



# TARC Bulletin



W5LM Repeaters:

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

September 2007

www.tarc.org

September 2007

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## Classes, Texas QSO Party and Club House Considered

### Prez Sez

August has proved to be another busy month! Thanks to all who helped out with the Ice Cream Social. Not only was the Ice Cream great but it was a real treat to have Coy Day N5OK, ARRL West Gulf Division Director, visit us.



General and Extra. Classes began on August 20<sup>th</sup>. Can't say enough about how much we appreciate the efforts that Charlie N5TD, Roy N5HQR, and Darwin K5DOA are expending for club members and the community at large. Looks like they have over 20 students. When you see Charlie, Darwin, or Roy, you may want to say thanks!

Please circle your calendars for the last week-

For the second time this year, TARC is offering classes for new hams as well as upgrades to

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## Ham Radio Class Update

The three TARC Ham Radio classes got off to a good start Monday night, August 20, with roughly a half dozen students in each class, a total of about 18 enrollees. The General and Technician classes will both run from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., while the Extra class will continue from 7 to 9 p.m. on their respective nights. So while the overall enrollment is light, we do have three good ham sessions running for the Fall. Darwin K5DOA, Charlie N5TD, and Roy N5HQR are very happy with the classes' makeup and progress. Everything started out fine.

Charlie has 6 Techs, Roy has about the same in the General session, and Darwin has 7 Extras so far, and another couple of students are supposed to join in the second week. Planning is underway for a VE session to test these students following completion of the classes.

## At Our Next Meeting

George Fremin III, K5TR, from Austin (and formerly one of our own as WB5VZL) will delight and inform us with a presentation on "Exotic Operating and Guano from the Southern Hemisphere."

That is Thursday, Aug. 2 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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## BPL Industry Rep Appointed to ARRL EMC Committee

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, has appointed Brent Zitting, KB4SL, of Huntsville, Ala., to serve on ARRL's ElectroMagnetic Compatibility (EMC) Committee. Zitting, a 25-year ARRL member, is employed by IBEC, a BPL manufacturer and integrator located in Huntsville. The EMC Committee, chaired by Roanoke Division Director Dennis Bodson, W4PWF, consists of representatives from various industries that are interested in helping ARRL effectively and appropriately work with industry on interference issues. ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, said he is pleased to see Zitting serve on the committee. "Brent has carried his ham radio experience to the BPL industry, quietly working behind the scenes to help it better understand Amateur Radio. Having his industry occupy a seat at our table is a positive step that will improve communication significantly." Zitting said he is enthusiastic about serving as a member of the committee. "I look forward to helping the ARRL on this committee. BPL technology has made great progress in its ability to mitigate interference, which is good news for hams. I want to help the ARRL more fully understand the BPL industry so that both can be 'good neighbors.' I am pleased to be part of the solution."

—via The ARRL Letter, August 17, 2007

The Highland Lakes ARC Hamfest will be Saturday, Sept. 8 at Kingsland Community Center, 3451 Rose Hill Drive, Kingsland, TX. Talk-In will be on 146.66 (PL 88.5). For more information check < [www.hlarc.org](http://www.hlarc.org) >.

## Texas QSO Party Is Sept. 29-30

The 2007 edition of the *Texas QSO Party* will be held on the weekend of September 29-30. The operating times are as follows: 1400Z to 0200Z on both days (this is a change from previous years, so take note).

Several TARC members are looking to possibly entering TARC as a multi-operator entry. If you have any interest or comments about this or would like to help out, contact WR1TX or AE5AP for details.

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end in September! The Texas QSO Party will be kicking off that weekend. ([www.txqp.net](http://www.txqp.net)) and we are planning on having a club get-together. We would like to get as many hams on the air, in a fun contest environment, as we can. Details to follow.

On behalf of the club, I want to say a special thanks to Frankie Baugh KA5IHY. If TARC has ever dreamt about having a TARC Club House, thanks to Frankie, that dream could become a reality. This is major decision and I'm sure we will have a lot of discussion in the upcoming months on the opportunity that KA5IHY has presented to us.

