



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

www.tarc.org

W5LM Repeaters
146.820 MHz (PL 123.0)
444.700 MHz (PL 123.0)

January 2017

Bulletin of the Temple Amateur Radio Club

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Club Meeting Thursday January 5th, 7:00 P.M.

Program: Basic First Aid, presented by Thomas Pechal, Temple Fire and Rescue.

Don't forget the Monday night net!
7:00 P.M. on the 146.82 repeater.

NOTE:

The New Year starts off with not only new leadership for TARC but also a change in posting the TARC Bulletin.

The original Yahoo Group, Temple_ARC, will no longer be updated. The newer Yahoo Group, tarc_org, will be the only group that has updates starting in 2017. This will keep members from receiving double emails and alerts.

We will also have a small number of printed bulletins available at club meetings for those members who do you have email access.

Ron Thompson W5WRE SK

Published Obituary

Ronald Wayne Thompson. Born in Port Arthur, Texas, December 5, 1934, to Lotha and Ruth Thompson. Ronnie, as known by his family, died November 25, 2016. He was a graduate of Lon Morris College and Texas Wesleyan University. He is survived by his son, Ron Thompson, of California, sister and spouse Nancy Beckendorf and Arlie, nephews and nieces of which he was so proud of their accomplishments: Mark Beckendorf and spouse Sally, Kirk Beckendorf and spouse Tracey, Karen Beckendorf Roberts and husband Stewart, great nieces and nephew, Thad, Annie, Leslie, Matthew and Tisha.

Ronnie served his country in the Army for over 30 years. He served in a number of assignments and locations, including Vietnam, the Pentagon, and many others. He was recipient of numerous Commendations, medals, ribbons including a Vietnam Service Medal with 2 Bronze Service Stars.

In retirement he loved to fish, especially in tournaments. He pursued his lifelong hobby as Ham Radio Operator. He was an expert in Morris Code. He had the latest and greatest in Ham Radio equipment and served the area in many emergency situations. In 2002 he was awarded, and we quote, a "Certificate of Commendation for exceptional performance of duty during which there was a total loss of communications with all police, fire, and EMS agencies after lightning struck the primary receiving antenna on the Belton site tower. Mr. Thompson provided support as an Amateur Radio Operator at several locations throughout Bell County during this time, and his efforts reflect great credit upon him, Bell County Communications, and the Temple Amateur Radio Club", end quote. For many years Ronald provided emergency support as an Amateur Radio Operator in numerous situations throughout Bell County. He spoke often and fondly about of his Ham Radio Operator friends all over the country.

Bowling was another of his passions. He loved his bowling team and the many friends he enjoyed participating with. He counted them as family and loved their company. When visiting his sister and family, he couldn't say enough about his bowling friends and how much they meant to him... a great support group.

Ronnie never met a stranger. He was loved by all and will be missed by his family and host of friends.

Today it is a special honor to have Ronnie's great nephew, Staff Sargent (SSG) Thad Beckendorf, as a part of the Honor Guard and presenting the flag to Ronnie's sister, Nancy Beckendorf.

Don Skelton W5JEH SK (Don was a former member of TARC)

Published Obituary

Donald James Skelton

Retired Lieutenant Colonel Donald James Skelton passed away on Tuesday, December 13, 2016, in Allen, Texas.

Don was born in North Terre Haute, Indiana, on Thursday, July 24, 1930 at 2:00 pm as noted in his mother's bible. He was born to William Emil "Skelly" Skelton and Margaret Ondo Skelton and had one younger sister, Mary Ruth Skelton Arnold.

Don grew up in Terre Haute and spent a good amount of time on his maternal grandparents' farm just outside town. Don was raised during the Depression and spoke often of the farm and how it provided a good bit of the food for his family during his childhood. With money tight, Don's mother was thrifty but did splurge on things she felt were important, including piano lessons for her only son. He learned to play well and often sang some of his favorite Gershwin and Sinatra tunes at the piano to relax. Strong in her Catholic faith, Don's mother attended Mass each morning and hoped that Don would be called to the priesthood. He was not, but did serve as an altar boy for several years.

Don attended Sacred Heart Catholic School and Garfield High School, both in Terre Haute, graduating in 1948. He attended Indiana University in Bloomington where he studied Chemistry and was a member of the ROTC. Following his graduation, Don delayed his commission into the Army and went to work for Libby, McNeill & Libby in Chicago where he worked for one year before entering the Army at Ft. McLellan, Alabama, for Basic Training.

