



# TARC Bulletin



W5LM Repeaters:

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

September 2009

[www.tarc.org](http://www.tarc.org)

September 2009

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# HamEXPO! Is Oct. 3

The final edition of HamEXPO! for 2009 is set for Oct. 3 at the Expo Center in Belton. Today is not too soon for planning to help with the event, or at least planning to attend.

We need the usual complement of helpers to collect attendance fees, help set up tailgaters and commercial vendors, collect fees from parking lot tailgaters, distribute sack lunches, handle doorprize drawings, man the 2-meter radio on-site, take fees from walk-in vendors, and other tasks as they occur.

If you can take part, please contact Mike WA5EQQ, Darwin K5DOA, or Myron N5TFK. Your help is vital to the success of this event. Despite shortages of personnel each time, we manage to pull it off. However, with a few more "warm bodies" the work load would be eased for the "faithful few." Your participation really does matter.

Check the website at [www.tarc.org](http://www.tarc.org) for the latest on EXPO. You'll also find a questionnaire for offering your help. And we Thank You.

## Storage Unit Gets Shelving, Heat Insulation Coming Later

Discussion during the business portion of the August club meeting decided that the TARC storage unit needed shelving and better ventilation. The consensus agreed that additional shelving should be installed. John Hobson and Al Howe have completed this task. The membership decided that temperatures inside the storage unit could be lowered adequately by painting the outside with some type of "Cool Seal" product. A motion was approved, calling on the Board of Directors to consider authorizing this expenditure and, if approved, asking for a volunteer supervisor to oversee this project. Meanwhile, Steve Bosshard, NU5D has offered his services for painting the storage container with a heat reflecting paint. He will undertake the task when the summer temperatures have sufficiently cooled down. TARC will cover the cost of all material.

## At Our Next Meeting

**Sept. 3  
TARC meeting  
Program to be announced**

**Plus, you'll find great camaraderie and conversation. Join us on Sept. 3 at 7:00 p.m. at Western Hills Church of Christ in Temple. You'll be glad you did.**

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## Henry Allen Retiring; GLA Systems is QRT

Effective Oct. 31, 2009 GLA Systems will cease to manufacture the Texas BugCatcher Antenna.

“It has been a fun 30 years but it is time to hang it up,” said Henry Allen, K5BUG. “I would like to thank everyone that has made this experience possible.”

The GLA Systems tables and the Texas BugCatcher antennas have been familiar sights at HamEXPO! for many years. In fact, Henry and Tina were among our earliest vendor supporters—and most loyal.

“I have made many friends (maybe an enemy or two),” says Henry, “but overall it has been a great trip down a long road.”

Henry reports that all orders received before Oct. 31, 2009 will be filled. Effective Nov. 1, 2009 only orders for items that may be in stock at the time will be accepted.

That “empty” slot at future HamEXPO! events will sure be lonesome without Henry and Tina peddling their wares.

## Jamboree on the Air Coming Soon

Dale Duke, W5DUK recently received an e-mail from Mike Goodrich, Chairman of the Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) committee of the Longhorn Council of the Boy Scouts of America. They were seeking a contact person within the TARC organization who could assist with JOTA events. John Hobson, WD5BFS volunteered to assist with local events in the Killeen, Harker Heights, and Temple areas.



## ARES and RACES— What’s What?

Mike KI5M says, “I want to share the message below from the Texas RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services) Yahoo group.”

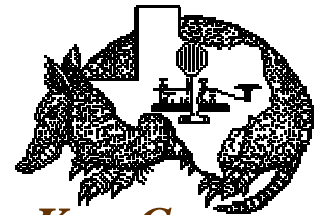
TX RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) is a group sponsored by the State of Texas, State Operations Center through the Department of Public Safety.

ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services) is a function of ARRL and each group has a sponsor, such as the Red Cross, Salvation Army, and so on.

Many Hams seem confused as to which is which and why they exist. There is a lot of information on both groups on the internet, yet many people still do not have an internet connection....

It is important that each individual learns what they are doing when joining any group.

Bill Rimmer advises the following via the Texas RACES Yahoo group: “What I would suggest,” he says, “is become a member of both organizations (ARES/RACES). Some served agencies require...RACES [membership]...., likely because the back-



## KEY CLICKS FROM THE ARMADILLO

...New Member: Joseph K. George, KD5WMW of Killeen is a new TARC member. Welcome, Joseph.

...Murray Neece, K5MDM passed away recently in Odessa. He was a longtime fixture at HamEXPO! with his Radio Ranch gang. He had struggled with heart disease for a long time. A memorial service was held in Abilene, Murray's home town.