Also, I just want to mention that long time club member Tom Vandeverer KG5II is battling a real tough disease these days. Please keep him, his wife, and family in your prayers as they work through this difficult time in their lives. I know they would appreciate that. 73—Tom Olsen ae5ap

## What, you ask, is FISTS? Well, FISTS is . . .

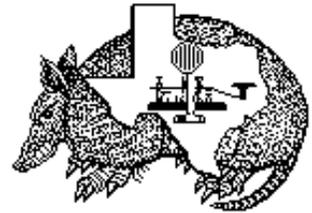
To those who don't know, TARC now holds an official club membership in FISTS. Our membership number is #12900.

What, you ask, is FISTS? Well, it is an established and recognized CW organization in the world of amateur radio. Founded in 1987 by Geo. Longden, G3ZQS, it now has a worldwide membership in the thousands and is growing daily.

FISTS seeks three main goals: 1. To further the use of CW on the amateur bands; 2. To encourage newcomers to the CW mode; and 3. To engender friendship within the organization's membership.

Warren WR1TX, a FISTS member, is putting together a database list of all members in the Central Texas counties of Bell, McLennan, Williamson, Burnet, Milam, Lampasas, Coryell, and Falls. If you know anyone that is a FISTS member that is located within any of these counties, contact WR1TX at [wrltx1@gmail.com](mailto:wrltx1@gmail.com).

For information on FISTS, go to [www.fists.org](http://www.fists.org) and check it out.



## KEY CLICKS FROM THE ARMADILLO

...The State of Texas has renewed TARC's corporate charter. **Mike WA5EQQ** is the point of contact for the state.

...**Joe Dorn W5VEX** will do VE testing at HamEXPO, starting at 11:00 a.m. He will continue testing until all applicants are tested or until 2:00 p.m., whichever comes last.

...**Congrats to Gerald N5ZXJ** on re-election to the board of the Texas VHF-FM Society.

...**Welcome Home to John Bosshard AD5RN** after a summer internship with Siemens in Germany.

...**Are you ready for HamEXPO?** Are you ready to do your share in making it happen?

...The Dept. of Homeland Security has proclaimed September "**National Preparedness Month.**"

...**Amateur Radio Awareness Day** is Saturday, Sept. 17.

...**Most weekdays** and Saturdays, a handful of area hams meet for coffee at McDonalds' at IH35 and Adams Ave. from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Everyone is invited and welcome, so come on by.

...**TARC Net** — Mondays at 7 p.m. on 146.820- MHz (PL 123.0). Get the net habit. *Try it—you'll like it!*

...**See you** at the club meeting on Sept. 6, 2007.

## Exploring Amplitude Modulation

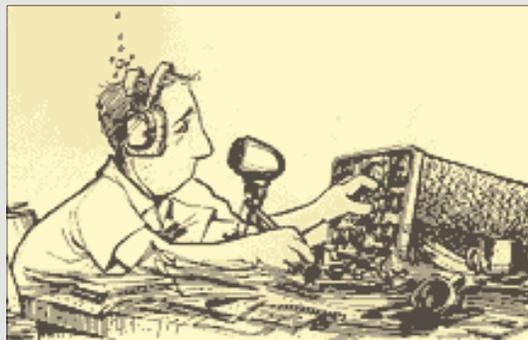
By  
Larry Fuhs, K5LAR

Whether you are newly licensed, or have been a ham forever, I would like to invite you to try Amplitude Modulation (AM). AMers have accepted the challenge of keeping the old tube-type transmitters and receivers in service, but modern rigs are capable of good performance if that is all you have. In either case, an amplifier will probably help when band conditions are not the best. Experiment and form your own opinions.



Most of the AM crowd is 60 or older, so you are likely to hear some really good stories from time to time. Otis Nonken, K5SWK, is legendary in his storytelling ability. His sharp memory of his youth would literally take you back to a time before most of us were born. At 85, he is no longer on the air regularly. He built his transmitter out of old surplus parts, and the quality of his audio was as good as it gets. There are other equally interesting individuals on AM.

Tune in on 3.880 or 3.890 MHz from around 7 a.m. during the week and you will find a reasonable amount of activity in the morning. Some like to check into the net prior to going to work, most are retired, and as some leave the air others usually fill their shoes as long as there is interest and acceptable band conditions. AM operators are a friendly lot, so break in with your call sign and you will be welcomed into the roundtable.



When amateur QSOs are scarce, there are plenty of interesting international short-wave broadcasts on AM to keep you entertained and informed.  
73, K5LAR

AM is as much fun to listen to as it is to make contacts.

