



# WCARC NEWS

May, 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

## April Meeting Minutes

### April 3, 2009

WCARC President Rick Trommer W5NR called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Twenty-six members and one guest answered the roll call and signed the registration sheet. John Jones was a guest at this meeting.

The March, 2009, minutes were approved as written.

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

#### April, 2009

Beginning Balance:	\$5,448.69
Receipts/Deposits:	\$50.00
Expenditures:	\$0.00
Ending Balance:	\$5,498.69
WCARES Funds Available:	\$2,833.99
WCARC Funds Available:	\$2,664.70

#### Paid Membership a/o 03/31/2009

	Beginning	Ending
Individual	53	55
Family	13	15
Honorary	3	3
Total	69	73
Voting Total	81	87
Total Persons	83	90

**WCARES Report** - Jim Russell NQ5L gave the ARES report. He brought the membership up-to-date on some recent activities the club participated in, including the Spokes and Spurs bicycle event.

**Repeater Report** - Tom Whiteside N5TW gave an update on the WCARC repeater. There was some discussion about the hum that sometimes occurs during operation. Tom announced that we will try to schedule an exercise at the repeater

site during a near future Saturday and all members are invited to attend.

**Contests and DX Report** - Tom Whiteside N5TW gave a brief report on the DX situation and a short discussion about the Mellish Reef DXpedition (VK9GMW) was held.

### **Old Business /Special Events & Announcements**

Dallas Mellichamp KD4HNX updated the membership on the current series of preparation classes for both the Technician and General Amateur Radio license. A VE test session is now scheduled for the afternoon on Saturday, April 11, 2009 (the last day of classes).

Jim Mischel KB7UQD gave an oral presentation of the recent Spokes and Spurs bike rally which the club was a participant in providing radio communication support.

President Trommer addressed the membership concerning our spring picnic scheduled for April 25, 2009 at the San Gabriel Park in Georgetown. He gave the results of four bids for providing BBQ Brisket. He volunteered to prepare the necessary brisket himself as this would result in a rather substantial cost reduction. The picnic is scheduled to start at 5:00 p.m. Jim Russell NQ5L will chair the telephone committee for this event.

### **New Business**

The WCARC swap fest is scheduled for February 13, 2010, at the Georgetown Community Center adjacent to the San Gabriel Park. The membership voted and approved a \$2.00 admission charge for this event.

The 2009 field day event was discussed and the following have volunteered to

serve as captains:

Field Day Captain:	Dick Foster ,W5TA
Side Band Captain	Jim Russell, N5QL
CW Captain	Don Schliesser, K6RV
GOTA Co-Captains	Dallas Mellichamp, KD4HNX and Jim Mischel, KB7UQD
Food Captain	Dan Poggemiller, KB5TWO

Jim Mischel, KB7UQD asked the membership to authorize him to obtain a 1X1 call sign for the GOTA station to use in Field Day. The call to be requested would be A5S. The vote on this issue passed with one member voting no.

President Trommer announced to the membership that we, as a group, have been remiss in cleaning the “break room” after our monthly meetings. All members are encouraged to help in leaving the area in as good as (or better) than we found it.

Vice-President Don Schliesser, K6RV introduced our speaker for the technical part of the program. Our presenter was our member Tom Nevue, W2MN and his subject was Simplified Battery Backup.

### **Refreshments**

April - Tom Whiteside N5TW

May - Dallas Mellichamp KD4HNX

### **Programs** – Donald Schliesser K6RV

April - Tom Nevue, W2MN - Reasonably Simple Ways to Wire Your Station for Battery Backup

May - Mark Stennett, NA6M - Band Pass Filters

*Please contact Don with your program ideas.*

### **President's Column**

Well, the weather was great, and we had 42 members show up to the April WCARC picnic at San Gabriel Park. I'm hoping that everyone got as much brisket as they wanted. I only had 10 pieces remaining to take back home. Even though the turnout was a little light, I think we had a great time. My thanks to Steve WK5S for setting up the HF station at the picnic. I think we need to do this again in the fall.

