



TARC Bulletin



W5LM Repeaters:

146.820- MHz (PL 123.0) — 444.700 MHz (PL 123.0)

www.tarc.org

May 2007

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By Tom Olsen,
AE5AP

TARC Members Do It Again

The Prez Sez

TARC's *HamEXPO* Volunteers created another successful event for us! As most of us know, the club owes a lot of thanks to Darwin K5DOA, Myron N5TFK and of course, Mike WA5EQQ for the success of Spring 2007 TARC *HamEXPO*. These guys work tirelessly to get it all organized for the 1500 hams and vendors that attend this biannual event. When you see them,



you may want to say thanks.

Thanks also to all the TARC volunteers who worked the gates, provided the talk-in, organized the raffle, and worked the "tailgators" in the parking lot. Through the efforts of all, TARC is able to do such things as donate to ARRL's Spectrum Defense Fund and to purchase antennas and gear for this summer's Field Day event. This is a great club that pulls together— and gets the job done!

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OFFICERS

President: Tom Olsen, AE5AP, (254) 791-5470, tomolsen@sbcglobal.net

Vice President: Eddie Huntsman, KB5UBP, eddiehuntsman@sbcglobal.net

Secretary: Larry Fuhs, K5LAR, (254) 947-9402, mesquite@vvm.com

Treasurer: Darwin Geiselbrecht, K5DOA, (254) 487-3167, k5doa@vvm.com

BOARD MEMBERS

Myron Mesecke, N5TFK, (254) 770-0529, meseckem@vvm.com

John Dvoracek, KE5C, (254) 774-8376, john@ke5c.net

Mike LeFan WA5EQQ, (254) 773-3590, mlfefan@vvm.com

Steve Bosshard, NU5D, bosshard@gmail.com

COMMITTEES

Programs: John Dvoracek, KE5C

W5LM Trustee: Ron Thompson, W5WRE, (254) 859-3000, rwthompson@clearwire.net

Technical Director: Charlie Schlieper N5TD, 773-0608, n5td@vvm.com

Name Badges at Meetings: Ken Baker KD5UAT

Education: Charlie Schlieper, N5TD

Membership: Darwin Geiselbrecht, K5DOA, (254) 487-3167, k5doa@aol.com

RACES: Charlie Schlieper N5TD, District Radio Officer

Bulletin Editor: Mike LeFan, WA5EQQ

Webmaster: John Dvoracek, KE5C

HamEXPO Roll of Honor

Muchas gracias to the *HamEXPO* staffers, and apologies to any who were unintentionally left off the list:

Darwin Geiselbrecht, K5DOA
Myron Mesecke, N5TFK
Mike LeFan, WA5EQQ
Tom Olsen, AE5AP
Ken Baker, KE5NNY
Frankie Baugh, KA5IHY
Jim Coleman, N5DJJ
Dale Duke, AD5QQ
Dale Duncan, KB5ZKC
John Dvoracek, KE5C
Bill Escolante, KD5KKH

Kenneth Farris, KD5OGL
Kevin Harmon, K5EOW
John Hobson, WD5BFS
Oscar Houser, KD5DGJ
Eddie Huntsman, KD5UBP
Dave Jordan, KD5WBO
Paul Molina, N5NIR
Gerald Richmond, N5ZXJ
Kay Schlieper, KB5DC
Ron Thompson, W5WRE
Tom Vanderveer, KG5II
Roy Wells, N5HQR
Larry Fuhs, K5LAR
Your efforts are appreciated.

At Our Next Meeting

"We *PIC'ed* up these tired, old GE Deltas for amateur use," by Tom Whiteside, N5TW, and Jim Russell, NQ5L

The meeting is Thursday, May 3 at 7 p.m. at the Church of Christ in Western Hills, 210 N. General Bruce Dr. in Temple. Join us. Refreshments served and guests welcome.

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The Prez Sez: TARC Members Do It Again

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Thanks also for the successful VE Test Session headed up by Gerald N5ZXJ, Joe W5VEX, Ron W5WRE, Paul N5NIR and many others. They tested over 30 new applicants and upgrade hams on Saturday during HamEXPO.

Also, congratulations are in order to little Sara (age 13) who attended Charlie N5TD's Tech class and made the grade on Saturday morning! Congrats Sara!

Thanks to all for making this a fun event for all the 1500 statewide, nationwide, and now, international hams who visit us each Spring and Fall.

