key Party	1600Z-1900Z, Feb 7
Delaware QSO Party	1700Z, Feb 7 to 0100Z, Feb 9
Mexico RTTY International Contest	1800Z, Feb 7 to 1759Z, Feb 8
North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 8
AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening	1900Z-2030Z, Feb 11
CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	0000Z, Feb 14 to 2400Z, Feb 15
SARL Field Day Contest	000Z, Feb 14 to 1000Z, Feb 15
Asia-Pacific Spring Sprint, CW	1100Z-1300Z, Feb 14
Dutch PACC Contest	1200Z, Feb 14 to 1200Z, Feb 15
FISTS Winter Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, Feb 14
North American Sprint, SSB	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 15
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Feb 16
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 21 to 2400Z, Feb 22
REF Contest, SSB	0600Z, Feb 21 to 1800Z, Feb 22
UBA DX Contest, CW	1300Z, Feb 21 to 1300Z, Feb 22
High Speed Club CW Contest	0900Z-1700Z, Feb 22
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	2200Z, Feb 27 to 2159Z, Mar 1
North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Feb 28 to 0600Z, Mar 1

### 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