



WCARC NEWS

April, 2010

www.wcarc.com

Williamson County
Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 1644
Georgetown, TX 78627

Inside This Issue

Minutes 1,2
Contests 3
Equip. List 3

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

March Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2010

WCARC President Rick Trommer, W5NR, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Thirty-two members answered the roll call and signed the registration sheet. There were no visitors present.

The February, 2010 minutes were approved as published.

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

March, 2010

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Beginning Balance: | \$3453.29 |
| Receipts/Deposits: | \$2220.30 |
| Expenditures: | \$846.64 |
| Ending Balance: | \$4826.95 |
| WCARES Funds Available: | \$2455.97 |
| WCARC Funds Available: | \$2370.98 |

Paid Membership a/o February 28, 2010

| | |
|--------------|----|
| Individual | 89 |
| Family | 4 |
| Honorary | 4 |
| Total | 93 |
| Voting Total | 86 |

WCARES Report - Jim Russell, NQ5L, spoke briefly to the members about the recent work day that was done by students from the University of Texas. Some of our members aided in providing communications support for this work day.

Also coming up are the Spirit Reins bicycle ride and the J-Pole construction project that will be a part of the next ARES meeting in Round Rock Fire Station Number 6.

Brad Davis reminded the membership about the upcoming first aid training class

scheduled for March 13th in Georgetown.

Repeater Report - Tom Whiteside, N5TW, reported that the club repeater (146.640, tone of 162.2) is fully operational.

DX and Contest Report - There was no DX report given.

Old Business /Special Events & Announcements - Dallas Mellichamp, KD4HNX, reported that there is a tentative schedule for new Technician classes to be held in Cedar Park starting on March 13th.

Jim Russell, NQ5L, gave a short update report on the forthcoming repeater in Taylor, Texas

There was some discussion about the proposed club banner. It was moved, seconded, and voted to proceed and finalize the design and purchase of a club banner.

There was a brief discussion of the recent Hamfest. The general agreement of the club membership is to hold the Hamfest for next year at the same location (Community Center in San Gabriel Park).

Kees Talen, KB5CQ, mentioned that the order for new polo shirts was still pending and would be finalized in the very near future.

New Business - The club spring picnic will be held in San Gabriel park on May 1 starting at 5:00 p.m.

Kees Talen, KB5CQ, announced that the club has some used but excellent radios available for loan to newly licensed club members. If any member is aware of a newly licensed radio operator who is a

club member and is in need to a radio, please telephone or email Kees.

Refreshments

March - Dean Hamilton K5FDH

April - Brad Davis NA5BD

Programs – Donald Schliesser K6RV

March - Rick Trommer, W5NR, and Bob Helms, AF5Z - MWD, Measurement While Drilling

April - Lloyd Jeffries, K1LGJ - D-Star Radio

Please contact Don with your program ideas.

President's Column

April is here my friends! I have been spending all of my free time fighting yet another sinus infection. Seems like as soon as I start to feel better I head outside and wham, it hits me again.

As a reminder, we have the Belton HamExpo on Sat., April 17, 2010. This is always a good event to go to, not that I purchase anything, but it is always nice to see friends and shake a few hands. I hope that you will be able to make this event.

About 3 weekends ago I had a local Girl Scout Troop over to talk about Ham Radio. The bands were in good shape and we were able to spend most of the morning working a few stations in Europe. My radio room was not designed to seat 11 people besides myself and my 80 pound dog, but after a few moments of playing musical chairs everyone got time on the air and moving my station's log periodic to another contact. In all we worked 8 stations, but I think all of the contacted stations were asked the same 11 questions. After 2 hours of radio fun, I was asked to setup a JOTA station so the other girls in this troop could try there hand at Ham Radio. Having run a JOTA station when my boys were in scouts, I might be having second thoughts.

After the scouts went back home, I got fired up and went to work on my HF mobile station again! Seems like last fall my Icom 706IIG went south for the winter, not too bad on receive, but no power out on transmit. Well, I have the 2 meter side of the radio to play with, but wrong again. Again, it has good receive but no transmit. When I mounted my 706 in the trunk of my Honda Civic, I packaged the body of the radio in a bullet proof stainless steel container. Every wire/cable and coax was neatly stashed out of sight and nothing was going to snag or pull on any of my cables from the radio. A job well done if I say so..... So to do any debug on this radio, I must pull everything out of the trunk and reconnect it back on my bench and try to see what I did to goof up my rig. I'm thinking putting my talkie in the passenger's seat and telling myself that this is enough radio for me now.

Again, something for the members of the club to start thinking about, Field Day 2010. I don't think we can start too early on planning this fun event. Let the club know your thoughts at the next WCARC meeting.

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

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

April 2010 Contest Calendar

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| SARL 80m QSO Party | 1700Z-2000Z, Apr 1 |
| SP DX Contest | 1500Z, Apr 3 to 1500Z, Apr 4 |
| Missouri QSO Party | 1800Z, Apr 3 to 2400Z, Apr 4 |
| JIDX CW Contest | 0700Z, Apr 10 to 1300Z, Apr 11 |
| EU Spring Sprint, CW | 1600Z-1959Z, Apr 10 |
| Georgia QSO Party | 1800Z, Apr 10 to 2359Z, Apr 11 |
| TARA Skirmish Digital Prefix Contest | 0000Z-2400Z, Apr 17 |
| Holyland DX Contest | 0000Z-2359Z, Apr 17 |
| ES Open HF Championship | 0500Z-0859Z, Apr 17 |
| EU Spring Sprint, SSB | 1600Z-1959Z, Apr 17 |
| Michigan QSO Party | 1600Z, Apr 17 to 0400Z, Apr 18 |
| Ontario QSO Party | 1800Z, Apr 17 to 1800Z, Apr 18 |
| YU DX Contest | 2100Z, Apr 17 to 1700Z, Apr 18 |
| Run for the Bacon QRP Contest | 0100Z-0300Z, Apr 19 |
| 10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW | 0001Z, Apr 24 to 2359Z, Apr 25 |
| SP DX RTTY Contest | 1200Z, Apr 24 to 1200Z, Apr 25 |
| Helvetia Contest | 1300Z, Apr 24 to 1259Z, Apr 25 |
| QRP to the Field | 1500Z, Apr 24 to 0300Z, Apr 25 |
| Florida QSO Party | 1600Z, Apr 24 to 2159Z, Apr 25 |
| Nebraska QSO Party | 1700Z, Apr 24 to 1700Z, Apr 25 |

WILLIAMSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

OWNED EQUIPMENT

Reviewed July 15, 2009

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
- 7 Sections (approx 64 ft each) Field Day rope - K5BCQ, Kees Talen - 4 Jul 09