The Grand Doorprize, a Yaesu FT-857D with Remote Kit, was won by Jyki Penttinen, OH2NZP, a fellow ham from Helsinki, Finland!

We Get Letters

[Dear TARC],

[HamEXPO] is an event Karen and I make every year, if we can. All of my kids have been to it over the years, either because they were too young to refuse, or they were old enough to meet us there. We missed the first one, and made many after that. In 2000, we lost our oldest daughter to cancer and "took a little time off." She would drive from Austin to meet us there.... It is a GREAT place and time to put faces with voices, meet old and new friends, and have a good time. Oh, and, of course, to get good deals on gear and parts.

In case anyone does not know me, I am usually the one standing by the tables, willing to accept the prizes for those who don't claim them. :-)

I realize there is a lot that goes into this event, twice a year...I appreciate all that is done by each one who works with the event, and the staff.

By the way, a year ago, Karen finally decided to get her ticket. She missed 3 too many questions, and was about to give up. I told her I had waited too long for her to sit for the exam, and she WAS NOT quitting. She tested

again in Cameron in November and passed. Listening to all of you folks, especially during the WX events is what pushed her to go on. Thanks so much!

73,

Paul N5XMV
Karen KE5LGK



**KEY CLICKS
FROM THE
ARMADILLO**

**Results of HamEXPO
Test Sessions**

First, I thank Tom Olsen, AE5AP, and the Temple Amateur Radio Club for asking us to conduct the VE test session in conjunction with the hamfest. It was...as successful as we had hoped for.

Second, I thank Mike Rhoden, W5MIK, for making the Belton Police and Municipal Court facility available to us. This is an ideal location with the court room being an excellent location to organize the tests and candidates, and the class room facility to give the tests in. We stressed the facility a little when we first opened, but things leveled out in about an hour. It was also convenient to IH-35 and only 2.5 miles from the Expo center.

And thirdly, without the Volunteer Examiners there could be no test. A special thanks to the following:

- Dolores Brennan, KE5MBC
- Thomas Brennan, KD5VIJ
- Jan Gregg, W5GNK
- Ross Gregg, W5ANW
- Richard 'Dutch' James, KB5YAY
- Paul Molina, N5NIR
- Hurshel L. Pruitt, WB5ME (a hamfest visitor from the Victoria area)
- Mike Rhoden, W5MIK
- Gerald Richmond, N5ZXJ
- Ron Thompson, W5WRE
- Tom Vanderveer, KG5II

The results are as follows:

Total candidates	31 (four were retests)
New Technicians	9
New Generals	9
New Extras	4

The highlight of the test session was seeing Sarah Ruiz earn her Technician license. I believe Sarah is 10 years old. I also believe she had gone through the recent TARC Technician class. —de Joe Dorn, W5VEX

..."I would like to have minimum wage," says Darwin K5DOA, "for all the hours I have spent fixing 'like new' gear I've bought at various ham fests."

...ATTN: Rodney Baden, K5YKC and the hams at Waco's HOTARC will provide a one day General Class license upgrade course in Waco on May 5th. This is a great way to not only pass the test, but also to learn the material and meet some great fellow hams in the process. Get more information via the HOTARC website at <http://www.hotarc.org/news.html>

...Steve NU5D reports that Tom KM4TM in Rockvale, TN has only praise for HamEXPO— notwithstanding the WX. His wife, Kathy, tested for General and passed. She really liked the test location within walking DX of their hotel. "So far," says Steve, "not one bad comment."

...The morning coffee session at McDonald's (31st at Adams) is going strong. Come on by.

...Remember the TARC Net — Mondays at 7:00 p.m. on 146.820- MHz (PL 123.0). Your smiling face is needed on our Monday Night Net. Get the net habit. Thanks!

...See you at the club meeting on May 3, 2007.

Four CubeSats launch successfully on April 17

Four *CubeSats* containing payloads operating on Amateur Radio frequencies were among several spacecraft launched successfully April 17 at 0645 UTC from Baikonur Cosmodrome, Kazakhstan.