## September QST Hits the Streets

If you haven't received the September issue of *QST*, just wait a bit, because it's on its way! *QST*, the official journal of the ARRL, is the members-only magazine featuring all the latest Amateur Radio news and technology.

The September issue is *QST*'s first-ever **Emergency Communications issue**. Learn how the ARRL is promoting effective, coordinated responses to emergencies. Look for an exciting article on D-STAR, a new way to transmit digital voice and data at VHF and UHF. Have you ever wondered just how emergency communications began? Read about its rich and varied history in September *QST*. Learn how the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) is now integrated into one unit that emphasizes digital communication.

The ARRL Diamond Terrace is just about complete. Check out the progress that has been made to this new must-see feature of ARRL Headquarters and learn how you can become a lasting part of this great legacy.

On the technical side, the September issue offers articles on how to get a maximum gain portable HF Yagi antenna and a remote power controller. Be sure to read about a way to pack power to bring with you for emergencies. Learn about a way of determining resonant frequency of a tuned circuit. *QST* Product Review Editor Mark Wilson, K1RO, reviews the Tokyo Hy-Power HL-1.5KFX linear amplifier, ARRL Lab Test Engineer Mike Tracy, KC1SX, reviews the Gamma Research HPS-1, a switching power supply and Rich Arland, W3OSS, reviews the Hendricks QRP

Kits FireFly transceiver.

If you're looking for upcoming operating events, don't miss Jamboree on the Air and the 2007 Simulated Emergency Test, both of which are covered in the September issue.

As in each and every *QST*, you will find a wide variety of articles and columns for all hams, covering DXing, vintage gear and cutting edge technology, public service, special events, as well as a schedule of upcoming hamfests, conventions and contests.

—via The ARRL Letter, August 17, 2007

AMATEUR RADIO

## Canadian Special Event Planned for September

A demonstration of cooperation in emergency communications preparedness between Canadian radio amateurs and those in the United States is planned for September 29-30 with a special event station VO1ARES <<http://www.rac.ca/fieldorg/aresjointevent.htm>>. It will be located at the Marconi memorial station on historic Signal Hill, St John's, Newfoundland, where reception of the first transatlantic wireless transmission occurred in 1901. Sponsored by Foreign Affairs and Interna-

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# 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**

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tional Trade Canada (DFAIT) and **Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC)**, the facilities are provided by Parks Canada and coordinated by the Society of Newfoundland Radio Amateurs (SONRA).

The objectives of the special event are threefold: To highlight the capabilities of Amateur Radio in providing emergency communications in times of crisis, to illustrate the cooperation between Canada and the United States on emergency preparedness within the context of the Security and Prosperity Partnership signed by the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Canada in 2005, and to create a database of communications "first responders" that the Government of Canada could contact for emergency communications assistance in times of crisis.

Radio amateurs from across Canada and the US are being invited to participate in this first-time official activity, with opening festivities scheduled September 29 from 1430-1730 UTC. In particular, ARES units in both countries are encouraged to take part and to "talk up" the value of Amateur Radio as a community resource. Officials from the Canadian government have been invited, and ARRL Joel Harrison, W5ZN, has con-

firmed his intention to attend. Operations will feature virtually all transmission modes on most HF bands over the two-day period. Times and frequencies are yet to be determined.

A commemorative QSL card will be issued. QSLs may be sent direct to VO1ARES via VE9GLF, G. L. Friars, 35 Upper Quaco Rd, Baxters Corner, NB E25 2S2, Canada. All replies from VO1ARES will be via the bureau. Those wishing a direct reply, including Short Wave Listeners, must include an envelope and sufficient postage. Within Canada, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope. If outside of Canada, please include sufficient International Reply Coupons (IRCs) to cover the cost of a letter from Canada to your country. This is imperative in order to receive a card directly; otherwise it will go via the bureau.

Listen for VO1ARES both before and after the special event. The call sign will be active September 27-October 1. Upcoming issues of **RAC's** *The Canadian Amateur (TCA)* magazine and the **RAC** Web site < <http://www.rac.ca/> > contain further details of the event. -- Information provided by Bob Cooke, VE3BDB.

—via *The ARRL Letter*, August 17, 2007