He was a young Lieutenant in the Chemical Corps and stationed in Baltimore when he met Jean Ruth Hain Turner, a young secretary at the Army base. Her nameplate read Mrs. Jean Turner and it was months after meeting her that Don found out Mrs. Turner was actually a widow with a young son, Gerald "Jerry" William Turner. Two years later Don and Jean were married on April 22, 1956.

Don's Army career took the new family to Germany where daughter Elizabeth Ann and son Donald Bruce were born. As most military families do, the Skeltons moved often and while stationed in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, daughter Jo Ann was born. Don was stationed at the Pentagon when daughter Peggy Ann was born.

Don's career with the Army took the family to Taipei, Taiwan, in the early 1970s where he served as a liaison to the Taiwanese military assisting with the procurement of US military items from Vietnam. His last post was Fort Hood and the family settled in Temple, Texas.

During his Army career, Don received the National Defense Service Medal 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, the Meritorious Service Medal 2 Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Armed Forces Reserve Medal - 10 Year. He was also actively involved in the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) and was an amateur HAM radio operator.

It was 1974 when Don retired from the Army as a Lieutenant Colonel and returned to school to study nuclear medicine at McLennan Community College in Waco, Texas. With this second degree, he worked for many hospitals across Texas helping to build their Nuclear Medicine programs. In 1984, he and Jean finally retired and began to relax and enjoy travel for fun and not military life. Jean's liver transplant in 1995 was a blessing and both she and Don started volunteering their time to promote organ donation. After 52 years of marriage, Jean passed away in October 2008. Don is also preceded in death by his eldest son, Gerald William Turner.

Surviving children are Elizabeth Whitehurst and husband Tom of Corpus Christi, Don Skelton and husband Greg Lewis of Galveston, Jo Ann Skelton of Plano, Peggy Harrell and husband Forest of McKinney, Daughter-in-Law Debbie Turner of Longview, and several grandchildren.

A Mass and celebration of Don's life will be held in the future. If so inclined, donations may be made in Don's name to the Southwest Transplant Alliance at organ.org.

Rest Easy W5JEH and 73s

from your loving family.

Membership Information Forms

Forms will be available at club meetings for members to update their information.

Name, Call Sign, Mailing Address, Phone Number, Email Address, etc.

Please be sure to fill one out. Full information has not been gathered for the past couple of years.

Christmas Dinner

Everyone had a great time at the TARC Christmas Dinner. Special thanks to all that helped to provide presents (door prizes) and desserts.

Temple Christmas Parade

After a one day postponement due to weather the Temple Christmas Parade was held on Tuesday December 6th. The postponement did cause some entrants and some volunteers to miss it. The four TARC members that worked the staging area were kept hopping but no major issues arose. Thanks go to the Temple Chamber of Commerce Red Carpet Ambassadors for their help in the staging area.

Hopefully TARC will see an increase in volunteers next December.

Well Wishes

Priscilla Beauregard KE5UES has recently been ill. Please keep her in your thoughts.

VE Testing

Anyone that needs to take an amateur radio license exam can contact Jan W5GNK at jang5@yahoo.com or 254-217-3791 or contact Gil W5GLR at gilrymer@gmail.com or 817-480-7511 in order to get an exam scheduled.

Bulletin Content

If anyone has news, items for sale, ham interest articles or ham related equipment or business news they wish to submit to be included in the TARC bulletin contact Myron N5TFK. 254-563-4529. mmesecke@twc.com

Ham Conventions

www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-convention-calendar

January 14th, Schertz, TX. 8AM to 2 PM. Shertz Civic Center, 1400 Schertz Parkway. Sponsor: San Antonio Radio Club. Admission: \$8 Advance, \$10 Door.

www.w5sc.org

January 20th-21st, Forest Hill, TX. Friday 3PM to 7PM, Saturday 7AM to 3PM. Forest Hill Civic and Convention Center, 6901 Wichita St. Cowtown Hamfest. Sponsor: Cowtown Amateur Radio Club. Admission: \$8 Advance, \$10 Door.

www.cowtownhamfest.com

Special Event Stations

www.arrl.org/special-event-stations

January 11th - January 17th, 0000Z – 0000Z, K7B. Lake Havasu City, AZ. Lake Havasu City Hams. **7th Annual Balloon Festival**. 18.145 14.255 10.115 7.195. Certificate.

January 19th – January 23rd, 0000Z – 2395Z, N7R. Seattle, WA **Three Generations of Mars Rovers**. 146.52 14.275 14.250. Certificate and QSL.

www.irspacetechnology.webs.com

January 28th – January 30th, 1700Z – 0100Z, AG6AU. El Dorado ARC. **Discovery of Gold in California 169th Anniversary**. 28.348 21.348 14.248 7.248. QSL.

www.edcarc.net