...Frankie Baugh, KA5IHY spoke briefly at the last TARC meeting on the club's ongoing need for media exposure in promoting Field Day and other events.

...Club meeting is Sept 3.

...Remember the N5TD Memorial Scholarship Fund with generous—and continuing—gifts.

...TARC Bulletin is distributed to most members in an online digital edition in pdf format. If you need a printed copy, notify John KE5C or Mike WA5EQQ.

...Most weekdays and Saturdays, area hams meet for coffee at McDonalds' at IH-35 and Adams Ave. from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Everyone is invited, so come on by and add your 2-cents' worth.

...Dates to Remember: Next year's spring HamEXPO! is April 17, 2010. The fall date is Oct. 2, 2010. Mark your calendar now.

...TARC Net — Mondays at 7 p.m. on 146.820 MHz (PL 123.0). Get the net habit.

...See you on at the TARC meeting on Sept. 3.

## Ed Marek, 52, Dies in Cameron

Cameron—Edwin Marek, Jr., 52 of Cameron died Thursday, Aug. 6 at his home. Services were Aug. 7 and burial followed in Seaton Cemetery. Ed owned and operated Marek C.B. Shop. He was a Yoe High graduate and resident of Milam County. Ed often visited HamEXPO! swapfests.

## N5TD Scholarship Fund

Following the establishing of the Charles R. Schlieper, Jr. Memorial Scholarship, discussion of details followed at the August TARC meeting. Members asked if this scholarship was a one-time affair or an annual on-going event. Questions were also brought up concerning the administration and the requisites for receiving the award. President Cliff Williams, KE5CTW stated that he would look at the matter, appointing a committee if necessary.

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## ARES and RACES— What's What?, cont'd

(Continued from page 2)

ground check has been done and they do not have to worry about it.”

Rimmer goes on to say that he is a member of both organizations. “ARES is changing,” he says, “and some may not like it, but it is what it is. Our served agencies dictate what...they require, not the ARES leadership. We have to adhere to and respect their requirements. Some may want only ICS-100 but others may require ICS-100, 200, 700, 800 and/or RACES.”

A good example of this is the Harris County Office of Emergency Management. RACES membership is required to operate...from this location, along with the ICS training. “This is exactly why we strongly suggest ARES members become RACES AND take the ICS courses,” says Rimmer. The [ICS] courses are free on the Internet. One can complete all four over a long weekend.

“...What I get tired of hearing,” says Rimmer, “is the RACES versus ARES or vice versa argument. As far as I'm concerned, there is no argument. If one does not like ARES and/or RACES, that is their issue. We need to come across as a cohesive group that knows what they are doing to get the job done. Just because one has a radio does not make them a proficient communicator. We all need training, training and training.”

It is unprofessional and rude to chastise or criticize others in the group who ask questions. There is no room for that kind of behavior in RACES and ARES. So, join both organizations and have fun.

## MFJ Acquires Cushcraft

On Aug. 7, MFJ Enterprises <[www.mfjenterprises.com/](http://www.mfjenterprises.com/)> announced they had purchased the Cushcraft Amateur Radio antennas product line from Missouri-based Laird Technologies <[www.lairdtech.com/](http://www.lairdtech.com/)> effective July 31.

According to MFJ, Cushcraft--makers of HF/VHF/UHF vertical, beam and Yagi antennas for the Amateur Radio community--will continue to be manufactured in Manchester, NH. “We are excited to have the Cushcraft Amateur Radio Antennas product line alongside our other five companies,” said Martin F. Jue, president and founder of MFJ Enterprises, Inc. “This product line increases our ability to offer our customers a wide range of antenna options at different prices. Customers will be able to choose from Cushcraft Amateur Radio antennas, Hy-gain, and MFJ antennas through one source.”

MFJ purchased Hy-gain in 2000. The

company also owns Ameritron, Mirage, and Vectronics. Jue said that the Cushcraft line will bring more than 50 new products to MFJ's Amateur Radio product line. “We will add more new products to this antenna line and will continue the Cushcraft Amateur Radio antennas name long into the future.”

“Cushcraft Amateur Radio antenna product customers will appreciate the continued and expected top-quality manufacturing of this product in New Hampshire and the MFJ commitment to superb after-the-sale service and tech support in Mississippi,” said Jue.

The 120 page 2010 MFJ catalog will include the entire Cushcraft Amateur Radio antennas product line. MFJ has set up a special customer support line--662-323-5803--to handle Cushcraft antenna product technical support, parts requests, and customer services.