A Dnepr rocket deployed seven CubeSats plus seven other satellites from Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Ukraine into Earth orbit, and signals from at least two of the four CubeSats have been copied on Earth. Among the spacecraft was Colombia's first satellite. The CubeSats are: CalPoly's PolySats CP3 and CP4, 436.845 MHz and 437.325 MHz

respectively, 1200 bps FM AFSK, AX.25, 1 W, operating under an FCC Part-5 Experimental license; University of Louisiana CAPE-1 435.245 MHz, 9600 bps FM FSK AX.25 and CW telemetry during opposing 30-second intervals, 1 W, call sign K5USL (e-mail telemetry reports <jd.harrist@gmail.com>); Universidad Sergio Arboleda, Colombia, Libertad-1, 437.405 MHz, 1200 bps FM AFSK AX.25, 400 mW, call sign 5K3L.

CP4 will transmit a "sensor snapshot" every 2 minutes on 437.325 MHz at 1200bps FSK, AX.25. FSK will require

using SSB mode for reception. A 6-second CW preamble precedes this transmission. Keplerian elements for the new ham radio birds and additional information will be posted on Cal Poly's CubeSat Web page <<http://www.cubesat.org/>>. CalPoly offers a CubeSat "Satellite Contact Form" to report telemetry data received from any satellite <<http://cubesat.atl.calpoly.edu/pages/missions/dnepr-launch-2/data-packet-form.php>>.

-- AMSAT via *The ARRL Letter* (April 20, 2007)

The Time Is Now

by Ward Silver, NØAX, in the *ARRL Contest Rate Sheet* for April 18, 2007

A couple of years ago (in the 19 May 2004 issue to be exact) I published a short essay on reaching out, the biggest challenge to amateur radio and amateurs. With Morse code having been removed as a licensing requirement and the subsequent inrush of new and upgrading hams, it is even more important to meet the challenge of outreach. Not only for contesting, but for amateur radio in general.

What is it that will turn a casually interested new ham into a five-year, ten-year, lifetime ham? What is it that about amateur radio that will hold the Technician's interest and get them excited about finding out what lies around each of ham radio's many corners and curves? What is it that takes ham radio from a means to an end to being an end in itself? Where that crackly hiss from the speaker becomes an invitation instead of something to be muted?

There are so many paths from that first taste through the mysteries to discovering the magic that waits behind every

power switch. And there are so many new call signs popping up on the bands! How will they find a good path, a true path? How will they gain the confidence to take on those mysteries, just as we did, and make it through to the other side?

Every reader of this newsletter can be a guide, a mentor, a teacher, a friend. These eager new faces are standing on the sidelines waiting to be invited to a club meeting, the Saturday breakfast, a Hamfest, a multi-op contest. You can find them in the FCC database with brand-new calls. Many of them regularly log on to the ARRL Web, QRZ.com, or eham.net. In fact, I'll bet a lot of new hams check your club's Web site to see what's there.

Take a look at that club Web site. If a new ham found your club using the ARRL Club Search page at <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/clubsearch.phtml>, what

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Faces from TARC's Spring Amateur Radio Classes



This spring's Technician class



This spring's General class



This spring's Extra class

TARC Bulletin

Temple Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 616
Temple, TX 76503

Temple Amateur Radio Club meets the first Thursday of each month from 7:00-9:00 p.m., at the Church of Christ in Western Hills, 210 N. General Bruce Dr., in Temple—across I-35 from La Quinta Motel. Refreshments are served, and guests are invited and welcome!

First Class Mail

Address Label

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The Time Is Now...

(Continued from page 3)

would they find? Would there be a "Welcome, New Hams" button or link? Would a recent upgrade to General feel comfortable attending an upcoming meeting? Could they even **find** the meeting?

Once a new face works up the nerve to attend a meeting or informal gathering, would they be welcomed into the group or would they be left standing around on the periphery? Too many groups let newcomers just fend for themselves. Is it any wonder a second visit just doesn't happen?

Here's some suggestions to every club and group:

- Make sure a visitor will see a welcoming message
- Offer help and information in your group's specialty
- At gatherings, seek out and welcome new members
- Help new members break the ice with the cliques

None of this costs a nickel—just the expenditure of a little goodwill and ham spirit.

In the past thirty days, there are nearly 6000 new hams and more than 11,000 upgrades. The Amateur Service has reversed its population trend and is growing again. This is good for contesting and good for Amateur Radio. Some are worried that this

will change ham radio and no doubt, it will! Yet, if certain practices and attitudes are important to ham radio, how will these newcomers find out about them?

It is fairly unreasonable to expect that information to be magically absorbed from the other.

It's up to us, not some nebulous "them," to help this wave of new hams and make them part of what ham radio is and should be. After all, ham radio is you and me! Take a moment to do your part and help your organization do its part. There is no better time - the time is now.