Don, K6RV, did a great job getting the Taylor sausage cooked and keeping everyone happy, and my thanks to all the club members who brought food to this event and made this a fun time for all. Any suggestions for the fall picnic, please let the club know and we will see what we can do to make any changes that you would like to see. One last item we need to do is get a date for our fall picnic that we hold in October.

We had a visitor from Brownwood, Billy Sharp, KF5ARI, who was able to make the trip down to Georgetown and everyone enjoyed seeing him again. Billy has been a past WCARC officer and very active member in the club so it was really nice to see him at the picnic and we hope to see more of Billy now that he has been re-licensed. As some of you may know, Billy Sharp is one of our Honorary Members in the WCARC, and again it was great to see him.

The next big event for us will happen on June 27 and 28, that being Field Day. We currently have five captains for the operating positions that are listed in this month's minutes. Please contact any of the captains and let them know when you would like to operate the stations during this year's event. Your help and support will make this year's event as much fun as last year. Your support and help is really needed. Not to be forgotten is our cook, Dan, KB5TWO, has again signed up to make all of the great tasting food. Please let him know just how much he is appreciated!

We will cover more Field Day related topics at our next meeting so please plan on attending the next meeting on May 7th. Well that's about it for now, it has been another fun month for the WCARC. If you have any suggestions for the club, please contact any of the club officers or bring up your question or concerns at the next club meeting.

I hope to see everyone at the next meeting on May 7th.

73, Rick W5NR

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## May 2009 Contest Calendar

NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, May 1
AGCW QRP/QRP Party	1300Z-1900Z, May 1
MARAC CW QSO Party	0000Z, May 2 to 2400Z, May 3
MARAC SSB QSO Party	0000Z, May 2 to 2400Z, May 3
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW	0001Z, May 2 to 2359Z, May 3
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, Digital	0001Z, May 2 to 2359Z, May 3
Microwave Spring Sprint	0600-1300 local, May 2
7th Call Area QSO Party	1300Z, May 2 to 0700Z, May 3
Portuguese Navy Day Contest	1500Z, May 2 to 1500Z, May 3
Indiana QSO Party	1600Z, May 2 to 0400Z, May 3
New England QSO Party	2000Z, May 2 to 0500Z, May 3 and 1300Z-2400Z, May 3
ARI International DX Contest	2000Z, May 2 to 1959Z, May 3
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	1900Z-2030Z, May 4
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, May 5
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, May 8
SBMS 2 GHz and Up WW Club Contest	0600 local, May 9 to 2000 local, May 10
VK/Trans-Tasman 80m Contest, Phone	0800Z-1400Z, May 9
EUCW Fraternalizing CW QSO Party	1000Z-1200Z, May 9 and 1800Z-2000Z, May 10
CQ-M International DX Contest	1200Z, May 9 to 1159Z, May 10
VOLTA WW RTTY Contest	1200Z, May 9 to 1200Z, May 10
FISTS Spring Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, May 9
Nevada Mustang Roundup	1700Z, May 9 to 1700Z, May 10
50 MHz Spring Sprint	2300Z, May 9 to 0300Z, May 10
SKCC Weekend Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, May 10
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	1900Z-2030Z, May 13
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, May 15
Feld Hell Sprint	1200Z-2200Z, May 16
EU PSK DX Contest	1200Z, May 16 to 1200Z, May 17
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW	1200Z, May 16 to 1200Z, May 17
Manchester Mineira CW Contest	1500Z, May 16 to 2359Z, May 17
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, May 18
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, May 21
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	1900Z-2030Z, May 21
QRP Minimal Art Session	1900Z-2300Z, May 21
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, May 22
Baltic Contest	2100Z, May 23 to 0200Z, May 24
MI QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint	2300Z, May 25 to 0300Z, May 26
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, May 27
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	0000Z, May 30 to 2359Z, May 31
Kids Roundup	1400Z, May 30 to 2200Z, May 31
ARCI Hootowl Sprint	2000 local - 2400 local, May 31

### WCARC Meetings

1st Thursdays - 7:30 PM

Wesleyan Retirement Home  
139 Estrella Crossing  
Georgetown, TX 78626

### Join Us For Breakfast

Saturdays at 6:30AM

IHOP Restaurant  
750 S I-35  
(in front of WalMart)  
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 15, 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