— via *The ARRL Letter*

## Coming On-the-Air Events Scheduled

Jay Urish, W5GM, ARRL North Texas Section Manager ([w5gm@arrl.org](mailto:w5gm@arrl.org)), relays news about some on-the-air events. The K4M team will be activating Midway Island around October the 9th. Surf to [www.midway2009.com](http://www.midway2009.com) for details.

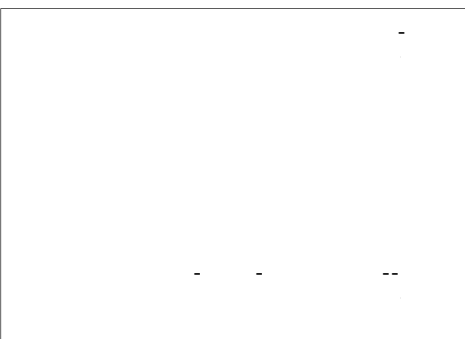
The WC5C group will be activating Pelican Island and Willow island. Details can be found at [www.wc5c.org/WC5CClub/Island/tabid/404/Default.aspx](http://www.wc5c.org/WC5CClub/Island/tabid/404/Default.aspx).

The Boy Scout Jamboree on The Air is coming up on the Oct. 17. The National Scouting Museum in Irving will be hosting JOTA this year. They are planning some new stuff so it's definitely worth a look. For more info contact Tom Schuessler [N5HYP@arrl.net](mailto:N5HYP@arrl.net).

## Ham Radio Quiz

- 1) A warbling signal around 14.230 MHz is probably...
  - a. RTTY
  - b. AMTOR
  - c. SSTV
  - d. HF Fax
- 2) Slow Morse code "O" characters sent on 144.015 MHz band are likely...
  - a. EME
  - b. ATV
  - c. Meteor Scatter
  - d. Intruders
- 3) You've just worked a station on 13.995 by calling them on 14.025. What day is it?
- 4) A station calling "CQ CHN" is looking for what?
  - a. Chinese hams
  - b. Canadian Ham Night participants
  - c. County Hunters Net members
  - d. CNN field reporters on the shared 30 meter band

(Answers in lower left corner of this page.)



# 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 Starbucks Coffee. Refreshments are served, and guests are invited and welcome!

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**AMATEUR RADIO**

## HPM BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION EVENT COMING NEXT MONTH

The Hiram Percy Maxim Birthday celebration is back! The ARRL is honoring the 140th anniversary of the birth of the League's first president and cofounder. Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, was born Sept. 2, 1869 and died February 17, 1936....

The operating event is open to all amateurs, and the goal is straightforward: Find the stations adding /140 to their call signs, and contact as many as possible during the event period, Sept. 2-9. Who is eligible to sign /140? ARRL members who hold ARRL appointments, ARRL elected volunteers (such as ARRL Directors and Section Managers), ARRL Life Members, ARRL Headquarters staff and VEs, AECs, QSL bureau workers, and awards managers (who are ARRL members). The complete list of eligible positions can be found on page 20 of the Sept. 2009 issue of QST. If you work at least 25 /140 stations, an attractive certificate can be yours! The certificate can be endorsed in increments of 25 QSOs, up to 100.

Time Period: 0000 UTC Sept. 2 until 2400 UTC Sept. 9.

Exchange: All stations signing /140 send RS(T), their appointment and their name; you send RS(T) and your name.

Eligibility: All amateur stations may participate. ARRL Life Members, and those persons holding ARRL appointments, elected positions or ARRL HQ staff, may add /140 to their call signs for the duration of the celebration. Volunteer Examiners, Assistant Emergency Coordinators, QSL Bureau workers, Registered Instructors, and Awards Managers who are ARRL members are also invited to participate.

Miscellaneous: /140 stations may be contacted on any band or mode for credit. You can work a station once per band and mode. Repeater contacts are valid for credit, but please be considerate of the users during a repeater's busy periods. All /140 stations are encouraged to be as active as possible on local repeaters and nets. The certificate is available for making at least 25 contacts with /140 stations, with endorsement increments of 25, and a maximum endorsement of 100. To receive the award, send in a log extract with the date, time, band, call sign worked and exchange for each /140 contact. Include your name, call sign and address, and tell us how many /140 stations you worked. Mail everything to HPM/140 Celebration, c/o W1AW, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111-1494. You can also send in your entry on a disk or CD in regular text format. All entries must be accompanied by a check or money order for \$5 (US) payable to ARRL. Please make sure your entry is postmarked by October 9, 2009.